



CANADA
 **2019**

OGP Global Summit
Sommet mondial du PGO

OGP Steering Committee Meeting

29 May 2019 – Ottawa, Canada

Meeting Minutes

Open
Government
Partnership



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Open Government Partnership Steering Committee

Working Level & Ministerial Meetings
29 May 2019 | Ottawa, Canada

Agenda

Working-Level Meeting
10:00 - 12:00 | Room 205/207

**10:00 -
10:10** **Welcome and Introductions**

**10:10 -
10:30** **Session 1: Mid-Year Implementation Update**

Overview: *This session will include a mid-year update on the 2019 Implementation Plan and an overview of the actions identified by Steering Committee members to support its implementation. This session will identify areas where additional Steering Committee engagement will be necessary to deliver on the 2019 Implementation Plan's collective deliverables.*

Suggested outcome: *non-decisional*

Reference materials:

- 2019 OGP-IRM Implementation Plan
 - 2019 Steering Committee Grid
-

**10:30 -
11:30** **Session 2: OGP Local Strategy**

Overview: *This session will present a proposed strategy for engagement of local governments and civil society in OGP. The strategy reflects the lessons learnt from the OGP Local pilot program, as well as other existing models of local engagement being piloted by several OGP countries. It has been developed in coordination with a Steering Committee Local Task Force and with inputs from over 90 stakeholders within and outside OGP.*

The Local Task Force is now seeking Steering Committee endorsement of the strategy and will table a resolution for high-level approval at the Ministerial Steering Committee session in the afternoon.

Suggested outcome: *Working-level consensus to table the proposed resolution for Ministerial Steering Committee decision*

Reference materials:

- Strategy for the Engagement of Local Governments in OGP

- *Draft Resolution on OGP Local Strategy (for approval in Ministerial session)*

11:30 - 11:55 **Session 3: Overview of the IRM Refresh**

This session will present an overview of the scope of the 2019 Independent Reporting Mechanism (IRM) Refresh, which includes a revision of the IRM Charter. The Steering Committee will be asked to give feedback on the process to move forward with IRM Charter revisions. Based on these inputs, the IRM, in coordination with the International Experts Panel (IEP), the Criteria and Standards Subcommittee and other interested Steering Committee members, will present a revised IRM Charter for Steering Committee approval at the 2019 Q4 meeting.

Suggested outcome: *The Steering Committee provides feedback and endorses process to review IRM Charter*

Reference materials:

- *2019-2020 IRM Refresh Overview*

11:55 **Closing**

Ministerial-Level Lunch
Hosted by the Honorable Joyce Murray
President of the Treasury Board and Minister of Digital Government
Government of Canada
12:00 - 13:15 | Room 208

The lunch will include remarks by Sanjay Pradhan, OGP CEO, highlighting the vital role of OGP, and the Steering Committee leadership role, in tackling emerging governance challenges facing the world.

Ministerial-Level Meeting
13:30 - 16:00 | Room 205/207

13:30 - 13:45 **Welcome and introductions**

13:45 - 15:15 **Session 1: Mobilizing Collective Leadership of the Steering Committee (Session moderated by Rakesh Rajani, OGP Envoy)**

Overview: *Rakesh Rajani, OGP Envoy and founding member of OGP, will moderate a collective conversation focused on OGP's vital role of high-level Steering Committee engagement to fulfill OGP's great potential.*



Ministers and Civil Society principals will have the opportunity to share their proposed actions to advance the priorities identified by the OGP Co-Chairs within their own governments or organizations, and collectively.

1. *Advance gender and inclusion within OGP (20 minutes)*
 - a. *How can members of the Steering Committee build on each other's actions to co-create a shared forward agenda on gender and inclusion in OGP?*
2. *Ensure more meaningful participation (20 minutes)*
 - a. *What proactive actions can the Steering Committee take to lead on meaningful participation, and encourage other members, including through strengthening OGP multi-stakeholder forums or through OGP action plans?*
3. *Create impact for digital democracy (20 minutes)*
 - a. *What is the Steering Committee role - both as a collective and that of individual members - in developing global norms and coalitions to help position OGP as a mechanism to deliver on these priorities?*

Suggested outcome: *The Steering Committee endorses a resolution that reaffirms the importance of collective leadership to advance these priorities across OGP by leading by example; calls for all OGP members to take an action to foster more inclusive OGP processes, strengthen democracy and protect civic rights in the digital era; and mandates the Support Unit to develop a plan of action to ensure these priorities are reflected throughout OGP guidance and governance materials.*

