Introduction to the Open Government Partnership

Jamaica, November 2020

Open
Government
Partnership

But, what is Open Gov?

Is not...

- A distraction or a luxury
- Meetings to "take the picture"
- Publish some easy data
- E-gov and electronic platforms
- Just access to information, transparency or open data

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It is...

- Collaborate to tackle tough problems
- Foster human rights
- Co-create good public policies
- Built on what is good and improve
- Create stronger coalitions to solve problems
- Fight corruption and improve public services

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"By helping to fight corrupt practices, improve health, education and ensure civic participation, open government helps leaders deliver for their citizens between and beyond elections."

– *Sanjay Pradhan, Chief Executive Officer, OGP*

Open Government Partnership

+ International multi-stakeholder platform to make governments more accountable, inclusive and responsive to citizens

+ Founded in 2011 by eight governments and nine civil society leaders

+ Now involves 78 national and 20 local governments, and thousands of civil society organizations - who have together developed over 4,095 commitments

+ Governed by a Steering Committee composed of 11 governments and 11 civil society leaders

A unique model

Civil society and government define the agenda

+ Government and civil society organizations share the table and work in team, as allies.
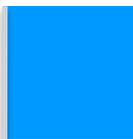
Action plans with specific commitments

+ Acknowledges that countries and governments have different starting points.

Accountability

+ Independent Reporting Mechanism

+ Self assessment reports and online repository

OGP in numbers

3000+
Civil society organisations

6.5%
Of commitments starred / strong results

270
Action plans

350
IRM reports

78
countries +
76 local govs

4100+
Commitments

49
Countries with a MSF

Policy Areas

+ **28 members** advancing on **Beneficial Ownership** reforms

+ **42 members** advancing on **Civic Space** reforms

+ **51 members** advancing on **Extractives** reforms

+ **41 members** advancing on **Gender** reforms

+ **15 members** advancing on **Lobbying** reforms

+ **89 members** advancing on **Fiscal Transparency** reforms

+ **69 members** advancing on **right to information** reforms

+ **62 members** advancing on **Justice** reforms

+ **37 members** advancing on **Open Contracting** reforms

Focus theme: Anti-corruption

+ **Open Data Program to Combat Corruption - PIDA**
+ Costa Rica and Colombia (recent commitment).

+ **Open Contracting**
Argentina, Chile, Ecuador, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, and Uruguay.

+ **Beneficial Ownership**
Community of practice that includes Chile, Costa Rica, Mexico, and Paraguay. Interest in Panama.

+ **Social audit on covid emergency**
Colombia drafted a commitment on social audit on covid emergency projects.

Ukraine

+ **Prozorro, an online platform to disclose all procurement contracts and make it publicly searchable**

United Kingdom

+ **Implementing public register for beneficial owners of British companies to disclose who ultimately owns, controls, and benefits from them**

OPEN GOVERNMENT PARTNERSHIP

Kaduna, Nigeria

+ **"Eyes and Ears" project enlists citizens to monitor government infrastructure**

Georgia

+ **Publishing searchable political party financing data to track whether donors and political parties are illicitly benefiting from government contracts**

Chile

+ **Creation of Fiscalia Nacional (independent prosecutors office), access to information act, anti-money laundering reform, and multiple efforts to regulate peddling in Chilean politics**

