



MUNICIPALIDAD DE VILLANUEVA

Villanueva, Cortés, Honduras C.A.

Tels.: (504) 2670-5136 ext. 102-111-113-148

www.munivillanueva.org



January 8th, 2024.

Representatives of the OGP

Office

It is with great reverence that I extend my greetings to you, in my capacity as Mayor of the Municipality of Villanueva, Cortés, Honduras, C.A., expressing my sincere interest in joining the Open Government Partnership (OGP). Through this note, I wish to convey our commitment and enthusiasm to actively contribute to this global initiative that promotes transparency, citizen participation, and accountability in public management.

The OGP represents an invaluable space for fostering collaboration between local governments and civil society, thus strengthening democratic governance. In our municipality, we recognize the importance of these principles and aspire to consolidate ourselves as a benchmark for good governance, where citizen participation and data openness are fundamental pillars for the construction of a fairer and more equitable society.

Below, I highlight some of the reasons that support our interest in joining the OGP:

Transparency and Access to Information:

Our administration is committed to transparency in public management. We seek to implement effective measures to facilitate access to information, promoting the opening of relevant data so that citizens are properly informed about the actions of the municipal administration. For this reason, we have signed an agreement with the Secretariat for Transparency and Fight against Corruption of Honduras. We have also established the Directorate of Oversight Transparency and Compliance with Public Policies, implemented the Internal Control Committee, and the Monitoring and Follow-up Directorate in the municipal administration. Additionally, we have organized the Citizen Transparency Commission, with representatives from civil society.



Villanueva
Desarrollo Humano





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Citizen Participation:

*We recognize that active citizen participation is essential for effective governance. We aim to implement mechanisms that involve citizens in decision-making, ensuring that their opinions and concerns are considered in the development of public policies. To this end, we have the **Participative Budget** for local allocation, where community leaders, along with the neighbors of each community, determine the projects to be executed, aimed at local development, and incorporated into the Municipal Development Plan, (MDP). We have also organized the **Citizen Transparency Commission**, with representatives from civil society, the **Network of Social Overseers**, made up of the prosecutors of each patronage (board) and community leaders, and the **Women's Network**.*

Accountability:

*We understand that accountability is a key element to strengthen trust between the municipal administration and the community. We are committed to establishing solid mechanisms to transparently evaluate and communicate the performance of our actions and policies. One way in which we practice this aspect is in the open town meetings, starting the year with the **Open Town Meeting of Accountability**, reporting how municipal income and expenses were directed, in addition to reports presented by organizations (NGOs) and institutions that manage public funds, where each representative presents to the people the investment made in the municipality.*

Innovation in Open Government:

*We are excited about the opportunity to learn from best practices implemented elsewhere through **OGP**. We seek to incorporate innovations in open government that will improve the efficiency, effectiveness, and inclusiveness of our policies and services provided.*





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Inter-institucional Collaboration:

We recognize the importance of collaboration between local governments, international organizations, and civil society. Through our participation in OGP, we aim to strengthen these partnerships to address local and global challenges jointly.

In summary, our municipality is committed to adopting the principles and values of the Open Government Partnership. We are committed to working actively and collaboratively with OGP to strengthen democracy and open governance.

We appreciate in advance the consideration of our request and eagerly await the opportunity to be part of this valuable initiative. We are ready to share our experiences and learn from the successes and challenges of other OGP members.

Let me know if there is any additional information you may require and appreciate your attention to this important matter.

Kind regards,

WALTER SMELIN PERDOMO AGUILAR

Municipal Mayor

LINDA MARÍA COELLO BOBADILLA

President of the (ONG) CEPUDO foundation

Food For The Poor

