

**THE OPEN
GOVERNMENT
GUIDE SPECIAL
EDITION:
IMPLEMENTING
THE 2030
SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT
AGENDA**

THE OPEN GOVERNMENT GUIDE SPECIAL EDITION: IMPLEMENTING THE 2030 SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AGENDA



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THE OPEN GOVERNMENT GUIDE SPECIAL EDITION: IMPLEMENTING THE 2030 SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AGENDA

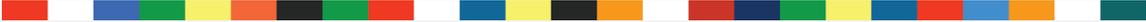
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THE OPEN GOVERNMENT GUIDE SPECIAL EDITION: IMPLEMENTING THE 2030 SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AGENDA

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development demands bold action. It will require coordinating policy on multiple fronts, forming new partnerships, and committing significant resources across the globe. It also requires an open and accountable approach to implementation. With government and civil society working together in 66 countries to make governments more open and effective, the Open Government Partnership (OGP) presents a unique opportunity to advance the 2030 Agenda.

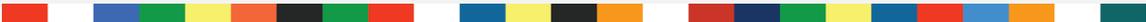
Members of the OGP Steering Committee met on the margins of the United Nations General Assembly in New York City in September 2015 to endorse the Joint Declaration on Open Government for the Implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Since then, many more governments and civil society organizations have signed the declaration, which commits governments to use OGP to encourage transparent, accountable, participatory, and technology-enabled implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

As an international partnership with a built-in domestic policy platform and accountability mechanism—national action plans and the Independent Reporting Mechanism—OGP provides a readymade vehicle for implementing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). OGP action plans can be used to adopt concrete commitments aligned with SDGs across the 66 participating countries, while the Independent Reporting Mechanism ensures a focus on results by holding governments accountable for implementation.



This special edition of the Open Government Guide focuses on how an open government approach can spur progress across the 17 Goals, including in improving public services and ultimately, in reducing poverty. Many OGP countries are already tackling these challenges by promoting transparency and accountability, empowering citizens and civil society, fighting corruption, and harnessing new technologies in their national action plans, examples of which are showcased here. Also highlighted are illustrative commitments drawn from the Open Government Guide for inclusion in future action plans. We invite government and civil society open government champions around the world to build on these ideas in the coming months with their own suggestions of open government policies that advance the SDGs.

Implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development demands governments to be more effective and responsive to citizens. For this to happen, government and civil society must collaborate to embed transparency, accountability, and participation across institutions globally. OGP can lead that effort. The OGP Global Summit in Mexico City presents a significant opportunity to bridge the open government and sustainable development agendas. This guide aims to kick off that conversation.



GOAL I: NO POVERTY

End poverty in all its forms everywhere

■ **The Role of Open Government**

By making the institutions that formulate policy and administer public services more transparent, accountable, and effective, open government principles can accelerate poverty-eradication efforts. Open government provides a voice for citizens to ensure that public funds are spent on community priorities, in turn enabling the poor to benefit from the services they need most. Moreover, by empowering citizens and advocacy groups to monitor pro-poor spending and the delivery of public services, open government practices can improve the accountability of poverty-alleviation programs. Transparency in international aid is essential for planning and managing aid resources, as well as ensuring that donor and recipient governments can be held accountable for the results of their poverty-eradication efforts.¹

■ **Open Government Partnership Commitments on Goal I**

The Philippines

Promoting participation to prioritize poverty-reduction projects. The Philippines is promoting grassroots participatory planning and budgeting processes in order to identify priority poverty-reduction projects that will be funded by national government agencies.

Chile

Promoting participation of vulnerable communities. Chile aims to fully implement the right to information and access to justice in order to enhance citizen participation, especially of vulnerable communities, in environmental decision-making.

¹ *Open Government Guide - Aid*. Transparency & Accountability Initiative. 2013. <http://www.opengovguide.com/topics/aid/>



Sweden

Enhancing aid transparency. Sweden is publishing timely, forward-looking, and comprehensive aid data in a standardized manner in order to hold donor and recipient governments more accountable and ensure the efficient use of financial resources for poverty eradication.

■ Illustrative Commitments Adapted from Open Government Guide Chapters

Public Services. Publish and promote information on the public services the poor use, including how to file grievances when public services are denied.

Aid. Publish more detailed information on aid flows, including project performance information, sub-national location, results and project documents.

Environment. Establish technologically and culturally appropriate procedures for ensuring poor and marginalized groups are included in public engagement on environmental decisions.

Land. Codify and implement protocols for meaningful consultation with those potentially affected by large-scale land investments.

