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[Land Information New Zealand \(LINZ\)](#) is the government agency responsible for all national land information, including land titles, survey data, topographic and hydrographic information and all crown lands. All registry and cadaster data is maintained electronically, and land information can be searched in real time online, in addition to allowing for the update of title and survey data. Data is freely available and can be used under Creative Commons

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government records launched an effort to reform records management policies and practices 28 September 2015

FEATURED The US Toxics Release Inventory programme provides information on toxic discharges by corporations 24 October 2013

FEATURED Timor Leste publishes some minerals contracts 23 September 2013

FEATURED Turkey sought broad public inputs into development a new constitution 14 October 2013

FEATURED Tuscany established a law promoting participation in development of regional policies 14 October 2013

FEATURED Uganda publishes comprehensive national data on the performance of the rural water sector 16 October 2013

FEATURED UK Open Policymaking team crowdsourced suggestions of 'Ideal Policy Team Behaviors' 14 October 2013

FEATURED Ukraine has established laws to simplify CSO registration and improve access to resources 14 October 2013

FEATURED US Citizen Corps trains volunteers to play a role in community safety and disaster preparedness 16 October 2013

15 donor countries and 22 recipient countries have signed up to IATI 15 October 2013

23 countries have recently adopted RTI laws which reflect the progress made in international standard setting 24 September 2013

39 countries are implementing EITI 23 September 2013

A Canadian government website provides the public with information about the government's access to information and privacy programmes 24 September 2013

<u>A few countries publish all eight key budget documents</u>	23 September 2013
<u>A growing number of universities across the world are offering records management education in the context of information science and digital governance</u>	28 September 2015
<u>A parliamentary monitoring organisation in India publishes easily digestible information about parliament</u>	29 October 2013
<u>About 137 jurisdictions implement some sort of asset disclosure regulations</u>	23 September 2013
<u>Approximately 100 countries around the world have adopted legal instruments offering protection to journalists' confidential sources</u>	12 December 2014
<u>Approximately 20 countries have taken part in experience exchange on construction sector transparency facilitated through CoST</u>	15 October 2013
<u>Archives New Zealand has developed a guide, "Managing Datasets", which provides some guidance for the management of datasets in public sector organisations</u>	23 September 2013
<u>Argentina developed an electronic financial disclosure system</u>	23 September 2013
<u>Around 45 jurisdictions make disclosures available online</u>	23 September 2013
<u>As part of its Open Data strategy the UK government will publish machine readable data on the management and use of EU funds in the UK</u>	15 October 2013
<u>At least 32 countries have restrictions on post-government employment in at least one branch of government</u>	23 September 2013

[Australia has an independent crime and misconduct commission](#) 26 October 2013

[Australia holds regular satisfaction surveys on policing](#) 28 October 2013

[Australia's information commissioner is responsible for all information held by the government](#) 15 October 2013

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[Bangladesh has developed a one-stop-shop for all aid related information](#) 29 August 2015

[Belgium piloted a system to develop unique identifiers for addresses and streets](#) 15 October 2013

[Bolivia endorsed the Open Aid Partnership](#) 17 October 2013

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[Brazil publishes detailed information on resource revenues](#) 17 October 2013

[Canada has committed to implement the International Aid Transparency Initiative as part of its OGP Action Plan](#) 24 September 2013

[Canada has passed a law requiring oil, gas and mining companies to disclose their payments to governments](#) 25 June 2015

[Canada provides a public interest defence for those who would otherwise be bound by secrecy laws](#) 24 October 2013

[Canada's policy on information management takes a broad approach to managing information in all forms and formats](#) 28 September 2015

[Canadian security law takes public interest defence into consideration](#) 12 December 2014

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[Chile has committed to publish asset declarations online as part of its OGP Action Plan](#) 23 September 2013

[Chile requires that environmental information is published in an accessible form](#) 24 October 2013

[Chile's healthcare system sets out guarantees on access, quality and cost of public healthcare](#) 16 October 2013

[Civil society groups in three African countries have received grants to improve citizen monitoring of public contracts](#) 13 October 2015

[Colombia announced that it would implement the EITI](#) 23 September 2013

[Colombia has legislated clear laws covering procurement for defence and security](#) 12 December 2014

[Colombia has used the 'Land Governance Assessment Framework' as part of its efforts to strengthen land governance](#) 25 October 2015

[Conflict of interest rules protect the independence of South Africa's Electoral Commission](#) 17 October 2013

[Congo \(DRC\) publishes all mining, oil and forestry contracts](#) 23 September 2013

[CoST in Guatemala has benefited from the support of international partners, helping them avoid potential pitfalls and build on what has worked in other countries](#) 23 September 2013

[CoST participation countries have disclosed project information](#) 23 September 2013

<u>Countries participating in CoST have enabled assurance of disclosed CoST project information and published findings</u>	23 September 2013
<u>Danish criminal law provides a public interest defence for publication of state secrets</u>	24 October 2013
<u>Defence procurement in the US is subject to scrutiny by Congress</u>	12 December 2014
<u>Denmark's Model License for Exploration & Production of Hydrocarbons contains a standard provision on disclosure</u>	15 October 2013
<u>Denmark's state secrecy law provides a public interest defence for the publication of state secrets where the person is acting in the legitimate interest of obvious public interest</u>	12 December 2014
<u>Development aid from the European Union has become more transparent with the EU Aid Explorer</u>	29 August 2015
<u>Disclosing information enabled Ethiopia to save money and improve governance in the construction sector</u>	23 September 2013
<u>Dominican Republic, Uruguay, Suriname and Ecuador have been testing 'Bungeni' for managing legislative information</u>	29 October 2013
<u>El Salvador joined COST after an initial period of engagement</u>	23 September 2013
<u>El Salvador's human rights ombudsman investigates reports of police misconduct</u>	26 October 2013
<u>Environmental and social impact assessments are mandatory for extractive concessions in Australia</u>	17 October 2013
<u>Environmental impact assessment regulations in Chile make special provisions for indigenous people</u>	24 October 2013

<u>Environmental impact assessments are required for the extractive industry in Colombia</u>	17 October 2013
<u>Estonia will create a database of declarations of economic interests as part of its OGP Action Plan</u>	23 September 2013
<u>EU member states exchange tax information under the Savings Directive</u>	24 October 2013
<u>Finland is committed to developing dialogue skills in public administration as part of its OGP action plan</u>	14 October 2013
<u>Finland set up an e-petition platform that enables citizens to propose legislation</u>	26 October 2013
<u>Finland's Archives Act has wide coverage across the public sector and facilitates the right of individuals and institutions to access public information</u>	28 September 2015
<u>France provides project-level aid information to priority countries on its new open aid portal</u>	29 August 2015
<u>Gabon publishes its registry of fishing licences on the internet</u>	29 October 2013
<u>Geo-referencing of aid in Bolivia gives the public access to information on over 30,000 public investment projects</u>	25 June 2015
<u>Germany invites economists, business and trade unions to give testimony to budget hearings</u>	23 September 2013
<u>Germany publishes an annual statistical yearbook on crime</u>	26 October 2013
<u>Ghana has developed an environmental law database and placed all its environmental legislation online</u>	24 October 2013
<u>Ghana is establishing Committee with civil society participation to oversee the petroleum sector</u>	23 September 2013

[Ghana publishes information on receipts from petroleum companies on a quarterly basis](#) 23 September 2013

[Ghana's Whistleblower Act applies to the security sector](#) 24 October 2013

[Hungary publishes a state of the environment report](#) 24 October 2013

[IATI country pilots are being carried out or being planned for Colombia, DRC and Rwanda](#) 15 October 2013

[In 2011, the Parliamentary Budget Office was established in Kenya](#) 23 September 2013

[In 2011, the US President established a government-wide effort to reform records management policies and practices](#) 23 September 2013

[In Afghanistan the Ministry of Economy is required to publish all contracts](#) 15 October 2013

[In Australia consultation is required before any regulatory change](#) 14 October 2013

[In Austria the law provides for citizens groups to participate in Environmental Impact Assessment](#) 24 October 2013

[In Azerbaijan, fuel subsidies provided by the national oil company were put on the budget](#) 23 September 2013

[In Brazil police stations show photographs of the team of officers](#) 26 October 2013

[In Bulgaria all units of the Ministry of Interior must publish data on FOI requests](#) 26 October 2013

In Canada rules on the right to information are overseen by the Department of Justice

13 November 2013

In Canada, a government wide initiative has been undertaken to identify all government data holdings

15 October 2013

In Canada, the information commissioner investigates access to information complaints and advocates for more proactive disclosure within government

15 October 2013

In Costa Rica, the Supreme Electoral Tribunal publishes statistics on voter registration

28 October 2013

In Finland the National Archives has been developing methods of preserving information in databases

28 September 2015

In India police officers are included in income and asset declaration requirements

28 October 2013

In Indonesia, individuals have the right to pursue legal recourse if they are prevented from obtaining information under the freedom of information act

15 October 2013

In Japan, the Parliament's National Library plans to digitise its entire collection to make available online

15 October 2013

In many countries, fiscal councils are providing independent analysis of government budgets and policies

23 September 2013

In Nicaragua right to information is incorporated into school curricula by law

24 September 2013

In Norway software for government must meet the Norwegian Archive Standard

23 September 2013

In Slovenia, all secrecy provisions are laid out in the Classified Information Act

23 October 2013

<u>In Slovenia, requests to declassify information are submitted to a temporary Commission</u>	12 December 2014
<u>In Slovenia, the Netherlands and the UK, the public may attend a plenary or committee session without prior arrangement</u>	28 October 2013
<u>In Sweden, all secrecy provisions are concentrated in one law: the Secrecy Act</u>	24 September 2013
<u>In Tanzania modern legislation empowers the national archives to define standards for keeping government records</u>	15 October 2013
<u>In the Democratic Republic of Congo, all contracts relating to natural resources are required to be published</u>	23 September 2013
<u>In the Latin American region, the Network of Transparency and Access to Information (RTA) has developed a model document management and records management system</u>	28 September 2015
<u>In the Philippines local people's organisations must be included in the management board for protected areas</u>	24 October 2013
<u>In the Philippines, both government and private sector are active at training monitors</u>	23 September 2013
<u>In the U.S. city of San Francisco, the government's open data policy calls for all departments to publish an inventory of data held</u>	15 October 2013
<u>In the U.S. state of Utah, a Transparency Advisory Board acts as the oversight authority for the state's open data policy</u>	15 October 2013
<u>In the U.S. the 'America's Legislators Back to School' programme enables legislators to meet with young people</u>	29 October 2013
<u>In the UK potential opportunities that might be advertised in the future are published, so that all companies can view the</u>	15 October 2013

pipeline of opportunities

In the UK the Information Commissioner and the National Archives have developed a code of practice on records management to support the Freedom of Information Act

28 September 2015

In the UK, the Electoral Commission produces a report after every election

17 October 2013

In the United Kingdom the National Archives and the Information Commissioner cooperated to develop a code of practice on records management

15 October 2013

In the United States a cross-departmental body reviews declassification requests from the public

12 December 2014

In the United States, the 2013 Open Data Policy called for federal agencies to perform an audit and create an index of datasets

15 October 2013

In the US, OSHA requires federal agencies to post information about whistleblower protection

24 October 2013

In the US, the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy requires federal agencies that fund research make the results and underlying data available to the public

15 October 2013

In Victoria, Australia disclosure requirements are part of the standard terms and conditions for contracts

14 October 2013

Increasing numbers of countries permit some form of public hearings during budget discussions in the legislature

23 September 2013

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<u>The UK government works with CoST as part of its programme for reducing the costs of infrastructure projects</u>	23 September 2013
<u>The UK Government's Aid Transparency Guarantee sets standards for transparency in aid</u>	15 October 2013
<u>The UK has committed to publish aid information from all UK government departments who spend overseas development assistance</u>	24 September 2013

The UK has created guidance for public authorities in establishing their own records management policies 23 September 2013

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The UK Information Commissioner's Office has published a booklet about protecting personal information 10 November 2014

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The United Arab Emirates is working with the International Council on Archives to develop an international archives centre of excellence in Abu Dhabi 28 September 2015

The United Kingdom has passed a law requiring all listed companies to disclose payments to governments on a project by project basis 25 June 2015

<u>The United Kingdom has produced guidance on managing the continuity of datasets</u>	28 September 2015
<u>The United States has developed discretionary record-keeping standards which include metadata schemas</u>	23 September 2013
<u>The US city of Chicago is developing contract provisions to promote open data in technology related procurements</u>	15 October 2013
<u>The US Congress is developing an online crowdsourcing legislative platform</u>	29 October 2013
<u>The US Department of Justice Office of Information Policy regularly conducts training sessions on all aspects of freedom of information</u>	28 September 2015
<u>The US EDGAR system allows anyone to access and download company information for free</u>	24 October 2013
<u>The US FACTA legislation is laying the groundwork for an international system of automatic information exchange</u>	24 October 2013
<u>The US Federal Register website provides information on citizen rights and obligations and actions of federal agencies, and provides a forum for public participation in the democratic process</u>	24 September 2013
<u>The US Federal Trade Commission publishes five year strategic plans</u>	13 October 2014
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<u>The US Library of Congress has launched a challenge to help improve Akoma Ntoso's support of US and UK legislative data</u>	28 October 2013

[The US National Archives and Records Management Administration \(NARA\) offers comprehensive records management instructions to federal employees and contractors](#)

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[The 'Congress app' provides profiles of all members of the U.S. Congress and updates on congressional action](#)

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[The 'Voice of the Consumer' project in Georgia gives consumers a participatory tool for improving services](#)

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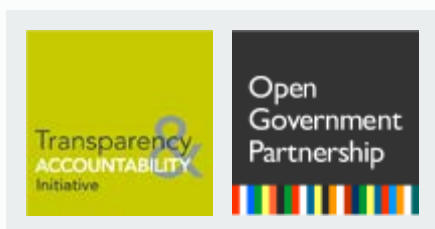
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NASA hosted the world's

largest hackathon

Submitted by: [OGP Support Unit](#)

The International Space Apps Challenge is an international mass collaboration focused on space exploration that takes place over 48-hours in cities around the world. The event embraces collaborative problem solving with a goal of producing relevant open-source solutions to address global needs applicable to both life on Earth and life in space. Themes are Earth Watch, Technology in Space, Human Spaceflight, Robotics and Asteroids. NASA is leading this global collaboration along with a number of government collaborators and 100+ local organizations.

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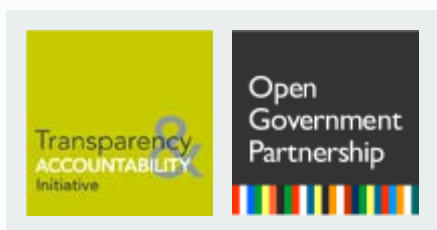
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Country Example

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A Mexican initiative gives

parents a chance to improve their children's education through service feedback

 Submitted by: OGP Bright Spots

Mexico has created a digital platform, Mejora tu Escuela, which seeks to enhance the engagement of parents in transforming the country's educational system. The initiative encourages parents to demand better educational services for their children by releasing information about the schools and providing parents with feedback tools.

Mejora tu Escuela covers all public and private schools from elementary to high school levels and has four main tools:

- 'Know your school' which lets people search for a school by name or geographic location and reveals the quality of education as well as a state ranking based on test results;
- 'Compare your school' which allows comparisons with other schools by educational quality, state and national ranking, performance over time and performance of students;
- 'Grade your school' which invites the community to shed light on the strength and weaknesses of each school; and
- 'Improve your school' which provides concrete tools and suggestions to parents on how to participate in addressing problems at their child's school.

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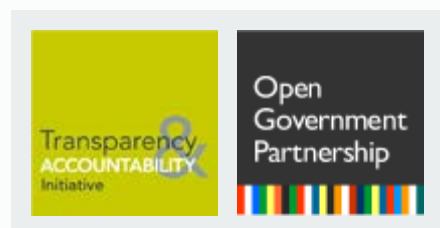
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Country Example

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Afghanistan has

established a roadmap to improve public financial management

 Submitted by: International Budget Partnership

In 2010 the Afghanistan government drafted a Public Financial Management (PFM) Roadmap focused on “strengthening the budget in driving effective delivery of key priority [development] outcomes; improving budget execution; and increasing accountability and transparency.

Key factors were the political will of the leadership of the Ministry of Finance, as well as the government’s desire to improve its international image. Donor organizations and international financial institutions also increasingly focused their attention on fiscal transparency as a means to reduce corruption in the country. Their pressure, coupled with technical assistance provided to the Ministry of Finance, facilitated quick improvements. The pre-budget statement and executive’s budget proposal were previously produced for internal use but withheld from the public, so making them publicly available was a quick and easy step toward substantial improvement.

As part and parcel of these developments, civil society organizations and researchers have started engaging with the government, primarily through the Ministry of Finance, on budget-related issues, publishing budget analyses and organizing public awareness campaigns through the media, and conducting meetings and workshops to highlight the importance of budget transparency for citizen monitoring and government accountability.

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Afghanistan

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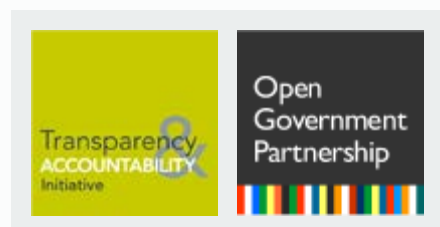
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Albania has set up an e-

Government portal containing information about public services

 Submitted by: OGP Bright Spots

Albania has set up an e-Government portal e-Albania.al, which aims to provide a one-stop online access point to all government services. The overall aim of the portal is integrated delivery of all government services for citizens, businesses, state employees, and visitors alike (information is provided both in Albanian and in English). Service users can get information on the documents needed to get a particular service, including any tariffs or costs, addresses and locations of the official office and the contact information.

Thus far, one of the most popular services provided by the portal is helping students to access higher education through online registration for the state entrance exam. Other popular services include registration to driving licence theory and practical exams, tracking the status of business registration and licensing applications, tracking the status of public procurement procedures for businesses and tracking the complaints regarding public procurements.

Countries this example relates to...

Albania

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[Publish and promote information on the public services](#)

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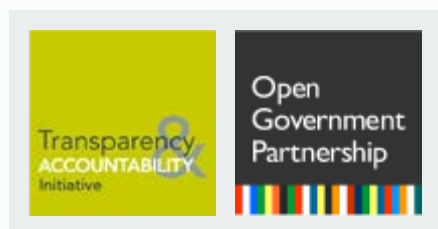
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Argentina, Guatemala, and

Indonesia use targeted methods of selecting asset disclosures for verification

Submitted by: [Global Integrity](#)

In Argentina, the process of selecting which asset disclosures to be verified is based on a targeted method. The top 5 percent (1,600 in 2009) of declarations are systematically verified while the other 95 percent are verified according to categories of risk. The Asset Declaration Unit is able to verify around 2,500 declarations a year.

In Guatemala, verification of asset disclosure content occurs only when officials leave office. The Department for Verification, Analysis and Investigation of Income and Assets compares the final income and asset declaration to the employee's initial and subsequent declarations to detect any significant or unjustified increases in assets.

In Indonesia, a sample of asset declarations is verified, targeting the declarations of officials in high-risk agencies.

Countries this example relates to...

[Argentina](#), [Guatemala](#), [Indonesia](#)

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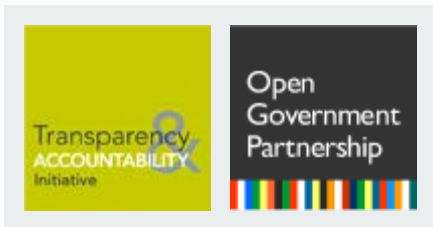
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Country Example

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Argentina's Consumer

Arbitration Tribunals help solve consumer disputes

Submitted by: [Consumers International](#)

Argentina's Consumer Protection Act from 1994 provides the legal framework for the establishment of Arbitration Tribunals. These Tribunals were initiated in 1998. They have received more than 35,000 requests for arbitration and have solved more than 10,000 cases.

For cases that comprise more than USD 100, the tribunals have three arbiters: one representing consumers, one representing businesses and the third one representing the government. For cases below that sum, there is a single arbiter provided by the government.

The procedure is easy and quick, whereby consumers can file a case using a form. The arbitral audience is normally held in the next 15 days. Most cases are solved in a single audience, and if the arbitral decision is not obeyed, it can be pursued in a Court. Most decisions from the Arbitration Tribunals are reached by consensus.

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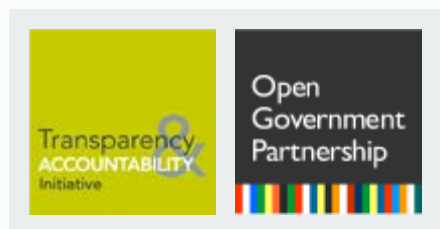
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Australia has developed

guidance on online consultation

 Submitted by: [Involve](#)

In July 2010 the Australian Government published the [Declaration of Open Government](#). The Declaration states that:“the Australian government now declares that, in order to promote greater participation in Australia’s democracy, it is committed to open government based on a culture of engagement, built on better access to and use of government held information, and sustained by the innovative use of technology.”In support of these goals the government developed a guidance on online consultation and the use of social media.

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[Australia](#)

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[Encourage the use of digital tools to engage with the public](#)

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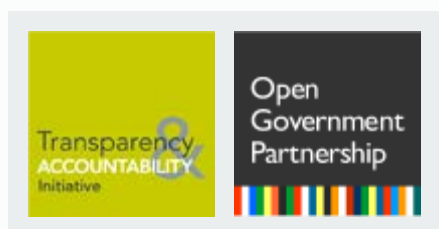
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Azerbaijan has created a

single-window access to public services

Submitted by: OGP Bright Spots

Azerbaijan has created ASAN: a one-stop shop where the services of various government agencies are provided. Currently nine government agencies are rendering 25 services through ASAN, including registering civil status, issuance and renewal of various IDs, notary services and tax and customs declarations. Private companies providing banking, medical, insurance and other subsidiary services are also represented, and these private entities charge a lower fee than they would have done outside of the ASAN service centre.

Since its inauguration in January 2013, three ASAN service centres have opened in the country and ASAN Mobile Services buses fill the gap where centres are absent. ASAN's official Facebook page also provides updates on new services, feedback from citizens, and photos documenting state-citizen interactions.

The ASAN model ensures better governance in public services because the standardisation of services for citizens reduces information asymmetry, which is often the cause of petty corruption, and there are no hand-in-hand cash payments for services. Also, the ASAN model makes government more transparent as citizens are able to know exactly which services they will receive and at what cost.

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Azerbaijan

Related Commitments

[Publish and promote information on the public services people are entitled to](#)

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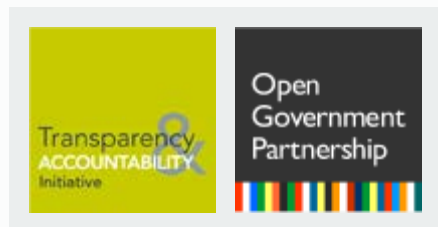
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- [OGP Bright Sports case study of Azerbaijan](#)

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Azerbaijan set up a one

stop shop for public services

ASAN is Azerbaijani for 'Easy'. It is a one-stop shop where people can access the services of various government agencies. Service centres in major cities, mobile busses, an online service and telephone hotline.

Countries this example relates to...

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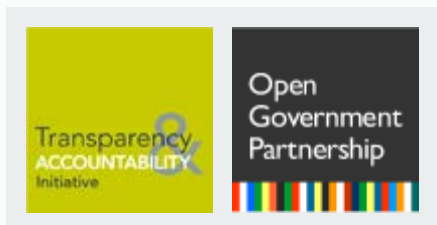
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Brazil developed a

consumer protection system before hosting the World Cup

 Submitted by: Consumers International

For the FIFA Football World Cup 2014 in Brazil, the Brazilian government developed a series of initiatives to protect foreign consumers. The Secretary of Consumer Defence (SENACON) was in charge of these duties.

A key strength of the Brazilian strategy was the 'Integrated Centre for Foreign Consumer Protection', a special service created specifically to operate during the tournament. The 'Integrated Centre', was a partnership created in April 2013 between the Federal Government and states, municipalities and market representatives; with the mandate to act pre-emptively in order to protect and ensure the rights of consumers quickly and effectively during the event.

Under this system, consumers received protection for their transactions within all main sectors of tourism, including air and ground transportation, hospitality, food, healthcare and telecommunications. In the event of a claim, the consumer protection agency of the relevant host city was the first to be notified, and was called upon to mediate the conflict locally. If the conflict was not resolved at the local level, SENACON, as Executive Director of the Integrated Centre, took up the matter as appropriate with the help of any necessary technical resources.

Another initiative developed for the World Cup was the 'Technical

Committee for Consumption and Tourism', which monitored matters relating to consumer protection for national and foreign tourists. Different agencies supported monitoring at the local level close to stadiums and airports. The actions of the Committee continue after the World Cup and will be applied to the 2016 Olympic Games.

In addition, SENACON, in partnership with Embratur (the Brazilian Tourism Board), launched a "Foreign Consumer Guide" in Portuguese, English and Spanish providing guidance to tourists about their rights.

In addition to SENACON, the Integrated Centre and the Committee were also joined by a number of federal government bodies, including the Ministry of Tourism, the Civil Aviation Secretariat, the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Transport, Embratur, the Brazilian Airport Infrastructure Company (Infraero), ANAC, the National Health Surveillance Agency (ANVISA) and the National Ground Transportation Agency (ANTT).

Brazil's infrastructure for consumer protection also included a newly-launched web portal (www.consumidor.gov.br), functioning as an alternative channel to resolve disputes between consumers and providers of goods and services. The portal discloses data on the Brazilian market and consumer complaints.

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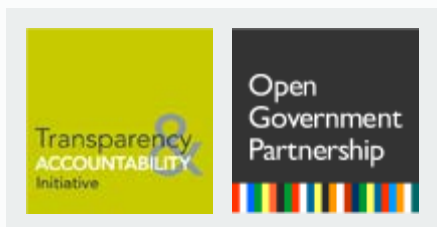
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Brazil has developed an

online platform to process information requests

 Submitted by: Open Gov Guide Team

e-SIC – Brazil's online information requests portal – allows users to request information from all federal government agencies, receive responses, and file an appeal if the user does not agree with the response or if the request was denied. The main topics on which information has been requested are economics/finance, social security, and education, and as of August 2014, requests had been received from 76 percent of the country's 5,570 municipalities.

The online portal was launched in 2012, on the same day that Brazil's Law on Transparency and Access to Public Information came into effect. Six months before full implementation of this law the Brazilian Federal Government decided to use a centralized system as the official channel for processing information requests. This strategy ensured that every public agency would have a tool for processing requests when the law entered into full force.

The Office of the Comptroller General is in charge of the platform. After the first prototype of the platform had been developed, consultations with other government agencies and civil society took place, which led to improvements in the system and helped to optimize its implementation.

The request and response functions, as well as the first level of appeals, were the first e-SIC features to become operational. Since then, regular improvements have been made and the system continues to be updated. The platform now includes all the options for filing an appeal and requesting reports, as well as full Web service, among other functions.

More than 850 people in 150 government agencies and organizations received training before the platform was launched. They were also given a five-day trial period to interact with the system before it was released for public use. As for promoting the site, the Office of the Comptroller General prepared and published a handbook with simple instructions on how to use the platform intended for both government personnel and the general public.

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[Use IT to enhance access to information](#)

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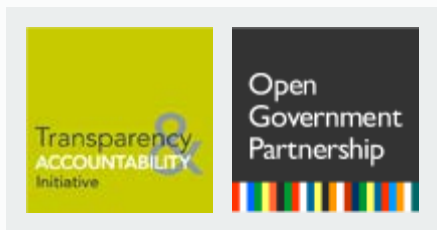
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Brazil provides citizens

education on public budgets

Submitted by: [OGP Fiscal Transparency Working Group](#)

Brazil publishes an annual Citizen's Budget. However it also backs this up with several other innovative communication streams.

To better explain to citizens what the budget is, its importance and other aspects of the subject, a radio program titled Moment Budget is produced to provide information to the listener in a simple and direct language.

The Virtual School of the Federal Budget Secretariat (SOF) was created in 2008 by the Ministry of Planning, Budget and Management. It provides online courses on the understanding public budgets. Courses are aimed at both government employees and members of the public, and civil society. By 2011 the Virtual School graduated approximately 2000 citizens.

The government also created a specific Public Budget Primer for children, available as a booklet and a website. In the form of a comic, the booklet provides an introduction to the idea of the Public Budget in relation to children and their concerns.

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[Publish a Citizens' Budget](#)

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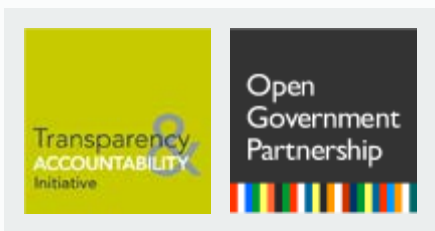
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- [Federal government website](#)
- [OGP Fiscal Transparency Working Group presentation](#)

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Brazil's Bolsa Família

program is backed by a widespread information campaign

Brazil's Bolsa Família program of family income support covers 12.7 million families. The program relies on diverse approaches to inform people about their rights and obligations. The program, and its payment calendar is advertised on the internet, local radio ads, and pamphlets and posters that are distributed around poor neighborhoods and public offices. Once a family is admitted in the program, social assistance professionals provide guidance on how the program works using a document called the Agenda da Família, which is provided to all new beneficiary families. Targeted efforts have been made to improve outreach to highly disadvantaged groups, such as indigenous populations, quilombolas (African descendant groups), and the homeless, using material in local dialects and using appropriate graphic design and training local agents on how to reach each group.

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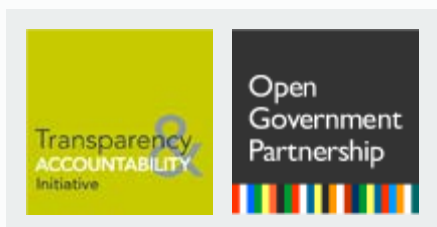
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Brazil's e-Democracia

platform allows citizens to comment on draft legislation

 Submitted by: National Democratic Institute for International Affairs

In Brazil, the Chamber of Deputies' e-Democracia platform uses new social media and technology tools to engage a range of actors in the legislative process. For example, it allows citizens to comment on draft legislation and see when their comments are incorporated into law.

The platform enables multiple modes of interaction for citizens and lawmakers, including:

- Integration with Facebook, Twitter, and e-mail
- Live chats between legislators and citizens
- Interactive polling platform for different issues
- Broadcasting for public hearings
- "Video forums" for legislators.

The e-Democracia platform was launched in June 2009 and, as of August 2013, the portal had about 3,000 debates (forum threads), 17,400 contributions, and 27,400 registered participants.

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Brazil

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[Develop digital platforms and capacities to enable citizen engagement with parliament](#)

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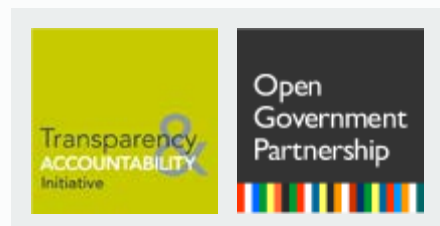
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Country Example

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Brazil's Health Councils

involve people in governing the health system

 Submitted by: Project team

Brazil's Sistema Único de Saúde (SUS), is a universal, publicly-funded, rights-based health system. The Brazilian "Citizens' Constitution" established health as the right of all and guaranteed the right to participate in the governance of health. This is institutionalised through mechanisms for citizen engagement at municipal, state and national levels.

Across Brazil's 5,000-plus municipalities Health Councils are empowered by law to inspect public accounts and demand accountability. Each month tens of thousands of Brazilian citizens representing a spectrum of civic associations meet with those who run their health services and provide their health care. Every two or four years they come together in municipal health conferences, from which delegates are put forward for conferences at the state and national levels. At such events, proposed amendments collated from days of group work are debated, contested and voted for. Good ideas from citizens often become the basis for state and national policies. And when they do not, citizens who recognise the value of their ideas often continue to fight for them.

Research has found that the health councils are quite diverse and include representatives from social movements, disabled people's associations, religious groups, civil rights associations, trade unions and people with no associational ties. However breaking the grip of powerful actors on the councils often depends on a public manager

who is willing to champion the cause of participation and work with civil society groups. The selection process of the councillors varies from council to council, with greater openness leading to more inclusivity. Inclusive measures include making information on the election process available, listing all the associations and movements in the region, using radio or newspapers to publicise elections and granting candidatures to individuals as well as organisations.

Discussion techniques are used to help groups to communicate and express themselves better. This include limiting the length of time people can speak, to ensure people who want to participate get a chance to speak and to vote where decisions need to be made. Training of councillors and the council chairs in their roles and providing them with information on the functioning of the health system also helps to make some councils work better than others.

[Source: Open Democracy]

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[Involve citizens in the commissioning, design, delivery and assessment of public services](#)

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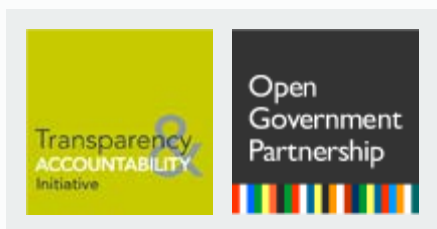
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British Colombia carried

out participatory land use planning of its forests

Submitted by: [Global Witness](#)

In the early 1990s, the province of British Colombia in Canada initiated major land use planning processes and revisions of its forest policies. Following a decade of intense conflict over logging, the government initiated a Strategic Land Use Planning (SLUP) process with the hopes of ending what had come to be known as the 'War in the Woods'.

SLUP built on several key principles, including public participation, consensus-based decision making, consideration of all resource values and resource sustainability, and the involvement of indigenous peoples. A total of 17 plans were developed in the end, covering 85% of British Columbia's land base. While conflict over land is not fully resolved, SLUP participants, by and large, perceived the process as having been successful. One of the lessons that have been learned is that multi-stakeholder, consensus-based decision-making processes, while lengthy in time, can be beneficial as they allow for information sharing and trust building.

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[Undertake participatory land and resource use planning](#)

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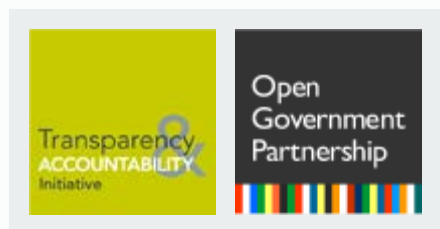
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- [Global Witness report on improving transparency in land acquisitions](#)

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Bulgaria is developing a

strategy for more effective management of natural resources

Submitted by: [Revenue Watch Institute](#)

As part of its OGP Action Plan published in April 2012, Bulgaria committed to implementing new good practices in managing natural resources. Its planned activities were to:

- Develop a New National Strategy for the Mining Industry
- Develop a new Law on the Underground Resources incorporating the European and global practices of effective management of the underground resources.
- Develop a public information system with data about the location, group of mineral resources and their status and/or found deposits of underground resources, specialised maps and registries of exploration permits and concessions.

In order to enhance the transparency of managing mineral resources they aim to involve experts from the academic circles and NGOs in carrying out tender and competitive procedures for obtaining rights on the underground resources.

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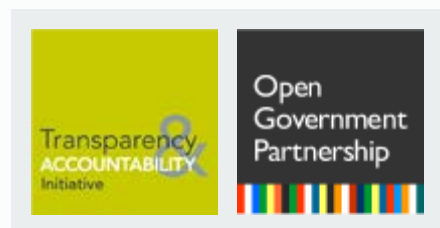
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Country Example

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Canada developed an

Open Government License

 Submitted by: OGP Support Unit

Canada's OGP Action Plan included include a specific commitment to developing a new Open Government Licence. The goal of this commitment was to remove restrictions on the reuse of published Government of Canada information (data, info, websites, and publications), aligning better with international best practices for licensing. Various licences in use to this point were inconsistent, contained restrictive clauses, and were written in language only a lawyer could understand.

Countries this example relates to...

Canada

Related Commitments

[Develop a government-wide policy on open data, through an inclusive process](#)

Related Topics

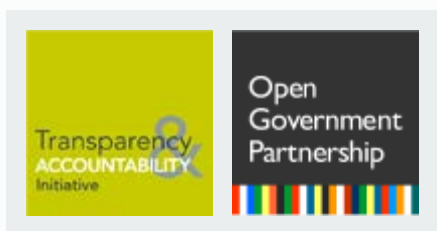
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Country Example

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Canada's electoral

management body allows citizens to file complaints online

 Submitted by: National Democratic Institute for International Affairs

Elections Canada is an independent, non-partisan agency that reports directly to Parliament. It is responsible for conducting election at all levels of government, administer political financing provisions, monitor compliance and enforce electoral legislation. It is also mandated to conduct voter education and information programmes, and provide support to the independent boundaries commissions in charge of adjusting the boundaries of federal electoral districts.

Elections Canada also has an Access to Information and Privacy Directorate within the commission itself, which is responsible for processing information requests in accordance with Canadian freedom of information legislation.

Elections Canada's website www.elections.ca/home.aspx provides information on a broad range of election processes, including about methods for public scrutiny, information about lodging electoral complaints and historic election data, including turnout and results information. Its website also allows citizens to file complaints, presents definitions of electoral crimes and provides information about cases referred for prosecution.

Countries this example relates to...

Canada

Related Commitments

[Establish a legal framework for impartiality, effectiveness and transparency in elections](#)

[Make available information related to electoral processes](#)

Related Topics

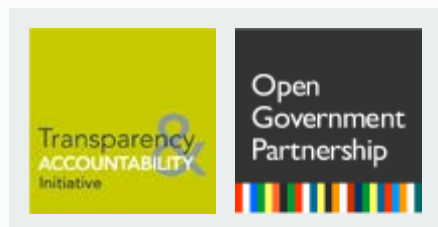
[Elections](#)

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[Website of Elections Canada](#)

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Country Example

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Canada's environment

impact assessment legislation establishes opportunities for participation

 Submitted by: The Access Initiative

In Canada, members of the public can participate at various stages of the environmental assessment process.

To start with, when the Environment Agency receives a complete project description, it must consider whether or not an environmental assessment is required. During this time the public can comment on the proposed project and its potential for causing adverse environmental effects. When it has been decided that an environmental assessment is required, the public is given an opportunity to comment on which aspects of the environment may be affected by the project and what should be examined during the environmental assessment.

Once the proponent has submitted its environmental impact statement, the public is again invited to comment on the identified potential environmental effects and the measures to prevent or mitigate those effects. Finally, the public is provided an opportunity to comment on the draft environmental assessment report. This document includes the Agency's conclusions regarding the potential environmental effects of the project, the mitigation measures that were considered and the significance of the remaining adverse environmental effects.

At the end of the environmental assessment, a decision statement is issued that states whether the proposed project is likely to cause significant adverse environmental effects. It includes conditions, consisting of mitigation measures and a follow-up program that the proponent must fulfil to proceed with the project. If a proposed project is likely to cause significant adverse environmental effects, it is referred to the Governor in Council (Cabinet) to determine whether the environmental effects are justified in the circumstances. The conclusions of the Governor in Council would be included in the decision statement.

Countries this example relates to...

Canada

Related Commitments

[Publish the decisions, responses and reasons on environmental approvals](#)

Related Topics

[Environment](#)

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[Information about environmental assessments in Canada](#)

 [The Open Government Guide](#)

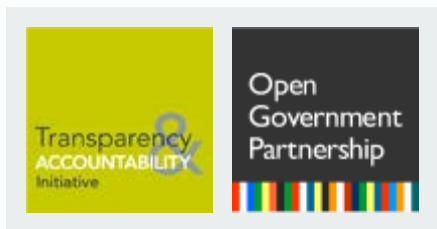
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Country Example

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Chile set up a one-stop

shop for accessing public services

Submitted by: [OGP Bright Spots](#)

ChileAtiende is the multi service network which was created in 2012 to bring the benefits and services of public institutions to individuals, through in-person service points and mobile offices, a website and a call center that provides guidance on the services and benefits provided by the state by dialing '101'.

The system started out by using the infrastructure of the Social Security Institute, but brings together services from many government departments including the national health fund (Fondo Nacional de Salud, Fonasa), the national consumer protection agency (Servicio Nacional del Consumidor, Sernac), the Civil Registry, the Social Investment Fund (Fondo Solidario de Inversión Social, FOSIS), the Housing and Urban Development Ministry (Ministerio de Vivienda y Urbanismo, Minvu) and the Health Ministry. Citizens can apply for services and subsidies, pay social security contributions, obtain medical vouchers and register for certificates at the same office.

Countries this example relates to...

Chile

Related Commitments

[Publish and promote information on the public services people are entitled to](#)

Related Topics

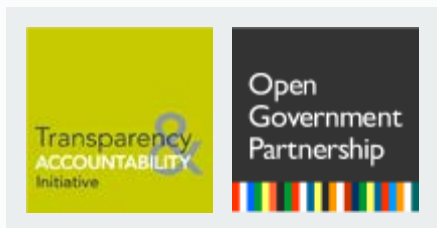
Public services

RESOURCES

- [Chile Atiende](#)
- [Chile Government announcement](#)
- [OGP Bright Spots case study of Chile](#)
- [OGP Case Study](#)

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Country Example

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Chile's transparency portal

brings together open datasets and information requests

 Submitted by: Chile Transparency Portal

Adopted in 2009, Chile's Public Information Access Law or Transparency Law, dictates that on a monthly basis, the government and all related bodies such as the Senate, Chambers of Congress, the Central Bank, the Judicial Powers, the armed forces and the municipalities, must publish key information including lists of staff, salaries and benefits, organisational structure, budget, expenses, revenue, details about trips, and about the businesses contracted by the government. Government bodies also have to respond to all citizen requests for information within a 20-day period.

In 2013 the Transparency Portal of the State of Chile was launched, through a joint effort between the General Secretariat of the Presidency and the Council for Transparency. Citizens are able to find proactively disclosed open datasets and make and track requests for information under the transparency law.

The portal makes it easier for citizens to ask for public information, encouraging people to use the transparency law in an active way. By bringing all the information requests together it enables statistical information to be collected, and provides a help desk to advance in the promotion of the right of access to public information in Chile.

Countries this example relates to...

Chile

Related Commitments

[Publish core information about government on a proactive basis](#)

[Use IT to enhance access to information](#)

Related Topics

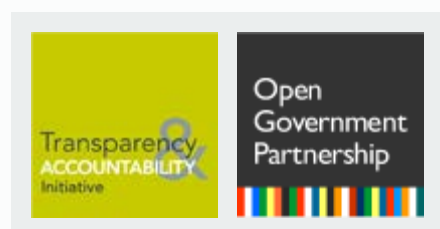
[Right to information](#)

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[Chile Transparency Portal](#)

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Country Example

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Citizens are invited to have

their say in the legislative process in Ghana, South African and Uganda

 Submitted by: [National Democratic Institute for International Affairs](#)

In [Ghana](#), memoranda are welcomed from the public on any bill before committee. The [South African Parliament](#) allows for “submissions” to committees as well, and provides a simple description for how citizens may use this tool in its website. While in [Uganda](#), members of the public may appear before parliament to give evidence on an item in the budget.

Countries this example relates to...

[Ghana](#), [South Africa](#), [Uganda](#)

Related Commitments

[Enable citizens to provide input into the legislative process](#)

Related Topics

[Parliaments](#)

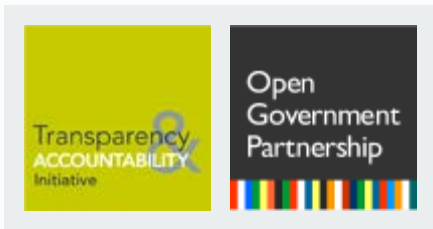
RESOURCES

- [IPU's Good practice guide to parliament from 2006](#)

- [Information from the website of the South African parliament](#)
- [African Parliamentary Index from 2011](#)

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[Home](#) [Country Examples](#) [Citizens in South Korea can submit requests for audit...](#)

Country Example

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Citizens in South Korea can

submit requests for audits of programs or agencies

Submitted by: [International Budget Partnership](#)

The Board of Audit and Inspection (BAI) in South Korea has introduced various arrangements that help to incorporate citizen opinions and input into its audit activities. One such arrangement is the Citizens' Audit Request System, which was introduced in 2001 to promote timely and efficient audits and trust in the national audit agency. Citizens may request audits related to public sector organizations in which the violation of laws or corruption could seriously undermine the public interest. A Citizens Audit Request Screening Committee, established within the BAI, decides for or against a request. For those requests that are approved, the BAI conducts audits and notifies the requesting parties of the results. The system has become widely known among the general public, and the number of audit requests is increasing.

Countries this example relates to...

[Korea, Republic Of](#)

Related Commitments

[Enable citizen participation in budgeting](#)

Related Topics

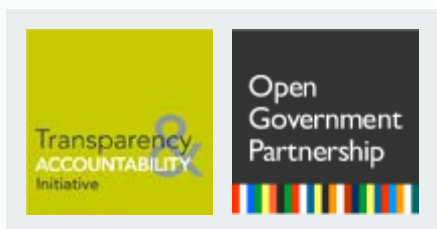
[Budgets](#)

RESOURCES

- [Audit and Civil Society: The Korean Experience](#)

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Country Example

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Colombia has a

comprehensive legal framework for the extractive sector

Submitted by: [Revenue Watch Institute](#)

Colombia has comprehensive legal framework and independent licensing process, earning it a satisfactory score of 75 on the Institutional & Legal Setting section of the Revenue Watch Index.

The National Hydrocarbons Agency (ANH) grants extractive rights following direct negotiations or open bidding. A 2003 hydrocarbons law replaced production-sharing agreements with a concession system in which companies pay the government taxes and royalties in exchange for extractive rights. The Customs and Tax Authority collects taxes while the ANH collects non-tax revenues and regulates the oil sector. Royalties go into a special account at the Finance Ministry and do not enter the national treasury.

Environmental and, in some cases, social impact assessments are required before projects begin. The results are published, but the consultation process does not always address the concerns of affected communities. Colombian law includes several provisions designed to improve public access to information, some of them specific to the extractive sector, but there is no equivalent of a Freedom of Information Act.

Countries this example relates to...

Colombia

Related Commitments

[Make all rules and regulations for natural resource licenses and concessions available in a public database](#)

Related Topics

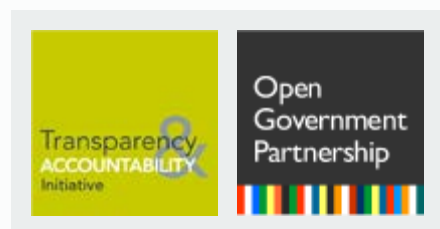
[Extractive industry](#)

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[RWI country profile](#)

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Country Example

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Croatia adopted a national

strategy for the creation of an enabling environment for civil society

Submitted by: [Involve](#)

Croatia adopted its first “National Strategy for Creating Supportive Environment for the Development of Civil Society” In 2006. The Strategy outlined the goals and measures that to be accomplished by 2011 in order to increase and strengthen the legal, financial and institutional framework for the support of civil society. Specifically, the Strategy contained targeted objectives and measures in the fields of participation in decision-making, the legal and tax framework for NGOs, the institutional framework for cooperation, financing of NGOs through contracting, development of social enterprises, development of philanthropy, volunteering and foundations, social cohesion, and the role of NGOs in the process of European Union integration. The Strategy was developed through a highly consultative, collaborative and participatory process by NGOs and government officials. The most recent National Strategy 2012-2016 builds on this foundation, and was developed by a working group comprising of representatives of ministries and CSOs. For the purpose of informing, consulting and encouraging the participation of civil society and interested public in the development of the National Strategy several public debates were organized, starting with the CSO’s Days 2011. During these days, the participants started developing proposals for the vision of the civil society development and there was a public debate on what would be the starting points for the development of the new Strategy. It was agreed on this debate to set up a working group with representatives of CSOs, state administration, academia, business sector, and local self-governments responsible for drafting

RELATED EXAMPLES

FEATURED [Ukraine has established laws to simplify CSO registration and improve access to resources](#)

the new Strategy. The draft developed by the group was also open for broader consultations with all interested stakeholders at several events.

Countries this example relates to...

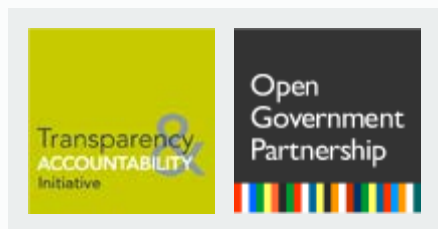
Croatia (Local Name: Hrvatska)

RESOURCES

- [Improving Cooperation Between Public Institutions and Civil Society in the Western Balkans and Turkey](#)

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Country Example

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Croatia has a programme of cooperation with the not-for-profit sector

 Submitted by: Involve

The first document between the Croatian Government and NGOs was the “Program of Cooperation between the Government of the Republic of Croatia and the Non-Governmental, Non-Profit Sector” which was signed in 2001.

The Program of Cooperation is based on “common values of modern democracy and the values of civic initiatives founded on social changes, cooperation, solidarity, social justice, transparency, personal ability and responsibility, participation in decision-making, consideration for personality, self-organisation, consideration for organizational diversity and continuous learning. It aims to create effective mechanisms that will enhance the communication between the Government and the Sector.”

Although the Program for Cooperation listed the obligations of the Government and NGOs, it was not perceived as a legally binding document. The Program was conceived as a living document – “a starting point, not a conclusion” – with an “authority evolved from the confirmation” given by both sides. Additionally, the Program of Cooperation anticipated the creation of local and regional compacts so as to decentralize cross-sectoral cooperation.

The implementation of the Program of Cooperation has been evaluated positively. It led to legislative reforms benefiting NGOs, including the new Law on Associations, the Lottery Law, the Law on Volunteerism and draft Law on Foundations, the Code of Good Practice in Grant-Giving, tax law amendments providing deductions for donations to NGOs, and the creation of local compacts in cities throughout Croatia.

Countries this example relates to...

Croatia (Local Name: Hrvatska)

Related Commitments

[Develop a compact with civil society to achieve common goals](#)

Related Topics

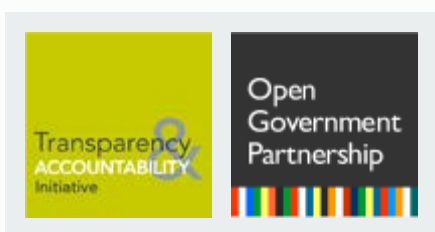
[Citizen engagement](#)

RESOURCES

- [Legal and Institutional Mechanisms for NGO-Government Cooperation in Croatia, Estonia, and Hungary \(ICNL\)](#)

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Country Example

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Croatia publishes elections

campaign finances online

Submitted by: [OGP Bright Spots](#)

In 2011, Croatia enacted the [Political Activity and Election Campaign Finances Act](#). This law requires political parties to disclose detailed financial reports on political campaigns during the campaign period. It also requires parties to open a separate bank account for all financial transactions related to election campaigns to facilitate monitoring.

Croatia has recently taken additional steps to ensure that this law provides for maximum transparency by making all the collected campaign finance data available to the public through a searchable database. Every candidate is now required to fill out a form with certain details and submit it to the national or local Electoral Commission. Each donation and expenditure is identified and itemised, including the name and official registration number of each donor, discounts from the media, the amount of each donation and expenditures, and a general financial report. The Electoral Commission then forwards this to the Digital Information Documentation Office which in turn standardises the data for the database.

Countries this example relates to...

[Croatia](#) (Local Name: Hrvatska)

Related Commitments

[Make election related data available proactively](#)

Related Topics

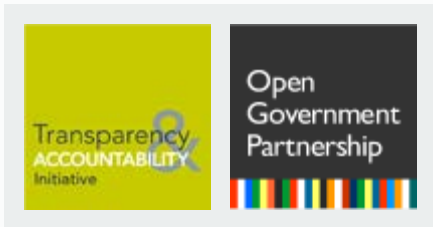
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- [OGP Bright Spots case study of Croatia](#)

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Country Example

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Croatia requires public

consultation in policy making

 Submitted by: OGP Support Unit

Croatia made improving the quality of their public consultations a key tenet of their OGP Action Plan; ensuring citizens are given every opportunity to discuss new laws, regulations and acts. The Croatian government developed a law requiring consultation in legislation and regulation. It was later amended to ensure that not only must consultation take place, but the results are recognized as an integral part of decision making, and are reported on with feedback.

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[OGP Case Study](#)

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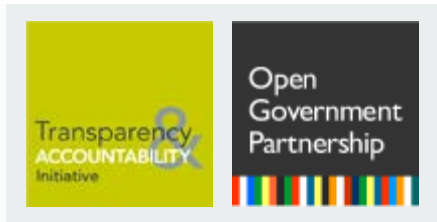
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Country Example

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Denmark has launched a

comprehensive aid transparency initiative as part of its OGP Action Plan

 Submitted by: Publish What You Fund

The Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs has launched a transparency initiative, which will bring detailed information about all foreign aid and development assistance projects and programmes. The initiative includes:

- Send feedback to Danida: Organisations or individuals can directly praise, criticise or raise a complaint.
- Report corruption: Report any suspected irregularity or if you have experienced corruption related to its activities.
- Participate in public consultations: A line-up for the next few months is already posted, with each consultation running for two weeks.
- View documents: See minutes, summaries from meetings of the Council for Development Policy, which provides strategic advice to the development cooperation minister, or proposals for deliberation.
- Access data on projects and programs: Will update its database annually.

Danida also began publishing to the International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI) Registry and published a schedule to fully implement IATI,



Countries this example relates to...

Denmark

Related Commitments

[Begin publishing information to the IATI Registry \(donors\)](#)

Related Topics

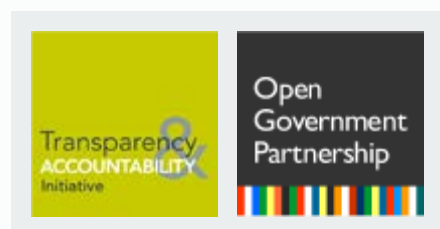
[Aid](#)

RESOURCES

- [Denmark's Open Government Partnership action plan](#)
- [Danida transparency webpage](#)

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Country Example

Share this page

Denmark set up a centre

of expertise on collaborative democracy, starting with a focus on technology issues

 Submitted by: Involve

The Danish Board of Technology (DBT) (now the Danish Board of Technology Foundation) was set up by the Danish parliament to disseminate knowledge about technology, including the potential impact of technology innovation on society and on the environment. The DBT conceived its central mission as promoting debate and public enlightenment in order to evaluate technology and to advise the Danish Parliament and other governmental bodies. The Board pioneered a range of different methods for engaging citizens in the evaluation of new technologies.

It has also established the Center for Collaborative Democracy (CfSD) to strengthen the Danish tradition for democratic dialogue and cooperation among citizens, elected officials, experts, businesses and organizations. CfSD offer advice to municipalities, regions, agencies, ministries, associations, organizations and companies on planning and execution of participatory processes and on using the results. CfSD's ambition is to improve decision-culture by providing professional involvement;

The purpose of CfSD is to apply this knowledge and methodological expertise in new areas that do not need to have to do with technology. It may be, for example in "Participatory Budgeting", with people involved in local government budgeting, employee

involvement in innovation in the welfare sector, the development of associations and organizations strategies, urban planning, CSR and many other areas.

Countries this example relates to...

Denmark

Related Commitments

Establish a centre of expertise and designate resources to support the institutionalisation of citizen engagement

Related Topics

Citizen engagement

RESOURCES

- [Participedia case study](#)
- [Board of Technology](#)
- [Center for Collaborative Democracy](#)

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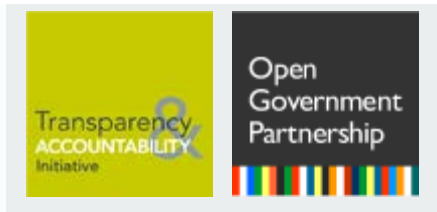
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Country Example

Share this page

Denmark's Mindlab

involves citizens and business in in problem solving with government ministries

 Submitted by: Involve

MindLab is a Danish cross-governmental innovation unit which involves citizens and businesses in developing new solutions for the public sector. MindLab is instrumental in helping key decision-makers and employees from its parent ministries view their efforts from the outside-in, to see them from a citizen's perspective. MindLab uses this approach as a platform for co-creating better ideas.

It works with service users, citizens and other stakeholders at early planning stages of service delivery. For example, Mindlab worked with users to test mobile devices for doing tax returns and collected their feedback, which resulted in changing government plans and avoiding costly service mistakes. It developed social networks with and for highly skilled migrant workers to motivate them to stay in Denmark.

MindLab was created in 2002 for the Ministry of Economic and Business Affairs as an internal incubator for invention and innovation. At that time, the vision of an in-house laboratory as a centre of creativity and innovation was unique for a ministry.

In 2007, a new strategy and a new goal were set for MindLab: its focus would be the active involvement of both citizens and

RELATED EXAMPLES

FEATURED [Denmark set up a centre of expertise on collaborative democracy, starting with a focus on technology issues](#)

companies in developing new public-sector solutions. At the same time, MindLab acquired two additional parent ministries, namely the Ministries of Taxation and Employment. In this manner MindLab also became a fulcrum of intra-governmental cooperation. Finally, the strategy involved MindLab taking on a number of professional researchers, with the aim of establishing a more robust methodological foundation for its work.

Today, MindLab has considerable experience with innovation processes that are based on the realities experienced by citizens and businesses, and which also promote collaboration across the public sector. MindLab has become a part of three ministries and one municipality: the Ministry of Business and Growth, the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Employment and Odense Municipality and form a collaboration with the Ministry for Economic Affairs and the Interior.

Countries this example relates to...

Denmark

Related Commitments

[Establish a centre of expertise and designate resources to support the institutionalisation of citizen engagement](#)

[Involve citizens in the commissioning, design, delivery and assessment of public services](#)

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[Citizen engagement](#)

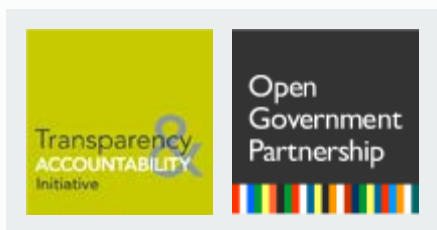
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Country Example

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District monitoring

committees in Timor Leste are monitoring and helping resolve problems with public projects

 Submitted by: Integrity Action

After a long history of violent conflict, Timor Leste celebrated its first decade of independence in 2012. Reconstructing the country's physical and social infrastructures is a priority, but building a large number of infrastructure projects that either were destroyed or did not exist in the pre-independence era comes with risks. Whether they are managed by government agencies or private contractors, such projects are prone to corruption and misappropriation of resources. Therefore improving transparency and accountability is critical.

Economically, the country sources almost 90 per cent of its income from petroleum revenues, making it one of the world's most oil-dependent economies. The government established the Petroleum Fund, where oil revenue is deposited in order to secure the national budget for development. In 2009 an anti-corruption commission was established (Comissão Anti-Corrupção, or CAC).

NGOs such as Luta Hamutuk have developed community monitoring programmes to enable people to convey their concerns to those who are responsible for infrastructure projects, and to engage with key stakeholders in order to foster greater accountability at local, district and national levels.

Volunteers in the community collect evidence about the delivery of specific infrastructure projects, write reports and engage with local leaders and national policy-makers.

Where the local government is responsive, a monitoring committee may be established. These committees (there are currently three) focus on particular local projects, ranging from road rehabilitation to developing schools and healthcare facilities. The district monitoring committees bring together local authorities, community representatives and contractors to discuss community monitoring findings and jointly resolve identified problems. This had led to improvements in infrastructure and service delivery, including water pumps and school facilities.

Countries this example relates to...

East Timor

Related Commitments

[Enable the sharing and discussion of assurance findings in multi-stakeholder forums](#)

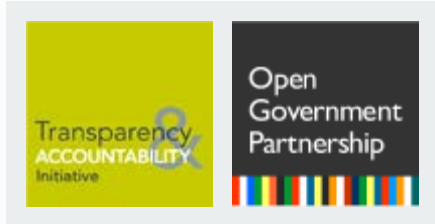
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Country Example

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Estonia set up an online

'People's Assembly' to make proposals for government reform

 Submitted by: OGP Bright Spots

The People's Assembly Rahvakogu (www.rahvakogu.ee) is an online platform for crowd-sourcing ideas and proposals to amend Estonia's electoral laws, political party law, and other issues related to the future of democracy in Estonia. The Assembly focuses on five political sore spots: party financing, political parties, the electoral system, civil participation in politics and the politicization of public offices.

In a structured process proposals were collected and discussed online, before being worked through by experts and clustered into a series of topics and scenarios, backed by impact analysis. This was then put forward for debate during a one-day 'deliberation day' involving members of the public, selected to proportionally represent (voting) age groups, regions, ethnicities and genders.

1,800 registered users posted nearly 6,000 ideas and 300 people participated in the deliberation day. Parliament has since set a timetable for the most popular proposals to be introduced in the formal proceedings.

The initiative was developed by the President following a series of scandals involving senior politicians widespread criticism of the government and the development of 'Charter 12' an Estonian citizens' initiative signed by 17 prominent public figures, calling for greater democratic accountability. The assembly was organized by

volunteers from NGOs such as the Estonian Cooperation Assembly, the Praxis Center for Policy Studies, the Network of Estonian Nonprofit Organizations (EMSL), the e-Governance Academy and the Open Estonia Foundation, with the support of the government. It will not necessarily become a permanent institution.

Countries this example relates to...

Estonia

Related Commitments

[Engage citizens in deliberation on a priority issue](#)

Related Topics

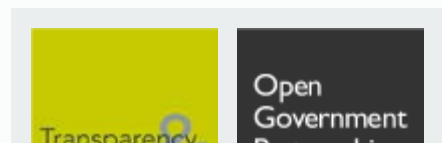
[Citizen engagement](#)

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www.rahvakogu.ee

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Country Example

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Ethiopia launched a new

Procurement Proclamation which requires disclosure of contracting information

Submitted by: [Construction Sector Transparency Initiative](#)

In Ethiopia there has been strong support for procurement transparency from the Commissioner, Federal Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission. This support was strengthened when the Ethiopian Roads Authority, the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Education, and the Ministry of Water and Energy—signed memoranda of understanding with the Construction Sector Transparency Initiative (CoST) to participate as a pilot country. A senior representative of the Public Procurement and Property Administrator Agency (PPPAA) joined the initiative’s multi sector group, alongside other representatives from government – from the Federal Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission, Roads Authority, Ministry of Urban Development and Construction- as well as from the private sector and civil society.

Initial studies found that there was a gap between requirements for disclosure and the procuring entities’ understanding of those requirements. It also revealed that the procurement law prohibited the disclosure of information relating to tender submissions and evaluations. This contributed to poor governance of projects resulting in wide differences between budgeted costs and timelines, and the actual costs and times of delivery. In 2010 a new Procurement Proclamation was issued requiring disclosure of key information related to public contracts.

CoST Ethiopia has developed an e-procurement system with the

PPPAA where procuring entities will be required to disclose the CoST Project Information Standard. The Ethiopian MSG will then train the procuring entities on using the e-procurement system. This includes the Ethiopian Roads Authority who is in a good position to mainstream information disclosure due to the development of a new database and a number of disclosure policies that are already in place.

Countries this example relates to...

[Ethiopia](#)

Related Commitments

[Integrate proactive disclosure of construction project information into existing government frameworks](#)

[Recognize the right of the public to access public contracting information](#)

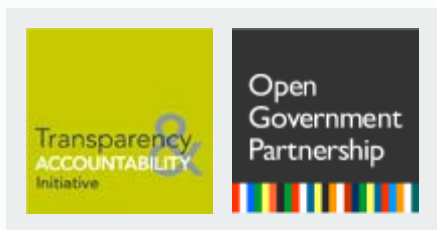
Related Topics

[Construction](#)

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- [Public Procurement and Property Administration Agency](#)
- [CoST Briefing Note](#)
- [CoST Briefing Note](#)

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Country Example

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Finland is reviewing its law

and practices for managing records and data in relation to its goals for openness, public service management and digital governance

 Submitted by: international Records Management Trust

Finland views information management as an integral aspect of its approach to maximizing the opportunities for strengthening digital governance and enhancing openness, and it recognises the need to modernise its control regime. It is in the process of analysing its laws and practices for managing records and data in relation to its goals for customer-oriented public services, good IT governance, interoperable processes and services, reuse of public sector information, and data security. Its aim is to facilitate evidence-based cross-organizational service provision.

The analysis will provide the basis for a new act that will cover the entire lifecycle or continuum of information. Initially, the focus was on revising the Archives Act, but it has become clear that a new act is needed to introduce a coordinated approach to information management in relation to goals for openness and digital governance. The aim now is to harmonize the different laws and regulations for information management, digital governance and access rights. The new law will provide a basis for harmonizing

relevant standards, for instance those for interoperability and security and for records and data management.

Countries this example relates to...

Finland

Related Commitments

Conduct a gap analysis to determine whether there is a sound control regime in place for managing government records in relation to international records and information management good practice standards, national development needs and aspirations for openness

Related Topics

Records management

RESOURCES

- [Case study on Finland by the International Records Management Trust](#)

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Country Example

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Georgia developed an

online system for public financial disclosure

 Submitted by: OGP Webinar

In Georgia senior public officials are required to make annual disclosures of their assets. But until 2010 they did this in hard copy and the declarations were difficult for citizens to access.

In 2010, the Georgian government decided to develop an online system. All senior officials now submit their asset declarations through the Online Asset Declaration System on the website www.declaration.gov.ge. The submitted declarations are then published instantaneously into a searchable database from which anyone can search for senior officials' declarations and download the information for free.

The Civil Service Bureau of Georgia (CSB), which is the agency responsible for collecting and publishing asset declarations, supports the asset declaration process by sending reminders to the officials via text messages and emails, and providing a hotline and online chat service to help with queries about asset declarations.

The CBS receives around 3000 electronic financial disclosures annually. It has also uploaded the hard copy declarations from 1998 to 2010 making the website the host of over 60,000 disclosure documents (although the early documents are only available as scanned pdf files).

In order to make the financial disclosure system online-base, CSB needed to take a number of actions. First, they had to assess the political situation, carry out political consultations, prepare amendments to the legislation and lobby the Parliament. When

this was done, they designed the electronic asset disclosure system (the system design was outsourced at about USD 20,000 plus an annual maintenance cost of about USD 10,000). They then tested the system with focus groups, both citizen-based and focus groups based on senior officials, and provided training to administrative staff at CSB as well as HR representatives of each government agency.

After launching the system, CSB has continued to develop the system and adding more features to it. By the end of 2013, the Online Asset Declaration System will have a mobile phone interface. An evaluation tool to enable the public to make different analytical reports from the database will also be introduced. It also planned that a public financial disclosure monitoring mechanism will be introduced by the end of 2014.

Introducing the online asset declaration system in Georgia has been beneficial for several reasons:

- The public now has more information about the government;
- Watchdogs are in a better position to monitor the honesty and legality of incomes and expenditures of senior officials;
- The government has become more responsive, cleaner and less corrupt; and
- The online asset disclosure system has inspired other government agencies to launch similar e-governance projects.

The Georgian Public Disclosure System was the 2013 winner of the [UN Public Service Awards](#) for its excellence in preventing corruption.

Based on presentation by Irakli Kotetishvili, Director of the Civil Service Bureau of Georgia at an Open Government Partnership Webinar on 21 May, 2013

Countries this example relates to...

Georgia

Related Commitments

[Publish asset and conflict of interest disclosures as open data](#)

Related Topics

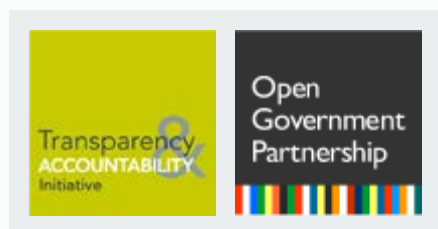
[Assets disclosure and conflicts of interest](#)

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- [OGP Webinar](#)
- [Transparency International article](#)

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Country Example

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Georgia issued a decree

requiring proactive publication of government information

 Submitted by: OGP Bright Spots

Civil society organisations in Georgia have long been concerned that the country's Freedom of Information act was not strongly implemented. Information requests had to be mailed in, and sometimes were ignored or responded to with incomplete information.

However, on 1 September, 2013, the government issued a decree on Electronic Request and Proactive Publication of Public Information. This Decree, which is based on the recommendations from a group of civil society organizations obliges all agencies under the supervision of the Executive to release information on their activities electronically, free of charge and in easy-to-use, open format. The decree sets out seven categories of information for proactive disclosure:

- General information on the public agency – its structure, functions, founding documents, annual reports, strategies, action plans, as well as biographies and contact details of the leadership and the staff;
- Names and contact details of FOI officers, relevant regulations, procedures and forms of appeal, FOI reports and statistics;
- Employment vacancy announcements, rules of competition, results of the competition and procedures for appealing these

results, number and categories of the employed staff

- Procurement plans and tenders
- Budgets and details of staff remuneration, expenditures, grants and public assets
- Laws and official documents pertaining to the activities of the public agency
- Information on the services, taxes, fees and other revenues of the public agency

The list of information requirements was developed as a result of a series of consultations between civil society organizations and the government. An electronic request system is being developed for additional information.

The decree only applies to central government and its agencies.

Parliament, the judiciary, elected local bodies – and the independent regulators do not have to comply but can choose to do so voluntarily.

Countries this example relates to...

Georgia

Related Commitments

[Publish core information about government on a proactive basis](#)

Related Topics

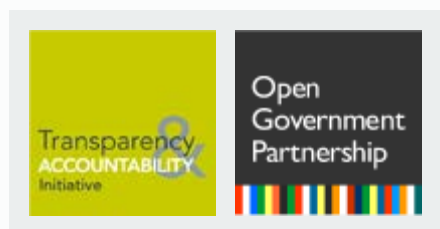
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[Transparency International article](#)

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Country Example

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Ghana has taken steps to

strengthen participation in environmental impact assessments

 Submitted by: The Access Initiative

Ghana's Environmental Assessment Regulations from 1999 established a framework for public participation in Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs). This framework has been progressively strengthened. The regulations make it illegal for a project to proceed without an approved environmental impact statement and permit and require that developers make environmental management plans publicly available.

EIA processes must be announced ahead of time in a variety of ways, including newspaper ads and announcements on the national radio and television stations. Local media—such as the beating of the “gong gong”—are used in more remote areas of the country, and paper notices must be posted in areas likely to feel the effects of the project.

In addition, the project proponent must describe the project and the predicted environmental impact in the local language. Members of the local community—including invited leaders, farmers' organisations, and NGOs—are given time to air their opinions, and the project proponent is expected to respond.

The success of the EIA process is evident in a number of outcomes. Public hearings have affected many decisions in Ghana, including the size of a shopping mall, the siting of a Shell Company service station, and involuntary resettlement in gold mining projects. In an

internal survey, the government of Ghana found that 76.2 percent of government institutions used EIA data, and that 66 percent of those did so regularly, including in the siting, design, and implementation of projects.

Countries this example relates to...

Ghana

Related Commitments

[Introduce procedures for public comments and hearings for environment related decisions](#)

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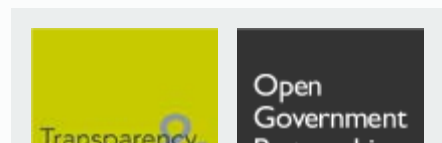
[Environment](#)

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- [Report on environmental democracy by the World Resources Institute](#)

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Country Example

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Ghana's Petroleum

Revenue Management Act was developed with public consultation

Submitted by: [Revenue Watch Institute](#)

Immediately following announcement of oil discoveries in 2007 the government of Ghana started to take steps to avoid the pitfalls of other petroleum-rich countries.

Public consultations took the form of regional 'town hall' meetings and a public survey. The timetable of the meetings was publicised in the newspapers and on the radio. Between 300-500 people attended each of the meetings and a number of written submissions were also received. Additional dialogues were organised by the World Bank, civil society platform, Council of Churches and UNIDO – including a consultation with children.

Key questions were who should collect and account for the revenues, how much should be spent in current budgets and how much saved for future generations, how should the natural resource fund be managed and how should it be safeguarded?

The law that was developed reflected public preferences, and required the publication of revenues and payments, mandating public access to information.

[Source: Natural Resource Charter]

Countries this example relates to...

Ghana

Related Commitments

[Create a national strategy for the extractive sector, through an open and participative process](#)

Related Topics

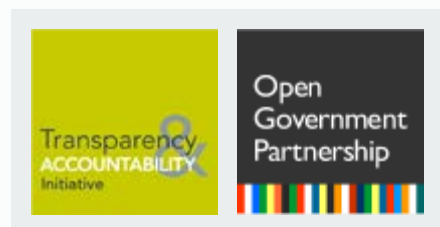
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Country Example

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Greece has set up a central

catalogue of public data

Submitted by: [OGP Bright Spots](#)

Greece has set up Data.gov.gr, a central catalogue of public data which provides access to public databases from all Greek government bodies. The purpose of the website is to increase public access to high value, machine readable datasets, by cataloguing, indexing, storing and searching the public sector's data and information, as well as providing web services to citizens and other information users.

Data.gov.gr was launched in September 2013 and Ministries will be responsible for ensuring the availability of datasets falling under their jurisdiction in the form of 'open data'.

The website provides a mechanism for citizens to vote for the datasets they wish to see that are not yet publicly available. Citizens' proposals are sent to the relevant public bodies and the datasets are made priorities for publication.

Countries this example relates to...

