OPEN CONTRACTING COMMITMENTS FACT SHEET

Open contracting reforms touch many aspects of public life. With better data, public feedback, and oversight, governments detect corruption and improve regulation and public service outcomes. Greater competition in procurement leads to more savings and greater opportunity for businesses.

OGP commitments that enhance the transparency and integrity of open contracting and public procurement seek to combat a major source of government corruption and favoritism.

Key Takeaways:
- Encourage member-to-member learning and exchange.
- Shift from data publication to data use.

Numbers at a Glance

54 OGP members have included open contracting commitments in their action plans to date.

98 open contracting commitments to date

    51 are currently being implemented

70 commitments have been assessed by OGP's Independent Reporting Mechanism (IRM).

    11 have transformative potential impact.

    7 are starred.

    13 have shown significant early results in increasing government transparency, citizen participation, or public accountability.[1]

How many OGP participants are open contracting?
Open contracting commitments are fairly common among OGP members. About a third of OGP members **(33)** are currently implementing at least one open contracting commitment.

What are OGP participants doing about Open Contracting?

- **Open registry of contractors:** Chile creates a digital platform for a registry of contractors and Elgeyo Marakwet for a public monitoring tool.

- **Open Contracting Data Standard (OCDS):** The United Kingdom and Mexico are implementing the OCDS, enabling disclosure of data and documents at all stages of the contracting process defined by a common model.

[1]As of November 1, 2018. Since delays can occur between Action Plan submission, IRM report releases, and when data are updated in OGP databases, data may not reflect the most up to date information for every country/local entity. Scored Major or Outstanding on the Independent Report Mechanism's (IRM) Did It Open Government metric.

Open
Government
Partnership

So what?

The IRM assesses commitments for whether they are verifiable, relevant to open government principles, would create change on the ground, and are on their way to credible completion. We call these **"starred commitments."** Based on these criteria, **7 of 70 (10%)** of OGP's open contracting commitments are starred, which is double the overall average.

Do we know anything about early results?

- **43 of 70 (61%)** open contracting commitments are complete or near completion, which is nearly double the overall average for OGP commitments.
- **In 13 out of 30 (43%)** IRM-assessed cases, open contracting reforms had "major" or "outstanding" results in terms of transparency in public procurement and contracting. This is more than double the overall average **(20%)**. Note, assessment comes at the end of the second year of action plan implementation.

What does it all mean?

- **High ambition:** Open contracting commitments often have transformative potential, according to IRM assessments of potential impact.
- **Member-to-member learning:** OGP members should work to ensure that this ambition is within and across regions. To do so, OGP members should create more peer-learning opportunities between star performers and aspiring thematic leaders.
- **Shift from data publication to data use:** Current commitments focus on developing data portals, streamlining procurement processes, and implementing the data standard. However, members should also prioritize training citizens and civil society to use the data for monitoring and oversight of the public procurement cycle.

Notable Commitments

Elgeyo Marakwet County: More transparent and accessible government contracts

Elgeyo Marakwet committed to open contracting in response to citizen concerns regarding the efficient and corruption-free execution of contracts. The county will standardize project design and reporting documents across city departments, and publish regular reports on awarded contracts and project implementation. An online project tracking tool will enable public monitoring across the contract cycle. Elgeyo Marakwet will continue to work on improving access to government contracts through their 2018 action plan, which includes a commitment that seeks to expand procurement opportunities and publish data on the gender of government contractees.
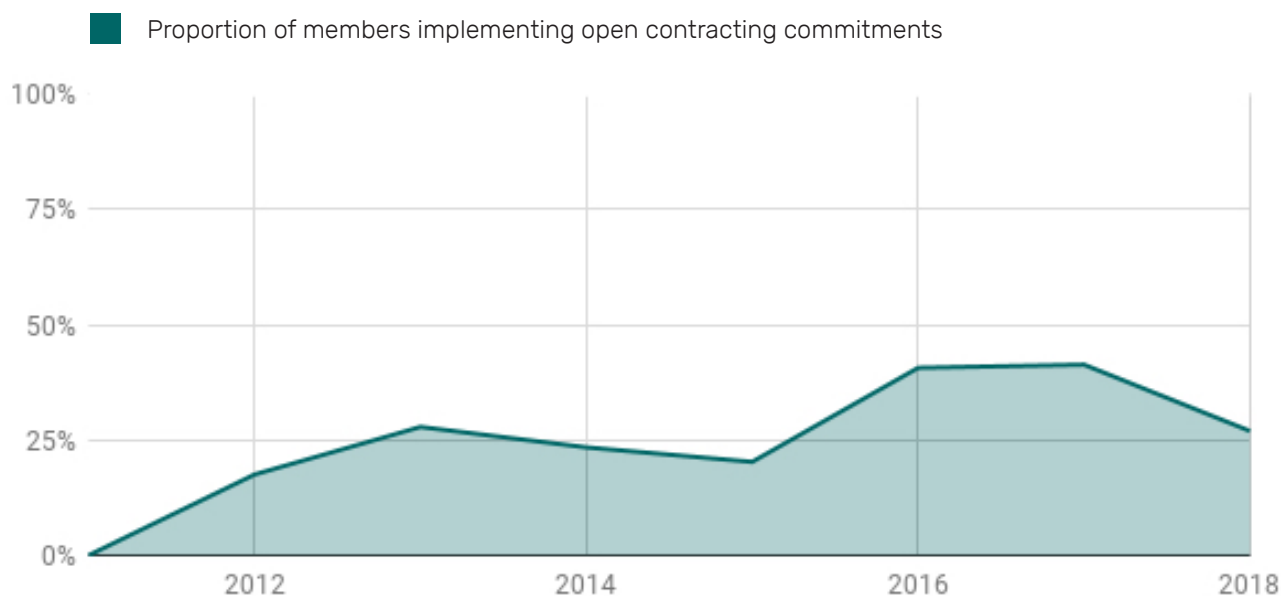
Ukraine: Citizen engagement in procurement monitoring