GOAL 2: ZERO HUNGER

End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture

■ The Role of Open Government

Public programs and services that address hunger and promote food security – from free school lunches to food relief in the aftermath of natural disasters – can be made more efficient through greater transparency, accountability, and public participation. Increased transparency provides information about services, making programs more accessible to citizens. It also facilitates monitoring by citizen and advocacy groups to ensure quality and to detect fraud. Open government can also play a critical role in consumer protection to ensure that the food products we buy are not only fit for human consumption but also lead to improved nutrition. Finally, transparent, inclusive, and accountable governance concerning the commercial use of land and sea is essential for sustainable agriculture and fishing practices.

■ Open Government Partnership Commitments on Goal 2

United States

Promoting open agriculture and nutrition data internationally. The United States, in partnership with the United Kingdom, has established the Global Open Data for Agriculture and Nutrition (GODAN). The initiative works to support global efforts to make agricultural and nutritionally relevant data available, accessible, and usable for application worldwide.

Tanzania

Enhancing transparency on the use of land. Tanzania is making data on land use, land ownership, and demarcations for large-scale agricultural investment accessible online for public use.



Indonesia

Promoting accountability in land administration. To reduce corruption and increase efficiency, Indonesia is improving transparency and accountability in its Land Administration Office. The office will publish public data on the types of services provided, processes required for service provisions, estimated time to complete a service, costs for service provision, and the progress of service requests.

■ Illustrative Commitments Adapted from Open Government Guide Chapters

Land. Implement the “Voluntary Guidelines for the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries, and Forests” by the Food and Agriculture Organization in the context of national food security.

Public services. Publish and disseminate information on public services citizens are entitled to, especially relating to hunger, food security, and nutrition programs. Provide public data on the distribution and use of such services at a granular level.

Fisheries. Require national fishing authorities to publish detailed and timely information on commercial fishing licenses and catch quotas.

Land. Strengthen regulations to ensure participatory processes for land- and resource-use planning.

Consumer protection. Develop consumer protection laws in line with the UN Guidelines for Consumer Protection to ensure access to information food safety and nutrition.

GOAL 3: GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages

■ The Role of Open Government

Open government can provide a powerful vehicle for improving national health systems for more accountable and effective health service delivery. Many of these strategies rely on increased transparency of health-related data for planning and monitoring by service providers. Others focus on improving public-accountability systems in health service delivery through social audits and public scorecards to ensure that citizens are getting quality health care services. Citizen feedback loops underpinned by robust information transparency on health service performance can provide a powerful upward pull toward better quality and more citizen-centric service delivery.

■ Open Government Partnership Commitments on Goal 3

Brazil

Enhancing accountability mechanisms for health service delivery. Brazil is strengthening the integrity and accountability mechanisms of its national health care system, Sistema Único de Saúde (SUS). This involves strengthening the national audit system and increasing the use of National Health Cards, designed to deepen accountability linkages between the SUS, public health care users, medical professionals, and health facilities.

Honduras

Participatory monitoring of medical supplies. The government of Honduras is implementing a transparency and participation initiative for citizens to monitor the delivery, distribution, and use of medicine and medical supplies.



United Kingdom

Transparency of health data. The UK is opening data on clinical health indicators, including the quality of care provided by health services and associated health outcomes to inform the public on how well services are performing and meeting citizens' needs. The goal is to open data to allow citizens to participate in their own health care and in the design of health services.

■ **Illustrative Commitments Adapted from Open Government Guide Chapters**

Budgets. Publish information on resources received by health departments and facilities.

Environment and natural resources. Implement regulation for Health Impact Assessment to be incorporated into Environmental Impact Assessment.

Public services. Systematically track and publish department performance indicators and health outcome indicators across health- and nutrition-related services. This can include data for children, adults, and the elderly.

GOAL 4: QUALITY EDUCATION

Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong opportunities for all

■ The Role of Open Government

Growing evidence suggests that open government tools and techniques can enhance public-service delivery. As in the case of health care services, increased transparency through the proactive disclosure of data, combined with institutionalized public feedback loops through social audits and participatory policymaking, can lead to improvements in the quality of education services. Open data in the education sector can be used to identify underperforming institutions, diagnose problems, and plan reforms. Open budget processes can help ensure that resources for education are prioritized and are being spent on the intended beneficiaries. Engaging the community in monitoring schools can help build trust and ensure an outcomes-focused approach to the improvement of public education.

■ Open Government Partnership Commitments on Goal 4

Indonesia

Promoting financial transparency. Indonesia is improving financial transparency in the education sector by opening up data on the School Operational Assistance Fund, which allocates national funds to schools. Citizens can access data on how the funds are being spent by each school every trimester on the Ministry of Education's website, which potentially could improve accountability in the education sector.



Mexico

Supporting equality of opportunity through enhancing information about educational grants. Mexico is improving the dissemination of information about the availability of scholarships and grants in order to promote greater educational equality and access to education. Public scrutiny of data can ensure that resources are used efficiently by preventing the duplication of educational grants.

