



10
YEARS



Open
Government
Partnership

Celebrating 10 Years of Progress

The OGP Timeline

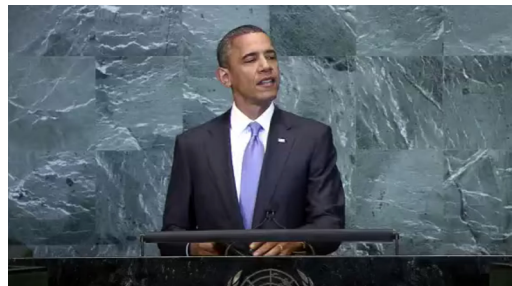


Celebrating 10 Years of Progress The OGP Timeline

This is a collection of moments of impact to the community and organization. In the spirit of the Partnership, this is the starting point of co-creation. OGP invites its many partners - including you - to reflect on its growth over the years, where they were, how they contributed, and the ways in which they may have been impacted by these moments. Your input will feed into a larger project to co-create a more extensive timeline of the history of OGP and its community in 2022.

2010

September 23, 2010



President Obama challenges the global community to make government more open and accountable at the United Nations General Assembly

"The common thread of progress is the principle that government is accountable to its citizens. And the diversity in this room makes clear: no one country has all the answers, but all of us must answer to our own people. In all parts of the world, we see the promise of innovation to make government more open and accountable. And now, we must build on that progress. And when we gather back here next year, we should bring specific commitments to promote transparency, to fight corruption, to energize civic engagement, to leverage new technologies so that we strengthen the foundations of freedom in our own countries, while living up to the ideals that can light the world."

- Former U.S. President Barack Obama (2008-2016)

[Remarks by the President to the United Nations General Assembly](#)

[President Obama Addresses the United Nations](#)



Leaders of eight major democracies and nine civil society organizations launch the Open Government Partnership

OGP formally launched as part of a UN General Assembly meeting, during which heads of state from eight founding governments (Brazil, Indonesia, Mexico, Norway, Philippines, South Africa, United Kingdom, and the U.S.) endorsed the Open Government Declaration and announced their national action plans along with nine civil society leaders. In the 10 years since that moment, over 4,500 reform commitments have been co-created focusing on anti-corruption, citizen engagement, digital governance, opening justice, civic space, and gender and inclusion.

[Open Government Declaration](#)

2012

April 17-18, 2012

2011

September 20, 2011



OGP Summit, Brasilia, Brazil

OGP's first summit sees civil society and government actors come together on an equal footing, becoming the model for all future global summits. Draft national plans are discussed in public, showcasing co-creation as the partnership's way of working.

[Remarks by Hillary Clinton at the OGP Opening Session](#)

[Martin Tisne: Brasilia in a Nutshell](#)

OGP's Steering Committee adopts the Articles of Governance

The Articles of Governance are adopted by consensus by OGP's Steering Committee. They establish the mandate and policies of OGP, including the OGP Steering Committee, the OGP Support Unit, and the Independent Reporting Mechanism (IRM). The Articles also contain OGP's core operating principles such as the eligibility criteria and values a country must meet to become a member of OGP and the responsibilities once they have joined. Revisions over the years reflect the growth of the partnership and what has been learned.

[Articles of Governance](#)

April 16, 2012



June 2012

First national action plans are submitted

The first wave of national action plans from new members arrived in June 2012, translating the promise of joining OGP into action at the national level. They are tangible proof that support for open government goes beyond demonstrative words on global stages. Those early action plans focused primarily on transparency and opening up government data.



OGP Global Summit, London, United Kingdom

The second OGP Summit brought together a growing, dynamic, and engaged open government community in London. The importance of independent monitoring and oversight of action plans was set in stone with the IRM becoming fully operational. OGP launched four multilateral partnerships with the UNDP, the World Bank, the OECD, and the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB). Civil society boldly challenged world leaders on a global stage about uncomfortable truths, demanding clear commitments to transparency and openness.