Reference materials:

- *Draft call to action: Collective Leadership to Protect Participation, Advance Inclusion, and Create Impact for Digital Democracy*
- *Menu of Actions for a More Inclusive Open Government Partnership*
- *Menu of Actions to Strengthen Democracy and Protect Civic Rights*
- *2019 OGP-IRM Implementation Plan*

**15:15 -
15:45**

Session 2: Future Strategic Direction of OGP Local Engagement

Overview: *During this session the Steering Committee will be asked to endorse OGP's new local strategy that has been discussed in the morning working-level session.*

The strategy reflects the lessons learnt from the OGP Local pilot program, as well as other existing models of local engagement being piloted by several OGP countries. It has been developed in coordination with a Steering Committee Local Task Force and with inputs from over 90 stakeholders within and outside OGP. The strategy comprises the following pillars:



1. *Strategic national-local vertical integration;*
2. *Enhanced OGP local program, and*
3. *Platform to scale knowledge, learning, innovation and capacity building on open local government across local (and national) governments & civil society.*

Suggested outcome: *Endorsement of the proposed resolution on the OGP Local Strategy*

Reference materials:

- *Draft Resolution on OGP Local Strategy*
- *Strategy for the Engagement of Local Governments in OGP*

**15:45 -
16:00**

Session 3: Future Leadership of OGP

Overview: *This session will include a presentation of the emerging priorities of the incoming co-chairs, the Government of Argentina and Robin Hodess and overview of the next steps to select the new incoming co-chairs to follow them.*

Suggested outcome: *non-decisional*

16:00

Closing



OGP Steering Committee

Working-Level Meeting Minutes

29 May 2019

Session I. Mid-Year Implementation Update

The OGP Support Unit (SU) presented a mid-year update on the 2019 OGP SU-IRM Implementation Plan (find the 2019 OGP SU-IRM Implementation plan [here](#)) that was endorsed by the OGP Steering Committee (SC) earlier this year. The 2019 Implementation Plan builds upon the 2017 and 2018 Implementation Plans and is organized around five priorities:

1. Provide world-class support to OGP national and local participants to support better and more inclusive co-creation, more ambitious action plans – especially on thematic priorities – and better implementation;
2. Advocate for openness and democracy globally, including through OGP’s first major campaign on gender and inclusion, and position OGP as pivotal implementation platform to translate global promises into country action;
3. Support targeted learning, facilitate collective action, and strengthen partnerships to demonstrate greater ambition on OGP’s thematic priorities;
4. Enhance OGP’s research, learning and capacity building program and become a widely accessible resource for stakeholders across the partnership for knowledge and innovation; and
5. Strengthen OGP’s core institutional functions to sustain and support the SU and Independent Reporting Mechanism (IRM) in the areas of governance, finance/accounting, human resources, fundraising and technological infrastructure.

The presentation included major highlights from the first five months of implementation, as well as challenges and areas of opportunity for the rest of the year at the country, thematic, and global levels where additional SC support and leadership would be beneficial.

I. At the Country Level:

The goals for 2019 at the country-level are: 1) To support better and more inclusive co-creation processes between government and civil society; and 2) To deliver on more ambitious action plans with better implementation. Some of the highlights shared with the SC across all OGP regions were:

1. Since **Ecuador** recently joined OGP in 2018, the priority has been to raise country-wide awareness around OGP and build support for its first OGP action plan. Ecuador was very engaged during [OpenGovWeek](#) and hosted a wide range of events and social media engagements with strong participation from high-level government officials, including the Vice-President and General Secretary of the Presidency.
2. The priority in the **Philippines** has been to pilot a more advanced form of co-creation support. The SU hosted a series of commitment-design workshops with

both members of government and civil society in attendance and integrated the IRM into the workshops to help address the issue of designing strong and ambitious commitments ahead of the delivery of their 2019 - 2021 action plan.

3. **Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH)** was [designated inactive in OGP](#) on 5 December 2018 for acting contrary to the OGP process by not delivering an action plan for three consecutive cycles. Through the collective efforts of the SC and SU, BiH was able to submit their [first OGP action plan](#) on 27 May, and therefore ending its inactivity status.
4. Given that **Morocco** recently joined OGP in 2018, the priority has been to build cross-cabinet support for open government and build on the momentum after the launch of their Access to Information Law. In March 2019, the SU ran a cabinet-level workshop on open government and also held several bilateral meetings, including with Prime Minister Saadeddine Othmani.