[Greece](#)

Related Commitments

[Create public listings of government data, and audit data availability and management](#)

[Identify and publish some public information as open data](#)

Related Topics

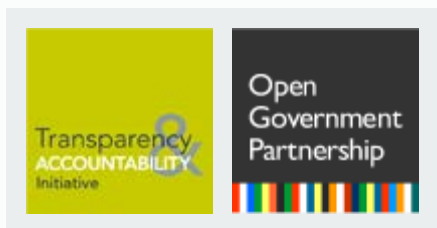
[Open government data](#)

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- [OGP inspiring stories](#)

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Country Example

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Guatemala developed a

Citizens' Budget

In 2010 the [Ministry of Finance](#) in Guatemala decided to produce its first [Citizens Budget](#) in order to comply with laws that require it to make information available. The Ministry's initiative was aided by the support of the country's President, who was committed to budget transparency. His endorsement was very important because the initiative faced some considerable opposition from within the ministry itself.

The ministry also received an offer of cooperation and assistance from civil society groups, most particularly the [Centro Internacional para Investigaciones en Derechos Humanos](#) and the [International Budget Partnership](#) to help with translating the technical aspects of the budget into accessible language. It also consulted with media and other stakeholders. Publication of the Citizens Budget was supported by the German aid agency, GIZ.

The document was launched with a public event and with media attention. It was published in English Spanish and four Mayan language. However maintaining the sustainability of this approach has proved to be a challenge.

Countries this example relates to...

[Guatemala](#)

Related Commitments

[Publish a Citizens' Budget](#)

Related Topics

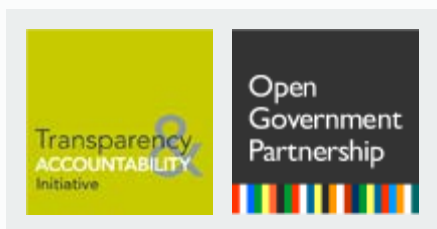
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- [citizen_budget11](#)
- [OGP Webinar](#)
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Country Example

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Guinea discloses dozens of

mining contracts on centralised government websites

Submitted by: [Revenue Watch Institute](#)

The Government of the Republic of Guinea adopted a new mining code in 2011 decided to establish a clear and systematic approach to the review and, where appropriate, the renegotiation of mining titles and mining agreements in conditions that respect the normal rules of business.

IN 2013 the Guinean government launched a new online database containing all its existing mining contracts – 60 contract documents covering 18 mining projects.

The website was developed with the assistance of experts from Revenue Watch Institute, the World Bank Institute and Columbia University, who have been supporting the Guinean government in its contract review. The online materials include a searchable summary of contract terms, allowing non-expert readers to find key sections and to understand the obligations for companies and the government.

Guinea's Technical Contract Review Committee published on its website more than 60 contract documents covering 18 mining projects. The government thus fulfilled a commitment of the mining code adopted in 2011. The online materials include a searchable summary of contract terms, allowing non-expert readers to find key sections and understand the obligations for companies and the government.

RELATED EXAMPLES

[Liberia publishes information on bids and contracts](#)

The government has said it will add online any amended contracts and all future contracts.

Countries this example relates to...

[Guinea](#)

Related Commitments

[Disclose contracts signed with extractive companies](#)

Related Topics

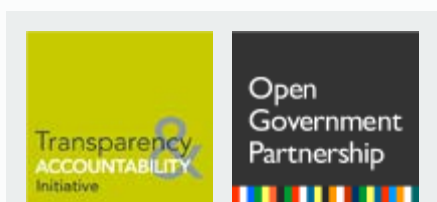
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- [Contracts Miniers Guinee](#)
- [RWI Article](#)

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Country Example

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Honduras publishes all

eight key budget documents

Submitted by: [International Budget Partnership](#)

Until recently the Honduran government produced most of the budget documents for internal use, but only made limited information public.

After a political crisis in 2009, the new Honduran government began to focus on improving its financial management practices, including making the budget more transparent. It undertook these efforts in order to establish legitimacy with the international community, secure foreign assistance, reduce the fiscal deficit, and tackle development problems more effectively.

An interagency commission was set up under the coordination of the President's office to draw up a plan to improve fiscal transparency and management and requested technical assistance from the International Budget Partnership. This included bringing government and local civil society organisations together to discuss budget transparency issues.

Countries this example relates to...

[Honduras](#)

Related Commitments

[Publish all eight key budget reports](#)

Related Topics

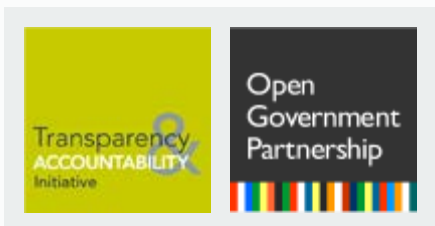
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- [IBP Report](#)
- [OGP Action Plan for Honduras](#)

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Country Example

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In Afghanistan, DRC,

Liberia, Nepal, Palestine, Sierra Leone and Timor-Leste, civil society organisations work with communities to monitor and assess the effectiveness of construction projects

 Submitted by: Network for Integrity in Reconstruction

Through the Network for Integrity in Reconstruction, civil society organisations in Afghanistan, Democratic Republic of Congo, Liberia, Nepal, Palestine, Sierra Leone and Timor-Leste have received organisational and capacity building support to help empower people to monitor project information and assess the effectiveness of construction projects, such as clinics, roads and schools.

In Afghanistan, for example, community-based monitors have been trained to access project information on reconstruction projects selected by the communities, survey beneficiaries, and assess the reality of projects on the ground.

Countries this example relates to...

Afghanistan, Congo, The Drc, Liberia, Nepal, Palestinian Territory, Occupied, Sierra Leone, East Timor

Related Commitments

[Integrate mechanisms for real-time citizen reporting and feedback on construction projects](#)

Related Topics

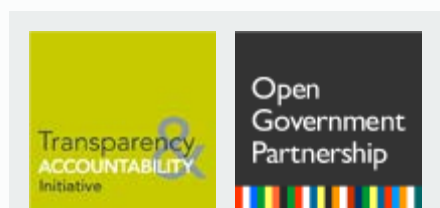
[Construction](#)

RESOURCES

- [U4 report](#)
- [Developmentcheck.org](#)
- [Integrity Action](#)

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Country Example

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In Belgium, an impartial

College of Experts evaluates electronic voting technologies

 Submitted by: National Democratic Institute for International Affairs

In Belgium, the College of Experts is appointed by the Chambers of Parliament and is empowered to evaluate the country's electronic voting technologies. The College begins reviewing the automated voting systems 40 days before elections. Members are entitled to request any information from technology vendors, including source codes and copies of software. They also may visit polling stations, copy software in use on election day and conduct other activities. The College must report its findings to Parliament and the Ministry of Interior within 15 days following elections, and reports are generally published thereafter.

In addition, each political party that has at least two Members of Parliament may designate an IT expert to receive the source codes of the e-voting systems and examine them, while they must keep the source codes confidential.

Countries this example relates to...

Belgium

Related Commitments

[Establish an independent expert panel to monitor procurement and application of election technologies](#)

Related Topics

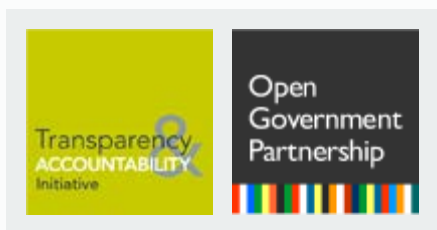
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RESOURCES

- [Academic paper on the e-voting system in Belgium](#)

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Country Example

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In Bulgaria publishes data

on permissions granted for electronic surveillance

 Submitted by: [OSF](#)

In Bulgaria permissions for wiretapping must be granted by the Presidents of the district courts and aggregated data are available in the annual reports of these courts since 2010. This information is aggregated in the annual report of the Prosecutor's office. The same report contains aggregated data about number of crimes committed by the employees of the Ministry of Interior, including police.

Countries this example relates to...

[Bulgaria](#)

Related Commitments

[Establish more extensive proactive disclosure requirements for police](#)

Related Topics

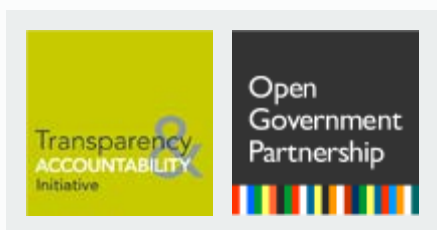
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[Annual report of the prosecutors' office](#)

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Country Example

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In Colombia citizens'

oversight organizations can supervise the entire public contracting process

 Submitted by: Open Contracting

In Colombia, Law 850 of 2003 allows citizens' oversight organizations to supervise the entire public contracting process, from resource allocation to the oversight of the execution and technical quality of the contracted good or service.

The Law states that citizens have the right to constitute “veedurias ciudadanas” or citizen oversight committees, which can be temporary mechanisms for CSOs to control public administration, procurement, processes, etc. The veedurias enable citizens and/or CSOs to oversee public management and the performance of administrative, judicial, electoral and political authorities, public and private entities, or nongovernmental organizations. They are responsible for executing programs, contracts, or public services.

One of the main objectives of the “veedurias ciudadanas” is to strengthen mechanisms to control corruption in public procurement and public management. The Law 489 of 1998 states that the public administration is obliged to provide support to citizens when they constitute a veedurías. This Law also establishes that controlling authorities and the judiciary should support the veedurías in order to investigate and respond to their denunciations.

Countries this example relates to...

Colombia

Related Commitments

[Create mechanisms for participation and redress in public contracting](#)

[Engage civil society and business in the use of open contracting data](#)

Related Topics

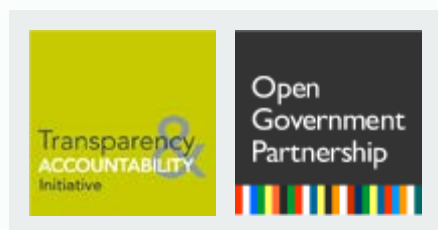
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Country Example

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In Colombia the law

requires all documentation related with a public contract to be published

 Submitted by: Open Contracting

In Colombia, Law 80 of 1993 and Law 1150 of 2007 and associated decrees make it obligatory for all government entities, at the national, department, and municipal levels, to publish documents and information related to contracts. All documentation beginning with the preliminary studies and including the contract itself should be published, through the Public Procurement Electronic System (SECOP).

By visiting the website <http://www.colombiacompra.gov.co/> users can access contracts closed in the past two years. A review by the Center for Global Development found that no information is being withheld from the public domain related to the main agents involved, the salaries paid to all personnel involved, any taxes and legal fees, or the cost per unit materials/inputs used.

However there are some limitations to the system. Extractives contracts are presently excluded from the system. In addition a self-evaluation done by the Intersectoral Commission of Public Contracting (CINCO) in 2008 also mentions problems related to full coverage of the system, due to lack of connectivity in some areas. Furthermore CGD's research found that some contracts of concern appear to have been taken down from. For example there are limited contracts available related to the Bogotá Transmilenio Project which was at the centre of a contracting scandal.

Countries this example relates to...

Colombia

Related Commitments

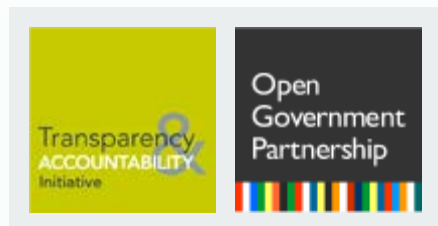
Proactively disclose core classes of documents and data about public contracting

RESOURCES

- <http://colombiacompra.gov.co/>
- <https://www.contratos.gov.co/puc>
- [Open contracting webinar featuring SECOP presentation](#)
- [Kenny_Publish_What_You_Buy_FINAL_0](#)

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Country Example

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In Croatia there is

widespread collaboration between parliamentarians and civil society representatives

 Submitted by: National Democratic Institute for International Affairs

In Croatia, requests to hold a roundtable at Parliament are frequently approved by the Secretary of the Parliament, while many civil society organisations cooperate directly with parliamentary committees on round tables or thematic open sessions. Committee chairs have the right to invite NGO representatives to committee sessions to obtain additional information on reviewed bills.

Each committee has 3-7 external permanent committee members from think tanks, interest groups or NGOs. The external permanent committee members are elected through a public announcement and have the right to participate in committee discussions, but cannot vote. They receive monthly remuneration (approximately €260) and are entitled to reimbursement of travel expenses.

Countries this example relates to...

Croatia (Local Name: Hrvatska)

Related Commitments

[Develop digital platforms and capacities to enable citizen engagement with parliament](#)

Related Topics

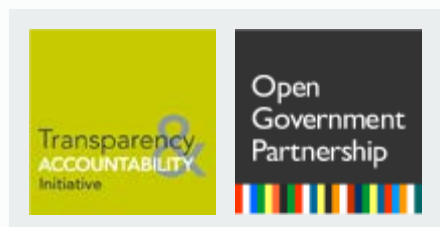
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Country Example

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In Denmark, enabling free

access to 'basic data' will save the government an estimated USD 45 million per year

 Submitted by: Claire Buré

As part of Denmark's eGOVERNMENT strategy 2011-2015, individuals, public authorities and private businesses get free access to retrieve and use what in Denmark is called basic data. Basic data is fundamental information that is used by government for day to day administration and includes data about people, companies, addresses, land/properties and administrative geographic data, such as administrative and electoral boundaries.

Once the initiative has been completely phased in, in 2020, there are expected savings for the public sector of about USD 45 million per year as a result of lower administration costs. In particular the cost of buying data from other government organisations will be reduced.

Saving for the private sector, from no longer having to submit the same information to the public sector several times or spend time on buying public data, is estimated to be about USD 87 million per year. It is expected that real estate, insurance, finance, and telecommunications and geospatial companies in particular will benefit directly from open basic data.

Countries this example relates to...

Denmark

Related Commitments

[Identify and publish some public information as open data](#)

Related Topics

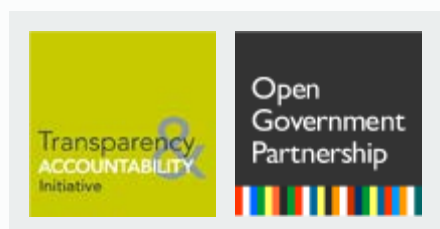
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- [Danish Government Strategy](#)

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Country Example

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In Ecuador, the

introduction of an e-reverse auction in the purchase of medicines achieved an expenditure reduction of USD 327 million

 Submitted by: Instituto Nacional de Contratacion Publica (Ecuador)

In Ecuador, the introduction of an e-reverse auction in the purchase of medicines significantly reduced the overall cost of obtaining information on contracts and simplified the bidding process. In total, this process achieved an expenditure reduction of USD 327 million.

The health sector in Ecuador is made up of 4 major institutions that have around 2800 public health establishments carrying out autonomous purchases. This traditional and fragmented purchase of medicine hurts planning, efficiency and control.

The National Institute of Public Purchases -INCOP – as the directing entity of Ecuador's public purchases, developed a process for purchasing medicines through a Reverse Auction of Medicines. By consolidating the demand they were able to get a better position in the market to and fixing prices for two years with winning bidders signing a framework agreement for two years. Health providers are

then able to purchase medicines at fixed price from the resulting electronic medicine catalogue.

The process using electronic bidding through the [INCOP](#) website allows for fair competition. In the first rounds of bidding it is estimated that savings of \$327 (or 42% of the existing medicines budget). Although the bidding was carried out openly, the system still allowed a local content requirement to be included and 41% of the awarded medicine was of Ecuadorian origin. The preferences were given with the purpose of job creation, innovation and industrial development.

Countries this example relates to...

Ecuador

Related Commitments

[Develop a framework for public contracting that ensures a transparent and equitable process](#)

RESOURCES

- [Open Contracting community of practice case](#)

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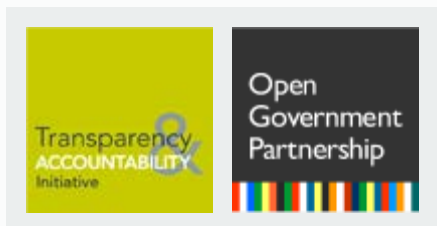
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In Ethiopia the Protection

of Basic Services Project is working to empower citizens to assess public services

 Submitted by: Twaweza

In Ethiopia starting in 2006 the Federal Government, with international support, has carried out a project to address this deficit. Working with 45 CSOs across 86 districts the project piloted Community Score Cards, Citizens Report Cards, and Participatory Budgeting as a basis for face-to-face discussions between citizen groups and service providers. The World Bank reports that these regular discussions provided the opportunity for stakeholders to review the service delivery scores and discuss deficiencies, produce common performance indicators, agree on service delivery scores, develop joint action plans, and form joint committees to follow up on the implementation of the action plans. Government officials and service providers have been required to take account of citizens' demands and to respond, as feasible, with appropriate policies and solutions. The program is now being scaled up 172 districts implemented by 60-90 CSOs.

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Ethiopia

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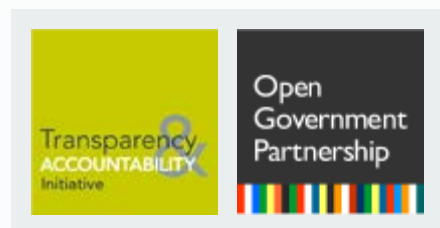
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In Guatemala the

government has taken action where multistakeholder reviews found problems in public construction projects

 Submitted by: Construction Sector Transparency Initiative

Having joined the Construction Sector Transparency Initiative (CoST) in 2010, CoST Guatemala recently published their third CoST Assurance Report, disclosing information from 25 public construction projects. The first disclosure in July 2011 examined six projects including roads, sporting facilities and river dredging. An average of 53 per cent of the project information required by CoST was disclosed by the procuring entities, which marked a great improvement.

The CoST Guatemala programme has highlighted several issues that have led to government action. Following a recommendation from the assurance team procuring entities have to ensure that sufficient budget is in place before contracting firms. This is to avoid unnecessary delays in starting construction. The Multi Stakeholder Group also voiced concerns about NGOs being used to siphon off funding intended for infrastructure projects. The General Directorate for Roads has annulled the works contract for the design and reconstruction of the Belize Bridge in Guatemala City, based on the Assurance Team highlighting the inappropriate use of procedures for contracting in emergencies such as natural

disasters. Over time the average level of proactive disclosure of project information has risen from 25% in the CoST baseline study to 65%. Disclosure is becoming a routine process for CoST Guatemala.

Countries this example relates to...

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[Enable the sharing and discussion of assurance findings in multi-stakeholder forums](#)

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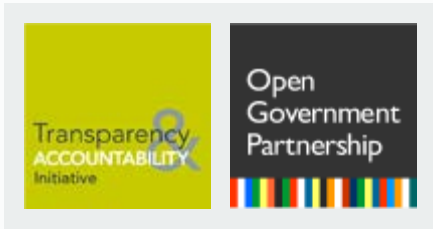
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In India the National Rural

Employment Guarantee Act is monitored through social audits

Submitted by: [Twaweza](#)

The NREGA program guarantees 100 days of employment per year to rural households whose adult members are willing to do unskilled manual work. Such programs are often bedevilled by large scale misappropriations by contractors, local political bosses and officials. Proactive disclosure of information, and citizen participation in monitoring was therefore designed into the program, and institutionalised through the legislation that created it in order to expose and prevent corruption.

The National Rural Employment Guarantee Act mandates that regular social audits be conducted at local level every six months. The NREGA guidelines identify 11 stages of the program where an individual or group can intervene to ensure public vigilance. The accountability and transparency measures enshrined in the NREGA have proved to be a catalyst for some state governments and civil society organizations to take innovative steps towards developing and institutionalizing accountability tools into the governance system

The government of Andhra Pradesh set up a separate unit to design and implement social audits of the NREGA program. The core of the social audit approach is to involve the entire affected group or community in the process. In most cases, the members carrying out the social audits are volunteers who are directly affected by the program, and these volunteers are generally trained in the social

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audit process by a civil society organization. This extensive involvement of civil society organizations ensures that there is a high degree of autonomy and objectivity to the exercise. It is one of the most important checks and balances that have been built in to the process.

The village social auditors go from house to house cross verifying official records, scrutinizing job cards, examining the worksites, and gathering information through interviews with wage seekers. They then organize a village level meeting where findings from the audit are shared with the villagers, local political bosses, and officials. The presence of senior government officials enables immediate and effective grievance redressal albeit only where cases of petty corruption are unearthed. Over 500 field assistants and 10 technical assistants have been dismissed, and inquiries initiated against higher level officials. Corrupt officials facing public scrutiny have actually begun to return embezzled funds.

Aside from unearthing corruption, the social audits also offer a formal setting for senior officials to interact with front line staff and service users. This allows for real time feedback on the status of the scheme implementation. Through interactions with senior officials, front line workers can clarify doubts, and resolve problems. Moreover, because information on the NREGA is disseminated during the forum, both officials and wage seekers come away with a better understanding of the NREGA.

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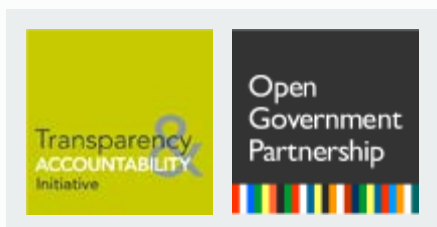
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In India, a declaration of

assets is mandatory within 90 days of taking office as a Member of Parliament

Submitted by: National Democratic Institute for International Affairs

In India, the voter has the fundamental right to know the financial background of any person contesting elections to Parliament. Since 2003, it has become regular practice for candidates contesting elections to Parliament to submit an official declaration disclosing details of assets and liabilities for self, spouse and three dependents. The Election Commission of India is required to make these affidavits public so that the voter may get to know the background of electoral candidates.

After a candidate wins elections to either House of Parliament it becomes mandatory for him/her to declare their assets (movable and immovable property for self, spouse and dependent children) within 90 days of taking oath of office as an MP. Liabilities to public financial institutions and the Central and any State Government are also required to be disclosed.

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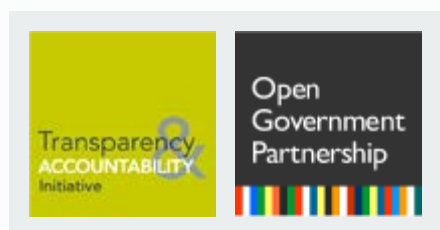
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In Israel the government

worked with Google to make transit data more useful

Submitted by: [OGP Support Unit](#)

Data.gov.il is a single window portal that aims to give access to public records data produced from information held by the government. The idea is to encourage creative use of the data by civil society and the larger public by providing tools for information presentation, standardized downloading and standard APIs.

When Google Israel tried to use this data to create a transit app they identified many inaccuracies. Google Israel ran its validation tools over the government database and made recommendations for improvement. "We found the e-Gov team very open to the process of validation and improvement. It took 6-10 months of iteration with the government until we were able to create the transit map for 25,000 bus stations and 53 train stations across the country"

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Israel

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[Proactively engage with and support data users](#)

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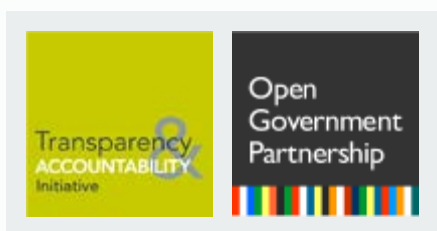
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In Karachi, the local

government adopted a co-management approach to sanitation

 Submitted by: Twaweza

Orangi is a large informal settlement in Karachi, Pakistan. In 1982, residents suffered from high child mortality rates due to poor sanitation. Some of the communities were represented by residents' associations that followed clientelist strategies to try to improve services. They lobbied local politicians and promised votes in return for water pipes and public standpoints.

A local NGO called the Orangi Pilot Project (OPP argued that such a strategy was never going to work at the spatial scale that was required or with an adequate quality of investment). They developed a model of community-installed and managed sanitation where the residents of a lane or street paid for the lane investment in sanitation (and monitored the quality of the work) while the municipality took on responsibility for the wider sewer network and the waste treatment plants.

At first, the municipality refused to participate in this work and the people discharged the wastewater from the lane sewers into local streams. Over time, the authorities recognized the co-production model could work, if they played their role.

After initial reluctance, the municipality eventually agreed to this co-management arrangement and the idea of rapidly through the settlement. The process strengthened local organisations and made them more likely to engage with formal political structures than

clientist networks. Overall residents of, 96,994 houses built their neighbourhood sanitation systems, by investing over half a million dollars collectively. 20 years after the work began in Orangi, the city of Karachi decided that the strategy should be supported throughout the city.

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Country Example

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In Korea city residents get

up to date information on water quality

 Submitted by: Twaweza

In Seoul, Korea citizens were previously suspicious of the quality of the tap water and avoided drinking it. There was no monitoring system to assess the quality of tap water. This resulted in a low rate of consumption of tap water, high sales volume of bottled water, reckless underground water development, and indiscriminate use of purifiers which led to pollution. There was waste of a precious resource and potential public health problems.

The new water monitoring system allows citizens to access real-time data on water quality via the Internet at the city's public engagement website oasis.seoul.go.kr. They can also obtain data from water quality inspectors who visit houses for free. They can participate in the online assessment of the water quality; this has helped build trust and confidence in the water system. This programme uses citizen monitoring as part of a drinking water campaign, to help conserve resources. As a result, citizens confidence levels have risen, with a 20% increase in tap water consumption and greater conservation of ground water.

[Source: United Nations Public Service Awards (2009)]

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Korea, Republic Of

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[Publish key public service performance data](#)

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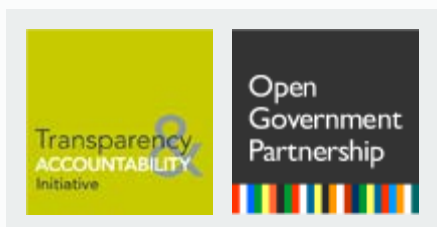
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In Madagascar the

government established a mediation process to address tensions over a large infrastructure project

 Submitted by: Involve

Nosy Be is a remote island off the North Western coast of Madagascar that was ear-marked for a large, privately-funded infrastructure project in the mid-2000s. The project catalyzed social tensions between different layers of government and local communities. In response, the national government development programme and the World Bank commissioned a consultancy firm to facilitate a mediation process and find a way forward using a tool called the Local Governance Barometer (LGB).

They took participatory approach, engaging Government, civil society and the private sector to identify an appropriate local governance model. Over a three-month period the different stakeholders were able to air their grievances and come up with an action plan to increase government accountability and social responsibility within infrastructure development on the island, improve civil society and private sector participation in development planning, and increase awareness about and enforcement of legislation on land rights, women's rights and corruption. A mixed committee was then tasked with taking the plan to national Government and relevant donors.

The initiative increased channels for collaboration and communication between the municipality and local communities,

improved awareness of complaints procedures.

Source: DUFILS, J.-M. 2010. The Local Governance Barometer – Measuring Governance in Madagascar. In: CLAASEN, M. & ALPÍN-LARDIÉS, C. (eds.) Social Accountability in Africa: Practitioners Experiences and Lessons. Pretoria: Institute for Democracy in South Africa (IDASA).

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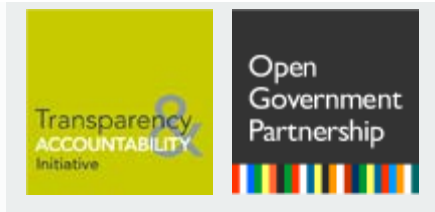
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In Mexico the national

archive and IFAI issued joint guidelines for the organisation of government archives

Submitted by: [International Records Management Trust](#)

Mexico's Federal Law on Transparency and Access to Public Information from 2002 assigned jointly to the Mexican National Archive and the Federal Institute for Access to Public Information in Mexico (IFAI) the task of creating criteria to catalogue, characterise and handle administrative documents. The only guidance that the law provided these entities was that archiving and conservation criteria should be based on international standards and best practices. IFAI and the National Archive have since, for example, created the Automated and Integrated System of Request Tools and Archive Control, which allows users to easily access archiving guidelines and locate documents from all agencies.

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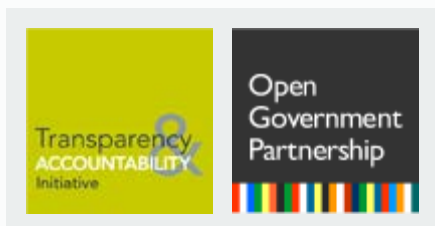
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In Mexico “social

witnesses” oversee public procurement

 Submitted by: Open Contracting

In Mexico, since 2004, the federal government of Mexico has required the involvement of “social witnesses” in public bidding for goods, works, and services over a certain threshold value. Since 2009, participation of a social witness has been mandatory in procurements valued at more than \$23 million for goods and services and US \$43 million for public works. Non-government organizations and individuals may be selected as social witnesses by the Ministry of Public Administration. Their function is to propose strategies for improving transparency, impartiality and compliance with the legal framework, and must issue an alert if they detect any irregularities in the course of the procurement. At the conclusion of the procurement proceedings, the social witness issues a publicly available statement including observations and, as appropriate, recommendations. The statement is posted on the government’s central procurement website and in the file of the tender.

The “Social Witness” program is the result of an initiative of the NGO Transparencia Mexicana to facilitate the participation by civil society as external observers in public procurements.

Originally, social witnesses participated as a result of guidelines issued by Ministry of Public Administration (MPA) in 2004. The guidelines stipulated that MPA keep a registry of individuals and non-governmental organizations which may participate in all stages of a procurement conducted by any institution of the Federal Public Administration.

in Mexico”, Transparency International USA, CIPE, Transparencia Mexicana, 2011,

According to Transparencia Mexicana, the Social Witness program has significantly reduced the costs of public contracts and has increased the number of bidders participating in the procurement process in Mexico.

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Mexico

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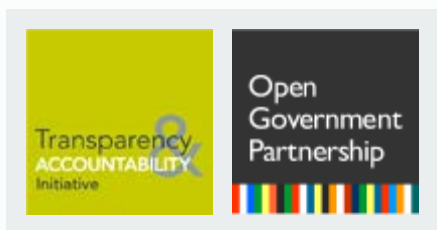


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In Mongolia,civil society

and professional organizations play a formal role in bid evaluation and contract monitoring

Submitted by: [Open Contracting](#)

In June 2011, the Government of Mongolia amended the Public Procurement Law of Mongolia (PPLM) to include a new formal role for civil society and professional organizations in bid evaluation and contract monitoring. Private and specialized non government organizations can be selected according to the provision 35-39 of this law to perform monitoring, evaluation and auditing of customer's activity, contract performance and quality progress and execution.

Mongolia is at the threshold of a major socio-economic transformation driven by the exploitation of its vast mineral resources. Since 2004 when the mining boom began, the economy has grown at an average rate of over 8 percent each year. Sound infrastructure is particularly critical for this vast, land-locked, sparsely populated, country. In order for it to both develop and benefit from the huge new Southern mines, Mongolia's infrastructure investments will need to increase at an unprecedented pace, placing great demands on public procurement systems. Procurement in Mongolia has been characterized by the familiar problems of political interference and lack of transparency,

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which are particularly pronounced given the small size of the formal sector and the close ties between politicians and the construction industry. As a result, time and cost over-runs in infrastructure projects are ubiquitous. Increasing the technical capacity, transparency, and accountability of public procurement is an urgent need for government systems to keep pace with the staggering transformation that is underway.

The rationale for involving CSOs in monitoring procurement emphasizes the ability of CSOs to provide feedback to government on bid evaluations and contracts and to disseminate their findings to the public. Through disseminating its observer reports, CSOs can help to inform citizens and thereby strengthen citizen ability to reward or sanction politicians and officials for their management of public resources. It is hoped that greater citizen awareness of procurement-related problems will increase public officials' incentives to respond to CSOs' feedback, including holding contractors accountable for their performance.

Implementing the PPLM, especially the requirement for CSO oversight of bid evaluations and contract performance, will be challenging for both the Government and CSOs. Sustainable funding arrangements that are shielded from political interference will be essential for the success of civil society monitoring will be crucial. Mongolia has also opted into the [Global Partnership for Social Accountability](#) (GPSA) to enable Mongolian civil society groups to apply for financial support from the international donor community to monitor public contracting. In addition, Mongolian agencies have entered into memoranda of understanding with civil society groups to monitor their public contracting.

[Source: World Bank]

Countries this example relates to...

Mongolia

Related Commitments

[Create mechanisms for participation and redress in public contracting](#)

[Engage civil society and business in the use of open contracting data](#)

Related Topics

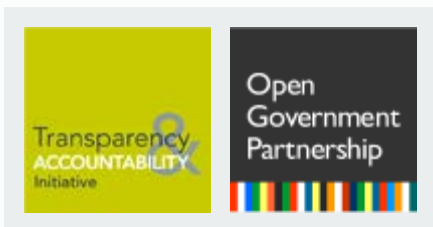
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- [World Bank article](#)
- [Open Contracting Community of Practice article](#)

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Country Example

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In Peru public land for sale

must be advertised for a minimum of 90 days

 Submitted by: Open Contracting

In Peru, a land auctioning process has been in place since the 1990s and since then 235,500 ha of public land has been auctioned for nearly US\$50 million. About 20 of the country's 50 main agro-export companies have received land through these auctions.

Where a government agency, ministry, regional or local government wishes to divest public land, the intention to divest the land is published, along with the minimum investment required and the minimum bid price for the land, in the official gazette, local and international newspapers, and a government Web site for a minimum of 90 days. Likewise, if an investor approaches the government, the evaluated proposal is published for a minimum of 90 days to allow other potential investors to present offers.

Bids are ranked by price offered and the amount of projected investment. Each auction takes 4-5 months and data on the minimum bid value of the land, the investment commitment, and data on land size are publicly available. Business plans are also made public. Redress can be remedied if the property was expropriated. If within one year of the conclusion of the court process the expropriated property is not used for its planned purpose, it automatically reverts to the original owner.

Peru's success in divesting public land through auctions is credited to the transparency of the process as well as to oversight from a high-powered and independent technical committee representing private and the public sectors. Competitive bidding for land provides a mechanism by which the host government achieves better terms

and is able to extract some of the surplus created by the project, while eliminating direct negotiations between private buyers and public officials. However, the extent to which business plans incorporate community benefits, or how social and environmental concerns are considered during the awarding of investment projects, remains unclear.

Countries this example relates to...

Peru

Related Commitments

[Develop a framework for public contracting that ensures a transparent and equitable process](#)

[Develop a process for open contracting of large-scale land investments](#)

[Disclose key documents and data](#)

Related Topics

[Land](#)

[Public contracting](#)

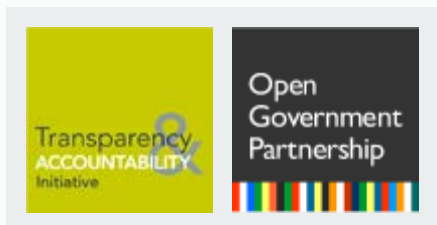
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[Global Witness - Dealing with Disclosure](#)

[World Bank case study](#)

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Country Example

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In Peru the government

introduced standardised tests in schools to improve school standards

Submitted by: Twaweza

In Peru in spite of high primary enrolments in education, many students were not able to read. Parents surveyed said they were satisfied with the quality of education their children received. This gap between true learning levels and perceptions of quality suggested a lack of awareness of quality standards and potentially weak accountability in school management. In 2006, the government of Peru established a universal standard system to test all children completing second grade and to inform each school, child, and parent about the results by issuing report cards through local education offices. Media campaigns encouraged parents to request their child's test scores from schools and discuss the results with the school authorities to plan improvement strategies. One of the products was a radio miniseries about education standards and parental empowerment, produced in Spanish and translated into the indigenous languages of Quechua, Aymara, and Asháninka. The government also linked teachers' pay to evaluation as part of the education sector reform process. In spite of opposition from teacher unions, the government was able to pass this law with support from the electorate.

Countries this example relates to...

Peru

Related Commitments

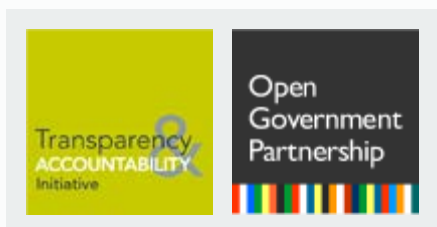
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Country Example

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In Sierra Leone the law

requires that oil contracts must be awarded through competitive auctions

 Submitted by: Open Contracting

Sierra Leone has a long history of mining as its major economic activity. The mining sector provides employment and livelihood to over 135,000 workers, the overwhelming majority of whom are engaged in artisanal, small-scale mining operations. Artisanal mining constitutes an estimated 84 percent of total diamond exports from Sierra Leone. Sierra Leone does not currently produce any petroleum, but there are offshore prospects.

The petroleum sector is regulated by the Petroleum Exploration and Production Act of 2001. Under this Act, Sierra Leone developed a model petroleum agreement which provides a 10 percent royalty, a 37.5 percent income tax rate and annual rental between \$30 and \$100 per sq. km. A revised Petroleum Exploration and Production Bill was submitted to parliament in July 2011 that included several clauses seeking to improve transparency, including a requirement that oil contracts be awarded only through competitive auctions, that contracts be published and that payments be disclosed in accordance with the terms and procedures of EITI.

Paragraph 39 of the Petroleum (Exploration and Production) Act form 2011 states that "A Minister may, following a transparent, fair and competitive process and on the advice of the Directorate, grant a petroleum licence to two or more applicants who offered the most favourable terms and conditions to the State."

Countries this example relates to...

Sierra Leone

Related Commitments

[Develop a framework for public contracting that ensures a transparent and equitable process](#)

[Disclose contracts signed with extractive companies](#)

Related Topics

[Extractive industry](#)

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- [Revenue Watch country profile](#)
- [Sierra Leone law](#)

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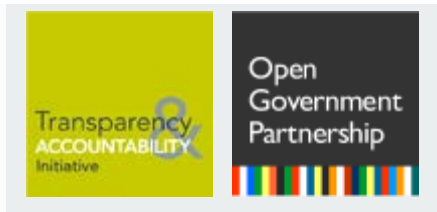
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Country Example

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In Sierra Leone the records

authority has developed standards and guidelines for keeping civil servants' and teachers' records

 Submitted by: International Records Management Trust

After the conflict in Sierra Leone (1991-2002), the country's records management system needed to be almost entirely rebuilt. A Record Management Improvement Project was initiated in 2005 with funding from the UK Department for International Development to improve the country's records management system.

As a starting point, a Records Management Improvement Team was appointed to build the basis for sustainable improvement in records management. The Team tackled many issues but made pay and personnel records in the public sector its highest priority. Under the previous records management system it had, for example, been difficult to identify ghost workers or workers past statutory retirement age, leaving the system open to abuse. The previous system also undermined efficient personnel administration and planning for long-term staff development as it was difficult to determine skills, staffing requirements and vacancies.

The Team set about organising personnel files in payroll order, both in the Employment Secretary's Office (which managed the Civil Service) and in employing ministries, departments and agencies. The aim was to make it easier and faster to verify the payroll, staff lists and social security forms. Organising the files in relation to the

payroll also would make it possible to determine the employees for whom no files existed, so that files could be created for all civil servants, including non-established employees. This strategy enabled a reduction in ghost workers from the civil service payroll, and subsequent public expenditure savings.

Countries this example relates to...

Sierra Leone

Related Commitments

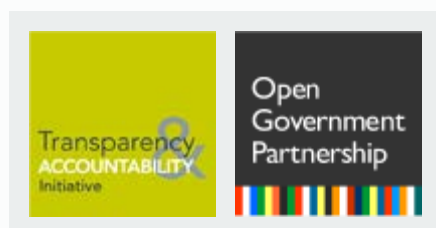
[Establish a public authority to lead on government records management](#)

RESOURCES

- [Sierra Leone Case Study on records management](#)

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Country Example

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In Slovakia, government

contracts are published online

 Submitted by: Sunlight Foundation

Corruption in public procurement in Slovakia has been a long-standing problem. Problems in public procurement occur through the manipulation of tenders before or after the awarding of the bid, for example by limiting competition through setting unreasonable conditions, or not fully enforcing contracts, or changing them significantly after tendering. One key example was the 'Notice Board Scandal,' a high profile procurement scandal which took place in 2007 when the Ministry of Development published a tender request for construction services totalling 119.5 million Euros on a small notice board in the hallway inside the ministry building where few could see it. A firm that was known to have close ties to the head of the ruling party won the contract. More than a year after the fact, the scandal came to light and was invalidated by the Slovakian Office of Public Procurement.

Slovakian law was overhauled in response to the 2011 update of the EU Procurement Directives and the concern over high profile public procurement scandals. Major reforms included:

1. The introduction of e-procurement, in which dissemination of tenders, tender documents, the submission of bids and the publication of notification of awards is done publicly through a single portal;
2. The introduction of reverse auction mechanisms for procuring goods and services
3. Mandatory publication of all public contracts on a centralized online government contract repository.

The Slovak Republic, [Act No. 546/2010 Coll.](#) supplementing Act No. 40/1964 requires all public contracts, with certain limited exceptions, to be published online. To avoid secret contracts, any unpublished contracts are declared to be unenforceable. The Government [Public Procurement Office](#) manages Slovakian procurement rules. This office publishes the official Public Procurement Journal, legal interpretation of the Public Procurement Act, maintains a [register of procurement documents](#) and operates the procurement portal, which is called [EVO](#).

These reforms have made it significantly easier for organizations and people outside the government to access public data about procurement. Previously access tender documents and other procurement data was granted primarily through requests under Freedom of Information Laws (FOI). If requests were not granted and appeals could take so long that the information was no longer relevant. Now, through EVO all of that information is published including the contract itself and information on the bids received and the process of contracting.

The availability of data has lowered the barriers to entry for participating in the oversight process. This has enabled much greater public participation in uncovering suspect procurements. Before the reforms, exposing corruption relied on whistleblowers alerting journalists or watchdogs of suspicious proceedings. Now more tips come from local activists and individuals. For example teachers, highlighted information about large Ministry of Education procurements for flowers and alcohol and the Ministry of Finance conducted an audit.

Opening up the information makes it possible compare contractors and look at patterns across cities and institutions. Local people who may know who the mayor is friends with, and which local businesses have relationships with people of influence are able to spot issues that a researcher farther removed from the process might not be able to.

Despite these positive developments corruption in Slovakian public procurement remains a challenge. While the availability of data has been a positive step, there remain barriers to using it, and where

there is no real threat of enforcement, transparency and disclosure are limited in their ability to bring about effective change.

Researcher using the data say that rationalizing the manner in which the data is released and formatted would make it easier to use, reducing the cost of finding corruption and increasing the likelihood that improper processes will be uncovered. The NGOs TI-Slovakia and Fairplay Slovakia maintain an online [Open Contracts](#) website built off the procurement data scraped and structured from public sources. This portal visualizes procurement expenditures by procurers, suppliers, sectors and regions as well as provides downloadable structured procurement data in bulk.

Having data available in these formats also enabled TI-Slovakia to conduct broader analyses than were previously possible.

Standardised data formats, bulk downloading, structured formats like XML would make it easier to use the data. Another key problem is that there are no data licenses attached to public data so it is not clear how it can be used. Additional information about pre-tender requirements would also be valuable.

Formal mechanisms and institutional means of sanction also need to be strengthened. The Sunlight Foundation concludes that “Most significantly, transparency alone, it appears, cannot change deeply ingrained corrupt practices in a short time span. Transparency can only highlight the problem, and provide tools for oversight and investigation. Enforcement mechanisms, both formal and informal, must be brought to bear to sanction those whose transgressions are revealed by transparency-enabled oversight.”

[Source: Sunlight Foundation case study]

Countries this example relates to...

Slovakia (Slovak Republic)

Related Commitments

[Mandate the publication of new data sets](#)

[Proactively disclose core classes of documents and data about public contracting](#)

[Disclose key documents and data](#)

Related Topics

[Open government data](#)

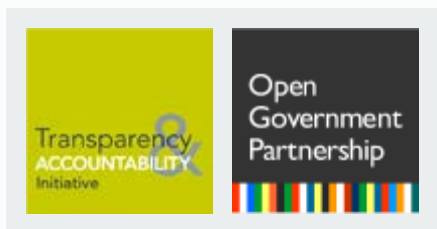
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- [Sunlight Foundation case study](#)
- [Slovakian Government contracts database](#)
- [Slovakian NGOs open contracts database](#)

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Country Example

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In South Africa information

on quasi-fiscal activities is provided in the main budget or the budgets of the relevant agencies

Submitted by: [International Budget Partnership](#)

In South Africa all quasi-fiscal activities are included either in the main budget or in the budgets of the relevant extra-budgetary agencies. In terms of accounting for extra-budgetary funds, the South African executive's budget and supporting documentation present extensive information on extra-budgetary funds, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates of such funds. The bulk of extra-budgetary funds in South Africa are composed of social security funds, such as the Road Accident Fund, the Unemployment Insurance Fund, and the Compensation Funds. The money for these items is not included in the budget, but information on their payments and receipts is included in the accompanying document, the Budget Review. The Office of the Auditor General of South Africa publicises its reports of audits of all extra-budgetary funds. The reports include all charges against the Revenue Fund, including extra-budgetary funds.

Countries this example relates to...

[South Africa](#)

Related Commitments

[Publish off budget financial information](#)

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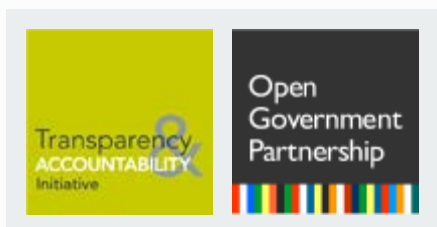
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- [IBP guide to transparency in public finances](#)

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Country Example

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In Sweden the government

publishes performance reports on social services, health and medical care

Submitted by: [Twaweza](#)

Public performance reports have been a core part of the Swedish government's strategy for public service improvement. The vision is to provide up-to-date knowledge when you want it, the way you want it in order to support: the ability of citizens and patients to choose care providers; policy decisions and independent examinations; and in-depth analyses and comparisons that encourage care providers and the social services to improve quality and efficiency. Areas covered include substance abuse and dependency care, dental care, cardiac care, elderly care, public health and primary care. In each area a set of indicators has been agreed and are regularly reported and that describe facilities with regard to quality and efficiency. Transparency has led to improvements in care. For example when mortality data for myocardial infarction patients prompted the lowest-performing hospitals to institute major improvement programs; within two years, they had cut their mortality rates in half.

Countries this example relates to...

Sweden

Related Commitments

[Systematically track and publish performance indicators across public services](#)

Related Topics

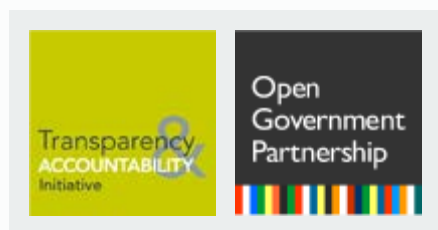
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Country Example

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In Tanzania the

government established wanachi.go.tz a website to submit and track complaints and feedback

 Submitted by: Twaweza

Wananchi.go.tz is a website was developed by the government to enable Tanzanian citizens to send feedback,opinions,complaints to the government and to track and follow up on queries.

The system aims:

1. To help improve citizen awareness and satisfaction about the services they receive or believe they should be receive by enabling fast and efficient resolutions of relevant citizen submissions
2. To collect data that will assist the Government of Tanzania to identify opportunities for improvement and change, to optimise service and minimise complaint in the future

As part of its OGP commitment the government has committed to improve the website to make it more robust and responsive as a platform for citizens to participate in the running of Government, and produce monthly reports on effectiveness of the citizen’s website.

Countries this example relates to...

Tanzania, United Republic Of

Related Commitments

[Establish easy feedback mechanisms for public services](#)

[Encourage the use of digital tools to engage with the public](#)

Related Topics

[Citizen engagement](#)

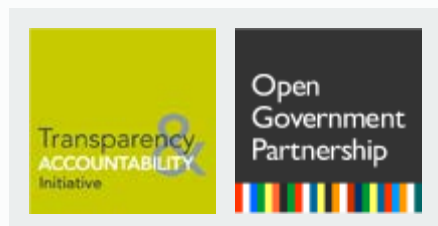
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Country Example

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In the Netherlands the

Intelligence and Security Services Review Committee oversees intelligence services, and people can also report complaints to the National Ombudsman

 Submitted by: Open Society Foundations

The Dutch Review Committee for the Intelligence and Security Services (CTIVD) oversees whether the intelligence and security services are acting legitimately when they infringe on human rights in order to fulfil their duties.

The Review Committee is independent and has been given far-reaching statutory powers to perform its task. For example, the Committee has access to all relevant information of the services and may hear all the staff of the services. Furthermore the Committee has the right to hear witnesses (under oath) or experts.

The Review Committee draws up a report of each investigation it has conducted, this includes a public part and a classified part. The public part is published and submitted to the two Houses of the States General. The classified part goes to parliamentary

Committee for the Intelligence and Security Services (CIVD). In addition to the review reports the Review Committee issues an annual public report of its activities.

Complaints are received by the relevant minister who must seek the advice of the Review Committee before taking a decision. If the complainant cannot agree with this decision, he or she may refer to the National Ombudsman, an independent body engaged in handling complaints against the government. The Ombudsman issues non-binding recommendations.

Countries this example relates to...

[Netherlands](#)

Related Commitments

[Establish a body with adequate mandate, powers and resources to effectively oversee the intelligence agencies](#)

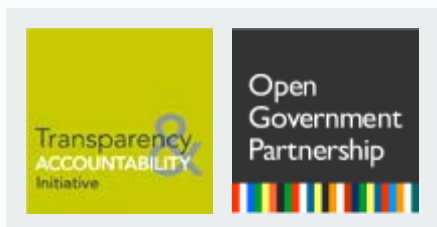
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[Security sector](#)

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- [Website of CTIVD](#)
- [ENNIR intelligence review of the Netherlands](#)
- [Website of the National Ombudsman](#)

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In the Philippines the

Department for Education cooperates with the Checkmyschool monitoring initiative

Submitted by: [twawez](#)



Started in 2011, Checkmyschool (CMS), is a participatory monitoring initiative that aims to improve service delivery in public education. It was established as a joint initiative of the Affiliated Network for Social Accountability in East Asia and the Pacific (ANSA—EAP) Foundation Inc. and the Department of Education (DepEd), the branch of government that is responsible for regulating and managing the Philippine system of basic education..

CMS is an interactive and hybrid online platform used to validate the government's educational services on the ground, report on issues, and provide solutions. With access to the Department of Education's database, citizens can monitor funds and report on any discrepancies that are fed back into the platform through various channels, including Facebook and SMS. For those who don't have

internet access, CMS has mobilized intermediaries to interact with stakeholders, and facilitate community involvement. CMS has also attracted a thousand plus volunteers, including students, to disseminate and validate information offline.

The platform uses Google Maps to map schools and allows users to report issues about textbooks, seats, toilets, teachers and computers. These issues are brought to the attention of the Department of Education's attention for action. Requests so far have been responded to fairly quickly.

Countries this example relates to...

[Philippines](#)

Related Commitments

[Provide cooperation to independent monitoring efforts and take action on issues raised](#)

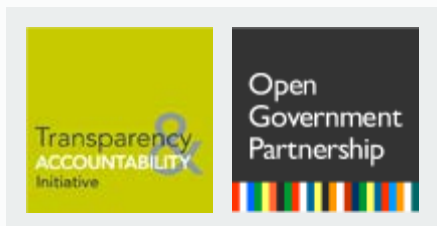
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Country Example

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In the Philippines, citizens

participate in all stages of the procurement process and may also observe implementation

Submitted by: [Open Contracting](#)

The Philippines Procurement Law mandates citizen participation in all stages of the procurement process, from pre-bid conference, opening of bids, bid evaluation, post-qualification and award of contract. Under this system, procuring entities are required to invite outside organizations to sit in on meetings of their Bid and Awards Committees (BACs). Observers may also observe contract implementation, and citizens are able to file complaints with the local ombudsman if they suspect irregularities.

In the extractives sector, although there is currently a moratorium on new mining operations, the Philippines Mining Law requires a “multi-partite monitoring team” to be operational before the mining project can receive an environmental compliance certificate. This body is to be composed of representatives of the national government, affected communities, indigenous communities, an environmental civil society organization, and the project proponent. In addition Philippine agencies have entered into memoranda of understanding with civil society groups to monitor their public contracting.

However the system has struggled to respond to the volume of procurements, because of resource limitations for the CSOs involved and the lack of trained staff. According to some estimates

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[In the Philippines, both government and private sector are active at training monitors](#)

FEATURED [In the Philippines, citizens participate in all stages of the procurement process and may also observe implementation](#)

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civil sector oversees less than 1 percent of procurement proceedings and are not likely to see the misconduct, since they are not present during the pre-bidding parts of the process where misconduct most likely occurs. The degree to which CSO observers are granted a meaningful and participatory role varies greatly depending on the procuring entity.

To date the civil sector observer system has been separate from the ICT enabled e-procurement of PhilGEPS. ICTs can enable asynchronous and remote observation, which can significantly ease the resource burden of observation and allow for more targeted risk assessment.

Countries this example relates to...

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[Create mechanisms for participation and redress in public contracting](#)

[Engage civil society and business in the use of open contracting data](#)

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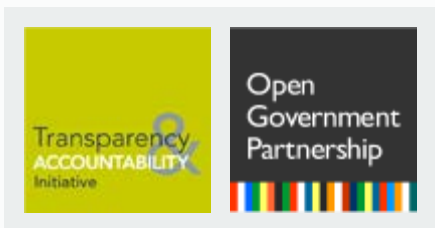
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- [Philippines Government procurement rules](#)
- [Sunlight Foundation case study](#)

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In the UK the National

Health Service asks all patients leaving hospital if they would recommend it to their friends and family

 Submitted by: Twaweza

Since 2012 patients leaving NHS hospitals are asked whether they would recommend their ward to friends and family. This is what is known as a 'Net Promoter' question which is often used by companies in customer service programmes. The overall score for each ward can be positive or negative depending on the number of 'promoters' (people who would recommend the service) and 'detractors' (people who would not).

The anonymous survey covers around 4,500 NHS wards and 144 A&E services. It allows hospital trusts to gain real time feedback on their services down to individual ward level Results are reported weekly to hospital managers and boards, and overall scores are published each quarter.

Countries this example relates to...

United Kingdom

Related Commitments

[Establish easy feedback mechanisms for public services](#)

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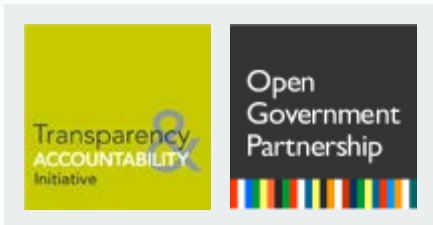
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- [UK Government announcement](#)

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In the United States

provides machine-readable information on construction contracts

The Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act (FFATA) of 2006 required that the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) establish a single searchable website, accessible to the public at no cost, which includes for each Federal award:

1. the name of the entity receiving the award;
2. the amount of the award;
3. information on the award including transaction type, funding agency, etc;
4. the location of the entity receiving the award; and
5. a unique identifier of the entity receiving the award.

USAspending.gov was first launched in December 2007 to fulfil these requirements. Prime award information shown on the website is provided by Federal Agencies through four main source systems. USAspending.gov receives and displays data pertaining to obligations (amounts awarded for federally sponsored projects during a given budget period), not outlays or expenditures (actual cash disbursements made against each project).

Countries this example relates to...

United States

Related Commitments

[Publish all construction sector disclosures in machine-](#)

[readable format](#)

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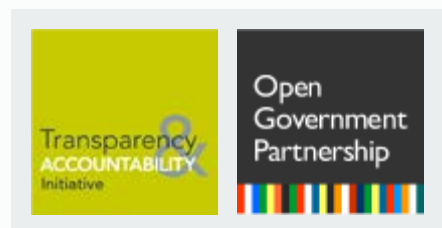
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In the US the House and

Senate and House removed restrictive rules governing Members' use of social media

Submitted by: [Sunlight Foundation](#)

Before the digital age, Congress established 'franking rules' on communication to constituents. These governed how Members could use public funds to send mass mailings to constituents, while guarding against incumbents using this privilege to advance political campaigns. When these rules were extended to include social media, at first they were restrictively applied, effectively making popular social media services such as Facebook and Twitter out of bounds. This reflected fears that using social media would imply a commercial endorsement through association with advertising, could tarnish the status of the institution, might create security issues, and would make inappropriate political activity harder to catch.

Following emerging experience, debates and a campaign led by the Sunlight Foundation, in 2008, the House and Senate revised these rules and allowed members and staff to use social media to correspond with constituents more freely, while still maintaining the principles of no product endorsement, no partisan material and no unrelated personal information.

While there is no overall social media policy, the [House](#) and [Senate](#) rules now makes clear that Federal law and House Rules on communication apply to all 'official content of material posted by

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FEATURED [The New Zealand Government has developed social media guidance](#)

the Member on any website', but not to the broader social media platform itself.

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[Encourage the use of digital tools to engage with the public](#)

[Develop digital platforms and capacities to enable citizen engagement with parliament](#)

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- [House of Representatives Member Handbook](#)
- [Senate Internet Policy](#)

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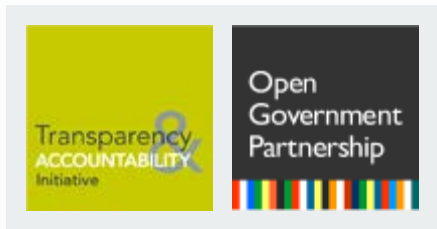
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Country Example

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In the US the Office of the

Special Counsel oversees whistleblower protection for federal employees

Submitted by: [Whistleblowers International Network](#)

The US Office of Special Counsel (OSC) is an independent federal investigative and prosecutorial agency. Its basic authorities come from four federal statutes: the Civil Service Reform Act, the Whistleblower Protection Act, the Hatch Act, and the Uniformed Services Employment & Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA).

The OSC receives, investigates, and prosecutes allegations of prohibited personnel practices, with an emphasis on protecting federal government whistleblowers. It seeks corrective action remedies (such as back pay and reinstatement) for injuries suffered by whistleblowers and other complainants and is authorised to file complaints at the Merit Systems Protection Board (MSPB) to seek disciplinary action against individuals who commit prohibited personnel practices.

OSC also provides a secure channel through its Disclosure Unit for federal workers to disclose information about various workplace improprieties, including a violation of law, rule or regulation, gross mismanagement and waste of funds, abuse of authority, or a substantial danger to public health or safety.

Countries this example relates to...

United States

Related Commitments

[Ensure competent authorities have the mandate, powers and resources to facilitate whistleblowing and protect whistleblowers](#)

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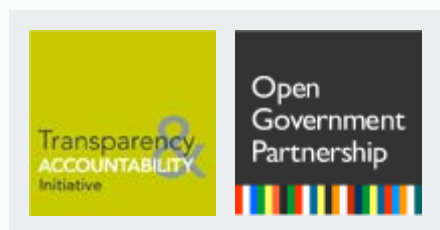
[Whistleblower protection](#)

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- [Website of the Office of Special Counsel](#)

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In Uganda a consultation

with young people provided inputs to the National Development Plan

 Submitted by: Involve

In Uganda a consultation process was carried out to involve youth in the development of Uganda's Five-Year National Development Plan (2009 to 2014), especially regarding the key issues affecting young people, such as unemployment, education, health and poverty. Fifty-two young people (providing national representation for Uganda's districts and youth-led organisations), were recruited from youth NGOs, student associations and youth disability groups. This group discussed the key thematic areas of the NDP and formulated recommendations for the government. Key members of the staff team responsible for the consultation were also young people.

National newspaper advertisement invited contributions via SMS, and the young people involved were provided with training on strategy analysis. Four groups created strategies in the key areas of education, employment, health and population, and gender and social development and twelve key strategic recommendations were agreed. Two young people presented the recommendations to the National Planning Authority and Ministry of Children and Youth and consultation outcomes were disseminated across all key ministries and decision-makers in Uganda.

The draft NDP mentions youth entrepreneurship (USD\$5m

earmarked for start-ups); vocational skills for out-of-school youth with attention to quality and moral aspects and youth-friendly sexual and reproductive health and rights. There is an emphasis on vulnerable youth in the sections on gender and social protection. The government is now considering follow-up regional consultations, and youth participation in monitoring and evaluation of the plan.

Countries this example relates to...

Uganda

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[Establish mechanisms to engage children and young people as full participants in civic life](#)

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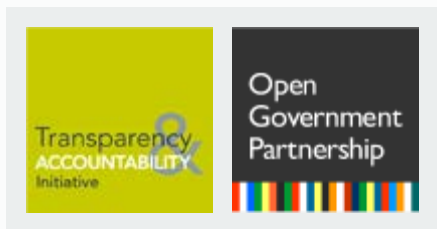
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Indonesia set up a social

media channel for complaints

Submitted by: [OGP Bright Spots](#)

LAPOR! (“to report”, in Indonesian) is a social media channel where Indonesian citizens can submit complaints and enquiries about development programmes and public services. Comments are transferred directly to relevant ministries or government agencies, which can respond via the website. Users can access the system through the web, through SMS, through facebook and twitter and mobile applications, and each report is given an ID number so that users can track it to resolution.

Examples of issues reported include potholes, and difficulties in accessing government services, comments on projects and infrastructure developments. LAPOR! now has more than 225,350 registered users and receives an average of 1,435 inputs per day. It is connected with 64 ministries and the Ministry of Non-Government Institutions. It has also been connected with the Local Government and the Provincial Government of Jakarta.

RELATED EXAMPLES

FEATURED [In Tanzania the government established wanachi.go.tz a website to submit and track complaints and feedback](#)

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[Establish easy feedback mechanisms for public services](#)

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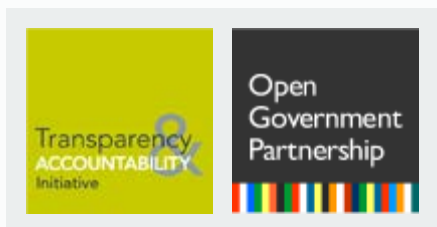
[Public services](#)

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- [Lapor! website](#)
- [OGP Bright Spots case study of Indonesia](#)
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Country Example

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Kenya adopted reforms to

allow independent monitoring of electoral processes

 Submitted by: National Democratic Institute for International Affairs

Following the 2007-2008 electoral tragedy in Kenya that left over 1,000 people dead and 600,000 displaced in a conflict over presidential election results that were neither sufficiently transparent nor effectively administered, a new constitution was adopted in Kenya along with electoral and judicial reforms. The reforms led to enhanced transparency provisions allowing parties, citizen observers, media and international observers to monitor electoral processes.

The reforms also led to an open and inclusive process for appointing members of the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC). Appointments of the chairperson and eight members of the IEBC are done through a multi-staged process that involves the President, a Selection Panel and the National Assembly. The Selection Panel is responsible for advertising the positions, public interviews and shortlisting of candidates, who are in turn approved by the National Assembly and appointed by the President. The procedure for the appointment process is regulated by the Constitution of Kenya and the IEBC Act.

The IEBC receives its budget independently from the legislature and is constitutionally mandated as an independent body with specific review by the courts. Though Kenya has yet to pass a freedom of information law, the Article 35(1) of Constitution of Kenya

guarantees every citizen the right to access to information held by the state, and state-established institutions, such as the IEBC.

Countries this example relates to...

Kenya

Related Commitments

Establish a legal framework for impartiality, effectiveness and transparency in elections

Related Topics

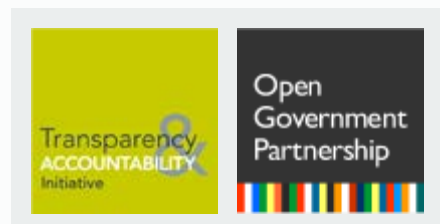
Elections

RESOURCES

- [Website of the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission](#)

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Country Example

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Kenya's Consumer

Protection Act gives consumers the right to demand quality goods and services

 Submitted by: Consumers International

Kenya's Consumer Protection Act 2012 (CPA) provides punishment for businesses that knowingly sell substandard goods and lie on pricing. It also provides for warranties for damaged or injurious goods. According to the Act, firms which have been proven to have supplied substandard or injurious products will be liable to a raft of punitive measures including recalling such products from the market, repairing defects, replacing faulty products or issuing refunds to aggrieved customers. Such firms would be required to publicly disclose the nature and danger of defects on their products in conjunction with a newly created regulatory agency, The Competition Authority.

The law prohibits unfair trade practices and transactions that affect consumer rights like under-cutting and over-pricing of goods and services. The law will also seek to create consumer awareness on goods and services in the market to ensure they are of high quality and meet health standards. The law also prohibits misleading information to sell goods and services, which is expected to make companies more responsible in designing advertisements.

The CPA lists banks, consultancies, and insurance firms as service providers. It also includes all those involved in the provision of, or the use or enjoyment of facilities for amusement, entertainment,

transport, broadcasting, tourism, recreation, education or instruction. Analysts say that banks and insurance firms are expected to improve disclosure of information to customers.

Finally, Kenya's CPA requires regulators to involve consumers when making major decisions about services and products.

Countries this example relates to...

Kenya

Related Commitments

[Develop consumer protection laws in line with the UN Guidelines for Consumer Protection](#)

Related Topics

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- [Consumer Protection Act](#)
- [Kenya's Consumer Protection Act](#)

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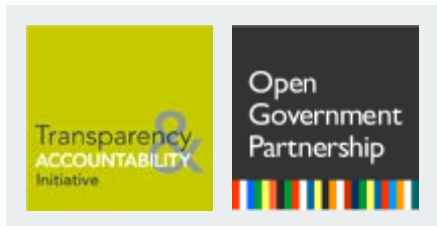
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Country Example

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Lao PRD has produced an

inventory of land concessions and leases

 Submitted by: [Global Witness](#)

As a response to rapid expansion of land deals, the government of Lao PDR presented a comprehensive publication on land concessions and leases to the public in early 2013.

The land concession inventory is based on a government database on land investment and includes both statistical and spatially referenced data, in combination with a range of socio-economic and biophysical variables. It gives insight into key issues surrounding the land investment debate, and provides a valuable baseline for further research and informed, evidence-based policy making.

While considerable amount of data on land concessions has previously been collected by governmental agencies, it has rarely produced information and knowledge in a suitable and easy accessible form for decision-makers and for the wider public. The inventory was the result of a trilateral cooperation between the Lao government, Switzerland, and Germany.

Countries this example relates to...

Laos

Related Commitments

[Make existing land tenure and land holding registries public and accessible](#)

Related Topics

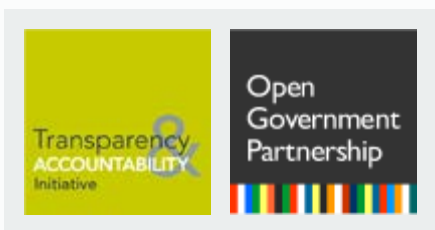
[Land](#)

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- [Case study on landportal.info](#)

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Country Example

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Mali is reforming its

policies for the agriculture sector with participation of farmers' associations

 Submitted by: Global Witness

Mali has recently reformed its legislative and regulatory policies for the agriculture sector, resulting in the 2006 Agricultural Policy Act. The reform process relied heavily on the participation of farmers' associations.

The Mali Government gave the National Coordination of Farmer Organisations the responsibility and budget to hold consultations to canvass farmers' and other stakeholders' viewpoints. These suggestions were then used to develop the first draft policies and legislation. Various concerns raised by farmers' organisations, such as public participation in the monitoring of access to water and grievance mechanisms, and a policy favouring family farming and the right to food were included in the legislation.

During this legislative process, discussions on land issues were so numerous that the treatment of this issue had to be postponed. The participatory process which had been used to formulate the agricultural policy has continued to be used also in developing a new agricultural land policy. The Mali Government has adopted a roadmap to implement a participatory process, and has established a steering committee for this process, which includes farmers' organisations and civil society.

Countries this example relates to...

Mali

Related Commitments

[Undertake participatory land and resource use planning](#)

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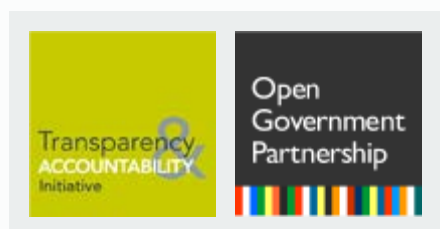
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[Global Witness report on improving transparency in land acquisitions](#)

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Country Example

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Mexico has a

comprehensive electoral code

 Submitted by: National Democratic Institute for International Affairs

The Instiuto Federal Electoral (or Federal Electoral Institute (IFE)) is a special electoral prosecutor and a special electoral court to resolve disputes concerning federal elections in Mexico.

The Federal Transparency and Access to Public Government Information law applies to the IFE, which adds greater possibilities for transparency in federal elections, and the Constitution provides IFE with autonomy, which among other things allows it to negotiate its budget directly with the legislature.

The main directive body of the IFE is the General Council, consisting of nine members with a right to vote and to participate in debates, and additional members who have the right to participate in debates but who are not entitled to vote. The nine members of the General Council are elected through the vote of two thirds of the members in the Lower Chamber of the Congress, from among proposals put forward by the parliamentary groups of the same Chamber, after an open consultation.

As a requirement, the President Councillor and the Electoral Councillors must not have been registered as candidates for any elective post or have performed any directive position at a national or local level for a political party during the last four years prior to the designation.

Countries this example relates to...

Mexico

Related Commitments

[Establish a legal framework for impartiality, effectiveness and transparency in elections](#)

Related Topics

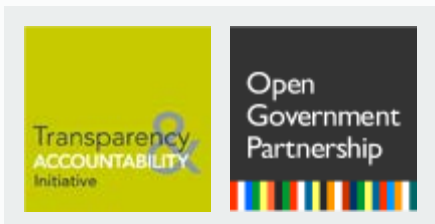
[Elections](#)

RESOURCES

- [Website of the Instiuto Federal Electoral](#)

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Country Example

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Mexico has a system to

systematically track statistics on requests and responsiveness from federal agencies

 Submitted by: [Access Info](#)

In Mexico, the [Federal Institute for Access to Information and Data Protection](#) (IFAI) has set up a system to systematically track statistics on requests and responsiveness from federal agencies.

Federal agencies have incentives to comply with access to information legislation because their response to information requests is permanently monitored by the IFAI. Also, heads of agencies have an incentive to be well evaluated as the IFAI's evaluations are public. No agency wants to be listed as a poor performer.

The IFAI has developed monitoring indicators to assess the extent to which federal agencies fulfil the procedures established in the [transparency law](#) and provide responses to information requests. Different methodologies – quantitative, qualitative and the 'mystery shopper' methodology – are used to assess compliance and analyse the state of access to information in Mexico. Official figures on the extent to which public agencies provide information in response to individuals' requests show an overall positive response rate.

Countries this example relates to...

Mexico

Related Commitments

[Establish best practice monitoring and evaluation systems on RTI](#)

Related Topics

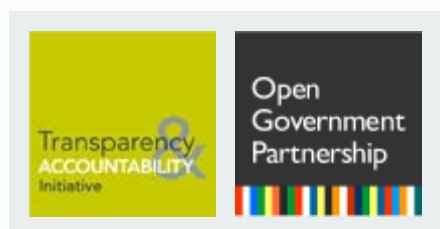
[Right to information](#)

RESOURCES

[World Bank case study on access to information in Mexico](#)

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Country Example

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Mexico has established a

budget transparency portal

Submitted by: [OGP Fiscal Transparency Working Group](#)

In Mexico the Ministry of Finance has historically published information on public finance. Some of this information was published as part of its regulatory obligations. However, information such as monthly data on of the revenue, expenditure, debt, transfers to local government, etc.was also published by the Executive initiative, as “Public Finance Statistics”.

In 2012 the Government decided to create a website with useful information on how resources are spent. The aims were to provide:

- Greater transparency in public-resource management
- Fiscal transparency in citizen language
- Thematic transparency, with particular attention to citizens interests

The portal’s design serves to gathered budget information in one place and present it in plain language and open formats. It was developed through dialogue with social organisations and members of academia, and provides a front-end designed for easy user access and a back-end data warehouse to integrate budget information from the information systems of the Ministry, in real time, as it is updated internally. The data can be found in open file format “Excel” or “CSV” that let the users analyse and play with the information.

The portal seeks to link all stages of the budget process: planning, programming, budgeting, exercise and control, monitoring,

RELATED EXAMPLES

FEATURED [The Philippines has developed a Citizen’s Budget Portal](#)

evaluation and accountability. It includes government finance statistics, resources transferred to local governments, quarterly reports in open formats, year-end report, citizens budget and year end report as well as details of investment projects, indicators, goals and external evaluations.

Social media and a short 'magazine' style presentation of the highlights of the citizen's budget have been used to increase accessibility

Countries this example relates to...