2013

October 31 - November 1, 2013

Then Prime Minister David Cameron announced the launch of a UK public register, which was subsequently included in their national action plan and became the first-ever commitment for a public, open register in OGP. This commitment to beneficial ownership transparency marked the start of a process that would lead to a global coalition of seven governments advancing emerging standards on beneficial ownership transparency through OGP and other platforms.

[Opening Plenary](#)

[Playlist: London Summit](#)

[How the OGP London Summit can make a difference](#)

[PM David Cameron Speech at OGP Summit](#)

2014

April 22, 2014



Launch of First Open Government Awards

Showcasing reforms and reformers, sharing success stories and inspiring each other is key to the success of open government. Building on the “Bright Spots Competition” at the 2013 London Summit, OGP, in 2014, launches the first Open Government Awards under the theme “citizen engagement”. 33 governments participate. Denmark wins for its Statutory Elected Senior Citizens’ Councils Initiative that supports senior citizens’ active participation in local governments’ decision making processes. The OGP awards celebrate the ways countries work together with civil society to advance national priorities.

[“The Greatest Time of my Life”: Winning the Open Government Awards 2014](#)

[Playlist: OGP Bright Spots 2013 Competition](#)

[Playlist: Open Gov Awards 2016](#)

Indonesia requests an OGP health check

At the Asia Pacific Regional Meeting in Bali, the government lead chair, Indonesia, requested a health check of the partnership. This led to the IRM’s first technical paper on how the partnership can advance ambitious political reforms. Over the years, these health checks have helped identify what works together with areas of improvement, thus guiding the work of the Support Unit and the community at large.

[IRM’s first technical paper](#)

May 6, 2014

September 24, 2014



Launch of first long-term strategy for OGP

2014 was a critical year for OGP in its evolution from young start-up to a consolidated initiative. In just three years since OGP's launch, membership grew from 8 to 64 countries, with hundreds of civil society organizations participating in the OGP process at the country-level. To support this growth, the OGP Steering Committee and Support Unit worked together to develop a comprehensive four-year strategy for OGP.

It is presented at a high-level event at the United Nations in September, attracting 10 heads of state and 30 government ministers, along with hundreds of global civil society leaders. This impressive turn out was a promising sign that OGP was building the high-level political commitment required to help catalyze open government reforms in a diverse group of countries.

[Four-Year Strategy 2015-2018](#)

[OGP High-Level Event at the UN General Assembly 2014](#)



Adoption of the OGP Response Policy to uphold the values and principles of the partnership

A significant decision taken by the OGP Steering Committee was the adoption of a new policy to deal with concerns raised about civic space in participating countries. The new policy acknowledges that there may be issues outside the scope of national action plans that have a major impact on successful participation in OGP, and creates an opportunity to address them. Ongoing issues of concern in that regard include: restrictions on basic freedoms, access to information, and the overall enabling environment for civil society. To maintain OGP's credibility – and safeguard its long-term future – it is vital that participating countries uphold these values and principles, as expressed in the Open Government Declaration and in the Articles of Governance.

[OGP SC Agrees New Response Policy](#)
[Response Policy](#)

September 24, 2014

The importance of coming together as a community

Over the years, OGP has seen how powerful a community it has gathered. Countless in-person and virtual meetings have created space for meaningful discussions, built trust, resulted in ambitious national and local reforms, and helped to shape strong coalitions and partnerships. The international spotlight at times also created opportunities for smart advocacy or sometimes even protest in the face of tragedies. 2014 illustrates this well: The Asia Pacific Regional meeting helped to expand the partnership; at the Europe Regional Meeting national, Irish civil society successfully advocated to abolish fees for access to information; and at the Americas Regional Meeting, where a powerful silent protest during the Mexican representatives speech saw civil society exiting the room to leave 43 empty seats for missing students from Mexico. These moments illustrate, in the words of Alejandro Gonzales, former Steering Committee member, that “the open government reform agenda is not a desirable accessory, but an absolute necessity.”

