

# Creating OGP's Future Together

## A Guide to Hosting a Community Conversation

As part of the process of co-creating the Open Government Partnership's (OGP) [new strategy](#) for 2023 to 2028, we invite you to host a community conversation on the future of open government and OGP. This document shares what you need to know to host a community conversation.

### In this guide:

- Why is OGP developing a new strategy?
- How is the strategy being developed?
- How will the community conversations contribute to the strategy?
- Who can run a community conversation?
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- What are the community conversation questions?
- What if we don't have time to cover all of the questions?
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### Why is OGP developing a new strategy?

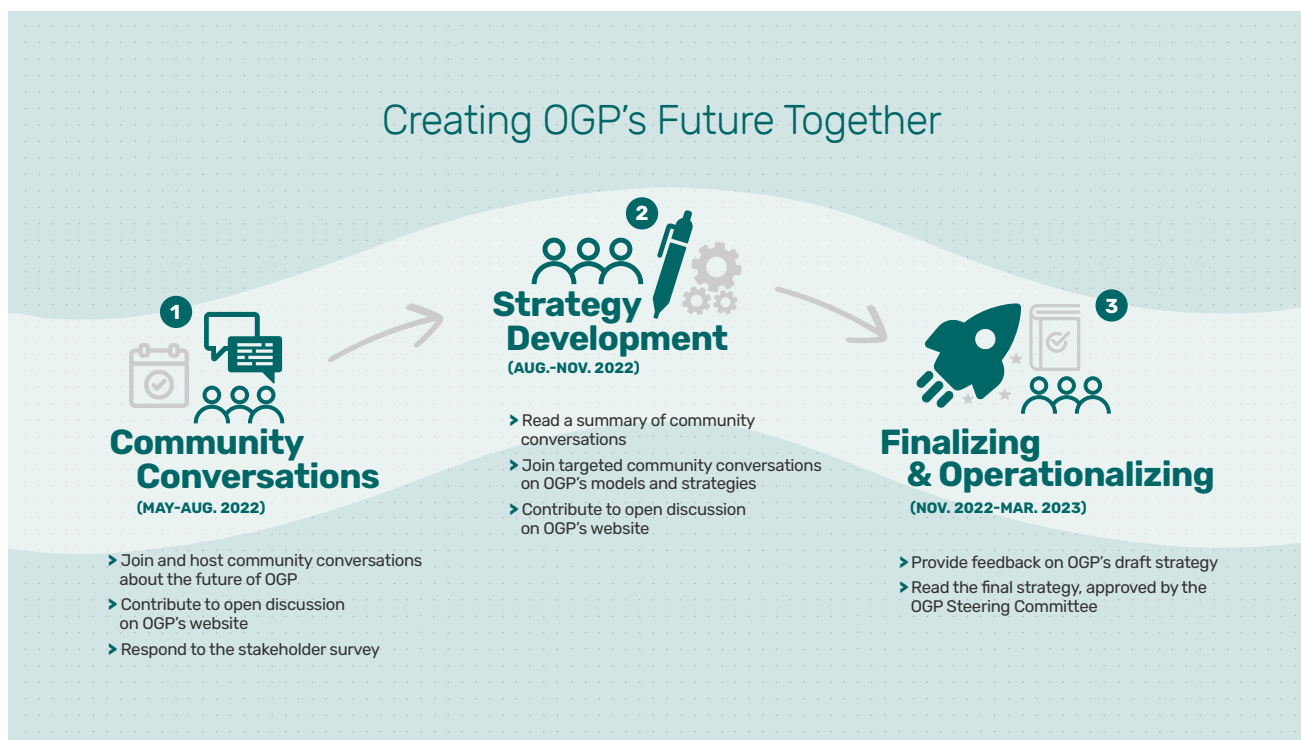
As OGP enters its second decade, we all have our stories about the many ways in which it has exceeded our expectations since it was founded. But as our movement has grown and shown pockets of progress that the OGP community can be proud of, so too have the regressive forces of populism and authoritarianism pulling in the direction of closed governments. The successes are not yet adding up in changing the culture of governments towards becoming more open, inclusive, accountable, and responsive. There is a need and an opportunity to apply lessons learned from ten years of practice and ensure that the Partnership is fit-for-purpose to meet the trends, opportunities, and challenges we all face today.

### How is the strategy being developed?

OGP is nothing without its community of reformers. We want to ensure that we are investing our energy in the places that best support your efforts to open up governments. And that, of course, means that this new strategy has to be shaped by you. We invite you all to get involved.

The process to develop the new strategy will run throughout 2022 and into 2023 with multiple points of community input and engagement.





At the heart of our co-creation approach are the community conversations, which this guidance is focused on.

