

Open Government Partnership

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July 12, 2021

Etienne Kaboré
Permanent Secretary for Good Governance and Public Service Modernization
Ministry of Civil Service, Labor and Social Welfare
Government of Burkina Faso

Dear Mr. Kaboré,

We welcome the Government of Burkina Faso'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 are 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 on an annual basis, based on the most up-to-date versions of objective, third-party indicators to determine a countries' progress on each of the following dimensions: Fiscal Transparency, Access to Information, Public Officials' Asset Disclosure and Citizen Engagement.

According to the latest update completed by the Support Unit in June 2021, Burkina Faso currently scores 2 out of 4 in Fiscal Transparency; 4 out of 4 in Access to Information; 2 out of 4 in Asset Disclosure; and 2 out of 4 in Citizen Engagement. Therefore, the Government of Burkina Faso currently scores 10 out of 16 (63%) in OGP's eligibility criteria, below the minimum 75% required for all participating countries.

This is the second consecutive year that Burkina Faso's eligibility score has remained below the minimum requirement. A copy of the letter dated 17 August 2020 notifying of the first occurrence is enclosed for your records. 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)

Consequently, in line with the OGP Articles of Governance, the government of Burkina Faso has been placed under Procedural Review and must take the necessary steps to raise above the minimum eligibility criteria. If Burkina Faso fails to raise its score by the next annual update (typically completed by June of each year), it will risk being designated as *inactive* in OGP.

If you consider any of these scores to be inaccurate or have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the OGP Support Unit. We stand ready to provide you and your team with any assistance necessary to help raise Burkina Faso's OGP eligibility score.

Yours sincerely,



Sanjay Pradhan
Chief Executive Officer
Open Government Partnership

Attachment



OPEN GOVERNMENT PARTNERSHIP

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17 August 2020

The Honorable Seini Mahamoudou Ouedraogo
Minister of Civil Service, Labor and Welfare
Government of Burkina Faso

Dear Minister Mahamoudou Ouedraogo,

We welcome the Government of Burkina Faso'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 shows that the Government of Burkina Faso has not published its 2016 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 lowered its score in Citizen Engagement (as assessed by The Economist Intelligence Unit's Democracy Index). Consequently, the Government of Burkina Faso has 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, Burkina Faso 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 Burkina Faso'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