■ Illustrative Commitments Adapted from Open Government Guide Chapters

Budgets. Publish information on school construction resources received by education units.

Public services. Publish school performance, teacher information, and budget-allocation data at the most-granular possible level for primary and secondary education. Publish graduation and employment rates for colleges and universities, including private establishments.

Public contracting. Publish key documents and data on school construction.

GOAL 5: GENDER EQUALITY

Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls

■ **The Role of Open Government**

Open government can help advance gender equality through increased transparency, unearthing existing inequalities across a range of issues and sectors, which in turn can be mobilized into calls for reform by citizens. Civil society groups and the media have an important role to play in making sense of and contextualizing the information disclosed. Open government strategies and technology can also be used to disseminate information on essential government services to which women are entitled. Moreover, establishing institutional mechanisms for public participation can amplify women's voices that otherwise would be shut out from the policymaking process.

■ **Open Government Partnership Commitments on Goal 5**

Brazil

Tackling violence against women. Brazil has developed a unified information system for data on violence against women based on the 2006 Maria da Penha Law on Domestic and Family Violence. This led to the launch of the “Woman, to Live without Violence” program, which used the Dial 180 system to route complaints to the public-security authorities and inform the public prosecutor's office in each state.



Norway

Identifying gender equality as a national policy priority. Norway is using the Open Government Partnership to promote gender equality and women's full participation in civic life, the private sector, the public administration, and political processes. Particular focus is on achieving equal pay for work of equal value, which in Norway is seen as a fundamental principle of an open democracy.

■ Illustrative Commitments Adapted from Open Government Guide Chapters

Public services. Publish gender- and family-related data on key public services such as housing, social services, and domestic violence.

Citizen engagement. Gender-sensitize existing participatory mechanisms to ensure that women, youth, and marginalized groups may provide input into and influence public decision-making.

Land. Develop or strengthen democratic processes for identifying, making public, altering, and protecting land rights, especially in cases where women or marginalized groups lack formal rights or have partial or communal rights.

GOAL 6: CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION

Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all

■ The Role of Open Government

Open government principles often underpin universal and high-quality public-service provision by strengthening citizen demand for better public services and enhancing the government's ability to deliver services more efficiently. Adopting open data and participatory planning for water point mapping efforts can improve the planning, distribution, and monitoring of water supplies. Proactively publishing data on water use and management — access point locations, consumption, quality, investment, etc. — can engage the wider community in service improvement efforts by collectively identifying issues and planning appropriate reforms. Publishing information on the location of urban and rural water supplies can enhance accessibility. Allowing citizen voices, especially those of marginalized groups, in policy planning can direct infrastructure investments where they are needed the most.

■ Open Government Partnership Commitments on Goal 6

Tanzania

Open data to improve access to water. Tanzania implemented a Water Point Mapping System that makes up-to-date information on the status and location of rural water supplies available to citizens in order to make water services more accessible, efficient, and accountable.



Brazil

Enhancing transparency and accountability of the “Water for All” Program. The government of Brazil is organizing and disclosing data on the execution of the Water for All program through a universal data platform. This will allow the public to continuously monitor the program’s progress and results and enhance its accountability.

Paraguay

Civic participation to build water and sanitation policies. The government of Paraguay is engaging civil society and the private sector in a cross-sectoral dialogue on water and sanitation policy.

■ Illustrative Commitments Adapted from Open Government Guide Chapters

[Public services.](#) Systematically track and publish performance indicators on use and management of water and sanitation services as open data.

[Citizen engagement.](#) Encourage the use of in-person workshops and digital tools to engage with the public on water and sanitation service provision from policy formulation through implementation.

[Budgets.](#) Engage citizens in the process of prioritizing budget allocations for water and sanitation.

GOAL 7: AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY

Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all

■ The Role of Open Government

Open government can help streamline the public policies that will ensure access to affordable, reliable, and sustainable energy. For example, improving energy efficiency will require a framework of cross-sectoral collaboration, with strong transparency and accountability mechanisms, for government, private sector and civil society to work together to assess needs, measure and disclose energy use, evaluate policy options, and develop national energy-efficiency strategies.¹ Further, open data can be key to monitoring, identifying gaps, and improving implementation.

■ Open Government Partnership Commitments on Goal 7

United States

Public reporting on fossil fuel subsidies. The United States will publicly publish an annual report outlining government spending on fossil-fuel subsidies and share it with G-20 countries and other relevant international bodies. Regular public reporting on U.S. government spending on fossil-fuel subsidies could increase transparency and enhance accountability related to the effects of this policy.