To amplify the voice of citizens in the procurement process Ukraine launched DoZorro, a tool for identifying corruption risks, in its third OGP action plan. DoZorro builds on the ProZorro platform by offering a channel for citizens to submit feedback and report procurement violations across the procurement cycle. Ukraine will also publish procurement data in the Open Contracting Data Standard, and will link this with public data of beneficial owners and the State Treasury. Lastly, a monitoring group made up of representatives from across Ukrainian society will monitor public procurement for suspicious activity and decide on steps needed to fix the problem.

Nigeria: Further implementation of the open contracting data standard:

The Nigerian Government committed to adopting open contracting standards to enhance transparency, accountability and citizen engagement in public procurement. The government is prioritizing critical ministries including Power, Transportation, Works, Agriculture, Health, Education, Niger Delta, Environment, and Solid Minerals.

Open Contracting Commitment Growth

■ Proportion of members implementing open contracting commitments

Members Working on Open Contracting

No members had active commitments in 2011.
Members with Active Commitments in 2012:
• Croatia, Czech Republic, Dominican Republic, Honduras, Jordan, Macedonia, Romania, Armenia, Peru, Colombia
Members with Active Commitments in 2013:
• Argentina, Brazil, Hungary, Liberia, Mexico, Netherlands, United Kingdom, Croatia, Czech Republic, Dominican Republic, Honduras, Jordan, Macedonia, Romania, Armenia, Peru, Colombia
Members with Active Commitments in 2014:
• Canada, El Salvador, Guatemala, Indonesia, Macedonia, Mongolia, Romania, Uruguay, Argentina, Brazil, Hungary, Liberia, Mexico, Netherlands, United Kingdom
Members with Active Commitments in 2015:
• Colombia, Costa Rica, France, Ghana, Israel, Canada, United States, El Salvador, Guatemala, Indonesia, Macedonia, Mongolia, Romania, Uruguay
Members with Active Commitments in 2016:
• Albania, Australia, Bojonegoro Regency, Bulgaria, Chile, Côte d'Ivoire, Elgeyo Marakwet, Georgia, Guatemala, Honduras, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Jalisco, Kenya, Macedonia, Madrid, Malawi, Mongolia, Paraguay, Romania, Scotland, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Ukraine, United Kingdom, Uruguay, Colombia, Costa Rica, France, Ghana, Israel, Canada, United States
Members with Active Commitments in 2017:
• Argentina, Colombia, Costa Rica, Finland, Ghana, Liberia, Nigeria, Panama, Slovakia, Albania, Australia, Bojonegoro Regency, Bulgaria, Chile, Côte d'Ivoire, Elgeyo Marakwet, Georgia, Guatemala, Honduras, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Jalisco, Kenya, Macedonia, Madrid, Malawi, Mongolia, Paraguay, Romania, Scotland, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Ukraine, United Kingdom, Uruguay
Members with Active Commitments in 2018:
• Australia, Elgeyo Marakwet, France, Honduras, Kaduna State, Macedonia, Sekondi-Takoradi, South Cotabato, Argentina, Colombia, Costa Rica, Finland, Ghana, Liberia, Nigeria, Panama, Slovakia