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ИНН 01710199610068



**КЫРГЫЗСКАЯ РЕСПУБЛИКА
МЭРИЯ ГОРОДА БИШКЕК**

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Министерства финансов
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To the OGP support unit

The Mayor's Office of Bishkek applied for and was included as an OGP Local partner in 2020, but due to various factors, activities in this area have been stopped. However, in order to increase transparency, empower citizens, fight corruption and use new technologies to strengthen governance, as well as cooperation between the municipality and civil society, the Mayor's Office of Bishkek expresses a strong interest in continuing to be a member of OGP Local.

It should be noted that the Bishkek City Council adopted Resolution No. 30 on the 26th of May 2022 "On Approval of the Bishkek City Development Programme "Bishkek-2026. A livable and green capital". The programme contains Chapter 1 Principles of implementation of the programme "Openness and accountability to the population, support of its initiatives, partnership with civil society organisations and businesses". This captures the political will of Bishkek's LSG bodies to achieve transparent, open and accountable governance. The programme will increase public involvement at the municipal level and strengthen civic control over the activities of the Mayor's Office and municipal businesses, and improve citizen interaction with the city authorities.

Since 2014, the Bishkek Mayor's Office annually publishes a publicly available Citizen's Budget, which contains a brief and simple statement of the main budget indicators for citizens. This approach allows for the open formation and execution of the Bishkek city budget by involving citizens in local self-governance and the budget process.

The working experience with the civil society during the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as the internal and external challenges of the following years, reinforced the understanding of the need to implement OGP Local principles in the formation of an open and accountable local government. The task of the Mayor's office today is to reduce all existing gaps in cooperation between civil society and local government.

The Bishkek Mayor's Office will make efforts to make a qualitative leap in the development of citizen participation in the decision-making process within the OGP Local. Bishkek seeks to create more opportunities for citizens' initiatives by prioritising investment projects and taking into account citizens' needs. In particular, Bishkek has had experience in providing grants to the local community in the past and this practice needs to be expanded.

Joining OGP Local will give the Mayor's office an opportunity to learn from other local OGP local members and help create a new culture of urban governance. This culture will be created by applying the best practices of OGP local, which will improve the level of urban

governance, as citizens' expectations of the services of the mayor's office will be much higher in the future. Efficient budget allocation and transparency of management decisions will help improve the city's infrastructure as well as attract foreign investment. In turn, the developed action plan will help to implement ambitious reforms that will increase transparency, accountability and citizen participation.

As part of the OGP Local, the Bishkek Mayor's Office, together with civil society, will develop a joint action plan to build a dialogue with citizens. In particular, this plan may include initiatives such as the formation of a civic budget using a web-based application, the Bishkek Civic Budget; a mobile application for citizens' feedback to the Mayor's office, voting for projects or monitoring the services of municipal service providers. Specific future measures will be discussed and adopted in close partnership with various civil society organizations.

Bishkek City Hall has the administrative capacity to implement projects under OGP Local. The Bishkek City Development and Investment Promotion Agency has a Local Government Development Unit, which is the key cooperation body of the Mayor's office with the international donor community and civil society organizations. The Agency and the Unit will oversee the work under OGP Local on behalf of the Bishkek Mayor's Office. In order to meet its commitments under OGP Local, the Mayor's Office of Bishkek will work closely with the Public Association "Development Policy Institute", with which the Development Agency signed a Memorandum of Cooperation, where strengthening of interaction between the citizens and LSG bodies of Bishkek is one of the most important priorities. With the support of the Public Association "Development Policy Institute", work will be organized with a wide range of non-governmental organizations, according to the criteria of OGP Local.

Visiting the OGP Local website, we learned that many OGP Local members have interesting practices and initiatives, plans that we would like to explore and put into practice. The Bishkek mayor's office and DPI are willing to engage in peer learning and experience sharing with other OGP Local members in other countries and thematic circles.

To implement the OGP Local plan, the Mayor's Office will establish a supervisory board with the participation of non-governmental and involved departments of the Mayor's Office. To organize the work of the council, the experience of Open Government at the national level will be used to ensure that all interested citizen groups and NGOs have the opportunity to participate in the formation and implementation of the OGP Local Plan.

First Deputy Mayor



Mirlanbek Baigonchokov