2015

October 27-29, 2015



OGP Global Summit, Mexico City, Mexico

The Global Summit in Mexico provided one of the most memorable moments for the Partnership in 2015. It was hosted by President Peña Nieto of Mexico and Mexican civil society organizations and welcomed over 40 ministers and leaders from around the world. Highlights included the second edition of the Open Government Awards, with the win going to A Tu Servicio from Uruguay, a project providing citizens unparalleled access to the performance indicators of their country's health care providers. OGP also positioned itself as a domestic implementation platform to deliver the United Nations newly agreed Sustainable Development Goals. Over 40 governments signed a declaration committing to use the OGP platform to implement the new global goals, and OGP published a special edition of the Open Government Guide to provide ideas on how to achieve this.

[Opening Ceremony](#)

[Playlist: Mexico Summit](#)

[Launch of OGP Government Champion Award!](#)

[Reflecting on the Third OGP Summit](#)

2016

May 4, 2016

First Response Policy case

At the Africa Regional Meeting, the OGP Steering Committee designated Azerbaijan, a member of OGP since 2011, as inactive. This response policy case was triggered when concerns were raised by Publish What You Pay, Civicus, and Article 19 about threats faced by civil society in Azerbaijan. Following an exhaustive review process, the concerns were found valid. The decision marked the first time that OGP took action under its Response Policy. Later in the year, Hungary exited the partnership after being cited for similar concerns.

[MEDIA BRIEFING: Azerbaijan made inactive in OGP](#)

December 7-9, 2016



OGP Global Summit, Paris, France

The Government of France and the World Resources Institute hosted the fourth OGP Global Summit. The summit brought together more than 4,000 attendees from 141 countries, including 13 heads of state and 70 government ministers from 49 countries. A new expansion into local open government was a prominent theme with the mayor of Paris, Anne Hidalgo, hosting a day-long event dedicated to subnational open government. Fifteen subnational pioneers submitted their first action plans at the launch of the OGP “**Subnational Government Pilot Program**”. They mainly focused on tackling inequality, improving public services, and innovating participatory processes, such as participatory budgeting.

The “Paris Declaration on Open Government” was endorsed at the summit with countries and civil society organizations reaffirming OGP’s principles and values of transparency, integrity, public participation, and collaboration in order to forge more inclusive, just, and sustainable democracies in the geopolitical context of the time. The declaration contained 20 collective actions and yielded 300 contributions from 30 governments and 70 civil society organizations, providing a clear, positive vision for OGP’s future.

[Opening Ceremony](#)

[Playlist: Paris Summit](#)

[Paris Declaration – Collective Actions to Accelerate Open Government](#)



2017

September 5, 2017

Adoption of parliamentary engagement policy guidance

In response to the growing engagement of legislative institutions, OGP's parliamentary engagement policy guidance was endorsed in 2016 and later adopted in 2017.

Until this policy, parliaments were recognized for taking legislative action and brokering political support, but they did not typically participate in OGP processes. Over the years, OGP's parliamentary engagement has seen exponential growth, bringing new actors and activities to the table. The 2019 Ottawa Summit was attended by delegates from over 40 legislative institutions, providing a space for strategic discussions on next steps with partners, parliamentary delegates, and OGP points of contact. Over the course of 2021, OGP conducted a review of its objectives, policies, and practices related to parliamentary engagement, approving a new Memorandum on Parliamentary Engagement in November. It recognizes that in the open government context, parliaments have a role to play in championing, shaping, and overseeing open government values.

[Parliamentary Engagement Policy Guidance \(2017\)](#)

[Parliaments as Partners for Open Government Reform](#)

[Introducing OGP's Way Forward on Parliamentary Engagement](#)

[Memorandum on Parliamentary Engagement](#)

September 20, 2017



OGP Rules of the Game Review

The Steering Committee approved changes to OGP's rules to: raise the bar on OGP participation, incentivize better action plan performance, and institute stronger responses to inaction. These changes were a direct response to concerns expressed by OGP civil society and government participants regarding closing civic space in OGP countries and the rules governing OGP eligibility and participation.

[Eligibility Criteria & OGP Values Check Assessment](#)



November 17, 2017

First OGP Academy promotes evidence in policy-making

OGP held the first OGP Academy as part of a commitment to promote research and evidence in policy-making. The initiative enables researchers and practitioners of open government to share their research around topics of open government. More than 30 original research topics were prepared and published as part of this event, co-sponsored by OGP, GIGAPP, and the University of Buenos Aires.

