

OPEN GOVERNMENT PARTNERSHIP

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Dr. Conan Castro Ramírez
Legal Secretary of the Office of the President
Government of El Salvador

Dear Dr. Castro Ramírez,

We welcome the Government of El Salvador's participation in the Open Government Partnership (OGP), which now comprises 78 countries working to implement open government commitments to promote greater transparency, accountability and citizen engagement in policy making.

As you may be aware, OGP's eligibility criteria dictates that governments must meet a certain minimum threshold in key areas of open government in order to join and remain in the Partnership. The OGP Support Unit updates the eligibility scores for all countries based on the most up-to-date versions of objective, third-party indicators that are used to determine the extent of countries' progress on each of the following dimensions: Fiscal Transparency, Access to Information, Public Officials' Asset Disclosure and Citizen Engagement.

The most recent update completed in June 2020 shows that the Government of El Salvador has not published its 2017 Audit Report on time (as assessed by the International Budget Partnership's Open Budget Survey, no later than eighteen months after the end of the reporting year) and has consequently fallen below the minimum eligibility score that is required for all OGP members. In this regard, the OGP Articles of Governance state:

"If a Participating Country's Core Eligibility score falls below the minimum performance criteria, as reported to the Criteria and Standards Subcommittee by the Support Unit, it should take immediate and explicit steps to address the situation so that it meets the criteria within one year of that determination. If a country fails to meet the Core Eligibility Criteria within that one-year period, the Criteria and Standards Subcommittee will place the country under Procedural Review." (Article II.B.3)

In line with the Articles of Governance, El Salvador must take the necessary steps to raise above the minimum eligibility criteria by 31 July, 2021 to avoid being placed under Procedural Review.

We stand ready to provide you and your team with any assistance necessary to help raise El Salvador's OGP eligibility score. If you have any questions or require any further support, please do not hesitate to contact the OGP Support Unit.

Yours sincerely,



Sanjay Pradhan
Chief Executive Officer
Open Government Partnership