

Open Government Partnership

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27 March 2024

Honourable Noxolo Kiviet
Minister of Public Service and Administration
Government of South Africa

Dear Minister Kiviet,

I'm writing to express our appreciation for the Government of South Africa's participation in the Open Government Partnership (OGP), a global initiative encompassing 76 countries and 106 local governments dedicated to advancing transparency, accountability and citizen engagement in policy making.

Central to participation in OGP is the co-creation of an action plan by each member government, outlining specific open government reforms consistent with OGP Participation and Co-Creation standards.

Regrettably, the OGP Support Unit did not receive an action plan from the Government of South Africa by the 31 December 2023 deadline. Consequently, the Government of South Africa has acted contrary to the OGP process for the 2023-2025 cycle.

This marks the third consecutive cycle in which the Government of South Africa has acted contrary to the OGP process. Enclosed, please find a copy of the notification letter concerning the previous occurrences (failure to meet minimum standards in the implementation of its 2020-22 action plan, and failing to deliver an action plan in 2022). In view of this, the Criteria & Standards Subcommittee — the body in charge of upholding OGP's policies and procedures — will review the Government of South Africa's participation in OGP during their meeting in April. You will be informed of their decision following their deliberation.

The Support Unit remains at your team's disposal to provide the necessary support to finalize and successfully deliver your new action plan in the planned period.

Yours sincerely,



Sanjay Pradhan
Chief Executive Officer



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11 August 2023

**Honourable Noxolo Kiviet
Minister of Public Service and Administration
Government of South Africa**

Dear Minister Kiviet,

We welcome the Government of South Africa's participation in the Open Government Partnership (OGP), which now comprises 76 countries and 106 local governments working to implement open government commitments to promote greater transparency, accountability and citizen engagement in policy-making.

For its 2019-2022 action plan, the Government of South Africa did not meet the OGP minimum requirements for implementation as assessed by the Independent Reporting Mechanism (IRM) in their [report](#), specifically failing to maintain an OGP repository or website.

South Africa has now acted contrary to the OGP process for two consecutive action plan cycles. A copy of the letter notifying the previous occurrence is enclosed for your records (failure to deliver its 2022-2024 action plan). In line with [OGP policy](#), South Africa will be placed under review by the OGP Criteria & Standards Subcommittee (C&S). This review process involves enhanced support by the C&S, the OGP Support Unit and the OGP Steering Committee in order to help address the issues that have led to it being placed under review.

The review process can be finalized by addressing the most recent occurrence of acting contrary to process, in this case submitting a new action plan by December 31, 2023. Additionally, if a country fails to deliver an action plan for three consecutive years, the C&S Subcommittee will automatically recommend that country be designated as "inactive" in OGP by resolution of the Steering Committee. Therefore, in order to prevent the risk of being designated inactive and to resolve the review process, South Africa must deliver a new action plan by December 31, 2023 at the latest. Nevertheless, we recommend starting the co-creation process as soon as possible.

The OGP Support Unit and Steering Committee stand ready to support you during the implementation of your current action plan and the development of your next one to make sure all requirements are met.

Yours sincerely,



Sanjay Pradhan
Chief Executive Officer



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March 7, 2023

**Honourable Noxolo Kiviet
Minister of Public Service and Administration
Government of South Africa**

Dear Minister Kiviet,

We welcome the Government of South Africa's participation in the Open Government Partnership (OGP), which now comprises 76 countries and 106 local governments working to implement open government commitments to promote greater transparency, accountability and citizen engagement in policy-making.

As you are aware, all OGP participating governments are expected to co-create an action plan outlining a concrete set of open government reforms, in line with OGP Participation and Co-Creation standards.

We recognize South Africa's efforts and the initial documents submitted that reflect the Cabinet approved high-level commitments and complementarity between OGP and APRM. The commitments show broad political support and potential ambition. However, as of December 31, 2022, the OGP Support Unit did not receive the final new action plan from the government of South Africa. Therefore, South Africa has acted contrary to the OGP process for the 2022-2024 cycle. The government of South Africa is also now considered to have started a new action plan cycle. South Africa's new action plan must be delivered by 31 December 2023.

Failure to meet this deadline would result in South Africa acting contrary to OGP process for a second consecutive cycle, and therefore would be placed under Procedural Review by the Criteria & Standards Subcommittee.

The OGP Support Unit and Steering Committee stand ready to support you during the implementation of your current action plan and the development of your next one to make sure all requirements are met.

Yours sincerely,



Sanjay Pradhan
Chief Executive Officer