The presentations, papers, blogs, and best practice pieces from the Academy offered reformers new and innovative ideas and resources to aid their own fights to make government more open, participatory, and accountable.

[2021 OGP Academy: The Case for Open Government - Opening Plenary](#)

2018

May 7-11, 2018



First Global Open Gov Week

Inspired by Italy's national Open Gov Week in 2017, OGP organized the first global Open Gov Week as a vehicle to grow the open government community by inspiring debates and action at the national level. In all, 708 events in 56 countries took place, showcasing the growing strength and diversity of the community. Open Gov Week has become a recurring annual highlight on the open government calendar.

[Open Gov Week](#)

[Playlist: Open Gov Week 2021](#)



July 17-19, 2018

OGP Global Summit, Tbilisi, Georgia

As lead co-chair of OGP, the government and civil society of Georgia hosted the 5th OGP Global Summit in Tbilisi, with over 2,200 attendees from 115 countries and advancement on two key themes: justice, and gender and inclusion.

Justice ministers from Armenia, Georgia, North Macedonia, Argentina, and Albania met to discuss how justice is contributing to open government across numerous sectors.

They launched a new informal justice coalition of OGP governments to move the conversation forward and promote legal empowerment and justice commitments, leading to significant growth in justice commitments since then.

As part of a wider strategy to examine how OGP can be used as an action platform to advance gender and inclusion, the Feminist Open Government Initiative, a partnership with the International Development Research Center and Results for Development, launched as a part of the summit, and an important first step toward gender and inclusion becoming one of the fastest growing commitment areas.

[Opening Ceremony](#)

[Playlist: Tbilisi Summit](#)

July 18, 2018



Launch of CitizENGAGE to inspire the community

The CitizENGAGE website launched and included videos, photo essays, and impact stories about citizens changing the way government is involved in their lives. The stories spoke to the very real impact open government can have on the lives of everyday citizens, and how it can create positive change in things as fundamental as schools, roads, and houses.

[Introducing CitizENGAGE – How Citizens Get Things Done](#)

<https://www.ogpstories.org>



Launch of Multi-Donor OGP Trust Fund

OGP and the World Bank launched the OGP Multi-Donor Trust Fund (MTDF) as a dedicated vehicle to direct donor funding to: support the implementation of OGP commitments, strengthen the co-creation of OGP action plans, advance thematic priorities, and bolster open government research. The launch of the OGP MDTF channels dedicated technical and financial support to OGP processes throughout the partnership.

[OGP Multi-Donor Trust Fund](#)

2019

May 29-31, 2019

July 19, 2018



OGP Global Summit, Ottawa, Canada

Canada hosted the 6th Global Summit in Ottawa. It brought together 79 national and 20 local members, along with thousands of civil society representatives. OGP reformers discussed ways to leverage open government initiatives and tools to build stronger, more accountable and responsive democracies, driving home an ambitious agenda around the key themes of inclusion, participation, and the impact of open government.

The summit saw the release of OGP's first comprehensive assessment of the state of open government, the "Global Report." It provided a thorough and honest review of progress made by OGP member countries in the first eight years of the partnership, bringing together action plan data with partners' data to get a more complete picture on open government. The evidence continues to show that open government makes a significant difference in people's lives, especially as part of a broader ecosystem of accountability.

[Opening Ceremony](#)

[Playlist: Ottawa Summit](#)

[Global Report](#)



May 29, 2019

Endorsement of the OGP Local Engagement Strategy

The vision underpinning OGP's new local engagement strategy was to scale, integrate, and support both nationally and locally-led innovations to promote open, local government, in line with the Partnership's overall vision. By investing in open government at the local level, OGP aims to deepen citizen-centred governance and ensure that it can deliver measurable and meaningful change on the ground to benefit citizens in OGP countries.

The strategy built on the launch of the "Subnational Government Pilot Program" in 2016, which consisted of 15 pioneer subnational governments. Following the strong early results of the pilot period, the OGP Steering Committee approved the expansion of the subnational pilot program, which became known as the OGP Local Program.