¹ 25 *Energy Efficiency Policy Recommendations*. International Energy Agency (2011), https://www.iea.org/publications/freepublications/publication/25recom_2011.pdf



Indonesia

Transparency in energy and extractive industries. Indonesia is improving the management of renewable and nonrenewable sources of energy by using greater transparency to combat corruption, collusion, and nepotism in the energy and extractives sectors. The government will disclose information on the procurement of upstream gas and mining as well as the results of social responsibility programs as part of a wider effort to apply Extractive Industry Transparency Initiative standards to natural resource governance.

■ Illustrative Commitments Adapted from Open Government Guide Chapters

Open data. Proactively publish production, consumption, trade, prices, and emissions data in open format with geographic metadata across all energy sources, including petroleum, natural gas, coal, electricity, nuclear, and renewables.

Extractive industry. Publish timely, comprehensive reports on oil, gas and mining operations, including detailed revenue and project information.

Citizen engagement. Create a national-level citizen-engagement process on energy policy.

GOAL 8: DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

Promote sustained, inclusive, and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all

■ The Role of Open Government

Open government helps create the conditions that allow economic activity to thrive. Transparency and accountability in public fiscal management, financial institutions, and regulatory systems underpin economic stability and promote growth. Open government can also drive business innovation and economic growth, as in the case with open data where government data is used, reused, and shared to produce new business services and products.¹ Safe and secure working environments for all workers including migrant workers can be strengthened by greater transparency in labor laws and regulations as well as robust public accountability mechanisms including robust whistle-blower protections.

■ Open Government Partnership Commitments on Goal 8

The Philippines

Improving the ease of doing business. The Philippines is using open government to streamline government processes that cater to businesses in order to improve competitiveness, promote investment, and spur growth. The Philippines aims to improve ease of doing business in the country, particularly for specific processes dealing with starting and operating a business, including issues related to contract enforcement and the protection of investors.

¹ *Open Data for Economic Growth*. World Bank (2014). <http://www.worldbank.org/content/dam/Worldbank/document/Open-Data-for-Economic-Growth.pdf>



United Kingdom

Open data for use by business. The United Kingdom is implementing a directive to make more public-sector information available for reuse for commercial and noncommercial purposes. This would deliver economic benefits for the UK through a more open flow of data and information available for business to analyze and reuse in products and services.

Indonesia

Protecting migrant workers. Indonesia is improving the management of public services for migrant workers overseas by strengthening the transparency and accountability of complaint-resolution processes. The government is developing the digital infrastructure to publish critical information and respond to migrant workers in order to protect those working overseas.

■ Illustrative Commitments Adapted from Open Government Guide Chapters

Open government data. Mandate the publication of data that businesses need and can build services on, including geospatial, environment, economic, transport, energy, and demographic data.

Public services. Involve citizens in the commissioning, design, delivery and assessment of public services related to starting and operating businesses as well as prompting investment and trade competitiveness.

Whistle-blowing protection. Review and strengthen laws and policies on whistle-blowing through consultations with stakeholders including trade unions, civil society groups, professional organizations, private-sector representatives, etc.

GOAL 9: INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation

■ The Role of Open Government

Open government principles can help promote industry and innovation and contribute to improvements in infrastructure. Transparency in planning and building public infrastructure facilitates citizen oversight, which can reduce construction time and costs and uncover fraud and waste. Developing digital infrastructure to provide open Internet access connects communities, enables access to information and services, and drives innovation and economic growth. Through open science and innovation policies, government can harness the expertise of the scientific community and encourage collaboration with the wider public on national research priorities and shared challenges.

■ Open Government Partnership Commitments on Goal 9

United Kingdom

Open science and technology policymaking. The UK is identifying innovative and effective ways to engage the public in policy involving complex scientific and technological innovation through its Sciencewise Program, which covers a broad range of scientific issues — from nanotechnology to climate change. The program aims to open public dialogue to wider scientific and civil society voices using digital tools.



Mexico

Infrastructure for all. The government of Mexico is publishing geo-referenced data on public infrastructure projects. The increased transparency will facilitate oversight by the public, allowing citizens to track the development of projects and detect problems.

Canada

Open science. The government of Canada is maximizing access to federally funded scientific research to encourage greater collaboration and engagement with the scientific community, the private sector, and the public.

■ Illustrative Commitments Adapted from Open Government Guide Chapters

Construction. Integrate mechanisms for real-time citizen reporting and feedback on infrastructure construction projects.

Public contracting. Engage civil society and business in the use of open contracting data to prevent mismanagement, inefficiency, and corruption in service and infrastructure construction contracts.

Open data. Proactively engage and support data users to foster scientific and technological innovation.

GOAL 10: REDUCED INEQUALITIES

Reduced Inequality within and among countries

■ **The Role of Open Government**

Open government tools can be mobilized to advance Goal 10 targets on reducing inequality. Open, transparent, and accountable institutions and regulations encourage investment, discourage corruption, and create the conditions for greater economic activity. Simultaneously broadening citizen voices in government decisions—especially those of marginalized communities—can increase equality of opportunity and economic inclusion and reduce the inequalities inherent in economic gains. Additionally, encouraging transparent and participatory international aid policy can help direct development assistance to countries and communities that need it the most.

