

January 18, 2018

The Honorable Maxie Cuffie
Minister of Public Administration and Communications
Government of Trinidad and Tobago

Dear Minister Cuffie,

We welcome the Government of Trinidad and Tobago's participation in the Open Government Partnership, which now has over 75 countries working to implement national commitments to promote greater transparency, accountability, and engagement of citizens in policy making.

As you are aware, the OGP Articles of Governance state that all participating countries are expected to co-create a two-year National Action Plan (NAP) on a continuous biannual calendar. This rule is explained in the OGP Point of Contact (PoC) Manual, which has been distributed to all OGP governments. This document states that "If a country is more than six months late, it will be moved to the following year's group and will start a new action plan cycle (e.g., from the odd year grouping to the even year grouping)".

In accordance with this policy, this letter is to officially inform that the OGP Support Unit did not receive a NAP from the Government of Trinidad and Tobago by December 31, 2017.

As a result, the Government of Trinidad and Tobago has a new deadline of August 31, 2018 to submit a two-year national action plan ending on June 30, 2020. This means that Trinidad and Tobago has now been shifted from the "odd year" grouping to the "even year" grouping of OGP countries, who should submit new action plans in 2018, 2020, 2022 and so on. For more information on the deadlines, please consult the OGP Point of Contact Manual. This letter will also be published in the OGP website so that civil society organizations in Trinidad and Tobago are aware of this change.

The OGP Support Unit and the Steering Committee stand ready to support you in whatever way would be useful to co-create the new NAP. Please do not hesitate to contact the OGP Support Unit if you require any assistance.

Yours sincerely,

Sanjay Pradhan

Chief Executive Officer

Open Government Partnership