[Mexico](#)

Related Commitments

[Publish Executive's Budget Proposal and Audit Reports](#)

[Publish the four core budget documents](#)

[Publish all eight key budget reports](#)

[Publish a Citizens' Budget](#)

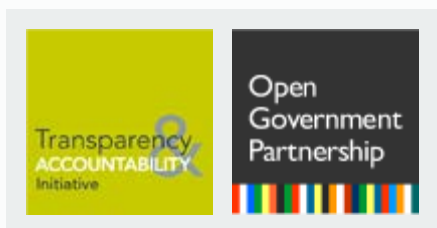
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[Budgets](#)

RESOURCES

- [Fiscal Transparency Working Group Presentation](#)
- [Budget transparency portal](#)
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Country Example

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Mexico has put in place electronic systems to facilitate RTI

Mexico has put in place three key electronic systems to facilitate RTI:

- Infomex: an electronic platform for making information requests and submitting complaints and appeals. When requests are presented in writing and in person, they are transferred into the e-platform by a staff member so that they can be registered by the system. According to IFAI, 97 percent of all requests were received electronically.
- ZOOM: a tool for searching the database of requests that have been made and answers provided. Each government agency is required to set a link to the ZOOM on their websites.
- POT: a standardised system for accessing the information which is published proactively by public bodies. Users can search through this data by keyword or by type of transparency obligation, thereby providing easy comparison of the data across different public bodies.

Countries this example relates to...

Mexico

Related Commitments

[Use IT to enhance access to information](#)

Related Topics

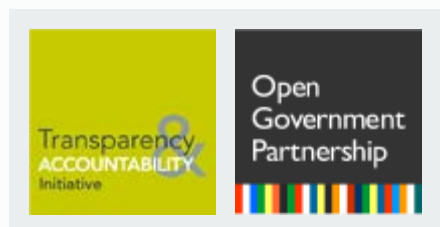
[Right to information](#)

RESOURCES

- <https://www.infomex.org.mx/gobiernofederal/home.action>; <http://buscador.ifai.org.mx/buscador/bienvenido.do>
- <http://portaltransparencia.gob.mx/buscador/search/search.do?method=begin>

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Country Example

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Mexico set up a digital

platform to 'improve your school'

Submitted by: [OGP Support Unit](#)

Mexico spends more per student than most industrialized nations but has the lowest levels of academic achievement in the OECD. As part of its OGP Action Plan the government-civil society working group set out to improve the information that parents have about schools, and enable them to 'improve your school'.

The Mexican Institute for Competitiveness (IMCO) cross referenced test results with basic data on all schools and made them accessible on a new website 'Mejora tu Escuela'. Users can search and compare schools, and provide their own comments. Where problems are identified, like deteriorating infrastructure or principals that mismanage the school budget, they are linked to possible solutions that can be implemented by parents and local CSOs. "The more information you have on schools, the more likely you are to demand higher quality education", says Gabriela Segovia of the Federal Institute on Access to Information and Data Protection (IFAI).

Countries this example relates to...

Mexico

Related Commitments

[Establish easy feedback mechanisms for public services](#)

[Systematically track and publish performance indicators](#)

[across public services](#)

[Encourage the use of digital tools to engage with the public](#)

Related Topics

[Citizen engagement](#)

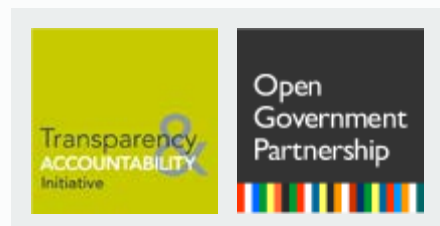
[Public services](#)

RESOURCES

- [Mejora tu Escuela](#)
- [OGP Case Study](#)

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Mexico's Federal Law on

Transparency and Access to Public Information is highly regarded internationally, and Mexico is taking steps to address the issue of records management in relation to this law

 Submitted by: International Records Management Trust

Mexico has developed a leading edge law to govern the right to information and has created the Federal Institute for Access to Public Information (IFAI) to support its implementation. The law requires that public sector records management should be jointly handled by the National Archives, which is responsible for historical archives, and the IFAI. Although the law provides that records should be managed in accordance with international standards and good practices, neither institution has the experience and expertise needed to introduce a records management control regime. Moreover, there is no educational professional education and training programme for managing records and archives.

As steps toward building records management controls, the IFAI

has issued General Guidelines for managing records in federal offices and agencies and authorised the creation of a records coordination unit within each agency. The National Archives has created the Automated and Integrated System of Request Tools and Archive Control to help users to access guidelines and locate documents. The IFAI also has begun to provide relevant training courses. Moreover, in 2012, a long awaited Federal Archives Law was issued to establish the provisions for the organization and conservation of archives held by the branches of government, constitutional bodies and autonomous agencies with legal autonomy. The law also authorises the National archives to develop criteria for organising and administering record keeping.

In February 2014, constitutional reform was introduced to grant the IFAI full autonomy and authority over the legislative, judiciary branches of government and over other autonomous bodies. IFAI also became a second appeal authority for states. With its expanded role, it became the National Institute for Transparency, Access to Information and Data Protection (INAI). It was recognised that to address the new requirements, three new national laws were needed in relation to transparency, data protection, and archives/records management. The law on transparency was recently enacted, whereas the other two are pending. The new Archives law will be an essential part of the new coordinated national accountability system across all levels of government.

In addition, in order to harmonize and implement reform, Mexico is building a strong coordinated National System of Transparency that involves coordinating the National Institute of Transparency, Access to Information and Protection of Personal Data; the Superior Audit of the Federation; the General Archive of the Nation; the National Institute of Geography and Statistics; and the 32 state transparency institutes or access to information oversight bodies. The aim is to ensure the effective exercise and respect of rights of access to information, data protection and accountability.

Countries this example relates to...

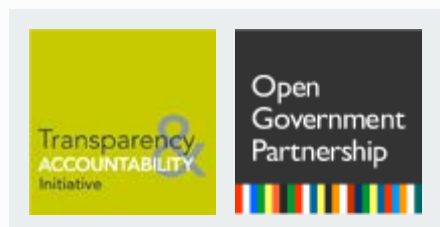
Mexico

RESOURCES

- [Law on Transparency and Access to Public Information \(2002\)](#)
- [Federal Archives Law \(2012\)](#)
- [General Law on Transparency and Access to Public Information \(2015\)](#)

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Country Example

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Moldova requires each

Ministry to release new datasets

Submitted by: [OGP Support Unit](#)

In April 2011, Moldova became one of the first countries in Eastern Europe to launch an Open Data portal. The portal, www.date.gov.md brings together datasets published by various Ministries and central administration offices. The Prime Minister issued a directive which required Ministries to release three new datasets each month.

Countries this example relates to...

[Moldova, Republic Of](#)

Related Commitments

[Identify and publish some public information as open data](#)

Related Topics

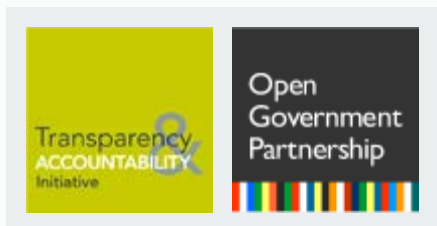
[Open government data](#)

RESOURCES

- [OGP Case Study](#)
- <http://www.date.gov.md/>

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Country Example

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Mongolia addresses

contracting specifically in its Right to Information Law

In Mongolia, the Law on Information Transparency and Right to Information, Article 10, states “The principles of transparency, fairness, efficiency, economy and accountability shall be upheld in the procurement policy and such policy shall be made available in an easily accessible manner on the website of the organization, and made public through other means.”

Documents required to be published are bid invitations and regulations concerning bid selection processes; criteria for the selection of bidders as well as of criteria under which a contractor was selected; brief information on successful or unsuccessful bidders as well as the detailed reasons, conditions and legal grounds for selections; reports on the procured goods and services, including procurement audit and reports, conclusions and other monitoring reports.

Countries this example relates to...

Mongolia

Related Commitments

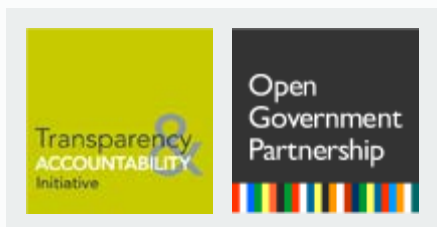
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- [Mongolia's transparency law](#)

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Montenegro has

established an online petitioning system: the Citizens' Voice e-Petitions platform

 Submitted by: OGP Bright Spots

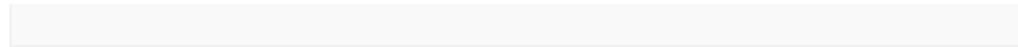
Launched in October 2012, Montenegro's Citizens' Voice e-Petitions platform enables citizens and permanent foreign residents in Montenegro to identify policy issue and propose solutions to the central government in the form of e-petitions. If an e-petition is supported by at least 6,000 online votes, the government undertakes to consider it as a formal policy motion.

In the first six months of the project, 21 e-petitions qualified for voting through Citizens' Voice, two of which reached the threshold of 6,000 votes.

The platform was developed by the Government of Montenegro, in cooperation with the United Nations Development Programme Office in Montenegro, using the experiences of the UK government e-petitions platform (<http://epetitions.direct.gov.uk/>), the US Government website "We the People" (<https://www.whitehouse.gov/petitions>) and the German Bundestag's e-petition website (<https://epetitionen.bundestag.de>).

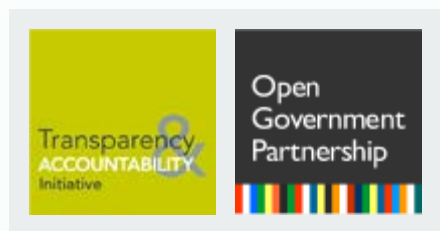
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Myanmar has developed

an open source Aid Information Management System that enables the efficient tracking of aid projects

 Submitted by: [Publish What You Fund](#)

Mohinga – Myanmar’s open source Aid Information Management System (AIMS) – was launched in early 2015. By June, 2015, an estimated 80% of official development assistance to Myanmar had been recorded in Mohinga, tracking approximately 1,300 projects. This is a significant increase from the 400 projects that the Government was able to track prior to the development of the information system.

Mohinga was built to be simple to use, removing many of the barriers that can make aid information management difficult and time consuming. The application runs in both English and Myanmar languages and enables users to visualise aid flows via a variety of charts and graphs. Users can also export all of the raw data in .csv format, allowing them to delve into full datasets.

Mohinga is being used for monitoring and decision-making by officials from the Ministry of National Planning Economic Development as well as by international development partners. In addition, the process of making the aid information publicly available has resulted in development partners becoming more

proactive at providing more accurate and better quality information and in building confidence in releasing more detailed information over time.

Before developing Mohinga the Myanmar authorities reached out to counterparts in Cambodia, Laos, Nepal and Rwanda to gauge their experiences with AIMS. With support from the European Union, Myanmar officials also visited Timor-Leste to learn from their experiences in managing aid and with aid transparency more broadly. As a result of these exchanges, Myanmar decided to build its own 'home grown' AIMS to ensure the finished product would respond to the country's particular needs, be online quickly, and be able to expand and develop in line with future needs.

Countries this example relates to...

[Myanmar \(Burma\)](#)

Related Commitments

[Promote access to and use aid information by all stakeholders](#)

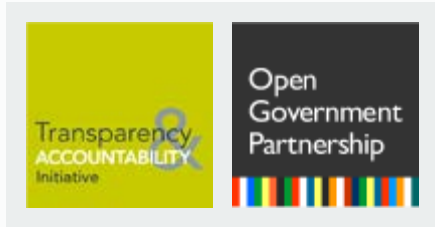
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[Aid](#)

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- [Mohinga case study](#)
- [Blog on Mohinga](#)

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Country Example

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New York City's Checkbook

NYC website integrates budgets and contracts

 Submitted by: [Open Contracting](#)

New York City, which spends roughly \$70 billion annually, has long had a central budget to combat waste and fraud. In 2010 it set up a transparency initiative; Checkbook NYC website , enabling the public to keep an eye on New York City's spending with detailed, up-to-date information about revenues, expenditures, contracts, payroll, and budget in an easy-to-use, dashboard format. A subcontractor reporting system on the City's Payee Information Portal, rolled out in 2012, requires all vendors with contracts over a certain dollar amount to report their subcontractors online.

Checkbook NYC was released for use and modification under an open source license to encourage programmers and governments that adopt the system to contribute improvements and additional features for release in future versions.

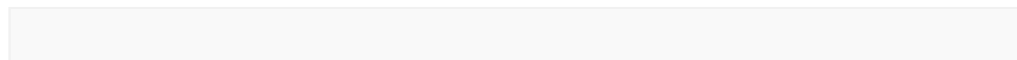
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United States

Related Commitments

[Proactively disclose core classes of documents and data about public contracting](#)

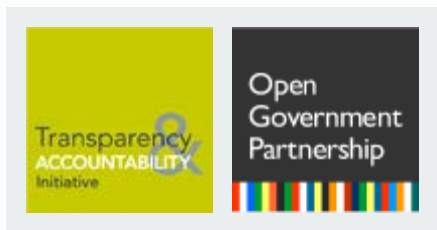
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Country Example

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Norway has developed an

electronic public records tool, which is used by central government agencies to publicise their public records online, and which is open for everyone to use

Norway's Electronic Public Records (Offentlig Elektronisk Postjournal or OEP) was developed in the late 1990s by the agency that later evolved into the Agency for Public Management and eGovernment. Originally a password-protected database, the OEP was developed to enable journalists to access public information. Its creation was made possible by the launch of the Noark 3 standard in 1994, which established a standard method of generating and uploading metadata through Electronic Document and Records Management Systems (EDRMS).

The OEP was updated in May 2010 as part of the Norwegian government's commitment to transparency and democracy under the Freedom of Information Act. While the previous OEP enabled public information to be sought by journalists and scientists, the new OEP can be used by any person with internet access.

The OEP is a collaborative tool which central government agencies, approximately 100 of them, use to publicise their public records

online. Public records data is stored in a searchable database from which the public can locate case documents and send requests to the agency responsible for that particular case. The agencies themselves then process the requests sent to them via OEP, and reply to users directly.

The OEP only contains documents from the period after May 2010 and the old, password protected, version is still running parallel to the new OEP. By the end of 2012, the new OEP contained over five million registry entries published by 105 government agencies, processing about 20,000 information requests a month. The greatest number of requests comes from journalists (50%). Citizens and businesses make 22% of requests, public employees 21% and researchers 3%.

Countries this example relates to...

Norway

Related Commitments

[Use IT to enhance access to information](#)

Related Topics

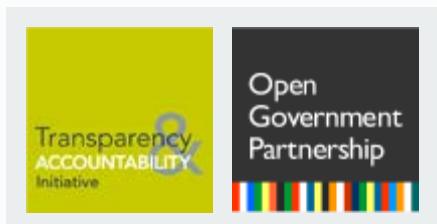
[Right to information](#)

RESOURCES

- <http://www.oep.no/nettsted/fad/OM-OEP.html>
- http://www.conferpapers.co.nz/wcioi_papers/Arne_Flifet_Paper.pdf

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Country Example

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Norway has established a

central digital repository through its Noark5 and digital archive initiatives

Submitted by: [International Records Management Trust](#)

In Norway, the Ministry of Government Administration, Reform and Church Affairs offers an Electronic Public Records System as part of the Norwegian Government's commitment to transparency and democracy within the public sector. Central government agencies use this tool daily to publicise metadata about the records they create online so that users can identify documents relevant to their interests and submit requests to see them. When these documents are a few years old, the National Archives of Norway receives the records from the ministries through a digital repository structure. In 2011, National Archives developed a 'smartphone app' to enable public access to records and data direct from its repositories.

Countries this example relates to...

Norway

Related Commitments

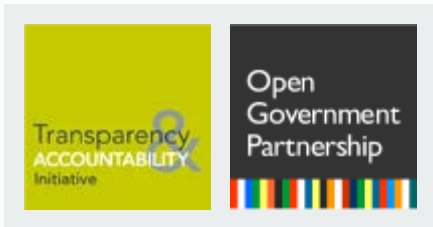
RESOURCES

- [Information about Noark5 from the Norwegian National Archives](#)
- [Digitization and Preservation Global Opportunities and Challenges](#)



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Country Example

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Norway was the first

government in the world to introduce standardised metadata requirements, and this has enabled a highly successful approach to freedom of information

 Submitted by: International Records Management Trust

In the 1980s, the National Archives of Norway recognized the importance of managing digital records as evidence and began to define good practice requirements for digital records systems. First introduced in 1984, the Norwegian Model Requirements for Electronic Records Management Systems (Noark) have evolved to structure the way government agencies capture, protect and provide access to official records in digital form.

As was the case in many European countries, public sector records in Norway had long been managed through registry systems that captured metadata about incoming and outgoing correspondence and gave the records their legal authority. Once registered, records could not be altered without authorisation and evidence of change. From the outset, the Noark Standard used the concept of metadata management, which was already established in Norwegian law, as the foundation for building information integrity. Noark mirrored principles defined in the Norwegian Governance Act (1967) and the Norwegian Freedom of Information Act (1970), which together

defined a set of core metadata elements (date of registration, record number, sender/ recipient information, description of content or subject, document date, classification code, date, and method of processing). The requirement for mandatory metadata has continued with each successive version of Noark.

Norway's revised Freedom of Information Act of 2006, implemented in 2009, took access to information to a new level. Rooted in a commitment to protect transparency and citizens' rights through access to public sector information, the law required government agencies to upload, daily, standardized metadata, as defined in Noark for incoming and outgoing documents to an electronic records registry. This evolved into a searchable database that gives Norway's citizens a degree of access to reliable information that is unparalleled anywhere in the world.

Countries this example relates to...

Norway

Related Commitments

[Establish and implement standardised requirements for managing digital records and metadata across government in line with international good practice standards](#)

Related Topics

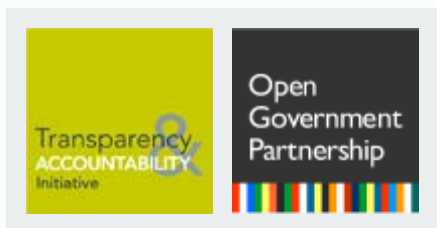
[Records management](#)

RESOURCES

- [Norwegian Archives Standard \(Noark\), version 5](#)
- [Case study on Norway by the International Records Management Trust \(see pp. 31-33\)](#)

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Country Example

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Numerous countries do

not criminalise unauthorised disclosures by members of the media or public

 Submitted by: Open Society Foundations

For instance, in Germany, the criminal law was amended in 2012 to release journalists from the risk of being charged with aiding and abetting the “violation of official secrets” for disclosing classified information. If the unauthorised disclosure does not amount to treason or espionage, and is not in wartime, several countries – including Moldova, the Russian Federation and Slovenia – limit criminal responsibility for unauthorised disclosures only to public servants.

In the United States, the Intelligence Identities Protection Act of 1981 provides criminal penalties in certain circumstances for intentional, unauthorised disclosure of information identifying a covert agent. However, offenders without authorised access to classified information are subject to punishment only if they participated in a pattern of activity designed to discover and reveal the identities of covert agents and had reason to believe that such disclosure would harm U.S. intelligence operations.

Other countries including Brazil, Chile, and Mexico distinguish between the penalties available for the unauthorised disclosure of information by members of the press and public on the one hand, and public servants, on the other.

Countries this example relates to...

Germany, Russian Federation, Slovenia, Moldova, Republic Of, United States, Brazil, Chile, Mexico

Related Commitments

Ensure that journalists and others who publish classified information are not subject to penalties, except in egregious cases

Related Topics

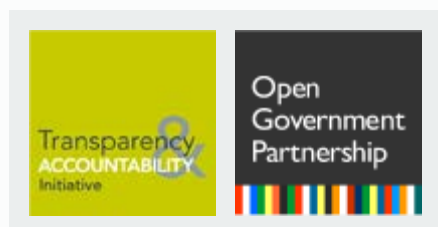
Security sector

RESOURCES

- [Application no. 50376/09 - Gîrleanu v. Romania](#)
- [On Freedom of Expression and Communications Surveillance](#)

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Country Example

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Public participation is

enshrined in the Constitution of South Africa

 Submitted by: Involvement

The South African Constitution enshrines the principle that 'The public must be encouraged to participate in policy making'. The Constitutional Court interprets this principle to include the responsibility to build public capacity for involvement and to give weight to public responses. Courts may strike down as invalid any legislation passed without adequate public participation

Parliamentary rules require the publication of a notice of intention to introduce a bill in the Government Gazette before it is tabled. The notice will usually contain an invitation to submit written submissions on the draft bill. In addition to oral and written submissions, public participation is enabled through setting up of public participation offices, increasing access to constituency offices and conducting parliamentary roadshows.

The Public Service Commission (PSC) has over the years investigated the mechanisms implemented by government departments to facilitate public participation in the Public Service. Overall, the PSC's studies have found that the nature and extent of public participation is generally adhoc and inadequate, and that concerted efforts are necessary to improve the situation. One of the critical measures it identified was the need for departmental guidelines on how public participation is carried out and used to inform policy and practice. The PSC therefore developed a generic template which departments can in turn use to

RELATED EXAMPLES

FEATURED [The UK government has issued guidance on consultation](#)

develop their own internal guidelines.

Countries this example relates to...

[South Africa](#)

Related Commitments

[Establish legislation and guidelines on public consultation in policy development](#)

Related Topics

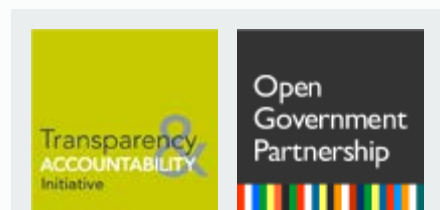
[Citizen engagement](#)

RESOURCES

- [South African Constitution](#)
- [PSC Guidelines](#)

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Rwanda started publishing

a Citizen's Guide to the Budget in 2009

Submitted by: [International Budget Partnership](#)

Rwanda's Ministry of Finance first published a Citizen's Guide to the Budget in June 2009. The first edition was quite dense and not tailored to non-specialist readers. However in 2010 they produced a more user-friendly guide, using less technical language and including cartoons. It was produced in French, English, and Kinyarwanda and more than 10,000 copies were distributed. It also highlighted how citizens can get involved in developing and monitoring the national budget.

Countries this example relates to...

[Rwanda](#)

Related Commitments

[Publish a Citizens' Budget](#)

Related Topics

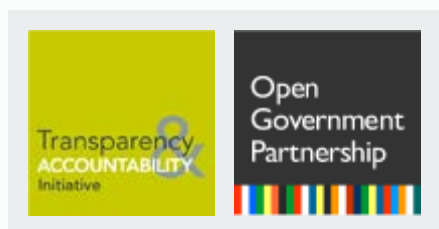
[Budgets](#)

RESOURCES

- [Rwanda_2011-12](#)
- [Rwanda_transparency_and_citizens_guide](#)

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Country Example

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Rwanda's Ombudsman

carries out audits on randomly chosen asset declarations

Submitted by: [Project team](#)

The Office of the Ombudsman of Rwanda, established in 2003, is responsible for the collection of declarations and for monitoring submission compliance and verifying the accuracy of approximately six percent of the nearly 5,000 declarations it receives each year. The Office of the Ombudsman chooses which declarations to audit by targeting a portion of filers based on their position, and randomly chooses a sample of declarations to audit. These audits entail not only verifying that the assets and values declared match government and banking records, but also lifestyle checks and house visits.

[Source: World Bank]

RELATED EXAMPLES

FEATURED [Slovenia uses a random sampling method to test asset disclosures](#)

Countries this example relates to...

Rwanda

Related Commitments

[Establish a system of oversight for asset and conflicts of interest disclosures](#)

Related Topics

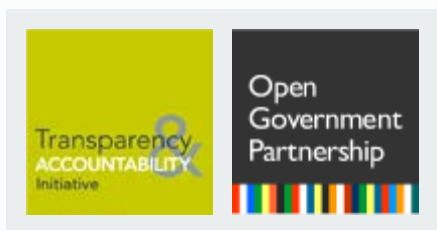
[Assets disclosure and conflicts of interest](#)

RESOURCES

- [World Bank case study](#)

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Country Example

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Seventeen countries have

joined the Global Partnership for Social Accountability

The GPSA is a coalition of donors, governments and civil society organizations (CSOs) that aims to improve development results by supporting capacity building for enhanced citizen feedback and participation. The GPSA will contribute to country-level governance reforms and improved service delivery. To achieve this objective, the GPSA provides strategic and sustained support to CSOs' social accountability initiatives aimed at strengthening transparency and accountability.

Support is provided on two fronts: funding and knowledge. Through a global grant competition, grants are made available to CSOs for capacity building, research and knowledge dissemination, networking and programmatic activities related to social accountability in their country. The GPSA is also developing a global platform for knowledge exchange and research, especially in measuring and documenting 'what works' in social accountability and the impact of social accountability interventions.

Before a Call for Proposals is issued, multi-stakeholder consultations are held in each country to define thematic priority areas that CSO proposals will need to address. The countries that have formally opted in enable their CSOs to access funding are:

- Bangladesh
- Belarus
- Colombia
- The Dominican Republic

- Honduras
- Indonesia
- Kyrgyz Republic
- Malawi
- Moldova
- Mongolia
- Mozambique
- Paraguay
- Senegal
- The Philippines
- Tajikistan
- Togo
- Tunisia

[As of June 2013]

Countries this example relates to...

Belarus, Bangladesh, Colombia, Dominican Republic, Honduras, Indonesia, Kyrgyzstan, Malawi, Moldova, Republic Of, Mongolia, Mozambique, Paraguay, Senegal, Philippines, Tajikistan, Togo, Tunisia

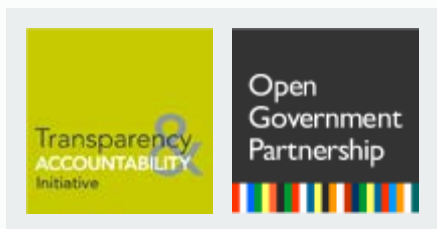
Related Commitments

RESOURCES

- [GPSA Website](#)

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Country Example

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Several countries in Africa

are working with the World Bank to collect Service Delivery Indicators on health and education

 Submitted by: Twaweza

Service Delivery Indicators (SDI) is an Africa wide initiative being undertaken by governments together with the World Bank. It collects actionable data on service delivery in schools and health facilities. The SDI data are used to assess the quality and performance of education and health services for decision makers to track progress over time, and for citizens to hold governments accountable for public spending.

The Service Delivery Indicators are a set of 20 indicators that examine the effort and ability of staff and the availability of key inputs and resources that contribute to a functioning School or health facility. They seek to assess service delivery performance and quality at frontline schools and health facilities from the citizens' perspective.

A standardized survey is used allowing for data comparison across countries as well as in country regions, Data will be collected and analyzed every two years from a sample of 200-300 schools and clinics in each country.

SDI results will be published. In Kenya, Hivos is working to support Civil Society Organisations (CSOs), media organisations and journalists to present the information revealed by the data to the

general public, in user friendly ways.

Countries this example relates to...

Kenya, Tanzania, United Republic Of, Nigeria, Senegal, Uganda

Related Commitments

[Publish key public service performance data](#)

Related Topics

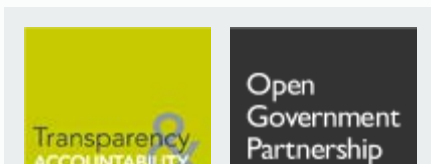
[Public services](#)

RESOURCES

- [Service delivery indicators website](#)
- [Hivos article](#)

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Country Example

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Sierra Leone is rebuilding

its records control regime after a long period of internal conflict

 Submitted by: international Records Management Trust

In Sierra Leone, records controls deteriorated over recent decades, and the situation was compounded by a period of internal conflict between 1991 and 2002. When peace was restored, chronic records management problems affected every public sector agency. Many essential records had been lost or corrupted, particularly in relation to personnel information where there was a widespread practice of altering records or removing them from files to gain employment benefits.

The Government recognised the impact of the loss of control of public sector records in relation to the efficiency of government operations, accountability and transparency, and economic development. Senior government stakeholders realised that the control regime had to be almost entirely rebuilt. A Record Management Improvement Project was initiated in 2005 to address these issues. A records team studied the national arrangements for managing public sector records as well as sector specific records systems across key public sector functions. On the basis of the findings, the Government moved forward to develop a national records control regime, and at the same time it identified pay and personnel information as key to economic recovery. A new methodology was developed for rebuilding paper-based personnel records systems and linking them to the Human Capital Accountability Module of the Integrated Financial Information Management System.

Countries this example relates to...

Sierra Leone

Related Commitments

Conduct a gap analysis to determine whether there is a sound control regime in place for managing government records in relation to international records and information management good practice standards, national development needs and aspirations for openness

Related Topics

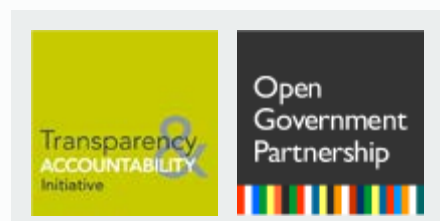
Records management

RESOURCES

- [Sierra Leone case study by International Records Management Trust](#)

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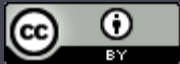
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Country Example

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Sierra Leone set up an

online mineral concession registry

 Submitted by: Project team

The Minerals Cadastre Administration System (MCAS), was set up in Sierra Leone in 2009. An MCAS is a means for government to collect, organize, maintain and deliver data on mineral resources in an integrated and effective way. It is a tool responsible for the administration of resource rights.

There are two parts to the system:

- The database. A database of key information on mining licenses, including their status, location, fees paid/outstanding and ownership of exploration and extraction rights. Data is collected from across government entities, as well as a number of newly established rurally based offices. The licenses are mapped using Geographic Information Systems (GIS) technology, which allows users to view coordinates of concessions on a detailed map of Sierra Leone. The IT system organises and maintains the data by providing a real time check throughout the lifecycle of the licenses and automatically notifies users of outstanding payments, correspondence or status of license.
- The online public portal. As part of the MCAS, a Mining Repository was established in 2012 which publishes all the data on mining licenses on a web interface. This interface is easily accessible online and delivers the information directly

to users.

These information systems were accompanied by a number of additional measures:

- A Mining Cadastre Office was established, acting as the focal point for all applications and license holders.
- A Data Sharing Agreement was signed in order to establish a clear mandate within government ministries and agencies to share information relevant to the MCAS.
- An inter-ministerial task force was created and has set up joint inspection teams in order to use the reconciled data to collect outstanding revenue.

The Natural Resources Charter identifies three key success factors:

- Political support. The mandate for establishing a MCAS in the new Mining Act of 2009 as well as strong political backing was a vital condition for overcoming opposition to improved transparency from entrenched interests.
- Government cooperation. First, an official Data Sharing Agreement was signed by ministers, providing an official mandate for sharing financial and MCAS information. Second, an inter-ministerial Task Force of all reporting agencies of the MCAS was established and meets on a weekly basis.
- Donor/contractor support to train government staff. The continued backing of the donors has also been crucial due to a lack of institutional capacity. To this end the contractors which established the online system also had staff based within the Mining Cadastre Office to support change in administrative processes. Training has also been provided to government staff on how to use the IT based systems.

[Source: Natural Resource Charter]

Countries this example relates to...

Sierra Leone

Related Commitments

[Create a public web registry of all natural resource concessions](#)

Related Topics

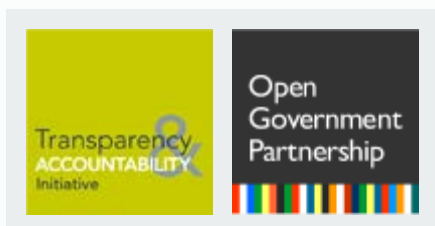
[Extractive industry](#)

RESOURCES

- [Sierra Leone portal](#)
- [Natural Resource Charter case study](#)

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Country Example

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Slovenia uses a random

sampling method to test asset disclosures

Submitted by: [Project team](#)

The Integrity and Prevention of Corruption Act from 2010 improved the system of oversight for assets disclosure in Slovenia. For example, it made provision for asset declarations to be chosen for content verification through a random selection process to identify which cases reveal a disproportionate increase in wealth or a discrepancy between the contents of the declarations and information contained in external registries. The number of declarations selected depends on the number of staff available to verify content and, therefore, may vary from year to year. In 2009, 33 percent of all declarations were selected to undergo verification, with a staff-to-declaration ratio of 1 to 413.

Countries this example relates to...

[Slovenia](#)

Related Commitments

[Establish a system of oversight for asset and conflicts of interest disclosures](#)

Related Topics

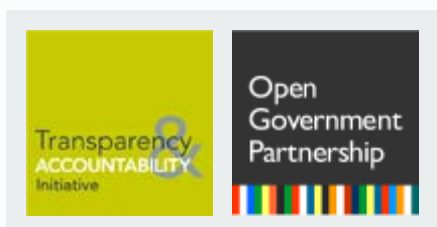
[Assets disclosure and conflicts of interest](#)

RESOURCES

- [World Bank case study](#)

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Country Example

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South Africa has an

Independent Electoral Commission

 Submitted by: [National Democratic Institute for International Affairs](#)

South Africa's Independent Electoral Commission, established in 1993, is the permanent body created by the South African Constitution to manage free and fair elections at all levels of government. The Commission is selected through an inclusive process.

It provides a range of election related material on its website including electoral timetables, laws and regulations, and annual reports and strategic documents. It also makes available the results data (in a machine-readable format) for every election since 1994 and allows voters to check their registration and voting location.

Its Municipal Demarcation Board provides information related to drawing electoral boundaries and must report annually to the national and each state legislature on its activities.

Countries this example relates to...

[South Africa](#)

Related Commitments

[Establish a legal framework for impartiality, effectiveness and transparency in elections](#)

[Make available information related to electoral processes](#)

[Make election related data available proactively](#)

Related Topics

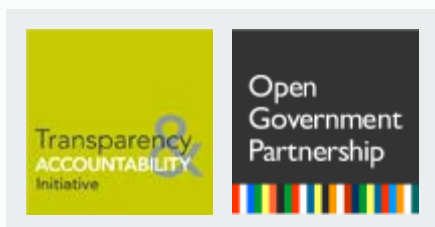
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[Website of the Independent Electoral Commission](#)

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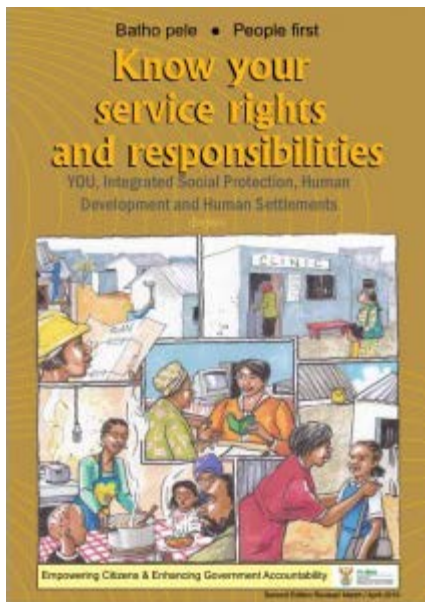
Country Example

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South Africa has carried

out a national public education campaign on Know Your Service Rights and Responsibilities

Submitted by: [Twaweza](#)



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FEATURED [Brazil's Bolsa Família program is backed by a widespread information campaign](#)

[Chile's healthcare system sets out guarantees on access, quality and cost of public healthcare](#)

The campaign aims to inform citizens about their service rights, responsibilities, and legal mechanisms available to hold government accountable. The "Know Your Service Rights and Responsibilities" booklet was developed in 2010 and more than 35,000 brochures were distributed with the aim to distribute more through 2013 and 2014.

As part of the national OGP Action Plan the Department of Public Service and Administration intensified engagements with

communities on the campaign for example informing people about how to apply for housing subsidies and each government department has an outreach programme. However a key weakness of the booklet is that it has only been produced in English.

Countries this example relates to...

South Africa

Related Commitments

[Publish and promote information on the public services people are entitled to](#)

Related Topics

[Public services](#)

RESOURCES

- [South African Government booklet](#)
- [OGP IRM report](#)

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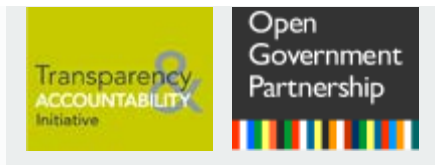
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Country Example

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South Africa has

conducted an in-depth assessment of its procurement system

 Submitted by: Open Contracting Partnership

South Africa has embarked on an ambitious public sector reform agenda targeting improved efficiency, effectiveness and integrity of its supply chain management system.

As part of the process, the Government of South Africa – in collaboration with the World Bank Public Integrity and Openness team, the Open Contracting team and the GIZ South Africa Governance Support Programme – conducted an in-depth assessment of the existing procurement system. The assessment team looked at the national development planning priorities, the legislative framework, systems and structures, and spoke with practitioners and stakeholders from the private sector and civil society to get an understanding of the tough challenges that were undermining the efficiency and integrity of the system. The assessment team generated a series of solutions aimed at harmonizing legislation, building capacity of practitioners, raising public awareness, and adopting digital and open data solutions.

The Government has subsequently identified several priority activities:

- Develop and prescribe a public disclosure framework that governs transparency within the supply chain management process. This should result in institutionalising disclosure.
- Prescribe that all information in the bid process be disclosed

publicly, including bid committee reports, minutes and contracts.

- Improve the accessibility of information. All government entities will be required to publish information on their respective websites in line with a public disclosure framework prescribed by the Office of the Chief Procurement Officer, and all information will be housed on its website.
- Improve the quality of information and encourage its strategic use.
- Create an environment conducive to stakeholder participation in the different stages of the supply chain management process.
- Build the capacity of the private sector, civil society and relevant stakeholders to take part effectively in enhancing transparent public supply chain management.

Countries this example relates to...

South Africa

Related Commitments

[Assess transparency and accountability of current system](#)

Related Topics

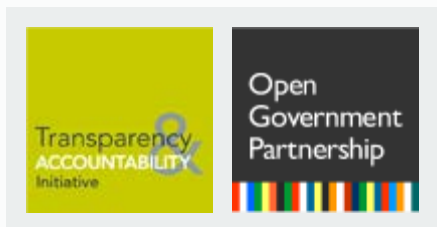
[Public contracting](#)

RESOURCES

- [The 2015 Public Sector Supply Chain Management Review](#)

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Country Example

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South Africa has guidelines

on involving excluded groups in environmental decision-making

Submitted by: [The Access Initiative](#)

In South Africa, there are legal provisions for citizens to contribute in environmental impact assessment processes. The government has a constitutional obligation to encourage public participation by local communities in matters that affects their day to day lives. Several relevant departments have also developed guidelines and policies on public participation in environmental impact assessments, particularly on how to engage excluded groups, such as rural population, poor people, black women, illiterate people, and young people.

Countries this example relates to...

[South Africa](#)

Related Commitments

[Establish procedures for ensuring poor and marginalised groups are included in public engagement on environmental decisions](#)

Related Topics

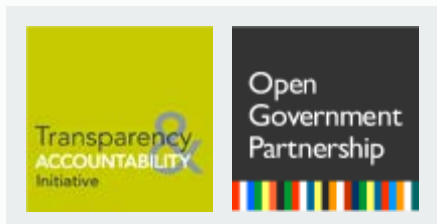
[Environment](#)

RESOURCES

- ❑ [Public participation guidelines for the South African government](#)
- ❑ [Guidelines for several public agencies in South Africa](#)

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Country Example

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South Africa set up an

online portal for mining applications and information

Submitted by: [Revenue Watch Institute](#)

The Department of Mineral Resources (DMR) launched the South African mineral resources administration (Samrad) online application system in order to streamline the application process and to make it transparent. Since 2011 all applications for prospecting rights, mining permits and mining rights have had to be submitted in electronic format on the department's website. The site includes a list of all applications for rights in terms of the Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act (MPRDA). Users can browse the locality of the rights applied for, rights granted and available land for any mineral or minerals anywhere in South Africa, and make applications.

However there have been technical problems and weaknesses with some users having difficulties in gaining access and problems of double-granting of rights and lengthy processing times. The system does not provide details of when an applicant has been issued with an instruction to proceed with a public participation process, making its use to the public limited.

Countries this example relates to...

South Africa

Related Commitments

[Create a public web registry of all natural resource](#)

[concessions](#)

Related Topics

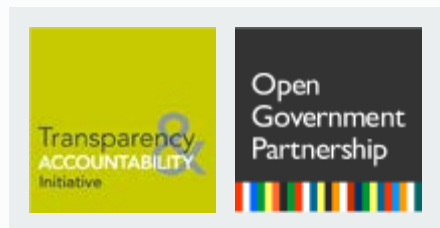
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Country Example

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South Korea has systems

to enable citizens to participate in budget decisions

Submitted by: International Budget Partnership

In South Korea the Budget Office introduced significant public financial management (PFM) reforms in 2003, including a medium term expenditure framework, performance based budgeting and integrated financial management system. This improved the budget process but posed a potential problem. Without credible mechanisms for setting multi-year budget ceilings and sticking to them they could easily be undermined. . In order to help make the budget ceilings effective the authorities developed a process of participation in the budget formulation process . This allows the government to assert that a realistic expenditure ceiling has been established, and the government's hands are tied in any attempt to renegotiate the ceiling. Citizen's involvement has also been encouraged to improve the execution of the budget and to enhance fiscal transparency between national and local government.

There are six main mechanisms for participation, formalised Open Discussions, field trips for central government officials to meet local government officials, a fiscal policy advisory council made up of civil society representatives and officials from national and local government, an assembly of experts, a budget waste report centre and public participation in audit. These processes are integrated into the annual budget formulation cycle.

Through the Budget Waste Report Center citizens can report any suspected cases of budget waste using an online form or a

telephone hotline. Citizens can suggest creative ways to save budget resources. Retired Budget Officials manage the hotline, sending cases to relevant departments. Advertising has been used to increase awareness and encourage participation. Public participation in auditing takes place in three ways. Citizens are encourage to suggest what public entity should be audited. They can request the audit board examines any reports of impropriety and can gather to collectively request audits, not only on budget waste, but also on delays in program implementation and completion and unreasonable public policy. In 2012 the budget office launched its first contest to gather creative ideas from the public on new fiscal projects. A total of 866 ideas were submitted and 12 suggestions were reflected in the budget.

[Source: World Bank, PREM Notes]

Countries this example relates to...

[Korea, Republic Of](#)

Related Commitments

[Enable citizen participation in budgeting](#)

Related Topics

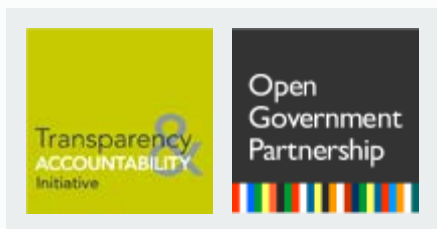
[Budgets](#)

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- [Open Budget Survey 2012](#)
- [World Bank Prem Notes](#)
- [OGP Fiscal Transparency Working Group Presentation](#)
- [World Bank blog post](#)

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Country Example

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South Korea separates its

defence budget into three secrecy categories

Submitted by: [Open Society Foundations](#)

To raise the transparency of defence budgeting while mitigating the risk of exposing highly sensitive security-related information, the South Korean government separates the defence budget into three categories, depending on the degree of secrecy. Category A budget items are presented for discussion to the entire National Assembly in an aggregated form; Category B budget items are revealed to members of a designated National Assembly Committee of National Defence in a disaggregated and detailed form; and Category C items are further disaggregated and presented only to the Committee of National Defence. Organising information by degree of secrecy and designating special committees with the necessary level of security clearance has allowed for greater parliamentary control over the budget process.

[Source: J Chul Choi, 'Chapter 6: South Korea', in Pal Singh R (ed.), *Arms Procurement Decision Making Volume I: China, India, Japan, South Korea and Thailand*, 1998, http://books.sipri.org/product_info?c_product_id=156#contents]

Countries this example relates to...

Korea, Republic Of

Related Commitments

[Ensure opportunity for public engagement in all stages of military budgeting and spending](#)

Related Topics

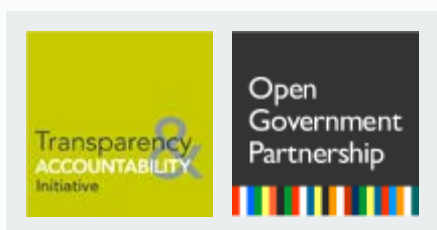
[Security sector](#)

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[TI study on defence budget transparency](#)

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Country Example

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State governments in India

use social audit techniques to monitor government programs

Submitted by: [International Budget Partnership](#)

In the Indian state of Andhra Pradesh, social audits techniques are being used to hold government accountable. Social audits, apart from including audit of expenses or decisions, also cover issues of equity and quality in programme implementation, and are conducted jointly by government and civil society. The social audit process used here includes public vigilance and verification at the various stages of project implementation. Social audit forums, or public hearings, are also organised as part of the process. In these forums information is read out publicly and people are given the opportunity to question officials, seek and obtain information, verify financial expenditure, examine the provision of entitlements, discuss the priorities reflected in choices made, and critically evaluate the quality of works as well as the functioning of the programme staff.

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[Enable citizen participation in budgeting](#)

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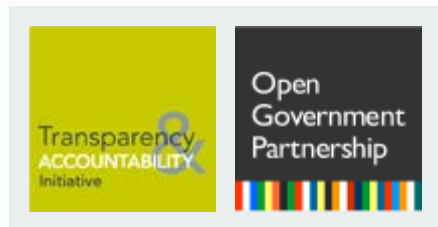
[Budgets](#)

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- [Information from Andhra Pradesh Government website](#)

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Sweden has launched a

web-based platform, Openaid.se to provide access to aid data in open format in line with IATI

 Submitted by: Publish What You Fund

Aid transparency features heavily in Sweden's Open Government Partnership National Action Plan. The three main components of Sweden's aid transparency agenda are: Open Aid- a reform agenda, a transparency guarantee, and Openaid.se- a web-based platform.

1. In 2009, Sweden launched Open Aid, a reform agenda for Swedish development cooperation with the purpose of opening up development cooperation to transparency and ideas from others.
2. In 2010, a transparency guarantee was introduced into Swedish development assistance. The guarantee means that all public documents and public information will be made available online. The information must explain when, to whom and why money has been made available, and what results have been achieved. The transparency guarantee applies to all public actors who have been allocated funds under the international development cooperation expenditure area.
3. In 2011, Sweden launched a web-based platform, Openaid.se. It is a data-hub providing Swedish aid information on disbursements in an open format, thereby allowing citizens, CSOs and entrepreneurs to use, refine and develop the data provided. The aid information is provided on a global scale, at

country level, per sector or by implementing agency. It is in line with the International Aid Transparency Initiative although full implementation of the IATI standard is promised by 2015.

Countries this example relates to...

Sweden

Related Commitments

[Begin publishing information to the IATI Registry \(donors\)](#)

Related Topics

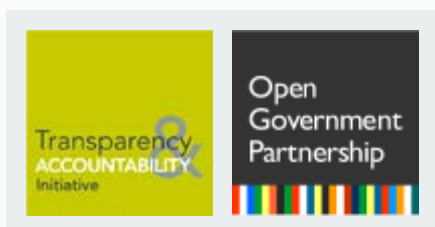
[Aid](#)

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- [OGP Action Plan for Sweden](#)

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Sweden is developing

common specifications to support government agencies in transferring digital records between records management systems and a digital archive

 Submitted by: International Records Management Trust

Sweden's e-Archive and e-Diarium Project (eARD) originated as an initiative from the Swedish eGovernment Delegation, which identified e-archiving and e-registration of records as one of several strategic success factors for effective e-government. Based on the vision that drives the project, it should be easy to retrieve, reuse and transfer information held by public authorities to a digital archive. The aim is to ensure the necessary functionality and interoperability, both within the internal administration and between the administration and citizens and businesses.

The project, in which the National Archives of Sweden has played a leading role, has involved developing common specifications for government agencies for transferring digital records between records management systems and a digital archive. The specifications are structured descriptions of the functional and

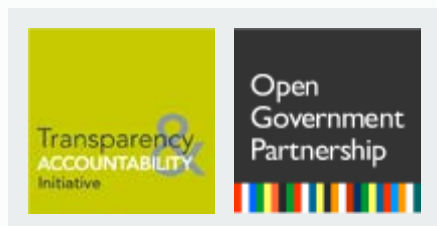
technical requirements that meet the needs of all or part of the government administration. They provide guidance for developing regulations and for system procurement that will facilitate searching for and retrieving information for both the government agencies and citizens. The guidelines and specifications are seen as a prerequisite for establishing inter-agency information sharing and long-term information provision. For this to be feasible, requirements for mandatory metadata capture are to be identified to meet the basic requirements of all agencies.

RESOURCES

- [E-Archive and e-Diarium Project \(eARD\)](#)

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Tanzania carried out water

point mapping

Submitted by: OGP Support Unit

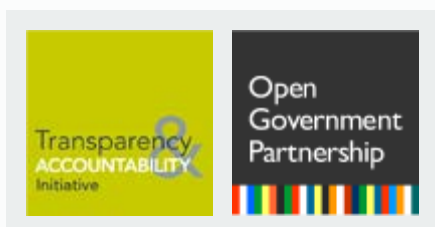
Working with local stakeholders, the government has created an information system which can link every level of the water supply chain to rural communities, highlighting issues of equity and functionality at all levels. Water point mapping provides a baseline of information for improving performance of the water system.

RESOURCES

- [OGP Case Study](#)

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Country Example

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Tanzania produced a

Citizen's Budget Handbook

Submitted by: [OGP Support Unit](#)

In Tanzania the Ministry of Finance (MoF) worked with the Policy Forum network of NGOs to produce a Citizen's Budget Handbook — a simplified digest of the national budget. It explains concepts, avoids using too much technical jargon, and uses cartoons and simple graphs to make it easy to understand. It is produced in English and Swahili, and gives a particular focus to those areas that have a direct impact on citizens livelihoods such as education, health, water, energy and transport.

Countries this example relates to...

[Tanzania, United Republic Of](#)

Related Commitments

[Publish a Citizens' Budget](#)

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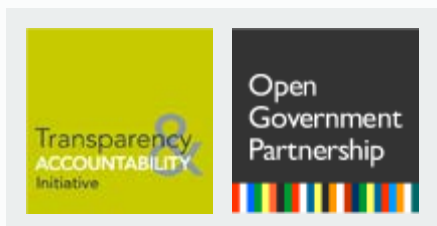
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- [OGP Case Study](#)
- [Citizens Budget Handbook](#)

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Country Example

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The Brazilian ministry of

finance publishes large amount of budget data in machine-readable formats

 Submitted by: Project team

Brazil has developed a number of instruments for fiscal transparency. The most well known initiative perhaps is the transparency portal www.portaltransparencia.gov.br/, which was started in 2004 and which draws together information from across the federal government. The portal includes information on public revenues, budgets and spending as well as income and assets of public servants and information on procurement. It is updated daily and provides searchable, open access to the data, as well as offering specific sections focused on areas of particular interest such as the World Cup and the Olympics.

The portal aims to provide information which can be easily accessed and used. For example budget lines are tagged with popular names (for example 'bolsa familia' as well as the official title 'Transferência de renda e apoio à família no acesso à saúde e a à educação'). The information in the budget portal is provided in the form of open, machine readable data, so that it can be used and reused by civil society, media and other organisations to create analysis, visualisations and tools to navigate the information.

As the practice of transparency has developed, so too has the legal framework. In 2012 Brazil established a new Transparency Law obliging all Brazilian public entities (executive, judiciary and legislative bodies at the federal, state and municipality levels, as well as in the federal district) to publish detailed budget data online

in real time. The transparency initiative is led by the Office of the Comptroller General. Significant effort has been put into education and dialogue, both within and outside of government, to understand user information needs, to support users to use the data and to generate high quality information flows.

As part of its first OGP Action Plan Brazil has been providing more budget information on its transparency portal, improving data on social benefits and on contracts. In its second Action Plan there is a plan to rebuild the Transparency Portal completely, based on learning from the first ten years, to improve quality and usability and to connect budget information to datasets on actions. The federal government is now working to encourage states and municipalities to develop their own portals.

[Source: Based on a webinar presentation by Otavio Castro Neves, July 30 2013]

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[Brazil](#)

Related Commitments

[Publish all budget reports as open data](#)

[Mandate the publication of new data sets](#)

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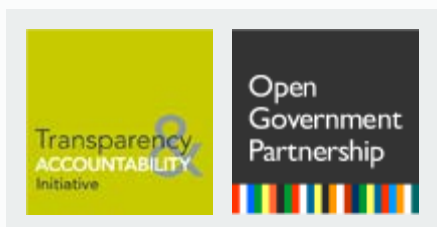
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Country Example

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The Californian city of

Vallejo carries out participatory budgeting at the city-level

 Submitted by: [OpenGovGuide](#)

Vallejo, California, has adopted participatory budgeting on a citywide scale allowing residents to come up with and approve projects they feel are the most important to them and to the health of the city.

The participatory budgeting process in Vallejo is made up of five stages. From February to March, the city holds budget assemblies where city officials present the year's budget and residents meet in small groups to brainstorm project ideas. From March to August, delegates meet to transform project ideas into full proposals. In September, those delegates return to the community to collect information to finalise proposals. In October, residents vote on which projects to fund – those with the most votes are then presented to the city council for consideration and final approval in November.

Participatory budgeting in Vallejo began in 2013 when nearly 4,000 Vallejo residents voted to fund 12 projects, including community gardens, street lighting and road repairs, park improvements, and youth and senior programmes. In 2014 eight projects were chosen, including improving school meals, special fire rescue vehicle replacement, and a project to help to homeless veterans, seniors, disabled and children.

In 2014 Vallejo institutionalised participatory budgeting by hiring three full-time staff to co-ordinate the process and watch over the

implementation of winning project. Participatory budgeting in Vallejo costs about \$300,000 a year to administer.

Countries this example relates to...

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Related Commitments

[Enable citizen participation in budgeting](#)

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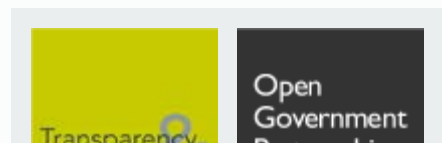
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RESOURCES

- [News piece by American City and County](#)
- [Website of ParticipatoryBudgeting.org](#)
- [City of Vallejo website](#)

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Country Example

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The Canadian government

developed an Accord with the Voluntary Sector

The Accord is a framework that represents a public commitment by the Government of Canada and the voluntary sector to more open, transparent, consistent and collaborative ways for the two sectors to work together. It has as its base are the values of active citizenship, democracy, equality, diversity, inclusion and social justice.

The Accord establishes the following commitments to action for the Government of Canada and the voluntary sector:

- The Government will consider the implications of legislation, policies and programs on the sector and engage the sector in open, informed and sustained dialogue, and
- The voluntary sector will identify important or emerging issues and trends and bring them to the Government of Canada's attention and call upon the full depth and diversity of voluntary organizations when at the table.

A Code of Good Practice on Funding and the Code of Good Practice on Policy Dialogue were developed as a resource of tangible, concrete ideas about how to take the spirit and guidelines of the Accord and put them into action in both government and voluntary sector organisations.

Countries this example relates to...

Canada

Related Commitments

[Develop a compact with civil society to achieve common goals](#)

Related Topics

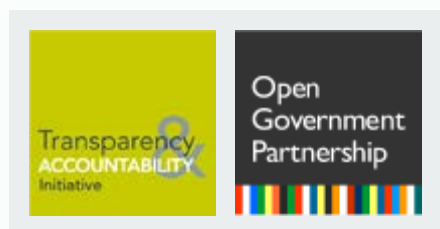
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RESOURCES

- [An Accord Between the Government of Canada and the Voluntary Sector](#)

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The City of Edmonton has

set up a Centre for Public Involvement

 Submitted by: Involvement

The Centre for Public Involvement was proposed in 2009 as a partnership between the City of Edmonton and University of Alberta. It was proposed in response to a demonstrated and recognized need for decision-makers and the public to actively seek, consider and apply the most effective means for public involvement. The collaboration is designed to advance research and learning in the area of public involvement, with the objective of enhanced decision-making at all levels.

As an independent and non-aligned third-party organization, the Centre for Public Involvement (CPI) is focused on building the will and capacity for innovation in public involvement. Using this foundation, CPI facilitates a rich collaboration, identifying best practices, and seeking and achieving results locally, nationally and internationally.

The Centre promotes innovation and identifies and tests new models and processes in partnership with public involvement professionals, researchers, organizations, and the public. At its base, the Centre links University of Alberta faculty and students with City of Edmonton staff and decision makers. This is enhanced through additional collaborations whereby the Centre works in partnership with members of the public involvement industry to accelerate evidence based, emerging and innovative public involvement applications.

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FEATURED [Denmark set up a centre of expertise on collaborative democracy, starting with a focus on technology issues](#)

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Canada

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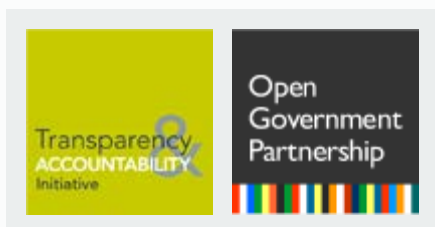
[Establish a centre of expertise and designate resources to support the institutionalisation of citizen engagement](#)

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Country Example

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The City of Gerardton

developed a plan for the city's future through participation

 Submitted by: Involve

The Greater Geraldton City Region in Western Australia is at a crossroads. It faces big challenges for its future growth and sustainability, with depleting fishing and agriculture on the one hand, and new developments – port and rail, large scale renewable energy and mining – on the other, each having significant implications for the city region. Geraldton is using the challenges that face them environmentally, socially and economically to revitalise their democratic governance, providing opportunities for ordinary people to play their part in co-creating their future.

Over 2,000 people (approximately 6% of the population) have been involved in deliberations. This effort has been supported by 40 volunteer Community Champions, ordinary citizens who have been trained to organise and facilitate small-scale deliberative techniques. In 2010/11, this included 36 World Cafes fostering lively discussions about the region, where people would like to see it in 2029, and how change could be implemented to reach this vision; this was followed by around 20 Conversation Cafes (in local cafes) to help understand what people meant by “the Gero feel” (often mentioned), i.e. Geraldton’s identity.

Importantly, socio-economic inclusivity and full engagement of the community was ensured through the participation of young people and local Aboriginal people in seven separate World Cafes and numerous Conversation Cafes, where they constituted the majority,

as well as concerted efforts to elicit their participation in the large-scale public deliberations. Digital deliberative democracy is being generated through an innovative platform, CivicEvolution, which enables self managed groups to develop ideas that interest them into proposals that can be considered by the Alliance Group. Aided by the local newspaper's social media site, and focusing each week on one of the deliberative proposals generated, over 4,000 residents have been attracted to comment.

These face-to-face and online deliberative processes during 2010/11 resulted in prioritised proposals (by citizens and the Alliance Group) being implemented. These included planting one million trees, now well in progress, plans for both youth and indigenous centres, more cycle pathways and better communication about 2029. Longer-term initiatives have been incorporated into the City Region Strategic Plan, Including improvement of public transport and a focus on renewable energy.

A one-day event with over 150 randomly sampled residents deliberated two big issues facing the community. Unexpectedly, they determined that the City Region should focus on becoming carbon neutral, and it should not be supportive of the mining companies' push for a fly-in-fly-out workforce. Later in 2011, there was a focus on city regional planning. Small-scale deliberations culminated in an Enquiry by Design process involving 250 participants (citizens and stakeholders) over a three-day period. Extraordinarily, over 200 community participants remained engaged from the first full day of deliberation through to the end of the two afternoons/evenings. This process resulted in an agreed overall City Regional Plan with clear guidelines to underlie any future plans. Based on the outcomes of the 2029 process to date, a Community Action Plan was developed and has now become a 'Community Charter'. This documents the community's aspirations together with a series of practical reforms, to be jointly 'owned' by the citizens, industry and the government departments involved.

Countries this example relates to...

Australia

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[Engage citizens in deliberation on a priority issue](#)

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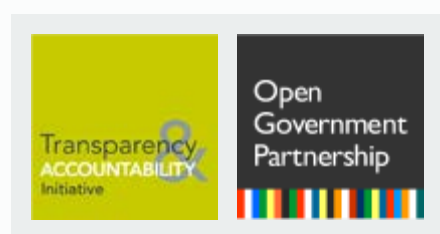
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[Involve: From Fairy Tale to Reality case study](#)

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Country Example

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The Dodd-Frank Act in the

US requires companies to report on how much they pay governments for access to oil, gas and minerals

 Submitted by: [Revenue Watch Institute and Center for Global Development](#)

In July 2010, the U.S. Congress passed Section 1504 of the Dodd-Frank Act, a measure requiring companies registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) to publicly report how much they pay governments for access to oil, gas and minerals.

Dodd-Frank 1504 adds to existing stock listing requirements in the US by obliging all extractive companies to publish the payments they make to the US and foreign governments in the countries where they operate. This information is to be disclosed in an annual document to the US Securities and Exchange Commission.

All companies that are listed in the US and engage in the commercial development of oil, gas and other minerals (defined in Dodd-Frank 1504 as exploration, extraction, processing, export and other significant actions) will be covered. This includes eight of the ten largest mining companies and 29 of the 32 largest internationally active oil companies.

Companies that engage in the commercial development of oil,

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[The Flemish government's open data policy that makes open-by-default the standard](#)

natural gas or minerals will have to report – The type and total amount of payments made for each project, and, – The type and total amounts of payments made to each government.

These payments cover report taxes, royalties, fees (including license fees), production entitlements and bonuses.

Countries this example relates to...

[United States](#)

Related Commitments

[Require all listed companies to disclose resource related payments on a project by project basis](#)

[Require combined and country-by-country reporting by multinational companies operating in the jurisdiction](#)

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[Extractive industry](#)

[Tax and Illicit flows](#)

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- [Revenue Watch briefing](#)
- [Publish What You Pay briefing](#)

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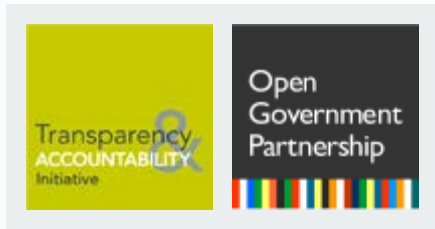
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The Dutch government has

set up an independent, confidential advice service for whistleblowers

 Submitted by: Whistleblowers International Network

While there is no comprehensive national law in the Netherlands protecting whistleblowers in all sectors, there are regulations in local and central government, the police and defence. In order to assist and facilitate potential whistleblowers in making reports of malpractice or wrongdoing, the Dutch Government and social partners (including employer and employee representative organisations) decided that advice and support free of charge was needed for potential whistleblowers – along the lines of the independent non-governmental body and charity Public Concern at Work in the United Kingdom. In October 2012, the ‘Adviespunt Klokkeluiders’ (Advice Centre for Whistleblowers) opened with a view to reviewing its effectiveness by the end of 2014.

The Advice Centre is incorporated and funded by the Ministry of Interior Relations and the Ministry for Social Affairs and Employment but is independent of them. It consists of a three-member committee – representing the private sector, the public sector and the trade unions – and a small staff team including four senior legal counsels, a communication consultant and an office manager.

The Advice Centre is a confidential advice service available free of charge to anyone in work in the Netherlands and aims to advise and support individual whistleblowers in specific cases; provide general information to whistleblowers and employers on

whistleblowing and procedures; and report regularly on patterns and developments in the field of whistleblowing and integrity.

Countries this example relates to...

Netherlands

Related Commitments

[Set up or support independent confidential advice services for whistleblowers](#)

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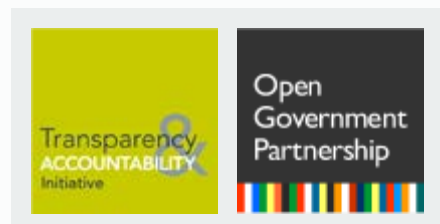
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[Website of the Advice Centre for Whistleblowers](#)

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Country Example

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The England and Wales

Land Registry contains an inventory of all available data

 Submitted by: [Sunlight Foundation](#)

The Land Registry is a UK government department established in 1862, responsible to the Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills. It keeps and maintains the Land Register for England and Wales; one of the world's largest property datasets.

A number of [free datasets](#) have been published since 2012 under the Open Government Licence (OGL) in CSV and Excel formats, and as of January 2013 as linked data. The Land registry is progressively adding more datasets, focusing on those it judges to be of wider public interest, information frequently requested and information that is not available from elsewhere. As part of this process the Land Registry released a dataset inventory to provide a transparent, comprehensive list of the data it holds, clearly outlining whether it can release it as open data, and inviting feedback to prioritise future data releases.

Countries this example relates to...

United Kingdom

Related Commitments

[Create public listings of government data, and audit data availability and management](#)

Related Topics

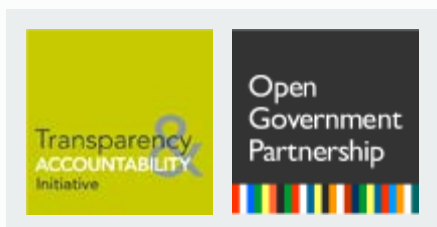
[Open government data](#)

RESOURCES

- [Land Registry Dataset Inventory](#)
- [Land Registry statement on open government data](#)

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Country Example

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The EU requires extractive

companies to publish their payments on a country-by-country and project-by-project basis

Submitted by: [Revenue Watch Institute and Center for Global Development](#)

In July 2013 European Parliament approved the EU Transparency and Accounting Directives, which will oblige all extractive listed companies (and large non-listed) to publish their payments on a country-by-country and project-by-project basis. The European Commission Accounting Directive, introduces a new obligation for large extractive and logging companies to report the payments they make to governments. Reporting would also be carried out on a project basis, where payments have been attributed to specific projects.

The Directive introduces a new obligation for listed and large non-listed extractive and logging companies to report all material payments to governments broken down by country and by project, when these payments have been attributed to a specific project. Production entitlements, taxes, royalties, dividends, bonuses, licence fees and payments for infrastructure improvements must be reported.

Countries this example relates to...

Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Denmark, Estonia, France, Finland, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Ireland, Lithuania,

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Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Russian Federation, Romania, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom, Czech Republic, Latvia, Malta, Poland, Spain, Slovakia (Slovak Republic)

Related Commitments

[Require all listed companies to disclose resource related payments on a project by project basis](#)

[Require combined and country-by-country reporting by multinational companies operating in the jurisdiction](#)

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[Extractive industry](#)

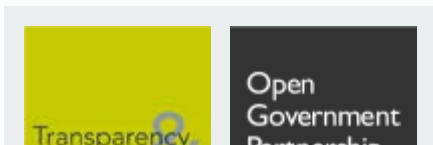
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Country Example

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The EU started publishing

details of fisheries access agreements with developing countries in the early 1990s

Submitted by: [Christian Michelsen Institute](#)

All contracts signed between the EU and third countries are available on the EU's website, as well as some meeting notes from the joint committees that oversee the implementation of these agreements. Certain other documents, such as ex ante and post ante evaluations of these agreements commissioned by the European Commission (EC) were considered confidential until 2012, but through advocacy campaigns and formal requests for information sent to the EC, these are now being published by the EC and NGOs.

Countries this example relates to...

Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia (Local Name: Hrvatska), Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia (Slovak Republic), Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom

Related Commitments

[Publish detailed and up-to-date information on the proposed contents of bilateral fisheries access agreements](#)

Related Topics

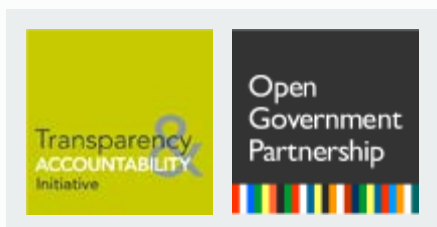
Fisheries

RESOURCES

- [Information from the European Commission's website](#)
- [Information about EU fisheries agreements in Africa](#)

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Country Example

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The Government of

Estonia has issued a series of guidelines on minimum requirements for Estonian public sector document and records management systems, including minimum metadata standards

 Submitted by: International Records Management Trust

Estonia's Department of Information Society Services Development is in charge of policies for effective information society services, records management, and information governance. It links digital records management to service provision to support electronic handling and procedural processes, improve reporting, increase transparency, and safeguard and preserve information on any media as evidence. The aim is to increase citizens' and officials' awareness of and satisfaction with state digital services, strengthen the potential for the information society, and enhance the efficiency of state policy formulation through high-quality information and data usage.

The Department has issued a series of guidelines for records

managers in state and local government agencies and for service providers in order to facilitate user-friendly and efficient information services. The aim is to improve management and administration processes, enhance the interoperability of records management systems, and facilitate document and data exchange. The guidelines support the provisions of the Archives Act and the Public Information Act for ensuring the preservation and usability of records. They rest on international records and information management good practice standards that define requirements for managing digital records. The Department and the National Archives have jointly prepared a standardized set of minimum metadata requirements based on an extensive study of metadata requirements in countries including the UK, Germany, Canada, and Norway.

Countries this example relates to...

Estonia

Related Commitments

[Establish and implement standardised requirements for managing digital records and metadata across government in line with international good practice standards](#)

Related Topics

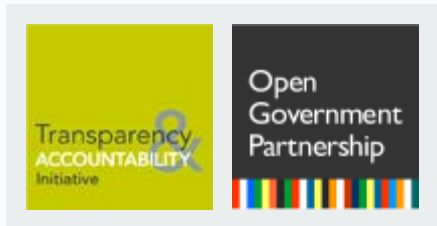
[Records management](#)

RESOURCES

- [Records Management Metadata](#)
- [Case study on Estonia by the International Records Management Trust \(pp. 11-12\)](#)

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Country Example

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The Government of

Guatemala is working through CoST to bring disclosure of public construction data up to international standards

 Submitted by: Construction Sector Transparency Initiative

The Construction Sector Transparency Initiative (CoST) in Guatemala, launched in 2010, is working to ensure that the Guatemalan electronic disclosure system is in line with the CoST Project Information Standard.

Procuring entities in Guatemala use electronic means to register and disclose project information, and the GUATECOMPRAS system is the main source for public access to information. Currently, procuring entities are only legally required to disclose a limited number of items included in the CoST Project Information Standard on GUATECOMPRAS.

CoST's multi-stakeholder group, through the Assurance Team, checks GUATECOMPRAS to see if the procuring entities have disclosed this information and then requests the additional information that CoST requires to be disclosed. In due course, it is anticipated that all items in the CoST Project Information Standard will have to be disclosed on GUATECOMPRAS.

Countries this example relates to...

Guatemala

Related Commitments

[Integrate proactive disclosure of construction project information into existing government frameworks](#)

Related Topics

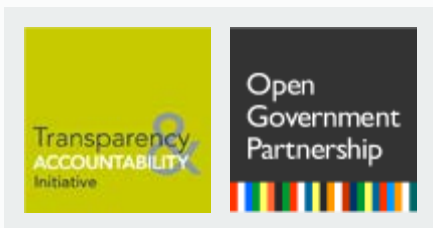
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Country Example

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The government of

Mongolia has institutionalised on-going national 'State of Democracy' audits

 Submitted by: Involve

Mongolia has faced the challenge of introducing democratic institutions and procedures into a long-standing traditional society. In 2003 the then government, along with civil society, decided to conduct a State of Democracy assessment. An initial desk study compiled by three international experts was published in 2005. Further research was conducted by local experts and published in 2006 report which resulted in the creation of a National Plan of Action. The on-going assessment of the state of democracy became an institutionalized process through the establishment of the Mongolian Millennium Development Goal 9 (MDG-9) on democratic governance and human rights.

The State of Democracy reports have helped raise public awareness about what democracy involves as they have been broadcast throughout the print and electronic media. The wide dissemination of the findings has generated debates on what standards of democracy citizens should expect from their government.

Countries this example relates to...

Mongolia

Related Commitments

[Involve citizens in assessing the institutions of government and identifying priorities for reform](#)

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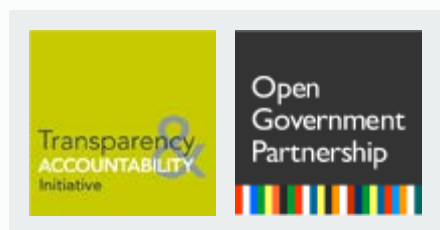
[Citizen engagement](#)

RESOURCES

- [IDEA: Mongolia country profile](#)

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The Government of New

Zealand has recognised the importance of managing datasets in public organisations as part of its plan for digital continuity

 Submitted by: International Records Management Trust

New Zealand is creating digital information at a rate never seen before, but often this growth is unmanaged. The shift to the creation of information in digital formats and ICT-based business processes enables new approaches in the way business is carried out and in the way people interact with each other, with the public sector and with the commercial marketplace. It also has also created a challenge for those tasked with managing and sustaining the resulting information. The Government recognises that public sector digital information must be proactively managed, both for delivering quality public services and for legislative and regulatory accountability. The passage of the Public Records Act in 2005, which requires public sector agencies to create and maintain full and accurate records, has brought these issues to the forefront.

Archives New Zealand has created a Digital Continuity Action Plan to help to ensure that public sector digital information is created and managed effectively across the public sector, by agencies including government departments, crown research institutes,

crown entities, state enterprises, district health boards, state and integrated schools, tertiary institutions and local government. A staged and differentiated approach is envisaged, with government departments being the first to implement the action plan. Public sector digital information covers a wide range of records and data, for instance, budgetary and benefits information, evidence on court cases, research data, sensitive personal case files, and foreign policy decisions. This information can be stored or transmitted in a range of environments, such as websites, wikis, SMS text messages, email, CDs, DVDs and USB drives, all of which must be managed.

Datasets, like other information or corporate records created or received by a public office, can be public records under the Public Records Act of 2005 and need to be managed as part of The Digital Continuity Action Plan.

Countries this example relates to...

