



Final Learning Exercise Summary Report

Quintana Roo, México - Action Plan 2021- 2022

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Section I: Open Government in Context

The adoption of the open government model in Mexico has implied different institutional efforts in conjunction with the citizenship, for local authorities, organized civil society, academia, and business chambers, have the commitment to make an efficient government at the service of citizens; this practice of open government has involved the participation and effort of many actors and sectors to implement proposals for solutions to the different problems we face as a nation and as a State.

It was identified that the challenge is to consolidate an Open State in Quintana Roo, where the executive branch strategically joined the democratic openness and participatory governance to create a more transparent government, accessible to citizen participation and accountable to citizens. Where the Observatory of Commitments and Public Policies, and the “Glosa Ciudadana” of Open Government and Sustainable Development of Quintana Roo, are the first exercises of open government that modified the form of interaction between the government and organized civil society.

Section II: Action Plan Co-Creation Process

One of the great elements that should be highlighted with special emphasis is that it permeated two branches of government. To see an exercise in which it was possible to incorporate the state executive and the legislature is an element that should be replicated not only at the national level, but also at the international level. On the other hand, the judiciary must be incorporated, and the incorporation of open justice in all areas must be raised, in order to strengthen all the achievements that have been made. And, to continue with this type of effort, it would be proposed this to be a baseline of open government in the state, if a critical route is proposed for each commitment, with co-creation tables where the participants define how they see the commitments in the future, a critical route can be developed, there is the willingness of all the actors involved in what has been created, so it should transcend to an open government strategy established in the state. The replicability capacity of any open government commitment can be replicated to other states and municipalities, in the Federal case there is an unfortunate experience since most of the institutions did not have the necessary disposition or communication, but something that can be recovered from this exercise is the capacity to coordinate with the state executive and the availability that was always there.

One of the main challenges that took place throughout the co-creation of this plan was the approach and involvement of youth in decision-making, generating a participatory democracy that would be achieved by activating inclusive and local citizen participation. Another challenge is to undertake a fiscal opening, through the innovative activation of the system to prevent, address and punish the risks of corruption in the budget cycle. Another challenge was the coordination that had to take place with each of the agencies, and organizations and the approach with the citizenship, the work with the State Congress, where the co-creation exercises for the planning law were carried out. Another challenge was to ensure that the Planning Law would be made available to all the municipalities and the people involved. Open government is not possible without the participation of civil society and citizens. Therefore, the participation of Civil Society Organizations is and has been a key element in the construction of open government in Quintana Roo. Their critical capacity is very important to make this process, a truly democratic exercise.

The formation of the driving group is key to strengthening the exercise, as well as the allied people, another key element is that originally the proposal of the first action plan contained only one commitment because it was very ambitious and with a high impact, however, the coordinator of the local OGP program mentioned that the commitment was so ambitious that it could not culminate in the best way, so it was decided to integrate two other commitments. The collaborative work and the co-creation tables gave a great result in the 3 commitments. In this administration there were conditions to culminate this action plan and have tangible results. To guarantee this action and replicate it, it is essential to systematize it. The civil society organizations reunited with the Governor of the State of Quintana Roo at the dialogue table on the topics set in the Action Plan, resulting in mutual trust, former Governor Carlos Joaquín González was a promoter of citizen participation exercises in the State. He openly collaborated in the “Glosa Ciudadana” exercise and co-created the commitments at the work table, aligning himself with the specific objective of the State Development Plan regarding the formulation of action alternatives that include citizen participation as a common practice in government actions.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendation 1

About innovation: the Action Plan that was developed allows for innovative obligations of the institutions that have been normatively established with a platform that allows finding crossovers between hitherto disjointed obligations.

About citizen participation: integrating citizen participation mechanisms (through the inclusion of civil society and academia in discussions on methodology in planning and budgeting) will generate better social conditions and accountability.

Recommendation 2

It is essential to include historically vulnerable stakeholders in the co-creation process and not only as an isolated consultation process. Inclusion and the right to non-discrimination should be promoted starting with methodological decision-making, subgroups, or in meetings of people with disabilities, women, older adults and trans people.

Recommendation 3

It is important to consider the largest number of municipalities in the next action plan through the guarantor body of transparency, which must cooperate in accordance with the Transparency Law of Quintana Roo.

Recommendation 4

It is transcendental to incorporate indigenous groups, peasants, and native people that allow progress in the inclusion of issues related to land and territory.

Section III: Action Plan Design

AREAS OF OPPORTUNITY FOR COMMITMENTS

The Planning Law of Quintana Roo is the first step towards the co-creation of the State's Sustainable Development Plan for the next 25 years; it is the legal framework from which a series of regulatory adjustments will emerge that will cement the planning of the next decades.

The current Planning Law does not contemplate development plans longer than six years for the State and three years for the municipalities, so there is no long-term strategic vision for our state. The exercises carried out so far are satellite instruments that are not binding to the law and consequently are highly vulnerable to the political volatility of changes in government and political parties. The citizens' initiative to reform the State Planning Law with a long-term vision for Quintana Roo is a great area of opportunity. Since we seek to monitor and influence civil society for the proper implementation of the Law, in addition to ensuring budget allocation for the development of the next steps towards a PTP that meets the following requirements:

- Citizen language and ease of use and navigation.

- That includes all the information of the budget cycle and is organized according to the Sustainable Development Agenda.
- Open data as a cross-cutting criterion throughout the platform.

2. Areas of opportunity:

They can be divided into two, the first one, is related to each commitment and the other one is related to the co-creation and execution of the plan.

2.1 Commitment specifics:

-Budget Transparency Platform:

- Citizenship of recommendations issued.

-Youth

- Larger sample of youth for the following stages of the plan.

-Planning Law:

- Updating of the regulation of the Planning Law with citizen participation, as well as other instruments derived.

-Others:

- Improve communication.

- Improve communication and communication of commitments to public opinion.

- Tight timeframes for the fulfillment of the commitments

- Improve the goals of the commitments in more realistic scenarios in relation to resources, time, and scope.

- Better systematize commitments with the participation of government and civil society.

- Individual agendas beyond the collective.

- When key actors do not join in, citizen participation is harmed.

AREA 1

- Openness of the legislature to accept and carry out an authentic and real exercise of open parliament.
- Acceptance of the legislators at the time of the vote to approve the initiative of law.

AREA 2

- Political will with an understanding of open government.
- Operational openness for the fulfillment of the objectives.
- Ability of the Plan to escalate its impact to the executive and legislative branches.

AREA 3

- Inclusion of youth in decision-making.
- Capacity to replicate not only in other states but also to have an impact at the municipal level.
- Since its creation, citizen participation has been broadened and legitimized with the opinion and participation of the civil society experience.

Section IV. Sources and Methods

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Jyyp0MRzAJ5a0ma9HF_v4nsiXkqnOlaL/view

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1INFaZCDLq64LNIEaOWOrxKp_uGN1K19Z/view

<https://www.opengovpartnership.org/es/members/quintana-roo-mexico/>

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1AP5vrkOc62yxfwqbQYYg-K7j0TchzgVoGsrad6EsXac/edit#gid=544162098>

<https://www.opengovpartnership.org/es/process/>