How OGP works
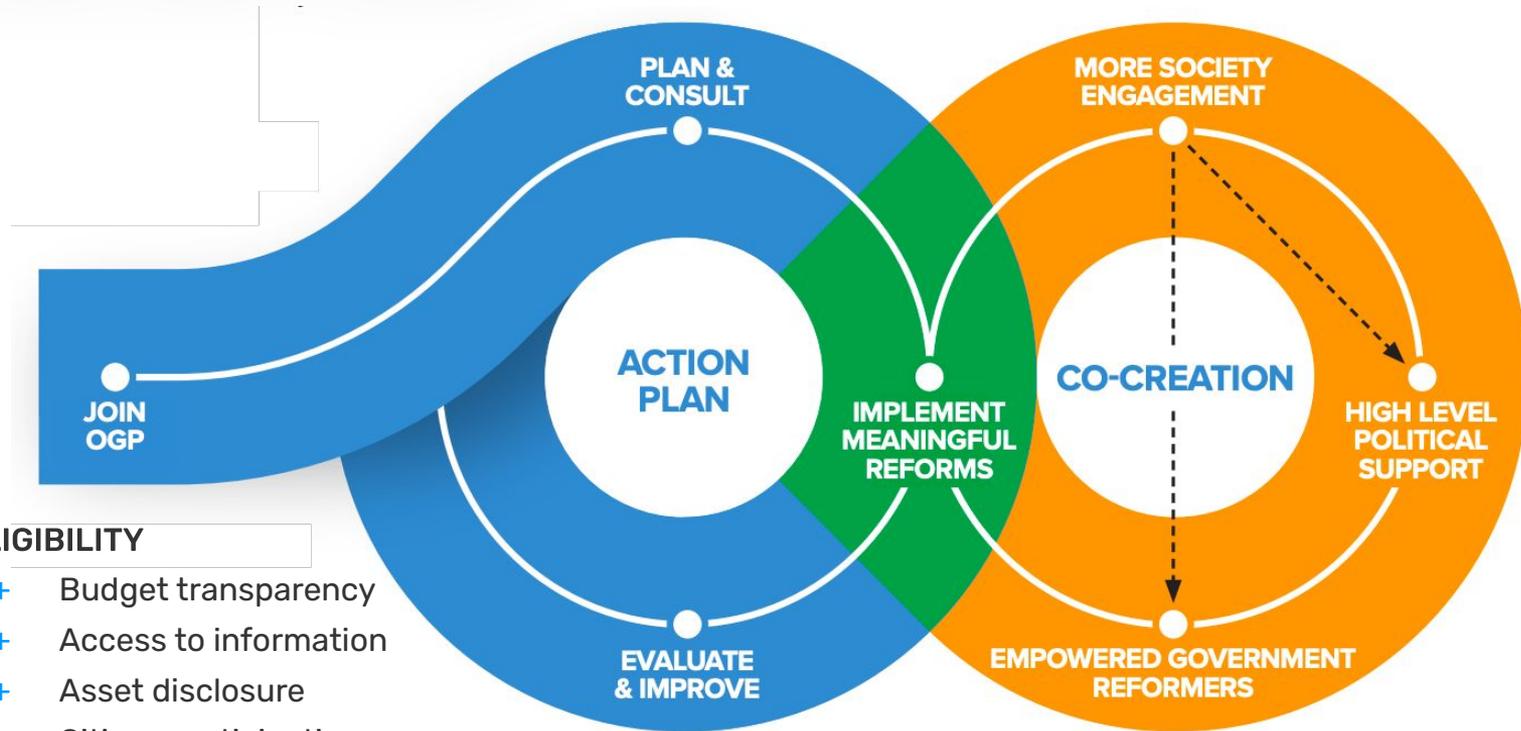
+ **ELIGIBILITY**
    + Budget transparency
    + Access to information
    + Asset disclosure
    + Citizen participation

What is the IRM?

+ OGP's accountability arm

    – Independent body, overseen by the International Experts Panel (IEP)

    – Assesses the design of OGP action plans to determine:

        • How well the commitments reflect the OGP values of transparency, accountability, and civic participation

        • How ambitious they are in opening up government and changing business as usual

    – Monitors the implementation of OGP commitments throughout the two-year action plan cycle

Guiding materials

- **OGP Handbook 4.1: Rules and Guidance for participants (Updated January 2020).** In this document you will find information about the OGP calendar, rules about delays, advice on how to handle electoral/transitional processes, and guidance on how to develop an Action Plan and Self-Assessment Report.

- **OGP Participation and Co-creation Toolkit.** The Participation and Co-creation Toolkit provides guidance on developing successful co-creation and implementation processes in line with the requirements established in the OGP Participation and Co-Creation Standards.

- **OGP Global Report.** The Global report is a comprehensive assessment of the state of open government. This report provides a thorough and honest review of progress made by OGP member countries in the first eight years of the partnership.

Co-creation standards

Basic	Advanced

Information divulgation and comms

Spaces and platforms of dialogue and co-creation

Ownership and joint decision making
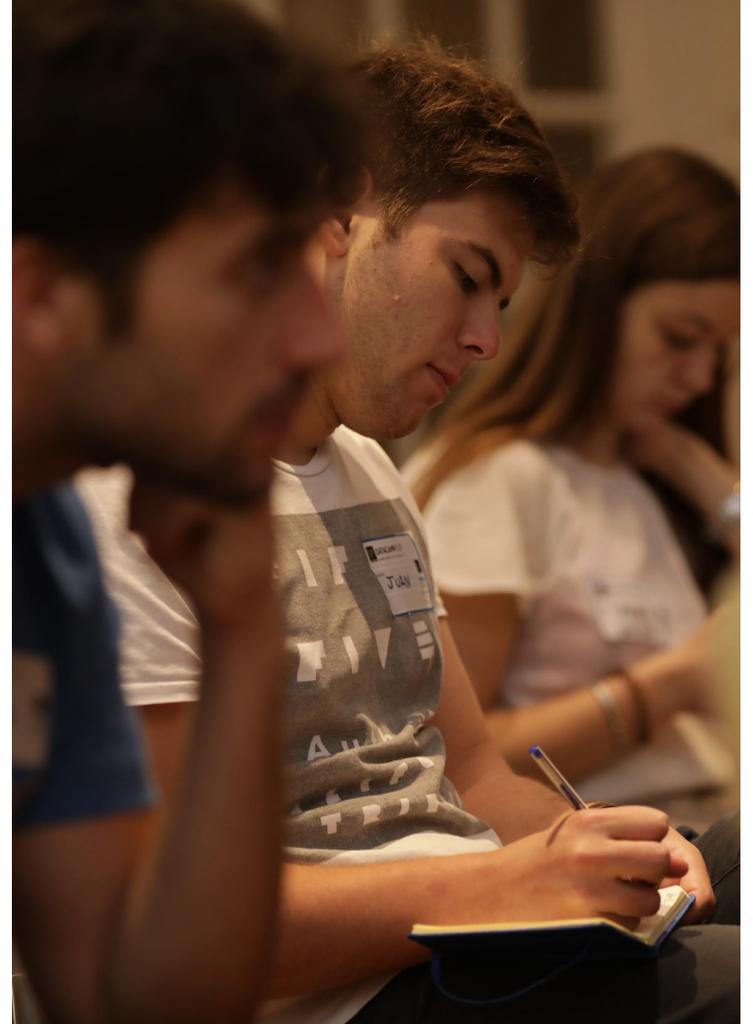
Co-creation standards