New Zealand

Related Commitments

[Establish a means of relating quality assurance for public sector digital records and public sector datasets](#)

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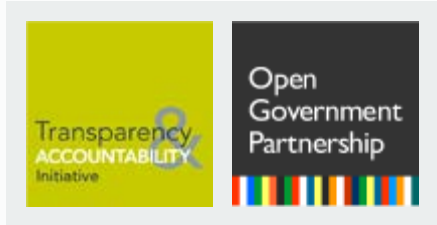
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The Indian Right to

Information Act makes contracts disclosable

Submitted by: Open Contracting

The Indian Right to Information Act (2005) specifies that contracts are disclosable within the definition of information (subject to some limitations).

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The Indian Right to Information Act lists the types of information that must be published on a proactive basis

Countries this example relates to...

India

Related Commitments

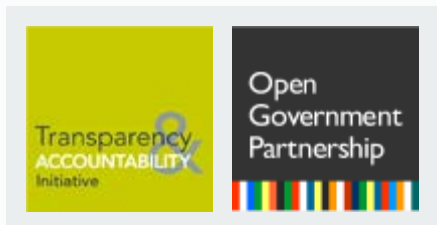
Recognize the right of the public to access public contracting information

RESOURCES

- <http://www.righttoinformation.gov.in/>
- <http://rti.gov.in/rti-act.pdf>

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Country Example

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The Mozambique

government, together with its aid partners, has been working to merge all financial accounts into one single treasury account

Submitted by: [Publish What You Fund](#)

In Mozambique much of donors' and government's efforts to bring aid on budget over the last decade have focused on bringing aid on treasury. To bring aid on treasury, the government has been working to merge all financial accounts into one single treasury account (Conta Única do Tesouro, CUT), bringing all available sources of funding –both internal and external– under the umbrella of the Mozambican integrated budget and public financial management system. The single treasury account has been instrumental in the process of putting aid on budget in Mozambique and has addressed one of the main causes behind the phenomenon of off budgets: the lack of transparency within the treasury system, which deters donors from using local public financial management systems.

Countries this example relates to...

Mozambique

Related Commitments

[Integrate aid information into domestic budget planning](#)

[\(recipients\)](#)

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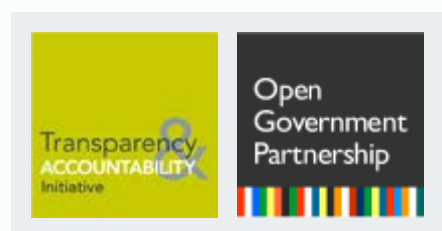
[Aid](#)

RESOURCES

- [Case study on aid management in Mozambique](#)

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Country Example

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The National Crime

Records Bureau in India publishes annual reports on crime, deaths and imprisonment

 Submitted by: OSF

The National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) in the Ministry of Home Affairs is responsible for collecting, maintaining and disseminating crime data. The NRCB has installed a 762 server – based computer systems at District Crime Records Bureau and State Crime Records Bureau across the country. Every year, the NCRB brings out three important publications- (i) Crime in India (ii) Accidental Deaths and Suicides in India and (iii) Prison Statistics in India.

The Bureau of Police Research and Development of the Ministry of Home Affairs puts out an annual publication titled “Data on Police Organisations in India.” The report provides some basic and vital statistics about police in different states/UTs in the country, like sanctioned and actual rank wise strength of police forces, including the women police; police population and area ratio; number of police districts, rural and urban police stations; police budget, including expenditure incurred on police training; extent of transport, communication and computer facilities available to the police; number of police training institutions; number of departmental proceedings initiated against police personnel, etc.

Countries this example relates to...

India

Related Commitments

[Publish basic information on police budgets, personnel and crime](#)

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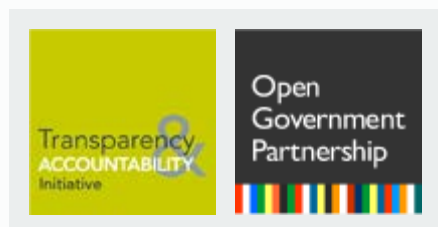
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Country Example

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The Netherlands carried

out a 'State of Democracy' assessment

Submitted by: [Involve](#)

The Kingdom of the Netherlands is a constitutional monarchy and a parliamentary democracy with representation drawn broadly from all groups in the society. In 2005 the popular rejection of the EU constitution and two prominent political assassinations in generated political turbulence and a vibrant public debate on the functioning of political institutions and practices in Netherlands. At this point the Ministry of Interior and Kingdom Relations identified the need for a comprehensive review of the state of the Netherland's democracy. The ministry involved NGOs, journalists and civil servants in the assessment in order to record the situation and promote discussion on democracy and the need for reform. The final report was published in 2006.

The assessment revealed the need to reconsider issues such as Dutch citizenship and how government itself represents the needs and democratic aspirations of the population. The report was sent to 250 NGOs, government bodies, journalists and the Queen, (who even used one of the eight SoD topics in her Christmas speech). In addition, public debates were held, including on freedom of speech, the structure of government, the media and citizenship. An interactive web-based forum was established for online debate, and the media reported frequently on the findings of the report and the ensuing discussions. Finally, a conference was held, with the ministers present, to outline the steps for the future. The new Dutch government (in 2007) elaborated three broad reforms in the light of the assessment: including a 'charter for responsible citizenship', technical changes to the constitution and a pledge to reduce the complexity of government processes more generally.

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Netherlands

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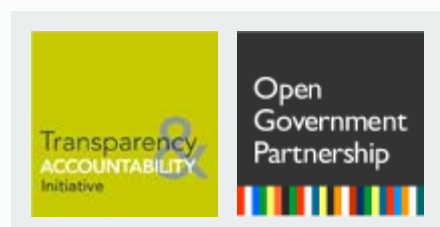
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- [IDEA: Country Profile The Netherlands](#)

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Country Example

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The New Zealand

Government has developed social media guidance

 Submitted by: Involvement

The aim is to encourage best practice social media use by government agencies, provide useful templates and tools for planning, and give an overview of the strengths, weaknesses, benefits and risks of this very important and rapidly growing toolset. The intent of the guidance is to encourage best practice social media use by government agencies, provide useful templates and tools for planning, and give an overview of the strengths, weaknesses, benefits and risks of this very important and rapidly growing toolset. Example in practice include a Facebook campaign by the Ministry of Health to provide support and advice to breastfeeding mothers.

RELATED EXAMPLES

FEATURED [Australia has developed guidance on online consultation](#)

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New Zealand

Related Commitments

[Encourage the use of digital tools to engage with the public](#)

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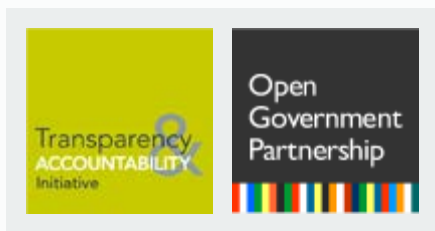
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- [New Zealand Government web toolkit](#)

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Country Example

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The Northwestern Power

Council in the USA developed a vision for power development, through widespread public consultation

The Northwest Power Planning Council in the USA began its most recent power plan review by asking for a public response to its characterisation of the major issues of concern to the region and also asking for suggestions of other topics. The council established a number of advisory committees, including committees on conservation resources, demand forecasting, generating resources and natural gas. Through public meetings with the advisory committees, the Council obtained the views of the Bonneville Power Administration, its customers, relevant public interest groups, the region's ratepayers and other important participants in regional power policies. These included broad issues, such as the effects of climate change, capacity to meet loads, integrating renewable resources, power system interactions with the fish and wildlife programme etc.

The Council continued to release papers and draft forecasts for further public comment over the following two years that it engaged in the power planning process. These were more technical papers, including draft fuel price forecasts and draft demand and economic forecasts. Views from the public and advisory committees continued to be solicited through public meetings.

The Council then released a draft power plan for public review. It

received 750 written comments over a 60-day period, and held public hearings in nine cities across the region, receiving the testimony of hundreds of interested individuals and representatives of organisations, utilities, businesses, public interest groups and government agencies. Transcripts of the public hearings and written comments received were published on the Council's website. The final power plan included responses to comments received.

The Council followed the requirement of the Northwest Power Act to facilitate widespread public involvement in the preparation, adoption and implementation of the plan, and the Notice and Comment procedures in the Federal Administrative Procedures Act that require at least 30 days' notice.

Countries this example relates to...

United States

Related Commitments

[Create mechanisms for the public and legislators to engage in extractive concessioning](#)

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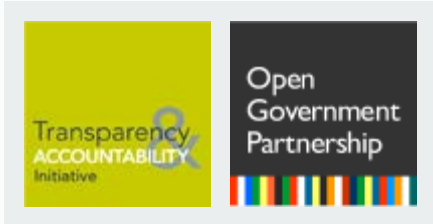
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Country Example

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The Philippine National

Textbook Delivery Programme uses citizen participation to improve accountability in public procurement

 Submitted by: G-Watch

The National Textbook Delivery Program (NTDP) in the Philippines is a civil society-led initiative supported by state institutions that has focused on improving transparency in the delivery and distribution of textbooks. Civil society organisations were spurred into action because of the low level of accountability in the education sector with 40 percent of textbooks deliveries not being accounted for and 21 percent of textbooks procured by the Department of Education not being delivered to the designated schools. By effectively monitoring textbook delivery at the community level, the initiative has been able to reduce the average cost of textbooks, reduce the time spent on the process of getting textbooks to schools, and improve the quality of textbooks.

In light of the problems facing textbook procurement, senior officials at the Department of Education initiated the NTDP in order to improve transparency and accountability. They ensured the assistance of G-Watch – an independent monitoring project that undertakes research and advocacy on themes related to governance and public management – and its network of civil society organisations around the country. Several civil society

organisations agreed to participate in the NTDP, for example by providing volunteers doing the monitoring work at the local level. These organisations were expected to be the government's eyes and ears as they observed and ensured the transparency of the bidding process, inspected the quantity and quality of the textbooks being produced, and monitored that the right number of books were delivered at the right time. They reported to G-Watch as the national coordinator if textbooks were not of the right quantity or quality. G-Watch, in turn, reported that information to the Department of Education who had the power to make the contractor abide by its contract.

Monitoring actual delivery forced the publishing companies to be more efficient since failure might result in a loss of business the following year. The participation of locally based civil society organisations also invited community participation in the transparency mechanism, adding to the pressure for the Department of Education and the publishing companies to get their act together as more than one set of eyes were scrutinising their performance.

The successful implementation of the NTDP has resulted in the Secretary at the Department of Education issuing Order No. 59, 'Institutionalising NGO and Private Sector Participation in the Department's Procurement Process'. Another initiative to institutionalise this participatory transparency initiative is the Textbook Walk, which invites an entire community to participate in the monitoring of textbooks when they are delivered to a given school. G-Watch has conducted training for event organisers and prepared educational materials to the textbook monitoring process, and has implemented the Textbook Walk in various districts across the Philippines.

Countries this example relates to...

Philippines

Related Commitments

[Create mechanisms for participation and redress in public contracting](#)

[Engage civil society and business in the use of open contracting data](#)

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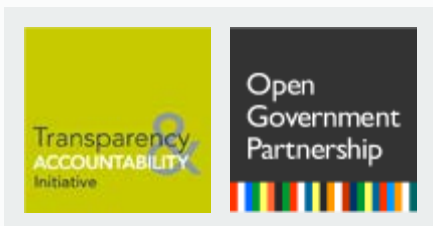
[Public contracting](#)

RESOURCES

- [Tracking Textbooks for Transparency - Improving Accountability in Education in the Philippines](#)
- [A Public-Private Partnership Fairy Tale? G-Watch's Textbook Count Story](#)

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The Philippine

Procurement law requires the proactive publication of key information

 Submitted by: Sunlight Foundation

In 2002, the Congress of the Philippines passed Republic Act No. 9184, the “Government Procurement Reform Act,” to address the problem of a vague and complex web of overlapping procurement regulations which made the process vulnerable to manipulation.

The Act, along with its implementing rules and regulations, mandates transparency and accountability measures to help combat corruption and inefficiency in public procurement. The bill specifically stresses that information and communication technology (ICT) should play a central role in how the government meets these goals.

The Philippine Government Electronic Procurement System PhilGEPS serves “as the primary and definitive source of information on government procurement.” According to law, all public tenders, from those conducted by federal agencies to those of the smallest Local Government Unit (LGU) must pass through the PhilGEPS system. It hosts information on:

- Invitation to Bid/Request for Expression of Interest;
- Bidding Documents;
- Supplemental/Bid Bulletin;
- Notice of Award;

Approved Contract; and

- Notice to Proceed

In addition there are procurement related documents that are required by the regulations to be made available to the bidders or the public upon request, such as the Minutes of the Pre-Bid Conference and Minutes of the Bid Opening.



Despite the introduction of PhilGEPS and the mandate that all public procurement pass through the electronic bulletin system, journalists, watchdogs and other CSOs continue to face significant information availability problems. They report that the compliance with reporting requirements is lacking, the information tracked by government entities is incomplete, and the data that is nominally available is subject to a range of barriers to public use.

Key limitations are that PhilGEPS does not capture all of the relevant information necessary for third-party oversight, in particular lacking details of the contract management phase, in which there are opportunities for contracts to be manipulated. Furthermore full access to PhilGEPS is restricted to accredited contractors who have paid a registration fee. It does not provide a way to access bulk data to use for statistical or visual analysis. Instead, to access procurement information one must already know where to look, and must look one tender at a time.

Developments to improve the system include piloting of performance based bonuses tied to PhilGEPS compliance, and development of more comprehensive access for the public and CSOs.

Source: Sunlight Foundation Case Study

Countries this example relates to...

Philippines

Related Commitments

Proactively disclose core classes of documents and data about public contracting

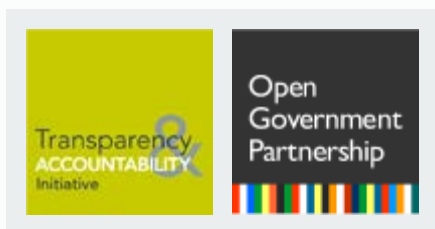
Develop a framework for public contracting that ensures a transparent and equitable process

RESOURCES

- [Sunlight Foundation case study](#)
- [Philippines Law](#)
- [Philgeps](#)

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Country Example

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The Philippines has

developed a Citizen's Budget Portal

Submitted by: OGP Fiscal Transparency Working Group

As part of its first OGP Action Plan the Government of the Philippines committed to develop and launch a website, which will serve as an interactive platform for citizens to learn about and find information on the National Budget. The website budgetngebayan.com includes a section called Budget 101 which explains the budget cycle in plain language. Budgets are available to download as pdf or Excel files, along with a 'People's Budget' which provides explanation. Users of the site can comment and ask questions using Facebook. 'Faith' a Foreign Aid Transparency Hub is also under development.

The 2012 National Budget contains a general provision (Section 91) that requires agencies to disclose information on their mandates and the functions and designations of their key officials; their approved budgets and corresponding targets; funding, key beneficiaries and status of programs and projects; and annual accomplishment and accountability reports, among others. The 2012 Budget also contains special provisions that require the disclosure of additional information.

The Independent Review of the Philippines OGP progress found that Stakeholders, particularly those involved in budget transparency work, found the website useful as a research tool. Citizens who posted queries on the website received feedback from the site administrator and recommended making the website even more interactive.

Countries this example relates to...

[Philippines](#)

Related Commitments

[Publish Executive's Budget Proposal and Audit Reports](#)

[Publish the four core budget documents](#)

[Publish a Citizens' Budget](#)

Related Topics

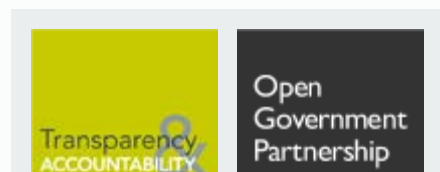
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RESOURCES

- [Budgtetng Bayan website](#)
- [OGP Commitment](#)
- [OGP IRM Report](#)

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Country Example

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The Philippines integrates

CoST into existing civil society initiatives

Submitted by: [Construction Sector Transparency Initiative](#)

Since the Philippines already had transparency initiatives and active civil society participation in the construction sector, efforts have been made to align CoST with existing initiatives and to integrate it into existing systems and procedures. Also, to operate in the country, CoST in the Philippines had to create a legal entity (the CoSTPhils Foundation). This has facilitated the transfer of funds for CoST and put in place a clear governance and accountability structure for the project.

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[Philippines](#)

Related Commitments

[Join the Construction Sector Transparency Initiative \(CoST\) and develop a national programme](#)

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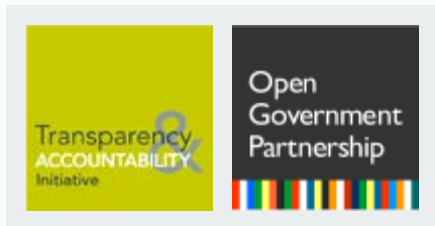
[Construction](#)

RESOURCES

- [http://www.constructiontransparency.org/_db/_documents/23._Briefing_Note_9_\(Philippines\).pdf](http://www.constructiontransparency.org/_db/_documents/23._Briefing_Note_9_(Philippines).pdf)
- [http://www.constructiontransparency.org/_db/_documents/Briefing_note_12_\(Success_Stories\).pdf](http://www.constructiontransparency.org/_db/_documents/Briefing_note_12_(Success_Stories).pdf)

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Country Example

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The Philippines used an

Advisory Council to enable a electronic vote counting to be introduced with confidence

 Submitted by: National Democratic Institute for International Affairs

Prior to the Philippines' nationwide transition to electronic counting for the 2010 elections, the national legislature mandated the created of the Commission on Elections Advisory Council, which consisted of nine members from government, academia, the IT community, and civil society.

The Advisor Council participated during all stages of the transition to the new technologies and provided oversight and recommendations to the Philippine's Commission on Elections (COMELEC). In particular, the Council recommended the most appropriate, secure and cost-effective technology; observed and participated as non-voting members of the Special Bids and Awards Committee; participated as non-voting members of the steering committee that implemented the new system; planned and tested the technology; and conducted an evaluation of the new system after the election.

The Advisory Council has been cited as an important factor in building public trust and confidence during the transition.

Countries this example relates to...

Philippines

Related Commitments

[Establish an independent expert panel to monitor procurement and application of election technologies](#)

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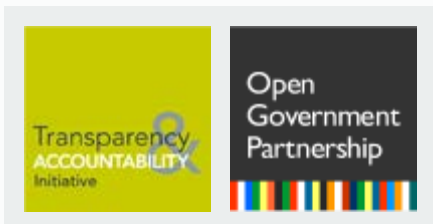
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[Carter Center report](#)

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The plan for rebuilding

New Orleans was developed through participation with people across 16 cities

 Submitted by: Involvement

Hurricane Katrina shattered the city of New Orleans and exposed deep racial and economic disparities. Much of the city's infrastructure was decimated: more than 70% of housing was damaged and entire neighborhoods were virtually destroyed; schools, hospitals and police stations were shut down. Almost 100,000 jobs were lost and 18 months later more than half of the city's population had not returned. In the aftermath, plans to rebuild New Orleans faced a ravaged infrastructure, financial losses of enormous scale, decision-makers scrambling in crisis mode, and a citizenry whose trust in government had been abused. City officials' early planning efforts were met with anger and protest as the community struggled with the challenges of distributing resources and reviving an entire city.

After a number of unsuccessful attempts, New Orleans approved a blueprint for rebuilding. The foundation-funded Unified New Orleans Plan would be run by the Community Support Foundation and overseen by a community advisory board comprised of neighborhood representatives and delegates from the Mayor's office, the City Council, and the City Planning Commission. The Unified Plan would address all city-wide systems, tackling infrastructure needs like housing, flood protection, transportation and public services. It would also produce 13 district-level plans

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[The city of Oakland drafted their open data policy using a collaborative method involving open, online comments and public meetings](#)

FEATURED [The City of Gerardton developed a plan for the city's future through participation](#)

with recovery priorities for the city's neighborhoods. The urgent need to revive the city left a remarkably short time frame for this process: the city-wide and 13 district plans were to be completed – with full community participation – in less than five months.

At the heart of the Unified Plan process were two public forums unprecedented in their size and scope. The “Community Congresses” engaged 4,000 New Orleanians across the country in developing collective recovery priorities for their city. With key decision-makers listening, citizens discussed how to ensure safety from future flooding, empower residents to rebuild safe and stable neighborhoods, provide incentives and housing so people could return, and establish sustainable, equitable public services.

To ensure the Community Congresses had representative participation, AmericaSpeaks partnered with a wide array of grassroots organizations, service providers and leaders in diaspora cities across the country. Registrants received pre-recorded calls from the Mayor; Public Service Announcements featured celebrities and free meals, childcare, transportation, and translation into Spanish and Vietnamese enabled participation for many who might otherwise have been left out.

AmericaSpeaks' 21st Century Town Meeting methodology used networked laptops and individualised keypad polling to support facilitated, small-group discussions at diverse tables. These discussions fed into large-group sharing and decision-making. Interactive television connected participants in New Orleans with those in Baton Rouge, Houston, Dallas, and Atlanta. At the December Community Congress, participants in 16 other cities viewed the program through a webcast and submitted their views in real-time over the internet. Public television viewers in New Orleans were able to follow the programming from their homes. At day's end, the citizens' collective priorities were provided in writing to every participant.

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United States

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[Prototype new approaches to citizen participation](#)

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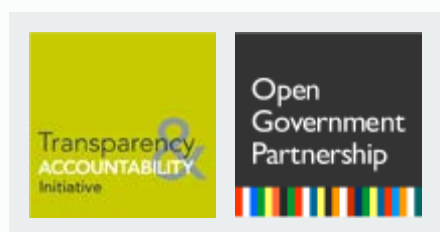
[Citizen engagement](#)

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[America Speaks case study](#)

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Country Example

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The Slovenian

independent Anti-Corruption Commission has enhanced power to protect whistleblowers

Submitted by: Whistleblowers International Network

Established in 2004, Slovenian Commission on the Prevention of Corruption (CPC) is an independent anti-corruption agency with a broad mandate in the field of preventing and investigating corruption, breaches of ethics and integrity of public office. While the CPC is not part of the law enforcement or prosecution system of Slovenia, it gained new powers in 2010 to enhance its ability to regulate anti-corruption efforts including new powers in relation to the protection of whistleblowers.

The CPC now has broad legal powers to access and subpoena financial and other documents (notwithstanding the confidentiality level), question public servants and officials, conduct administrative investigations and proceedings and instruct different law enforcement bodies (e.g. Anti-Money Laundering Office, Tax Administration, etc.) to gather additional information and evidence within the limits of their authority. The CPC can also issue fines for different violations (sanctions can be appealed to the Court).

Countries this example relates to...

Slovenia

Related Commitments

[Ensure competent authorities have the mandate, powers and resources to facilitate whistleblowing and protect whistleblowers](#)

Related Topics

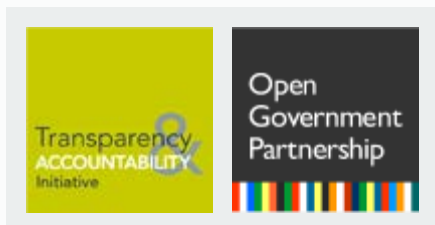
[Whistleblower protection](#)

RESOURCES

- [Website of the Slovenian anti-corruption commission](#)

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Country Example

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The State of Minas Gerais,

Brazil requires proactive disclosures about PPP projects

 Submitted by: Open Contracting

The State of Minas Gerais has been serving as a model for other states in Brazil on practices related to disclosure of project information, draft and final signed contracts, as well as bidding process documentation and technical background reports.

For PPP projects in Minas Gerais, Brazil, a preliminary project summary is published online during a public consultation period, along with the bidding documents, including selection criteria, and the draft of the contract, technical background papers and feasibility studies. Once the tender process is completed, full versions of contract documents are published and the project summary is updated (describing, inter alia, guarantees provided by the government). If the contract is renegotiated or amended, such variations are published once agreement is reached. Monthly performance reports are also published.

According to Resolution 72 of 2003, Article 5, web pages should be “easy to read and present content with clarity, coherence, relevance, timeliness, organization, simplicity, objectivity and truthfulness.”⁵² Article 7 specifies that all information contained in websites of the State’s public entities must be rigorously updated, while Article 9 establishes a communication service, “Talk to Us” (“Fale Conosco”), which facilitates the direct access to information held by public institutions.

Through this open channel, citizens can request information, and requests must be responded to within 2 working days, either by disclosing information, referring the public to another institutional source, or requesting more days to fulfil the request. All available information on projects is, however, extensively disclosed proactively.

All documents are disclosed in their original form in the public domain and are signed off by the original producer of the document. When information is extracted from the original documents and placed in a separate format, such as in the case of the project factsheet and guarantees or payment reports, the PPP Unit checks each piece of information.

[Source: World Bank, 2013, [Disclosure of Project and Contract Information in Public-Private Partnerships](#)]

Countries this example relates to...

Brazil

Related Commitments

[Proactively disclose core classes of documents and data about public contracting](#)

[Disclose key documents and data](#)

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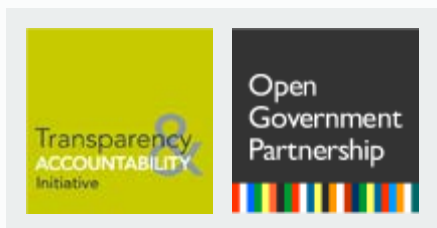
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The Swiss Federal Archives

has developed a sustainable solution for archiving relational datasets

 Submitted by: International Records Management Trust

SIARD stands for Software Independent Archiving of Relational Databases. The Swiss Federal Archives has developed SIARD as a sustainable solution for archiving relational databases. The SIARD format is based upon the most important international standards. SIARD Suite is currently being used worldwide in 54 different countries. The software can be ordered free of charge through the Swiss Federal Archives.

As part of the 'Open Government Data Switzerland' project, the Swiss Federal Archives and its project partners are operating a central pilot portal providing access to open data from Swiss authorities. The pilot portal was launched in 2013 to allow both the users and the authorities involved to gain experience of open government data. Over the medium term, the project partners hope that free availability of open government data will increase the use of public data and thereby contribute to economic growth, greater political transparency and improved efficiency in public administration.

Countries this example relates to...

Switzerland

Related Commitments

[Establish a means of relating quality assurance for public sector digital records and public sector datasets](#)

Related Topics

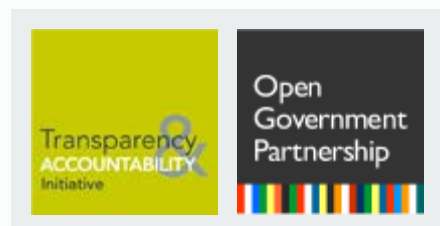
[Records management](#)

RESOURCES

- [SIARD web page](#)
- [Open government data in Switzerland](#)

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Country Example

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The U.S. state of Oregon

aims to improve political participation through its Citizens' Initiative Review

 Submitted by: National Democratic Institute for International Affairs

In Oregon, the Citizens' Initiative Review was established in 2009 to improve the quality of public participation and political deliberation. It brings together 24 randomly selected, demographically diverse voters for 5 days to review evidence, talk to experts, hear from campaigns, and discuss a ballot measure that citizens will vote on when they go to the polls. They ultimately produce a citizen statement reviewing the facts and arguments. Each citizen statement is published as a prominent page in the voters' pamphlet as a new and easily accessible resource for voters to use at election time.

A 2012 evaluation found the citizen statements to be "highly deliberative", "high level of factual accuracy", and insightful from the perspective of two-thirds of citizens who read them.

Countries this example relates to...

United States

Related Commitments

[Conduct targeted outreach to youth and historically marginalized communities](#)

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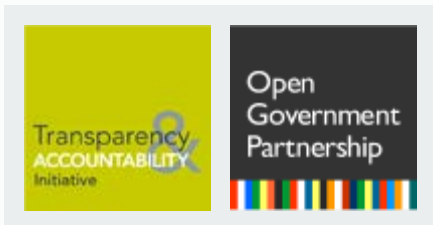
Parliaments

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- [Information from Healthy Democracy Oregon](#)
- [Evaluation report from 2012](#)

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Country Example

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The UK created a “Mystery

Shopper” service to resolve complaints related to procurement processes

 Submitted by: Open Contracting

In 2011 The Prime Minister and Minister for the Cabinet Office announced a series of measures to open up public procurement to greater participation by small and medium sized enterprises. One of the announcements made was the launch of the Mystery Shopper service. This service exists to provide a structured mechanism for suppliers to raise concerns about public procurement practice and processes.

Suppliers can use this service anonymously to escalate issues about problems in Government supply chains to the Cabinet Office. The aim is to provide a clear, structured and direct route for suppliers to raise concerns about public procurement practice when attempts at resolving issues with a contracting authority or a first tier supplier have failed, and to help the Cabinet Office identify areas of poor procurement practice so it can work with the contracting authority to put them right and reduce the likelihood of similar issues arising in other authorities.

Reports of cases investigated are published on the Cabinet Office website.

Countries this example relates to...

United Kingdom

Related Commitments

[Create mechanisms for participation and redress in public contracting](#)

[Engage civil society and business in the use of open contracting data](#)

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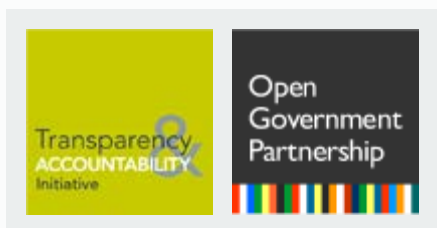
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Country Example

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The UK Government has a

longstanding compact with the voluntary sector

Submitted by: [Involve](#)

The UK Government's Compact with the voluntary sector was made in November 1998, and renewed in 2010. It considers areas such as involvement in policy design and consultation, funding arrangements (including grants and contracts), promoting equality, ensuring better involvement in delivering services, and strengthening independence. The Compact was developed by a Working Group including representatives from leading voluntary and community sector umbrella bodies, representatives from community groups and organisations, volunteering organisations, Councils for Voluntary Service, the National Council for Voluntary Organisations and Black and Minority Ethnic organisations. The group consulted over 25,000 organisations about what the Compact should include and the text was agreed in 1998.

A Reference Group was also set up, with membership drawn from 65 voluntary organisations, to act as a sounding board to the activities of the Working Group before and during discussion with Government. Almost all local authority areas have now developed a similar local Compact in partnership with the voluntary and community sector.

The Compact was agreed by the Government in 1998 and was signed by the then Prime Minister, Tony Blair, but it is not in the statute books. It is not considered legally binding but there is a legitimate expectation that its signatories (both at the national and local levels) will abide by their commitments. The failure to live up to Compact commitments has formed a part in judicial review cases

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but the Compact has not been the only basis for the challenge. A judge recently stated that the Compact is 'more than a wish list'. The compact is accompanied by an Accountability and Transparency Guide, which outlines steps to take at national and local level if these principles are not followed, including dispute resolution, internal complaints procedures and ombudsmen functions.

Voluntary sector bodies state that the compact has achieved a great deal, such the principle of Full Cost Recovery and 12-week consultation. However, implementation of the Compact is still patchy and the inequality in power between Government and voluntary organisations means there is sometimes need for a separate body to step in.

Countries this example relates to...

[United Kingdom](#)

Related Commitments

[Develop a compact with civil society to achieve common goals](#)

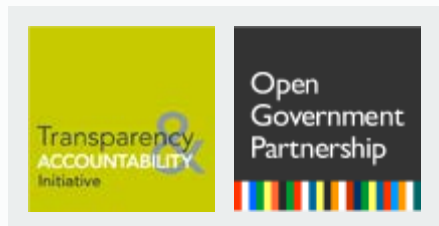
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- [NCVO: The Compact](#)
- [UK Government: The Compact](#)

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Country Example

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The UK government has

issued guidance on consultation

 Submitted by: involve

In the UK there are a range of laws establishing requirements for the Government to consult certain groups on certain issues. The UK Government first established a Code of Practice on Consultation in 2000 to provide guidance above and beyond these statutory requirements. The guidance has been updated several times since.

The current guidelines adopted in 2012 commits the government to improving policy making and implementation with a greater focus on robust evidence, transparency and engaging with key groups earlier in the process. The emphasis is on understanding the effects of a proposal and focussing on real engagement with key groups rather than following a set process.

The key Consultation Principles are:

- departments will follow a range of timescales rather than defaulting to a 12-week period, particularly where extensive engagement has occurred before;
- departments will need to give more thought to how they engage with and consult with those who are affected;
- consultation should be 'digital by default', but other forms should be used where these are needed to reach the groups affected by a policy; and
- the principles of the Compact between government and the voluntary and community sector will continue to be respected.

Countries this example relates to...

United Kingdom

Related Commitments

[Establish legislation and guidelines on public consultation in policy development](#)

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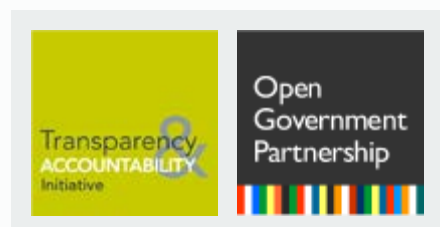
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Country Example

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The UK government set up

a center for public engagement on science policy following a national controversy

 Submitted by: Involve

In the UK in the late 1990s Genetically Modified (GM) foods became a hot topic in the UK, when a televised documentary claimed that GM had potentially harmful effects on health, followed in 1999 by a staged protest event led by Greenpeace. The ensuing public outcry would ensure GM occupied the headlines for several months. By mid-1999, supermarkets withdrew all GM products from their shelves under heavy public pressure. Following the public controversy around GM technology and the House of Lords 'Science and Society' report, a new policy of upstream engagement was pursued by the UK government. It set up the Sciencewise programme in 2004 which aims to enable better policy making by fostering capacity within the policy making community to commission and use excellent public dialogue.

Sciencewise Expert Resource Centre established in May 2007, provides co-funding and specialist advice and support to government departments and agencies to develop and commission public dialogue activities in emerging areas of science and technology. Sciencewise is managed on behalf of the Department for Business Innovation and Skills (BIS) by a consultancy in partnership with the British Science Association and the community participation charity, Involve. It is managed by a Programme Board and a Programme Management Team, who are supported by the

Sciencewise Steering Group, which provides strategic advice and guidance. Two stakeholder advisory sub-groups – the Citizens' Group and the Business Insight Group – report directly to the Steering Group.

The main aim of Sciencewise is to enable better policy-making by fostering capacity within the policy-making community to commission and use excellent public dialogue. This will ensure that all future policy involving science, technology and innovation is robustly developed, informed by public concerns and aspirations and based on all the available evidence. It offers an online resource of information, advice and guidance together with a wide range of support services aimed at policy makers and all stakeholders concerned with policy involving science and technology issues, including the public. It provides co-funding to Government departments and agencies to develop and commission public dialogue projects, helps to build capacity among departments to carry out dialogue and develops and promotes best practice.

Sciencewise also provides general dialogue training and mentoring to policy makers across Government departments involved in science and technology policy issues.

Countries this example relates to...

United Kingdom

Related Commitments

[Establish a centre of expertise and designate resources to support the institutionalisation of citizen engagement](#)

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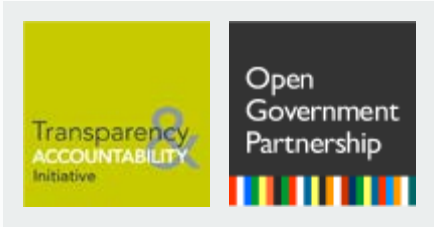
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Country Example

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The UK Government's

Choice Charter sets out what users should receive from their services

Submitted by: Twaweza

The Choice Charter, published in 2013 sets out four basic principles for public service users:

- You can have a say in how a public service is provided to you.
- You will be given the opportunity to take up and exercise the choices
- available.
- You will be given clear, accessible and high-quality information and advice to inform your choices
- You have clear avenues to complain if you do not receive the choices you are entitled to.

Individual Choice Frameworks have been developed for a number of public services in healthcare, education and social housing, which, set out what choices should be available to people, who is be responsible for providing this choice, relevant quality standards, inspections and licensing requirements, sources of information to help people make informed decisions and details of complaints procedures.

RELATED EXAMPLES

[Chile's healthcare system sets out guarantees on access, quality and cost of public healthcare](#)

FEATURED [South Africa has carried out a national public education campaign on Know Your Service Rights and Responsibilities](#)

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Related Commitments

[Publish and promote information on the public services people are entitled to](#)

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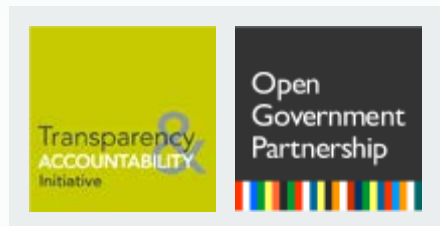
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- [UK Government Choice Charter](#)

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The UK has committed to

establish a central registry of information on beneficial ownership

Submitted by: [Center for Global Development](#)

The G8 [Action Plan Principles to prevent the misuse of companies and legal arrangements](#) from 2013 state that “Beneficial ownership information on companies should be accessible onshore to law enforcement, tax administrations and other relevant authorities including, as appropriate, financial intelligence units. This could be achieved through central registries of company beneficial ownership and basic information at national or state level.”

To ensure adherence to the Principles, G8 countries have committed to publish national Action Plans based on these principles.

UK’s Action Plan includes a commitment to “Amend the [Companies Act 2006](#) to require that information on companies’ beneficial ownership is accurate and readily available to the authorities through a central registry of information on companies’ beneficial ownership, maintained by Companies House. Consult on whether information in the registry should be publicly accessible.”

Countries this example relates to...

[United Kingdom](#)

Related Commitments

[Establish robust registers of beneficial ownership](#)

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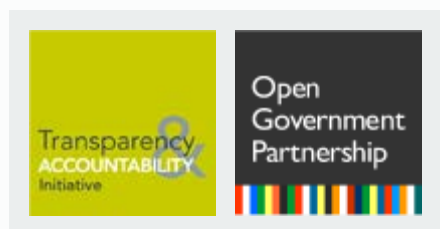
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The UK is establishing a

fund to support developers to produce tools to make use of open aid data

 Submitted by: Publish What You Fund

The Open Data Strategy for the UK Department for International Development includes the establishment of a fund to support developers to produce innovative and useful tools to make use of IATI data. As part of the Strategy, the UK has also developed the Development Tracker which allows users to find and explore detailed information on international development projects funded by the UK Government. The site uses data published to IATI, and can also import and use data from other publishers. The site also incorporates data published by the Department for International Development's delivery partners, initially on a small-scale, to prove the concept that aid can be traced through the aid delivery chain using open data.

Countries this example relates to...

United Kingdom

Related Commitments

[Promote access to and use aid information by all stakeholders](#)

[Encourage the use of digital tools to engage with the public](#)

[Encourage the development of tools to share and interpret](#)

[aid data](#)

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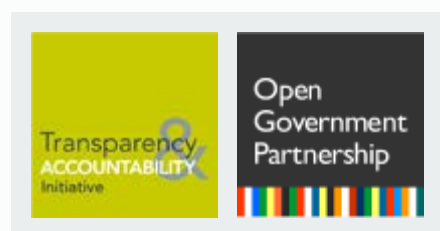
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[DFID Open Data Strategy](#)

[Development Tracker](#)

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Country Example

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The UK issues guidance on what information can be exempted from tenders

 Submitted by: [Open Contracting](#)

In the UK, tenderers for public contracts are advised to consider the Guidance on Contract Information that is Exempt from the Freedom of Information Act to evaluate whether information in the tender can be exempted under a non-disclosure agreement. Contracts are then redacted in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act and official guidance.

Countries this example relates to...

United Kingdom

Related Commitments

[Recognize the right of the public to access public contracting information](#)

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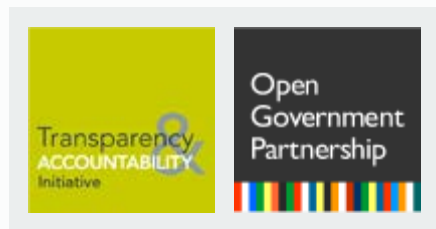
- <https://www.gov.uk/tendering-for-public-sector-contracts/disclosing-information-in-your-tender>
- http://www.ico.org.uk/~media/documents/library/freedom_of_information/detailed_specialist_guides/awareness_guidance_5_annexe_-_public_sector_contracts.ashx

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Country Example

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The UK Prime Minister set

out a broad commitment to open data in a letter to government departments

 Submitted by: [Sunlight Foundation](#)

In May 2010, the UK Prime Minister, David Cameron, sent a [letter to government departments](#) on plans to open up government data.

The letter contained the government's initial transparency commitments in relation to central and local government spending transparency, and key government datasets, such as crime data.

The Prime Minister sent an additional letter to [Cabinet Ministers](#) on transparency and open data in July 2011 which set out a new set of commitments. These commitments focused on improving data quality and data availability, primarily concerning the National Health Service, education and skills, criminal justice, transport, and government financial information.

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Related Commitments

[Establish a strong, public commitment to opening data](#)

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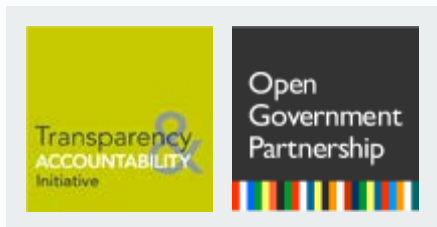
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- [Letter to government departments on opening up data](#)
- [Letter to Cabinet Ministers on transparency and open data](#)

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The UK sets 'annual data

requirements' for police forces

 Submitted by: OSF

Section 11(1) and (2) of the Police and Social Responsibility Act requires an elected Local Policing Body to publish any information specified by the Secretary of State by Order. The Secretary of State may also specify by Order the time and manner of publication. The details of the information required to be published includes:

- The total budget of the elected Local Policing Body;
- Information as to each item of expenditure of the Local Policing Body exceeding £500 (other than a crime and disorder reduction grant), including the recipient of the funds, the purpose of the expenditure and the reasons why the body or the chief officer (as the case may be) considered that good VfM [value for money] would be obtained;
- Information as to each anticipated source of revenue of the Local Policing Body other than, in the case of a PCC, the precept);
- Information as to each crime and disorder reduction grant made by the Local Policing Body;
- The salary of each senior employee, and
- A copy of each contract with a value exceeding £10,000 to which the Local Policing Body or the chief officer is or is to be a party.

The Annual Data Requirement (ADR) sets out all routine requests for data made to all police forces in England and Wales under the Secretary of State's statutory powers. Some of the data collected

through the ADR form National Statistics that are subject to stringent reporting and validation standards. The ADR requires police forces to submit the financial data used by HMIC in the preparation of its annual Value for Money profiles of police forces.

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Related Commitments

[Establish more extensive proactive disclosure requirements for police](#)

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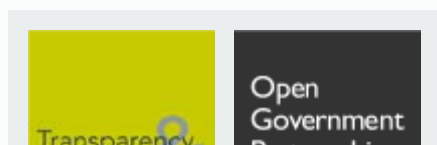
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The UK's Interception of

Communications Commissioner publishes limited annual statistics

Submitted by: [Privacy International](#)

The Commissioner's role includes reviewing interception warrants for real-time surveillance (historically known as "telephone tapping") and safeguards relating to the use of information. He reports annually to the Prime Minister as to whether the institutions within his oversight mandate are operating in accordance with the law. The Commissioner's annual report covers the issuing of warrants to MI5, police, Special Branch and other government agencies, but not the Foreign Office or world-wide electronic intelligence-gathering agency GCHQ. It only gives general aggregate figures, and although the amount of data has been increased in recent years, human rights organisations say that this remains inadequate for meaningful oversight, review and accountability of interception and surveillance'

Countries this example relates to...

[United Kingdom](#)

Related Commitments

[Publish transparency reports about surveillance, interception and access to communications data](#)

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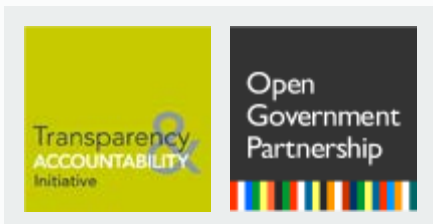
[Privacy and data protection](#)

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- [Website of the Interception of Communications Commissioner's Office](#)
- [Report by Statewatch](#)

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Country Example

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The United States provides

novel ways for publicly released data to be used by citizens to solve global challenges

 Submitted by: OGP Bright Spots

The US National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) have launched an International SpaceApp Challenge. In what turned out to be the largest hackathon in the world, the Challenge brought together space agencies and citizen technologists, scientists and developers to contribute to space exploration missions using publicly released data. The participants used NASA's massive datasets and open source software technology to respond to over 50 challenges designed around software and hardware development, citizen science, and data visualisation. For this year's event 770 solutions were submitted.

The SpaceApp Challenge provides a model of government-citizen collaboration that could be used for other transnational issues, such as the environment, defence or diplomacy.

Countries this example relates to...

United States

Related Commitments

Proactively engage with and support data users

Related Topics

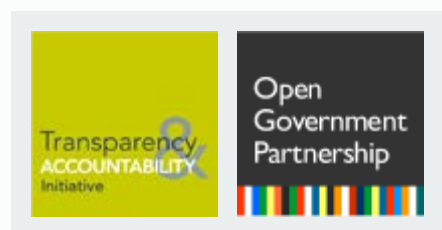
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□ [OGP Bright Spots case study of the United States](#)

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Country Example

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The US Agency for

International Development has a policy to share evaluations as widely as possible

Submitted by: [Publish What You Fund](#)

In the United States, the [Development Experience Clearinghouse](#) (DEC) publishes a large volume of USAID funded, international development documentation but unless these documents are joined with the efforts and publications of other donors, the findings will limit the user to only a partial picture and not the full spectrum of the outcome of donors' activities. [USAID Forward](#), the agency's evaluation policy, sets evaluations to be shared as widely as possible, "with a commitment to full and active disclosure. Furthermore, a summary including a description of methods, key findings and recommendations will be available to the public on-line in a fully searchable form within three months of an evaluation's conclusion."

Countries this example relates to...

[United States](#)

Related Commitments

[Publish more detailed information on aid flows including performance information, sub-national location, results and project documents \(donors\)](#)

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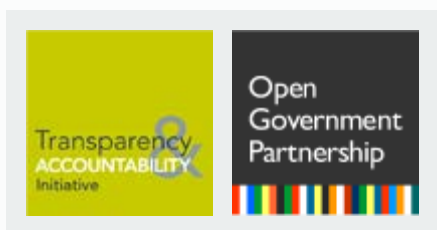
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- [US Development Experience Clearinghouse](#)
- [USAID evaluation policy 2011](#)

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The US established an

executive order on environmental justice for minority and poor populations

 Submitted by: The Access Initiative

In 1994, following public concern that toxic waste sites were disproportionately located near low-income and minority populations, the US Government enacted Executive Order 12898 'Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations'.

The regulation requires specific efforts to inform and involve poor and minority communities in agency decisions that affect the environment, and established an Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice to design a set of operational guidelines for federal agencies. It also mandated that federal agencies develop strategies to improve and ensure enforcement of environmental laws in poor and minority communities; foster greater public participation; and improve information collection on environmental health and resource consumption in poor and minority communities.

There have been some challenges in the implementation of the law as a result of lack of funding and political will. The presidential memorandum exempted the regulation from any sort of legal action, stating that it, "is not intended to create any right, benefit, or trust responsibility, substantive or procedural, enforceable by law or by equity by a party against the United States, its agencies, its officers or any person." Because of this, the Order is arguably not reviewable by

any court.

Countries this example relates to...

[United States](#)

Related Commitments

[Establish procedures for ensuring poor and marginalised groups are included in public engagement on environmental decisions](#)

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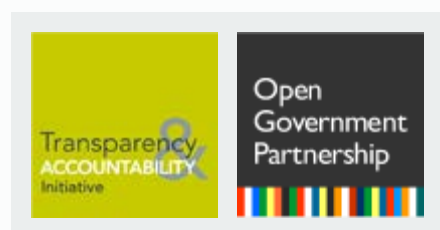
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Country Example

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The US False Claims Act

puts resources in the hands of the whistleblower

 Submitted by: Whistleblowers International Network

The US False Claims Act is one of the rare examples of a law that puts resources directly in the hands of the whistleblower who can then take the initiative to prosecute powerful wrongdoers, rather than waiting for a government agency to do so. It also levels the playing field to some degree by providing an incentive for skilled lawyers to take on whistleblower cases as these can be highly lucrative if successful. It should be noted that the False Claims Act focuses attention on cases that involve loss of money to the government rather than any other type of harm.

The basis of the 'US False Claims Act' is a branch of law called 'Qui tam' – a Latin phrase meaning 'private attorney general' rights which in common law refers to someone acting on behalf of the king and dates back to the Magna Carta (1299). The False Claims Act was first introduced in the US in 1863 during the Civil War as a means of curbing profiteering. Unscrupulous contractors were selling the government lame mules, defective weapons, and rancid provisions – at inflated prices. The law empowers any citizen to sue a contractor on behalf of the government in return for a portion of the penalties to be repaid to the government if the suit is successful. 'Qui tam' legislation represents a distinct and separate branch of whistleblowing law, which has enabled policing of US government expenditures that involves the private sector. It should not be confused with other regulatory models or, so-called 'bounty' or reward systems, which offer monetary compensation for information but which leave the whistleblower a passive observer in the process.

Text extracted from: Hutton, David (2011) Shooting the Messenger.

Canada: Parkland Institute.

http://parklandinstitute.ca/research/summary/shooting_the_messenger

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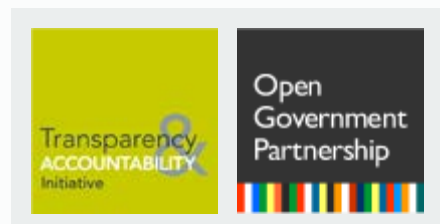
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The US government

established a public open source project to facilitate the implementation and evolution of its Open Data Policy

 Submitted by: Sunlight Foundation

When the US Government established its Open Data Policy it recognised that technology moves much faster than policy ever could. Often when writing policy for technology, agencies are stuck with outdated methods as soon as they publish new policies.

It therefore established Project Open Data on GitHub, a popular code-sharing website used by the 'open source' community. Project Open Data is an online collection of code, tools, and case studies to help U.S. agencies adopt the [Open Data Policy](#) . Anyone – government employees, contractors, developers, the general public – can view and contribute by editing the content, adding new pages, or adding tools.

At the onset, the General Services Administration is providing a moderator role – giving oversight and support, but over time, the vision is that contributors both inside and outside of government can be empowered to take on additional leadership roles.

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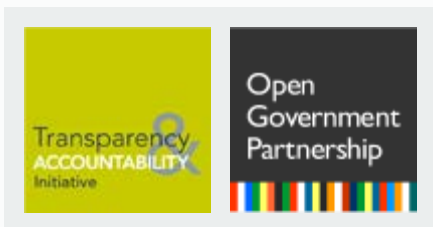
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The US government has

made a public commitment to open data

 Submitted by: [Sunlight Foundation](#)

The US Government has made strong public commitment to opening data in recent years. For example, on his first day in Office, President Obama signed the [Memorandum on Transparency and Open Government](#), instructing government agencies to take specific actions to implement the principles of transparency, participation, and collaboration. In addition, the Office of Management and Budget published an [Open Government Directive](#) in December 2009 obliging agencies to expand access to information by making it available online in open formats. Finally, the [Memorandum on Open Data Policy](#) from May 2013 established a framework to help institutionalise the principles of effective information management at each stage of the information's life cycle to promote interoperability and openness.

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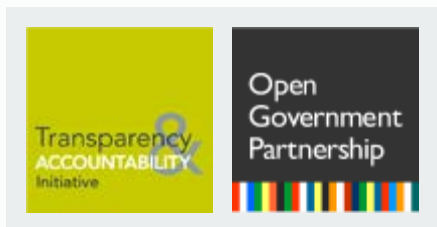
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□ <http://www.whitehouse.gov/open>

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The US presidential

memorandum on managing government records launched an effort to reform records management policies and practices

 Submitted by: International Records Management Trust

The executive memorandum notes that:

- Improving the management of the record of agency decisions and actions will improve performance and promote openness and accountability.
- Modernized records management will help executive departments and agencies minimize costs and operate more efficiently.
- When records are well managed, agencies can use them to assess the impact of programs, to reduce redundant efforts, to save money, and to share knowledge within and across their organizations.
- Proper records management is the backbone of open government.

The memorandum observes that decades of technological advances have transformed agency operations, creating challenges

and opportunities for agency records management. Greater reliance on electronic communication and systems has radically increased the volume and diversity of information that agencies must manage. With proper planning, technology can make these records less burdensome to manage and easier to use and share. However, if records management policies and practices are not updated for a digital age, the surge in information could overwhelm agency systems, leading to higher costs and lost records. A 21st-century framework for the management of Government records is necessary to provide a foundation for open Government, leverage information to improve agency performance, and reduce unnecessary costs and burdens.

In response to the President's direction, the Archivist of the US issued the Managing Government Records Directive (2012) containing a comprehensive set of policy initiatives aimed at advancing the cause of federal sector e-recordkeeping. The primary stated goal of the Directive is to require electronic recordkeeping to ensure transparency, efficiency and accountability. To this end, the Goal goes on to state that to promote openness and accountability and reduce costs in the long term, the Federal Government should commit immediately to the transition to a digital government; by 2019, Federal agencies will manage all permanent electronic records in an electronic format.

Countries this example relates to...

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Related Commitments

[Use the findings of the gap analysis to develop a government-wide policy on records management in line with goals for open government and sustainable development, including digital governance, right to information and open data](#)

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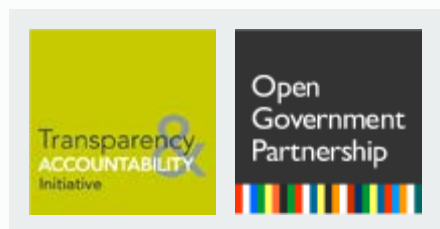
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The US Toxics Release

Inventory programme provides information on toxic discharges by corporations

 Submitted by: The Access Initiative

Following the Bhopal tragedy in India and a serious chemical release in West Virginia in 1985, the US Toxic Release Inventory (TRI) Programme was created in 1986 as part of the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA).

The TRI was part of a new approach to environmental protection. By making information about industrial management of toxic chemicals available to the public it aims to create incentive for companies to improve environmental performance. There are currently over 650 chemicals covered by the TRI Program. Facilities that manufacture, process or otherwise use these chemicals in amounts above established levels must submit annual TRI reports on each chemical.

Since the TRI was launched, environmental agencies across the world have increasingly implemented their own programmes using TRI as a model. Currently, at least 50 countries have fully established Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers or have implemented pilot programmes.

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United States

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[Reduce the costs to initiate and carry out environmental litigation](#)

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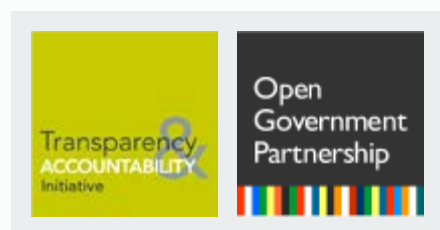
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- [Website of the US Environmental Protection Agency](#)
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Country Example

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Timor Leste publishes

some minerals contracts

In Timor Leste, the government introduced a requirement in the Petroleum Act (2005) which requires all oil and gas contracts signed after the effective date to be publicly disclosed. As a result, the vast majority of Timor-Leste's Production Sharing Contracts (PSCs) been published.

However, there is no formal mechanism to request these contracts from the government and as of January 2011, they could not be found on any government websites. The contracts can currently be found on the website of the La'o Hamutuk NGO.

Some contracts signed before 2006 have also been released by the operating partners, although several paragraphs have been censored. Where partners have have refused to publicly release these earlier contracts the government has not requested public disclosure.

Countries this example relates to...

East Timor

Related Commitments

[Disclose contracts signed with extractive companies](#)

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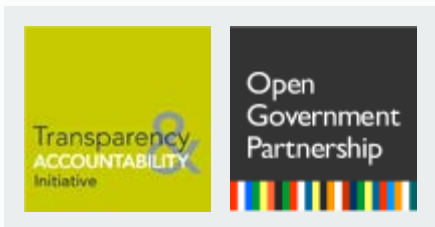
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- [Revenue Watch Institute's transparency snapshot of East Timor](#)
- <http://www.laohamutuk.org/>

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Turkey sought broad public inputs into development a new constitution

 Submitted by: [Involve](#)

The process was initiated with the call of the Government to all stakeholders to make the “Civil Constitution” that Turkey needed. CSOs set up platforms, networks and civic initiatives to engage in this dialogue and submitted their comments and proposals to the Parliamentary Committee for Developing the Constitution Proposal. The Commission established a website for sharing those comments and proposals. Overall, 401 civil society initiatives and 82.232 citizens submitted their comments and proposals on the new constitution.

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Turkey

Related Commitments

[Engage citizens in deliberation on a priority issue](#)

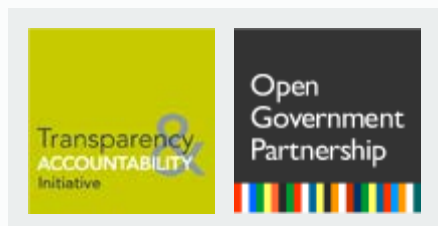
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Tuscany established a law

promoting participation in development of regional policies

Submitted by: [Involve](#)

At the end of 2007 the Region of Tuscany passed Law no. 69 defining Rules on the Promotion of Participation in the Formulation of Regional and Local Policies, an innovative legal provision explicitly aimed at pro-actively promoting citizen engagement in local and regional decision making. This law institutionalizes citizen participation; through group dialogue of citizens and stakeholders in decision-making about issues or problems of public interest.

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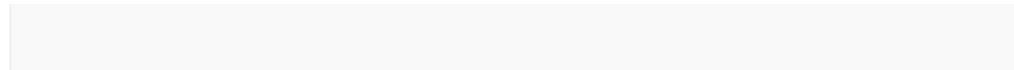
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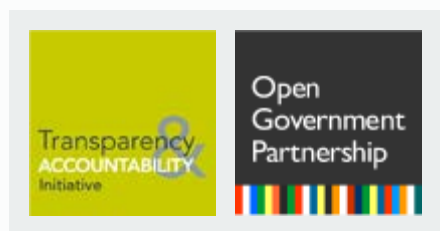
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Uganda publishes

comprehensive national data on the performance of the rural water sector

 Submitted by: Twaweza

With 35% of rural people still lacking access to an improved drinking water supply, deciding where to invest, how to develop services and which policies and strategies actually work is critical for Uganda. It requires data, analysis and the joint reflection of different stakeholders.

Water sector performance measurement in Uganda has been established in Uganda over the past ten years. In 2003 through meetings with stakeholders, and consultative workshops eight 'golden indicators' were selected such as % of people within 1.5 km (rural) and 0.2km (urban) of an improved water source , and % of improved water sources that are functional at time of spot-check Sanitation Sector .

Based on reports from local government, surveys and spot checks each year, an annual Sector Performance Report is prepared, consolidating the status, investment, progress and challenges on rural water supplies for the entire country.

Summary information from the Sector Performance Report feeds into the Government Annual Performance Report and the full report is uploaded on the Ministry website (<http://www.mwe.go.ug>). A simple, summarized version of the report is also put in the national newspapers for information to the public.

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Uganda

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[Systematically track and publish performance indicators across public services](#)

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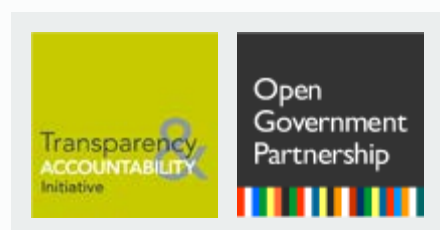
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Country Example

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UK Open Policymaking

team crowdsourced suggestions of 'Ideal Policy Team Behaviors'

 Submitted by: Involvement

Using a simple and low cost blog, the UK Government's Open Policymaking team, in partnership with the civil society organisation The Democratic Society, have been hosting an online discussion space exploring: 'what open policymaking means in practice, and how we make it excellent and democratic.'

As part of this, they conducted a light touch review of 'Ideal Policy Team Behaviours', asking 'policymakers- and anyone involved in delivering policy or influencing its creation- to vote on what policy teams should be doing to ensure that policymaking gets better.'

The top five to emerge were:

1. Marketing the engagement exercises so that relevant stakeholders are able to contribute to the process
2. Understanding how an end-user interacts with a policy area in practice
3. Prototyping proposed solutions and processes
4. Clearly stating (in plain English) the scope of any related consultation or engagement exercises as well as the desired outcomes
5. Asking the right questions

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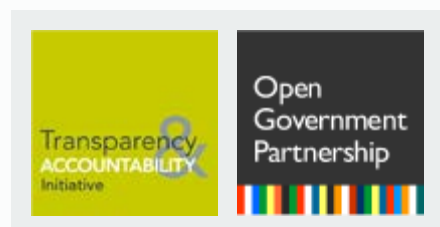
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Ukraine has established

laws to simplify CSO registration and improve access to resources

Submitted by: [Involve](#)

The Law on Public Organisations was adopted and went into effect in January 2013. The new law simplifies registration and allows CSOs to pursue any lawful aims, engage in economic activities for not-for-profit purposes and acquire membership in public associations.

The new provisions governing the legal status of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) provides for:

- simplification of the registration procedures for public associations;
- the right of NGOs to pursue any lawful interest or objective (not only the interests of its members);
- the right of legal entities to establish and to acquire membership in public associations;
- right of public association to conduct activities throughout the territory of Ukraine, regardless of their place of registration; and
- the right of NGOs to engage in entrepreneurial activities to support their not-for-profit activities.

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Ukraine

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[Reform legislation to create an enabling environment for civil society organisations](#)

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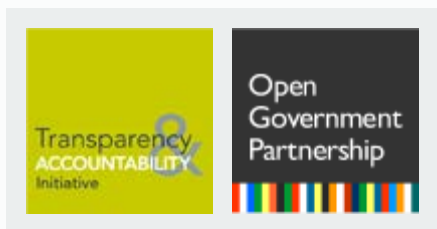
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US Citizen Corps trains

volunteers to play a role in community safety and disaster preparedness

 Submitted by: Twaweza

Following the tragic events that occurred on September 11, 2001, state and local government officials in the US increased opportunities for citizens to become involved in disaster preparedness and supporting local first responders.

Citizen Corps was created to help coordinate volunteer activities. It provides opportunities for people to participate in a range of measures to make their families, their homes, and their communities safer from the threats of crime, terrorism, and disasters of all kinds.

Citizen Corps programs build on local efforts to prevent crime and respond to emergencies. Programs that started through local innovation are the foundation for the national approach.

The Citizen Corps mission is accomplished through a national network of state, local, and tribal Citizen Corps Councils. These Councils build on community strengths to implement the Citizen Corps preparedness programs and carry out a local strategy to involve government, community leaders, and citizens in all-hazards preparedness and resilience.

Countries this example relates to...

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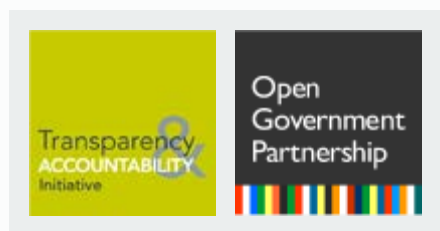
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Country Example

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15 donor countries and 22

recipient countries have signed up to IATI

Submitted by: [Publish What You Fund](#)

The 15 donor countries that have signed up to the IATI are: Australia, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Ireland, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and the United States. The 22 recipient countries are Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Colombia, Democratic Republic of Congo, Dominican Republic, Ghana, Honduras, Indonesia, Lebanon, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Moldova, Montenegro, Nepal, Papua New Guinea, Republic of Congo, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Syria, Tanzania and Viet Nam.

In their June 2013 meeting, G8 countries – including France, Italy, Japan and Russia – committed to publishing to the International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI) by 2015, stating in the Lough Erne communiqué that “transparent data on G8 development assistance are... essential for accountability.”

Countries this example relates to...

Australia, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Ireland, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom, United States, Canada, France, Italy, Japan, Russian Federation, Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Colombia, Congo, The Drc, Dominican Republic, Ghana, Honduras, Indonesia, Lebanon, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Moldova, Republic Of, Nepal, Papua New Guinea, Congo, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Syrian Arab Republic, Tanzania, United Republic Of, Viet Nam

Related Commitments

[Join the International Aid Transparency Initiative \(IATI\)](#)

Related Topics

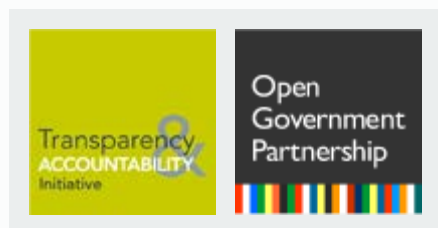
[Aid](#)

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- [Information about IATI country membership](#)

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Country Example

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23 countries have recently

adopted RTI laws which reflect the progress made in international standard setting

23 countries obtained scores of 100 points or more out of a possible 150 points on the RTI Rating. The average age of the laws in the top 20 countries is just 5 years. Features of the stronger laws include that they establish clear procedures for requesters and have strong oversight bodies.

Countries this example relates to...

Panama, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kyrgyzstan, Finland, Nepal, Yemen, Moldova, Republic Of, Brazil, Bangladesh, South Africa, Croatia (Local Name: Hrvatska), Macedonia, Nicaragua, Ethiopia, Ukraine, Azerbaijan, Antigua and Barbuda, Mexico, El Salvador, Liberia, Slovenia, India

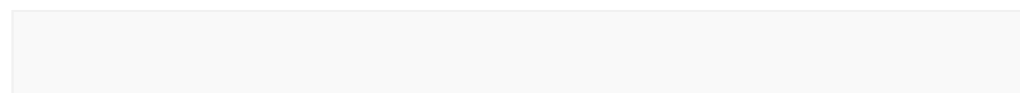
Related Commitments

Adopt a law which recognises the right to information, in line with international standards

Related Topics

Right to information

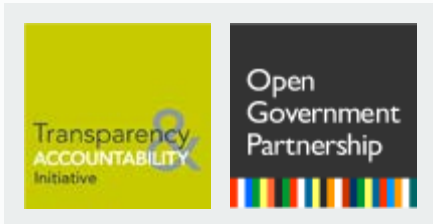
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[Website of the Global Right to Information Rating](#)

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Country Example

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39 countries are

implementing EITI

Submitted by: [Revenue Watch Institute](#)

The Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI) is an international multi-stakeholder coalition of governments, companies, investors, civil society organisations, and partner organisations. Implementing countries publish EITI Reports that disclose the revenues from extraction of the country's natural resources. Companies report payments to government (taxes, royalties, etc) and the government reports what it has received. These two sets of figures are compiled and reconciled by an independent reconciler, chosen by the country, and published in the EITI Report.

Countries this example relates to...

Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Cameroon, Chad, Congo, The Drc, Guatemala, Honduras, Iraq, Kyrgyzstan, Madagascar, Mauritania, Mozambique, Peru, Nigeria, Sao Tome and Principe, Sierra Leone, Tajikistan, Philippines, Togo, Yemen, Albania, Burkina Faso, Central African Republic, Guinea, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Liberia, Mali, Mongolia, Niger, Norway, Congo, Senegal, Solomon Islands, Tanzania, United Republic Of, East Timor, Trinidad and Tobago, Zambia

Related Commitments

[Publish timely, comprehensive reports on oil, gas and mining operations, including detailed revenue and project information](#)

Related Topics

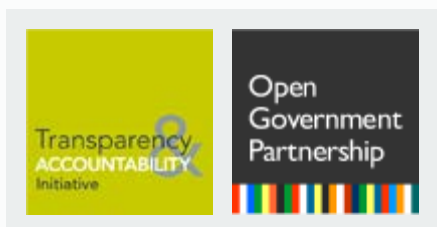
[Extractive industry](#)

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Country Example

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A Canadian government

website provides the public with information about the government's access to information and privacy programmes

In Canada, the Info Source website provides the public with information about the government's access to information and privacy programmes. The primary purpose of Info Source is to assist individuals exercise their rights under the Access to Information Act and the Privacy Act. Info Source also supports the federal government's commitment to facilitating access to information regarding its activities.

Countries this example relates to...

Canada

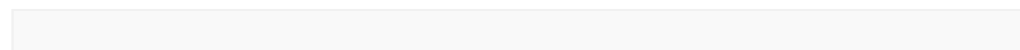
Related Commitments

[Expand the scope of proactive publication](#)

Related Topics

[Right to information](#)

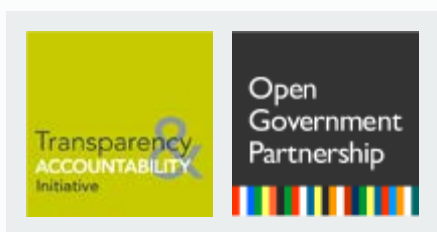
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[Info Source Website](#)

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[Home](#) [Country Examples](#) [A few countries publish all eight key budget document...](#)

Country Example

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A few countries publish all

eight key budget documents

Submitted by: [International Budget Partnership](#)

France, Honduras, Italy, New Zealand, the UK, Uganda, Slovakia and South Africa are among the countries that publish all eight key budget documents. The Executive Budget Proposals in countries New Zealand, South Africa, and the United Kingdom also meet international best practice criteria.

Countries this example relates to...

France, Honduras, Italy, New Zealand, United Kingdom, Uganda, Slovakia (Slovak Republic), South Africa

Related Commitments

[Publish all eight key budget reports](#)

Related Topics

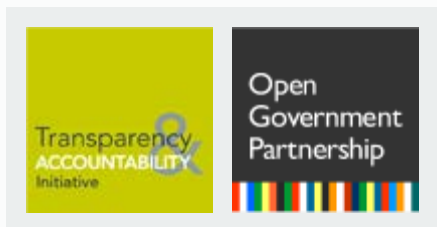
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Country Example

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A growing number of

universities across the world are offering records management education in the context of information science and digital governance

Submitted by: [International Records Management Trust](#)

See for instance:

- China: Renmin University School of Information Resource Management en.irm.cn/
- Jamaica/Barbados/ Trinidad: University of the West Indies open.uwi.edu/belize/records-management
- Botswana: University of Botswana Department of Library and Information Studies ub.bw/home/ac/1/fac/12/dep/70/Library-&-information-Studies/

Countries this example relates to...

China, Jamaica, Botswana

Related Commitments

[Strengthen the capacity of records management professionals to meet the challenges of managing records in all forms and](#)

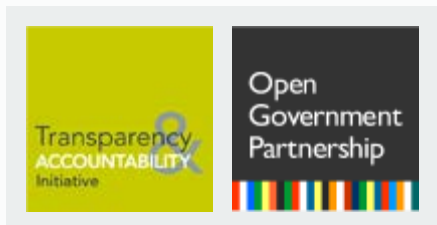
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[Records management](#)

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[Home](#) [Country Examples](#) [A parliamentary monitoring organisation in India publ...](#)

Country Example

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A parliamentary

monitoring organisation in India publishes easily digestible information about parliament

 Submitted by: National Democratic Institute for International Affairs

PRS Legislative Research, a parliamentary monitoring organisation in India, provides primers, plain language summaries and other information aimed at enabling broad consumption by parliamentarians and citizens.

Countries this example relates to...

[India](#)

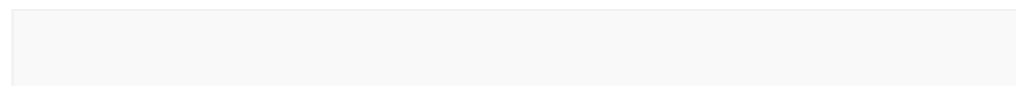
Related Commitments

[Make parliamentary information easier to understand and accessible to citizens through multiple channels](#)

Related Topics

[Parliaments](#)

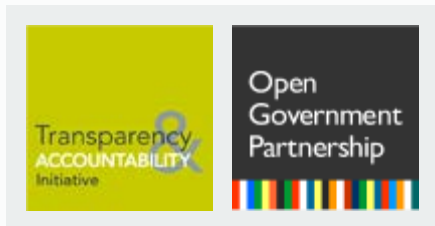
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□ [Website of PSR Legislative Research](#)

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Country Example

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About 137 jurisdictions

implement some sort of asset disclosure regulations

Submitted by: [Global Integrity](#)

Of these 137 jurisdictions, around 45 jurisdictions make disclosures available online including Australia, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Ireland, Portugal, the United Kingdom, Bulgaria, Croatia, Estonia, Georgia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Romania, and Slovakia.

Countries this example relates to...

Australia, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Ireland, Portugal, United Kingdom, Bulgaria, Croatia (Local Name: Hrvatska), Estonia, Georgia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Romania, Slovakia (Slovak Republic)

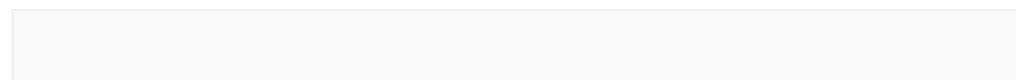
Related Commitments

[Establish a law requiring public disclosure of income and assets by elected and senior public officials](#)

Related Topics

[Assets disclosure and conflicts of interest](#)

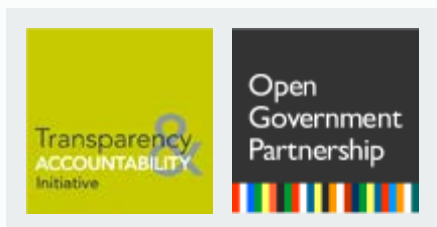
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□ [World Bank report from 2011](#)

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[Home](#) [Country Examples](#) [Approximately 100 countries around the world have ado...](#)

Country Example

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Approximately 100

countries around the world have adopted legal instruments offering protection to journalists' confidential sources

 Submitted by: [Open Society Foundations](#)

In the last few years, several countries have adopted such laws including Mexico, New Zealand, Australia, El Salvador, Switzerland, and Belgium.