Some of the current country-level challenges and opportunities for 2019 include:

1. **Countries under Review:** Jamaica, Luxembourg, and Pakistan are currently under Criteria and Standards review and must submit an action plan in 2019 to avoid being designated as inactive;
2. **Inactive:** Trinidad and Tobago remains the only *inactive* country and must submit an action plan by 5 December 2019 in order to prevent being withdrawn from OGP (refer to inactivity resolution [here](#));
3. **Response Policy Cases (access the full policy [here](#))**
 - a. [Azerbaijan](#) was *suspended* on December 2018 for a full action plan cycle, and must complete a set of milestones in order to prevent permanent suspension from OGP (see SC resolution [here](#)).
 - b. In [Mexico](#), domestic activities are taking place to address the issues that led to the initial filing of the Response Policy case in July 2018. In August 2019, the Criteria and Standards Subcommittee (C&S) will assess the progress made and will determine the appropriate next steps in line with the Response Policy protocols.
4. **Country Contributions:** In 2018, 35 countries (44%) contributed to the SU with a total of \$2.8 million - if each member country paid the minimum requested amount, the total revenue for OGP from country contributions would almost double. For 2019, SC members can lead by example and convey the importance of country contributions to OGP in their bilateral engagements with other members, as well as ensure they make their own contributions.
5. **Opportunities:** There are 49 action plans expected in 2019. These represent an opportunity for SC members to lead by example in developing ambitious commitments to advance the implementation of thematic reforms and translate commitments made at global platforms into concrete actions. This also represents an opportunity for peer exchange activities and supporting countries that are



undergoing challenges.

II. At the Thematic Level:

The thematic-level goals for 2019 are: 1) To build thematic coalitions on priority themes to serve as communities of practice for OGP member countries and locals; and 2) To promote new emerging global norms on these themes co-created by government and civil society. Some of the highlights shared with the SC include:

1. OGP has made significant progress on gender and inclusion, including being the central theme of the 2019 OpenGovWeek and the recent launch of the [Break the Roles of Campaign](#). This was reinforced during the Summit where there was a full day event dedicated to Feminist Open Government (FOGO), a high-level plenary and an entire track of sessions dedicated to the theme of inclusion.
2. Over the last two years, beneficial ownership has emerged as the policy area with the highest percentage of starred commitments in OGP - 21% of beneficial ownership commitments are starred commitments, which is significantly higher than the average rate of 6% across other themes. At the Global Summit, the United Kingdom is inviting other OGP members to join a coalition ("Leadership Group") of countries working towards developing open and public registers as a new global norm. Among other things, this progress highlights the importance of concerted efforts by the SU, SC and strategic partners.
3. Access to Justice is another rising theme in OGP with 25 countries currently implementing open justice or access to justice reforms.

Some of the current thematic level challenges and opportunities for 2019 include:

1. **Linking global discussions to themes through action plans** - One potential avenue of executing this would be through the 7 OGP Multi-Donor Trust Fund (MDTF) grants to thematic partners to work with specific countries on these themes (NRGI, Hivos, SIWI, OpenOwnership, ODC, WRI, and GIFT).
2. **Continuing to build new coalitions around current thematic gaps such as digital open government** - SC members such as Argentina, France and Germany are currently supporting the SU to lead a first meeting on harnessing the opportunities, and addressing the challenges presented by digital governance.

III. At the Global Level:

The goals at the global-level for 2019 are: 1) To raise the profile of OGP as a platform to translate global promises into country action; 2) To enhance the impact of its storytelling; and 3) To sustain the OGP SU's resources and growth. Some of the highlights shared with the SC include:

1. OGP hosted the second [OpenGovWeek](#) (OGW) in March 2019 where over 500 events were hosted in over 50 countries, including many events that took place in



non-OGP member countries. Conversations around gender, civic space, open data, open contracting and citizen engagement were associated to #OpenGovWeek.

