

Independent Reporting Mechanism

COUNTRY Co-Creation Brief
YEAR

Open
Government
Partnership



Independent
Reporting
Mechanism

Overview

[Do Not Change] This brief from the OGP's Independent Reporting Mechanism (IRM) supports the co-creation process and design of **COUNTRY's CARDINAL NUMBER** action plan. It provides an overview of OGP processes in the country and presents recommendations based on collective and country specific IRM findings. The co-creation brief draws from prior IRM reports for **COUNTRY [link]**, the [OGP National Handbook](#), [OGP Participation and Co-Creation Standards](#), and IRM guidance on [the minimum requirements](#). Section 1 offers guidance for OGP processes and co-creation and Section 2 for commitment design. Government and civil society can determine the extent to which this brief is used to shape the next action plan's trajectory and content.

Guidance: Briefly (around 200-300 words max) summarize the OGP institutional setup and strengthen of OGP processes in the country. Focus on strengths, weaknesses, or improvements in maturity. Hyperlink sources throughout the brief. Use the [OGP Participation and Co-Creation Standards](#) as a framework to highlight how the action plan design process has changed over time and any key obstacles. For instance:

- What are the country's spaces for dialogue for OGP (Standard 1)? What is the direction of change in terms of inclusivity and quality of dialogue in these spaces?
 - Do CSOs and government have an equal voice at the table, and is there mutual confidence that they are partners in open government?
- Have there been changes in the availability of public information on OGP in the country (Standard 2)? For example, creation or maintenance of a website or repository?
- What has been the quality of past co-creation practices (Standard 3) in regard to opportunities for public participation and breadth of participation?
- Has co-creation typically involved a reasoned response (Standard 4) and does the country usually have opportunities for dialogue and collaboration during implementation (Standard 5)?
- Have the resources available been a constraint or not? What level of resources would stakeholders working on the co-creation process need, respectively the MSF, the government team and civil society (human resources and budget and skills-set)?
- You may note the level of institutionalization of OGP across government, for instance if the judiciary, parliament, or independent institutions are engaged or if there is a notable subnational OGP program.

Section I: Action Plan Co-Creation

[Do Not Change] The following recommendations present opportunities for national reformers to strengthen OGP institutions and processes in the country.

Recommendation 1. Short Headline

Draft up to 5 recommendations for reformers to strengthen their OGP process and institutions. (Approx. 200 words). Recommendations should help to improve the inclusivity and effectiveness of the co-creation process with a view to securing wider ownership and inclusion. They should help actors to build trust between government and CSOs and the public. Do not use prescriptive language (ex: must, need to). Instead use suggestive language (ex: can, could). Use a constructive tone of voice that acknowledges existing good practices when appropriate. You can consider the following to identify recommendations:

- Are there any minimum requirements under the Participation and Co-Creation Standards that the country previously did not meet? If so, a recommendation can be provided around each minimum requirement that was not met.
- Are there recommendations to strengthen the country's OGP process from recent IRM reports that have not yet been addressed?
- Have civil society or other OGP actors in the country expressed views on how the OGP process could be strengthened in recent IRM reports?
- Are there any Standards where the country is meeting the minimum requirements, but there is still opportunity to strengthen progress towards the overall Standard itself or innovate their practices?

The recommendations should:

- Draw on past IRM reports, OGP documents (e.g. country support reports), and examples from other countries, either in the OGP framework or otherwise.
- Be made country- and context-relevant.
- Should indicate the target user, e.g. government generally or a specific entity, for CSOs, or for the multi-stakeholder forum.
- Use bold text and bullet points as needed to emphasize key points.
- When possible, highlight available support to implement recommendations. For example, OGP or IRM services, funding sources, opportunities for technical support.

Recommendation 2. Short Headline

Recommendation 3. Short Headline

Recommendation 4. Short Headline

Recommendation 5. Short Headline

Section II: Action Plan Design

[Do Not Change] The following recommendations offer policy areas for national actors to consider in the next action plan. They may represent opportunities for new commitments to address issues of national importance or to advance existing reforms.

Area 1. Policy Area Here

Propose up to 5 policy areas for consideration for future commitments. (Approx. 200 words). Present recommendations in a constructive tone that acknowledges previous efforts when relevant. Use bullet points to emphasize actions actors can take. Consider the following factors when selecting policy areas:

- If co-creation has started and policy areas already identified, you can provide guidance and resources for designing strong commitments in these existing areas.
- If there are issues of national importance that impact open governance or is important to civil society (such as restrictions to freedom of expression, assembly, or association), you can suggest recommendations on how to address these challenges through a commitment.
- If a country is falling short of the OGP Eligibility Criteria or Values Check, you can recommend how these scores can be improved through a commitment.
- If a country has notable momentum from past commitments in a particular policy area, you can propose how the reform can be continued in the next plan.
- Are there unique opportunities such as a new government, funding partners, national strategies, or international agreements that could align with a commitment in the next action plan?

Where applicable, include lessons and examples from commitments or OGP-related measures in other countries on similar policy areas. Refer to emerging or established standards and tools in good practice in open government. Hyperlink to relevant resources but be sure to bring the most useful information directly into the recommendation narrative. Resources can include guidance from OGP and other organizations like the World Bank, Transparency International, OECD; OGP members working on similar commitments; possible partners for technical or financial support.

Area 2. Policy Area Here

Area 3. Policy Area Here

Area 4. Policy Area Here

Area 5. Policy Area Here

The brief was reviewed by IRM senior staff for consistency, accuracy, and with a view to maximize the context-relevance and actionability of the recommendations. Where appropriate, external reviewers or members of the IRM International Experts Panel (IEP) review briefs.