Efforts to weaken the law in Portugal and to require journalists to disclose in Kenya were rejected by the countries' leaders. Many countries also recognise protection of sources in case law as common law or as a part of the constitutional right of free speech.

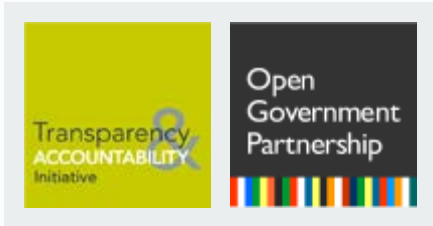
There are also sub-national laws. For instance, over 30 states in the United States provide such legal protections, as well as states in Argentina, Mexico, Australia and Germany.

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Country Example

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Approximately 20

countries have taken part in experience exchange on construction sector transparency facilitated through CoST

 Submitted by: [Construction Sector Transparency Initiative](#)

CoST has facilitated international exchange of experience between approximately 20 countries, including El Salvador, Ethiopia, Guatemala, Malawi, Philippines, Tanzania, United Kingdom, Vietnam and Zambia, as well as regional events in Africa, Asia and the Americas.

Countries this example relates to...

[El Salvador](#), [Ethiopia](#), [Guatemala](#), [Malawi](#), [Tanzania](#), [United Republic Of, Philippines](#), [United Kingdom](#), [Zambia](#), [Viet Nam](#)

Related Commitments

[Make national experience of construction transparency and accountability available for international exchange](#)

Related Topics

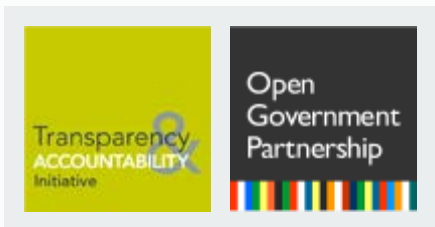
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Country Example

Share this page

Archives New Zealand has

developed a guide, "Managing Datasets", which provides some guidance for the management of datasets in public sector organisations

 Submitted by: International Records Management Trust

Archives New Zealand has published a factsheet, 'Managing Datasets', which provides some guidance for the management of datasets in public sector organisations. It explains why managing datasets is important, and offers guidance on how to plan for effective datasets management.

Countries this example relates to...

New Zealand

Related Commitments

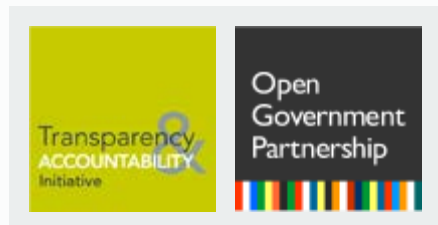
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- [Managing Datasets](#)

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Country Example

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Argentina developed an

electronic financial disclosure system

 Submitted by: [Global Integrity](#)

A fully electronic financial disclosure system was introduced in Argentina in 2000 as a response to the enormous logistical challenge of managing a paper system. The impacts have been significant and rapid. Requiring the filer to complete all necessary fields before the form can be submitted has resulted in a reduction in the number of errors or incorrectly filled-out asset declaration forms, and subsequently in an increase in compliance rates. In the year following implementation, submission compliance rates increased from 67 percent to 96 percent and the estimated cost to the government per form decreased from US\$70 to US\$8.

Countries this example relates to...

[Argentina](#)

Related Commitments

[Publish asset and conflict of interest disclosures as open data](#)

Related Topics

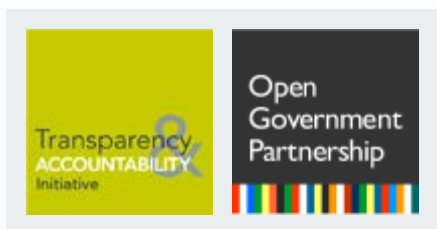
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Country Example

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Around 45 jurisdictions

make disclosures available online

 Submitted by: [Global Integrity](#)

These 45 countries include Australia, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Ireland, Portugal, the United Kingdom, Bulgaria, Croatia, Estonia, Georgia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Romania, and Slovakia, Hong Kong SAR (China), Thailand, Mongolia, and Taiwan (China).

Countries this example relates to...

Australia, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Ireland, Portugal, United Kingdom, Bulgaria, Croatia (Local Name: Hrvatska), Estonia, Georgia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Romania, Slovakia (Slovak Republic), Hong Kong, Thailand, Mongolia, Taiwan, Province Of China

Related Commitments

[Publish asset and conflict of interest disclosures as open data](#)

Related Topics

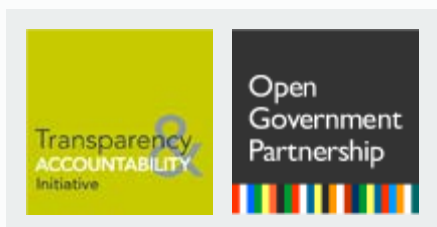
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[World Bank report from 2012](#)

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As part of its Open Data

strategy the UK government will publish machine readable data on the management and use of EU funds in the UK

 Submitted by: [Publish What You Fund](#)

The UK has instructed all agencies to open their systems and their data. In the Open Data White Paper from 2012, HM Treasury outlines its initial plans to produce (in a machine-readable format) data relating to the management and use of EU funds in the UK.

Countries this example relates to...

[United Kingdom](#)

Related Commitments

[Integrate aid information into domestic budget planning \(recipients\)](#)

Related Topics

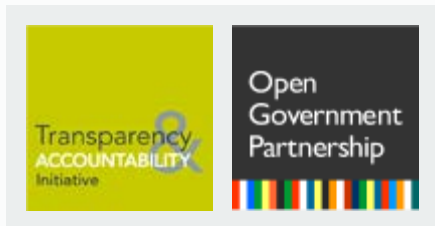
[Aid](#)

RESOURCES

- [UK's White Paper on open data](#)

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Country Example

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At least 32 countries have

restrictions on post-government employment in at least one branch of government

 Submitted by: Global Integrity

According to data from Global Integrity, the following countries have restrictions on post-government employment in at least one branch of government (this is not a comprehensive list and the quality of the regulations varies between jurisdictions):

Albania, Algeria, Armenia, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Colombia, China, Czech Republic, Ethiopia, Ghana, Germany, Kosovo, Georgia, India, Italy, Mongolia, Macedonia, Mexico, Nigeria, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Romania, Russian Federation, Turkey, Serbia, South Africa, United States.

Countries this example relates to...

Albania, Algeria, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Colombia, China, Czech Republic, Ethiopia, Ghana, Germany, Georgia, India, Italy, Mongolia, Macedonia, Mexico, Nigeria, Pakistan, Peru, Poland, Romania, Russian Federation, Turkey, South Africa, United States

Related Commitments

[Establish regulations governing post-government private sector employment](#)

Related Topics

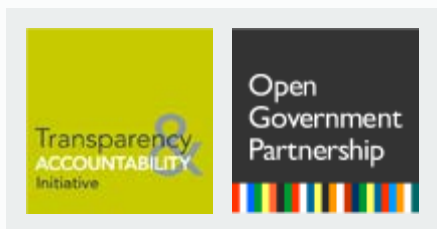
[Assets disclosure and conflicts of interest](#)

RESOURCES

- [Global Integrity report from 2011](#)

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Country Example

Share this page

Australia has an

independent crime and misconduct commission

 Submitted by: [OSF](#)

The Crime and Misconduct Commission in Australia is structurally independent from other government organizations and ministries, but is accountable to a standing committee of the Legislative Assembly with responsibility for monitoring and reviewing the commission's performance.

Countries this example relates to...

Australia

Related Commitments

[Establish a civilian oversight authority for the police](#)

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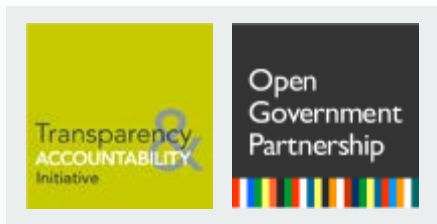
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Country Example

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Australia holds regular

satisfaction surveys on policing

 Submitted by: OSF

For example the Australian Federal Police assesses client satisfaction is a Key Performance Indicator. The AFP Business Satisfaction Survey (BSS), formerly known as the Client Satisfaction Survey, has been conducted annually since 1999-2000.

The survey is designed to assess the AFP's commitment to its core values, the performance of the AFP in conducting and undertaking investigations, and working with our clients and stakeholders. The results provide feedback about the AFP's activities and enable the identification of areas of service delivery requiring attention. Those surveyed include staff from organisations that the AFP routinely works with, including commonwealth, state and territory government agencies, foreign governments, law enforcement agencies, industry clients, embassies and diplomatic missions in Australia and overseas.

Countries this example relates to...

[Australia](#)

Related Commitments

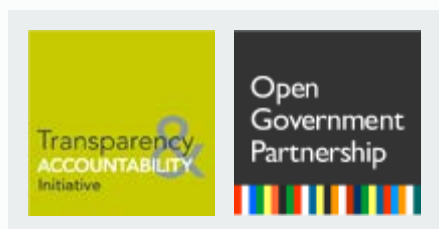
[Develop a system of regular public surveys about crime and policing](#)

Related Topics

[Police and public security](#)

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Country Example

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Australia's information

commissioner is responsible for all information held by the government

 Submitted by: [Sunlight Foundation](#)

According to the Australian Information Commissioner Act 2010, the information commissioner's function is to report on any matter related to the collection, use, disclosure, management administration or storage of, or accessibility to, information held by the Government.

Countries this example relates to...

[Australia](#)

Related Commitments

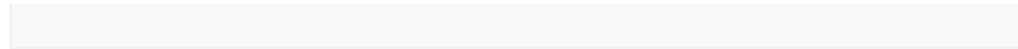
[Create or appoint an oversight authority](#)

Related Topics

[Open government data](#)

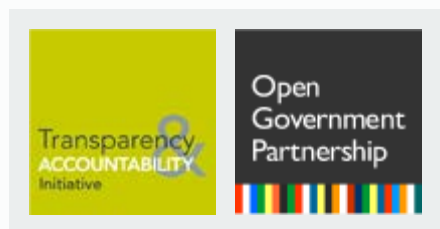
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[Australian Information Commissioner Act 2010](#)



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Country Example

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Austria has published

information on the use of special investigative means

 Submitted by: OSF

In 2008, the Austrian Court of Audit published a report about the use of special investigative means by the police, including wiretapping, costs, effects, etc

Countries this example relates to...

[Austria](#)

Related Commitments

[Establish more extensive proactive disclosure requirements for police](#)

Related Topics

[Police and public security](#)

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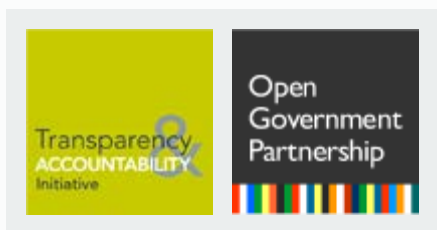
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Country Example

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Bangladesh has developed

a one-stop-shop for all aid related information

Submitted by: [Publish What You Fund](#)

The Bangladeshi authorities have developed a home-grown Aid Information Management System (AIMS). [Bangladesh AIMS](#) acts as a one-stop-shop for all information related to development aid in Bangladesh and enables the tracking and effective management the aid flows to the country. By June 2015, 17 out of 28 donor agencies working in Bangladesh were using the system, and the remaining agencies are expected to start using it within short. The Bangladesh AIMS was developed over a period of 20 months through a consultative and inclusive process involving the Government, development partners, and civil society organisations.

Countries this example relates to...

[Bangladesh](#)

Related Commitments

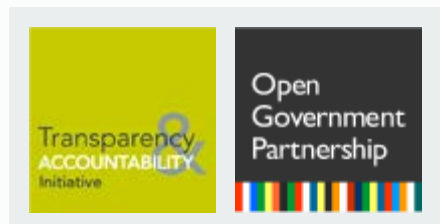
[Promote access to and use aid information by all stakeholders](#)

Related Topics

[Aid](#)

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Country Example

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Belgium piloted a system

to develop unique identifiers for addresses and streets

 Submitted by: [Sunlight Foundation](#)

The Core Location Pilot 'Interconnecting Belgian National and Regional Address Data' analysed the possibility of developing unique identifiers for addresses and streets in Belgium.

Countries this example relates to...

[Belgium](#)

Related Commitments

[Create unique identifiers for organisations, things and places](#)

Related Topics

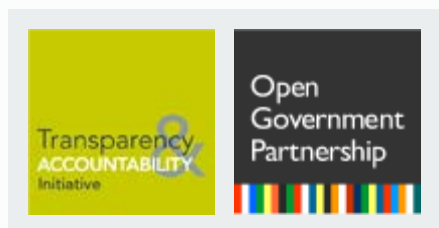
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[Interconnecting Belgian National and Regional Address Data](#)

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Country Example

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Bolivia endorsed the Open

Aid Partnership

 Submitted by: [Publish What You Fund](#)

Bolivia endorsed the World Bank's Open Aid Partnership in early 2013. Reasons for joining the partnership included better visualisation of development projects, more effective cooperation with development partners, improved access to public services, and greater scope for citizens to participate by providing feedback and voice their needs.

Countries this example relates to...

[Bolivia](#)

Related Commitments

[Demand information from donors in line with the IATI standard \(recipients\)](#)

Related Topics

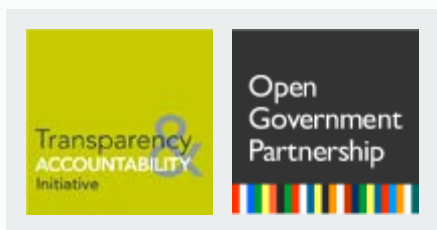
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[Bolivia endorses the Open Aid Partnership](#)

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Country Example

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Botswana has developed a

“budget pitso” forum

Submitted by: [International Budget Partnership](#)

Botswana has introduced a promising initiative that uses an innovative “budget pitso” (or consultation forum) system to enable the public to be part of budget formulation. This “pitso” has its origins in the community participation “kgotla” system, which is one of the oldest forms of public participation in governance in the world.

Countries this example relates to...

[Botswana](#)

Related Commitments

[Enable citizen participation in budgeting](#)

Related Topics

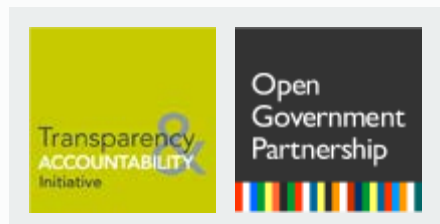
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[Open Budget Survey 2012](#)

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[Home](#) [Country Examples](#) [Brazil publishes detailed information on resource rev...](#)

Country Example

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Brazil publishes detailed

information on resource revenues

Submitted by: [Revenue Watch Institute](#)

Overall, Brazil has good levels of revenue and expenditure transparency, driven by two main factors: its legislation for disclosure of public data on government web pages, and the National Oil Company's participation in the stock exchange. The National Petroleum Agency (ANP) provides sregularly publishes information on reserves, production volumes, prices, exports, investment, the names of companies operating in the country, production data by company, and disaggregated revenue streams such as production values, royalties, special taxes, bonuses, and acreage fees.

Countries this example relates to...

[Brazil](#)

Related Commitments

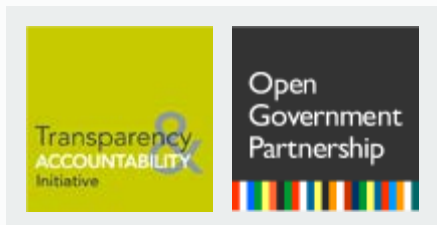
[Publish timely, comprehensive reports on oil, gas and mining operations, including detailed revenue and project information](#)

Related Topics

[Extractive industry](#)

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Country Example

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Canada has committed to

implement the International Aid Transparency Initiative as part of its OGP Action Plan

 Submitted by: [Publish What You Fund](#)

As part of the Canadian Open Government Partnership National Action Plan, Canada has promised to implement the International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI). In Year 1, Canada will review all IATI requirements and publish its plan to make information about the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) activities available and accessible, and in Years 2 and 3, the focus will be on implementation and reporting.

Countries this example relates to...

[Canada](#)

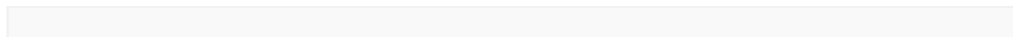
Related Commitments

[Begin publishing information to the IATI Registry \(donors\)](#)

Related Topics

[Aid](#)

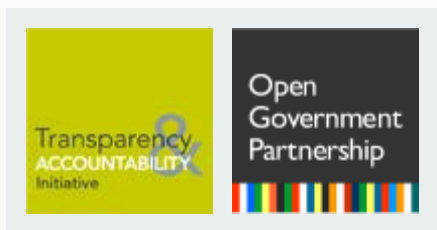
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□ [OGP Commitment](#)

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Country Example

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Canada has passed a law

requiring oil, gas and mining companies to disclose their payments to governments

 Submitted by: [OpenGovGuide](#)

The [Extractive Sector Transparency Measures Act](#), which became law in December 2014, requires oil, gas and mining companies to publicly disclose the payments they make to governments around the world. The rules apply to companies listed on Canadian stock exchanges as well as large privately held companies. The affected companies operate in more than 100 countries. While the law itself falls short of requiring project-level reporting, this information will be required by the legally enforceable administrative tools which will accompany the law.

Countries this example relates to...

[Canada](#)

Related Commitments

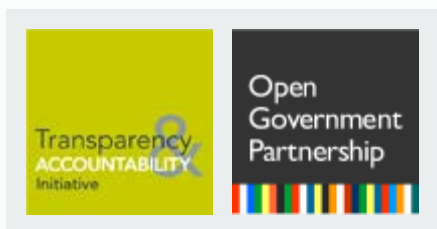
[Require all listed companies to disclose resource related payments on a project by project basis](#)

Related Topics

[Extractive industry](#)

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Country Example

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Canada provides a public

interest defence for those who would otherwise be bound by secrecy laws

Submitted by: [Whistleblowers International Network](#)

Canada's Security of Information Act provides that no person is guilty of an offence under sections 13 or 14 (which make it an offence for anyone "permanently bound to secrecy" to intentionally and without authority communicate or confirm "special operational information") if they can establish that they "acted in the public interest". This means that they must show they acted in order to disclose an offence and that the "the public interest in the disclosure outweighed the public interest in non-disclosure".

Countries this example relates to...

[Canada](#)

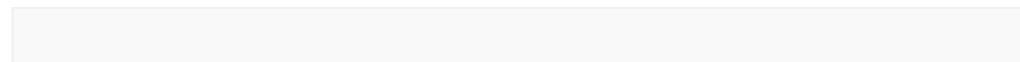
Related Commitments

[Extend whistleblower protection to those working with sensitive or classified information](#)

Related Topics

[Whistleblower protection](#)

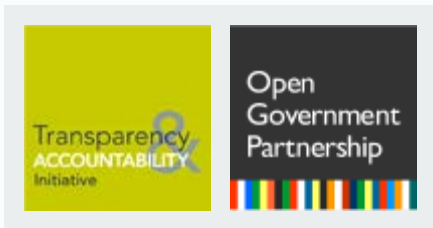
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[Canada's Security of Information Act](#)

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[Home](#) [Country Examples](#) [Canada's policy on information management takes...](#)

Country Example

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Canada's policy on

information management takes a broad approach to managing information in all forms and formats

 Submitted by: International Records Management Trust

The policy recognises that information is an essential component of effective public service management across all departments. High-quality, authoritative information supports the delivery of effective programs and services and enables departments to be responsive and accountable to Canadians. The information management policy encompasses the management of records, documents of all types, data, library services and information architecture. Integrating information management considerations into all aspects of government business makes it possible for information to be used and recognized as a valuable asset; integrating information management requirements with technology planning ensures that digital information is accessible, shareable, and usable over time and through technological change.

All employees are responsible for applying information management principles, standards, and practices as expressed in Treasury Board of Canada and departmental frameworks, policies, directives, and guidelines in the performance of their duties, and for documenting their activities and decisions. Expert services such as records, library, and data management provide specialized information management support to departments.

The Government also recognises the public's right to access to

information in records under the control of government institutions as an essential element of its system of democracy. It is committed to openness and transparency by respecting the spirit and requirements of the [Access to Information Act](#). The government must ensure a high standard of care for records under its control. Sound information management plays a key role in facilitating the ability to exercise the right of access under the Act.

Countries this example relates to...

Canada

Related Commitments

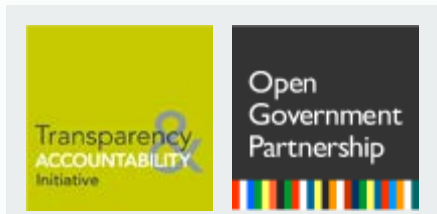
[Use the findings of the gap analysis to develop a government-wide policy on records management in line with goals for open government and sustainable development, including digital governance, right to information and open data](#)

Related Topics

[Records management](#)

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Country Example

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Canadian security law

takes public interest defence into consideration

Submitted by: [Open Society Foundations](#)

Under the Canadian Security of Information Act, it is an offence for a government official to improperly communicate special operational information. However, a public interest defence is available where a public servant discloses information in the public interest. The law considers the availability of any effective, alternative remedies; the public interest in the information; the actual harm caused by the disclosure weighed against the public interest in the information's release; the reasonableness of the public official's belief in the accuracy and importance of the information, and the severity of the penalty.

Countries this example relates to...

[Canada](#)

Related Commitments

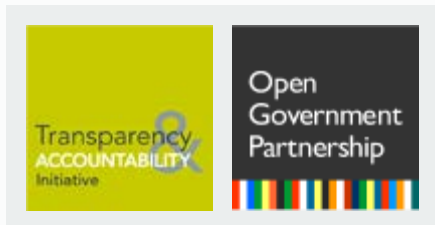
[Ensure that whistleblower protection applies in the security sector](#)

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Country Example

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Chile has a fund for

Consumer Associations projects

 Submitted by: [Consumers International](#)

In Chile, the consumer law establishes a fund that twice a year awards consumer associations with resources to carry on and implement projects. A call for projects is made every year, and consumer groups can present them to the national consumer authority (SERNAC). A panel of experts analyse each project proposal, and award funds following a strict criteria that is settled each year.

Countries this example relates to...

[Chile](#)

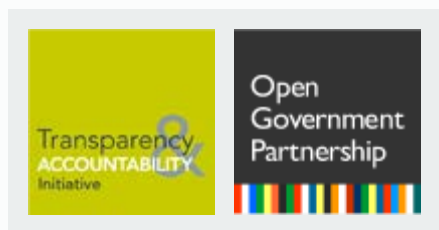
Related Commitments

[Establish legal and institutional means for consumers and their organisations to participate in law and policy making](#)

Related Topics

[Consumer protection](#)

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Country Example

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Chile has committed to

publish asset declarations online as part of its OGP Action Plan

 Submitted by: [OGP Action Plan](#)

In its Open Government Partnership Action Plan, Chile commits to two projects concerning asset disclosure: one that focuses on integrity in public functions, and one voluntary disclosure of assets scheme to encourage citizen control by publishing asset declarations online.

Countries this example relates to...

[Chile](#)

Related Commitments

[Publish asset and conflict of interest disclosures as open data](#)

Related Topics

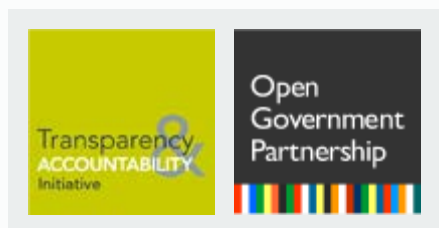
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Country Example

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Chile requires that

environmental information is published in an accessible form

 Submitted by: [The Access Initiative](#)

In Chile a law was approved in 2012 which created the Agency for Environmental Assessment. Specific language in the Law establishes the obligation for the government and the investors to deliver information to local communities in a format which is accessible, taking into account their socio and cultural background as well as their level of education.

Countries this example relates to...

[Chile](#)

Related Commitments

[Adopt legal requirements for the collection and production of environmental information](#)

Related Topics

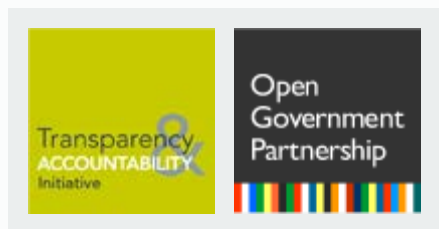
[Environment](#)

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[Blog in Spanish about improving environmental information in Chile](#)

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Country Example

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Chile's healthcare system

sets out guarantees on access, quality and cost of public healthcare

Submitted by: [Twaweza](#)

Chile's Regime of Explicit Health Guarantees (AUGE) guarantees a certain set of services for all users. It prioritises health problems based medical criteria and defines a maximum waiting period for receiving services at each stage ("access") the set of activities, procedures, and technologies necessary for treating the medical condition ("quality"); and the maximum that a family can spend per year on health ("financial protection").

Countries this example relates to...

[Chile](#)

Related Commitments

[Publish and promote information on the public services people are entitled to](#)

Related Topics

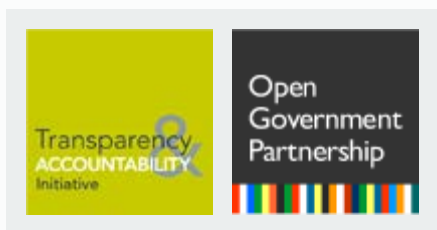
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□ [World Bank study on Chile](#)

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Country Example

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Civil society groups in

three African countries have received grants to improve citizen monitoring of public contracts

Submitted by: [Open Contracting Partnership](#)

The Global Partnership for Social Accountability (GPSA) is a coalition of donors, governments and civil society organizations that aims to improve development results by supporting capacity building for enhanced citizen feedback and participation. It does so by providing strategic and sustained support to CSOs' social accountability initiatives aimed at strengthening transparency and accountability.

GPSA grants that relate to open contracting have been given to civil society organisations in Mongolia, Malawi and Uganda. In [Mongolia](#) and [Malawi](#), grants have been awarded for work to improve accountability in the education sector through procurement monitoring, and in [Uganda](#), the focus is on monitoring procurement in the agriculture, health and education sectors.

Countries this example relates to...

Mongolia, Malawi, Uganda

Related Commitments

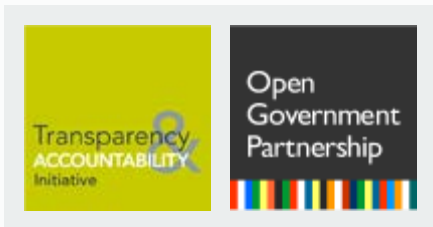
[Facilitate funding to support participation in public contracting](#)

Related Topics

[Public contracting](#)

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Colombia announced that

it would implement the EITI

Submitted by: [Revenue Watch Institute](#)

The Government of Colombia announced at the 2012 Open Government Partnership (OGP) summit that it would implement the Extractive Industry Transparency Initiative Standard.

RELATED EXAMPLES

[Ukraine announced that it would implement the EITI](#)

Countries this example relates to...

[Colombia](#)

Related Commitments

[Publish timely, comprehensive reports on oil, gas and mining operations, including detailed revenue and project information](#)

Related Topics

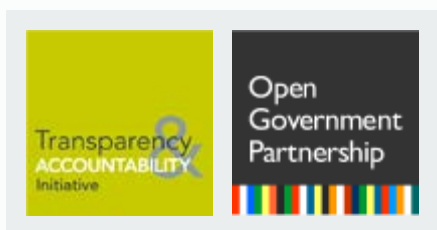
[Extractive industry](#)

RESOURCES

[News from the EITI Website](#)

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Country Example

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Colombia has legislated

clear laws covering procurement for defence and security

Submitted by: [Open Society Foundations](#)

In Colombia, the parliament has legislated clear laws covering procurement in defence and security, incorporating transparent legislation with regard to sensitive procurement. Law 1219 of 2008 provides for a procurement process for confidential items, providing guidance on transparency, objective bidding, and the need for effectiveness of procedures. Law 1097 of 2006 provides for regulation of 'reserved expenditure', which funds the intelligence and counter-intelligence services. These laws allow control and oversight of confidential expenditures through a special unit of the General Comptroller.

Countries this example relates to...

[Colombia](#)

Related Commitments

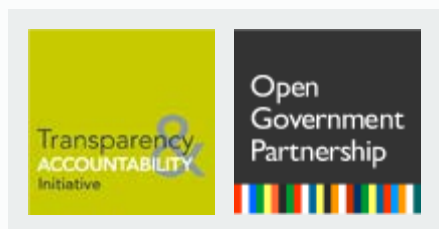
[Ensure opportunity for public engagement in all stages of military budgeting and spending](#)

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[Security sector](#)

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Country Example

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Colombia has used the

'Land Governance Assessment Framework' as part of its efforts to strengthen land governance

 Submitted by: Cadasta Foundation

Impacted by decades of conflict between the Government and guerrillas/paramilitaries, the land tenure situation for a large proportion of the Colombian population – particularly in rural areas – has been long been fragile and insecure. As a result, Colombia has large levels of informality and fraudulent titles created across the country. Addressing these issues was identified as critical during negotiations within the peace process. In 2013, the Colombian Government performed the Land Governance Assessment Framework (LGAF) process with assistance from the World Bank. This multi-stakeholder process subsequently resulted in a detailed sectoral analysis and recommendations for strengthening land governance that the Government is now implementing incrementally in areas where security has been restored.

Countries this example relates to...

Colombia

Related Commitments

Carry out a baseline assessment of the openness.

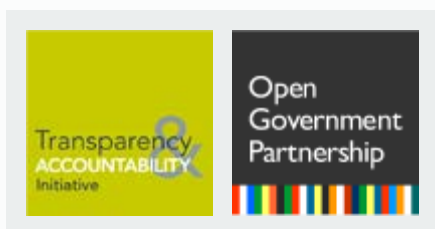
[effectiveness and accessibility of current land governance structures, capacity and procedures](#)

Related Topics

[Land](#)

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Country Example

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Conflict of interest rules

protect the independence of South Africa's Electoral Commission

 Submitted by: [National Democratic Institute for International Affairs](#)

According to the South African Electoral Act from 1998, election observers must disclose to the Independent Electoral Commission any relationship that could lead to conflict of interest regarding the performance of their duties as observers. The law also states that these observers are not to accept any gifts or favour from a political party, organisation or person involved in the election process, and not participate in any function or activity that could lead to a perception of sympathy for a particular candidate or political party.

Countries this example relates to...

[South Africa](#)

Related Commitments

[Establish measures to safeguard administrative impartiality and provide training and access to information about them](#)

Related Topics

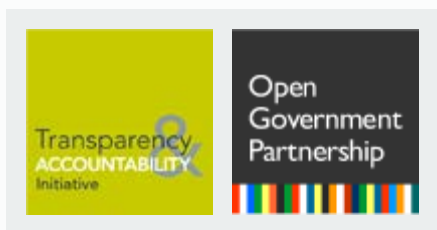
[Elections](#)

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□ [South Africa's electoral legislations](#)

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Country Example

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Congo (DRC) publishes all

mining, oil and forestry contracts

Submitted by: [Revenue Watch Institute](#)

In May 2011, the Congolese government passed a decree that all contracts relating to natural resources (oil, mining, forestry) should be made public within 60 days.

The government began systematically disclosing agreements in June 2012, however a few controversial contracts remain secret.

Countries this example relates to...

Congo, The Drc

Related Commitments

[Disclose contracts signed with extractive companies](#)

Related Topics

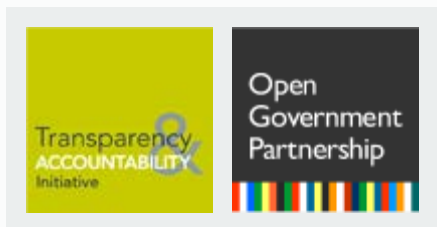
[Extractive industry](#)

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<http://www.revenuwatch.org/countries/africa/democratic-republic-congo/transparency-snapshot>

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Country Example

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CoST in Guatemala has

benefited from the support of international partners, helping them avoid potential pitfalls and build on what has worked in other countries

 Submitted by: Construction Sector Transparency Initiative (CoST)

Guatemala started its CoST pilot scheme later than other pilot countries but was able to progress quickly. According to the CoST Guatemala coordinator, the CoST pilot countries operate as a community of practice and share lessons among each other. And, while each CoST country has unique characteristics, the experiences of other countries have helped Guatemala avoid potential pitfalls and build on what worked in other countries.

Countries this example relates to...

Guatemala

Related Commitments

[Make national experience of construction transparency and accountability available for international exchange](#)

Related Topics

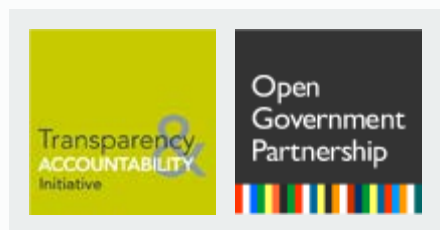
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- [Success stories from the CoST pilot project](#)

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Country Example

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CoST participation

countries have disclosed project information

Submitted by: [Construction Sector Transparency Initiative](#)

Countries participating in the Construction Sector Transparency Initiative (CoST) – Ethiopia, Guatemala, Malawi, Philippines, Tanzania, United Kingdom, Vietnam and Zambia – have disclosed CoST project information.

Countries this example relates to...

Ethiopia, Guatemala, Malawi, Philippines, Tanzania, United Republic Of, United Kingdom, Viet Nam, Zambia

Related Commitments

[Join the Construction Sector Transparency Initiative \(CoST\) and develop a national programme](#)

Related Topics

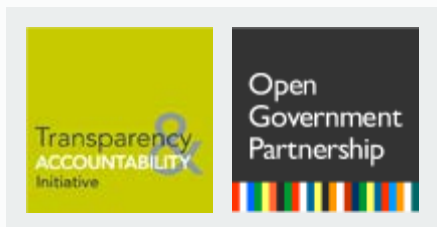
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[CoST country cases](#)

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Country Example

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Countries participating in

CoST have enabled assurance of disclosed CoST project information and published findings

 Submitted by: [Construction Sector Transparency Initiative](#)

Ethiopia, Guatemala, Malawi, Philippines, Tanzania, United Kingdom, Vietnam and Zambia are participating in CoST and have created assurance systems to verify disclosed project information.

The responsibilities of the Assurance Team in each country include collecting and disclosing information, verifying this information, and analysing it. The Assurance Teams are then required to produce reports on their findings in language intelligible to a non-specialist audience. Some CoST countries have chosen to disclose these reports while others have chosen not to do so.

Countries this example relates to...

Ethiopia, Guatemala, Malawi, Philippines, Tanzania, United Republic Of, United Kingdom, Viet Nam, Zambia

Related Commitments

[Establish assurance of construction project information disclosure](#)

Related Topics

[Construction](#)

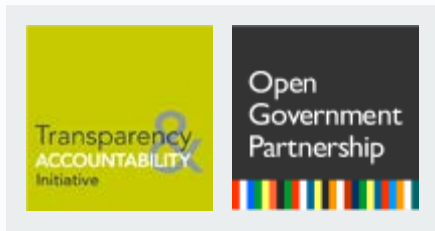


RESOURCES

- [Report on information disclosure and assurance team findings](#)

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Country Example

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Danish criminal law

provides a public interest defence for publication of state secrets

Submitted by: [Whistleblowers International Network](#)

The Danish Criminal Code from 2008 provides a public defence for publication of state secrets, stating that “where the person ... is acting in the legitimate exercise of obvious public interest or for his own or others’ best interests”.

Countries this example relates to...

[Denmark](#)

Related Commitments

[Extend whistleblower protection to those working with sensitive or classified information](#)

Related Topics

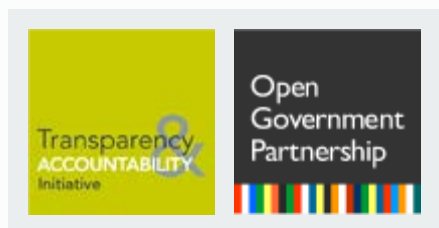
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Country Example

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Defence procurement in

the US is subject to scrutiny by Congress

 Submitted by: [Open Society Foundations](#)

Defence procurement is subject to scrutiny by the House of Representatives Committee on Armed Services, the Senate Committee on Armed Services, the Government Accountability Office and the Department of Defence's (DoD) Inspector General's office.

In addition, the United States Congress has empowered Special Inspector Generals to investigate waste, fraud and corruption associated with the large scale US defence-related procurement and expenditures in Afghanistan and Iraq.

Countries this example relates to...

[United States](#)

Related Commitments

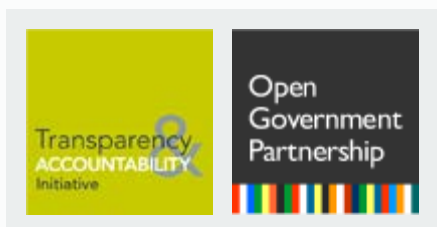
[Ensure opportunity for public engagement in all stages of military budgeting and spending](#)

Related Topics

[Security sector](#)

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Country Example

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Denmark's Model License

for Exploration & Production of Hydrocarbons contains a standard provision on disclosure

 Submitted by: Open Contracting

In a survey of more than 150 confidentiality clauses in oil and mining contracts worldwide found only one recognizes that the public interest in information should outweigh the company's interest in confidentiality. Denmark's Model License of 2005 for Exploration & Production of Hydrocarbons contains a standard provision on disclosure, stating: [Information can be disclosed if] no legitimate interest of the Licensee requires the information to be kept confidential; essential public interests outweigh Licensee's interest in maintaining confidentiality; information of a general nature is furnished in connection with issuance of public statements [...]

Countries this example relates to...

Denmark

Related Commitments

[Recognize the right of the public to access public contracting](#)

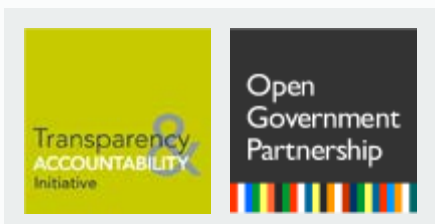
[information](#)

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- [Report by Revenue Watch Institute from 2009](#)

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Denmark's state secrecy

law provides a public interest defence for the publication of state secrets where the person is acting in the legitimate interest of obvious public interest

 Submitted by: [Open Society Foundations](#)

Criminal Code (Denmark), Section 152 (e)(2010).

Countries this example relates to...

[Denmark](#)

Related Commitments

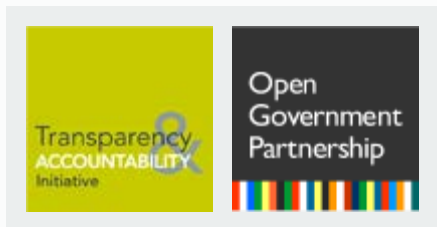
[Ensure that whistleblower protection applies in the security sector](#)

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Development aid from the

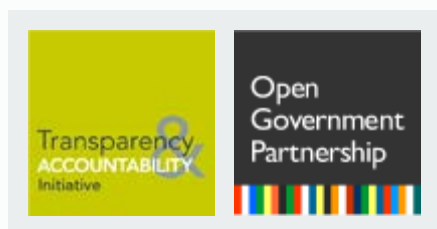
European Union has become more transparent with the EU Aid Explorer

Submitted by: [Publish What You Fund](#)

The European Commission's new data portal, the [EU Aid Explorer](#), was launched in April 2014 and presents information on European Union-funded development and humanitarian aid flows. The web portal visualises the aid flows through various graphs and maps, and provides a searchable project database.

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Country Example

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Disclosing information

enabled Ethiopia to save money and improve governance in the construction sector

During the pilot, CoST Ethiopia revealed a number of causes for concern relating to the amount of excavation on the Gindeber to Gobensa Road Project which led to the Ethiopian Roads Authority (ERA) commissioning a new design. On this particular [project](#), disclosing information for a second time demonstrates that the new design has saved \$3.7m and the design consultants have been suspended for two years by ERA.

Countries this example relates to...

Ethiopia

Related Commitments

[Enable the sharing and discussion of assurance findings in multi-stakeholder forums](#)

Related Topics

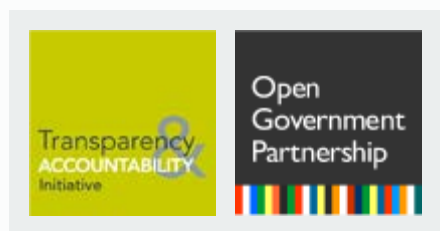
[Construction](#)

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[CoST country cases](#)

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Dominican Republic,

Uruguay, Suriname and Ecuador have been testing 'Bungeni' for managing legislative information

 Submitted by: National Democratic Institute for International Affairs

Parliamentary chambers in the Dominican Republic, Uruguay, Suriname and Ecuador have been testing Bungeni, which is a suite of open source applications for managing legislative information in XML following the Akoma Ntoso standard, and may use Bungeni to support their legislative information management needs.

Countries this example relates to...

Dominican Republic, Uruguay, Suriname, Ecuador

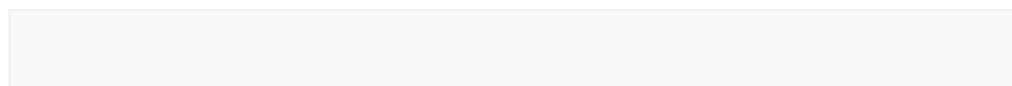
Related Commitments

Develop and share open-source parliamentary software

Related Topics

Parliaments

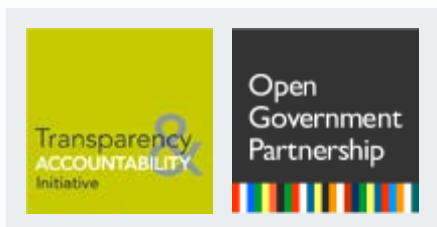
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[Declaration on Parliamentary Openness](#)

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El Salvador joined COST

after an initial period of engagement

Submitted by: [Construction Sector Transparency Initiative](#)

El Salvador joined COST after an initial period of engagement. El Salvador has, since 2009, worked on reforming its Ministry of Public Works based on the principles of transparency and ethical behaviour. Before embarking on the reform programme, the Ministry had been in large debt with 80% of its contracts paralysed by legal problems.

Countries this example relates to...

[El Salvador](#)

Related Commitments

[Engage with the Construction Sector Transparency Initiative \(CoST\)](#)

Related Topics

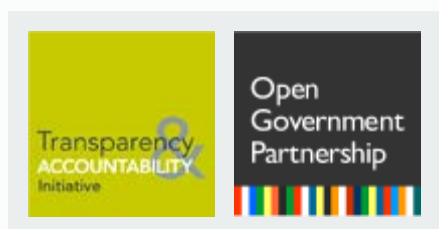
[Construction](#)

RESOURCES

- [El Salvador joins CoST initiative to intensify its fight against corruption](#)

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Country Example

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El Salvador's human rights

ombudsman investigates reports of police misconduct

 Submitted by: OSF

El Salvador has a high incidence of reported police abuse. This ranges from harassment and arbitrary detention, to much more serious incidents.

As part of the peace accord setting up democratic government an Ombudsman for Human Rights (PDDH) was set up, which receives and investigates complaints such as excessive use of force by the police. The Ombudsman office is part of the Public Ministry, a governmental body of independent magistrates and prosecutors. The Ombudsman has the power to investigate (but not prosecute) human rights abuses and refers all human rights abuse cases to the Office of the Attorney General.

Countries this example relates to...

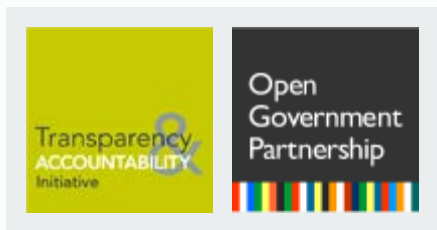
El Salvador

Related Commitments

[Establish a civilian oversight authority for the police](#)

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Country Example

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Environmental and social

impact assessments are mandatory for extractive concessions in Australia

 Submitted by: [Revenue Watch Institute](#)

Australia's Freedom of Information Act requires disclosure of information on the mineral sector, sector, and environmental and social impact assessments are mandatory before mineral rights can be awarded.

Countries this example relates to...

[Australia](#)

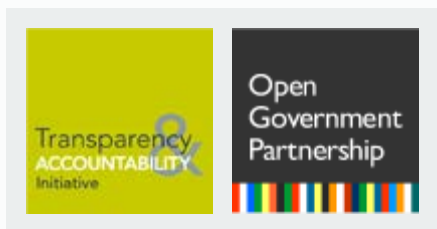
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[Publish environmental and economic impact studies for all natural resource projects](#)

Related Topics

[Extractive industry](#)

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Country Example

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Environmental impact

assessment regulations in Chile make special provisions for indigenous people

Submitted by: [The Access Initiative](#)

According to recently enacted Environmental Impact Assessment Procedures in Chile, indigenous people are considered protected populations. Every time that a project or activity may affect them, they have the right to engage in the decision-making process.

Countries this example relates to...

[Chile](#)

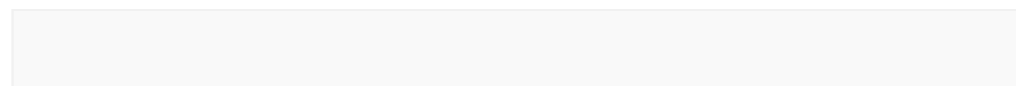
Related Commitments

[Establish procedures for ensuring poor and marginalised groups are included in public engagement on environmental decisions](#)

Related Topics

[Environment](#)

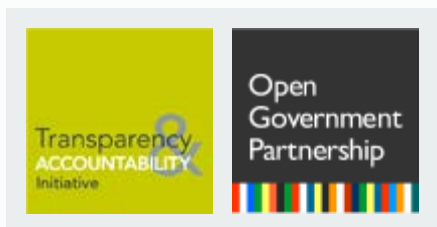
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- [Conference paper about indigenous participation in environmental policy-making in Chile](#)

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Environmental impact

assessments are required for the extractive industry in Colombia

 Submitted by: <http://www.revenuewatch.org/countries/latin-america/colombia/overview>

Environmental and, in some cases, social impact assessments are required before projects begin. The results are published, but the consultation process does not always address the concerns of affected communities.

Countries this example relates to...

[Colombia](#)

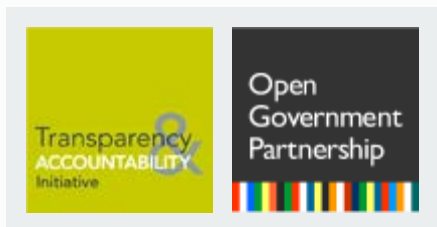
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[Publish environmental and economic impact studies for all natural resource projects](#)

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[Extractive industry](#)

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Country Example

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Estonia will create a

database of declarations of economic interests as part of its OGP Action Plan

 Submitted by: [OGP Action Plan](#)

Estonia is focusing parts of its Open Government Partnership Action Plan on actions to prevent corruption and conflicts of interest among public officials. Among the planned activities in this regard is the creation of a database of declarations of economic interests to be finalised by 2014.

Countries this example relates to...

[Estonia](#)

Related Commitments

[Publish asset and conflict of interest disclosures as open data](#)

Related Topics

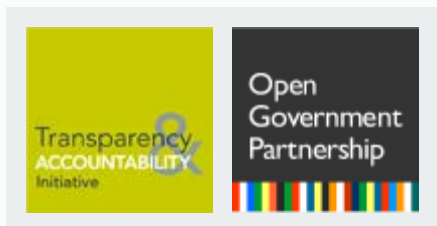
[Assets disclosure and conflicts of interest](#)

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[OGP Action Plan for Estonia](#)

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Country Example

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EU member states

exchange tax information under the Savings Directive

Submitted by: [Center for Global Development](#)

The EU Savings Directive came into force in 2005 and was further revised in 2011. The ultimate aim of the Savings Directive is to enable savings income in the form of interest payments made in one Member State to beneficial owners who are individuals resident in another Member State to be made subject to effective taxation in accordance with the laws of the latter Member State. It includes agreement on automatic exchange on several types of income in the form of interest payments.

Countries this example relates to...

Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia (Slovak Republic), Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom, Anguilla, Cayman Islands, Montserrat, Aruba, Austria, Belgium, Luxembourg, Andorra, Virgin Islands (British), Netherlands Antilles, Liechtenstein, Monaco, San Marino, Switzerland, Turks and Caicos Islands, Lebanon

Related Commitments

[Establish a system to exchange information automatically with tax authorities](#)

Related Topics

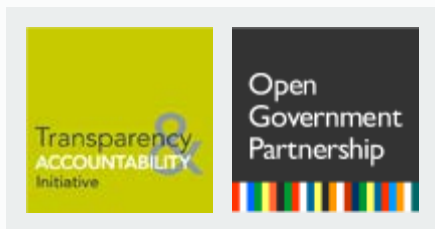
[Tax and Illicit flows](#)

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- [Text of the Savings Directive](#)

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Country Example

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Finland is committed to

developing dialogue skills in public administration as part of its OGP action plan

 Submitted by: [Involve](#)

Finland OGP Action Plan includes a commitment to emphasizing dialogue skills in the job descriptions of civil servants. Competences needed to enhance open government will be specified and the importance of dialogue skills will be highlighted in job descriptions, in recruitment criteria and in assessing personal performance in positions demanding such competences. In addition training in customer oriented service design will be arranged for civil servants and citizens.

Countries this example relates to...

[Finland](#)

Related Commitments

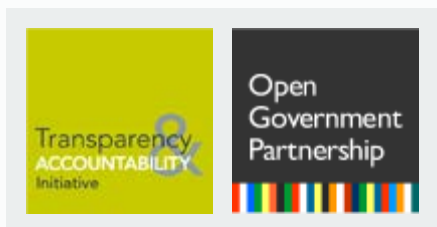
[Establish citizen engagement as a core competency of government officials](#)

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[Citizen engagement](#)

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Country Example

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Finland set up an e-

petition platform that enables citizens to propose legislation

 Submitted by: National Democratic Institute for International Affairs

Open Ministry is a civil society e-petition platform that enables citizens to propose legislation to Finland's Parliament. Any proposal that receives over 50,000 signatures is automatically considered by the Parliament. Issues that have thus far received more than 50,000 signatures and have come up for parliamentary consideration include banning farming of animals for their furs, issues regarding copyright regulation, allowing for same-sex marriages, and making Swedish language non-mandatory for Finnish students.

Countries this example relates to...

Finland

Related Commitments

[Develop digital platforms and capacities to enable citizen engagement with parliament](#)

Related Topics

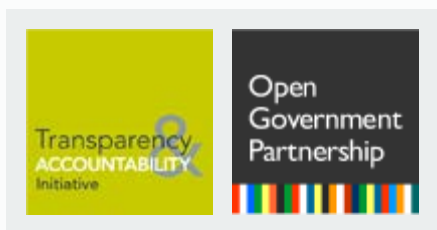
[Parliaments](#)

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- [Blog by Democracy One Day on e-petitions in Finland from August 2013](#)

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Finland's Archives Act has

wide coverage across the public sector and facilitates the right of individuals and institutions to access public information

 Submitted by: International Records Management Trust

The Act specifies the duties of the National Archives as a government body under the Ministry of Education. It defines a record as a written or pictorial presentation that can be read, heard, or otherwise understood with the aid of technical equipment; it defines an archive as records received or produced by a records creator in the performance of its duties. The Act has wide coverage, including government offices at the national and municipal levels; courts of law and institutions applying the law; government and municipal enterprises; and collective bodies, organs, and persons carrying out public duties. The bodies covered include, for instance, the Bank of Finland, the Social Insurance Institute, some universities, and the Greek Orthodox Church of Finland and its congregations. The Act makes record creating agencies responsible for organising the practical aspects of records and archives management in relation to specific rules and regulations.

The Archives Law supports the right of private individuals and

institutions to obtain information from records open to public inspection, provided that the legal rights and privacy are protected. The National Archives responsibilities are specified in closer detail in a Decree on the National Archives Service.

Countries this example relates to...

Finland

Related Commitments

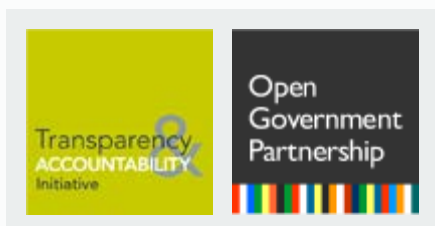
Ensure that there is a law or a harmonised set of laws for managing records needed as evidence for national development and accountability, and establish a public authority as the lead government records management

Related Topics

Records management

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[Home](#) [Country Examples](#) [France provides project-level aid information to prio...](#)

Country Example

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France provides project-

level aid information to priority countries on its new open aid portal

 Submitted by: [Publish What You Fund](#)

Following its first publication to IATI in 2014, France has launched an [open aid portal](#). The portal includes geo-coded project data on aid flows to 16 African priority countries. France is expected to publish data on all African recipient countries by December 2015 and will expand coverage to include Asian and Latin American recipients by 2016. In addition, by 2017, Agence Française de Développement (AFD) is planning to extend coverage to include all small projects (grants and loans under EUR 100,000).

Countries this example relates to...

France

Related Commitments

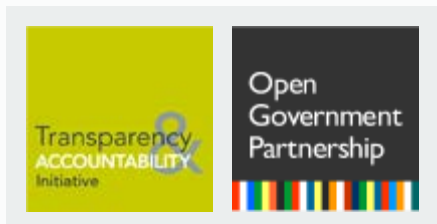
[Promote access to and use aid information by all stakeholders](#)

Related Topics

[Aid](#)

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Country Example

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Gabon publishes its

registry of fishing licences on the internet

 Submitted by: [Christian Michelsen Institute](#)

Gabon published a [full list](#) of fishing licences online for the first time in 2010.

Countries this example relates to...

[Gabon](#)

Related Commitments

[Require national fishing authorities to publish detailed and timely information on commercial fishing licences and catch quotas](#)

Related Topics

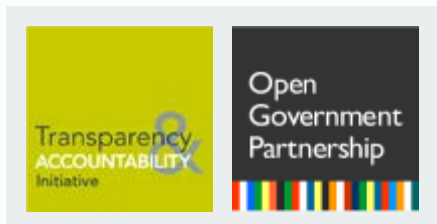
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 [News article from \[www.stopillegalfishing.com\]\(http://www.stopillegalfishing.com\)](#)

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Country Example

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Geo-referencing of aid in

Bolivia gives the public access to information on over 30,000 public investment projects

 Submitted by: [OpenGovGuide](#)

As the first country in Latin America, Bolivia has geo-referenced aid at the project level. The [Public Investment Map of Bolivia](#), which includes project information from over 450 entities at the central, departmental and municipal levels, enables the public to access online and in real time information on over 30,000 public investment projects. Information about the projects can be accessed according to sector, financing entity and geographical area. It is intended to be a territorial and sectoral planning tool based on needs and national public policies as well as a mechanism for transparency and social oversight. The geo-coding project has been carried out by teams from the Bolivian Ministry of Planning, local universities and the World Bank.

Countries this example relates to...

Bolivia

Related Commitments

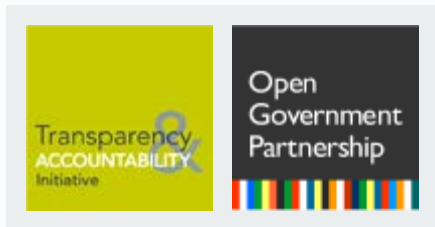
[Publish more detailed information on aid flows including performance information, sub-national location, results and project documents \(donors\)](#)

Related Topics

[Aid](#)

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Country Example

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Germany invites

economists, business and trade unions to give testimony to budget hearings

Submitted by: [International Budget Partnership](#)

In Germany the parliament's budget committee holds public hearings in which testimony from economists, trade associations, labor unions, employer federations, and civil service employee associations, among others, is heard. The budget committee determines the focus of these talks.

[NB: this example is drawn from the information collected in the Open Budget Survey. While the Survey references these examples, it does not assess the quality of public engagement as a result of these mechanisms. The Global Initiative for Fiscal Transparency (GIFT) has recently commissioned case studies to assess the quality of public participation in budget decision-making in a number of countries. This guide will be updated with information from these case studies when the case studies are published.]

Countries this example relates to...

[Germany](#)

Related Commitments

[Enable citizen participation in budgeting](#)

Related Topics

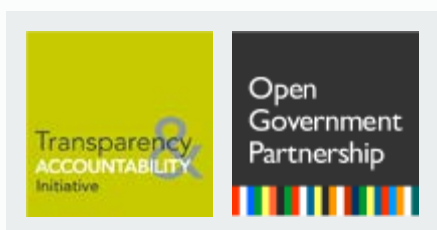
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Country Example

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Germany publishes an

annual statistical yearbook on crime

 Submitted by: [OSF](#)

The Federal Criminal Police Service (BKA) has, since 1997, published an annual statistical year book for crime trends, together with analysis.

Countries this example relates to...

[Germany](#)

Related Commitments

[Establish more extensive proactive disclosure requirements for police](#)

Related Topics

[Police and public security](#)

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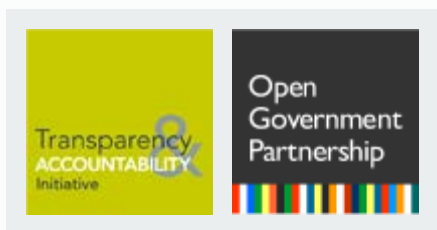
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Country Example

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Ghana has developed an

environmental law database and placed all its environmental legislation online

 Submitted by: [The Access Initiative](#)

Ghana is also the first African country to create AKOBEN an environmental performance rating and disclosure initiative of pollution by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), which provides access to information on the release of mining and other wastes into the environment.

Countries this example relates to...

[Ghana](#)

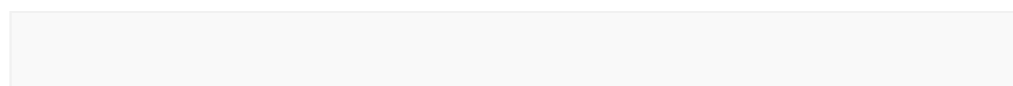
Related Commitments

[Adopt legal requirements for the collection and production of environmental information](#)

Related Topics

[Environment](#)

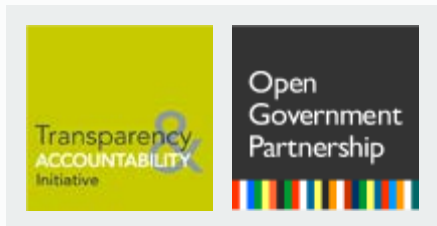
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[Information on AKOBEN from Ghana's Environmental Protection Agency](#)

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Country Example

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Ghana is establishing

Committee with civil society participation to oversee the petroleum sector

Submitted by: [Revenue Watch Institute](#)

The Public Interest and Accountability Committee is established by law to monitor and evaluate compliance by the government in the use of petroleum revenues, to provide a platform for public debate on spending priorities and an independent assessment on the management and use of revenues. The Committee is mandated to publish reports each year.

Countries this example relates to...

[Ghana](#)

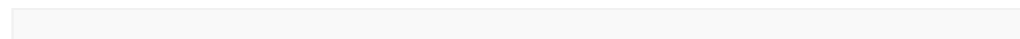
Related Commitments

[Create mechanisms for the public and legislators to engage in extractive concessioning](#)

Related Topics

[Extractive industry](#)

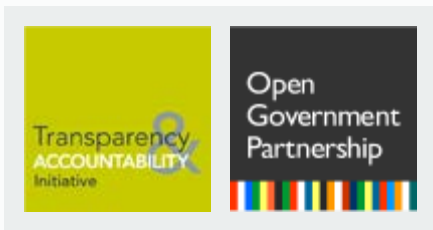
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□ [Report on petroleum revenues for Ghana](#)

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[Home](#) [Country Examples](#) [Ghana publishes information on receipts from petroleu...](#)

Country Example

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Ghana publishes

information on receipts from petroleum companies on a quarterly basis

 Submitted by: [Revenue Watch Institute](#)

In 2011, Ghana passed the Petroleum Revenue Management Act, which requires the government to publish quarterly information on receipts from petroleum companies

Countries this example relates to...

[Ghana](#)

Related Commitments

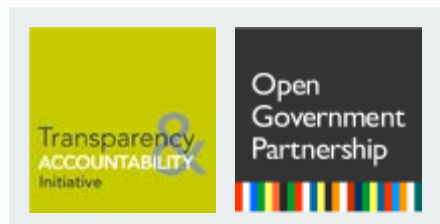
[Publish timely, comprehensive reports on oil, gas and mining operations, including detailed revenue and project information](#)

Related Topics

[Extractive industry](#)

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[Home](#) [Country Examples](#) [Ghana's Whistleblower Act applies to the security s...](#)

Country Example

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Ghana's Whistleblower Act

applies to the security sector

Submitted by: [Whistleblowers International Network](#)

Ghana's Whistleblower Act from 2006 applies to the security sector (police and intelligence agencies). The Act also protects whistleblowing with regard to other public bodies, including elders and religious leaders, where the information concerns economic or other crimes; miscarriage of justice; waste, misappropriation or mismanagement of public resources; environmental degradation; or a danger to health or safety.

Countries this example relates to...

[Ghana](#)

Related Commitments

[Extend whistleblower protection to those working with sensitive or classified information](#)

Related Topics

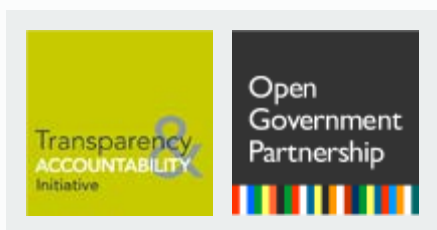
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[Ghana's whistleblower law](#)

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Country Example

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Hungary publishes a state

of the environment report



Submitted by: [The Access Initiative](#)

Hungary's Ministry of the Environment and Water produces three publications: State of the Environment Indicators, The Environmental Data Compendium, and The Statistical Compendium (joint publication with other ministries). The Ministry designates a team of scientists and specialists to gather the data for the three reports, and the reports contain a wide range of indicators and data. However less progress has been made in communicating these reports in user friendly ways.

Countries this example relates to...

[Hungary](#)

Related Commitments

[Adopt legal requirements for the collection and production of environmental information](#)

Related Topics

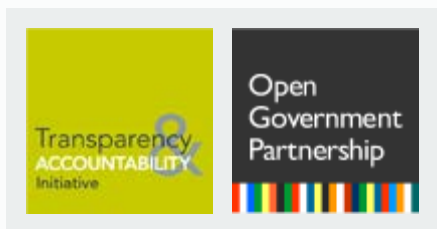
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[Report on environmental democracy by the World Resources Institute](#)

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[Home](#) [Country Examples](#) [IATI country pilots are being carried out or being pl...](#)

Country Example

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IATI country pilots are

being carried out or being planned for Colombia, DRC and Rwanda

Submitted by: [Publish What You Fund](#)

With an increasing amount of data now being published in the IATI format, the IATI Secretariat is working in partnership with aid receiving governments and aid information management system providers to establish an automatic electronic feed of data from the donors' record systems to those of the recipient country. Country pilots are being carried out or planned for Colombia, the Democratic Republic of Congo, and Rwanda.

Countries this example relates to...

Colombia, Congo, The Drc, Rwanda

Related Commitments

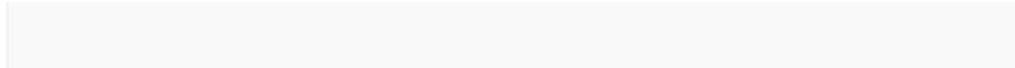
[Demand information from donors in line with the IATI standard \(recipients\)](#)

Related Topics

[Aid](#)

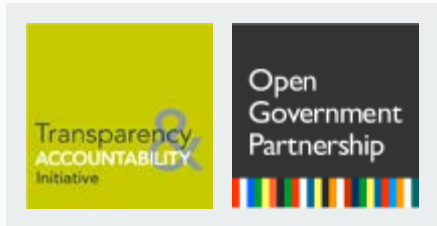
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[IATI delivering at national level](#)



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Country Example

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In 2011, the Parliamentary

Budget Office was established in Kenya

Submitted by: [International Budget Partnership](#)

Kenya's Parliamentary Budget Office, established by the 2009 Fiscal Management Act, is a non-partisan office of the Kenya National Assembly. Its primary function is to provide timely and objective information and analysis concerning the national budget and economy.

Countries this example relates to...

[Kenya](#)

Related Commitments

[Enable effective oversight by legislatures and supreme audit institutions](#)

Related Topics

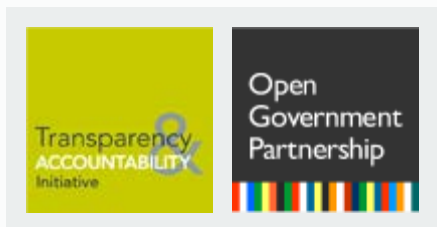
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[Kenyan Government document](#)

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Country Example

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In 2011, the US President

established a government-wide effort to reform records management policies and practices

Submitted by: [International Records Management Trust](#)

The Presidential Memorandum – Managing Government Records – was signed by President Obama in 2011, marking the beginning of an executive branch-wide effort to reform records management policies and practices in the U.S. This effort is expected to improve openness and accountability by better documenting agency actions and decisions, and help executive departments and agencies minimise costs and operating more efficiently.

Countries this example relates to...

United States

Related Commitments

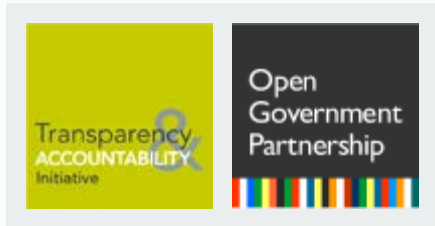
[Adopt a government-wide policy on records management in line with the right to information and open government goals](#)

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[Managing Government Records Directive](#)

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Country Example

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In Afghanistan the Ministry of Economy is required to publish all contracts

Submitted by: [Open Contracting](#)

In Afghanistan, Presidential Decree 45 requires the Ministry of Economy to publish all contracts signed in the past three years. Mining contracts are available on the website of the [Ministry of Mines](#).

Countries this example relates to...

[Afghanistan](#)

Related Commitments

[Proactively disclose core classes of documents and data about public contracting](#)

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[http://www.afghanistan-un.org/2012/07/the-office-of-the-president-of-islamic-republic-of-afghanistan-decree-on-the-execution-of-content-of-the-historical-speech-of-june-21-2012-in-the-special-session-of-national-assembly/?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed:+PermanentMissionOfAfghanistanToTheUnInNewYork+\(Permanent+Mission+of+Afghanistan+to+the+UN+in+New+York\)bestth](http://www.afghanistan-un.org/2012/07/the-office-of-the-president-of-islamic-republic-of-afghanistan-decree-on-the-execution-of-content-of-the-historical-speech-of-june-21-2012-in-the-special-session-of-national-assembly/?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed:+PermanentMissionOfAfghanistanToTheUnInNewYork+(Permanent+Mission+of+Afghanistan+to+the+UN+in+New+York)bestth)

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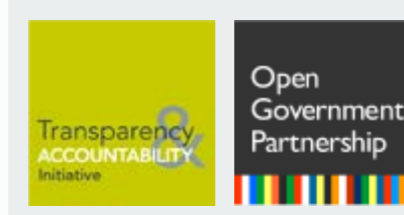
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Country Example

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In Australia consultation is

required before any regulatory change

Submitted by: [Involve](#)

A Regulation Impact Statement (RIS) is required, under the Australian Government's requirements, when a regulatory proposal is likely to have an impact on business or the not-for-profit sector, unless that impact is minor or does not substantially alter existing arrangements. The primary role of the RIS is to improve government decision-making processes by ensuring that all relevant information is presented to the decision maker when a policy decision is being made.

Departments are required to demonstrate that a consultation commensurate with the magnitude of the problem and the size of the potential impact of the proposal has been undertaken, and guidelines and support are in place to assist them.

RELATED EXAMPLES

FEATURED [The UK government has issued guidance on consultation](#)

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[Australia](#)

Related Commitments

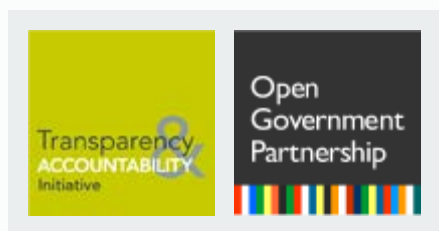
[Establish legislation and guidelines on public consultation in policy development](#)

Related Topics

[Citizen engagement](#)

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Country Example

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In Austria the law provides

for citizens groups to participate in Environmental Impact Assessment

 Submitted by: [The Access Initiative](#)

Austria's Federal Act on Environmental Impact Assessment law from 2000 grants standing to neighbouring public, citizens' groups, and certain environmental organisations to participate and make appeals throughout the environment impact assessment process. The law also requires the government authority to publicly announce when a proposed project is subject to an environment impact assessment and provides that citizens may participate in post-approval monitoring of the development.

Countries this example relates to...

[Austria](#)

Related Commitments

[Introduce procedures for public comments and hearings for environment related decisions](#)

Related Topics

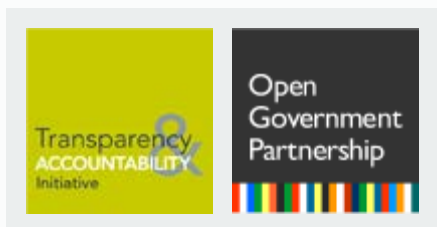
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- [Austria's Environmental Impact Assessment Act](#)

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In Azerbaijan, fuel

subsidies provided by the national oil company were put on the budget

Submitted by: [International Budget Partnership](#)

In Azerbaijan, fuel subsidies provided by the national oil company, SOCAR, were put on budget by recognizing the amount of the subsidy in the budget and granting SOCAR tax credits for the same amount.

Countries this example relates to...

[Azerbaijan](#)

Related Commitments

[Publish off budget financial information](#)

Related Topics

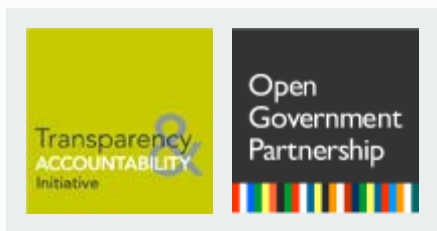
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Country Example

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In Brazil police stations

show photographs of the team of officers

 Submitted by: [OSF](#)

Posters in police stations show the team officers in charge with photographs, enabling identification of officers. Not only is this more personal, it provides access to all irrespective of literacy, and enhances identification in situations in which a badge number of nameplate may not have been visible).

Countries this example relates to...

[Brazil](#)

Related Commitments

[Publish all laws setting out law enforcement powers and complaints and whistleblower procedures in relation to policing](#)

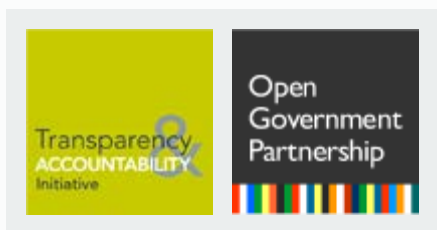
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Country Example

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In Bulgaria all units of the

Ministry of Interior must publish data on FOI requests

 Submitted by: OSF

Under a special bylaw of the Minister of the Interior in implementation of the Freedom of Information Act, all units of the Ministry of Interior were obliged in March 21,2011 to publish annually aggregate numbers about the requests they receive under the FOI act and to how many of them they actually grant information. (Art.46 of Internal Rules and Procedures for the Activity of the Ministry of the Interior in Implementation of the FOI Act, Adopted with an Order of the Minister of the Interior No I-z-771 of March 21,2011.

Countries this example relates to...

Bulgaria

Related Commitments

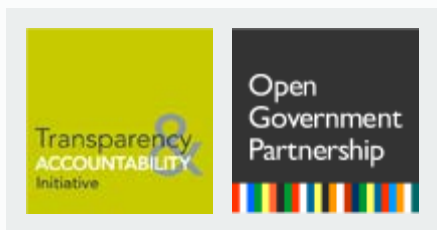
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[Right to information](#)

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In Canada rules on the

right to information are overseen by the Department of Justice

This function for managing right to information, in Canada, served by the [Department of Justice](#)

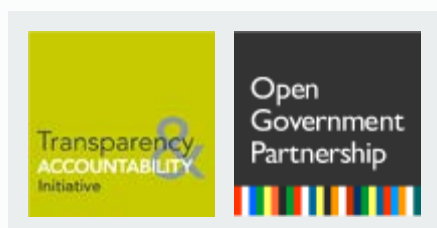
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Country Example

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In Canada, a government

wide initiative has been undertaken to identify all government data holdings

 Submitted by: [Sunlight Foundation](#)

The Canadian Data Inventory Project is a government-wide stock-taking of federal data holdings. The inventory consists of the metadata on datasets held within government departments and will be linked, when possible, to specific key policy issues. Other metadata will include the title, subject area and subtopics, time and geographic coverage, data source and size, ownership and contact information and a description of the dataset. Together with this data inventory project, work is also being done to assess data needs and identify data gaps.

Countries this example relates to...