2. OGP officially launched its first [OGP Global Report](#) during the week of the 6th OGP Global Summit. The key features of the report include an examination of the collective progress of OGP countries have made based on aggregate indicators of openness; an in-depth look into the progress OGP countries have made in three key thematic areas: civic space, anti-corruption and public service delivery; and member pages that story an individual member country's' or local government's progress across their OGP action plans and against key indicators of openness (Anti-corruption, Civic Space, Open Policy Making, Access to Information and Fiscal Openness).
3. During the week of European elections, OGP released its open government agenda for Europe in the publication [Do We Trust Democracy? A Future Agenda for Europe](#). This publication contains essays authored by 28 European leaders - (one from each EU member state) with authors ranging from OGP ministers to the World Bank CEO, and the Czech European Commissioner to Journalists and Migrants - outlining their ideas on how to strengthen European democracy.
4. OGP officially launched its new [website](#) during the week of the 6th OGP Global Summit. Some new key features include stronger stories and country pages that clearly and succinctly demonstrate a country's performance in OGP.

Some of the current global level challenges and opportunities for 2019 include:

1. To serve as OGP's primary advocates and ambassadors by inserting OGP into their engagements, amplifying its key messages, and creating new spaces for OGP to participate in; and
2. To broaden the OGP base within their respective countries by engaging with the foreign ministries, diplomatic missions, country offices and partners to raise the awareness for OGP.

IV. Steering Committee Comments and Input

The SC provided comments and input following the implementation plan presentation. Some of the main comments are summarized below:

1. Future thematic grants from the OGP Multi-Donor Trust Fund should be targeted towards specific thematic gaps. The SC recommended that it would be best to bring in and leverage strategic partners to drive these specific themes across the OGP community.
2. The SC raised the question of the sustainability of OGP's rapid rate of growth. The SU informed that OGP has been awarded a \$10 million (USD) challenge grant from the Open Society Foundation, and will begin planning for a three-year cycle to assure that this influx of financial resources will be dedicated to current organizational priorities and increasing staff capacity.



Session II. OGP Local Strategy Update

(Pages 12-38 of the [Pre-Meeting Packet](#))

A taskforce composed of the Government of Canada, the Government of Argentina, Nathaniel Heller, Robin Hodess, Lucy McTernan and the SU presented an overview of the strategic direction, vision, guiding principles and pillars of the proposed OGP Local strategy.

The proposed strategy reflects the lessons learnt from the OGP Local's pilot cohort, the different models of local engagement being piloted by several OGP countries and the inputs from over 90 stakeholders within and outside of the OGP community. The strategy has the following three complementary pillars that seek to encourage the bottom up energy of open government leadership and innovation at the local level, strengthen nationally-led initiatives of governments and civil society, as well as integrate local open government across OGP. All three pillars are equally important to the strategy, and will be pursued in parallel by the SU in collaboration with the SC, OGP partners and interested stakeholders from OGP's local community.

1. **Strategic national-local vertical integration:** Recognizing that open government reforms can have more impact and be made more sustainable when national open government reforms are localized and when local innovations are scaled, support the further development of effective national government and/or civil society strategies to enable and foster local open government.
2. **Enhanced OGP Local program:** Building on the successes and lessons learnt from the pilot program, develop a new "OGP Local" program that incentivises local ambition and innovation; supports more local governments and civil society actors to co-create and implement open government commitments that respond to citizens' interests; and creates cohorts of local participants that can support each other and inspire others.
3. **Platform for knowledge, learning, innovation and capacity building:** OGP will use a combination of online and offline tools to create opportunities for local level reformers to share knowledge, access expertise from partner organisations, and to receive training at a much larger scale than has been possible so far. In this way, OGP's local community will be at the forefront of a partnership-wide vision for a more collaborative platform for learning.

The Local taskforce presented a draft resolution on the OGP Local Strategy that would be tabled for Ministerial-level approval.

Decision Item: *The working-level SC agreed to table the resolution on the OGP Local Strategy for Ministerial decision, with two edits incorporated in response to the SC input: 1) the revised resolution explicitly clarifies that any decisions involving changes with governance implications would be tabled to the SC in alignment with the existing rules; and 2) the word 'program' would be dropped from the resolution as it does not adequately represent the scale and depth of the strategy and its implications for the partnership. The resolution would be tabled for final endorsement at the ministerial-level SC meeting.*

Session III. Overview of IRM Refresh 2.0

(Pages 44-48 of the [pre-meeting packet](#))

The IRM provided a brief overview on the scope of the 2019-2020 IRM Refresh. The key updates provided include:

1. The IRM Refresh 2.0 will focus on a strategic rethinking of the IRM. Currently, 80% of the IRM's time and resources are allocated to the production of reports, and only 20% to outreach and dissemination efforts. This hinders the opportunities for IRM to have more impact in OGP.
2. The scope of the IRM Refresh 2.0 consists of two parallel processes:
 - a. **Refining the IRM value proposition:** This will aim to improve alignment of IRM's purpose to OGP's strategic aims, it will set principles for the redesigned IRM reporting framework, and it will clarify IRM governance structures and relationships with other parts of OGP. This implies revisions to the IRM Charter that will require SC approval. Charter revisions will be developed jointly between the International Experts Panel/IRM and the Criteria and Standards (C&S) Subcommittee, in consultation with SC. The C&S subcommittee will table the recommended charter revisions to the SC for approval in the December SC meeting
 - b. **Rethinking the IRM reporting framework:** This pertains to the content specific and technical aspects of how IRM will implement its principles and value proposition through IRM products and reporting. This implies revisions to the IRM Procedures Manual and will require engagement, consultation and feedback from the SC and OGP community.



OGP Steering Committee

Ministerial-Level Meeting Minutes

29 May 2019

Session I. Mobilizing the Collective Leadership of the Steering Committee

I. Opening Remarks

Rakesh Rajani, Vice President - Programs (Co-Impact), and OGP Envoy, delivered the opening remarks for this session. Drawing from his previous experience on the OGP Steering Committee (SC), he challenged the SC to reflect on five points that are key to OGP delivering on its full potential:

1. **Shared struggle:** What are the shared struggles in the OGP community today? Have OGP's past successes and current challenges deterred it from seeing these shared struggles?
2. **Strategic involvement of heads of state and ministers:** Is the mode of involvement/ engagement on the part of heads of state and ministers transactional (i.e. involved only when required) or substantive?
3. **Modeling how government can be different:** OGP is a platform where civil society and government are on equal footing with each other. Is this how the community perceives OGP and has OGP driven this powerful mechanism and imagery enough?
4. **Support to the lonely civil and public servants:** Civil/public servants are the ones who push OGP forward in between major political moments. This is often a difficult and lonesome task. Has OGP figured out how to fuel these quiet heroes at the national and local levels? Does OGP have the practical resources to support these individuals on a day-to-day basis?
5. **Listening to the troublemakers:** Often times, it is the troublemakers that best understand the deeply rooted issues and challenges that others are unaware of. OGP may not be well-established enough to the point that it can afford to listen to the troublemakers. However, listening to them may perhaps be the key to getting to the roots of problems that the OGP community is currently facing.

II. 2018 - 2019 Call to Action

The Government of Canada presented an overview of the Call to Action that was sent to all 99 OGP members ahead of the Ottawa Global Summit for OGP governments to undertake specific actions that can support the priorities that the OGP Co-Chairs, the Government of Canada and Nathaniel Heller, identified for their lead Chair year: 1) **Champion inclusion** by making the co-creation and consultation processes more inclusive and mainstreaming inclusion through the action plans; 2) **Protect participation** by tackling the challenges of disinformation and "fake news," improving civil society by strengthening state relations and defending civic space; and 3) **Create impact for**

digital democracy by protecting citizen rights in the digital age and exploring open and ethical uses of emerging technologies (i.e. Artificial Intelligence).

The SC was invited to share concrete actions, current or future, to advance these areas. Some of the actions shared include:

Championing Inclusion

1. Canada is implementing Gender Based Analysis Plus (GBA+) in public engagements and consultations, building capacity for more open and inclusive dialogue, increasing access to gender and inclusion data and developing a GBA+ and inclusive open government toolkit.
2. Germany has committed to advancing social awareness and acceptance of LGBTQ+ community through a digital information portal ([Regenbogenportal](#)) that shares information on gender diversity and LGBTQ+ lifestyles with the general public, experts, the LGBTQ+ community and their relatives.
3. South Korea will enact mandatory quotas for high-level women in government, public organizations and schools and mainstream gender into diverse policy actions and establish gender equality units in 8 government offices.
4. Argentina passed the Law on Gender Parity in Political Representation in 2017, as part of the National Plan for Equal Opportunities and Rights.

Protecting Participation

1. France has committed to developing new formats for exchanging ideas with civil society, including the “Open D Etat” Forum, which offers an informal discussion space for citizens and state officials to discuss a specific theme and share knowledge, practices and experiences.
2. South Korea committed to engaging citizens in budgeting, organizational, personnel and performance management through online and offline platforms that allow citizens to propose and explore policy ideas with diverse stakeholders.
3. Georgia has established a budget monitoring online platform that equips citizens with comprehensive budgetary information using easily comprehensible data visualizations and allows for citizens to provide direct feedback to the State Audit Office.