■ **Open Government Partnership Commitments on Goal 10**

Tanzania

Donor funding. Tanzania is encouraging donors to exercise greater transparency consistent with International Aid Transparency Initiative principles. Correspondingly, recipient government, civil society, and private-sector organizations are being encouraged to disclose revenues and expenditures in open data formats on an annual basis. The data will help oversight and advocacy institutions to undertake monitoring and advocacy for improved outcomes.



Mexico

Open registry of social welfare programs. Mexico has created an open registry of all social welfare programs under the “National Crusade Against Hunger” campaign. This registry facilitates the monitoring of 7 million beneficiaries of the 90 different programs, which helps focus social programs on vulnerable groups and makes services more accountable.

Colombia

Colombia is increasing the accessibility and inclusivity of government information and public services to the disabled, who traditionally have been underserved and overlooked. The government is harnessing digital tools and improving physical spaces to reach out to a broad range of disabled citizens.

■ **Illustrative Commitments Adapted from Open Government Guide Chapters**

Budgets. Publish information on resources received by health departments and facilities.

Public services. Involve marginalized communities and vulnerable populations in the commissioning, design, delivery, and assessment of public services.

Aid. Integrate aid information into domestic budget planning to ensure aid is directed where the need is greatest.

GOAL II: SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable

■ The Role of Open Government

With increased urbanization, the need for effective local government has never been greater. Using open government tools and techniques to enhance transparency, accountability, and public participation can directly improve citizens' lives because many crucial public services are administered at the local level. Increased transparency and public participation in policy deliberation and decision-making by community members can also enhance the responsiveness and accountability of local government. For example, participatory budgeting allows citizens to prioritize public spending to respond to community needs. Greater citizen participation in monitoring and evaluating health, education, housing, police, and water and food distribution services using tools such as public scorecards and social audits can improve the quality of public services and development outcomes.

■ Commitments in Open Government Partnership Action Plans on Goal II

Paraguay

Strengthening Municipal Development Councils. Fifty Municipal Development Councils are being developed across cities in Paraguay to deepen citizen participation at the local level. The councils provide a participatory forum for citizens to develop, monitor, and conduct hearings on plans for local development initiatives.



Macedonia

Improving local services through direct collaboration with citizens. Macedonia is supporting the implementation of citizen-generated initiatives and replicating innovative practices through “micro civic laboratories” to improve local services. The government is also developing the Municipal Internal Act on Transparency to strengthen transparency across municipal councils in order to increase citizen access to information on municipal government business.

Colombia

Transparent Antioquia. The state of Antioquia in Colombia will organize accountability hearings across 125 municipalities with the participation of 12,000 citizens to assess their compliance with the state’s local development plan. The hearings will also evaluate the results of public agreements between the mayors of municipalities and the governor of Antioquia.

■ **Illustrative Commitments Adapted from Open Government Guide Chapters**

Budgets. Enable participation of citizens and civil society organizations in local budget preparation to draw on the local community’s knowledge and oversight.

Public services. Involve citizens in the commissioning, design, delivery, and assessment of public services in cities.

Police and public security. Establish integrity provisions for city police officers, in line with international best practices.

GOAL 12: RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION

Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns

■ The Role of Open Government

Open government principles highlighted in Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration, including access to information, participatory decision-making, and access to justice, can help advance Goal 12. Legal frameworks requiring proactive disclosure and access to information can help the public identify environmental risks and issues. Establishing participatory mechanisms allows citizens to have a voice in environmental decision-making and monitoring to ensure sustainability. Open access to justice allows citizens and advocacy groups to redress grievances where their interests are at stake.

■ Commitments in Open Government Partnership Action Plans on Goal 12

Mexico

Corporate Accountability on PET plastic. Mexico's Secretaría de Medio Ambiente y Recursos Naturales aims to incentivize private firms to efficiently manage waste residues, especially for bottles containing PET (Polyethylene terephthalate), through its environmental information portal. The portal discloses key datasets on PET production and recycling, which can be used to monitor compliance.



Bulgaria

Integrating preventive environment tools. Bulgaria is integrating preventive environmental tools into corporate policies in order to increase corporate awareness of environmental management systems such as ISO 14001, EMAS, eco labeling, energy labeling, and EcoDesign for products.

South Africa

Public portal of environmental management information. South Africa will develop an integrated and publicly accessible portal of environmental management information that provides aggregated environmental data across sectors. The goal is to increase transparency and strengthen compliance with environmental regulation while simultaneously providing citizens with greater access to comprehensive information on the environment.

