



Memorandum of Understanding on Opportunities for OGP-WJP Collaboration

Introduction

This document sets forth opportunities for collaboration between the World Justice Project (WJP) and the Open Government Partnership (OGP). It is not intended to be a binding agreement, but rather an understanding between like-minded organizations to maximize impacts and add the most sustained value to the fields of open government, justice, and the rule of law.

This agreement builds on prior collaboration between OGP and the WJP in sharing data and insights regarding these topics, for example in developing the OGP Global Report (2019) and the first part of the OGP Justice Series: Access to Justice. Justice is at the core of an open government and a focus policy for OGP this year. Similarly, open government, access to justice, environmental governance, and tackling corruption are priority rule of law themes for WJP.

About OGP

The OGP is a multilateral initiative - with 78 national and 20 local government members - that aims to secure concrete commitments from governments to promote transparency, empower citizens, fight corruption, and harness new technologies to strengthen governance. In the spirit of multi-stakeholder collaboration, OGP is overseen by a Steering Committee including representatives of governments and civil society organizations. To become a member of OGP, participating countries must endorse a high-level Open Government Declaration, deliver an action plan developed with public consultation, and commit to independent reporting on their progress going forward. Together, OGP members have made over 4,000 commitments across various policy areas.

About WJP

The World Justice Project (WJP) is an independent, multidisciplinary organization working to advance the rule of law worldwide. Effective rule of law reduces corruption, combats poverty and disease, and protects people from injustices large and small. It is the foundation for communities of justice, opportunity, and peace—underpinning development, accountable government, and respect for fundamental rights. Traditionally, the rule of law has been viewed as the domain of lawyers and judges. But everyday issues of safety, rights, justice, and governance affect us all; everyone is a stakeholder in the rule of law. Based on this, WJP's mutually reinforcing lines of

business employ a multi-disciplinary approach through original research and data, an active and global network, and practical, locally led programs to advance the rule of law worldwide.

Areas for Collaboration

Data Collaboration

- WJP will share question-level data from the WJP Rule of Law Index to support OGP analyses of member countries in the following areas, except in cases where sharing such information would violate ESOMAR's confidentiality standards:
 - Contract transparency / fairness in procurement systems
 - Freedom of assembly
 - Freedom of association
 - Defending journalists and activists
 - Open policy-making
 - Right to information
- OGP will preview with WJP findings from research publications that feature WJP data.
- OGP will feature the latest WJP data on the OGP website, and will link web users to the WJP Rule of Law Index country pages.
- OGP and WJP will only publish shared data and/or analysis based on shared data by mutual agreement and only after consultation between the two organizations.
- OGP will share relevant data and information with WJP on countries' National Action Plans and policies for WJP research purposes, as long as sharing such data does not violate confidentiality rules.

Research Products

- OGP and WJP will initiate efforts to co-create research and analysis projects in areas of mutual interest and jointly bid on RFPs, NOFOs, and project solicitations, or raise funds through various mechanisms, including the OGP Multi donor Trust Fund at the World Bank, to support them, as opportunities arise.
- OGP and WJP will jointly design research products by providing feedback on concept design, identifying case studies and data sources, and reviewing research frameworks and methodology.
- OGP and WJP will facilitate collaboration with research and project partners working on justice, rule of law, and open government.
- OGP and WJP will share feedback and revisions on draft reports and analysis.
- Upcoming OGP publications for collaboration include:
 - OGP Justice Series: Open Justice – The research will focus on open government approaches to justice reform - and criminal justice reform, in particular - in three areas: policing, trials, and corrections.
 - OGP Justice Series: Justice for Open Government – This research aims to engage the judiciary and justice system, not as the subject of openness, but as the

protectors of the rights and values that are central to open government and the rule of law.

- OGP and WJP agree to discuss the option of co-branding any research products that involve proprietary data or a substantial contribution from both organizations.

Events, Communication and Networking

- WJP will actively consult with OGP and other partners on the next edition of WJP's World Justice Forum and World Justice Challenge. Future Forum agenda topics may include issues relevant to open government, justice, and the rule of law such as effective governance during public health crises, political finance, judicial integrity, corruption and human development (SDG 16.5), and the use of digital technology to combat corruption. In designing and producing the Forum, WJP will consult with OGP and other partners on the Forum's agenda, participant invitations, speaker selection, working sessions, World Justice Challenge, and other substantive components of the Forum's program. OGP will also consider other concrete contributions it can make to the World Justice Forum.
- OGP and WJP will explore opportunities for joint dissemination of research products and co-branded publications
- OGP and WJP will coordinate on relevant stories and case studies of effective solutions that can be showcased at global and regional events, through social media, podcasts, blogs, and on external newsletters.
- OGP and WJP will explore the possibility of organizing joint sessions focused on justice at events such as the World Justice Forum, OGP Global Summits, the OGP Africa Leaders Forum, and/or a side event at UNGA.
- OGP and WJP will explore opportunities for connecting with WJP's contacts to bar associations, guilds, and judges associations at the national level, to create greater awareness within national justice networks about OGP as a strategic tool and platform to advance justice.
- OGP and WJP will explore opportunities for connecting WJP with OGP contacts who are working to advance rule of law reforms at the national and local levels.

In witness whereof, the duly authorized representatives of the Parties have signed this Memorandum of Understanding on October 28, 2020.



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