Creating Impact for Digital Democracy

1. Canada is advancing impact for digital democracy by improving transparency and awareness of the government’s use of artificial intelligence (AI) through a directive on decision support systems that sets rules on how government departments can ethically use AI and through a tool to help institutions better understand and mitigate the risks associated with AI.



2. France has committed to improving transparency of public algorithms and source codes, which play an important role in the implementation of policies and provide citizens with key information on administrative decisions.
3. Mexico is currently working on using digital to help strengthen civil rights and restoring the trust in public institutions by ending illegal espionage and surveillance at the state level.
4. Italy has committed to establishing a dedicated portal which will become the point of access to consultations organized by public administrations. Special attention will be given to administrations by offering an open-source software to do consultations, setting up a dedicated help desk and providing specific training to public employees.

Some of the key takeaways from this discussion in response to the actions shared by SC members include:

- Gender and inclusion needs to go beyond the political representation by women and needs to be mainstreamed across all sectors in policymaking. For example, by strengthening the ties between gender and inclusion and anti-corruption and combating sexual exploitation and human trafficking issues across different countries.
- Globally, democracy is not yet receding; however, a critical juncture has been reached. This juncture is an opportunity for OGP to demonstrate that there is a different way for government and civil society to work together to have a positive societal impact. To accomplish this, OGP needs to strengthen the substance and work around delivering concrete structures and mechanisms to actually bring governments and civil society together.
- In order for OGP to act as a countervailing force against the rise in authoritarianism, it needs to: 1) deliver on the requests for support that it has not yet delivered on; and 2) push concertedly against the global decline in civic space - if this does not happen, OGP's other thematic priorities will not come to fruition.
- OGP can find allies within government that can push forward the open government agenda. As the tactical outside actor, OGP should continue to maintain political pressure and rally for the opening of civic space to push back against oppressive administrations.

III. **Steering Committee Call to Action for Collective Leadership**

As a concrete way for OGP to advance these actions, with the SC leading by example, the Government of Canada tabled a call to action for endorsement by the full SC.

Decision Item: *The following call to action was unanimously endorsed by the SC (the call to action can also be found [here](#)).*

OGP Steering Committee Call to Action: Collective Leadership to Protect Participation, Advance Inclusion, and Create Impact for Digital Democracy

Endorsed by the OGP Steering Committee on 29 May 2019

In the current global environment where democracy is being undermined by restricted space for civil society, erosion of citizens' trust, rising populism and polarization of communities, collective action is key to counter these threats. OGP needs to be at the cutting edge of policy solutions to deliver on its vision to promote open, inclusive, and responsive governments that deliver for all citizens.

*In this era of **closing civic space**, we call on all OGP members to take the following actions:*

- *Strengthen the structure and deliberations of multi-stakeholder forums in line with the OGP Participation and Co-creation Standards;*
- *Consider commitments in OGP action plans that focus on defending democratic institutions and rights, especially the fundamental freedoms of association, assembly and expression; and*
- *Test out new co-creation models and enhance public involvement in the implementation phase of open government reforms.*

*In this era of **continued exclusion and gender disparity**, we call on all OGP members to take the following actions:*

- *Actively engage participants such as diverse women and non-binary groups and networks in multi-stakeholder forums and in co-creation processes;*
- *Consider commitments in OGP action plans that use open government to address a specific gap in women's, girl's and gender non-binary individual's services or policy needs; and*
- *Work with experts to conduct gender-based analysis to assess how potential commitments will affect groups differently, and adopt changes as necessary to improve inclusivity.*

*In this era of **digital opportunities for deepening democratic engagement**, we call on all OGP members to:*

- *Work with fellow OGP members to tackle transnational online harms;*
- *Consider new commitments in OGP action plans that promote democratic rights and protect dialogue in the digital realm, including data rights and privacy, internet access and control; and*
- *Develop and promote open, ethical algorithms and artificial intelligence.*

We call on the OGP Support Unit to review all Partnership-wide recommendations and policy documents to ensure that they create an enabling framework to promote collective leadership on these issues.