Information divulgation and comms

Basic

+ OGP online dedicated space with repository
+ Timely publication of activities (calendar, opportunities of participation, general information, etc.)

Advanced

+ Online participation and deliberation mechanism (comments, etc.)
+ Public follow up mechanism and periodic implementation updates

Co-creation standards

Spaces and platforms of dialogue and co-creation

Basic

+ Opportunities for everybody to participate in the process
+ Multi-Stakeholder Forum
+ MSF methodology (four meetings each year)

Advanced

+ Thematic working groups
+ Regular meetings, dialogue and consultation with the responsible public servants/agencies of the commitments.

Co-creation standards

Ownership and joint decision making

Basic
+ Joint development of rules and governance of the MSF
+ Balance between Gov and CSO integration and participation (CSO representatives with decision making power)
+ Fair and transparent selection process of the civil society representatives
+ MSF communicates decisions, activities and results

Advanced
+ Co-direction of the MSF and empowerment for decision making
+ Joint monitoring of commitment implementation

+ IRM will evaluate that the Government at least, **involves** during co-creation and **informs** during implementation.

Co-creation

Involve:

+ There is an MSF

+ MSF publishes decisions and gives reasoned responses

Implementation

Inform:

+ Information to follow up commitments

2021-2023 Calendar (odd year)
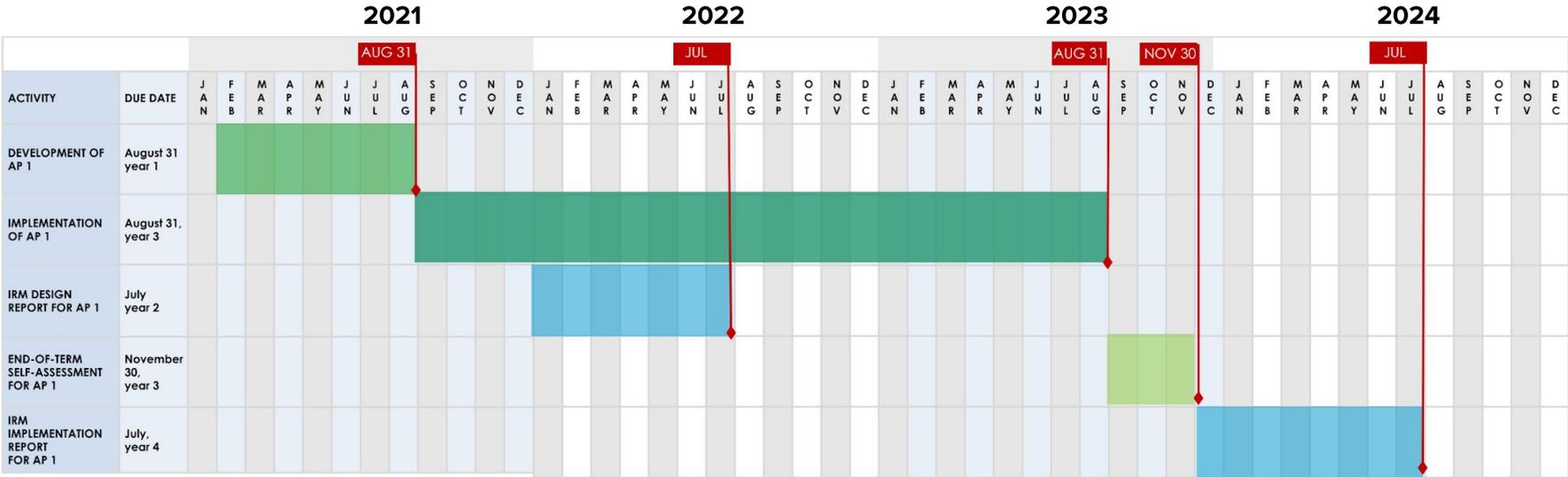
Thanks! Questions?

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