



Quito, January 25th, 2024

Paola Pabón C.
Prefect of Pichincha
Decentralized Government of the Province of Pichincha

Honorable Selection Committee
Dear Open Government Partnership Local 2024

In my capacity as Prefect of the Province of Pichincha, Ecuador, fully aware and committed to the values and principles of the OGP Local as established in its Open Government declaration, I have the honor of addressing you to formally express the interest of the Autonomous Decentralized Government of the Province of Pichincha (GADPP) in joining the local 2024 program of the Open Government Partnership (OGP).

Pichincha is one of the 24 provinces that make up the Republic of Ecuador, with its capital being the city of Quito. It is located in the northern part of the country, in the geographic region known as the Sierra. This province consists of eight (8) cantons and fifty-three (53) rural parishes. Situated at the center of the planet, it is characterized by its mountainous terrain and valleys. This area is home of lush vegetation, fertile plains, highland grasslands, and a great biodiversity of fauna.

The geographical location of the province of Pichincha gives it its equatorial, Andean, and volcanic nature. It is equatorial because it is crossed by the equatorial line; it is Andean as it is located between the two mountain ranges of the Andes; and it is volcanic because it is situated near the Pichincha mountain massif.

According to the latest census (2022), in the territory of Pichincha, there are 3,089,473 inhabitants, making it the second most populated province in the country.

Under this administration since May 2019, the fundamental role of citizens as an integral part of our government has been strengthened. This approach focuses on the participative construction of projects, especially aimed at benefiting the rural communities of our province, improving public management in an ethical, responsible manner, and subject to social control, thereby seeking to generate greater trust among the citizens.

During this period, from the prefecture, we have been encouraging the active participation of the citizens in decision-making; promoting the empowerment of

the people of Pichincha to forge the development of the province of Pichincha and thus promote the foundations of an open government, through the implementation of concrete actions in each of the fundamental pillars, which are transparency, citizen participation, collaboration, and accountability. These actions have been the first steps towards becoming an open and accessible government to the citizens, thus considering the possibility of strengthening these actions by joining OGP Local.

In the transparency pillar, the Provincial Government of Pichincha has carried out various actions, among which the following stand out: (i) monthly compliance with the Organic Law of Transparency and Access to Public Information, through the monthly publication of information on institutional management for citizen consultation; (ii) monitoring and evaluation of the Annual Operational Plan (projects and processes); (iii) monitoring and evaluation of the Development and Territorial Ordering Plan; (iv) identification and monitoring of operational management indicators (processes – goal compliance); (v) Creation of internal regulations to normalize and standardize the geographical information generated by the value-adding units of the GADPP (Institutional Geographical Objects Catalog and Guidelines for the Generation, Use, Dissemination, and Exchange of Geographical Information in the GADPP), in order to have, in the medium term, a set of institutional open geographical data, among others.

The actions carried out during this period include: (i) the holding of accountability assemblies; (ii) the formation of a mixed and equal technical team composed of citizens and public servants for the accountability process; (iii) a written report of accountability to the citizenry; (iv) the preparation of the work plan that includes suggestions and recommendations from citizens; (v) the opening of virtual spaces on the institutional website that allow citizens to make suggestions and ask questions for which they want the highest authority to be held accountable. These actions ensure a more transparent, participatory, and responsive accountability to the concerns and needs of citizens.

Regarding the Accountability pillar, the GADPP rigorously complies with the process established by the Citizen Participation and Social Control Council, during which the authority justifies its actions and takes responsibility for its decisions, while timely responding and reporting on the results of its management. The actions carried out in this period include: (i) conducting accountability assemblies; (ii) the formation of a mixed and parity technical team composed of citizens and public servants for the accountability process; (iii) a written accountability report for the citizens; (iv) the preparation of a work plan that incorporates suggestions and recommendations from the citizens; (v) the opening of virtual spaces on the

institutional website that allow citizens to make suggestions and ask questions about which they wish the highest authority to account for. These actions ensure a more transparent, participatory, and responsive accountability to the concerns and needs of the citizens.

In the pillar of collaboration and innovation, focused on generating new spaces for dialogue and work, the GADPP has incorporated the following actions: working tables for establishing articulation strategies with other GADs and online services for the citizens.

Citizen participation, with a focus on empowering citizens in public decision-making, strengthening their active role, and promoting mechanisms of participation in the management of public affairs, has been a highlighted priority for the provincial authority. In this regard, the following actions have been carried out: (i) assemblies for prioritizing works for participatory budgets; (ii) surveys and improvement proposals on the participatory budget process; (iii) ordinance of the citizen participation system; (iv) regulation of participatory budgets; (v) citizen participation in Local Planning Councils; (vi) active participation of more than 5000 actors in the update of the PDOT through thematic tables; (vii) tourism advisory council; (viii) public hearings, among others.