---[END CALL TO ACTION]---

Session II. Future Strategic Directions - OGP Local Strategy



Nathaniel Heller and the SU tabled a resolution on the OGP Local Strategy which was presented and reviewed earlier during the working-level session of the SC meeting. The SC was given the opportunity to provide further input and comments which are summarized below:

1. The vertical integration of the local program needs to be reinforced with equivalent efforts at horizontal integration (i.e. peer exchanges). Moving forward, OGP Local should be used to foster stronger engagement with grassroots actors, expand civic space and enhance accountability mechanisms;
2. Mutual exchanges between the current and future local cohorts is a scalable and sustainable way to expand OGP Local; and
3. During the design phase of the OGP Local Strategy, it is important that other locals have flexibility in the ways they can join and participate in the OGP process.

Decision Item: *The following resolution was unanimously endorsed by the SC (the full endorsed resolution can be found [here](#)). As next steps, a detailed design and development phase will follow from June to November 2019 to:*

1. *Further sharpen the principles underpinning each pillar of the strategy to ensure they are consistent with the overall guiding principles for the program and fit for purpose;*
2. *Design processes for the application, selection, ensuring transparency of assessments, intake and orientation for the new OGP Local participants;*
3. *Begin producing the first round of materials, tools and learning resources for each of the three strategic pillars;*
4. *Draft detailed rules of the game, including any changes to the Articles of Governance; and*
5. *Secure partnerships to support the delivery of the strategy.*

Steering Committee Resolution on the OGP Local Strategy

Endorsed by the OGP Steering Committee on 29 May 2019

The OGP Steering Committee recognizes the importance and value of open local government in achieving OGP's vision of improving citizen-centered governance and public service delivery and making governments more responsive and accountable.

The Steering Committee also recognizes the need to support collective efforts of national and local governments and civil society in promoting open government for reforms to be sustained and scaled over time, building on the successes and lessons learned from the OGP Local program and other initiatives to support open local government.

Recognizing these opportunities, the Steering Committee hereby resolves to endorse the OGP Local Strategy, which comprises the following pillars:

1. *Strategic national-local vertical integration to support the further development of effective national government and civil society strategies to enable and foster local open government within OGP National Action Plan processes or through separate national initiatives, by providing*



guidance on effective approaches, collecting and disseminating best practices, and facilitating peer exchange and learning;

- 2. Enhanced OGP Local program to incentivize local ambition and innovation for more local governments and civil society, creating cohorts of local participants that can support and inspire each other, by redesigning the current program to be more flexible, scalable and inclusive; and*
- 3. Platform for knowledge, learning, innovation and capacity building to provide easy access to knowledge resources, learning opportunities, self-serve guides, peer and expert networks, as part of a partnership-wide medium-term vision for building a more collaborative platform for learning.*

In addition, the Steering Committee hereby calls on the OGP Support Unit to commence the design phase for the implementation of this strategy, with engagement from the Steering Committee, and continued consultation with the wider OGP community of reformers, partners and stakeholders.

The implementation of this strategy will be closely monitored by the Steering Committee to ensure sustainability and alignment with the partnership's evolving needs, priorities, and resources. An evaluation of the program to learn and course correct will also be undertaken at a timeline agreed with the Steering Committee at a later date. Any changes with governance implications will be brought to the Steering Committee for approval.

This resolution supersedes previous Steering Committee resolutions on the OGP Local/Subnational program. The Support Unit will work with current OGP local participants on a transition process to the new model.

---[END RESOLUTION]---

Session III. Future Leadership of OGP

The incoming co-chairs, the Government of Argentina, and Robin Hodess, presented their co-chair strategy for 2019 - 2020 which will focus on maintaining continuity on partnership-wide priorities to deepen impact of ongoing efforts; support more focused, high-level events in 2020 to help move OGP commitments and action plans forward; and identify champions inside and out of the SC to help ensure continued energy and leadership on priority areas. The priorities of the Argentina-Hodess co-chairship will be to:

1. **Create an Open State:** A holistic approach to capture the nodes of openness in government beyond the executive (i.e. Parliaments, the judiciary, local governments) and embed OGP values across governance models;
2. **Rebuild Trust and Integrity in Digital Democracy:** Building on the work being done to combat corruption and the declining trust in public institutions, bring digital and democracy together by building frameworks that protect people while enhancing government transparency and accountability mechanisms in the digital age;

As cross-cutting priorities, the Government of Argentina and Robin Hodess will strive to advance the principles of inclusion (with attention to gender, diversity, and youth) and continue to strengthen the partnership to increase its collective impact.