■ **Illustrative Commitments Adapted from Open Government Guide Chapters**

Land. Embed participatory land and resource-use planning policy in legal and institutional frameworks to ensure compliance with standards of environmental and social sustainability.

Environment. Develop public-disclosure programs on environmental and sustainability impacts for companies, especially large and transnational corporations.

Public contracting. Link open contracting data on the performance and completion of public contracts to environmental and social-impact assessment data.

GOAL 13: CLIMATE ACTION

Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts

■ The Role of Open Government

Given the scale of the challenge, tackling climate change will require global collective action, responsive governments, flexible institutions, as well as shared resources and data. Many international efforts to address climate change are underpinned by open government principles (Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration, for example). Strengthening open government nationally by deepening and embedding citizen participation across transparent and accountable systems of governance can help accelerate progress on the issue.¹ Robust and inclusive mechanisms for public participation can help citizens prioritize adaptation needs and resources to protect vulnerable and at-risk populations. Opening and sharing science and policy data globally can facilitate an evidence-based approach to understanding, preventing, and adapting to climate change. Greater transparency enables citizens and advocacy organizations to monitor climate change policy and track climate financing to ensure accountability of results. Moreover, open access to justice would allow citizens and advocacy groups to secure climate justice and redress grievances where community interests are at stake.

■ Commitments in Open Government Partnership Action Plans on Goal 13

France

Open government for climate and sustainable development.

France is committed to promoting transparency and involving civil society in COP21 Conference's planning, agenda, and negotiations. The government will develop a participatory platform for citizen mobilization and collaboration for COP21 and beyond.

¹ *Can you hear me? Citizens, Climate Change & Open Government*. Davis, Mitchell. Prikken. Involve. (June 2014).
http://www.involve.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/07/Involve_Climate-Change-and-Open-Local-Government.pdf



United States

Public reporting on fossil-fuel subsidies. The United States will publicly publish an annual report outlining government spending on fossil-fuel subsidies and share it with G-20 countries and other relevant international bodies. Regular public reporting on U.S. government spending on fossil-fuel subsidies will increase transparency and enhance accountability on the effects of this policy.

Greece

Opening geospatial data. Greece's Ministry of Environment, Energy, and Climate change is opening up geospatial data across government. To ensure accessibility, the ministry is preparing legislation and developing processes to ensure geospatial data can easily be accessed, retrieved, and combined with other data sources.

Chile

OGP and Principle 10. Chile is accelerating regional progress on the implementation of Principle 10. It commits to raising awareness of access rights among civil society and strengthening the capacity of the public sector to engage in the regional process on Principle 10.

■ Illustrative Commitments adapted from Open Government Guide Chapters

Environment. Develop public-disclosure programs that release emission and discharge data from the corporate sector. Ensure data is published in usable and understandable formats to effectively explain risks to local communities.

Land. Embed participatory land- and resource-use planning policies in legal and institutional frameworks, which ensure compliance with standards of environmental and social sustainability.

Public contracting. Link open contracting data with other sources of data, such as environmental and sustainability data.

GOAL 14: LIFE BELOW WATER

Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development

■ The Role of Open Government

Persistent overfishing is emblematic of a failure of national and international governance. Lack of transparency and government openness is increasingly recognized as part of the problem. Open government is one way to empower communities and other marine resource stakeholders to guarantee sustainable ocean stewardship. Transparency on commercial fishing licenses, catch quotas, penalties, fines, and subsidies can facilitate research, public debate and the quality of decision-making. Publishing timely information is also crucial for monitoring violations and detecting fraud. Transparency in pollution monitoring and sea-life harvesting regulations, for example, aid public initiatives to identify violations of rules, while also improving firms' clarity and understanding of those rules.¹

■ Open Government Partnership Commitments on Goal 14

Spain

Participation in national maritime rescue plans. Increase and improve maritime stakeholder participation in the Ministry of Infrastructure's plans for maritime reclamation and pollution mitigation. The aim is to have consultative meetings before producing the draft plans, which should enable the inclusion of perspectives that are often overlooked when determining policy.

¹ *Open Government Guide – Fisheries*. Transparency & Accountability Initiative. (2013).
<http://www.opengovguide.com/topics/fisheries/>



■ Illustrative Commitments Adapted from Open Government Guide Chapters

[Fisheries](#). Require national fishing authorities to publish detailed and timely information on commercial fishing licenses and catch quotas.

[Fisheries](#). Publish complete and up-to-date information on penalties and fines imposed on individuals and companies for illegal fishing activities.

[Fisheries](#). Produce a comprehensive annual report on marine fisheries.

