

Open Government Partnership

Thematic Leadership Monthly Call Summary

25 March 2021 | 08:00 - 9:30 EDT

Call Summary

I. **Shaping OGP's next steps on climate and opportunities for engagement [with additional guests]**

Reference Materials: [Presentation](#), [Open Climate Governance Primer \(2017\)](#), [A Guide to Open Government and the Coronavirus: Green transitions - Climate and Environment \(2020\)](#)

The OGP Support Unit (SU) provided an overview of the climate policy area as outlined in OGP's work plan for 2021, and potential future opportunities for engagement. These included the value proposition from OGP to engage in this sector, building on existing efforts by former co-chairs, Government of France and Manish Bapna from World Resources Institute (WRI), an overview of opportunities for OGP engagement in this area including the UN Climate Change Conference (COP26), and a brief summary of current actions undertaken by OGP members thus far, including 165 environment and climate commitments by 62 OGP members.

Jesse Worker, Senior Associate for Climate Governance And Rights at World Resources Institute (WRI), presented the intersections of climate and open government more broadly, and growing momentum and opportunities for action. These included the opportunities for OGP to:

- Elevate and empower the platform to shape how policymaking and implementation of climate and environment policy occurs;
- Play a formative role in the procedural aspects of implementing a just transition;
- Provide learning for countries creating climate assemblies and establishing more transparent, accountable systems of monitoring, reporting and verification; and
- Contribute to the dialogues around the gendered impacts of climate policies.

The Thematic Leadership subcommittee (TLS) and additional Steering Committee (SC) members were asked to discuss what actions OGP should prioritize in 2021, and to share any possible opportunities for OGP engagement. Members had the following feedback:

- Consider if there is a digital aspect to climate and environment actions that OGP can play a role in or spotlight.
- Break the topic down into more manageable goals and entry points; climate can be a large and daunting topic without a concrete way to make change.

OGP will be releasing an updated version of the [OGP Climate Governance Primer](#) shortly to help with this.

- OGP should look at what members are already working on and apply a climate lens rather than creating an entirely new and standalone topic (i.e. public procurement with a climate impact lens). Open data and lobbying were also suggested as entry points to cross-sectoral engagement.
- OGP should support civil society partners to make links with relevant ministries to begin engagement through an exploratory process. Additionally, OGP should engage with climate ministries directly - with coordination of the national POC - , especially those who have engaged in the OGP process and can share their experiences.
- Make very clear what the value add is for OGP to engage in this topic.
- OGP should consider the factors that affect resource-rich countries in particular when thinking through the topic. For instance, the green transition means that resource-rich countries that have relied on fossil fuel industries for income and employment will have significant adjustments to make, which will necessitate open government approaches to ensure the transition is just.

II. AOB

a. Update on #OpenGovWeek (May 17-21)

In late March OGP will launch *Open Renewal*, the next phase of the *Open Response + Open Recovery* campaign.. Open Gov Week (OGW) will be themed around Open Renewal, which helps reinforce OGP's vision for 2021:: i) driving a transparent and accountable recovery ii) tackling systemic inequalities, iii) addressing threats to democracy and civic space, and iv) enhancing public participation. Members are encouraged to host events and register them on the [OGW webpage](#).

TLS members shared their ideas for OGW events, including:

- A gender and inclusion event from the government of Argentina;
- The launch of the Youth Engagement Toolkit from Restless Development; and
- The government of Romania has invited their ministries to write proposals for OGW, in addition to an event dedicated to youth who want to engage with open government.

TLS members were also requested to share any remaining feedback on the OGP policy guides ahead of the campaign launch.

b. Updates from TLS members on ongoing thematic activities

The government of Argentina recently published [disaggregated information about vaccines](#), and the government of Romania shared a recent success with published COVID-19 infection and vaccination data on Open Data Day.

Call Attendance

Attendees:

- Government of Argentina: Carolina Cornejo & Nicole Grunbaum
- Government of Canada: Melanie Robert, Benoît Frenette, Darine Benkalha & Shannon Baker
- Government of Indonesia: Ichi Cahyani & Dwiana Cahyani
- Government of Italy: Marco Marrazza
- Government of Romania: Constantin, Larisa Barac & Robert Lăzăroiu
- Helen Darbishire, Access Info Europe
- Jean Scrimgeour, Accountability Lab
- Robin Hodess, The B Team
- Lucy McTernan, University of York
- Steph Muchai, CIVICUS
- Oluseun Onigbinde, BudgIT
- Elisa Peter, Publish What You Pay
- Zuzana Wienk, White Crow

Additional Guests:

- Jesse Worker, World Resources Institute
- Elizabeth Moses, World Resources Institute
- Alex Malden & Alexandra Gillies, Natural Resource Governance Institute
- Anselmo Lee, Asia Civil Society Partnership for Sustainable Development
- Rafael Jimenez, Westminster Foundation for Democracy
- Joe Bardwell, Publish What You Pay
- Inês Schjøberg Marques, Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative

Apologies:

- Government of France
- Anabel Cruz, ICD Uruguay