



Municipalidad de Sarchí

ALCALDÍA MUNICIPAL

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Wednesday, March 16th, 2022
MS-AL-OF-0166-2022

Renato Brunetta
Ministry of Public Administrations
Government of Italy

Aidan Eyakuze
Executive Director
East Africa Twaweza

Taimar Peterkop
Secretary of State
Government of Estonia

Anabel Cruz
Director
CIE Uruguay

RE: Letter of support | Expressions of Interest | OGP Local 2022

On behalf of the Municipality of Sarchí, I would like to inform our interest in joining the OGP Local program.

Sarchí, a small town located in the western region of Costa Rica, with a population of around 22,000 people, is well known for its natural exuberance and the tradition of typical paintings of the oxcart.

The Municipality, founded in 1949, aims the vision "to be an effective and efficient local government, which promotes civic participation, assertive communication and strategical alliances, seeking an integral, inclusive, and sustainable development, providing innovative services to the citizens of Sarchí."

Since May 2020, as a mayor, I have been promoting actions to create an open government culture in the Municipality, starting policies and developing projects in a more open, accountable, and responsive local government.

For example:

- In 2020, we joint the project "Continued Civil Society Engagement - Government Strengthening" of the Trust for the Americas and the



Organization of American States (OAS), which provided workshops and training on open government topics.

- In 2021, after a broad consultation and participation process, the Human Development Plan 2021-2031 was approved with the support of the United Nations Development Program (UNDP). In the same line, the Municipality Strategic Plan 2021-2026 was approved and included commitments like implementing participatory budgeting.
- Since 2021, the Municipality has been a member of the [Network of Local Governments Promoting the Sustainable Development Goals](#), a platform to share and learn how to implement the SDGs in the local agenda.
- From 2020 to date, the Municipality has strengthened the dialogue and communication channels with several stakeholders like the local chamber of community organizations, the chamber of the private sector, and civil society organizations such as culture and environment.
- Recently, we joined the project "Data visualization for the local government's transparency" coordinated by the Trust for the Americas and the Organization of American States (OAS) in Costa Rica.
- We are implementing a strategy to update the legal framework to help us move forward and improve the services provided by the local government, including the ethical behavior of our public servants.

We know that we start the way and that the open government reforms take time to be accomplished and show results; this is why it is relevant for us to join the OGP Local program as a platform for capacity building and collaboration. Moreover, we recognize the outstanding role that Open Government Partnership plays in creating a more secure, democratic, and prosperous world.

We are looking forward to joining the OGP Local's 2022 cohort.

Sincerely,

MAIKOL GERARDO PORRAS
MORALES (FIRMA)

Firmado digitalmente por MAIKOL
GERARDO PORRAS MORALES (FIRMA)
Fecha: 2022.03.16 20:08:57 -06'00'

Maikol Porras Morales
Mayor
Municipality of Sarchí

C.:
Archive



CV-OF-003-2022

Tuesday, March 15th, 2022

Renato Brunetta
Ministry of Public Administrations
Government of Italy

Aidan Eyakuze
Executive Director
East Africa Twaweza

Taimar Peterkop
Secretary of State
Government of Estonia

Anabel Cruz
Director
CIE Uruguay

Dear Open Government Partnership Copresidents,

As a representative of the Civil Society Organization known as Colectivo Verolis, I would like to inform our support for the Expressions of Interest of the Local Government of Sarchí to join the OGP Local's 2022 cohort.

Our organization has been implementing projects in Sarchí since 2011. We are promoting actions in social and cultural rights, strengthening democracy, and public participation in the local government decisions.

Hence, Colectivo Verolis see as a relevant opportunity for the local government of Sarchí joins the OGP Local Program to help build coalitions between civil society and government representatives as a key for strengthening the Municipality and improving services for our citizens at the local level.



For this reason, our organization commits to being part of the stakeholders that would co-create and implement an ambitious open government action plan.

Sincerely,



PABLO ARCE ÁLVAREZ
Coordinador

colectivoverolis@gmail.com



Unión Cantonal de Asociaciones de Desarrollo de Sarchí

Monday March 14th, 2022

Renato Brunetta
Ministry of Public Administrations
Government of Italy

Aidan Eyakuze
Executive Director
East Africa Twaweza

Taimar Peterkop
Secretary of State
Government of Estonia

Anabel Cruz
Director
CIE Uruguay

Dear Open Government Partnership Copresidents,

Our organization, Unión Cantonal de Asociaciones de Desarrollo de Sarchí (Local chamber of community organizations), recognizes the relevance of the open government reforms to achieve the goal of the sustainability development in our town. Thus, we are pleased to support the intention of the Municipality of Sarchí to join the OGP Local's 2022 cohort.

We celebrate that the Municipality of Sarchí is interested to be more open, inclusive, participatory and accountable to our citizens. From the last two years, the authorities and the public servants of the Municipality started several processes of related to open governments and proactive transparency, for example in 2021 the co-creation of the Human Development Plan involving citizens of all five Sarchí's districts and the participation of almost 300 citizens.

We are looking forward to being part of the policy's changes, impulse by our local government that will positively impact our community's citizens, focused on digital governance, civic space, gender inclusion, and strengthen relationships between government, civil society organizations, and private sector.

Sincerely,



Paul Larios Cruz
President

Unión Cantonal de Asociaciones de Desarrollo de Sarchí