[About OGP Local](#)

[OGP Local Engagement Strategy](#)

May 30, 2019



Launch of Break the Roles

With the aim of strengthening gender perspectives in OGP commitments and increasing women's voices across open government, the "Break the Roles" campaign was launched. As the first public campaign for OGP, it galvanized the community and led to gender and inclusion being the most popular issue area addressed in 2020 action plans, cutting across core OGP priority policy areas, including public service, justice, open contracting, and beneficial ownership.

[Break the Roles campaign](#)

[Playlist: #BreaktheRole](#)

2020

February 25, 2020



Endorsement of the IRM Refresh

Following extensive research and consultations in 2018 and 2019, the OGP Steering Committee approved the IRM Refresh. The changes to the IRM intend to make its processes and focus simpler, fit for purpose, and results-oriented in response to an ever-growing community. As a result, shorter, more dynamic products with a simplified review process and workflow continue to help the partnership drive action.

[IRM Refresh](#)



Launch of Open Response + Open Recovery

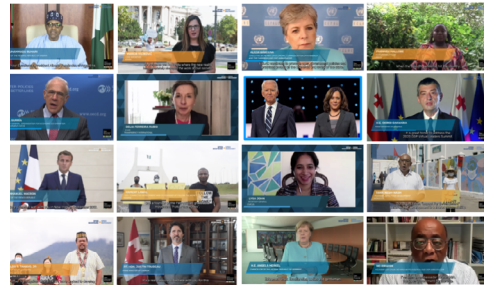
Like many communities, the COVID-19 pandemic forced OGP to take their work and conversations online. The Partnership launched the Open Response + Open Recovery campaign, highlighting how the fundamental values of open government are essential to COVID-19 response and recovery efforts. The community contributed over 200 examples of open government values in action inspiring the campaign. The examples showed the importance of a response that mobilizes open data to: help frontline healthcare workers better coordinate to keep the public informed; ensure emergency procurement is fast, effective, and doesn't allow for corruption; and make certain that social security and safety-net programs reach the most vulnerable and excluded. The campaign emphasizes the importance of an open recovery, including oversight and accountability for stimulus funds, ensuring fiscal transparency of new government support programs, and rolling back emergency power measures.

In 2021, the campaign shifts focus to include a more fundamental renewal of societies after the pandemic.

[Open Response + Open Recovery campaign](#)

April 28, 2020

September 24, 2020



OGP Virtual Leaders Summit

Building on a powerful legacy of OGP events in coordination with the United Nations General Assembly, the first-ever OGP Virtual Leaders Summit took place in 2020. It gathered leaders around the globe, such as German Chancellor Merkel, Canadian Prime Minister Trudeau, French President Macron, and many others from civil society in support of a full, fair, and inclusive response and recovery to COVID-19.

[Open Government Partnership
2020 Virtual Leaders Summit](#)

[Playlist: OGP Virtual Leaders Summit
Local Leaders Statements](#)



Approval of new OGP Participation & Co-Creation Standards

The current Participation and Co-creation Standards outline the requirements for participation and quality of public consultations and provide guidance related to the ongoing dialogue between government and civil society throughout the OGP action plan cycle. Introduced in 2016, they underwent extensive review in 2020 and 2021. The global community reviewed results from the first ten years of OGP and debated the key elements that lead to strong results while enabling flexibility and innovation. This review led to the adoption of a set of five standards, each designed to foster ambition and clearly outline the minimum requirements that will be expected from all OGP members.

[OGP Participation and Co-Creation Standards](#)
[What We Heard from the OGP Standards Consultation](#)

2021

November 24, 2021

December 15-17, 2021



OGP Global Summit, Seoul, Republic of Korea

The government of the Republic of Korea hosted the 7th OGP Global Summit from Seoul, gathering the OGP community virtually for the first time on that scale. As OGP celebrated its 10th anniversary, the Summit further celebrated the stories of reformers. OGP looked back on a decade of reforms and considered the challenges ahead.

[Playlist: OGP Global Summit Ministerial Statements](#)

[Renewing Democracy – A Decade of OGP](#)