The Government of Canada and Nathaniel Heller closed this session with a call for the SC to consider running as incoming Chairs, who would serve as lead Chairs for the 2020-2021 term. **The deadline to submit an expression of interest is 15 July 2019.** Based on the number of expressions of interest received, the Governance and Leadership Subcommittee will communicate the next steps of the selection process.

Closing Remarks

On behalf of the OGP SU and the SC, the Government of Canada and Nathaniel Heller extended their gratitude to Suneeta Kaimal, the Government of Mexico and Government of Croatia for their service and contributions to OGP. All three SC members will rotate off the SC as of 1 October 2019.



List of Attendees

Government Steering Committee Members

Government of Argentina (Incoming Steering Committee Co-Chair)

Andrés Horacio Ibarra Deputy Chief of Cabinet and Secretary of Modernization
Rudi Borrmann Undersecretary of Public Innovation and Open Government
Carolina Cornejo Director of Open Government

Government of Canada (Lead Steering Committee Co-Chair)

Joyce Murray President of the Treasury Board and Minister of Digital Government
Francis Bilodeau Assistant Deputy Minister, Digital Policy and Service
Mélanie Robert Executive Director, Open Government and Service
Jaimie Boyd Director, Open Government

Government of Croatia

Helena Beus Head of Office for Cooperation with NGOs
Darija Marić Government Advisor, Government Point of Contact

Government of France

Henri Verdier Ambassador for Digital Affairs
Amelie Banzet Open Government Office, Etalab, Prime Minister Office

Government of Georgia

Elena Beradze Deputy Head of Administration
Ketevan Tsanova Senior Policy Adviser, Policy Planning Unit

Government of Germany (Incoming Steering Committee Member - Observer)

Dorothee Bär State Minister at the Federal Chancellery and Federal Government
Commissioner for Digitalization
Sebastian Haselbeck Policy Advisor, Division for Digital State, Federal Chancellery

Government of Indonesia (Incoming Steering Committee Member - Observer)

Slamet Soedarsono Deputy Minister of National Development and Planning
Yanuar Nugroho Deputy Chief of Staff, The Executive Office of the President

Government of Italy

Spartaco Caldararo Deputy Head of Mission, Embassy of Italy to Canada
Benedetto Reitano Second Secretary, Economic and Commercial Affairs, Embassy of
Italy to Canada



Government of Mexico

Juan José Gomez Camacho Ambassador of Mexico to Canada
Cristina Oropeza Counselor, Political Affairs at the Embassy of Mexico in Canada

Government of Nigeria

Anne Nzegwu Director of Reforms, Ministry of Budget and National Planning and State Actors, Acting Incoming Co-Chair of OGP Nigeria
Okolo Benjamin OGP National Coordinator
Chidinma Ilechukwu Team Lead, Program and Admin

Government of Romania

Bogdan Mănoiu Ambassador of Romania to Canada
Larisa Panait Advisor and OGP Point of Contact, Secretariat-General of the Government

Government of South Africa

Qinisile Delwa Executive Director for the Centre for Public Service Innovation
Kgothatso Semela Chief Director Public Participation and Social Dialogue, Department of Public Service and Administration
Mesuli Macozoma Assistant Director, Department of Public Service and Administration

Government of South Korea

Jae-young Lee Deputy Minister of the Interior and Safety
Ilkwon Bae Director, Ministry of the Interior and Safety
Yujin Lee Deputy Director, Ministry of the Interior and Safety
Minju Koo, Deputy Director Ministry of the Interior and Safety

Civil Society Steering Committee Members

María Baron Directorio Legislativo
Helen Darbshire Access Info Europe
Aidan Eyakuze (*remote*) Twaweza
Delia Ferreira Rubio Transparency International
Nathaniel Heller (Lead Co-Chair) Results for Development



Robin Hodess (Incoming Co-Chair)	The B Team
Suneeta Kaimal	Natural Resource Governance Institute
Giorgi Kldiashvili	Institute for Development of Freedom of Information
Tur-Od Lkhagvajav	Asia Democracy Network
Lucy McTernan	University of York
Zuzana Wienk	Fair Play Alliance
Elisa Peter (Incoming Steering Committee member - Observer)	Publish What You Pay
Asma Cherifi (Additional Steering Committee member - Observer)	Coordination of Francophone African Open Data Community
Glynnis Cummings-John (Additional Steering Committee member - Observer)	Restless Development