[Canada](#)

Related Commitments

[Create public listings of government data, and audit data availability and management](#)

Related Topics

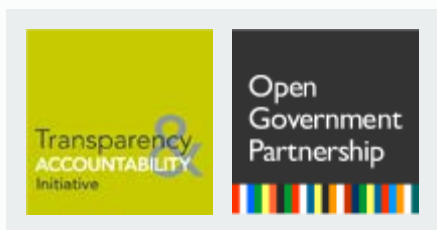
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Country Example

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In Canada, the information

commissioner investigates access to information complaints and advocates for more proactive disclosure within government

 Submitted by: [Sunlight Foundation](#)

The Information Commissioner in Canada investigates complaints about federal institutions' handling of access requests. The Information Officer also encourages federal institutions to disclose information, and continually makes the case for greater freedom of information through targeted initiatives, such as the annual [Right to Know Week](#), and ongoing dialogue with Canadians, Parliament, federal and provincial institutions.

Countries this example relates to...

[Canada](#)

Related Commitments

[Create or appoint an oversight authority](#)

Related Topics

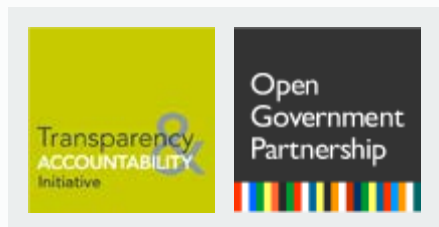
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- [Office of the Canadian Information Commissioner](#)

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Country Example

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In Costa Rica, the Supreme

Electoral Tribunal publishes statistics on voter registration

 Submitted by: [National Democratic Institute for International Affairs](#)

The Costa Rican Supreme Electoral Tribunal (Tribunal Supremo de Elecciones) regularly publishes on its website www.tse.go.cr statistics on the composition of the voter registry. These statistics encompass provincial, county and constituency levels and include, for example, number of women registered and the change in the total number of registered voters from previous months.

Countries this example relates to...

[Costa Rica](#)

Related Commitments

[Make election related data available proactively](#)

Related Topics

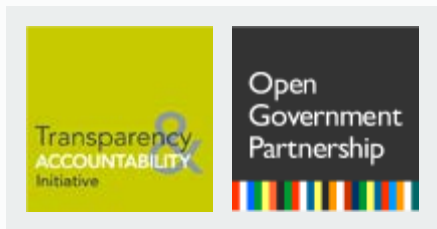
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Country Example

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In Finland the National

Archives has been developing methods of preserving information in databases

Submitted by: [International Records Management Trust](#)

In 2012, in response to a growing demand for solutions to preserving information in databases, the National Archives began developing techniques, tools, methods, and practices for ensuring and protecting the authenticity, integrity, and usability of information in databases and registers. It began by studying relevant international standards and good practices, with particular attention to the Swiss Federal Archives' SIARD-standard (Software Independent Archiving of Relational Databases and the Norwegian Archival Service's standard for technical metadata, ADDML (Archival Data Description Markup Language). Finland's National Archives is cooperating with the Norwegian and Swedish National Archives to continue developing the ADDML standard.

Countries this example relates to...

Finland

Related Commitments

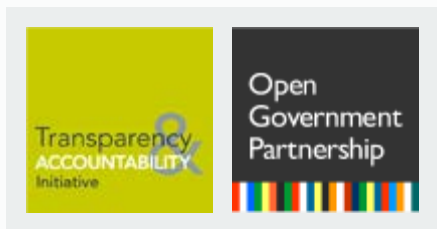
[Establish a means of relating quality assurance for public sector digital records and public sector datasets](#)

Related Topics

[Records management](#)

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Country Example

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In India police officers are

included in income and asset declaration requirements

Submitted by: OSF

The Home Ministry had directed all the officers of the Indian Police Service (IPS) in the country to disclose their assets under the Immovable Property Return (IPR). State level governments have also directed police officers above the rank of Sub-Inspectors to disclose details of their income and assets. Those who fail to comply can be clearance for promotion and service medals. However high rates of non compliance continue to be reported.

Countries this example relates to...

India

Related Commitments

[Establish integrity provisions for police officers, in line with international good practice](#)

[Establish a law requiring public disclosure of income and assets by elected and senior public officials](#)

Related Topics

[Assets disclosure and conflicts of interest](#)

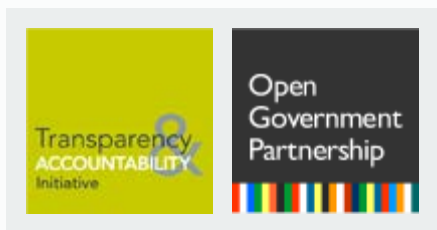
[Police and public security](#)

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- [Ministry of Home Affairs website](#)
- [Times of India article](#)

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Country Example

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In Indonesia, individuals

have the right to pursue legal recourse if they are prevented from obtaining information under the freedom of information act

 Submitted by: [Sunlight Foundation](#)

The Indonesian Public Information Disclosure Act from 2008 (Article 4) gives individuals the right to file a suit in court if they are obstructed from obtaining, or fails to obtain information for which they entitles.

Countries this example relates to...

[Indonesia](#)

Related Commitments

[Establish new legal rights to empower the public](#)

Related Topics

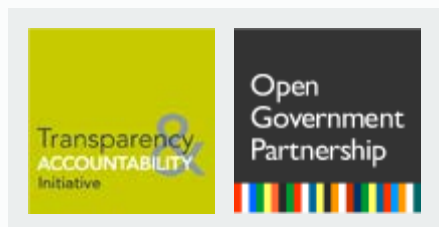
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- [Indonesian Public Information Disclosure Act](#)

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Country Example

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In Japan, the Parliament's

National Library plans to digitise its entire collection to make available online

 Submitted by: [Sunlight Foundation](#)

The National Diet Library of Japan, the country's only national library, is on its way to full-text digitisation, which will make Japanese literary artefacts widely available and searchable online.

Countries this example relates to...

[Japan](#)

Related Commitments

[Mandate the publication of new data sets](#)

Related Topics

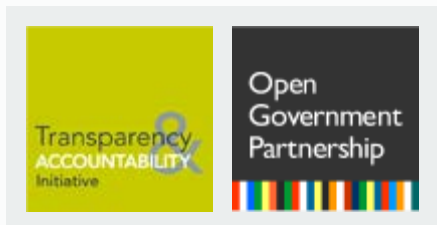
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Country Example

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In many countries, fiscal

councils are providing independent analysis of government budgets and policies

Submitted by: [International Budget Partnership](#)

Fiscal councils are independent bodies set up by governments to evaluate fiscal policy and provide advice. As such, they can be seen as fiscal watchdogs. In the last few years, five countries (Sweden, Canada, Hungary, Slovenia, and the United Kingdom) have established fiscal councils, and the United States and Netherlands have had such institutions in place for longer than that.

Countries this example relates to...

[Sweden](#), [Canada](#), [Hungary](#), [Slovenia](#), [United Kingdom](#), [United States](#)

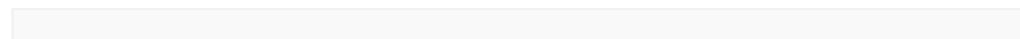
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[Enable effective oversight by legislatures and supreme audit institutions](#)

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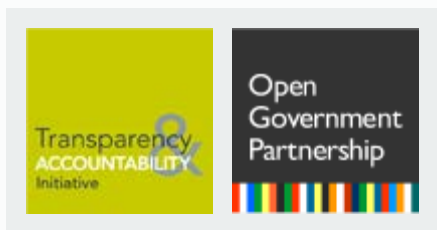
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Country Example

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In Nicaragua right to

information is incorporated into school curricula by law

The Nicaraguan RTI law – Law of Access to Public Information from 2007 – provides for the incorporation of the right to information into school curricula at all levels and for the establishment of a national centre for research and teaching on the right to information.

Countries this example relates to...

Nicaragua

Related Commitments

[Promote public awareness of the right to information](#)

Related Topics

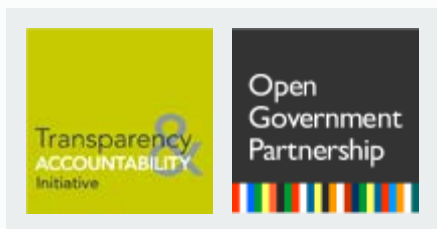
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[Website of the Global Right to Information Rating](#)

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Country Example

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In Norway software for

government must meet the Norwegian Archive Standard

Submitted by: [International Records Management Trust](#)

Noark, which stands for 'Norwegian Archive Standard', has been the mandatory standard across public bodies since 1999 when the Archives Regulation was introduced in Norway. Noark 5, which builds on previous Noark standards, sets out requirements concerning record structure, metadata and functionality, but does not contain any obligations concerning how these requirements should actually be met in system development. Noark 5 therefore does not define a system, but facilitates for different solutions.

Countries this example relates to...

Norway

Related Commitments

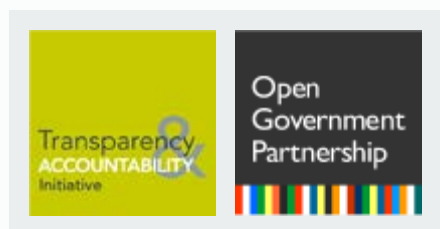
[Establish standardised requirements for metadata across government](#)

RESOURCES

- <http://arkivverket.no/arkivverket/Offentleg-forvaltning/Noark/Noark-5/English-version>
- [Digitization and Preservation Global Opportunities and Challenges](#)

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Country Example

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In Slovenia, all secrecy

provisions are laid out in the Classified Information Act

 Submitted by: [Access Info](#)

The [Slovenian Classified Information Act](#) from 2006 covers all secrecy provisions in Slovenia. The Information Commissioner of Slovenia has also provided [extensive interpretation](#) of the exemption on 'secret information', namely that it can only be information that complies with the definition and standards in the secrecy law.

Countries this example relates to...

[Slovenia](#)

Related Commitments

[Review and amend secrecy laws](#)

Related Topics

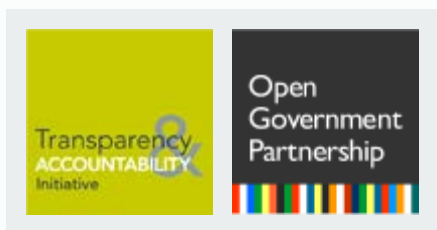
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Country Example

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In Slovenia, requests to

declassify information are submitted to a temporary Commission

 Submitted by: [Open Society Foundations](#)

The Commission is comprised of representatives of the ministries responsible for defence, interior and external affairs, the Slovene Intelligence and Security Agency, and the National Security Authority. The representative of the agency that classified the information may not participate in the Commission. The Commission prepares an opinion based on arguments made by the classifying agency and others that have authorised access to the information. The Commission must order declassification if it finds that the public interest in disclosure outweighs the public interest in limiting access to the piece of information. If the agency refuses the request to declassify, the applicant may file an appeal with the Information Commissioner.

Countries this example relates to...

[Slovenia](#)

Related Commitments

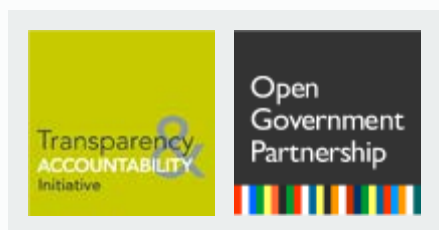
[Ensure independent review of decisions to classify information and destroy documents of public interest](#)

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[Security sector](#)

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[Home](#) [Country Examples](#) [In Slovenia, the Netherlands and the UK, the public m...](#)

Country Example

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In Slovenia, the

Netherlands and the UK, the public may attend a plenary or committee session without prior arrangement

 Submitted by: [National Democratic Institute for International Affairs](#)

In Slovenia, 100 seats are available to the public for the plenary sessions and the parliamentary building is open to the public biweekly. In the Netherlands, there are 240 seats available to the public at plenary sessions. Committee sessions are held in several halls which have seats for 24 to 208 visitors. In the UK, the public can observe plenary sessions of both houses and the Westminster Hall debates from the public galleries.

Countries this example relates to...

[Slovenia](#), [United Kingdom](#), [Netherlands](#)

Related Commitments

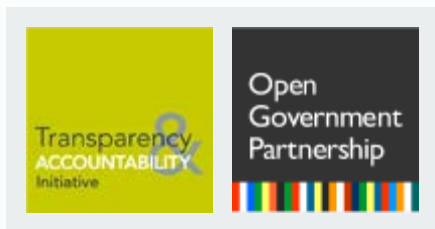
[Make parliamentary information easier to understand and accessible to citizens through multiple channels](#)

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Country Example

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In Sweden, all secrecy

provisions are concentrated in one law: the Secrecy Act

Submitted by: [Access Info and Centre for Law and Democracy](#)

In Sweden, the updated Public Access to Information and Secrecy Act from 2009 replaced the old access to information act from 1980. All secrecy provisions are stated in this Act.

Countries this example relates to...

[Sweden](#)

Related Commitments

[Review and amend secrecy laws](#)

Related Topics

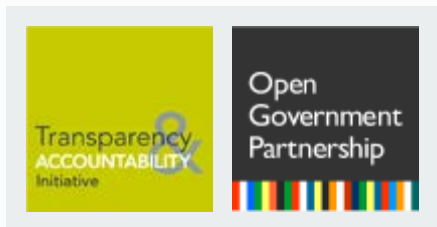
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Country Example

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In Tanzania modern

legislation empowers the national archives to define standards for keeping government records

Submitted by: [International Records Management Trust](#)

The Tanzanian Records and Archives Management Act, 2002 established a Records and Archives Management Department. The Department's role, which is set out in this Act, includes ensuring that public offices follow good record keeping practices; establishing and implementing procedures for the timely disposal of public records of no continuing value; advising on best practices and established standards in record keeping in the public service; and establishing and implementing procedures for the transfer of public records for preservation.

Countries this example relates to...

Tanzania, United Republic Of

Related Commitments

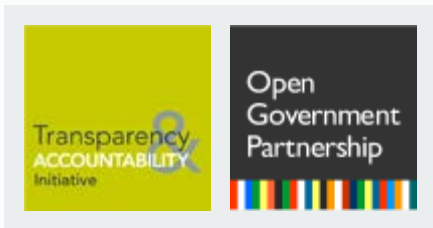
[Establish a public authority to lead on government records management](#)

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□ [Tanzanian Records and Archives Management Act, 2002](#)

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In the Democratic Republic

of Congo, all contracts relating to natural resources are required to be published

Decret No 011/26 du 20 mai 2011 portant obligation de publier tout contrat ayant pour objet les ressources naturelles. Contracts are available on the website of the [Ministry for Energy and Mines](#).

Countries this example relates to...

Congo, The Drc

Related Commitments

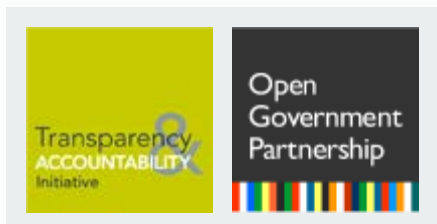
[Proactively disclose core classes of documents and data about public contracting](#)

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[Information on contracts from DRC Government website](#)

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In the Latin American

region, the Network of Transparency and Access to Information (RTA) has developed a model document management and records management system

 Submitted by: International Records Management Trust

The RTA, created in 2011, is made up of 13 countries and one international foundation. It enables dialogue and cooperation among its members aimed at promoting the exchange of knowledge and experiences in the area of transparency and access to information. This work has included developing a Model Document Management and Records Management System. The RTA received support for this work from EUROSocial, a European Union assistance programme, based on recognition of the significance of information access, transparency and accountability as key elements in the construction of modern democracies.

The Model was developed through a series of regional workshops, with input from the General Department of State Archives of Spain and the collaboration of the Organisation of American States. The main objective of the project was to establish the characteristics

and attributes of a regional model of document management and file management by considering successful experiences internationally in order to support the implementation of transparency and access to information laws. The Model takes account of the diversity of national and regional records management policies and includes implementation guidelines. It serves as a reference for countries seeking to create an effective records management system. Countries in the region collaborate with the RTA in implementing the Model. For instance, in Uruguay, the system is driven by the RTA's Executive Secretariat with the cooperation of Uruguay's General Archives of the Nation.

Countries this example relates to...

Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Ecuador, Mexico, Peru, Uruguay, Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador, Argentina, Colombia

Related Commitments

[Link the delivery of the right to information to the management of public sector records through institutional structures and awareness programmes](#)

Related Topics

[Records management](#)

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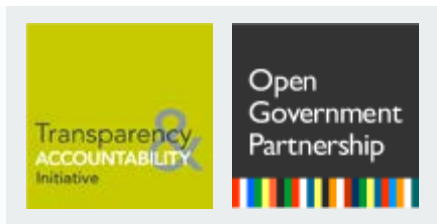
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Country Example

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In the Philippines local

people's organisations must be included in the management board for protected areas

 Submitted by: The Access Initiative

The Philippines has enacted a law on the establishment of national protected areas. The law explicitly acknowledges that many poor people (and, in some areas, communities of indigenous peoples) have either settled within national park boundaries or use national park resources to support livelihoods including slash-and-burn agriculture and the gathering of timber and non-timber products.

To engage poor users in national park management and to improve a sense of community ownership for park protection, the law established a Protected Area Management Board which must include members of people's organisations or local non-governmental organisations.

Countries this example relates to...

Philippines

Related Commitments

Establish procedures for ensuring poor and marginalised groups are included in public engagement on environmental decisions

Related Topics

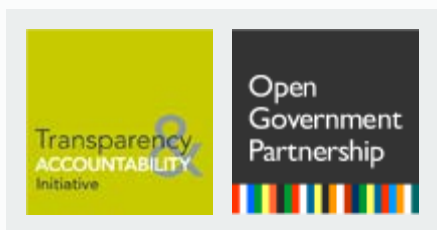
[Environment](#)

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- [Report by the World Resources Institute on including the poor in environmental decision-making](#)

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Country Example

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In the Philippines, both

government and private sector are active at training monitors

Submitted by: [Open Contracting](#)

The government [Procurement Policy Board](#) holds trainings for monitors wishing to understand more about the procurement process and related laws and regulations. [The Makati Business Club](#) is an active participant in a Coalition Against Corruption. The coalition provides training and on the Government Procurement Reform Law for volunteers so they can participate as observers in Bids and Awards Committees.

Countries this example relates to...

Philippines

Related Commitments

[Provide capacity building to support stakeholders to understand, monitor and act upon contracting data](#)

RELATED EXAMPLES

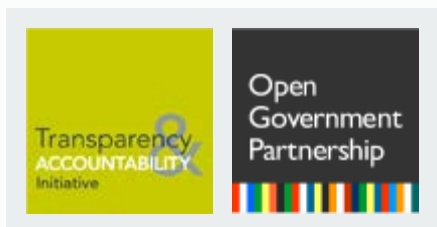
FEATURED [In the Philippines, citizens participate in all stages of the procurement process and may also observe implementation](#)

FEATURED [The Philippine Procurement law requires the proactive publication of key information](#)

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Country Example

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In the U.S. city of San

San Francisco, the government's open data policy calls for all departments to publish an inventory of data held

 Submitted by: [Sunlight Foundation](#)

According to the [San Francisco's Open Data Policy](#), each City department must make reasonable efforts to make available all datasets under the department's control. In addition, the policy calls for an Open Data Plan to be prepared and to include a summary description of all datasets under the control of each City department.

Countries this example relates to...

[United States](#)

Related Commitments

[Create public listings of government data, and audit data availability and management](#)

Related Topics

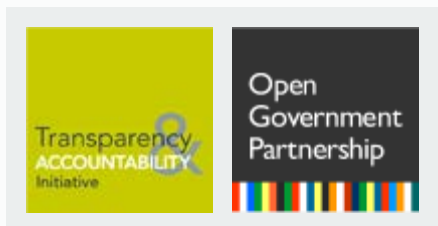
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- [Open Data Policy Evolution: San Francisco](#)

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Country Example

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In the U.S. state of Utah, a

Transparency Advisory Board acts as the oversight authority for the state's open data policy

 Submitted by: [Sunlight Foundation](#)

In the U.S. state of Utah, the Utah Transparency Advisory Board acts as the oversight authority for the state's open data policy. The Board is comprised of six members knowledgeable about providing public access to public financial information. Its responsibilities include making public information more accessible through an information website transparent.utah.gov.

Countries this example relates to...

[United States](#)

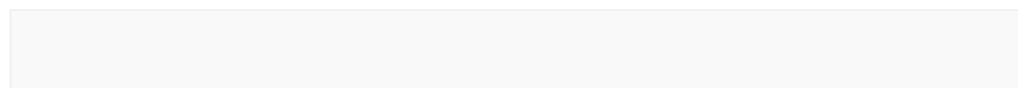
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[Create or appoint an oversight authority](#)

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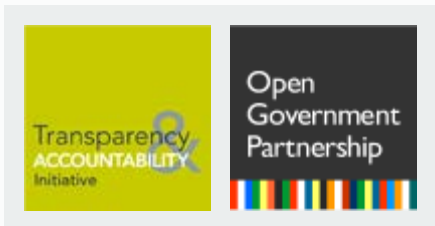
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[Availability of public information amendments](#)

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Country Example

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In the U.S. the 'America's

Legislators Back to School' programme enables legislators to meet with young people

 Submitted by: National Democratic Institute for International Affairs

In the United States, the National Conference of State Legislatures operates a programme taking America's Legislators Back to School. The programme gives elected parliamentarians in all 50 states the opportunity to meet personally with their young constituents and to answer questions, share ideas, and listen to concerns. The programme is designed to teach young people what it is like to be a state legislator: the processes, the pressures, and the debate, negotiation and compromise. The programme is emphasised as a bipartisan event.

Countries this example relates to...

[United States](#)

Related Commitments

[Conduct targeted outreach to youth and historically marginalized communities](#)

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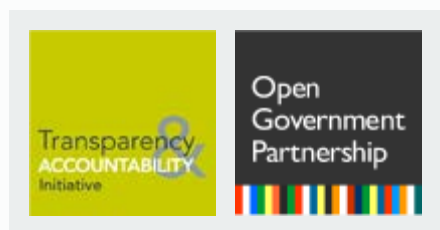
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- [Information from the NCSL website](#)

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Country Example

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In the UK potential

opportunities that might be advertised in the future are published, so that all companies can view the pipeline of opportunities

 Submitted by: Open Contracting

In the UK, Contracts Finder now has details of the potential opportunities over the next few years. Termed “pipelines,” they are intended to help businesses prepare for opportunities that might be advertised in the future.

Countries this example relates to...

United Kingdom

Related Commitments

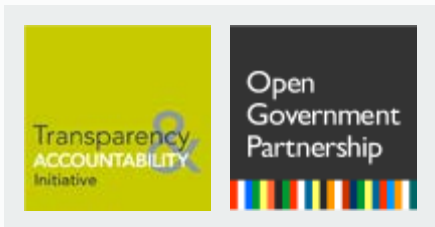
[Proactively disclose core classes of documents and data about public contracting](#)

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[UK Government Contracts Finder](#)

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Country Example

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In the UK the Information

Commissioner and the National Archives have developed a code of practice on records management to support the Freedom of Information Act

 Submitted by: International Records Management Trust

The code of practice on records management was developed as a supplement to the provisions stated in the UK's Freedom of Information Act of 2000. Its purpose is to help public sector authorities comply with the freedom of information requirements relating to the creation, management, disposal, use and re-use of records and information. The Code defines the roles of the Information Commissioner, the Lord Chancellor's Advisory Council on Public Records and the National Archives.

The Information Commissioner's Office has developed a set of training materials for use in the public sector, including short films on how to manage personal information, and how to comply with the UK Data Protection Act, Freedom of Information Act.

Countries this example relates to...

United Kingdom

Related Commitments

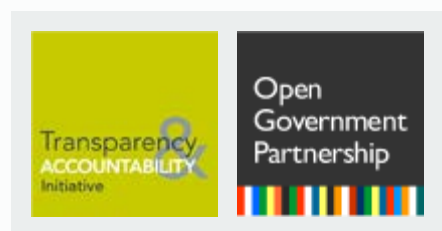
[Link the delivery of the right to information to the management of public sector records through institutional structures and awareness programmes](#)

Related Topics

[Records management](#)

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Country Example

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In the UK, the Electoral

Commission produces a report after every election

 Submitted by: [National Democratic Institute for International Affairs](#)

In the UK, the [Electoral Commission](#) is statutorily required to produce a report after every election, including problems and possible instances of malfeasance, as well as recommendations for improvement. After the 2010 general election it issued a special report on the problems experienced at the polls that year along with data about how many people had problems, what types, and where they occurred.

Countries this example relates to...

[United Kingdom](#)

Related Commitments

[Make available information related to electoral processes](#)

Related Topics

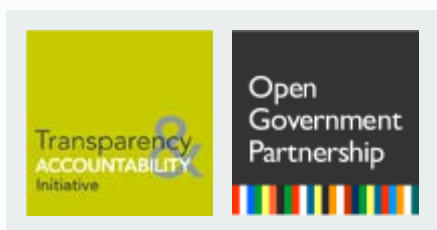
[Elections](#)

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[Electoral Commission's report on the 2010 UK election](#)

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Country Example

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In the United Kingdom the

National Archives and the Information Commissioner cooperated to develop a code of practice on records management

 Submitted by: International Records Management Trust

In the United Kingdom, a code of practice on records management was developed by the National Archives and the Information Commissioner as a supplement to the provisions stated in the UK's Freedom of Information Act from 2000. Its purpose is to help authorities comply with the freedom of information requirements relating to the creation, management, disposal, use and re-use of records and information.

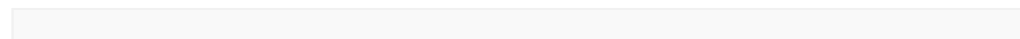
Countries this example relates to...

United Kingdom

Related Commitments

[Establish a public authority to lead on government records management](#)

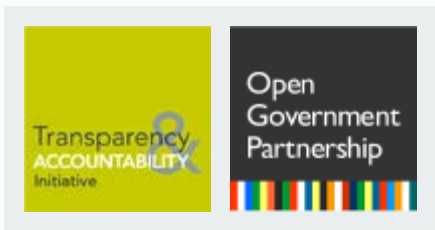
RESOURCES



- [UK code of practice on the management of records](#)

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Country Example

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In the United States a

cross-departmental body reviews declassification requests from the public

Submitted by: [Open Society Foundations](#)

In the U.S., a governmental body called the Interagency Security Classification Appeals Panel, comprised of representatives of six government agencies (Defence, State, Justice, National Security Council, National Archives and Records Administration, and Office of the Director of National Intelligence), is tasked with reviewing requests from the public to declassify records that one of the member agencies has previously refused to release. Remarkably, the Panel has ordered the declassification and disclosure of information, at least in part, in the majority of cases that it has considered. In other words, through collective independent oversight, it has overruled the classification judgement of its own member agencies more often than not.

Countries this example relates to...

United States

Related Commitments

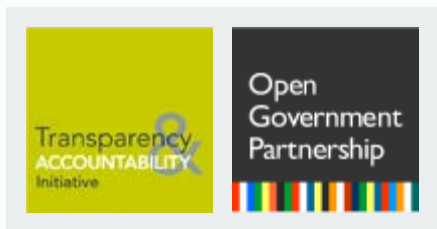
[Ensure independent review of decisions to classify information and destroy documents of public interest](#)

Related Topics

Security sector

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Country Example

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In the United States, the

2013 Open Data Policy called for federal agencies to perform an audit and create an index of datasets

 Submitted by: [Sunlight Foundation](#)

The US [Open Data Policy](#) from 2013 require agencies to index all of their data (internally), to make a public list of all their public data, and requires all agencies to list all their data that can be made public.

Countries this example relates to...

[United States](#)

Related Commitments

[Create public listings of government data, and audit data availability and management](#)

Related Topics

[Open government data](#)

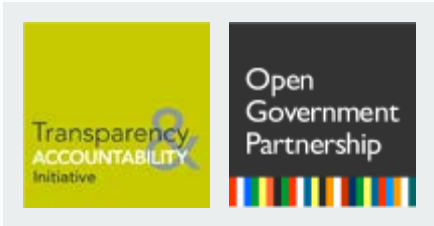
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[US executive order on open data](#)



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In the US, OSHA requires

federal agencies to post information about whistleblower protection

Submitted by: [Whistleblowers International Network](#)

In the United States, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration Act (OSHA) is responsible for enforcing whistleblower provisions of 21 statutes. Most recently, the US Congress designated OSHA as the agency responsible for enforcing the whistleblower provisions of the [Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act](#).

Countries this example relates to...

[United States](#)

Related Commitments

[Establish a public awareness campaign on the value of whistleblowing](#)

Related Topics

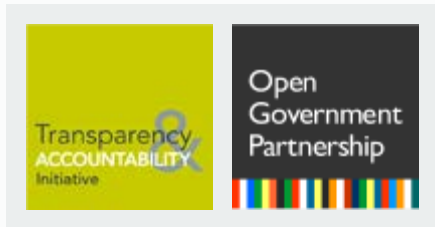
[Whistleblower protection](#)

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[Information about OSHA whistleblower protection](#)

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Country Example

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In the US, the White House

Office of Science and Technology Policy requires federal agencies that fund research make the results and underlying data available to the public

 Submitted by: Sunlight Foundation

A memo Increasing Access to the Results of Federally Funded Scientific Research from the Office of Science and Technology Policy from February 2013 includes a requirement for all U.S. federal agencies that spend over \$100 million annually supporting research and development to make the results of that (non-classified) research, as well as the underlying data, available to the public within a year of publication.

Countries this example relates to...

United States

Related Commitments

[Require that open data commitments apply to all organizations handling public data](#)

Related Topics

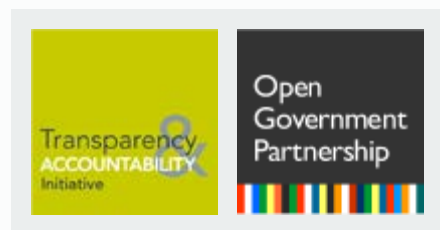
[Open government data](#)

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[Increasing Access to the Results of Federally Funded Scientific Research](#)

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In Victoria, Australia

disclosure requirements are part of the standard terms and conditions for contracts

In Victoria, Australia, current policy and rules require that private parties be made aware of contract disclosure requirements at the time of tender. This is included in the Standard Tender and Contract Terms on Disclosure for contracts over \$100,000 Policy adopted in 2002 by the Victoria Government Purchasing Board.

Countries this example relates to...

Australia

Related Commitments

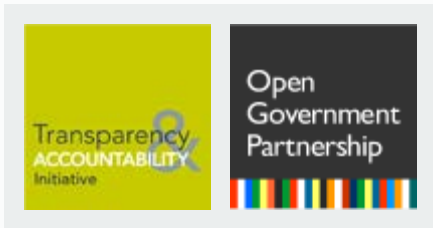
[Recognize the right of the public to access public contracting information](#)

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[Procurement Victoria Policy](#)

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Country Example

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Increasing numbers of

countries permit some form of public hearings during budget discussions in the legislature

 Submitted by: [International Budget Partnership](#)

According to the 2012 survey by the International Budget Partnership 67 countries out of 100 surveyed hold some form of public hearings on the macroeconomic and fiscal framework presented in the budget in which testimony from the executive branch (and in some cases the public) is heard.

RESOURCES

- [Open Budget Survey 2012](#)

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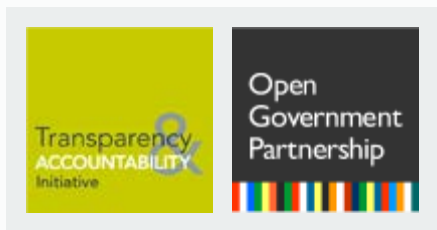
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Country Example

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Increasing numbers of

countries publish the Executive Budget, Enacted Budget, Audit Report and Citizen's Budget

 Submitted by: International Budget Partnership

According to the 2012 survey by the International Budget Partnership, 22 countries out of 100 surveyed publish all four documents.

RESOURCES

- [IBP country data](#)

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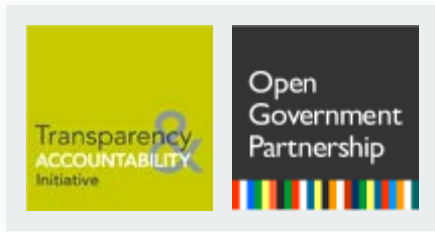
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Country Example

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India has central and state

level information commissions

India has a system of a central and state-level [information commissions](#), and the [Department of Personnel and Training \(DoPT\)](#) serves as the central focal point for right to information.

Countries this example relates to...

[India](#)

Related Commitments

[Establish institutional structures for implementing RTI](#)

Related Topics

[Right to information](#)

RELATED EXAMPLES

[Mexico has set up a federal institute for access to information \(IFAI\)](#)

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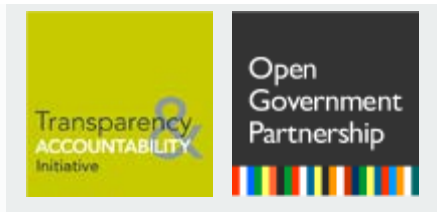
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Country Example

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India has developed a

Centre of Excellence for Digital Preservation

Submitted by: [International Records Management trust](#)

The Government recognises the threats posed by rapidly changing technologies and digital obsolescence of computer hardware, software, file formats and storage media. These include the possibilities of data corruption, physical damage and disasters for digitally encoded information, as well as the obsolescence of digital content, e-records and evidentiary proof, all of which can lead to problems in administrative, judiciary and legislative functions. The Department of Electronics and Information has supported the need to develop trusted digital repositories supported by tools, technologies, standards, good practices and policy for long-term preservation and access. It has taken early steps towards envisaging a National Digital Preservation Program, including preparing a National Study Report on Digital Preservation Requirements of India and setting-up a Centre of Excellence for Digital Preservation.

Countries this example relates to...

[India](#)

Related Commitments

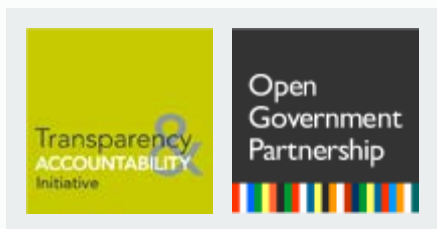
[Establish a central digital repository to provide lasting access to government records and data](#)

Related Topics

[Records management](#)

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Country Example

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India's consumer

protection system enables inexpensive and speedy redress

Submitted by: [Consumers International](#)

The Indian Consumer Protection Act from 1986 enables ordinary consumers to secure redress of their grievances using a three-tier structure of National and State Commissions and District Forums. To provide inexpensive, speedy and summary redressal of consumer disputes, quasi-judicial bodies have been set up in each District and State and at the National level, called the District Forums, the State Consumer Disputes Redressal Commissions and the National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission respectively. At present, there are 629 District Forums and 35 State Commissions with the National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission (NCDRC) at the apex.

Countries this example relates to...

[India](#)

Related Commitments

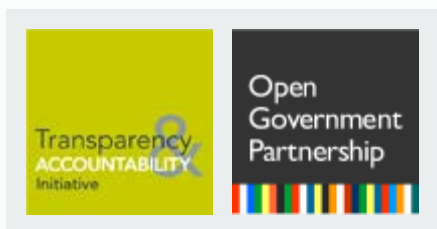
[Establish mechanisms for consumer redress](#)

Related Topics

[Consumer protection](#)

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[Home](#) [Country Examples](#) [India's Green Tribunal enables citizens to get acce...](#)

Country Example

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India's Green Tribunal

enables citizens to get access to justice in environmental protection cases

 Submitted by: The Access Initiative

India's National Green Tribunal was established in 2010 to ensure speedy disposal of cases relating to environmental protection and natural resources and facilitate the enforcement of legal rights relating to the environment. It handles a wide range of matters including the conservation of forests and providing compensation for damages and decisions on environmental permitting. The body is a specialised tribunal with the jurisdiction of higher courts. It grants wide standing for citizens to place cases before the tribunal and provides access to all its decisions online.

Countries this example relates to...

India

Related Commitments

[Establish independent mechanisms for access to justice in environmental affairs](#)

Related Topics

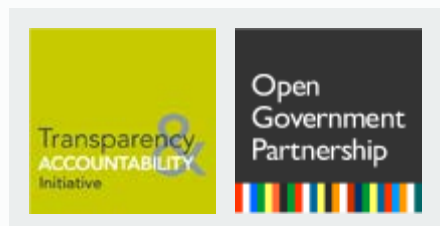
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- [Information on acts related to the National Green Tribunal](#)

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Country Example

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Indonesia's public

contracting data is made available on a portal hosted by a civil society organisation

 Submitted by: Open Contracting Partnership

Thanks to a memorandum of understanding signed with Indonesia's national procurement authority (LKPP), Indonesia Corruption Watch is able to import public contracting data and create analytics on its OpenTender portal (www.opentender.net). This data can then be used by a variety of stakeholders, such as local organizations, citizens or state institutions.

Countries this example relates to...

Indonesia

Related Commitments

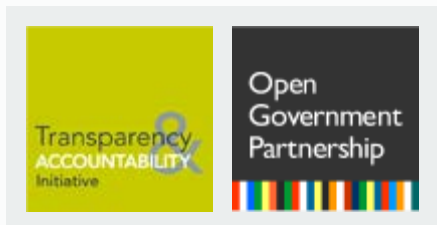
[Engage civil society and business in the use of open contracting data](#)

Related Topics

[Public contracting](#)

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Country Example

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Ireland is developing a

new law to provide comprehensive whistleblowing protection

Submitted by: [Whistleblowers International Network](#)

The Irish government announced in early 2012 that it would consult on a new draft law which will provide a comprehensive whistleblower protection across all sectors. The Protected Disclosures in the Public Interest Bill is due to become law by the end of 2013. The Bill lists the existing sector-based whistleblower laws and provisions in Schedule 1. Schedule 2 deals with the repeals necessary to achieve the legal aims of the Bill and Schedule 3 lists the amendments that will be made to 15 separate laws to ensure that they are fully compatible with the new law.

Countries this example relates to...

[Ireland](#)

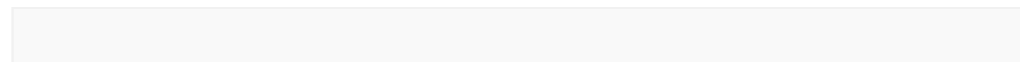
Related Commitments

[Review and strengthen laws and policies on whistleblowing](#)

Related Topics

[Whistleblower protection](#)

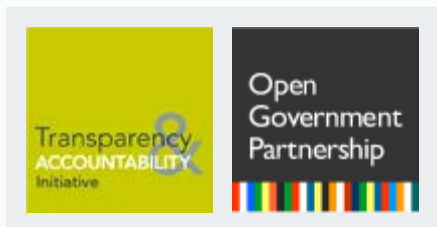
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□ [Ireland's Protected Disclosure Bill 2013](#)

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Country Example

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Jersey requires beneficial

owners to be identified and recorded by the JFSC Company Registry

Submitted by: [Center for Global Development](#)

Jersey requires the beneficial owner to be identified and recorded by a government body, the [JFSC Companies Registry](#) within the Financial Services Commission, which is responsible for the regulation and supervision of the financial services industry. Beneficial ownership information provided at the time of application is checked against an [external database](#) and an internal regulatory database, and applicants often need to be (and in practice frequently are) asked to provide additional information.

Countries this example relates to...

[United Kingdom](#)

Related Commitments

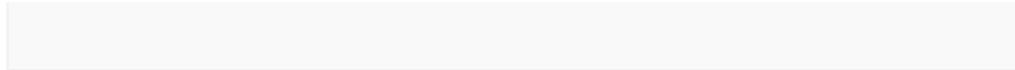
[Establish robust registers of beneficial ownership](#)

Related Topics

[Tax and Illicit flows](#)

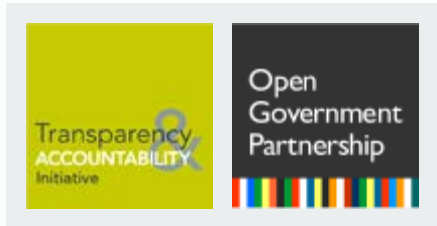
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[StAR publication on stolen asset recovery](#)



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Country Example

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Kazakhstan's Citizen's

Budget is mandated by legislation

Submitted by: [International Budget Partnership](#)

In 2011, the government of Kazakhstan passed into law the Citizen's Budget Law, which covers the development of Citizens Budgets at both the central and local levels. What is unique about the Kazakh legislation is that Citizens Budgets will not only be published when the government publishes the Executive's Budget Proposal but also after the formulation, approval, implementation, and evaluation stages of the budget process. Relevant chapters of the Law are available on official websites of state agencies, including that of the Ministry of Finance, as well as local governments.

Countries this example relates to...

[Kazakhstan](#)

Related Commitments

[Publish a Citizens' Budget](#)

Related Topics

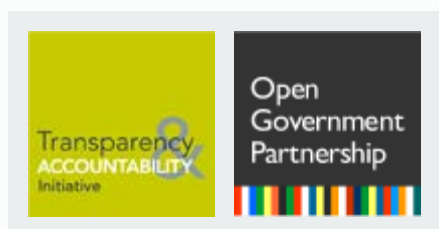
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[IBP guide to developing a citizen budget](#)

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Country Example

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Kenya's Ombudsman

monitored misuse of public resources in the 2013 elections

Submitted by: [National Democratic Institute for International Affairs](#)

For the Kenyan elections in 2013, which were the first general elections under Kenya's new constitution, Kenya's Commission on Administrative Justice (the office of the Ombudsman) undertook election monitoring, checked against abuse of power, improper conduct and misbehaviour in public office, observed the election and conducted post election monitoring. The office of the ombudsman then issued a report on its actions, including recommendations: [Championing Values in Hard Times: Election Monitoring and Observation Report No. 4/2013](#)

Countries this example relates to...

[Kenya](#)

Related Commitments

[Empower an ombudsman or similar office to receive, investigate and address citizen complaints concerning electoral processes](#)

Related Topics

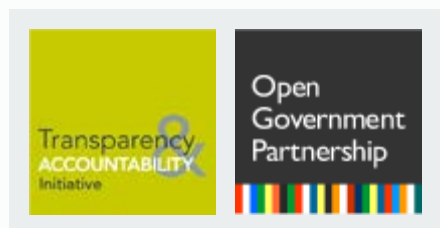
[Elections](#)

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- [Website of the Kenyan office of the Ombudsman](#)

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Country Example

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Korea's Anticorruption

Commission can provide relief for whistleblowers' losses

Submitted by: [Whistleblowers International Network](#)

Korea's Anti-Corruption and Civil Rights Commission (ACRC) can provide relief if a whistleblowing report causes damage or for expenses related to medical treatment, residential relocation, litigation, wage loss or for other reasons. The ACRC has also recommended that the Korean Act on the Protection of Public Interest Whistleblowers be amended to allow for awards to whistleblowers if their reports protected the public interest.

Countries this example relates to...

[Korea, Republic Of](#)

Related Commitments

[Establish a public fund to support whistleblowers](#)

Related Topics

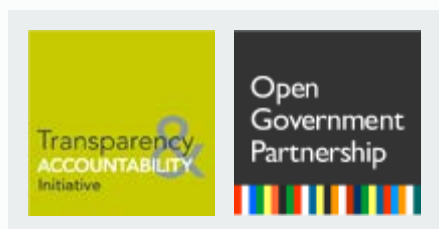
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Country Example

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Legislation in New Zealand

protects whistleblowers in order to promote the public interest

Submitted by: [Open Society Foundations](#)

In New Zealand, the Protected Disclosures Act aims to promote the public interest by “(a) facilitating the disclosure and investigation of matters of serious wrongdoing by an organisation” and by “(b) protecting employees who in accordance with this Act make disclosures of information about serious wrongdoing in or by an organisation.”

Countries this example relates to...

[New Zealand](#)

Related Commitments

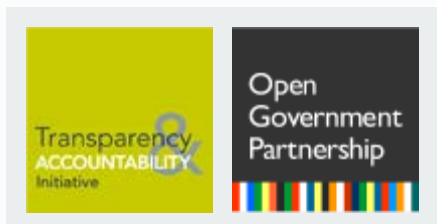
[Ensure that whistleblower protection applies in the security sector](#)

Related Topics

[Security sector](#)

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Liberia publishes

information on bids and contracts

Submitted by: [Revenue Watch Institute](#)

In Liberia the Land, Mines and Energy Ministry publishes information on the number of bids received, bidding requirements, and winning bids. Most mineral development agreements are published, and the Ministry is launching a Mineral Cadaster Information Management System.

Countries this example relates to...

[Liberia](#)

Related Commitments

[Disclose contracts signed with extractive companies](#)

[Recognize the right of the public to access public contracting information](#)

Related Topics

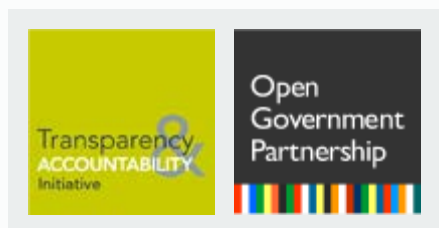
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[Information on Liberia from Revenue Watch Institute](#)

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Malawi is reforming its

construction sector after CoST review

Submitted by: [Construction Sector Transparency Initiative](#)

At the start of the CoST pilot, Malawi undertook a baseline study which revealed that public sector construction projects were subject to large overruns in terms of both time and cost. Following this review, the Malawi Parliament has approved a reform package to fix the inadequacies in the public construction sector. The Malawi government has also begun a review of the Public Procurement Act with the intention of incorporating CoST disclosure requirements.

Countries this example relates to...

[Malawi](#)

Related Commitments

[Join the Construction Sector Transparency Initiative \(CoST\) and develop a national programme](#)

Related Topics

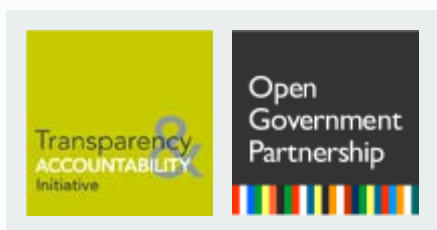
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[CoST country cases](#)

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Country Example

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Malawi is working to geo-

code project information

 Submitted by: [Publish What You Fund](#)

In response to the demand for increased transparency and improved geographic funding information, the Ministry of Finance of Malawi has partnered with AidData, the African Development Bank and the World Bank to geo-code project information. The resulting data of aid activities of nearly 30 donors within the [Malawi Aid Management Platform](#) can be explored through an [interactive mapping tool](#). The geo-coded dataset will be made public and will be used by the Malawi Ministry of Finance to generate aid reports, catalyse new conversations with its donor partners, and improve aid effectiveness at the local level across the country.

Countries this example relates to...

[Malawi](#)

Related Commitments

[Publish more detailed information on aid flows including performance information, sub-national location, results and project documents \(donors\)](#)

Related Topics

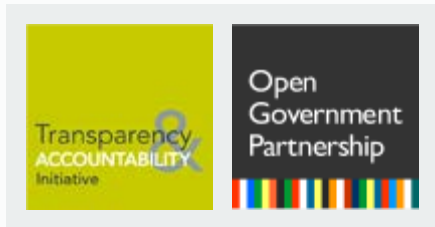
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[Malawi aid mapping](#)

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Malawi is working to integrate its Aid Management System with its overall financial

information management system

Submitted by: [Publish What You Fund](#)

In 2008, Malawi moved from an ad-hoc aid information system to a formal system of information exchange between the Ministry of Finance and all its donor partners. Information on all aid financed activities in Malawi is stored and analysed through a web-based Aid Management Platform, and aid information is updated on a monthly basis. This Aid Information Management Platform (IAMS) has enabled the Malawian government to track aid disbursements both to on-budget funds and off-budget funds (project which circumvent government systems), and has greatly improved sector planning by the government.

Countries this example relates to...

Malawi

Related Commitments

[Integrate aid information into domestic budget planning \(recipients\)](#)

Related Topics

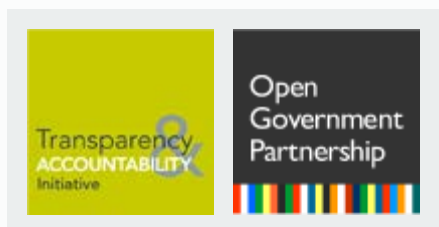
[Aid](#)

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<http://www.slideshare.net/icgfmconference/batten-aid-information-management-in-practise-malawi-experiences>

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Malaysia has developed a

set of system specifications for electronic records management systems

Submitted by: [International Records Management Trust](#)

The National Archives of Malaysia adapted and incorporated the recommendations from Module 2 of the International Council on Archives Functional Requirements into the System Specification developed in 2003. The National Archives of Malaysia further updated its System Specification in 2011.

Countries this example relates to...

[Malaysia](#)

Related Commitments

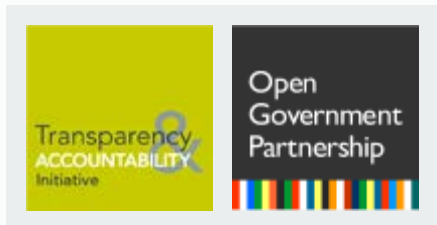
[Include records management requirements in the specification criteria for new IT systems and upgrades.](#)

Related Topics

[Records management](#)

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Country Example

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Malaysia introduced a

Tribunal for consumer claims enabling consumers to seek redress without going to court

 Submitted by: Consumers International

Malaysia's Consumer Protection Act 1999 introduced a specific consumer redress mechanism for the Malaysian consumer by establishing the Malaysian Tribunal for Consumer Claims (MTCC). MTCC is an independent body recognised to hear and adjudicate consumer claims subject to the provisions under the Act. Its objective is to provide a channel and alternative dispute resolution facilities to consumers. The jurisdictions of the tribunal include hearing any matter within its jurisdiction as provided for under the Act where the total amount claimed does not exceed RM 25, 000; and hearing any other matters prescribed by the Minister's order published in the Gazette.

Countries this example relates to...

Malaysia

Related Commitments

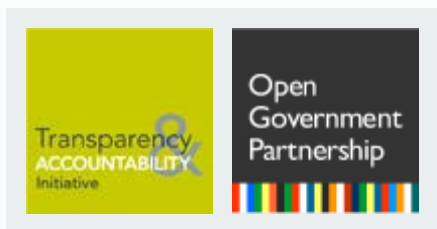
[Establish mechanisms for consumer redress](#)

Related Topics

[Consumer protection](#)

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Manabalss.lv is a Latvian

civil society-run website allowing citizens to propose legislation

 Submitted by: National Democratic Institute for International Affairs

Manabalss.lv is a Latvian civil society-run website allowing citizens to propose legislation that is considered by parliament if it receives more than 10,000 signatures. Civil activity at ManaBalss.lv has resulted in two new laws being passed.

Countries this example relates to...

Latvia

Related Commitments

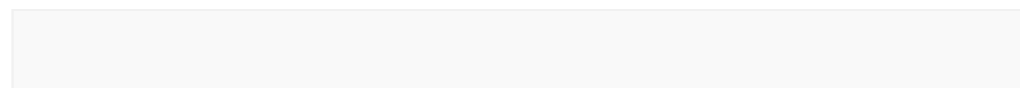
[Partner with external groups to enhance citizen participation with parliament](#)

[Develop digital platforms and capacities to enable citizen engagement with parliament](#)

Related Topics

[Parliaments](#)

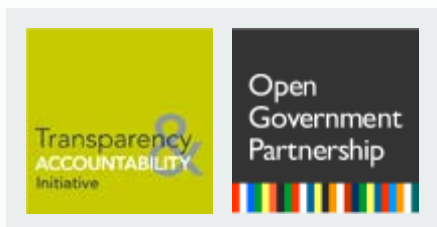
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[Website of manabalss.lv](http://manabalss.lv)

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Many countries have

developed electronic databases of public contracting information

 Submitted by: [Open Contracting](#)

The following are a few examples of electronic databases of public contracting information: [Colombia](#), [Chile](#) (Concessions), [Guinea](#) (Extractive Industries), [Korea](#), [Philippines](#), [Slovak Republic](#), [USA](#), [UK](#), and [New York City](#).

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Countries this example relates to...

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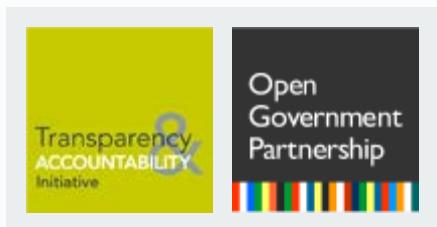
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[Proactively disclose core classes of documents and data about public contracting](#)

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Many countries publish

the Executive's Budget Proposal and Audit Report

Submitted by: [International Budget Partnership](#)

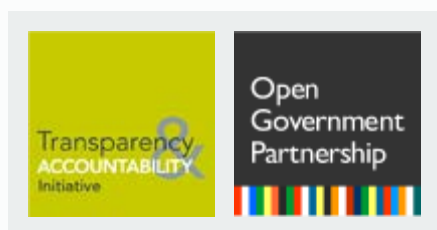
According to the 2012 survey by the International Budget Partnership 62 countries out of 100 surveyed publish both the Executive's Budget Proposal and the Audit Reports.

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[IBP country data](#)

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Country Example

Share this page

Many European countries

require a showing of harm for unlawful disclosure of information to result in penalties

 Submitted by: [Open Society Foundations](#)

A survey of the laws and practices of 20 European countries found that in at least 12 countries a disclosure of classified information to the public would not result in any penalty in the absence of a showing of harm. Nine countries – Albania, Czech Republic, Italy, Moldova, the Netherlands, Norway, Romania, Spain, and Sweden – require the government to prove either actual or probable harm in order for any penalty to be imposed. An additional three countries – Denmark, France and Hungary – allow the lack of harm to be raised as a defence or mitigating circumstance.

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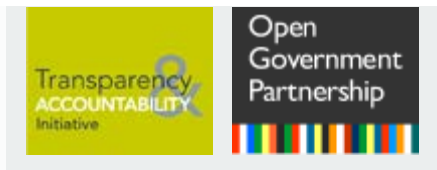
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Country Example

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Many government's FOI

laws give citizens the right to sue the government over freedom of information requests

 Submitted by: [Sunlight Foundation](#)

The U.S. Freedom of Information Act, for example, provides a person with the right to sue the government if he/she has had no response to an information request in a fixed period of time.

Countries this example relates to...

[United States](#)

Related Commitments

[Establish new legal rights to empower the public](#)

Related Topics

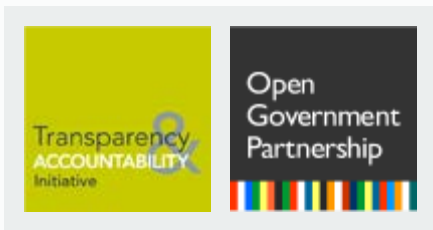
[Open government data](#)

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[The US Freedom of Information Act](#)

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Country Example

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Many parliaments have

institutionalised responsibility for transparency and openness

 Submitted by: National Democratic Institute for International Affairs

Parliaments have institutionalised responsibility for transparency and openness either by the creation of a new commission or by emphasising this function in assigning committee jurisdictions, such as the Chilean Bicameral Committee for Transparency or the Mexican Senate's Committee on the Assurance of Access and Transparency of Information (COGATI).

Countries this example relates to...

Chile, Mexico

Related Commitments

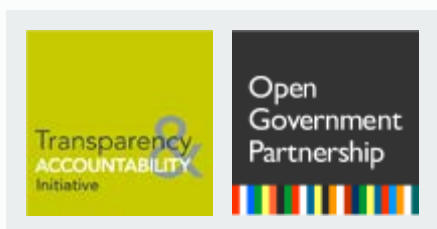
Ensure that parliamentary openness procedures are in line with international good practice

Related Topics

Parliaments

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Country Example

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Mexico has set up a

federal institute for access to information (IFAI)

The institution supporting right to information legislation is, in the case of Mexico, the Instituto Federal de Acceso a la Información y Protección de Datos (Federal Institute for Access to Information and Data Protection or IFAI).

Countries this example relates to...

Mexico, India, Canada

Related Commitments

Establish institutional structures for implementing RTI

Related Topics

Right to information

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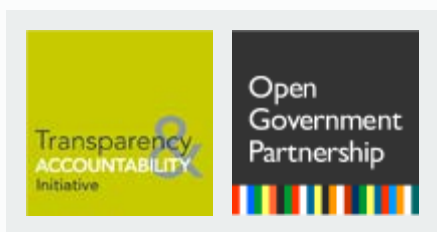
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[Home](#) [Country Examples](#) [Mexico has transitioned to online asset declaration](#)

Country Example

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Mexico has transitioned to

online asset declaration

 Submitted by: [Global Integrity](#)

Mexico has transitioned to online asset declaration with the implementation of its Declaranet system. Mexico does not have a fully mainstreamed digital culture, so public servants were initially reluctant to abandon paper-and-ink disclosure forms. To overcome this reluctance, the government created an online instruction portal, provided tutorial sessions, created a toll-free call centre, and set up training centres to help filers declare their assets.

Countries this example relates to...

Mexico

Related Commitments

[Publish asset and conflict of interest disclosures as open data](#)

Related Topics

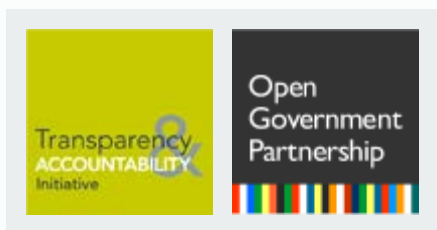
[Assets disclosure and conflicts of interest](#)

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[World Bank case study](#)

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[Home](#) [Country Examples](#) [Mexico's access to information law provides for...](#)

Country Example

Share this page

Mexico's access to

information law provides for proactive disclosure of information

 Submitted by: [Access Info](#)

Mexico's [Federal Law on Transparency and Access to Public Information](#) (2002) establishes that frequent requests should result in proactive disclosure of information. It requires public bodies to publish "relevant and useful information," and specifies that one way to determine this category is that it "corresponds to the most frequent questions made by the public." The sophisticated electronic request-tracking system developed in Mexico helps to capture data on frequent requests.

Countries this example relates to...

Mexico

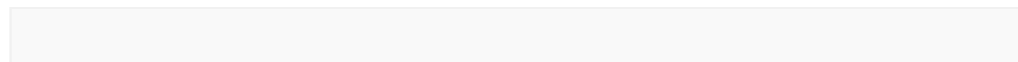
Related Commitments

[Publish core information about government on a proactive basis](#)

Related Topics

[Right to information](#)

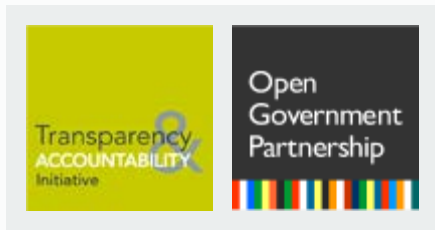
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[Mexico's access to information law in Spanish](#)

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Moldova publishes

government data through an Open Data portal

 Submitted by: OGP Bright Spots

Moldova launched its Open Data portal www.date.gov.md in 2011. The portal brings together disparate and disconnected datasets published by various Ministries and central administration offices under a single umbrella platform. Following technical and financial support from the World Bank, the portal started off with publishing 67 datasets from five public agencies in education, healthcare, economics, finance and agriculture. The number of datasets has since increased rapidly to 672 datasets in mid-2013. New legal provisions for open government data in Moldova, based on European best practices, have been drafted alongside the work on the Open Data portal.

Countries this example relates to...

[Moldova, Republic Of](#)

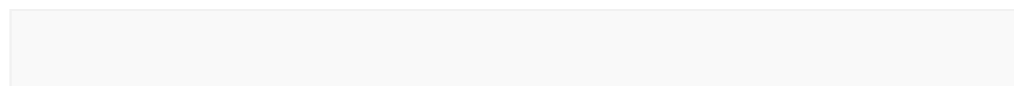
Related Commitments

[Identify and publish some public information as open data](#)

Related Topics

[Open government data](#)

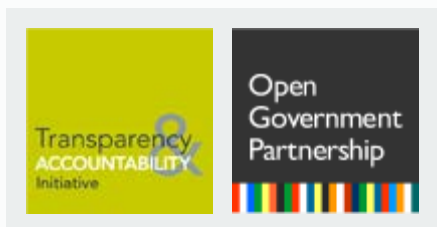
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□ [OGP Bright Spots case study of Moldova](#)

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Country Example

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Moldova will develop an

automated information system as part of OGP Action Plan

 Submitted by: OGP Action Plan

Moldova's Open Government Partnership Action Plan includes a commitment to ensure transparency of information on income and property of senior officials, judges, prosecutors, and civil servants. As part of this commitment, Moldova will adjust its national legal framework to allow for online submission of income and property declarations of senior officials, judges, prosecutors, and civil servants. In addition, an automated information system for online filing of income statements of public officials will be developed, installed and launched.

Countries this example relates to...

Moldova, Republic Of

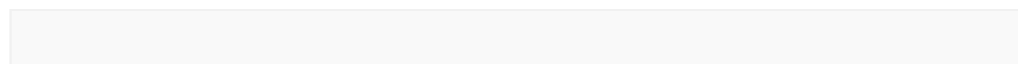
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[Publish asset and conflict of interest disclosures as open data](#)

Related Topics

[Assets disclosure and conflicts of interest](#)

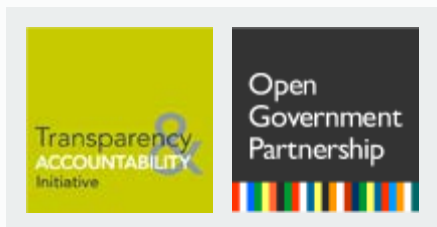
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[OGP Action Plan for Moldova](#)

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[Home](#) [Country Examples](#) [Mongolia addresses contracting specifically in its Ri...](#)

Country Example

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Mongolia addresses

contracting specifically in its Right to Information Law

Submitted by: [Open Contracting](#)

In Mongolia, [the Law on Information Transparency And Right To Information](#), Article 10, with regard to procurement, requires publication “in an easily accessible manner” of bid documents, bid invitations and regulations concerning bid selection processes; criteria for the selection of bidders as well as of criteria under which a contractor was selected; brief information on successful or unsuccessful bidders as well as the detailed reasons, conditions and legal grounds for selections; reports on the procured goods and services, including procurement audit and reports, conclusions and other monitoring reports.

Countries this example relates to...

Mongolia

Related Commitments

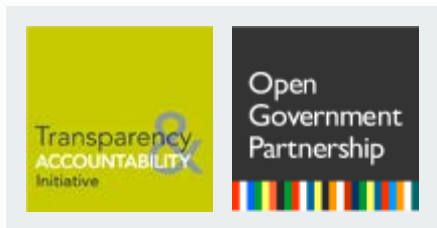
[Proactively disclose core classes of documents and data about public contracting](#)

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[Mongolia's transparency law](#)

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Country Example

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Montenegro developed a

mobile app to allow citizens to report local problems

 Submitted by: [OGP Bright Spots](#)

The Be Responsible app is a mobile app that allows citizens to report local problems – from illegal waste dumps, misuse of official vehicles and irregular parking, to failure to comply with tax regulations, failure to issue fiscal receipts. The most popular categories to date have been ecology and improper parking.

RESOURCES

- [Be responsible website](#)

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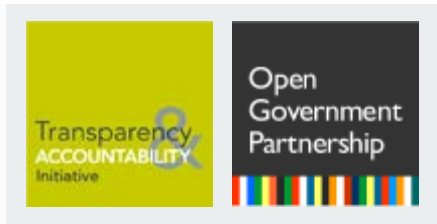
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Country Example

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More than 600

government organizations in India have issued Citizen's Charters

Countries this example relates to...

India

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[Publish and promote information on the public services people are entitled to](#)

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[Information about citizen charters by the Government of India](#)

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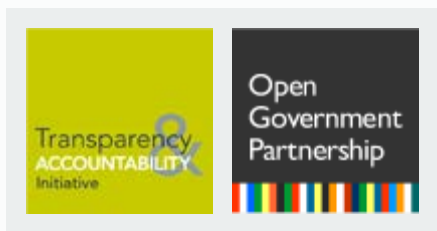
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Country Example

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National Archives Australia

supports capability development in the Australian government

Submitted by: [International Records Management Trust](#)

The National Archives of Australia supports capability development in the Australian government by offering a range of training programmes and resources, such as face-to-face training courses, e-learning, and professional events. The Archives also engages with information and records professionals and stakeholders across the Australian Government, industry and the education sector.

Countries this example relates to...

Australia

Related Commitments

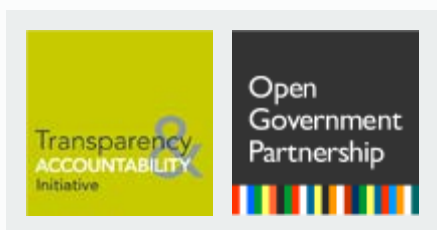
[Build the capacity of records management professionals](#)

RESOURCES

<http://www.naa.gov.au/records-management/capability-development/index.aspx>

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Country Example

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National Archives of

Australia have developed guidelines on electronic records management

Submitted by: [International Records Management Trust](#)

National Archives of Australia have developed a set of guidelines for Australian Government agency staff involved in considering an electronic records management system, planning and managing its implementation. These guidelines concern key considerations for implementing electronic document and records management system; lessons learned from Australian government agencies; an implementation checklist; information for senior management, and case studies from various agencies.

Countries this example relates to...

Australia

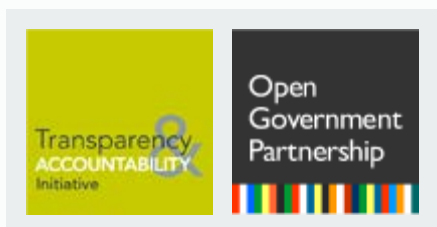
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[Australian Government information](#)

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Country Example

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National Archives of the Netherlands has developed a set of functional requirements for

information and archives management in government organisations

Submitted by: [International Records Management Trust](#)

The Dutch Archives School has developed a set of functional requirements for information and archives management in government organisations. This set of functional requirements establishes the mainstream condition with which archives must comply in the provision of information services, in observance of Dutch archival law, and in accordance with the Dutch [NEN-ISO 15489-1 standard](#).

Countries this example relates to...

Netherlands

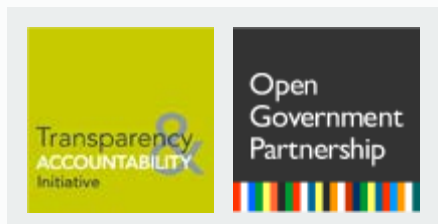
Related Commitments

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- <http://en.nationaalarchief.nl/information-management-and-creation-of-archives/records-management/standards-for-records->

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Country Example

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Nepal has developed an

online Aid Management Platform combining government and donor information

 Submitted by: [Publish What You Fund](#)

Nepal's newly launched Aid Management Platform contains reports, visualisation dashboards, and an advanced mapping module of aid activity in Nepal. More than 40 development partners have reported nearly 700 projects into the Platform to date. Moreover, AidData has geocoded (identified geographic coordinates) development activities in Nepal, and this information will soon be included in the Platform. This information enables development stakeholders to visualise where development finance is going, analyse gaps in service and identify duplication of efforts with interactive maps.

Countries this example relates to...

[Nepal](#)

Related Commitments

[Promote access to and use aid information by all stakeholders](#)

Related Topics

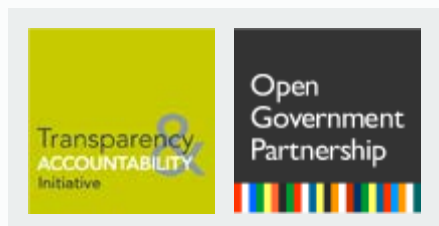
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- [Foreign aid in Nepal](#)

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Country Example

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Nepal has mapped public

contracting data from development projects

Submitted by: [Open Contracting Partnership](#)

In Nepal, Development Gateway, Open Government Partnership and the Open Contracting Partnership have come together to support Nepal's Public Procurement Monitoring Office in structuring and mapping contracting data from development projects. The visualization of contracting information has helped engage a wide range of stakeholders in using the data to improve planning and decision-making. The Public Procurement Monitoring Office has adopted the [Open Contracting Principles](#) in its policies and technology. Nevertheless, significant challenges remain as it is often impossible to trace money from development projects to procurement outcomes due to the lack of unique identifiers linking contracts with projects.

Countries this example relates to...

[Nepal](#)

Related Commitments

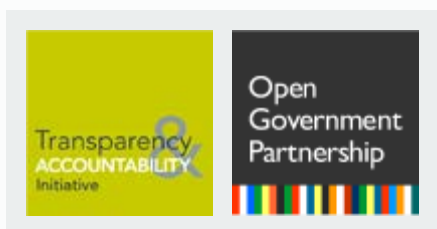
[Engage civil society and business in the use of open contracting data](#)

Related Topics

[Public contracting](#)

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Country Example

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Nepal's Consumer

Protection Act protects the rights of consumers

Submitted by: [Consumers International](#)

Nepal's Consumer Protection Act from 1998 clearly states that any activity that intends to deceive consumers is strictly punishable by law. Provisions of the Act protect consumers from irregularities such as the quality, quantity and prices of consumer goods or services; ensuring that no one lowers or removes the attributes or usefulness of consumer goods or services; preventing circumstances in which monopolies and unfair trading practices may lead to an increase in prices, as well as false and misleading propaganda about the use and usefulness of consumer goods or services. The Act includes provisions on selling, supplying, importing, exporting and storing safe and quality consumer goods or services, and protecting the rights and interests of consumers through the establishment of an agency for redress.

Countries this example relates to...

[Nepal](#)

Related Commitments

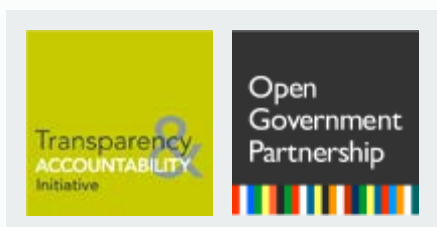
[Develop consumer protection laws in line with the UN Guidelines for Consumer Protection](#)

Related Topics

[Consumer protection](#)

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Netherlands has

developed an OpenAid portal

 Submitted by: [Publish What You Fund](#)

The Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs started publishing data in 2011 on all the development aid projects it finances. This data, published on the OpenAid portal, is in line with the IATI standard and has been made more accessible through a web interface. It is updated every three months.

Countries this example relates to...

Netherlands

Related Commitments

[Promote access to and use aid information by all stakeholders](#)

Related Topics

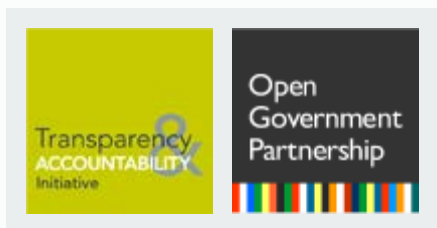
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[The Dutch open aid data portal](#)

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Country Example

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New Zealand allows free

online access to land information

 Submitted by: [Cadasta Foundation](#)

Land Information New Zealand (LINZ) is the government agency responsible for all national land information, including land titles, survey data, topographic and hydrographic information and all crown lands. All registry and cadaster data is maintained electronically, and land information can be searched in real time online, in addition to allowing for the update of title and survey data. Data is freely available and can be used under Creative Commons Attribution 3.0 license, with the exception of property details containing personal information, though this can be accessed via a more restricted use license.

Countries this example relates to...

[New Zealand](#)

Related Commitments

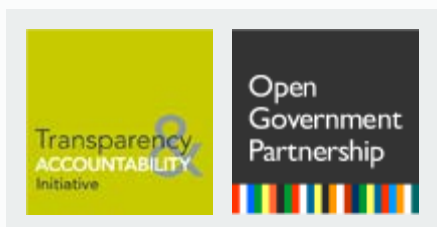
[Make existing land tenure and land holding registries public and accessible](#)

Related Topics

[Land](#)

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Country Example

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New Zealand allows voters

to register online and provides election results online

 Submitted by: [National Democratic Institute for International Affairs](#)

The Electoral Commission in New Zealand offers a range of voter services and election related information on its website www.elections.org.nz. For example, it offers voters to register online and check the accuracy of their registration. The website also contains election results by polling station and various enrolment statistics.

Countries this example relates to...

[New Zealand](#)

Related Commitments

[Make election related data available proactively](#)

Related Topics

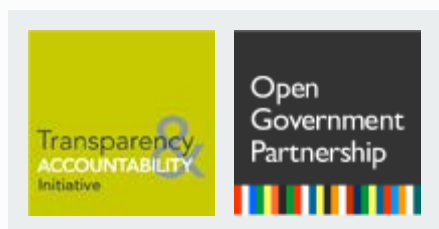
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[Website of the New Zealand Electoral Commission](#)

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New Zealand provides

options for improving digital repository in its Digital Continuity Action Plan

 Submitted by: International Records Management Trust

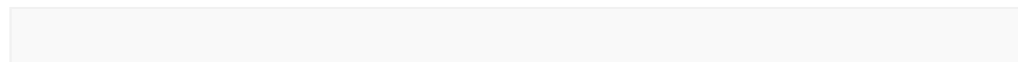
Archives New Zealand has published a Digital Continuity Action Plan. The objective of the action plan, which applies to public sector digital information, is to ensure that public sector digital information is trusted and accessible when it is needed now and in the future. In terms of digital repository systems, the Action Plan sets out several action points for consideration: (1) Implementation of the National Digital Heritage Archive; (2) Leverage the public sector's investment in existing digital continuity initiatives; (3) Ensure New Zealand public sector has comprehensive digital archiving capacity; and (4) Investigate cross-agency infrastructure for storage and retrieval of digital information.

