



Senat der Freien und Hansestadt Hamburg

Senatskanzlei

Behörde für Umwelt, Klima, Energie und Agrarwirtschaft

Senatskanzlei, Rathausmarkt 1, 20095 Hamburg
Behörde für Umwelt, Klima Energie und Agrarwirtschaft,
Neuenfelder Str. 19, 21109 Hamburg

Department for IT and Digitalization
Department for Sustainability

Ministry of Environment, Climate, Energy
and Agriculture

20. Mai 2026

Open Government Partnership
Local Committee
OGP Support Unit
José María Marín

Application to the Open Government Partnership (OGP) Local Program

Letter of Intent from the Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg

Dear Members of the OGP Steering Committee,
Dear Mr. Marín,

on behalf of the Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg, we are pleased to submit this Letter of Intent for the renewed participation of our city in the OGP Local Program. Since joining OGP Local in 2022, Hamburg has valued the international dialogue with like-minded local governments and civil society partners. We are committed to continuing this journey and strengthening our engagement with the global open government community.

The Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg has a long-standing tradition of open government, dating back to its pioneering Transparency Act of 2012, which established binding obligations for the proactive disclosure of government data.

We recognise that the current challenges—particularly in the areas of sustainability and climate protection—can only be successfully addressed through open, participatory, and collaborative governance. For us, open government is a key tool for building trust, enabling evidence-based policymaking, and actively engaging citizens.

The commitments of the City of Hamburg's first Action Plan were coordinated and implemented by the Department of IT and Digitalization (ITD) of the City of Hamburg's Senate Chancellery. One commitment focused on improving the accessibility and visibility of mobility services for different groups, using the potential of data-based technologies. The second commitment "Data dialogue" sought to raise awareness among diverse groups about data and its growing role in society, thereby promoting data literacy. We intend to use this Action Plan cycle to further develop and institutionalize these commitments.

Institutional Commitment

For this new Action Plan cycle, the commitment of the City of Hamburg – the development of a city-wide sustainability strategy – is being provided by the Ministry of Environment, Climate, Energy and Agriculture (BUKEA). The coordinating role continues to lie within ITD in the Senate Chancellery, anchoring the project at the highest administrative level. This combination of centralized strategic backing and substantive policy leadership ensures visibility and accountability for our open government agenda.

Strategic Direction of the New Action Plan

As part of the new OGP Local Action Plan, the Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg is pursuing an ambitious strategic vision.

Under the thematic leadership of the BUKEA, the focus is on developing a citywide sustainability strategy as a binding, cross-agency framework that systematically integrates existing sectoral strategies and programs.

Since 2017 the Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg has been committed to implementing the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as a guiding principle in all policy areas and decisions. Building on this foundation, the planned sustainability strategy will be based on the 17 SDGs and their 169 targets and will therefore cover almost all areas of city policy.

By embedding the development of the sustainability strategy within the OGP Local process, we aim to strengthen open government principles in environmental and sustainability policy, enhance public participation, improve policy coherence, and contribute to the achievement of local, national, and international sustainability and climate goals.

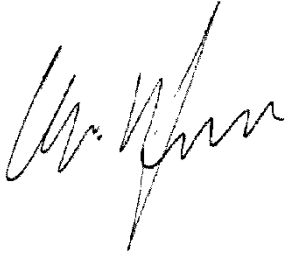
Three strategic pillars guide our approach:

- **Data-based sustainability:** Building on Hamburg's digital infrastructure and AI-powered analytical tools, we aim to move beyond mere data transparency toward actionable governance insights, making progress on the SDGs measurable and strategically actionable.
- **Participation:** Under the thematic lead of the BUKEA, the Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg plans to develop participatory formats to involve young people, in particular, in the co-design of SDG-related projects.
- **Evidence-based governance:** Institutionalized cooperation between government, academia, and civil society is intended to ensure that the sustainability strategy is based on broad expertise and is also accessible to underrepresented groups.


Hamburg fully endorses the OGP Declaration and its core values. We remain committed to transparency, citizen participation, and public accountability as fundamental pillars of modern democratic governance. Our membership in OGP Local offers a valuable platform to learn from peer cities worldwide and to contribute our own experience to the global community of open government practitioners.

We very much look forward to the opportunity to continue Hamburg's participation in OGP Local and thank you for considering our application.

Sincerely,



Christian Pfromm
Chief Digital Officer
Senate Chancellery of the Free
and Hanseatic City of Hamburg



Dr. Alexander von Vogel
State Secretary
Ministry of Environment, Climate,
Energy and Agriculture of the Free
and Hanseatic City of Hamburg