As well as the community conversations, there are other ways to contribute as well:

- [Join the online discussions](#)
- [Attend an event](#)
- [Share your views through the stakeholder survey](#)

## How will the community conversations contribute to the strategy?

In Phase 1, OGP and the community will host conversations and engagement activities to gather input into the strategy. We will review all of this feedback in August and September 2022. Based on the conclusions, we will set up further conversations on key issues that have emerged and share a draft strategy for the community to review.

## Who can run a community conversation?

Anyone can run a community conversation. You just need to read this guidance, hold your conversation, and then submit the feedback to us via [this form](#).

## Who should be part of the conversation?

That is up to you. During the strategy process, we want to hear from a broad and diverse group of people. The community conversations are one way to help us to do that. Your conversation can be with any group of people that you want to discuss the future of open government and OGP with. That could be colleagues from government or civil society, members of your multi-stakeholder forum, organizations working on the same issues as you, or anyone else.

## How can we hold the conversation?

Here are a couple of ways you could hold a conversation:

- Integrate a discussion into an upcoming multi-stakeholder forum, network or organizational meeting as a 30-60 minute discussion.
- Convene a specific meeting of your colleagues, allies or communities, for example a 90-120 minute online call.

## What should the conversation cover?

We have developed a series of questions for this first phase of the strategy process in order to learn:

1. How you think open government approaches can contribute to change in your context over the next five years and the role and contribution OGP can make within that.
2. Where you think OGP should invest its energy and how it could improve to support open government efforts in your context and globally.

These questions are listed at the end of this document and also in the [Google Slides](#).

## What materials can we use to hold the conversation?

We recommend using [these Google Slides](#), which take you step-by-step through the key questions and include some helpful facts and figures. The Google Slides also provide a link and instructions for a Mentimeter poll to collect individual feedback from your participants during your discussion.

[This guidance](#) on formats and a draft run sheet can help you adapt the discussion to the time you have available, your format (in-person or online) and the size of your group.

We've also developed a [fact sheet](#) for participants to have some background information for the conversation, which you can distribute it to participants ahead of time.

## What are the community conversation questions?

The questions come in two parts – one, on your context and OGP's contribution; and second, on strategic choices about where OGP focuses. The questions that are bolded are the most important ones, but we have also included some further prompt questions to support and structure your conversation.

*Note: When we talk about OGP in the questions, we mean both the mechanism (e.g. national dialogue, action plans and global platform) and the work of the OGP Steering Committee, OGP Support Unit and the Independent Reporting Mechanism (IRM).*

## Part 1 – Role of open government and the Open Government Partnership (OGP) in your context

*In this part of the discussion we want to learn how you think open government approaches can contribute to change in your context (in your place or on your issues) over the next five years, and the role and contribution OGP can make within that.*

1. **What are the three most significant challenges or opportunities in your context that open government approaches can positively influence over the next five years?**
  - What would it take to make that happen? (e.g. new policy, political commitment, resources, etc.)

- What could you (this group) do to help make it happen? (e.g. share expertise, do comparative research, include in the government plans, lobby politicians etc.)
- What is the most important contribution that OGP can make? (e.g. provide examples, connect with peers, help build political support, broker implementation support, provide international exposure, etc.)

## Part 2 – OGP focus and improvement areas

*In this part of the discussion we want to learn about where you think OGP should invest its energy and how it could improve to support open government efforts in your context (in your place or on your issues) and globally.*

### 2. On balance, where should OGP focus more of its energy in the next five years?

- On a broad set of policy areas or a narrower focus on a few issues?
- Share knowledge, inspiration, and stories or improve the action plan process?
- Support and build coalitions of reformers or shape and support the implementation of reforms?
- Expand the community and membership or strengthen the existing community and membership?

### 3. How can OGP best help you to improve open government in your place or on your issue?

- What should OGP keep doing?
- What should OGP stop doing?
- What should OGP do differently?
- What should OGP start doing?

## What if we don't have time to cover all of the questions?

We understand that these questions are big and you might not have time to cover them all in your conversation. If this is the case, we suggest you:

1. Focus your discussion on the first question to ensure that you have sufficient time for a good quality discussion;
2. Look at the options outlined in the [facilitation guidance](#) for shorter discussion formats;
3. If you do not have time for a group discussion on questions two and three, leave a few minutes at the end of your session for your participants to submit their views individually via the Mentimeter survey that is linked in the slides.

## How do we feedback the conclusions of the conversation?

There are two ways that we are collecting feedback from the community conversations:

1. Group feedback – After you convene your conversation, please share the conclusions of your discussion with us through [this form](#) so that your group's insights can inform the strategy process. This must be submitted by 31st August 2022 at the latest, but we recommend doing it as soon as possible after your conversation.
2. Individual feedback – The [Google Slides](#) contain a link and instructions for using a Mentimeter poll during your conversation. This allows your participants to give individual feedback on the questions during the conversation.