

Gender and Inclusion Fact Sheet

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- ✓ Members of the [Open Government Partnership \(OGP\)](#) are increasingly using their OGP action plans to address issues pertinent to gender and under-represented groups.
- ✓ In addition to making co-creation processes more inclusive, nearly 60% of OGP countries with an active action plan are currently implementing a gender-related commitment. Many members are also making commitments involving youth, people with disabilities, and the LGBTQIA+ community.
- ✓ Next steps for OGP members include actively involving women, nonbinary individuals, LGBTQIA+ communities, and under-represented groups in the co-creation process, making commitments that directly target inclusion, and applying principles of inclusion and intersectionality across all open government reforms.

WHY GENDER & INCLUSION?

Societies with greater political and economic equality demonstrate higher sustained rates of growth and lower poverty rates over time. Inclusion is also fundamental to the mission of open government; in order for governments to be truly open, they must serve all people – not just particular groups. OGP community members are using open government approaches to tackle inequality directly by addressing the needs of historically oppressed groups, including women, those across the gender and sexual identity spectrum, and indigenous and disability communities, among others. They are also bringing in gender and inclusion perspectives to popular policy areas such as open contracting, natural resource governance, civic space, political representation, and digital governance.

STATUS QUO

- **Inclusion can take different approaches:** Many open government reforms may improve gender equity and inclusion without necessarily being gender-targeted (such as introducing transparent access for government contracts). Other reforms may need to focus on improving inclusion (such as ensuring diversity in participatory processes) or specifically target a gap in policy for certain communities (such as improving access to justice for women and girls).
- **Inclusion in the OGP process:** Many OGP members are working to improve inclusion in the OGP process by ensuring the participation of under-represented groups in multi-stakeholder forums and self-assessing action plans for gender responsiveness.

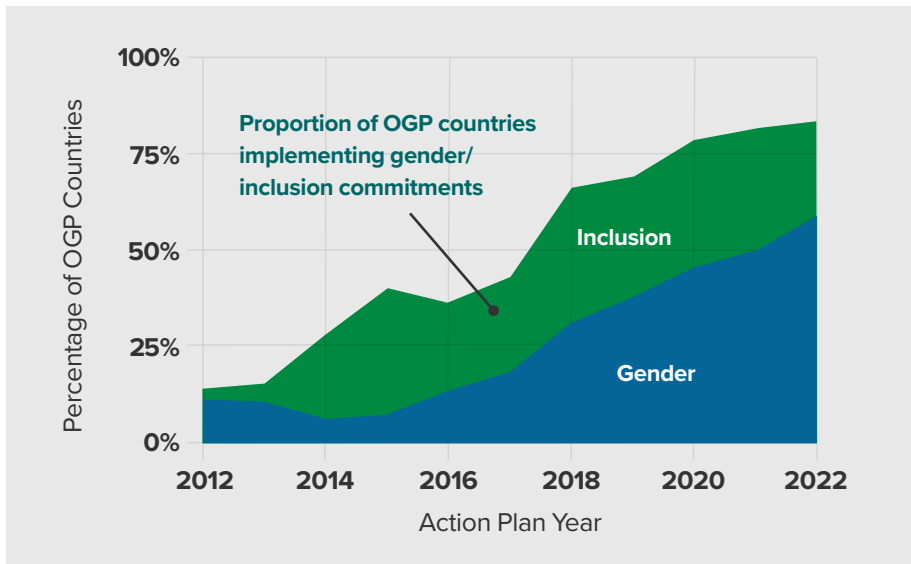
This fact sheet covers all commitments submitted as of June 30, 2023. As of this date, OGP consisted of 76 national and 104 local members.

Open
Government
Partnership

COMMITMENT PROGRESS

More and more action plans have incorporated gender and inclusion commitments over time (see figure below*). Over three-quarters of active national action plans and over half of local action plans currently include an inclusion-related commitment. Since OGP was established in 2011, 126 members have made 517 total inclusion commitments. Of these, 74 members have made 219 commitments explicitly related to gender.

*Figure displays commitment trends at the national level due to recent growth in local members.



WHAT ARE OGP MEMBERS DOING?

- Conducting gender and diversity self-assessments on OGP action plans
- Ensuring public services better meet the needs of under-represented and vulnerable groups
- Making decision-making processes, including budgeting and contracting, more inclusive and participatory
- Publishing accessible government information according to plain language standards

WHERE TO NEXT

The following recommendations summarize key actions for OGP members to implement:

Inclusion in the Co-Creation Process

- Pro-actively engage a diversity of persons & experiences in multi-stakeholder forums using OGP's toolkits on [gender](#) and [youth](#).
- Ensure specific outreach to key under-represented, impacted communities.
- Conduct a gender analysis of commitment design.

Mainstream Commitments

- Incorporate gender and diversity reviews of budgets.
- Disaggregate person-level data by gender, age, and location where appropriate to feed back into policy analysis.