Countries this example relates to...

New Zealand

Related Commitments

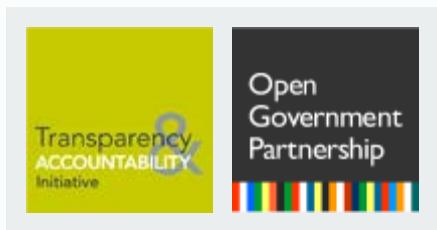
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Country Example

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New Zealand uses a wide

range of mechanisms to seek public input

Submitted by: [International Budget Partnership](#)

New Zealand has adopted a number of mechanisms to seek public input on various aspects of budget implementation and service delivery. Individual government departments and agencies collect information from client surveys, hold public consultations before the government publishes statements and rulings, and maintain hot links on the Inland Revenue website for public consultation, feedback, 'report tax evasion or fraud anonymously', and complaints.

Countries this example relates to...

[New Zealand](#)

Related Commitments

[Consult with the public on budget preparation](#)

Related Topics

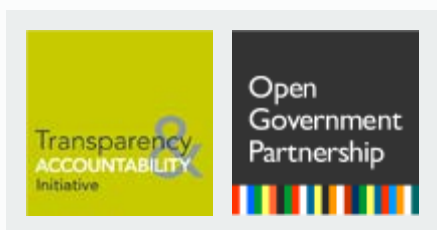
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[Open Budget Survey 2012](#)

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Country Example

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NGOs can submit

complaints to the Independent Police Investigative Directorate in South Africa

 Submitted by: OSF

The aim of the South African Independent Police Investigative Directorate (IPID) is to ensure independent oversight over the South African Police Service (SAPS) and the Municipal Police Services (MPS), and to conduct independent and impartial investigations of identified criminal offences allegedly committed by members of the SAPS and the MPS, and make appropriate recommendations. It permits non-government and community-based organizations to submit complaints.

Countries this example relates to...

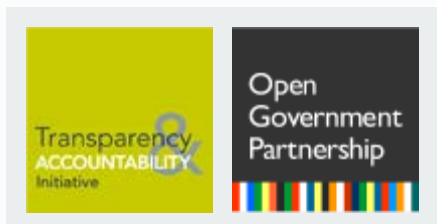
South Africa

Related Commitments

[Establish a civilian oversight authority for the police](#)

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Country Example

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Norway has developed a

digital repository system that meets the highest level of international good practice

Submitted by: [International Records Management Trust](#)

In 2009, the National Archives launched a project to develop a digital repository system that would meet the highest level of international good practice based on the principles of international IT security and appropriate elements of the Open Archival Information System (OAIS) and the Trusted Repository Audit and Certification Checklist. The aim was to secure contextual authenticity, making it possible to demonstrate that what is stored in the repository has the same structure and relationships as that produced in the creating agencies. At the beginning of 2014, the Archives launched an open source Trusted Digital Repository system, developed by a Swedish supplier and adapted for national and municipal use in Norway. This provides a technology-neutral means of preserving public sector records using standardized digital preservation models. The system also is implemented in the National Archives of Sweden.

Countries this example relates to...

Norway

Related Commitments

[Establish a central digital repository to provide lasting access](#)

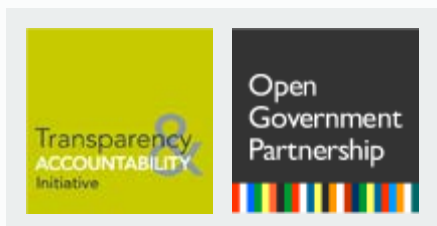
[to government records and data](#)

Related Topics

[Records management](#)

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Country Example

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Norway's Statoil publishes

all its revenues and payments by country

 Submitted by: [Revenue Watch Institute](#)

Norway's Statoil is a partially state-owned company. It was one of the first major oil companies to start disclosing all revenues and payments in the countries in which it operates. It has supported the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI) since its inception in 2002/2003, and became a board member of the EITI in 2009.

Countries this example relates to...

Norway

Related Commitments

[Require state owned enterprises to publish comprehensive reports](#)

Related Topics

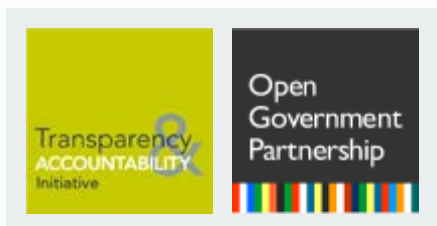
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[Statoil report](#)

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Country Example

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Open contracting is at the

heart of Vietnam's procurement reform

Submitted by: [Open Contracting Partnership](#)

Vietnam's Public Procurement Authority (PPA) has embarked on an ambitious Open Contracting initiative on the heels of the 2013 Procurement Law coming into force.

The PPA, in collaboration with the World Bank, conducted an assessment in April 2015 of the current situation in Vietnam against open contracting principles. The findings of the assessment and the related recommendations laid the groundwork for developing an Open Contracting Action Plan. The Action Plan emphasizes the development of a strong monitoring and evaluation strategy based on open contracting principles to track the performance of the procurement system against its objectives.

In May 2015, a delegation from the PPA, along with a representative of the Contractors Association, attended a regional technical workshop on open contracting in South Korea hosted by the Korean Public Procurement Service and attended by delegations from the Philippines, Indonesia, as well as experts from World Bank, Mongolia, and Hungary. During the workshop, participants exchanged ideas across international teams and worked in country groups to outline long-term objectives for improving public contracting and to develop concrete short-and medium-term activities to achieve those objectives.

Countries this example relates to...

Viet Nam

Related Commitments

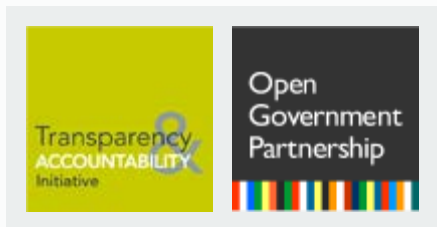
[Assess transparency and accountability of current system](#)

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[Public contracting](#)

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Country Example

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Peru commits to

strengthening the capacity of the Comptroller General to detect possible corruption as part of its OGP Action Plan

 Submitted by: OGP Action Plan

In its Open Government Partnership Action Plan, Peru has included a commitment to improve integrity in the public sector. Specific actions to this end include improving the regulatory framework governing income and asset declarations of public officials and employees of the State, as well as strengthening the capacity of the Comptroller General of the Republic to detect possible corruption. Actions also include proposing a specific regulatory scheme to prevent and detect conflicts of interest.

Countries this example relates to...

[Peru](#)

Related Commitments

[Establish a system of oversight for asset and conflicts of interest disclosures](#)

Related Topics

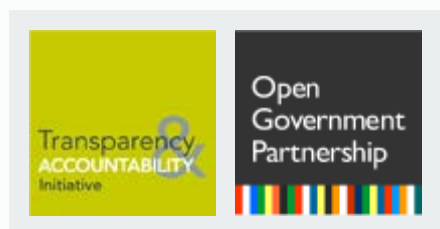
[Assets disclosure and conflicts of interest](#)

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- [OGP Action Plan for Peru](#)

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Country Example

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Peru reports natural

resource transfers to local government online

 Submitted by: [Revenue Watch Institute](#)

The Economic Transparency Portal is an open-access information platform which allows any user to have, in real time, comprehensive economic information from the Ministry of Economy and Finance (MEF). It includes regularly updated online reporting system of transfers to local governments.

Countries this example relates to...

[Peru](#)

Related Commitments

[Publish resource-related revenue transfers to sub-national governments](#)

Related Topics

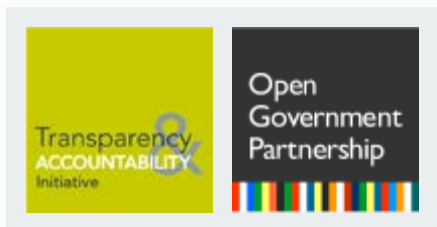
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Country Example

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Privacy Impact

Assessments are legally required for e-government programmes in the United States

 Submitted by: [Privacy International](#)

In the US, PIAs are required by the E-Government Act of 2002, Section 208, which regulates the management and promotion of Federal electronic government services and processes. The Act defines the required top level components of a PIA, including how the information will be secured.

Countries this example relates to...

[United States](#)

Related Commitments

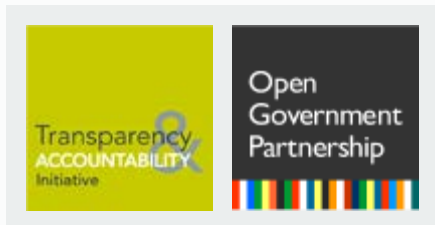
[Assess the public privacy impact of open government programmes](#)

Related Topics

[Privacy and data protection](#)

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Romania set up a website

for public sector recruitment, to counter corruption

 Submitted by: [OGP Bright Spots](#)

The PublicJob.ro website was set up to counter corruption and lack of transparency in civil service recruitment. PublicJob.ro takes recruitment data from public organisations and e-mails it to more than 20,000 subscribers in a weekly newsletter. As a result, it has become more difficult to manipulate the recruitment proces

Countries this example relates to...

Romania

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[Home](#) [Country Examples](#) [Russia makes summaries of assets disclosures availabl...](#)

Country Example

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Russia makes summaries

of assets disclosures available online

 Submitted by: [Global Integrity](#)

The Russian Federation recently started making summaries of the disclosures of public officials available online. Citizens can access them on the websites of the presidency, the government, and other institutions.

Countries this example relates to...

[Russian Federation](#)

Related Commitments

[Publish asset and conflict of interest disclosures as open data](#)

Related Topics

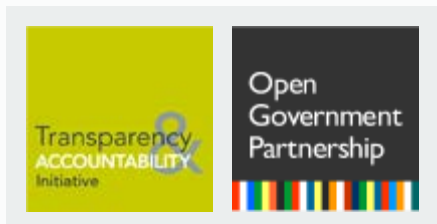
[Assets disclosure and conflicts of interest](#)

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[World Bank report from 2012](#)

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Country Example

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Rwanda has developed a

Donor Performance Assessment Framework

 Submitted by: [Publish What You Fund](#)

In 2008, the Government of Rwanda and its Development Partners agreed to enhance its mutual accountability framework through the Donor Performance Assessment Framework (DPAF). The DPAF provides a joint tool for the monitoring of donor performance against their national-level and international commitments on the volume and quality of development assistance provided to Rwanda. The DPAF is presented both in aggregate form (comprising all development assistance to Rwanda) and disaggregated by donor to allow for comparison, individual reflection on performance, as well as accountability and peer pressure.

Countries this example relates to...

[Rwanda](#)

Related Commitments

[Demand information from donors in line with the IATI standard \(recipients\)](#)

Related Topics

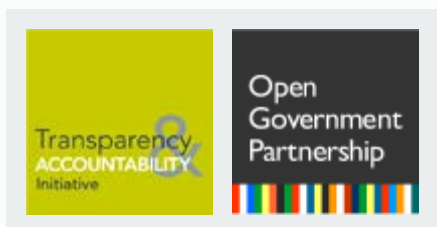
[Aid](#)

RESOURCES

- [Promoting aid transparency in Rwanda](#)

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Country Example

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Rwanda has embarked on

an extensive land tenure reform

 Submitted by: [Global Witness](#)

Having one of the highest population pressures on land in the world with 90 per cent of the population reliant on agriculture and an average family farm size of half a hectare, the government of Rwanda introduced the Land Tenure Regularization Programme in 2007. Among other things, the programme requires mandatory registration of all land holdings and formalization of ownership through land titles. The programme began implementation in 2009 and by March 2014 all 10.3 million parcels had been registered.

Countries this example relates to...

Rwanda

Related Commitments

[Make existing land tenure and land holding registries public and accessible](#)

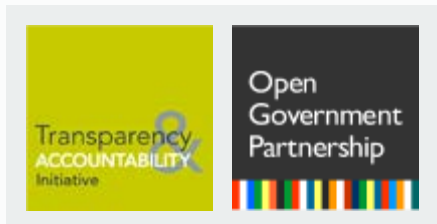
Related Topics

[Land](#)



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Country Example

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Rwanda, Malawi and Nepal

are working to integrate their aid information management systems and financial information management systems

 Submitted by: [Publish What You Fund](#)

According to a recent study on aid information and budget alignment in recipient countries, Rwanda, Malawi and Nepal are moving towards building automated linkages between their financial information management systems (FMIS) and their aid information management systems. The purpose of this is to (a) provide forward information on aid disbursements aligned with country budgets and (b) to stream information back into AIMS from FMISs on disbursement and execution, or vice versa.

[Source: Fölscher, Alta, Rebecca Carter, Samuel Moon, Gareth Graham and Frédéric Jeanjean, 2012, Study on better reflecting aid flows in country budgets to improve aid transparency and public financial management, Oxford:Mokoro]

Countries this example relates to...

Rwanda, Malawi, Nepal

Related Commitments

[Integrate aid information into domestic budget planning](#)

[\(recipients\)](#)

Related Topics

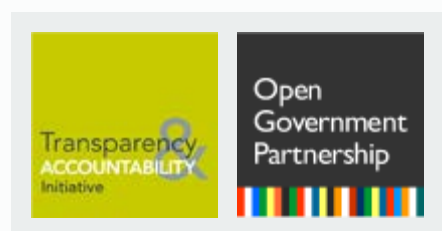
[Aid](#)

RESOURCES

- [Study on aid budget alignment domestic budget planning \(recipients\)](#)

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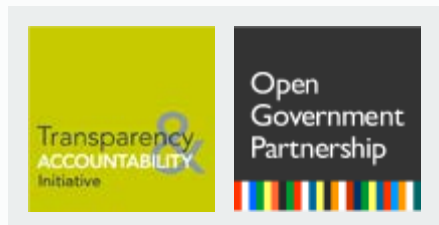
Scotland has developed a

data strategy for public sector information governed by a 'data linkage framework'

 Submitted by: [International Records Management Trust](#)

The framework requires government departments and agencies to acknowledge the importance of data quality in facilitating the use of data and maximising its value. The aim is to strengthen data, for instance in terms of accuracy and the level of disaggregation required. Operating within this framework, the Data Sharing and Linkage Service is being delivered through collaboration between NHS National Services Scotland and National Records of Scotland. At the same time, The Public Records Act (Scotland) (2011) requires senior government executives to set out proper arrangements for managing the information it creates, including records and data. The Keeper of the National Records of Scotland must be provided with evidence of the policies and processes that they are implementing, including the data that they generate. This includes, for instance, the Scottish Environment Protection Agency's environmental impact assessment datasets and the management of Big Data compiled and managed by the National Records of Scotland.

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Country Example

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Serbia, India and Slovenia

tops the RTI Rating

The top three scoring countries on the RTI Rating were [Serbia](#) (135 out of a possible total of 150 points), [India](#) and [Slovenia](#) (both with 130 points).

Countries this example relates to...

[Slovenia](#), [India](#)

Related Commitments

[Align RTI law and practice with highest international standards on RTI](#)

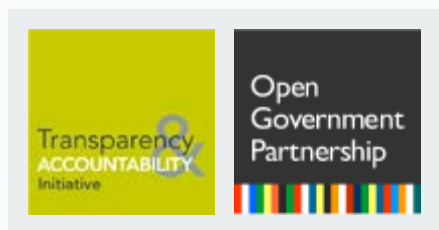
Related Topics

[Right to information](#)

RESOURCES

[Global Right to Information Rating](#)

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Country Example

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Several countries have

laws stating that information about corruption, human rights violations, or other crimes may not be classified or withheld

 Submitted by: Open Society Foundations

Mexico's Federal Transparency and Access to Public Government Information Law 2002 includes a clause in Article 14 that explicitly overrides exceptions when the information is "related to the investigation of a severe violation of fundamental rights or crimes against humanity." Romania's RTI law, Article 13, provides that "information that favours or conceals the violation of the law by a public authority or institution" cannot be classified and should be disclosed in the public interest. Albania's Law on Classified Information from 1999 states that "[c]lassification shall be prohibited when made with the intent of covering up (suppressing) violations of the law, or failures or the ineffectiveness of the state administration; depriving a person, organisation or institution of the right of access [to the relevant information]; or preventing or delaying the disclosure of information whose protection is not justified by national security interests."

Countries this example relates to...

Mexico, Romania, Albania

Related Commitments

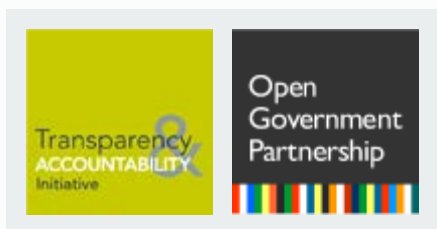
[Ensure that information of public interest is not subject to secrecy, unless disclosure would cause overriding harm](#)

Related Topics

[Security sector](#)

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Country Example

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Several countries have

mandated their national archives to serve as records authorities

 Submitted by: [International Records Management Trust](#)

Governments in Canada, China, Ghana, India, Malaysia, Tanzania, the United Kingdom, and the United States, are among those that have mandated national archives to serve as records authorities.

Countries this example relates to...

Canada, China, Ghana, India, Malaysia, Tanzania, United Republic Of, United Kingdom, United States

Related Commitments

[Establish a public authority to lead on government records management](#)

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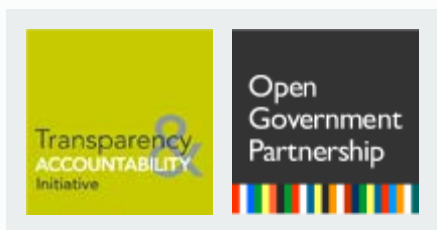
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Country Example

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Several countries use the

'Flexicadastre' system to create public mining portals

 Submitted by:
<http://www.spatialdimension.com/Solutions/EITI-Compliance>

The Flexicadastre system designed by Spatial Dimension is one solution used to implement Mining Cadastre Systems to facilitate all aspects of the application, evaluation, granting and compliance monitoring of mineral rights and related permits.

As well as using the system to facilitate application and concession management a number of countries have also used the system to develop Public Mining Cadastre Portals which provide a spatial view into the mining cadastre data and are intended to improve stakeholder communications, reduce corruption and improve transparency.

Countries this example relates to...

Kenya, Mozambique, Papua New Guinea, Tanzania, United Republic Of, Uganda, Zambia

Related Commitments

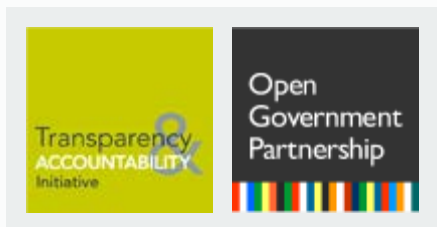
[Create a public web registry of all natural resource concessions](#)

Related Topics

[Extractive industry](#)

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Country Example

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Some countries, such as

Canada, have freedom of information ombudsmen with special legal enforcement powers

 Submitted by: [Sunlight Foundation](#)

In Canada, the Information Commissioner investigates complaints about federal institutions' handling of access to information requests and has strong investigative powers to assist her in mediating between dissatisfied information applicants and government institutions. As an ombudsperson, the Commissioner may not order a complaint to be resolved in a particular way, though she may refer a case to the Federal Court for resolution.

Countries this example relates to...

[Canada](#)

Related Commitments

[Establish new legal rights to empower the public](#)

Related Topics

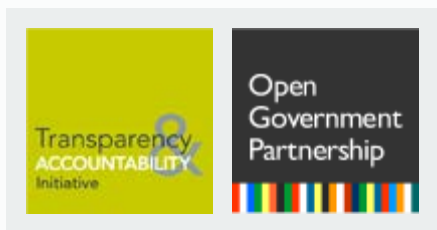
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□ [Office of the Canadian Information Commission](#)

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Country Example

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South Africa invites

interested parties to present on budget proposals

Submitted by: [International Budget Partnership](#)

The South African Money Bill Amendment Procedure and Related Matters Act requires parliament to hold public hearings on the fiscal framework and revenue proposals. Interested parties are invited to make oral presentations during the hearings.

[NB: this example is drawn from the information collected in the Open Budget Survey. While the Survey references these examples, it does not assess the quality of public engagement as a result of these mechanisms. The Global Initiative for Fiscal Transparency (GIFT) has recently commissioned case studies to assess the quality of public participation in budget decision-making in a number of countries. This guide will be updated with information from these case studies when the case studies are published.]

Countries this example relates to...

[South Africa](#)

Related Commitments

[Enable citizen participation in budgeting](#)

Related Topics

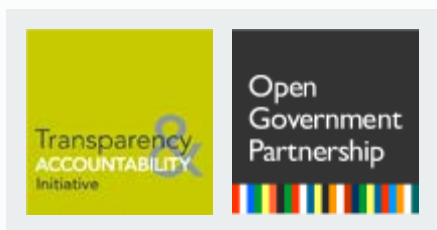
[Budgets](#)

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- [Open Budget Survey 2012](#)

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Country Example

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South African law covers

all whistleblowers from the public and private sectors

Submitted by: [Whistleblowers International Network](#)

South Africa's Protected Disclosures Act, 2000 covers all whistleblowers from the public and private sectors including all those working in the police, the armed forces and in security, intelligence and communications.

Countries this example relates to...

[South Africa](#)

Related Commitments

[Extend whistleblower protection to those working with sensitive or classified information](#)

Related Topics

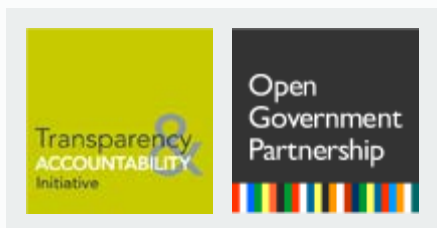
[Whistleblower protection](#)

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[Guide to the whistleblowing act](#)

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Country Example

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South Africa's electoral

commission publishes a report each year and after major elections

 Submitted by: [National Democratic Institute for International Affairs](#)

South Africa's Independent Electoral Commission is required to provide an annual report to the National Assembly, including description of its activities and audited financial statements, and a report following major elections. It is also required to issue publicly reports on its readiness before elections.

Countries this example relates to...

[South Africa](#)

Related Commitments

[Broaden and deepen opportunities for participation in public policy decisions related to election management](#)

Related Topics

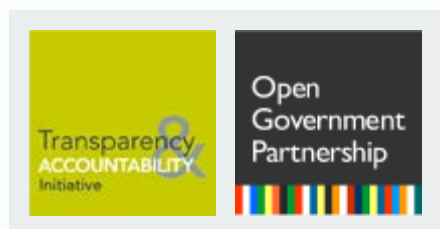
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[Reports by the South Africa's electoral commission](#)

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Country Example

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South Africa's Independent

Election Commission maintains committees to liaise with political parties

 Submitted by: National Democratic Institute for International Affairs

South Africa's Independent Election Commission maintains Party Liaison Committees at the national, provincial and municipal levels for regular consultation and cooperation on electoral matters. These committees are enshrined in the electoral law (Regulations on Party Liaison Committees, 1998) and members at the various levels can access agendas, meeting minutes and other materials on the Election Commission's website. In addition, with regard to public consultations, article 59 of the South African Constitution states that the National Assembly must facilitate public involvement in the legislative and other processes of the Assembly and its committees.

Countries this example relates to...

South Africa

Related Commitments

[Require consultation for any significant changes to electoral processes](#)

Related Topics

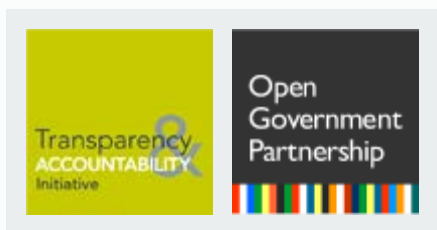
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- [Website of the Electoral Commission of South Africa](#)

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Country Example

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South Africa's right to

information law covers both public and private bodies

 Submitted by: [Access Info](#)

The South African right to information law, the [Promotion of Access to Information Act](#) from 2000, applies to both information held by public bodies and information held by private bodies in so far as the information is necessary for the exercise or protection of other rights.

Countries this example relates to...

[South Africa](#)

Related Commitments

[Align RTI law and practice with highest international standards on RTI](#)

Related Topics

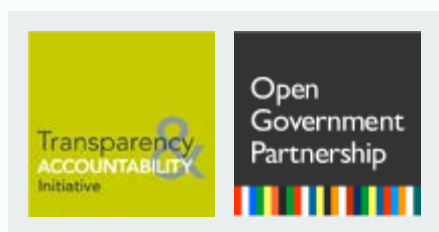
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Country Example

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South Korea commits to

monitoring post-public employment as part of its OGP Action Plan

Submitted by: [OGP Action Plan](#)

In its Open Government Partnership Action Plan, South Korea has included a commitment to work towards a corruption-free society. Part of this commitment includes strengthening asset disclosure for public servants and monitoring restrictions on post-public employment.

Countries this example relates to...

[Korea, Republic Of](#)

Related Commitments

[Establish regulations governing post-government private sector employment](#)

Related Topics

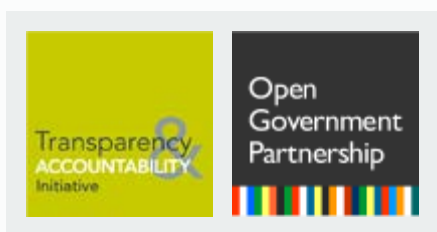
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South Sudan enacted a law

that makes confidentiality clauses in petroleum contracts invalid

 Submitted by: [Open Contracting](#)

South Sudan, Petroleum Law (2012) 78(3), declares confidentiality clauses in petroleum contracts to be invalid to the extent that they contradict disclosure requirements.

Countries this example relates to...

South Sudan

Related Commitments

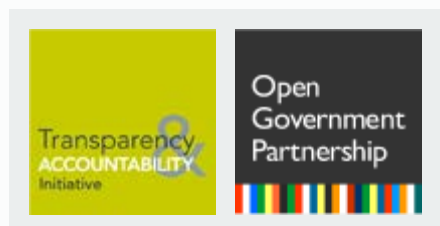
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Country Example

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Spain is implementing a

system to ensure aid transparency in line with IATI

Submitted by: [Publish What You Fund](#)

Spain has included three areas of concern to aid transparency in its Open Government Partnership National Action Plan.

1. Through Spain's Official Development Assistance information system (info@OD), Spain is gradually implementing a system to ensure aid transparency in line with the International Aid Transparency Initiative.
2. The Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID) is committed to increasing its transparency, for example, by publishing an annual report containing information on implementation of the previous year's budget, the monitoring of the planning, and a report on the actions carried out.
3. Spain is increasing the transparency requirements with regard to subsidies granted by AECID. Announcements of subsidies and decisions taken will be published, as well as the criteria for evaluation thereof. This transparency requirement covers all actors receiving Spanish public funds, whether non-governmental organisations, multilateral organisations or governments.

Countries this example relates to...

Spain

Related Commitments

[Begin publishing information to the IATI Registry \(donors\)](#)

Related Topics

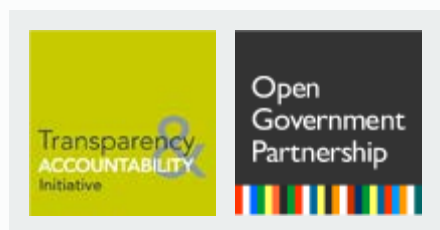
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Sri Lanka has a Consumer

Protection Fund that supports consumer organisations and finances consumer education

 Submitted by: [Consumers International](#)

In Sri Lanka all fines imposed under the Consumer Protection Act, 50% of the proceeds of the sale of any articles forfeited under the Act, and any other public allocations of resources for consumer education are paid into a Consumer Protection Fund. The Fund is used to support the promotion, assistance and encouragement of consumer organisations, and consumer education and the dissemination of information.

Countries this example relates to...

[Sri Lanka](#)

Related Commitments

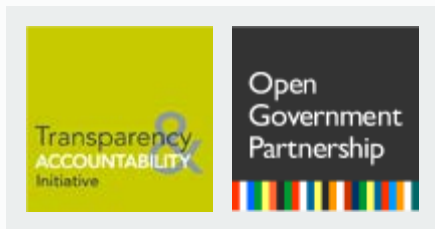
[Establish legal and institutional means for consumers and their organisations to participate in law and policy making](#)

Related Topics

[Consumer protection](#)

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Country Example

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Sweden has developed an

Open Aid portal

 Submitted by: [Publish What You Fund](#)

In 2011, Sweden launched a web-based platform: Openaid.se. Openaid.se is a web-based information service about Swedish aid built on open government data. It is based on data at the activity level of individual aid contributions and is in line with the IATI.

Countries this example relates to...

Sweden

Related Commitments

[Promote access to and use aid information by all stakeholders](#)

Related Topics

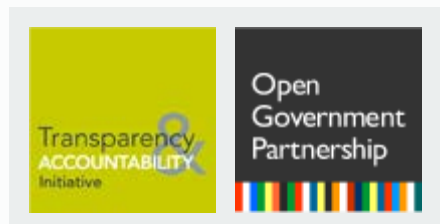
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Country Example

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Sweden plans to publish

targets and outcomes and evaluations for all aid by 2015

Submitted by: [Publish What You Fund](#)

Sweden's IATI implementation schedule states: "Results summaries will be published for new activities from May 2013. According to our other commitments in Busan around results we also plan to publish indicator-based targets and outcomes and other results and evaluations before 2015."

Countries this example relates to...

[Sweden](#)

Related Commitments

[Publish more detailed information on aid flows including performance information, sub-national location, results and project documents \(donors\)](#)

Related Topics

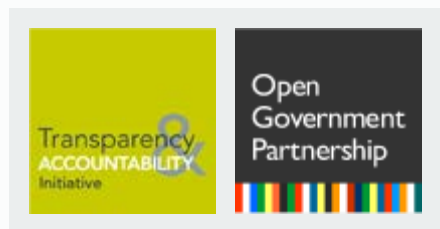
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Country Example

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Tanzania commmits to

making land data publicly available online

 Submitted by: [Global Witness](#)

Land governance has been a focus area of Tanzania's Open Government Partnership National Action Plans. In its first [National Action Plan](#), drafted in 2012, the Government cited a number of measures being put in place to enhance citizen participation in day to day operations. One of these measures was the open and transparent system of village land allocation, requiring the Village Assembly (which constitutes of all villagers above 18 years) to pass a resolution to allocate Village Land to an individual or a firm that has submitted land request to the Village Government. According to the [Village Land Act](#) from 1999, Village Leaders have no mandate whatsoever to allocate land. Gender sensitive village and ward tribunals have been established to handle land disputes.

In the country's second [National Action Plan](#), drafted in 2014, Tanzania committed to "Make land use plan, ownership and demarcated areas for large scale land deals accessible online for public use by June, 2016."

Countries this example relates to...

Tanzania, United Republic Of

Related Commitments

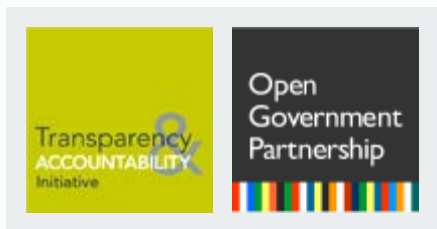
[Develop an open process for identifying and providing formal protection for land rights](#)

Related Topics

[Land](#)

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Country Example

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Tanzania commmits to

strengthen asset disclosure regulation as part of its OGP Action Plan

 Submitted by: [OGP Action Plan](#)

In its Open Government Partnership Action Plan, Tanzania pledges to prepare legislative amendments and regulations to strengthen asset disclosures of public officials.

Countries this example relates to...

[Tanzania, United Republic Of](#)

Related Commitments

[Establish a law requiring public disclosure of income and assets by elected and senior public officials](#)

Related Topics

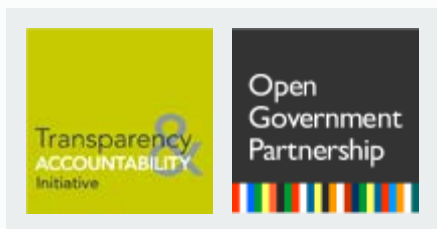
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Tanzania promotes

citizen's awareness of the national budget

Submitted by: [OGP Bright Spots](#)

The Tanzanian Ministry of Finance in cooperation with Policy Forum, a network of over 100 NGOs in Tanzania, have started producing a Citizen's Budget Handbook. The Handbook is a simplified digest of the national budget explaining the main features of the national budget in non-technical jargon. For the 2012 financial year, 50,000 Handbooks were printed and disseminated to the public in both of Tanzania's official languages (English and Swahili).

Countries this example relates to...

[Tanzania, United Republic Of](#)

Related Commitments

[Publish a Citizens' Budget](#)

Related Topics

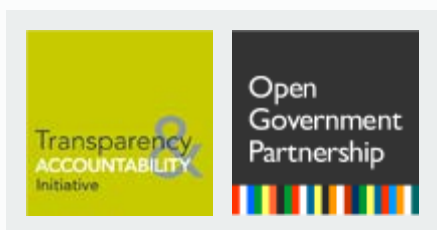
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Country Example

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Tanzania uses open data

and citizen feedback to improve water services

 Submitted by: [OGP Bright Spots](#)

Tanzania has included in its Open Government Partnership Action Plan a commitment to implement a Water Point Mapping System to make rural water supply services more efficient and accountable. Apart from showing people where water points are and if they are working, the mapping system also has a participatory element encouraging citizens in rural areas to help improve water service delivery by providing feedback.

Countries this example relates to...

[Tanzania, United Republic Of](#)

Related Commitments

[Establish easy feedback mechanisms for public services](#)

Related Topics

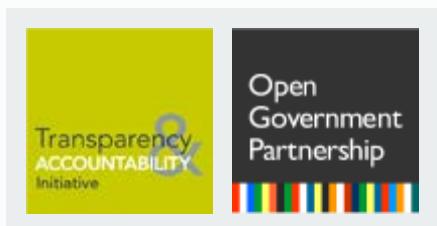
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Country Example

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Tanzanian authorities

work alongside CoST to ensure high levels of scrutiny in the construction sector

Submitted by: [Construction Sector Transparency Initiative](#)

CoST Tanzania initially received written confirmation that the construction of a certain office building in Dar es Salaam would be part of the pilot project. This agreement to participate was later withdrawn without explanation. The Public Procurement Regulatory Authority subsequently decided that the project should be subject to a full technical audit. Though the audit results are not yet available, this is an example of how statutory authorities are monitoring and reacting to procuring entities' perceived reluctance to subject themselves to scrutiny.

Countries this example relates to...

[Tanzania, United Republic Of](#)

Related Commitments

[Join the Construction Sector Transparency Initiative \(CoST\) and develop a national programme](#)

Related Topics

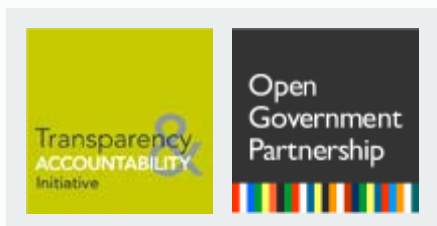
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Tanzania's OGP Action

Plan includes a commitment to encourage donors to exercise greater transparency

 Submitted by: [Publish What You Fund](#)

Tanzania has included in its Open Government Partnership Action Plan a commitment to “[E]ncourage donors to exercise greater transparency of donor funding given to Tanzania (Government, Civil Society, and Private Sector) consistent with International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI) principles.”

Countries this example relates to...

Tanzania, United Republic Of

Related Commitments

[Demand information from donors in line with the IATI standard \(recipients\)](#)

Related Topics

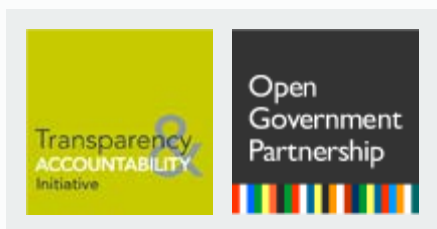
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Thailand requires

environmental information to be proactively released

 Submitted by: [The Access Initiative](#)

Thailand has adopted rules that specify the type of environmental and health information that must be proactively released under their [Official Information Act art 9\(8\)](#).

Countries this example relates to...

[Thailand](#)

Related Commitments

[Adopt legal requirements for the collection and production of environmental information](#)

Related Topics

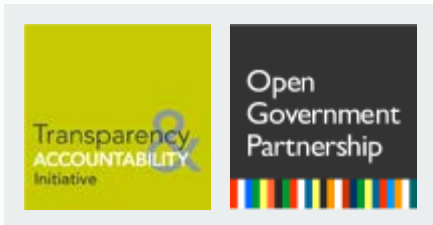
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Country Example

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The Argentinean Chamber

of Deputies collaborates with parliamentary monitoring organisations on transparency

 Submitted by: National Democratic Institute for International Affairs

The president of the Chamber of Deputies of Argentina signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with a coalition of parliamentary monitoring organisations, who are using the Declaration on Parliamentary Openness and the Latin American Index on Legislative Transparency to help guide discussions on transparency issues. Through the MoU, the Chamber of Deputies has agreed to create a registry of citizens and non-governmental organisations to ease their ability to participate in committee and plenary sessions, promote an internal regulation about access to public information, create an on-going legislative transparency working group composed of the signatories of the MoU and more.

Countries this example relates to...

Argentina

Related Commitments

Partner with external groups to enhance citizen participation with parliament

Related Topics

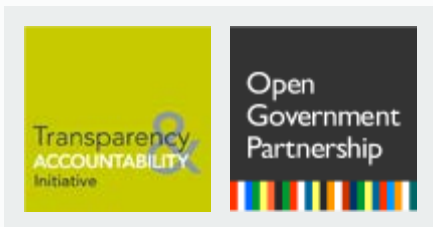
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Country Example

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The Australian Election

Commission tenders all contracts over \$10,000 through and open online system

 Submitted by: National Democratic Institute for International Affairs

The Australian Election Commission places all open tender opportunities of \$10,000 or more on the Australian government's electronic tender system (AusTender). AusTender provides centralised publication of Australian Government business opportunities, annual procurement plans, multi-use lists and contracts awarded. On July 1 of every year, the Election Commission publishes an annual procurement plan with information on proposed procurement activities for the year ahead.

Countries this example relates to...

[Australia](#)

Related Commitments

[Establish open contracting rules for election related procurements](#)

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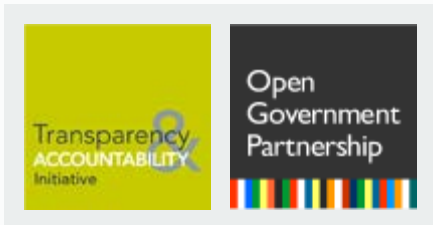
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Country Example

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The Australian Inspector

General of Intelligence and Security oversees Australian intelligence agencies

Submitted by: [Open Society Foundations](#)

The Australian Inspector General of Intelligence and Security (IGIS) provides independent monitoring as to whether the six Australia's intelligence and security agencies referred to as the 'Australian Intelligence Community' have acted legally and with propriety. The IGIS may investigate complaints made by members of the public about any Australian Intelligence agency. It reports annually to the Australian Government and publishes an unclassified report for parliament and the public.

Countries this example relates to...

[Australia](#)

Related Commitments

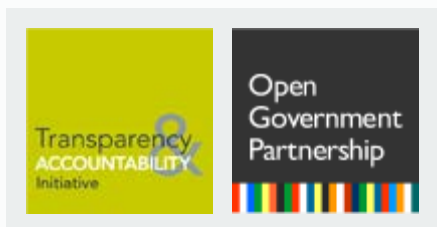
[Establish a body with adequate mandate, powers and resources to effectively oversee the intelligence agencies](#)

Related Topics

[Security sector](#)

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Country Example

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The Australian state of

New South Wales opened up its draft open data policy to comments on the web

 Submitted by: [Sunlight Foundation](#)

After consulting with stakeholders, the Australian state of New South Wales released a draft [Open Data Policy](#) in May 2013 for public comment. The public was given about a month to participate in a discussion forum on the website engage.haveyoursay.nsw.gov.au and provide input to the following questions: (1) Which 'open data principles' should be included in the policy?; (2) Which jurisdictions have the best open data policies and why?; and (3) What can governments do to promote open data in the public service?

Countries this example relates to...

[Australia](#)

Related Commitments

[Develop a government-wide policy on open data, through an inclusive process](#)

Related Topics

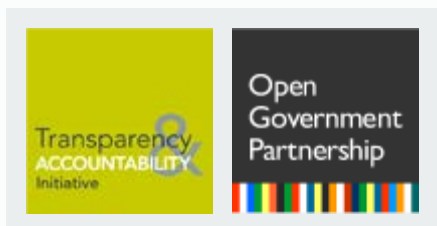
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- [Open data policy for New South Wales](#)

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The Brazilian Chamber of

Deputies has an open data standard

 Submitted by: [National Democratic Institute for International Affairs](#)

The Brazilian Chamber of Deputies' [open data standard](#) states that data shall be available to all without registration and that “the data are not subject to any regulation of copyrights, patents, intellectual property or trade secrets. Reasonable restrictions relating to privacy, security and access privileges may be allowed.” The Brazilian Chamber of Deputies makes most categories of information available for recent years on its [open data webpage](#).

Countries this example relates to...

[Brazil](#)

Related Commitments

[Publish parliamentary information in open formats](#)

Related Topics

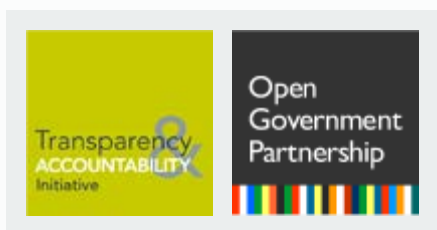
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Country Example

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The City Council of

Enschede passed a motion recognizing the importance of reusable open data and encouraging citizen participation

 Submitted by: Sunlight Foundation

At a meeting in March 2011, the City Council of the Dutch city of Enschede passed the Motion Innovation and Agility with Open Data where it requested that data should be made open and freely available. The motion recognised that the value of the data held by the city could be enormously enhanced if it was available as open data, allowing citizens to use this data to contribute to economic and sustainable activities.

Countries this example relates to...

Netherlands

Related Commitments

[Establish a strong, public commitment to opening data](#)

Related Topics

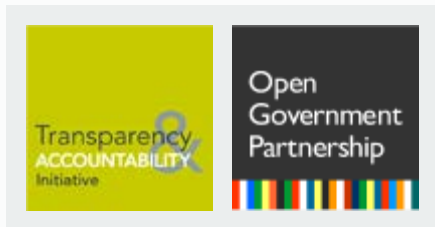
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- [Dutch motion on open data](#)

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Country Example

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The City of Montreal

publishes open data related to municipal contract awards

Submitted by: [Open Contracting Partnership](#)

In 2015, the City of Montreal began publishing open data related to municipal contract awards. The files are pulled from municipal financial systems and published on the open data portal of the city (<http://donnees.ville.montreal.qc.ca/>). In addition, the city launched a public portal: <http://ville.montreal.qc.ca/vuesurlescontrats/> as a visualization tool to view the contracts and grants awarded by the City of Montreal since 2012 in a simple and user friendly way.

The system has an API that automates queries for citizens who want to conduct their own analysis with the data (<http://ville.montreal.qc.ca/vuesurlescontrats/api/>). The API documentation is also available in the Open Data Portal (<http://donnees.ville.montreal.qc.ca/dataset/contrats-et-subventions-api/>).

Countries this example relates to...

[Canada](#)

Related Commitments

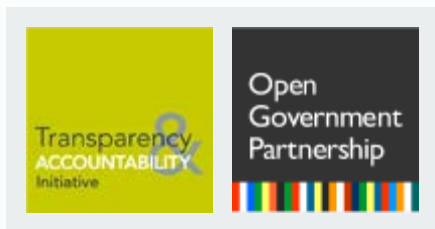
[Disclose key documents and data](#)

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[Public contracting](#)

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Country Example

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The city of Oakland drafted

their open data policy using a collaborative method involving open, online comments and public meetings

 Submitted by: Sunlight Foundation

The 2013 open data policy for the city of Oakland, California, was drafted using a collaborative method in which the public was invited to comment and participate directly in a public hearing.

Countries this example relates to...

[United States](#)

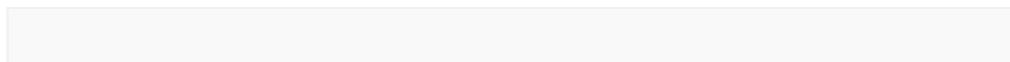
Related Commitments

[Develop a government-wide policy on open data, through an inclusive process](#)

Related Topics

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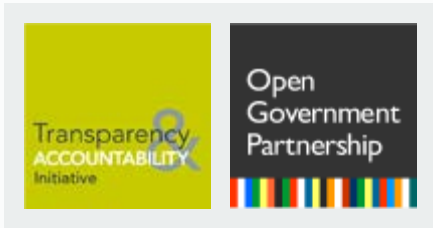
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[Draft Open Data Policy for City of Oakland 2013](#)

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Country Example

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The code for the UK

Government's GOV.uk platform was released on github

 Submitted by: National Democratic Institute for International Affairs

The code for the UK Government's GOV.uk platform was released on [github](#), which is the largest code host in the world. Gov.uk is a single domain used to deliver digital services to citizens. It is an open source and mobile-friendly platform.

Countries this example relates to...

[United Kingdom](#)

Related Commitments

[Develop and share open-source parliamentary software](#)

Related Topics

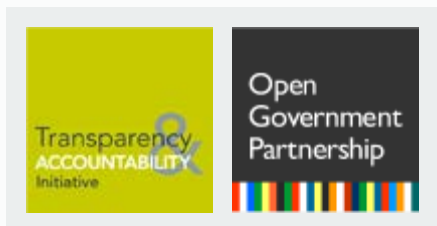
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Country Example

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The Congressional Budget

Office in the United States offers credible and impartial support to legislators across party lines

 Submitted by: [International Budget Partnership](#)

The US Congressional Budget Office, established in 1974, produces independent analyses of budgetary and economic issues to support the Congressional budget process. The agency is strictly non-partisan and conducts objective, impartial analysis.

Countries this example relates to...

[United States](#)

Related Commitments

[Enable effective oversight by legislatures and supreme audit institutions](#)

Related Topics

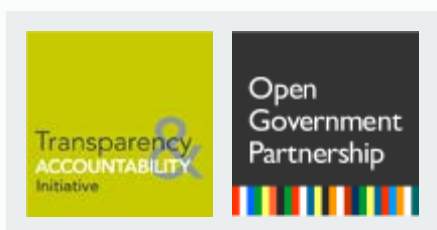
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Country Example

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The Danish Ministry of

Foreign Affairs will conduct public hearings on the design of foreign aid programmes

 Submitted by: [Publish What You Fund](#)

The Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs will conduct public hearings on the design of future foreign aid programmes, allowing citizens and civil society to contribute input and suggestions to key development assistance issues and budgets of a certain size. This is part of the government's OGP Action Plan.

Countries this example relates to...

[Denmark](#)

Related Commitments

[Engage the public In debates on development policy \(donors\)](#)

[Engage citizens in deliberation on a priority issue](#)

Related Topics

[Aid](#)

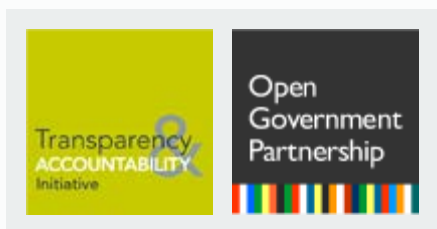
[Citizen engagement](#)

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- [Denmark's Open Government Partnership action plan](#)

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Country Example

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The data protection

framework of Uruguay has been accredited by the EU as providing adequate protection

 Submitted by: Privacy International

The EU Commission recognised Uruguay's legal framework as providing 'adequate protection' for personal data under the EU Data Protection Directive 95/46/EC. This allows full data transfer with the EU without the need for additional safeguards. To achieve this distinction, Uruguay has had to prove to the competent authorities the appropriate adoption and compliance with the provisions on protection of personal data protection.

Other countries recognised as providing 'adequate' data protection are Argentina, Andorra, Canada, Switzerland, Faeroe Islands, Guernsey, Israel, Isle of Man, Jersey and the US Safe Harbor.

Countries this example relates to...

Uruguay

Related Commitments

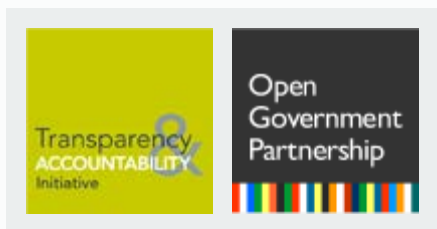
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Country Example

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The Dominican Republic

committed to enact the law on personal data protection as part of its OGP Action Plan

 Submitted by: Privacy International

The Open Government Partnership Action Plan for the Dominican Republic contains a commitment to create a legal framework for the protection of personal data, both in public and in the private domain.

Countries this example relates to...

Dominican Republic

Related Commitments

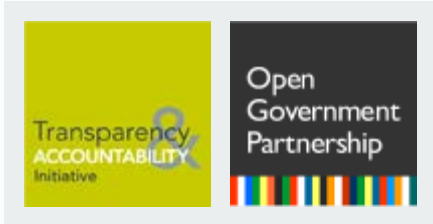
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The Dominican Republic is

committed to passing an asset declaration law as part of its OGP Action Plan

 Submitted by: [OGP Action Plan](#)

In its Open Government Partnership Action Plan, the Dominican Republic commits to enact an asset declarations and illicit enrichment law.

Countries this example relates to...

[Dominican Republic](#)

Related Commitments

[Establish a law requiring public disclosure of income and assets by elected and senior public officials](#)

Related Topics

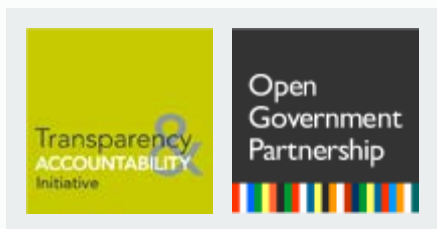
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Country Example

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The EU has released data

on fishing subsidies amounting to 1 billion Euros

Submitted by: [Christian Michelsen Institute](#)

Having responded positively to a request for information, the EU released comprehensive data on fisheries subsidies in 2008, amounting to approximately 1 billion Euros. An NGO initiative <http://fishsubsidy.org> has made this information publicly available through a searchable website. Subsequent analysis of the data by fishsubsidy.org and other organisations, including Greenpeace and UN Environment Programme, has greatly enhanced debates on EU subsidy reforms, including raising awareness of where capacity-enhancing subsidies have been given to boats targeting overfished stocks, and where subsidies have been given to boats known to be engaged in illegal fishing.

Countries this example relates to...

Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia (Local Name: Hrvatska), Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia (Slovak Republic), Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom

Related Commitments

[Publish comprehensive information on subsidies paid to the fisheries sector](#)

Related Topics

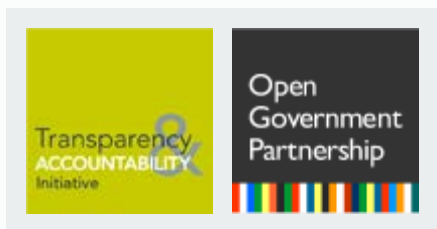
Fisheries

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- [Report on EU's common fisheries policy](#)

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Country Example

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The European DIGIWHIST

project will bring together different datasets relevant to public contracting with the aim to empower society to combat public sector corruption

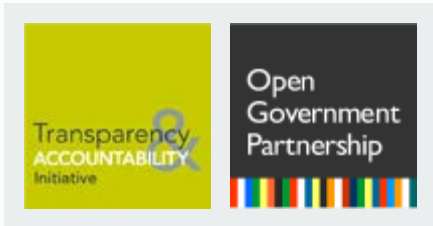
 Submitted by: Open Contracting Partnership

DIGIWHIST is an EU Horizon 2020 funded project that brings together six European research institutes and that aims to empower society to combat public sector corruption. It will fulfil this objective through the systematic collection, structuring, analysis, and broad dissemination of information on public procurement and on mechanisms that increase accountability of public officials in 35 jurisdictions (all EU member states and some neighbouring countries).

The project will compile and evaluate micro-level data using information from individual public procurement transactions and winning firms' finance and ownership structures. This data will be linked to information on aggregate asset and income declarations data in order to detect potential conflicts of interest in the system of public procurement, and more specifically, to identify systemic vulnerabilities in the respective legislations and their implementation.

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The European Parliament

has provided open source access to its legislative mark-up tool

 Submitted by: [National Democratic Institute for International Affairs](#)

The European Parliament is since 2010 using an open source release of AT4AM. This is a web-based amendment authoring tool used to create and table amendments on the proposals of the European Commission and the Council of the European Union, and the reports of the parliamentary committees. Until February 2013, 250.000 amendments had been created with AT4AM.

RESOURCES

- [Information about AT4AM](#)

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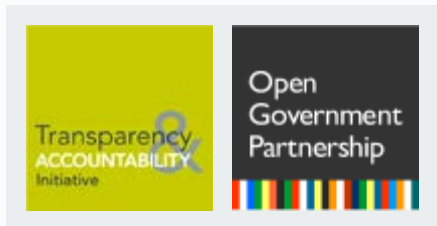
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Country Example

Share this page

The European Parliament

runs live chats on Facebook with MEPs

 Submitted by: National Democratic Institute for International Affairs

The European Parliament has undertaken a strategy to engage the public in the places where they are and to use social media tools to promote public understanding and interest in the parliament. It has developed custom applications inside Facebook to run live chats with members, to find their local MEP and connect to his/her Facebook page. It has also run a competition to select a citizen to be a Facebook “editor” for a day.

RESOURCES

- [IPU report from 2013 on social media and parliaments](#)

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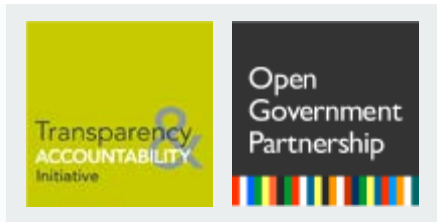
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[Home](#) [Country Examples](#) [The Finnish Parliament works with external groups to...](#)

Country Example

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The Finnish Parliament

works with external groups to engage citizens

 Submitted by: National Democratic Institute for International Affairs

The Finnish Eduskunta's Committee for the Future is partnering with domestic and international research organisations, universities and institutions to address challenges of citizen engagement in the legislative process. It is also integrating new technologies into its methods of work, including exploring the use of social media during hearings and exploiting crowdsourcing techniques to boost citizen feedback.

Countries this example relates to...

Finland

Related Commitments

Partner with external groups to enhance citizen participation with parliament

Related Topics

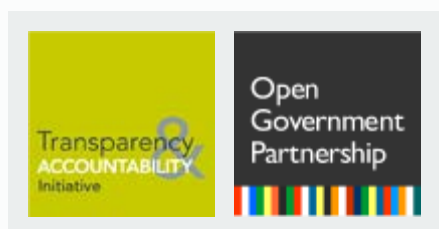
Parliaments

RESOURCES

[Information about the Committee for the Future from the Finnish Parliament's website](#)

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Country Example

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The fisheries authorities of

Madagascar publish complete details of fishing licences in local newspapers

Submitted by: [Christian Michelsen Institute](#)

In Madagascar, all details of fishing licences started to be published in local newspapers during the late 1990s, and information on the contribution of fishing companies to the economy was made public. This enhanced transparency resulted in central government receiving more fees from fishing licences, and fishing companies that were performing poorly were exposed. By 2003, the value added by the commercial fishing sector had increased by 4.5 million Euros.

Countries this example relates to...

[Madagascar](#)

Related Commitments

[Require national fishing authorities to publish detailed and timely information on commercial fishing licences and catch quotas](#)

Related Topics

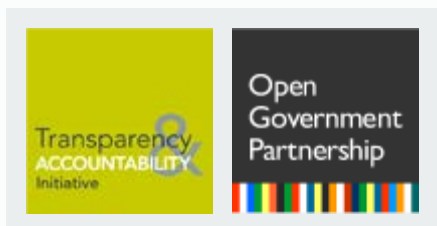
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- [Report about transparency in African countries' fishing sectors](#)

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Country Example

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The Flemish government's

open data policy that makes open-by-default the standard

Submitted by: [Sunlight Foundation](#)

The Flemish government in Belgium approved an open data policy in 2011. The policy contains six main elements:(1) open data is the default option, and public digital availability the norm; (2) re-use of the data is allowed for any purpose; (3) open standards need to be used; (4) data is to be made available at the first source where possible; (5) integral approach to realizing open data, involving all levels of government; and (6) a central data warehouse on Flemish government's own data is foreseen.

Countries this example relates to...

[Belgium](#)

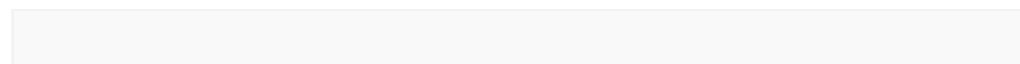
Related Commitments

[Develop a government-wide policy on open data, through an inclusive process](#)

Related Topics

[Open government data](#)

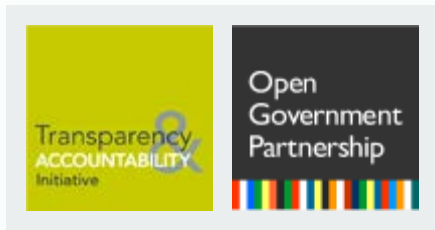
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□ [Flemish Government Outline Open Data Policy](#)

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Country Example

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The Government of

Australia has adopted a digital transition policy

Submitted by: [International Records Management Trust](#)

The Policy was developed by the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet and approved in July 2011. Its purpose is to move Australian Government agencies to digital information and records management for efficiency purposes. The National Archives is lead agency for implementation. The policy applies to all Commonwealth agencies, regardless of their legislative status. Digital information and records management is defined as meaning that the majority of agency records will be created, stored and managed digitally and, where possible, incoming paper records will be scanned so that new paper files are not created. For many agencies, the policy means moving from paper-based records management to digital information and records management.

In addition, the National Archives of Australia has provided a [policy template](#) as a guide on the key aspects and components to include in an agency records management policy.

Countries this example relates to...

Australia

Related Commitments

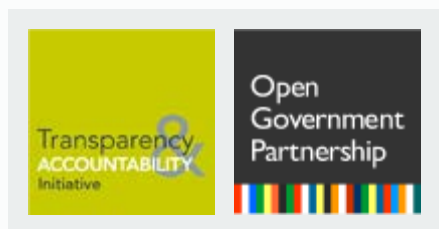
[Use the findings of the gap analysis to develop a government-wide policy on records management in line with goals for open government and sustainable development, including digital governance, right to information and open data](#)

Related Topics

[Records management](#)

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The Government of

Canada established a new policy on information management in 2007

Submitted by: [International Records Management Trust](#)

The Canadian Policy on Information Management from 2007 offers a whole-of-government approach to records management. The policy states that using a whole-of-government approach to managing information and records supports managers' ability to transform organizations, programmes and services in response to the evolving needs of Canadians.

Countries this example relates to...

Canada

Related Commitments

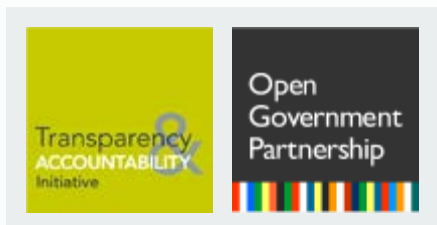
[Adopt a government-wide policy on records management in line with the right to information and open government goals](#)

RESOURCES

[Policy on Information Management](#)

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Country Example

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The government of

Canada has published overall intelligence spending levels

 Submitted by: [Open Society Foundations](#)

The Canadian Security Intelligence Service publishes an annual public report, discussing key threats and responses and including overall budget.

Countries this example relates to...

[Canada](#)

Related Commitments

[Publish Information about Intelligence Spending](#)

Related Topics

[Security sector](#)

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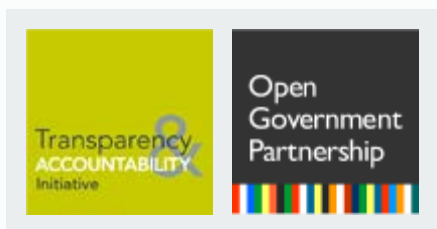
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Country Example

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The government of Chile

has published 1,003 datasets

 Submitted by: [Sunlight Foundation](#)

These 1,003 datasets, published on the government website [datos.gob.cl](#) are ordered by ministry, categories, and popular tags.

Countries this example relates to...

[Chile](#)

Related Commitments

[Identify and publish some public information as open data](#)

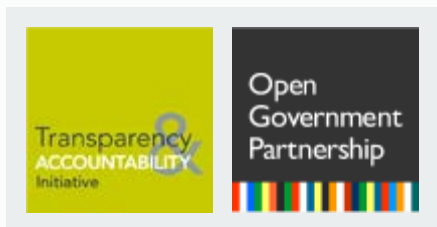
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[Chilean government open data portal](#)

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Macedonia includes a commitment to implement its Strategy for Cooperation with the Civil Sector as part of its OGP Plan.

The Government of Macedonia includes a commitment to implement its Strategy for Cooperation with the Civil Sector as part of its OGP Plan.

Countries this example relates to...

Macedonia

Related Commitments

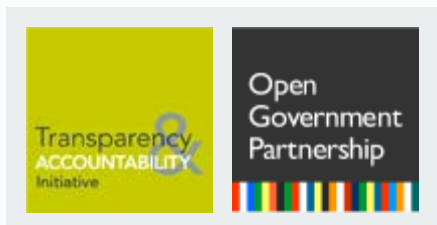
[Develop a compact with civil society to achieve common goals](#)

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Country Example

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The government of New

Zealand publishes regular updates on cases of illegal fishing

Submitted by: [Christian Michelsen Institute](#)

The website of the Ministry of Fisheries, www.fish.govt.nz, provides regular updates on cases of illegal fishing. The Ministry also publishes statistics on penalties and fines in its annual reports.

Countries this example relates to...

[New Zealand](#)

Related Commitments

[Publish complete and up-to-date information on penalties and fines imposed on individuals and companies for illegal fishing activities](#)

Related Topics

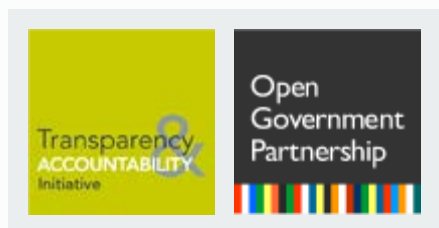
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Country Example

Share this page

The government of Peru

has committed to strengthen extractive industry transparency

As part of its OGP Action Plan published in April 2012 Peru has committed to strengthen transparency and access to public information.

This includes an explicit commitment to improve mechanisms for access to information and transparency in environmental matters and in relation to extractive industries. The government committed to discuss an extractive industries transparency law and to consider expanding the scope of its EITI reconciliation reports to build an environment of trust among oil, gas and mining industry stakeholders.

Countries this example relates to...

Peru

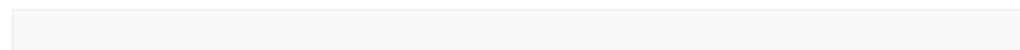
Related Commitments

[Create a national strategy for the extractive sector, through an open and participative process](#)

Related Topics

[Extractive industry](#)

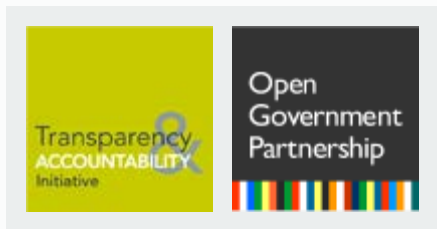
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□ [OGP Action Plan from Peru](#)

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Country Example

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The government of the

Netherlands has published overall intelligence spending levels

 Submitted by: [Open Society Foundations](#)

The Dutch General Intelligence and Security Service (Algemene Inlichtingen- en Veiligheidsdienst (AIVD)), publishes an annual report which includes its budget. The published version contains redactions where information is deemed sensitive.

Countries this example relates to...

[Netherlands](#)

Related Commitments

[Publish Information about Intelligence Spending](#)

Related Topics

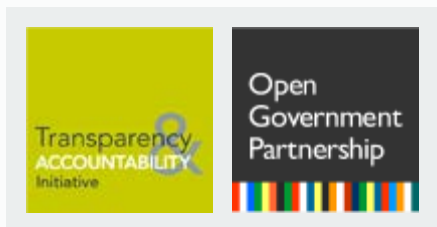
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Country Example

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The Government of the

Philippines promotes consumer rights through various initiatives

Submitted by: [Consumers International](#)

In the Philippines, the Department of Education has initiated a pilot project to train teachers on the use of consumer education instruction materials. Consumer rights and responsibilities are posted in public areas with infomercials on consumer rights in cinemas, and a consumer welfare 'month' in October. In addition, the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) awards a 'Seal of Excellence' to any certified responsible establishment that upholds the rights and welfare of consumers. The 'Bagwis' (wing) award is classified into gold, silver and bronze levels ranging from legal compliance, basic business ethics and development of a consumer welfare desk to advanced quality management.

Countries this example relates to...

[Philippines](#)

Related Commitments

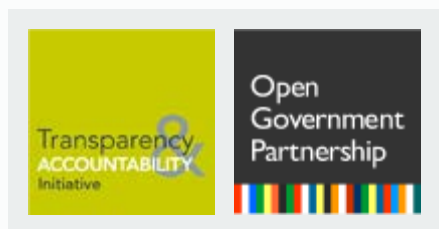
[Establish consumer education programmes](#)

Related Topics

[Consumer protection](#)

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Country Example

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The government of the UK

has published overall intelligence spending levels

Submitted by: [Open Society Foundations](#)

Each of the UK security and intelligence agencies produces its own set of accounts each year which are audited by the Comptroller and Auditor General and shown to the Chair of the Committee of Public Accounts. But they are not published for reasons of national security. The government publishes a financial statement for the Single Intelligence Account (SIA), which is the funding vehicle for the Secret Intelligence Service (SIS), Government Communications Headquarters (GCHQ) and the Security Service (MI5).

Countries this example relates to...

[United Kingdom](#)

Related Commitments

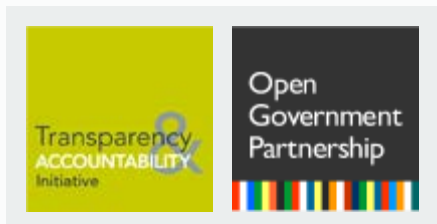
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The government of

Vietnam has provided sustained high-level political support to the CoST initiative

CoST Vietnam made good progress in a relatively short period of time. Several factors help explain this progress, but important among them is that the Prime Minister personally endorsed CoST in its early stages. This high-level political support was maintained by the Minister for Construction who was subsequently appointed CoST Champion.

Countries this example relates to...

[Viet Nam](#)

Related Commitments

[Join the Construction Sector Transparency Initiative \(CoST\) and develop a national programme](#)

Related Topics

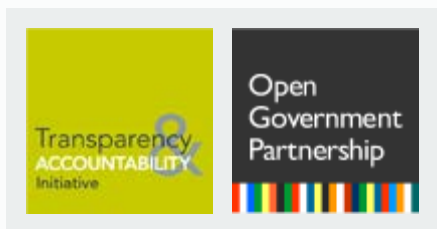
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Country Example

Share this page

The Indian Right to

Information Act lists the types of information that must be published on a proactive basis

Section 4 of the Indian Right to Information Act from 2005 provides a long list of types of information that must be published on a proactive basis, as well as mechanisms to ensure that this is accessible to those who need to access it.

Countries this example relates to...

India

Related Commitments

[Publish core information about government on a proactive basis](#)

Related Topics

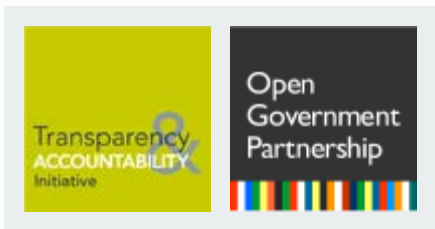
[Right to information](#)

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[Website of the Global Right to Information Rating](#)

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Country Example

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The Italian Senate has

adopted standards based on the Akoma Ntoso format

 Submitted by: [National Democratic Institute for International Affairs](#)

The Italian Senate has adopted data standards based on the [Akoma Ntoso](#) format. All the bills published on the Senate's website are available, other than in the usual HTML, PDF, and ePub formats, also in XML.

Akoma Ntoso defines a 'machine readable' set of simple technology-neutral electronic representations (in XML format) of parliamentary, legislative and judiciary documents and is the result of the efforts of the Africa i-Parliaments Action Plan to realise a common standard for the interchange of legal documents among institutions and countries.

Countries this example relates to...

[Italy](#)

Related Commitments

[Publish parliamentary information in open formats](#)

Related Topics

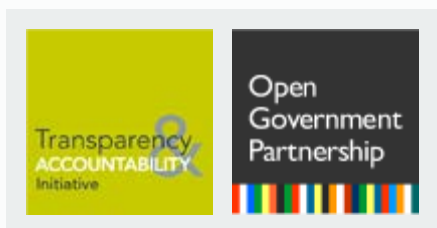
[Parliaments](#)

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- [Akoma Ntoso format information video by the NDI](#)

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[Home](#) [Country Examples](#) [The Land Registry for England and Wales has opened up...](#)

Country Example

Share this page

The Land Registry for

England and Wales has opened up its public data for free use and re-use

 Submitted by: [Global Witness](#)

As part of the UK Government's commitment to data transparency, the Land Registry for England and Wales has made the 'price paid' and 'transactions' datasets available for use and re-use under the [Open Government Licence](#). Price Transaction data is available from December 2011 in csv and linked data. Monthly price paid data is available from 2012 in txt, csv and linked data, and historic price paid data is available from January 2009 in csv and linked data.

Countries this example relates to...

[United Kingdom](#)

Related Commitments

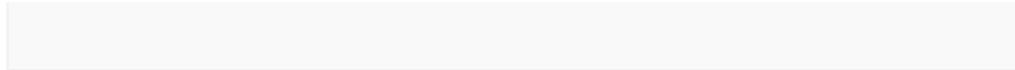
[Make existing land tenure and land holding registries public and accessible](#)

Related Topics

[Land](#)

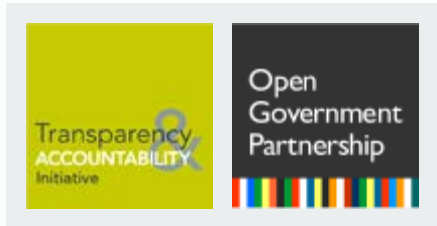
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[the Land Registry's information on public data](#)



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[Home](#) [Country Examples](#) [The Mexican government has established an outreach pa...](#)

Country Example

[Share this page](#)

The Mexican government

has established an outreach partnership with local NGOs

Submitted by: [The Access Initiative](#)

Several Mexican Non-governmental organisations have entered into a strategic partnership with the Mexican government through the Secretary of Environment and Natural Resources (Secretaría de Medio Ambiente y Recursos Naturales -SEMARNAT). The partnership has resulted in an agreement to implement outreach actions on access to environmental information and participation and justice, including workshops and guidelines.

Countries this example relates to...

[Mexico](#)

Related Commitments

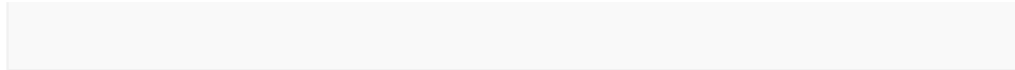
[Support citizens and their organisations to access and use environmental information](#)

Related Topics

[Environment](#)

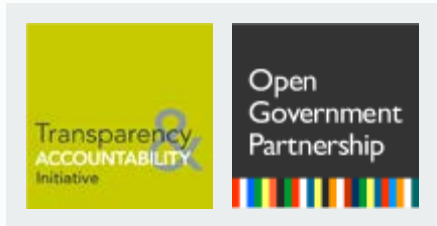
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[Information about Mexico from the Access Initiative](#)



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[Home](#) [Country Examples](#) [The Mexican Senate is translating parliamentary docum...](#)

Country Example

Share this page

The Mexican Senate is

translating parliamentary documents to indigenous languages

 Submitted by: [National Democratic Institute for International Affairs](#)

In an effort to reach out to indigenous communities, the Mexican Senate has started translating parliamentary documents to indigenous languages, which are not official languages. This effort comes from the Information Access and Transparency Guarantee Committee and the National Indigenous Institute to provide non Spanish speaking citizens access to parliamentary information.

Countries this example relates to...

[Mexico](#)

Related Commitments

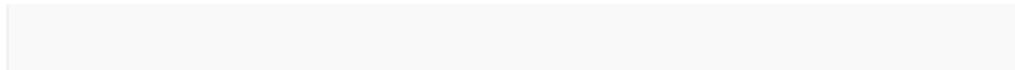
[Conduct targeted outreach to youth and historically marginalized communities](#)

Related Topics

[Parliaments](#)

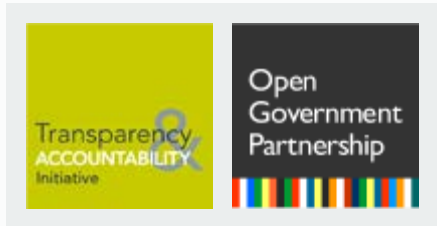
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[Information in Spanish from the Mexican Senate](#)



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[Home](#) [Country Examples](#) [The Mexican Senate's Transparency Committee has dev...](#)

Country Example

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The Mexican Senate's

Transparency Committee has developed a workplan on parliamentary openness

 Submitted by: National Democratic Institute for International Affairs

After conducting a review of the Senate's transparency policies against the Declaration on Parliamentary Openness, the Mexican Senate's Transparency Committee has developed a workplan on parliamentary openness. The review took place with assistance from the local parliamentary monitoring organisation and think tank Fundar.