GOAL 15: LIFE ON LAND

Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss

■ The Role of Open Government

Accountable decision-making enables a well-functioning land sector, which is crucial for sustainable development. Effective land and natural resource governance fosters economic growth, protects vulnerable communities, and preserves the environment. Improving openness enables government agencies to effectively assess the costs and benefits of resource use options, allowing for the protection of biodiversity, the establishment of secure land rights, and the equitable distribution of resource extraction revenues. Consultation with those potentially affected by changes in land policies can further help communities protect their rights.¹

■ Open Government Partnership Commitments on Goal 15

Indonesia

Community empowerment to support environmental sustainability. Indonesia is strengthening the role of communities in preserving mangrove forests and is implementing a community-based waste management system at a pilot traditional market.

¹ *Open Government Guide – Land*. Transparency & Accountability Initiative. (2013).
<http://www.opengovguide.com/topics/land/>



Dominican Republic

Access to environmental data. The Dominican Republic is creating an interactive portal for citizens to access information such as environmental permits and reforestation projects held by the Ministry of Environment. Greater transparency of environmental information will support participatory mechanisms for public consultation on regulations.

Albania

Registry of protected areas. Albania is opening the registry of protected areas by making it electronically accessible to increase participation in activities related to protected areas, hunting areas, and national legislative initiatives on nature conservation and biodiversity.

■ **Illustrative Commitments Adapted from Open Government Guide Chapters**

Extractives. Create mechanisms for the public and legislators to engage in extractive concessioning, particularly on the environmental and social aspects of monitoring contracts.

Environment. Develop public-disclosure programs that release emission and discharge data from the corporate sector. Ensure data is published in useable and understandable formats to effectively explain risks to local communities.

Land. Embed participatory land- and resource-use planning policies in legal and institutional frameworks, which ensure compliance with standards of environmental and social sustainability.

GOAL 16: PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS

Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels

■ The Role of Open Government

Open government principles directly address Goal 16 targets. Increasing the availability of information on government activities, enabling and deepening civic participation, ensuring government is not corrupt and held accountable to the highest standards of service, and harnessing new technologies to strengthen governance are synonymous with open government. The Open Government Partnership's goal is to advance those key principles—transparency, civic participation, accountable public institutions, and technological innovation—in order to strengthen the rule of law and build just, effective and accountable institutions.

■ Open Government Partnership Commitments on Goal 16

Liberia

Increasing judicial transparency. Liberia is increasing the transparency of the judiciary by proactively publishing court documents in order to facilitate citizen monitoring and build trust in the justice system.



Brazil

Strengthening the federal ombudsman system. Brazil is employing a collaborative approach to develop the Federal Ombudsman System. The participatory drafting of regulation to establish principles and institutional mechanisms of the Federal Ombudsman System will reflect public priorities and will strengthen accountability across government.

Serbia

Strengthening the anti-corruption agency. Serbia is improving the ability of its anti-corruption agency to prevent conflicts of interest through increased transparency on the rights and obligations of public officials and more accurate monitoring of asset declarations.

■ **Illustrative Commitments Adapted from Open Government Guide Chapters**

[Citizen engagement.](#) Establish best-practice legislation and guidelines on public consultation in the policy process.

[Assets disclosure and conflicts of interest.](#) Establish a robust system of oversight and accountability for asset and conflicts-of-interest disclosures.

[Right to information.](#) Ensure that every public authority across government puts in place core implementation systems on RTI to process requests and appeals, redress complaints, and report on performance.

GOAL 17: PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS

Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development

■ The Role of Open Government

Open government principles are a critical enabler for delivering the Sustainable Development Goals through improved governance. Advancing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development will require coordinating policy on multiple fronts—i.e. finance, development, environment, technology, trade, and data—and forming global partnerships across many stakeholders—i.e., governments, private sector, and civil society. The Open Government Partnership is a voluntary multi-stakeholder platform for developing policy, strengthening collaboration, and sharing expertise between government and civil society across 66 countries. As such, OGP national action plans can be used to drive transparent, accountable, participatory, and technology-enabled implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

■ Open Government Partnership Commitments on Goal 17

Tanzania

Transparency of donor funding. Tanzania is encouraging donors to exercise greater transparency of funding consistent with International Aid Transparency Initiative principles. Correspondingly, recipient government, civil society, and private-sector organizations are being encouraged to disclose revenues and expenditures, in machine-readable format on an annual basis. The data should help oversight and advocacy institutions to undertake monitoring and advocacy for improved outcomes.



United Kingdom

Increasing the transparency of development spending. As the United Kingdom achieves the milestone of providing 0.7% of Gross National Income on development assistance, it is publishing more data in the internationally-recognized IATI standard and launching the 'Development Tracker' to improve the accessibility and traceability of development assistance provided by DFID.

Chile

Open Government Partnership and Principle 10. Chile is using its Open Government Partnership national action plan to accelerate regional progress on the implementation of Principle 10. It commits to raising awareness of access rights among civil society and strengthening the capacity of the public sector to engage in the regional process on Principle 10.

