



Alcaldía del Distrito Metropolitano de Quito

Quito, September 29, 2020

Dear Open Government Partnership Local 2020 Selection Committee:

As General Secretary of Planning of the Municipality of the Metropolitan District of Quito (MDMQ) and, for the functions granted by the Mayor of the Metropolitan District of Quito, for the execution of open government policies according to the [Resolution of the Mayor's Office No. A017 of 2014](#) and the [Metropolitan Ordinance No. 184 of 2017](#), I am pleased to address you with the objective of expressing our formal interest to be part of the Open Government Partnership (OGP) Local Program 2020.

We ratify our will to assume and promote the principles of open government within the municipal administration, supporting the Open Government Declaration and promoting transparent, collaborative and permanent accountability actions in all areas of local public policies.

Currently, the Municipality of Quito is implementing its [First Open Government Action Plan](#), as a result of a process that began in 2014 and which will be described later. By 2021, Quito will co-create its Second Action Plan, a process that we hope will be strengthened by having the support of OGP through its local program as well as the exchange of experiences and knowledge with other members of OGP Local.

In its Second Action Plan, the Municipality of Quito seeks not only the involvement of more actors and sectors of the city, but also the adoption of commitments in innovative areas such as youth engagement and public service delivery; as well as strengthening areas in which the MDMQ has already been working, such as open data, anti-corruption and legislative openness. Additionally, by being part of OGP Local, the MDMQ hopes to give a greater and better impulse to the technical tables and policy co-creation spaces that the Secretariat of Productive Development and Competitiveness is currently carrying out together with representatives of the productive sector to face an adequate post-COVID 19 economic reactivation.



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As mentioned above, it is the General Secretariat of Planning which, by regulation, is in charge of the implementation of the Open Government model in the MDMQ. However, for the purposes of this application, it is necessary to mention that this Secretariat has developed its functions with the permanent support of the Advisory Council of Open Government. This Council constitutes a multisectoral consultation and advisory group created by Metropolitan Ordinance No. 184, which brings together three representatives of academia, three representatives of the productive sector and three representatives of civil society. It is important to mention that Fundación Ciudadanía y Desarrollo (FCD) currently has representatives on the Advisory Council.

This organization is playing the role of civil society contact point for OGP National process and supported the application of the Municipality of Quito to OGP Local through the expression of interest.

On the other hand, it is important to note that during the current and previous administrations, the Municipality of Quito has developed significant actions in the open government field, such as the subscription of the International Open Data Charter in 2016 and the development and implementation of an open government website (<http://gobiernoabierto.quito.gob.ec/>) presented in 2017. In addition to this, in 2016, the MDMQ approved the Metropolitan Ordinances No. 101 and No. 102 that regulate [Information Management](#) and [Citizen Participation and Social Control](#), respectively.

We can not leave a side that the city has always been at the forefront of international events that seek to generate high-level spaces for the exchange of experiences and debates on how to improve the quality of life in cities, that is why Quito hosted the Habitat III event in October 2016, and in August 2019 held the regional events on open data AbreLatam and ConDatos, organized by the National Government in coordination with the MDMQ. It is of our interest to continue hosting similar spaces in the future.

It is necessary to note that the Metropolitan Ordinance No. 184 construction process, for the first time had the contribution of citizens with voice and vote through the mechanism of “Empty Chair”,



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a mechanism of citizen participation that allows co-legislation processes in the city. This collaborative spirit was transferred to the co-creation of the First Open Government Action Plan, which was in charge of the different sectors represented in the Advisory Council of Open Government and which had the validation of the municipal officials involved in the process.

This Plan includes commitments such as training on open government for officials of the municipalities that are part of the Association of Municipalities of Ecuador (AME), as well as university students; the promotion of volunteering in municipal offices; the creation of innovation laboratories; the implementation of principles of open parliament and open agendas; and the strengthening of the [Quito Decide](#) platform, for the design of participatory budgets and regulatory co-creation. The implementation of this plan is projected to conclude in December of this year.

The foregoing leaves full evidence of the potential of the MDMQ to Exchange experiences and good practices with other local governments that are members of OGP, especially in terms of the development of local regulations around the values of open government, as well as in co-creation and implementation of action plans and their sustainability despite management changes. Additionally, we believe that the MDMQ can actively contribute in areas such as open data, legislative openness and the collaborative generation of resilience policies.

For the aforementioned, the Municipality of the Metropolitan District of Quito, ratifies its interest in being part of the Open Government Partnership Local Program, we are sure that a positive response from the OGP Local 2020 Selection Committee will allow us to have more tools to promote the integral development and well-being of our inhabitants.

Sincerely,

Mgs. Sheldon Augusto López Montenegro
General Secretary of Planning
Municipality of the Metropolitan District of Quito