

# Open Government Partnership

## Thematic Leadership Monthly Call Agenda

16 November 2021 | 09:00 - 10:00 EDT

### Call Summary

#### Attendees

- Blair Glencorse, Accountability Lab
- Helen Darbishire, Access Info Europe
- Steph Muchai, International Lawyers Project
- Luben Panov, European Center for Not-for-Profit Law
- Government of Indonesia: Yudhi Ramlan
- Government of Morocco: Sarah Lamrani
- Government of the United Kingdom: Bella Fudge

#### Additional Guests

- Kate Dyer, Claire Hutchings, and Emma Jones, Oxford Policy Management
- Aidan Eyakuze, Twaweza
- Government of Canada: Mélanie Robert, Benoît Frenette, Sarah Bérubé
- Government of Georgia: Ketevan Tsanava
- Government of Germany: Sebastian Haselbeck
- Government of Italy: Sabina Bellotti, Ilenia de Finis

#### Apologies

- Zuzana Wienk, White Crow
- Government of Korea
- Government of Kenya

#### I. Welcome and introduction

The Thematic Leadership Subcommittee (TLS) welcomed new members Luben Panov and the governments of Korea, Morocco, and the United Kingdom.

#### II. Learning From Oxford Policy Management

*Reference Material:* [OPM Presentation](#)

As we continue to celebrate the 10th anniversary of OGP in the lead up to the OGP Global Summit, the Steering Committee was invited to reflect on the impact of the Partnership's systems and strategies through this special Thematic Leadership Subcommittee (TLS) meeting. After conducting an evaluation of OGP processes from 2019-2021, guests from Oxford Policy Management presented their high-level findings and takeaways focused on how OGP works, specifically within the context of the political engagement and Steering Committee engagement. There are four

overarching categories of findings, underlined by the conclusion that OGP's Theory of Change works:

- I. **Political support; International and global engagements:** Political support stimulates and shapes open government reforms, and there is demand for more, which the Steering Committee can support with. Global events are helpful for driving policy agendas, as action-forcing moments, as well as supporting and linking with national-level reforms. There are challenges in aligning national and international-level progress, which can move at different speeds.
- II. **Civil society and inclusion:** OGP's Rules of the Game work, and have created an opportunity for civil society engagement by nurturing key reformers' willingness to engage with civil society. Challenges arise in limited institutionalization of this relationship in government, and there tends not to be a whole-of-government approach. Additionally, CSO engagement tends to be concentrated in the co-creation stage and not in the implementation stage of action plans.
- III. **Partnerships and brokering support:** There are no automatic translations between international standards and national action. Instead, different strategies will work for each context, and increased precision is required around understanding the desired results, the strategy needed to achieve those results, and the right partner to support that strategy.
- IV. **Resilience and institutionalisation:** It is critical for OGP to address potential vulnerabilities in times of change, as in leadership transitions. Resilience can be strengthened through strengthening the support structures around POCs, and working towards legal mandates for OGP in government, as well as institutionalizing open government values beyond OGP processes.

Following the presentation, Steering Committee members asked questions regarding the role of civil society in implementation and accountability, the institutionalization of open government principles and OGP in governments, and the role of the SU and SC when civil society trends of openness and inclusion are reversing.

The Support Unit and Steering Committee will aim to use these findings as guidance while OGP undertakes a new work plan and strategic development process in 2022. OPM will continue developing their findings, and will produce issue briefs based on the results in early 2022.