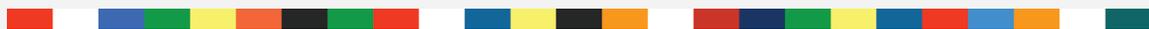
■ Illustrative Commitments Adapted from Open Government Guide Chapters

Civil society. Develop a compact with civil society to achieve common goals, including commitments to strengthen civil society's role in the policy process, the delivery of services, and holding government accountable.

Aid. Establish plans and policies to publish more comprehensive, detailed and overall higher-quality information on aid planning, implementation and outcomes. Also, integrate aid information into domestic budget planning.

Environment. Establish procedures for ensuring poor and marginalized groups are included in public engagement on environmental decisions.

**JOINT
DECLARATION
ON OPEN
GOVERNMENT
FOR THE
IMPLEMENTATION
OF THE 2030
AGENDA FOR
SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT**



As participants in the Open Government Partnership, committed to the principles enshrined in the Open Government Declaration, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the United Nations Convention Against Corruption and other relevant international instruments related to effective and inclusive institutions and human rights, we:



Recognize the importance of harnessing our efforts and championing the principles of transparency and open government as crucial tools for ensuring the effective implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

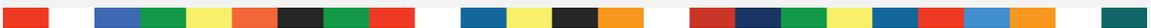
Acknowledge this is an ambitious global plan of action for achieving inclusive sustainable development in its economic, political, social and environmental dimensions, in a balanced and integrated manner to end poverty and combat inequality within and among countries.

Welcome the inclusion in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development of goals and targets related to transparency, accountability, integrity and citizen participation. They are essential for promoting the rule of law, reducing corruption, and promoting public access to information and the development of effective and accountable institutions.

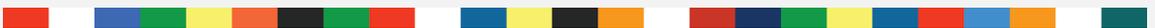
Applaud the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development for recognizing that peaceful and inclusive societies are vital components of sustainable development.

Value and welcome the participation of civil society organizations in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Promote the Open Government Partnership as a platform for voluntary cooperation and peer exchange and learning. The experience of its participating governments and civil society organizations can be drawn on to encourage transparent, accountable, participatory, and technology-enabled implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.



**TOGETHER,
WE DECLARE OUR
COMMITMENT TO:**



1. Promote the rule of law consistent with international standards at the national, regional and international level through transparency, openness, accountability, access to justice and effective and inclusive institutions. This is consistent with Goal 16 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

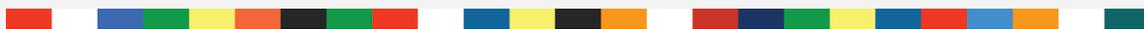
2. Promote public access to timely and disaggregated information and open data on government activities related to the implementation and financing of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in line with national legislation and international commitments . We support development of the International Open Data Charter and intend to explore its implementation in our countries.

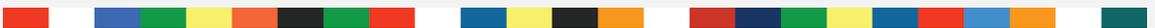
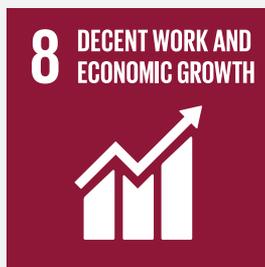
3. Support citizen participation in the implementation of all the goals and targets in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including decision-making, policy formulation, follow up and evaluation processes.

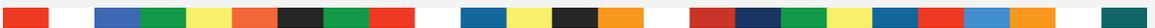
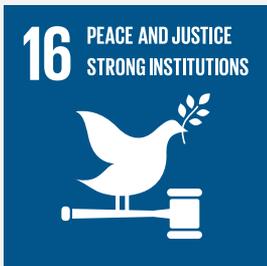
4. Uphold the principles of open government, as described in the Open Government Declaration, when defining international, regional and national indicators for measuring the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, taking into account national circumstances and development priorities. We will identify and share lessons learned and good practices to strengthen country capacity for implementation.

5. Use our Open Government Partnership National Action Plans to adopt commitments that serve as effective tools to promote transparent and accountable implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

September 2015









The Open Gov Guide has been developed by the Transparency and Accountability Initiative to support governments and civil society organizations working together to make governments better. It is designed to support the Open Government Partnership. The guide highlights practical, measurable, specific and actionable steps that governments can, and are taking across a range of cross-cutting and focused areas.



The Open Government Partnership is an international multi-stakeholder initiative that aims to secure concrete commitments from governments to promote transparency, empower citizens, fight corruption, and harness new technologies to strengthen governance. To participate in OGP, countries must endorse a high-level Open Government Declaration, deliver a national action plan developed with public consultation with civil society, and commit to independent reporting on their progress going forward.

<http://www.opengovguide.com/development-goals/>



Transparency
ACCOUNTABILITY
Initiative

Open
Government
Partnership



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