Countries this example relates to...

Mexico

Related Commitments

Define clear rules on parliamentary openness and integrity, and develop capacity to implement them

Related Topics

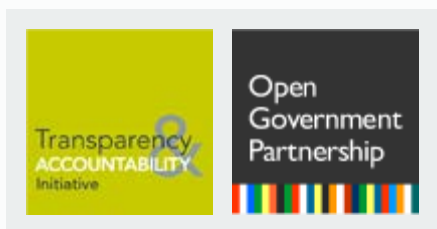
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- [Opening Parliament blog on Mexico](#)

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Country Example

Share this page

The monthly criminal

intelligence gazette is published by the West Bengal police

 Submitted by: OSF

The Police Department in West Bengal publishes a monthly Criminal Intelligence Gazette online. These kinds of documents were earlier confidential and accessible to police officers only. Now some States are uploading this kind of data on their police websites.

Countries this example relates to...

India

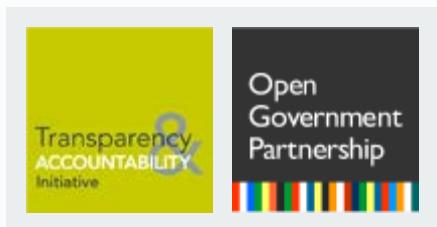
Related Commitments

[Establish more extensive proactive disclosure requirements for police](#)

Related Topics

[Police and public security](#)

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Country Example

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The National Archives of

Australia is supporting capacity building across the Government of Australia

 Submitted by: International Records Management Trust

The National Archives supports capability development in the Australian government by offering a range of training programmes and resources, such as face-to-face training courses, e-learning, and professional events in such areas as effective digital governance and records management, with the aim of avoiding technological obsolescence and conquering the paper mountain. The Archives also engages with information and records professionals and stakeholders across the Australian Government, industry and the education sector.

The Archives also offers a series of eLearning modules to help build digital information and records management knowledge and capabilities across the Australian Government.

Countries this example relates to...

Australia

Related Commitments

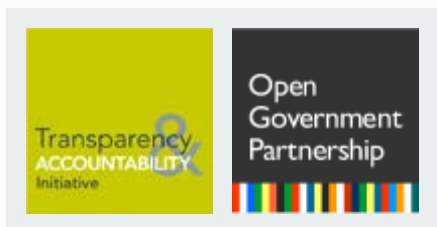
Strengthen the capacity of records management professionals to meet the challenges of managing records in all forms and formats

Related Topics

[Records management](#)

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Country Example

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The National Archives of

Malaysia has introduced an electronic records management and archives management policy

Submitted by: [International Records Management Trust](#)

The National Archives has worked with departments and agencies from across the Government to develop policies, standards and practices, technical specifications and training plans to enable the Government of Malaysia to manage records in electronic form. The Archives, within its legislative mandate to facilitate the management of records in any physical form and to acquire, facilitates the government-wide management of electronic records. In this capacity and in cooperation with other central agencies and public offices, it is responsible for issuing standards and guides to government departments on the management of electronic records.

Public offices are required to comply with the provisions of the National Archives Act of 2003. The standards and procedures set out in the policy are designed to support public offices in meeting their obligations under the Act. This document should be used in conjunction with the Guidelines on Electronic Records Management, which the National Archives produced to help public offices manage electronic records. More specific guidelines addressing the management of electronic records in specific environments are also available from the National Archives.

Countries this example relates to...

Malaysia

Related Commitments

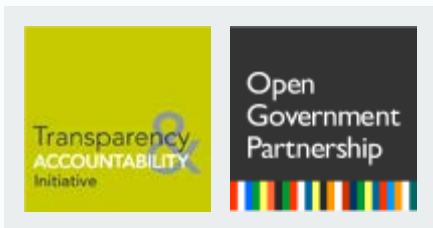
Use the findings of the gap analysis to develop a government-wide policy on records management in line with goals for open government and sustainable development, including digital governance, right to information and open data

Related Topics

Records management

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Country Example

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The National Audit Office

in the UK audited government data holdings and released a report on their findings to the public

 Submitted by: Sunlight Foundation

The UK National Audit Office scrutinises public spending on behalf of Parliament and has statutory authority to report to Parliament on the economy, efficiency and effectiveness with which departments and other bodies have used their resources.

In 2012 the NAO carried out a cross-government review of the government's progress in implementing transparency. This included a survey and interview of 16 departments and a review of central and local government data releases to assess compliance with Treasury guidance on departmental spending data, and progress towards implementation of the public data principles developed by the Public Sector Transparency Board.

Countries this example relates to...

United Kingdom

Related Commitments

[Create public listings of government data, and audit data availability and management](#)

Related Topics

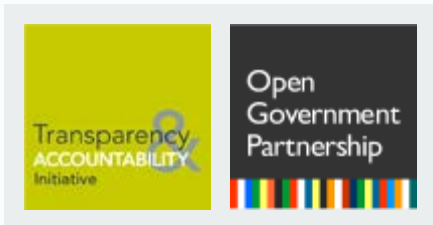
[Open government data](#)

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- [Implementing transparency in the UK](#)

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[Home](#) [Country Examples](#) [The Netherlands publishes citizen input in strategic...](#)

Country Example

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The Netherlands publishes

citizen input in strategic environmental assessment as part of the public record

Submitted by: [The Access Initiative](#)

In the Netherlands, the process of conducting Strategic Environmental Assessments, for which the Ministry of Infrastructure and the Environment are responsible, builds on both transparency and participation. When a Strategic Environmental Assessment report gets published, the public is invited to submit their views. The public inputs, in turn, become part of the public record and fed into the work of the Netherlands Commission for Environmental Assessment (NCEA) which reviews all Strategic Environmental Assessment reports and publishes an assessment documenting the response to major concerns.

Countries this example relates to...

[Netherlands](#)

Related Commitments

[Publish the decisions, responses and reasons on environmental approvals](#)

Related Topics

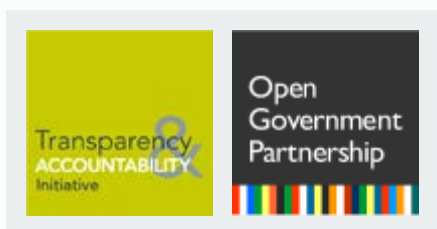
[Environment](#)

RESOURCES

- [Information on regulations concerning strategic environmental assessments](#)

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Country Example

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The New South Wales

government has a strategy to ensure the protection and management of digital government records

Submitted by: [International Records Management Trust](#)

Future Proof is a state records initiative for the New South Wales Government in Australia. In 2007, the [Future Proof strategy](#) was established to help ensure the protection and management of digital government records. Its website, futureproof.records.nsw.gov.au, has become a centralised information source on a range of record keeping issues relevant to the New South Wales public sector, and to digital record keeping more broadly. It also contains the Future Proof blog, which is a communication tool about digital record keeping issues.

Countries this example relates to...

Australia

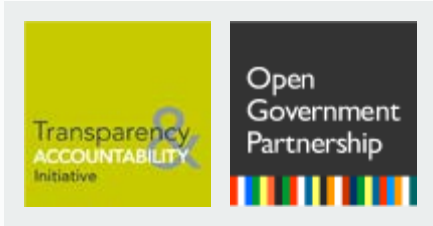
Related Commitments

RESOURCES

- [FutureProof website](#)

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The New Zealand

Parliament provides easy access to most relevant information on its website

 Submitted by: National Democratic Institute for International Affairs

The New Zealand Parliament's website www.parliament.nz contains easy access to most relevant information, including web streaming and email alerts on pending business.

Countries this example relates to...

New Zealand

Related Commitments

[Proactively publish information about parliament's roles, functions and work online](#)

Related Topics

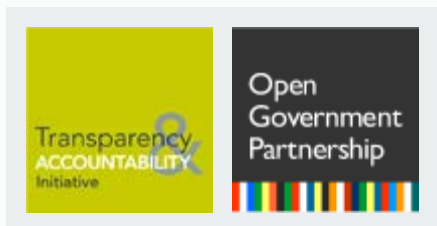
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[Website of the New Zealand Parliament](#)

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Country Example

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The Peruvian Law of

Transparency and Access to Public Information contains extensive proactive publication obligations

Title IV of the Peruvian Law of Transparency and Access to Public Information contains extremely detailed and extensive proactive publication obligations, particularly in the area of public finances, upon which it focuses.

Countries this example relates to...

Peru

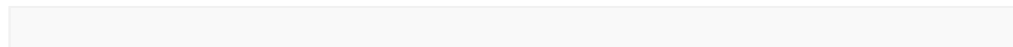
Related Commitments

[Publish core information about government on a proactive basis](#)

Related Topics

[Right to information](#)

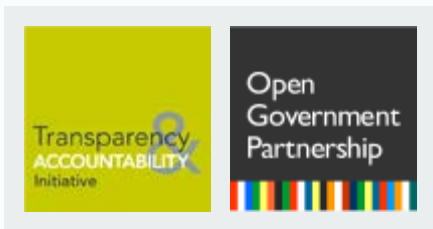
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□ [Peru's transparency law](#)

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The Philippines

Commission on Elections maintains rules on conflict of interest

 Submitted by: [National Democratic Institute for International Affairs](#)

The Philippines Commission on Elections (COMELEC) maintains explicit requirements against conflicts of interest, acceptance of gifts from suppliers, disclosure and related matters affecting the impartiality of its officials. Resolution No. 9307 'Code of conduct governing procurement activities of the Commission on Elections' includes provisions against conflict of interest, and Resolution No. 7789 provide a detailed 'Code of conduct and ethical standards for COMELEC officers and employees'.

Countries this example relates to...

[Philippines](#)

Related Commitments

[Establish measures to safeguard administrative impartiality and provide training and access to information about them](#)

Related Topics

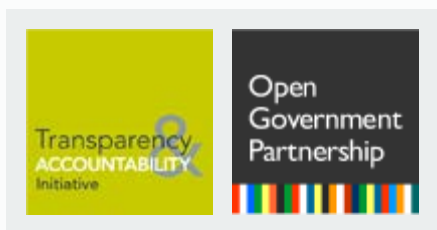
[Elections](#)

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- [Website of the Philippines Commission on Elections](#)

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Country Example

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The Philippines

Commission on Elections publishes invitations to bid on procurement projects

 Submitted by: National Democratic Institute for International Affairs

The Philippines Commission on Elections (COMELEC) provides invitations to bid on procurement projects on its website www.comelec.gov.ph. It also provides periodic bulletins and resolutions of its Bids and Awards Committee concerning suppliers deemed eligible to bid on the project, their bid amounts and the status of the matter. COMELEC's code of conduct governing procurement activities is stated in [Resolution No. 9307](#) from 2011, which provides detailed guidance, including grievance procedures and penalties.

Countries this example relates to...

[Philippines](#)

Related Commitments

[Establish open contracting rules for election related procurements](#)

Related Topics

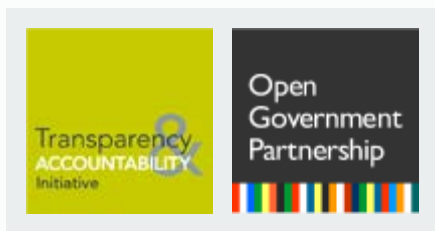
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- [Website of Philippines Commission on Elections](#)

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Country Example

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The Philippines has

established special courts for environmental cases

Submitted by: [The Access Initiative](#)

In January 2008, the Philippines issued an Administrative Order Re: Designation of Special Courts to Hear, Try and Decide Environmental Cases. As a result, 117 environmental courts were created to hear a wide range of cases that addressed the protection of the environment and natural resources, including air, marine pollution forest and fisheries cases. Rules of procedure for environmental cases were especially designed to provide a simplified, speedy and inexpensive process for enforcing environmental rights and duties in line with the Constitution, existing laws, rules and regulations, and international agreements.

Countries this example relates to...

[Philippines](#)

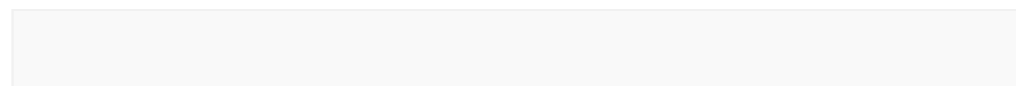
Related Commitments

[Reduce the costs to initiate and carry out environmental litigation](#)

Related Topics

[Environment](#)

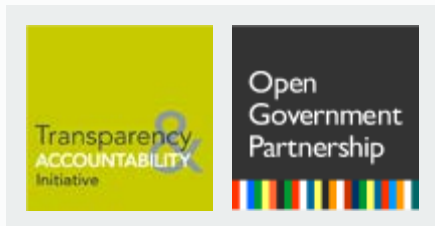
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[News bulletin from the World Resources Institute](#)

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Country Example

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The Philippines uses the

VGGT to define long term land priorities

Submitted by: [Cadasta Foundation](#)

In the Philippines, a number of new land laws have been introduced since 2009, including the Residential Free Patent Act, which have led to a massive increase in titles issued. However, capacity within government land agencies remains a challenge. The Department of Environment and Natural Resources has developed a land sector development framework with a 20-year implementation timeline and identified entry points for main-streaming the [Voluntary Guidelines for the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries, and Forests in the Context of National Food Security](#) (VGGT) through a study done by a civil society group. Furthermore, the centralised land titling approach has been replaced by a systematic approach with local government which makes the whole process of titling faster (10-15 years instead of another 50-100 years for the remaining untitled lands).

Countries this example relates to...

[Philippines](#)

Related Commitments

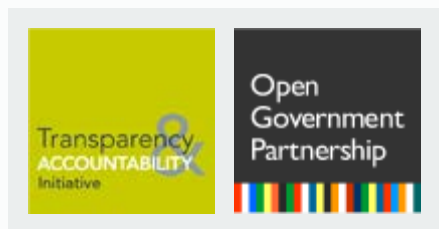
[Implement the Voluntary Guidelines for the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries, and Forests in the Context of National Food Security](#)

Related Topics

[Land](#)

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Country Example

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The Queensland State

Archives has developed guidelines to assist public authorities to plan for the introduction of an electronic document and records management system

 Submitted by: International Records Management Trust

The Queensland State Archives has developed guidelines to assist public authorities to plan for the introduction of an electronic document and records management system. The tool is particularly written for Chief Information Officers and other Senior Information Management and IT Managers implementing or considering the implementation of an electronic records management system.

Countries this example relates to...

Australia

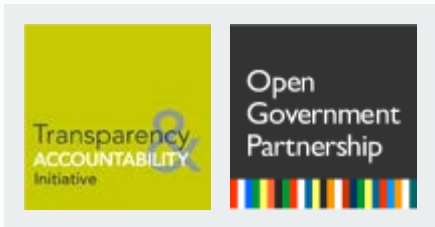
Related Commitments

RESOURCES

- [Guidelines from 2010 from the Queensland Government](#)

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Country Example

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The Scottish Parliament

has developed a series of Key Principles that guide the practices of parliament and the work of MPs

 Submitted by: National Democratic Institute for International Affairs

After a wide public consultation process, the Scottish Parliament published a set of Key Principles in 1999, '[Shaping Scotland's Parliament](#)' which set out how the Parliament should work. The Principles are:

- **Accountable:** the Scottish Parliament is answerable to the people of Scotland. The Scottish Parliament should hold the Scottish Government to account;
- **Open and Encourage participation:** the Scottish Parliament should be accessible and involve the people of Scotland in its decisions as much as possible;
- **Power Sharing:** power should be shared among the Scottish Government, the Scottish Parliament and the people of Scotland, and
- **Equal Opportunities:** the Scottish Parliament should treat all people fairly.

Countries this example relates to...

United Kingdom

Related Commitments

Define clear rules on parliamentary openness and integrity, and develop capacity to implement them

Related Topics

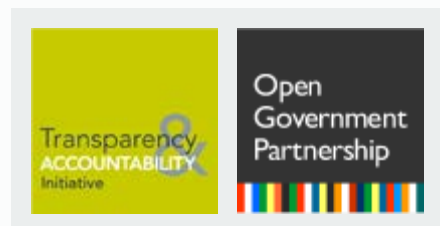
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- [The website of the Scottish Parliament](#)

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The Senate of Italy

publishes legislative data on its own open data portal

 Submitted by: [Sunlight Foundation](#)

The Italian Senate publishes legislative data on its data portal [dati.senato.it](#). The portal provides information for citizens, researchers and journalists to analyse and share information of what is being proposed, discussed and voted in the Senate. The data is released under Creative Commons (CC BY 3.0) for free reuse.

Countries this example relates to...

[Italy](#)

Related Commitments

[Mandate the publication of new data sets](#)

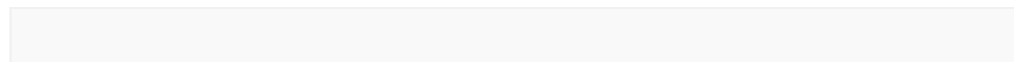
[Publish parliamentary information in open formats](#)

Related Topics

[Open government data](#)

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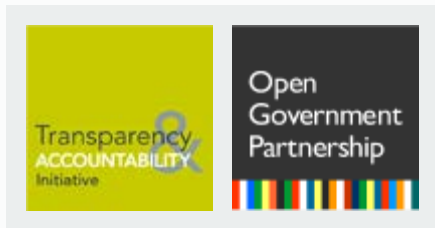
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[Italian Senate data portal](#)

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Country Example

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The Swedish government

is committed to improve dialogue with civil society on aid management and implementation

 Submitted by: Publish What You Fund

Sweden's Open Government Partnership National Action Plan (2014-2016) contains a commitment to improve opportunities for dialogue and transparency in aid management and implementation. Through this commitment, the Government aims to improve accountability and promote innovative thinking by increasing mutual knowledge and participation. The commitment will mainly be achieved through strengthening channels for dialogue and feedback on aid management and implementation with different parts of society. Concrete activities include negotiating and implementing a compact between the Government and Swedish civil society organisations which enhances dialogue and outlines these organisations' role in Swedish aid; and supporting initiatives related to ICT that create opportunities for increased participation from a broader spectrum of the population.

Countries this example relates to...

Sweden

Related Commitments

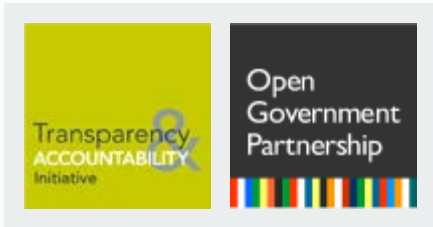
[Engage the public In debates on development policy \(donors\)](#)

Related Topics

[Aid](#)

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Country Example

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The Swedish parliament

reaches out to citizens in a variety of ways

 Submitted by: National Democratic Institute for International Affairs

In Sweden, parliament reaches out to citizens through regional surveys or by holding panels of MPs in local districts. Parliament has also opened regional 'branches' throughout the country, where citizens can access educational and informational material on parliament and follow live broadcasts of parliamentary proceedings. These branches serve as meeting places for MPs and voters.

Countries this example relates to...

Sweden

Related Commitments

[Enable citizens to provide input into the legislative process](#)

Related Topics

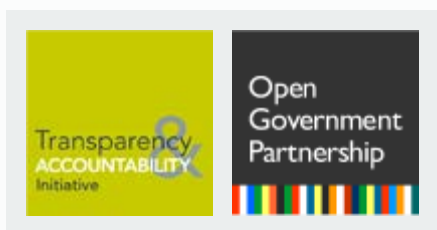
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 [World e-Parliament Report 2010](#)

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[Home](#) [Country Examples](#) [The Swedish Parliament's website is easy to use and...](#)

Country Example

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The Swedish Parliament's

website is easy to use and provides the public with a range of information

 Submitted by: National Democratic Institute for International Affairs

The Swedish Riksdag's website www.riksdagen.se is easy to use. It provides public access to a range of information, such as preparatory documents, information about MPs and their work (including vote data), legislation and other valuable information. It contains information in a number of languages. Much of this information is also available on the Riksdagen [open data portal](#) for use by third party technology developers.

Countries this example relates to...

Sweden

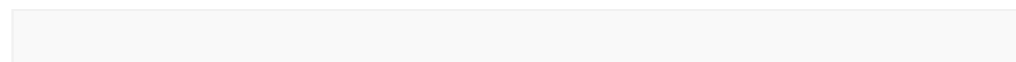
Related Commitments

[Proactively publish information about parliament's roles, functions and work online](#)

Related Topics

[Parliaments](#)

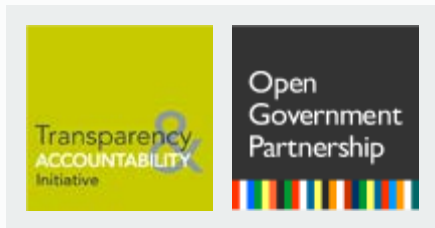
RESOURCES



- [Website of the Swedish Riksdag](#)

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Country Example

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The Tanzanian Records

and Archives Management Act empowers the national archives to set standards for managing public records

 Submitted by: International Records Management Trust

The law from 2002 created the Tanzanian Records and Archives Management Department, expanding the role of the National Archives to provide for the administration and management of public records from their creation through to their preservation as archives or their disposal when they no longer have value. The Department's role, as set out in the Act, includes ensuring that public offices follow good record keeping practices aimed at creating reliable records of their actions and transactions, maintaining the records so long as there is a continuing need for them, and ensuring that they are destroyed in an authorised and timely manner when there is no ongoing value, or that they are preserved as archives.

After the passage of the law, the Records and Archives Management Department was transferred to the President's Office-Public Service Management where it could play a cross-cutting role in supporting the national objective of ensuring efficient and effective public service management.

Countries this example relates to...

Tanzania, United Republic Of

Related Commitments

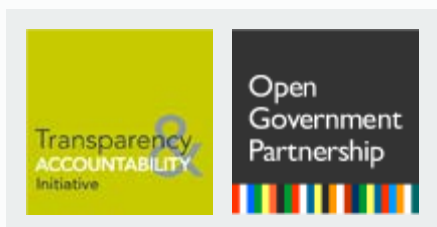
Ensure that there is a law or a harmonised set of laws for managing records needed as evidence for national development and accountability, and establish a public authority as the lead government records management

Related Topics

Records management

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Country Example

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The U.S. Federal Election

Commission allows users of its website to view candidate finances

 Submitted by: National Democratic Institute for International Affairs

The U.S. Federal Election Commission's website www.fec.gov contains a Campaign Finance Disclosure Portal which provides information on campaign finance for individual political candidates searchable by donor name, business name, locality of origin etc.

Countries this example relates to...

[United States](#)

Related Commitments

[Make election related data available proactively](#)

Related Topics

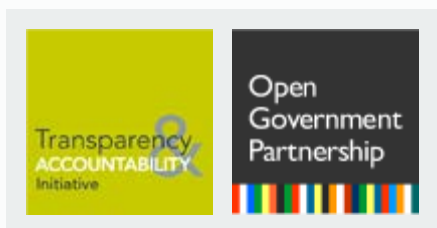
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[Website of U.S. Federal Election Commission](#)

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Country Example

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The U.S. Government has

released its full list of published and unpublished data holdings

 Submitted by: [OpenGovGuide](#)

After a series of requests by the Sunlight Foundation, the U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) announced in February 2015 that it would release its [Enterprise Data Inventory](#) (EDI). The EDI is a comprehensive inventory listing of agency data resources including public, restricted public and non-public datasets. The newly released EDI has a total of 624 datasets from 24 agencies of which 53 datasets are 'restricted public' and 30 are 'non-public'. The Enterprise Data Inventory was developed as part of the May 2013 [Memorandum on Open Data Policy-Managing Information as an Asset](#).

Countries this example relates to...

[United States](#)

Related Commitments

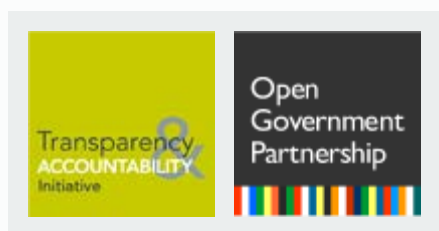
[Create public listings of government data, and audit data availability and management](#)

Related Topics

[Open government data](#)

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Country Example

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The U.S. House of

Representatives has clearly defined its standards for posting electronic information

 Submitted by: National Democratic Institute for International Affairs

The U.S. House of Representatives, through its Committee on House Administration, published its standards for posting electronic information in December 2011. The standards are intended to ensure easy access to legislation considered by the House and its committees, and will be subject to periodic review and reissuance. Greater detail related to the House's use of XML standards for posting information electronically is also available.

Countries this example relates to...

United States

Related Commitments

Define clear rules on parliamentary openness and integrity, and develop capacity to implement them

Ensure that parliamentary openness procedures are in line with international good practice

Related Topics

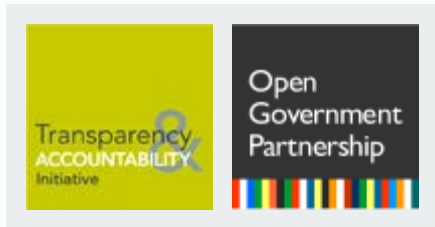
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- [Government information about electronic posting standards](#)

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The UK Companies House

makes company information available to the public

Submitted by: [Center for Global Development](#)

The UK Companies House examines and stores company information for all registered companies in the UK, and makes this information available to the public. Its WebCheck service offers a searchable Company Names and Address Index which is free of charge and which allows anyone to search for information on more than 2 million companies. The searches can be carried out on a company either by using its name or by using its unique company registration number. The WebCheck service also allows users to view a company's filing history and purchase copies of document images, as well as a selection of company reports, all online.

Countries this example relates to...

[United Kingdom](#)

Related Commitments

[Require minimum standards for company filing and disclosure, and publish data online](#)

Related Topics

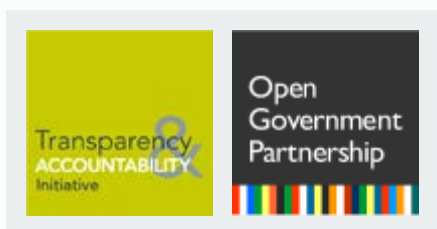
[Tax and Illicit flows](#)

RESOURCES

- [Website of the UK Companies House](#)

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[Home](#) [Country Examples](#) [The UK conducts annual surveys of experience and atti...](#)

Country Example

Share this page

The UK conducts annual

surveys of experience and attitudes to crime

 Submitted by: [OSF](#)

The Crime Survey for England and Wales, and the Crime Survey for Scotland measure the extent of crime by asking people whether they have experienced any crime in the past year. The full results are published annually each July with quarterly update. The Crime Survey records crimes that may not have been reported to the police and it is therefore used alongside the police recorded crime figures to show a more accurate picture of the level of crime in the country. As well as measuring crime, the survey looks at identifying those most at risk of crime, which is used in designing crime prevention programmes, people's attitudes to crime and the Criminal Justice System, including the police and the courts and people's experiences of anti-social behaviour and how this has affected their quality of life. From 2009 the survey has included a separate survey to record the experiences of young people aged 10-15.

Countries this example relates to...

[United Kingdom](#)

Related Commitments

[Publish comprehensive national crime statistics to international standards](#)

Related Topics

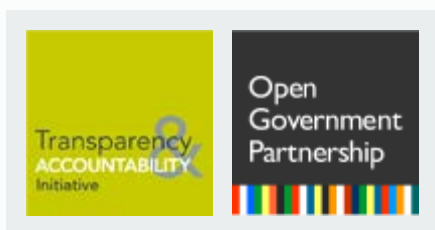
[Police and public security](#)

RESOURCES

- [Crime Survey for England and Wales](#)

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Country Example

Share this page

The UK Electoral

Commission and Parliamentary Ombudsman provide complaints mechanisms

 Submitted by: National Democratic Institute for International Affairs

In the United Kingdom, citizens can file complaints either by mail or email with the Secretary to the Commission Board of the Electoral Commission. If the person is not satisfied with the outcome of the complaints process, she or he may appeal to the Parliamentary Ombudsman through the office of his or her Member of Parliament (or the Scottish Public Services Ombudsman for complaints relating to Scottish local government elections).

Countries this example relates to...

[United Kingdom](#)

Related Commitments

[Empower an ombudsman or similar office to receive, investigate and address citizen complaints concerning electoral processes](#)

Related Topics

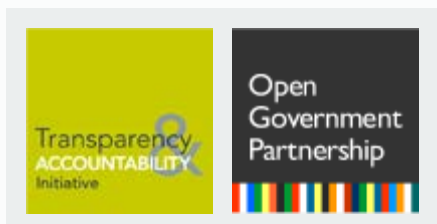
[Elections](#)

RESOURCES

- [Complaints section of the UK Electoral Commission's website](#)

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Country Example

Share this page

The UK established a new

integrity package for the police in 2012

 Submitted by: [OSF](#)

Following a series of scandals about police conduct, new code of ethics, and a single set of professional standards in force practice were adopted. Police officers must declare gifts and hospitality, second jobs and sources of income including company directorships, and this is published in a national database. A 'struck-off' list' of officers who have been dismissed for misconduct is published and a sanction has been introduced for officers resigning during misconduct proceedings by ensuring such proceedings are taken to conclusion – proven misconduct will result in officers going on the struck-off list.

Countries this example relates to...

[United Kingdom](#)

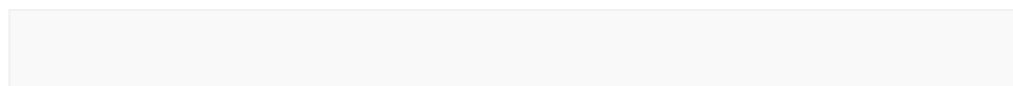
Related Commitments

[Establish integrity provisions for police officers, in line with international good practice](#)

Related Topics

[Police and public security](#)

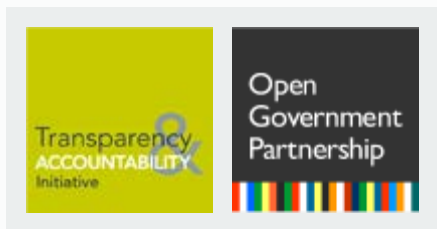
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- [Home Office report](#)
- [UK Government announcement](#)

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Country Example

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The UK government is

working with industry to release more data back to consumers

 Submitted by: [Consumers International](#)

The UK government has established a 'midata project' to work with businesses to give consumers better access to the electronic personal data that companies retain on them and to give consumers greater control of their data. Following a public consultation the government announced in November 2012 that it would use the law to compel businesses to release consumers' electronic personal data if they did not do it voluntarily. The power to do this was approved by Parliament through the Enterprise and Regulatory Reform Act 2013. Initially the government will be working with banks, mobile phone companies and energy companies to voluntarily release data.

Countries this example relates to...

[United Kingdom](#)

Related Commitments

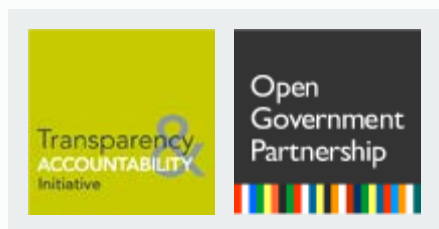
[Enable consumers to access their own data](#)

Related Topics

[Consumer protection](#)

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Country Example

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The UK government

published guidelines on the use of unique resource identifiers

 Submitted by: [Sunlight Foundation](#)

The UK Government website data.gov.uk provides guidance about publishing Linked Data/unique resource identifiers within the UK public sector.

Countries this example relates to...

[United Kingdom](#)

Related Commitments

[Create unique identifiers for organisations, things and places](#)

Related Topics

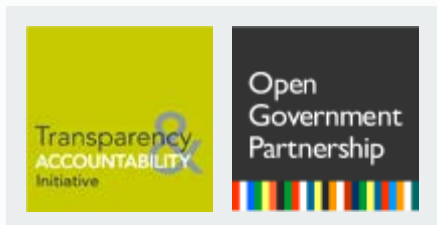
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[Creating URIs](#)

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Country Example

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The UK Government

supports the Get Safe Online advice site

 Submitted by: [Privacy International](#)

Get Safe Online was created in 2005 as a joint Government-industry partnership in order to provide unbiased, user-friendly advice about online safety for consumers and smaller businesses. It is supported by funding from the Cabinet Office and cooperation from other Government bodies. The Serious Organised Crime Agency (SOCA) provides staff to help with the annual “Get Safe Online Week” which includes conferences, media events and workshops.

Countries this example relates to...

[United Kingdom](#)

Related Commitments

[Establish a programme of public education about protecting personal information](#)

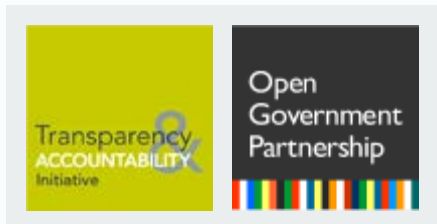
Related Topics

[Privacy and data protection](#)



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Country Example

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The UK government works

with CoST as part of its programme for reducing the costs of infrastructure projects

 Submitted by: Construction Sector Transparency Initiative

The UK's CoST pilot project disclosed information on eight construction projects in roads, flood defence, housing, and schools. Soon after its completion, Infrastructure-UK (I-UK), the government department responsible for the National Infrastructure Plan, announced that it planned to work with CoST as part of its programme for reducing the costs of infrastructure projects. Its interest in CoST was sparked by the opportunity provided to routinely capture data in a simple format and the potential this gives to benchmark UK infrastructure costs against international prices over time.

Countries this example relates to...

[United Kingdom](#)

Related Commitments

[Join the Construction Sector Transparency Initiative \(CoST\) and develop a national programme](#)

Related Topics

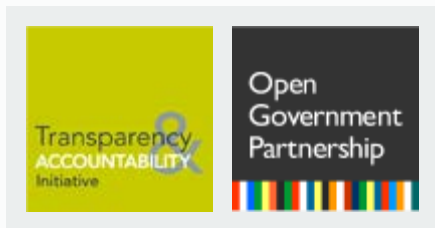
[Construction](#)

RESOURCES

- [CoST country cases](#)

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Country Example

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The UK Government's Aid

Transparency Guarantee sets standards for transparency in aid

Submitted by: [Publish What You Fund](#)

The UK Aid Transparency Guarantee, launched in 2010, sets out how the UK should publish aid information. It states that full financial details should be provided for all Department for International Development (DFID) projects worth more than £500, and that all project information, business cases, new contracts and tender documents for new contracts over £10,000 should be published. In addition, under the Guarantee, data on aid is published under the Open Data Licence, allowing anyone to take and re-use information without paying a royalty.

Countries this example relates to...

[United Kingdom](#)

Related Commitments

[Publish more detailed information on aid flows including performance information, sub-national location, results and project documents \(donors\)](#)

Related Topics

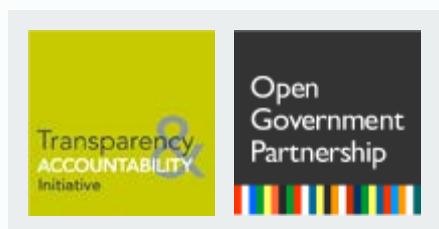
[Aid](#)

RESOURCES

- [UK Aid Transparency Guarantee](#)

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Country Example

Share this page

The UK has committed to

publish aid information from all UK government departments who spend overseas development assistance

 Submitted by: Publish What You Fund

The UK Open Government Partnership National Action Plan includes a commitment to publish aid information from all UK government departments who spend overseas development assistance in line with the International Aid Transparency Initiative standards.

Countries this example relates to...

United Kingdom

Related Commitments

[Begin publishing information to the IATI Registry \(donors\)](#)

Related Topics

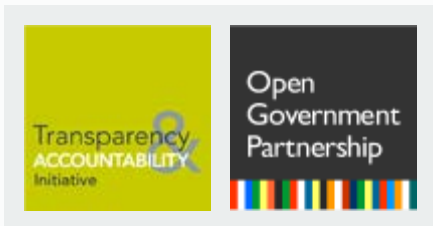
[Aid](#)

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- [OGP Action Plan for the UK](#)

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[Home](#) [Country Examples](#) [The UK has created guidance for public authorities in...](#)

Country Example

Share this page

The UK has created

guidance for public authorities in establishing their own records management policies

Submitted by: [International Records Management Trust](#)

In the United Kingdom, the Code of Practice on Records Management (under section 46 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000) constitutes a government-wide policy on records management. It gives guidance on good practice in records management as well as guidance on the review and transfer of public records to an archives office for permanent preservation. The National Archive has published a set of guidance notes to support the good practice recommendations in that Code.

Countries this example relates to...

[United Kingdom](#)

Related Commitments

[Adopt a government-wide policy on records management in line with the right to information and open government goals](#)

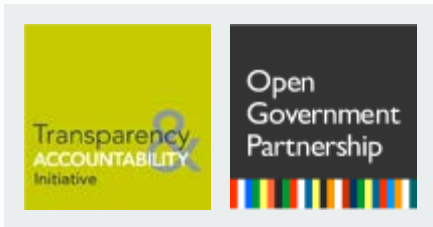
RESOURCES

[Guide 3- Records management policy](#)



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Country Example

Share this page

The UK Information

Commissioner's Office has developed a set of training materials for use in the public sector

Submitted by: [Access Info and Centre for Law and Democracy](#)

The website of the UK Information Commissioner's Office includes a wide set of training materials, including short films on how to manage personal information, and how to comply with the UK Data Protection Act, Freedom of Information Act, and the Environmental Information Regulations.

Countries this example relates to...

United Kingdom

Related Commitments

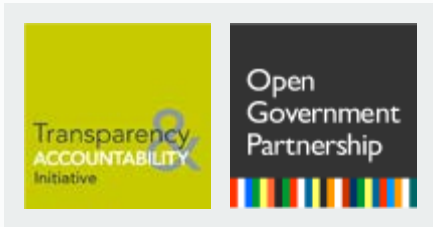
[Provide training on dealing with government records in line with RTI to all relevant officials](#)

RESOURCES

http://ico.org.uk/for_organisations/training

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[United Kingdom](#)

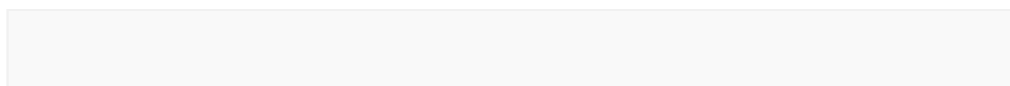
Related Commitments

[Provide training to officials on record management and RTI implementation](#)

Related Topics

[Right to information](#)

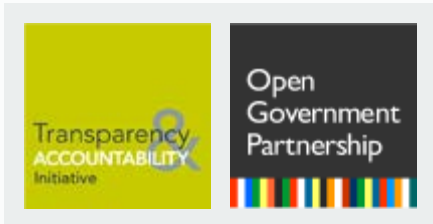
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http://ico.org.uk/for_organisations/training

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Country Example

Share this page

The UK Information

Commissioner's Office has published a booklet about protecting personal information

 Submitted by: [Privacy International](#)

The UK's Information Commissioner's Office – the independent authority set up to promote access to information and to protect personal information in the UK – has published a booklet on protecting personal information. It contains advice and tips on protecting, accessing and correcting personal information, as well as information on how to reduce unwanted texts, junk mail etc. and how to identify theft and fraud.

Countries this example relates to...

[United Kingdom](#)

Related Commitments

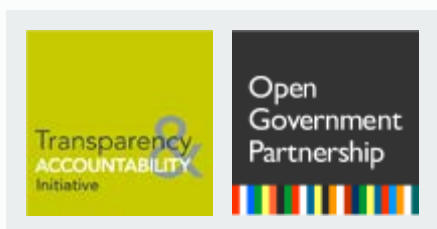
[Establish a programme of public education about protecting personal information](#)

Related Topics

[Privacy and data protection](#)

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Country Example

Share this page

The UK is developing a

new format for capturing data from publicly funded construction projects through the CoST initiative

The CoST multi-stakeholder group (MSG) in the United Kingdom is currently working with Infrastructure UK to develop and test a new format for capturing data from publicly funded construction projects after challenges had been identified of accessing cost data in a format that provides qualitative information for policy-makers to make decisions on infrastructure investment.

Countries this example relates to...

[United Kingdom](#)

Related Commitments

[Publish all construction sector disclosures in machine-readable format](#)

Related Topics

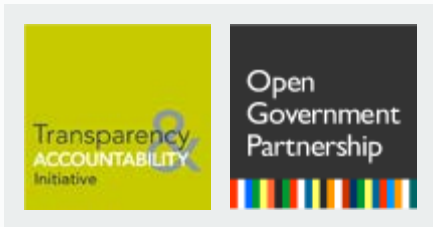
[Construction](#)

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[Information about UK construction sector by CoST](#)

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Country Example

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The UK National Archives

makes a range of legislative documents available on its legislation.gov.uk website

 Submitted by: [National Democratic Institute for International Affairs](#)

Legislation.gov.uk carries most types of legislation and their accompanying explanatory documents.

Countries this example relates to...

[United Kingdom](#)

Related Commitments

[Publish parliamentary information in open formats](#)

Related Topics

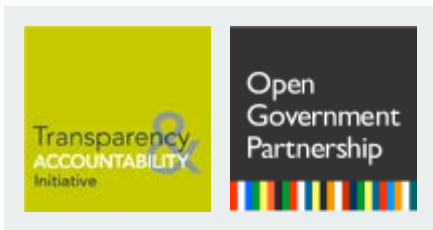
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 [National Archive's \[legislation.gov.uk\]\(http://legislation.gov.uk\) website](#)

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Country Example

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The UK National Audit

Office publishes reports on its oversight of MOD budgeting and contracting

 Submitted by: [Open Society Foundations](#)

The UK's National Audit Office scrutinises public spending on behalf of Parliament. It is independent of government and certifies the accounts of all government departments including defence, and publishes value for money studies looking at how government projects, programmes and initiatives have been implemented, and how they can be improved.

Countries this example relates to...

[United Kingdom](#)

Related Commitments

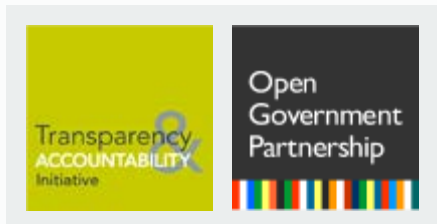
[Ensure opportunity for public engagement in all stages of military budgeting and spending](#)

Related Topics

[Security sector](#)

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Country Example

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The UK Parliament has

developed an app that enables citizens to view the parliamentary agenda on the iPad

 Submitted by: National Democratic Institute for International Affairs

The UK Parliament's application enables citizens to read the latest version of the House of Commons Order Paper, which is published each sitting day and lists the business of the House and sittings in Westminster Hall. It also lists questions for oral or written answer that day, questions for written answer which have not previously appeared in print, and other items such as notices of written statements, committee notices, remaining orders and lists of future business. It is designed specifically for the iPad.

Countries this example relates to...

[United Kingdom](#)

Related Commitments

[Enable citizens to engage with parliaments and MPs using mobile and SMS technology](#)

Related Topics

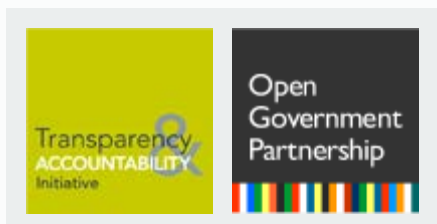
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- [Commons Order Papers on iTunes](#)

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Country Example

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The UK Parliament's

Educational Service provides a range of opportunities for youth education

 Submitted by: National Democratic Institute for International Affairs

The United Kingdom Parliament provides a range of opportunities for youth education through its Educational Service, including school tours, a parliamentary quiz web application, and video games. The Parliament Education Service has more than 40 educational videos on its [YouTube channel](#).

Countries this example relates to...

United Kingdom

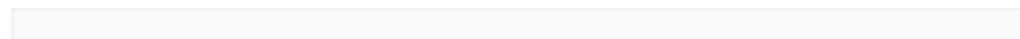
Related Commitments

[Make parliamentary information easier to understand and accessible to citizens through multiple channels](#)

Related Topics

[Parliaments](#)

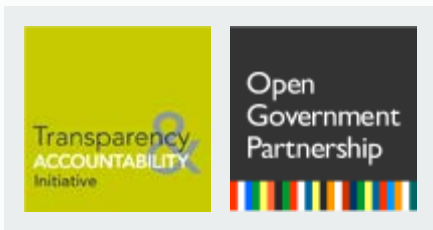
RESOURCES



- [Website of the UK Parliament](#)

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Country Example

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The UK publishes quarterly

and annual reports on the number of FOI requests, response and appeals

 Submitted by: [Access Info](#)

The UK government publishes quarterly and annual statistics covering approximately 40 departments of state and other monitored bodies with significant policy-making, regulatory or information-handling functions. Recent data suggest that between three-quarters and nine-tenths of all requests receive a response within the required time frame and that performance has improved in recent years.

Countries this example relates to...

[United Kingdom](#)

Related Commitments

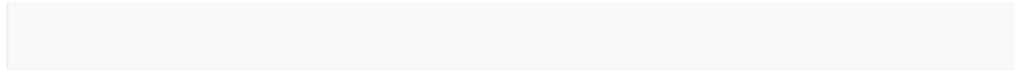
[Establish best practice monitoring and evaluation systems on RTI](#)

Related Topics

[Right to information](#)

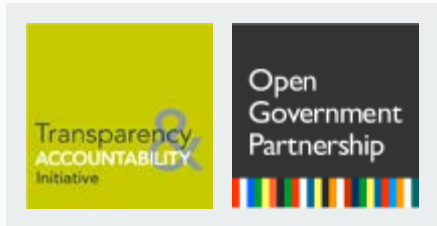
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[World Bank case study on right to information in the United Kingdom](#)



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Country Example

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The United Arab Emirates

is working with the International Council on Archives to develop an international archives centre of excellence in Abu Dhabi

 Submitted by: [International Records Management Trust](#)

This international initiative is being developed in the context of the numerous challenges archives and archivists around the world are facing today, including addressing the complex issues inherent in the transition to a digital society.

Countries this example relates to...

[United Arab Emirates](#)

Related Commitments

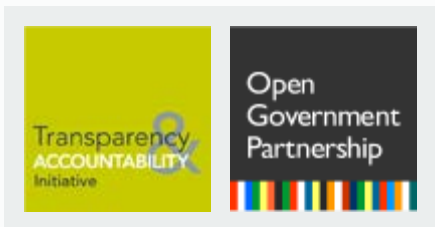
[Strengthen the capacity of records management professionals to meet the challenges of managing records in all forms and formats](#)

Related Topics

[Records management](#)

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Country Example

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The United Kingdom has

passed a law requiring all listed companies to disclose payments to governments on a project by project basis

 Submitted by: [OpenGovGuide](#)

A new UK law on transparency in extractive industries called the [Reports on Payments to Governments Regulations 2014](#) came into force on 1 December 2014. Under the new regulations, large and EU-listed UK-registered oil, gas, mining and forestry companies must report their payments to governments worldwide on a country by country and project by project basis. The first reports are due to be published in 2016 and will cover payments made in 2015. Firms that fail to report fully, truthfully and accurately could face criminal prosecution. Through the passing of this law, the UK became the first EU member state to complete transposition of the [Accounting Directive's country-by-country reporting rules for the extractive industries](#).

Countries this example relates to...

United Kingdom

Related Commitments

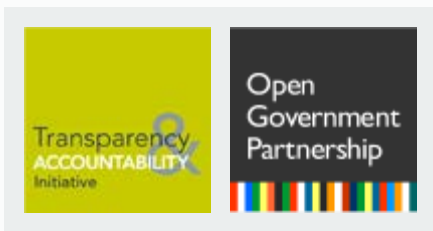
[Require all listed companies to disclose resource related payments on a project by project basis](#)

Related Topics

[Extractive industry](#)

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Country Example

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The United Kingdom has

produced guidance on managing the continuity of datasets

Submitted by: [International Records Management Trust](#)

Digital continuity involves ensuring an appropriate level of access to digital information for as long as it is needed. This guidance is aimed at anyone managing the continuity of datasets. It forms part of a suite that The National Archives has delivered as part of a digital continuity service for government, in consultation with central government departments.

Countries this example relates to...

[United Kingdom](#)

Related Commitments

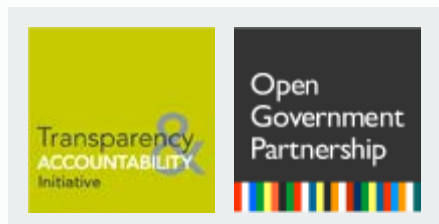
[Establish a means of relating quality assurance for public sector digital records and public sector datasets](#)

Related Topics

[Records management](#)

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Country Example

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The United States has

developed discretionary record-keeping standards which include metadata schemas

Given the high-level endorsement of the Department of Defense Standard DOD 5015.2 standard by the Department of Defense, digital records management system vendors have voluntarily chosen to comply with the standard and use it as a marketing advantage when bidding to supply systems to the US Government.

Countries this example relates to...

United States

Related Commitments

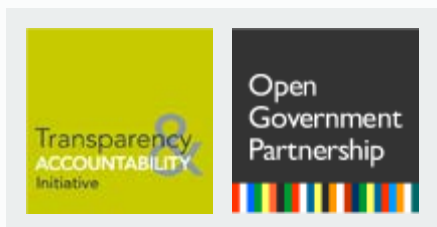
[Establish standardised requirements for metadata across government](#)

RESOURCES

- [Information from the website of the US National Archives](#)

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Country Example

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The US city of Chicago is

developing contract provisions to promote open data in technology related procurements

 Submitted by: [Sunlight Foundation](#)

Chicago's open data policy includes a provision requiring the chief data officer to work with the chief procurement officer to develop contract provisions to promote open data policies in technology-related procurements.

Countries this example relates to...

[United States](#)

Related Commitments

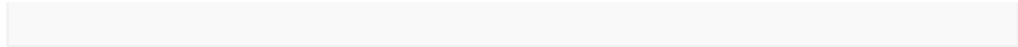
[Require that open data commitments apply to all organizations handling public data](#)

Related Topics

[Open government data](#)

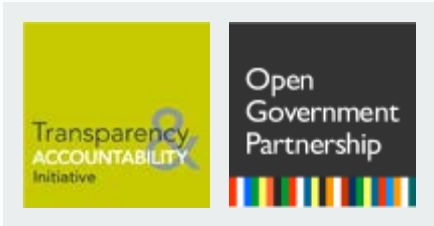
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[Chicago's Open Data Executive Order](#)



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Country Example

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The US Congress is

developing an online crowdsourcing legislative platform

 Submitted by: National Democratic Institute for International Affairs

While still experimental, the Madison Project – a US Congress online crowdsourcing legislative platform – has designed an open source tool to allow anyone to comment on a piece of legislation or annotate it.

Countries this example relates to...

[United States](#)

Related Commitments

[Develop and share open-source parliamentary software](#)

Related Topics

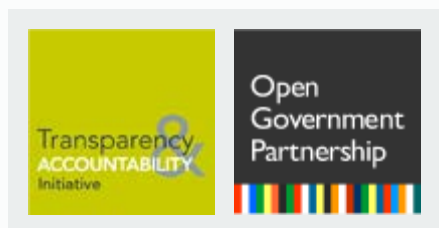
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[Information from the opengovfoundation.org website](#)

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Country Example

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The US Department of

Justice Office of Information Policy regularly conducts training sessions on all aspects of freedom of information

Submitted by: [International Records Management Trust](#)

The Office of Information Policy has developed a new suite of freedom of information resources designed to train the federal workforce, at all levels, to understand their FOIA responsibilities. These resources were developed as part of the commitments in the US Second Open Government National Action Plan and the Department's own Open Government Plan.

Countries this example relates to...

[United States](#)

Related Commitments

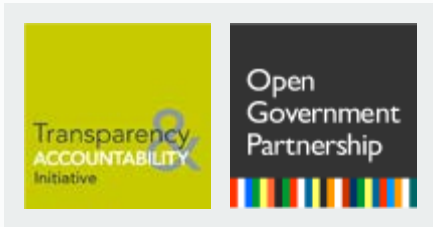
[Link the delivery of the right to information to the management of public sector records through institutional structures and awareness programmes](#)

Related Topics

[Records management](#)

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Country Example

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The US EDGAR system

allows anyone to access and download company information for free

Submitted by: [Center for Global Development](#)

In the United States, all companies, foreign and domestic, are required to file registration statements, periodic reports, and other forms electronically through EDGAR (the Electronic Data Gathering, Analysis, and Retrieval system). Anyone can access and download this information for free. EDGAR performs automated collection, validation, indexing, acceptance, and forwarding of submissions by companies and others who are required by law to file forms with the US Securities and Exchange Commission.

Countries this example relates to...

[United States](#)

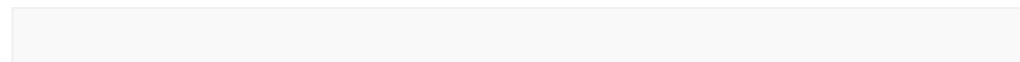
Related Commitments

[Require minimum standards for company filing and disclosure, and publish data online](#)

Related Topics

[Tax and Illicit flows](#)

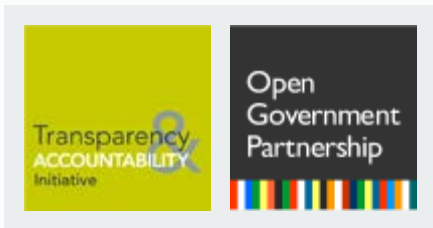
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[Information about EDGAR on SEC's website](#)

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Country Example

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The US FACTA legislation is

laying the groundwork for an international system of automatic information exchange

Submitted by: [Center for Global Development](#)

The US Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act (FATCA), effective from 2013, includes measures designed to achieve full financial information exchange on all offshore financial activities globally and is laying the groundwork for an international system of automatic information exchange. FATCA is designed to achieve three objectives: 1) report both US and foreign source income for US taxpayers, 2) determine if US taxpayers are the ultimate beneficial owners of foreign entities (shell companies, trusts, foundations) and 3) review of all customer accounts within an extended foreign financial institution group to identify US taxpayers globally.

Countries this example relates to...

[United States](#)

Related Commitments

[Establish a system to exchange information automatically with tax authorities](#)

Related Topics

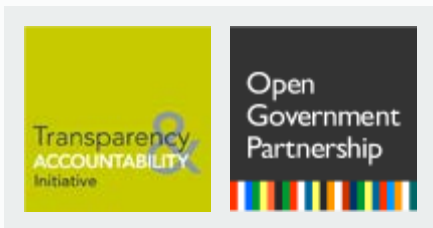
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- [IRS information](#)

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The US Federal Register

website provides information on citizen rights and obligations and actions of federal agencies, and provides a forum for public participation in the democratic process

The website is administered jointly by the Office of the Federal Register of the National Archives and Records Administration and the U.S. Government Printing Office.

Countries this example relates to...

United States

Related Commitments

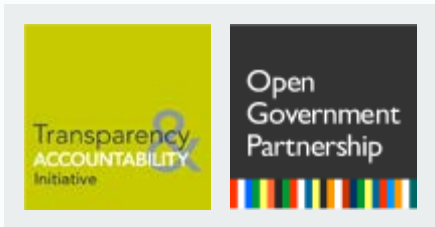
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Country Example

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The US Federal Trade

Commission publishes five year strategic plans

 Submitted by: [Consumers International](#)

The US Federal Trade Commission's Strategic Plan for 2009 – 2014 aims to prevent business practices that are anti-competitive, deceptive or unfair to consumers; to enhance informed consumer choice and public understanding of the competitive process; and to accomplish this without unduly burdening legitimate business activity.

Countries this example relates to...

[United States](#)

Related Commitments

[Develop a strategic plan for consumer protection](#)

Related Topics

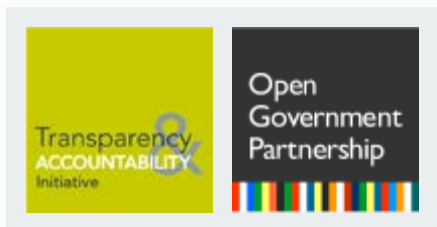
[Consumer protection](#)

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Country Example

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The US government has

published overall intelligence spending levels

 Submitted by: [Open Society Foundations](#)

Since 2007 the US government has annually released its overall level of intelligence spending but has not divulged how it uses those funds. The detailed Office of the Director of National Intelligence Congressional Budget Justification Book has been released under FOIA request in a highly redacted form.

Countries this example relates to...

[United States](#)

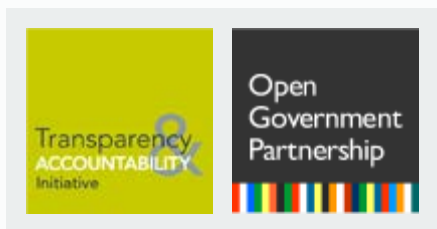
Related Commitments

[Publish Information about Intelligence Spending](#)

Related Topics

[Security sector](#)

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Country Example

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The US Library of Congress

has launched a challenge to help improve Akoma Ntoso's support of US and UK legislative data

 Submitted by: National Democratic Institute for International Affairs

The United States Library of Congress, through the online platform Challenge.gov has launched a challenge to invite competitors to map the Akoma Ntoso schema to established US and UK legislative markup languages to improve Akoma Ntoso's support of US and UK legislative data.

Countries this example relates to...

[United States](#)

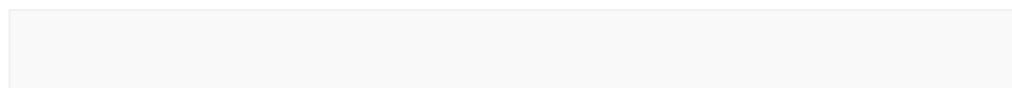
Related Commitments

[Publish parliamentary information in open formats](#)

Related Topics

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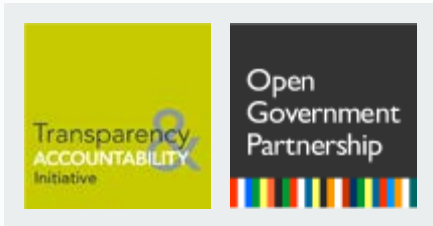
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[News from the US Library of Congress](#)

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Country Example

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The US National Archives

and Records Management Administration (NARA) offers comprehensive records management instructions to federal employees and contractors

 Submitted by: International Records Management Trust

Training is delivered at NARA facilities across the country on such topics as electronic records management and vital business information. The training programme also presents a series of online briefings that are recorded and posted on NARA's YouTube Channel.

Countries this example relates to...

United States

Related Commitments

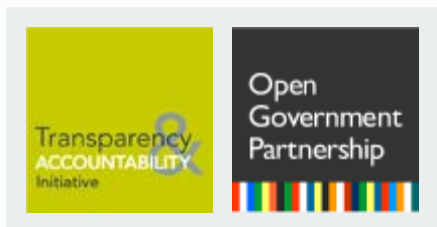
[Strengthen the capacity of records management professionals to meet the challenges of managing records in all forms and formats](#)

Related Topics

[Records management](#)

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Country Example

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The US White House

requires predicable URLs for committee documents and data

 Submitted by: [Sunlight Foundation](#)

In order to ensure that members of the public have easy access to U.S. legislation, the U.S. White House enacted the 'Standards for the Electronic Posting of House and Committee Documents & Data' in 2011. These standards included a requirement for files to be posted using permanent URL links.

Countries this example relates to...

[United States](#)

Related Commitments

[Create unique identifiers for organisations, things and places](#)

Related Topics

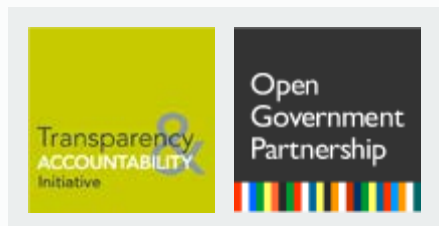
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- [Standards for the Electronic Posting of House and Committee Documents & Data](#)

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Country Example

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The USA publishes annual

Wiretap reports

 Submitted by: [Privacy International](#)

U.S. Courts issue an annual Wiretap report detailing the use of surveillance authorities by law enforcement agencies. The annual report provides comprehensive data on all federal and state wiretap applications, including the types of crimes investigated, as well as the costs involved and whether arrests or convictions resulted. They do not include names, addresses, or phone numbers of subjects under surveillance. However the [Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court](#) annual report provides much less information.

Countries this example relates to...

[United States](#)

Related Commitments

[Publish transparency reports about surveillance, interception and access to communications data](#)

Related Topics

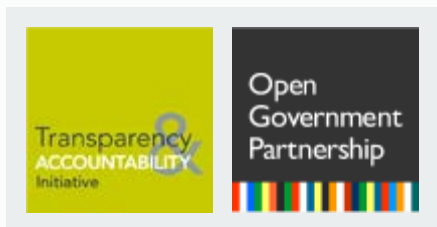
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Country Example

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The website of the Korean

National Assembly provides information about its work

 Submitted by: [National Democratic Institute for International Affairs](#)

The website of the Republic of Korea's National Assembly provides a variety of information about its work, with updates on its homepage about recent happenings, a weekly calendar and schedule of upcoming programmes on the National Assembly's television channel.

Countries this example relates to...

[Korea, Republic Of](#)

Related Commitments

[Proactively publish information about parliament's roles, functions and work online](#)

Related Topics

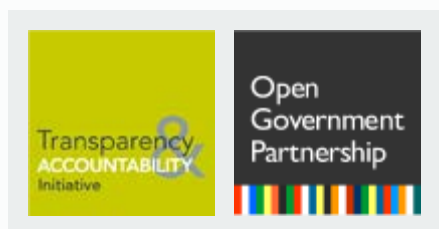
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Country Example

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The www.police.uk website

provides street level information about crime and justice outcomes

 Submitted by: OSF

The UK Home Office run website, www.Police.uk, which provides the public with easy access to street-level information about crime, anti-social behaviour and justice outcomes in their local area in the form of crime maps. The public can also see how crime rates in their area compare with those in other similar areas. By following a link to HMIC's website the public can see how the cost of policing in their force area compares to the cost in other police areas. Users can also find information about their Police and Crime Commissioner. We will be adding comparative information about the finances and staffing of PCC offices.

Countries this example relates to...

United Kingdom

Related Commitments

[Create on-line crime and policing maps](#)

Related Topics

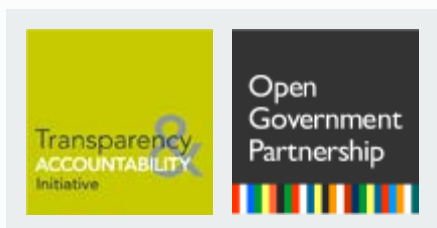
[Police and public security](#)

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□ www.police.uk

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Country Example

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The 'Congress app'

provides profiles of all members of the U.S. Congress and updates on congressional action

 Submitted by: National Democratic Institute for International Affairs

The Sunlight Foundation's Congress app provides profiles of all members of the U.S. Congress and updates on congressional action. It has been downloaded 488,000 times for Android and has recently been released on iOS.

Countries this example relates to...

United States

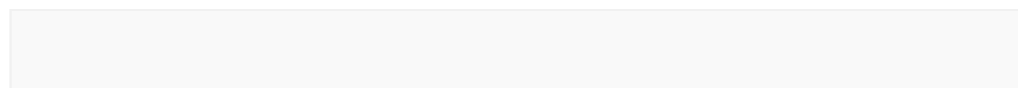
Related Commitments

Enable citizens to engage with parliaments and MPs using mobile and SMS technology

Related Topics

Parliaments

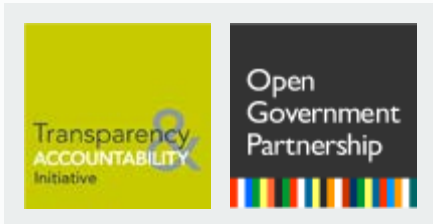
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[Information from the Sunlight Foundation's website](#)

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Country Example

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The 'Voice of the

Consumer' project in Georgia gives consumers a participatory tool for improving services

 Submitted by: [OpenGovGuide](#)

The "Voice of the Consumer" is one of Georgia's commitments in its latest [OGP Action Plan](#). It is a two-way feedback system which allows citizens to express their opinion about services received from the [Public Service Hall \(PSH\)](#), which is a 'one-stop shop' for delivering public and private services in Georgia. It also allows the PSH to communicate on how issues raised by consumers have been resolved and provide citizens with information about existing products. Software is being developed specifically for this project.

Countries this example relates to...

[Georgia](#)

Related Commitments

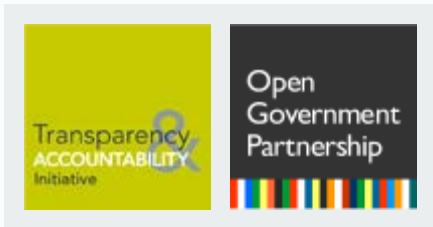
[Establish easy feedback mechanisms for public services](#)

Related Topics

[Public services](#)

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Thirty-eight countries

reported on their military expenditures to the United Nations in 2013

 Submitted by: [Open Society Foundations](#)

Since the UN General Assembly established the reporting system for military expenditures, known as the United Nations Instrument for Reporting Military Expenditures, a total of 126 UN Member States have submitted a report to the UN Secretary-General regularly or at least once. In 2013, 38 countries submitted a report on military expenditures:

Albania, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belarus, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Canada, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Germany, Iceland, India, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Macedonia, Malaysia, Mexico, Moldova, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Senegal, Serbia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine,

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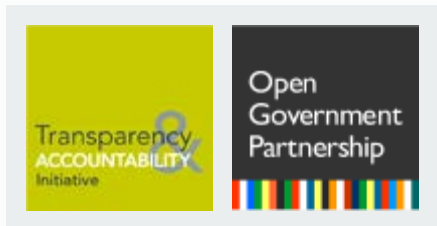
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Country Example

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Transparency in public

contracting is written into the South African Constitution

Section 195 of the South African Constitution states that “People’s needs must be responded to, and the public must be encouraged to participate in policy-making...Public administration must be accountable...Transparency must be fostered by providing the public with timely, accessible and accurate information.” and Section 217(1) South African Constitution Section 217(1) of the Constitution states that “when an organ of state contracts for goods and services it must do so in a manner which is fair, equitable, transparent, competitive and cost effective.

Countries this example relates to...

South Africa

Related Commitments

[Recognize the right of the public to access public contracting information](#)

RELATED EXAMPLES

[Many countries have developed electronic databases of public contracting information](#)

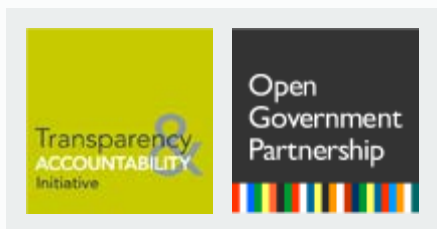
FEATURED [In Colombia citizens’ oversight organizations can supervise the entire public contracting process](#)

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[South African Constitution](#)

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Country Example

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Trinidad and Tobago uses

stakeholder forums and Facebook to gather budget input

Submitted by: [International Budget Partnership](#)

In Trinidad and Tobago the Ministry of Finance holds “post-budget forums” to gather input from and respond to the public. Key groups such as agriculture, youths, etc. are invited to give their perspectives on the budget. All members of the public are invited to call or send text messages to the Minister of Finance; and make comments publicly through Facebook and the ministry’s website.

Countries this example relates to...

[Trinidad and Tobago](#)

Related Commitments

[Enable citizen participation in budgeting](#)

Related Topics

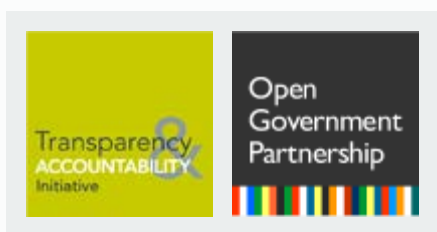
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Country Example

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Trinidad and Tobago's

Heritage and Stabilisation Fund publishes quarterly reports

Submitted by: [Revenue Watch Institute](#)

Trinidad and Tobago created the Heritage and Stabilization Fund in 2007 to help insulate the economy from oil and gas price fluctuations. Law requires deposits be made to the fund when oil and gas revenues exceed expectations and allows for withdrawals when revenues fall short. The Finance Ministry presents audited quarterly reports to Parliament and publishes them. Officials involved in the fund's management are required to disclose any financial interest in the sector.

Countries this example relates to...

[Trinidad and Tobago](#)

Related Commitments

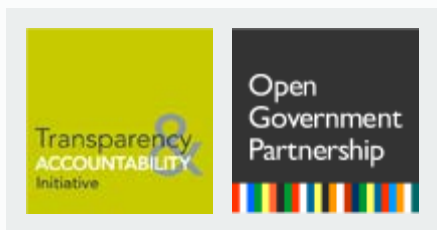
[Publish comprehensive financial reports on natural resource funds](#)

Related Topics

[Extractive industry](#)

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Country Example

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Uganda has launched an

online portal to support citizens' right to information

Submitted by: [OpenGovGuide](#)

The [Ask Your Gov Uganda](#) was launched in August 2014, allowing citizens to directly send requests for information to Government departments, ministries and agencies. Responses to information requests are then sent by email to the person making the request as well as posted on the portal. The portal includes information on the number of requests received per government entity, a list of recently released information, and a search engine with information on over 100 information requests. The public can also make information requests via the portal. It was developed by the Office of the Prime Minister in partnership with the Collaboration on International ICT Policy in East and Southern Africa (CIPESA) and the Africa Freedom of Information Centre (AFIC).

Countries this example relates to...

[Uganda](#)

Related Commitments

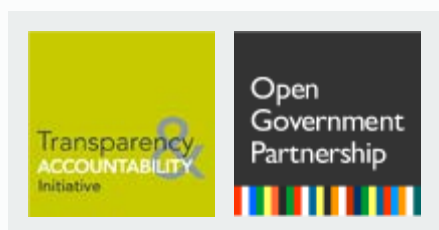
[Use IT to enhance access to information](#)

Related Topics

[Right to information](#)

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Ukraine announced that it

would implement the EITI

 Submitted by: [Revenue Watch Institute](#)

Ukraine announced in April 2012 that it would implement the EITI.

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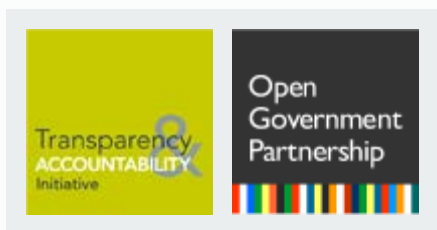
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Country Example

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Ukraine has launched a

multi-stakeholder open contracting reform

Submitted by: [Open Contracting Partnership](#)

Ukraine launched a new pilot procurement system in February 2015. The system, called [ProZorro](#), was initiated through a public-private partnership made up of government, civil society, and the private sector. The system is based on the Open Contracting Data Standard and provides a key tool for structuring and analyzing contract data in Ukraine.

Any document and any information related to public procurement (annual plans, tender notices, tender documentation, bids, decisions of evaluation committees, contracts and their implementation, payments etc) is open and freely accessible online.

ProZorro has also developed a tool to monitor the performance of the procurement system using the available open data (bi.prozorro.org). The system has contributed to saving costs to public contracts. Within the first 3 months, US \$1.5 million in public money was saved (averaging about 12% savings). The new system has also increased competition to averaging three participating bidding companies per tender.

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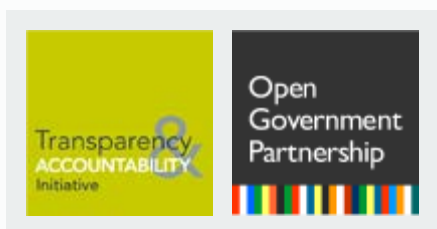
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Country Example

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Ukraine will amend its law

on asset disclosure as part of its OGP Action Plan

Submitted by: [OGP Action Plan](#)

Ukraine's Open Government Partnership Action Plan contains a commitment to prevent and combat corruption. Specific activities to this end include amending the law to ensure openness of data relating to property, income and expenditure returns, in particular through publishing details of returns by high profile officials at public bodies' official web sites and disclosing data from returns of any public officer upon information request.

Countries this example relates to...

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[Publish asset and conflict of interest disclosures as open data](#)

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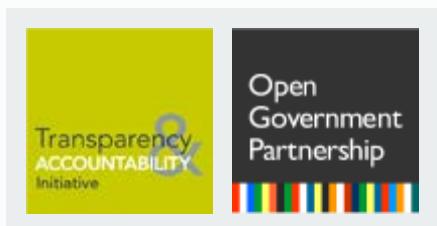
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Vietnam's procurement

law defines requirements related to publication and confidentiality

 Submitted by: [Open Contracting Partnership](#)

The Public Procurement Law of Vietnam (2013) includes a well defined list of documents to be published in the national e-procurement system and the procurement newspaper. In addition, the law specifically addresses the confidentiality of information at particular moments during the procurement process:

Countries this example relates to...

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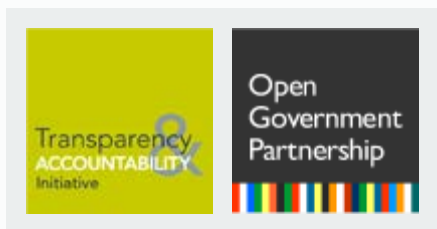
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