Inclusion-Focused Commitments by Sector

- Publish disaggregated health data and ensure equal access to health services.
- Improve inclusivity of labor markets by publishing employment data and ensuring access to dispute resolution processes.
- Ensure equal access to justice mechanisms.
- Address disproportionate impacts of climate change on under-represented and historically oppressed groups.

OGP defines inclusion-related commitments as those that "affect traditionally marginalized populations, defined broadly to include many historically oppressed groups including persons with disabilities, women, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex people, older individuals, youth, members of minority groups, indigenous people, internally displaced persons, refugees, asylum seekers, and migrant workers, and those of lower socioeconomic status."



NOTABLE COMMITMENTS

Recent Results



Ecuador - Preventing Gender-Based Violence (2019)

To address high rates of violence against women and those across the gender and sexual-identity spectrum, Ecuador established a collaborative process to develop two action plans. Nearly 3,000 people contributed to the *2021 National Plan for the Prevention and Eradication of Violence against Women*. A year later, 35,000 young people gave input into the *Action Plan for LGBTI+ Diversity*. As a result of these plans, Ecuador created an Undersecretariat for Diversities, an implementation monitoring system for the plans, and a standing public oversight council.



Quintana Roo, Mexico - Collaborating with Under-represented Groups (2021)

As part of its first OGP action plan, Quintana Roo reformed its State Planning Law to improve representation of previously-excluded groups in decision-making, including indigenous nations and Afro-descendant communities. At the municipal level, 55 residents are now participating in local planning committees to discuss and work on new planning regulations within each municipality. The government established itinerant roundtables in 11 municipalities, with more than 11,000 people providing input on a new strategic plan.

Commitments to Watch



Jordan - Adopting Gender Mainstreaming Policies (2021)

In the context of their National Strategy for Women, Jordan is currently committed to the participatory development and implementation of gender mainstreaming policies within multiple ministries and government institutions, followed by annual reports on compliance.



Uruguay - Monitoring of the National Gender Plan in Agricultural Policies (2022)

As part of their 2022-2024 action plan, Uruguay committed to establishing a commission of civil society members that will oversee the implementation of the National Gender Plan in Agricultural Policies. The Plan aims to increase training, technical support, financing, and access to land for rural women working in the farming industry.



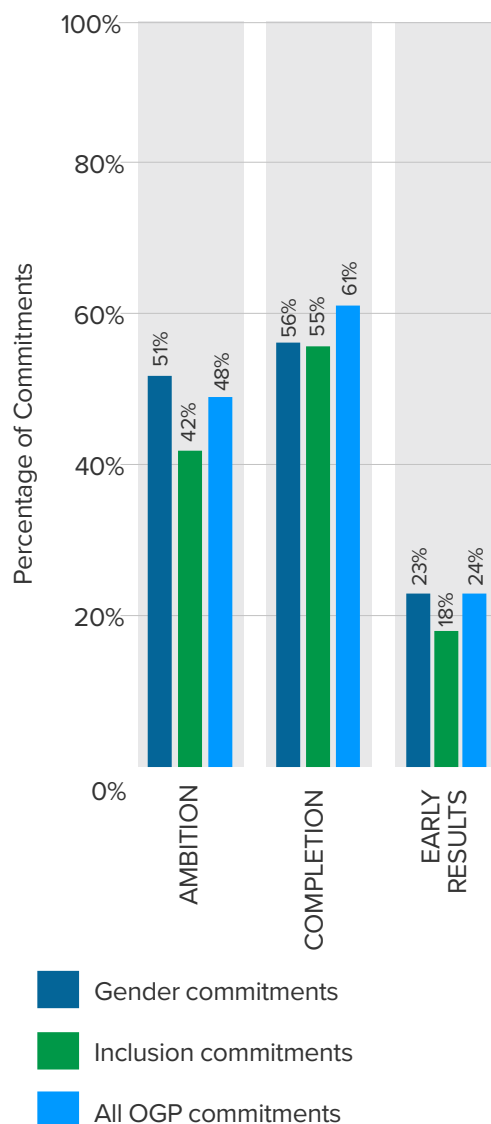
Khoni, Georgia - Strengthening Participation of People with Disabilities (2023)

To improve services and institutionalize participation, Khoni committed to conducting consultations that will identify at least two budgetary initiatives per year to address issues identified by people with disabilities. This builds off of [progress from Khoni's first OGP action plan](#), which created a mandate for city departments to consult people with disabilities in decision-making processes for major urban development projects.

IRM QUICK STATS

According to OGP's Independent Reporting Mechanism (IRM), gender commitments perform similarly to all OGP commitments on ambition, completion, and early results. Inclusion commitments typically have lower ambition than the average OGP commitment but perform similarly on completion and early results.

Commitment Performance



Ambition - Ambitious commitments are those that have substantial potential for results, according to the IRM.

Completion - Completed commitments indicate that the commitment was substantially or fully implemented within the action plan period.

Early Results - Strong early results indicate the commitment made significant improvements to government openness.