These actions have allowed us to achieve joint growth with all actors in society, a task that we maintain and will continue to carry out every day in our actions.

By joining OGP Local, our aim is to strengthen the open government model in the GADPP in order to promote increasingly transparent public management with the ongoing participation of citizens and public collaboration and innovation, by: (i) co-creating periodic action plans with key actors in society; (ii) improving transparency, citizen participation, and public management through the application of electronic government as a cross-cutting axis of open government; (iv) increasingly linking the GADPP's open government model to all key actors in society, such as the public sector, the community, international organizations, the private sector, academia, and civil society.

Also, the establishment of the Provincial Open Government Advisory Council to (i) implement open government activities in collaboration with representatives from various sectors of the province, (ii) strengthen the human talent of the GADPP, (iii) train community leaders and citizens, (iv) implement dialogue spaces, (v) complement regulations that allow for the management of information with a change in institutional culture, and (vi) automate institutional services to guarantee free access to public information and the use of new technologies through an open government portal.

To achieve this goal, we have strategic allies from civil society and academia such as the Foundation (FUNDAPI), the UTE University, with whom we have been working on territorial actions, especially in matters of linkage, research, and development for the community; in addition to the parish and cantonal governments, representatives of the productive sector, and merchants who would be involved in our action plans.

For the implementation of the Local Open Government Action Plan, we have a highly committed multidisciplinary team dedicated to the management policies promoted by this prefecture. This team is characterized by its diverse skills and knowledge and its commitment to moving towards a more transparent, participatory, and innovative administration.

In this context, we express our willingness to join the international initiative "Open Government Partnership Local," which aims to ensure that local governments promote transparency, fight against corruption, encourage citizen participation, governance, free access to public information, and the use of new technologies.

We reaffirm our firm will and commitment to embrace and promote the values and principles of open government within the scope of the provincial administration, fostering transparent policies, collaborative actions, and ongoing accountability. We aspire to have this process strengthened with the valuable support of OGP through its local program and the exchange of experiences and knowledge with other local governments, particularly in the development of local regulations and Local Open Government values.

The response from the OGP Local 2024 Selection Committee will allow us to have more tools to promote the sustainable development of the province and improve citizen involvement in public management, resulting in the well-being of the community.

Sincerely,



Firmado electrónicamente por:
**PAOLA VERÓNICA
PABÓN CARANQUI**

Paola Pabón C.
Prefect of Pichincha
Decentralized Government of the Province of Pichincha





Guayaquil, January 24th, 2024

**Mr.
Rudi Borrmann
Deputy Director, OGP Local
OGP Support Unit**

Non-governmental Letter of Support: Call for new members to OGP Local 2024

FUNDAPI is pleased to support the application of **GOBIERNO AUTONOMO DESCENTRALIZADO PROVINCIAL DE PICHINCHA, ECUADOR** to join OGP Local. By joining OGP Local, we support the endorsement of the Open Government Declaration and its principles within it.

We acknowledge that, as a member of OGP Local, we are embarking on a journey of collaboration, learning and action, and commit to working together as partners with the government to deliver an open government action plan in 2024 and implement its commitments. In addition, we embed the values of open government in our OGP local process and ensure it is transparent, participatory and accountable.

From our experience with different open government initiatives, we recognize that by joining OGP Local, we become a member of a global community of government and civil society who strive to innovate, catalyze progress and promote learning within and across jurisdictions. This global community is strengthened by the actions of its members, hence, we pledge to be an active member of this global community and support other members with peer exchanges and engaging at the local, national and international level to promote the values of open government.

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If given the opportunity to become a member of OGP Local in the 2024 call, Eduardo Bejar, Executive Director will be responsible for leading locally the OGP Local process from civil society and liaising with the OGP Support Unit. In addition, we commit to making available the necessary human, financial and technical resources to participate in the co-creation, implementation and learning from ambitious commitments within the action plan.

Sincerely,



Eduardo Bejar
Executive Director
edobejar@fundapi.org

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Quito, D.M., January 24, 2024
Letter N° 006-R-UTE

To the Open Government Partnership Local 2024 Selection Committee:

On behalf of UTE University I'm pleased to express our strong support to the application of the Local Government of the Province of Pichincha (GADP Pichincha), Ecuador, to join the Open Government Partnership (OGP) Local Program.

The Open Government Partnership is a global initiative that promotes transparency, citizen engagement, and accountability in government. We believe that GADP Pichincha has been demonstrating its commitment to these principles and is well-suited to participate in the OGP Local Program.

In our experience working with GADP Pichincha, we have observed a genuine dedication to involving citizens in decision-making processes, fostering collaboration with civil society organizations, and implementing innovative solutions to address local challenges. These qualities make GADP Pichincha an excellent candidate for the OGP Local Program, where they can share their experiences, learn from others, and contribute to the global movement for open government.

We believe that GADP Pichincha's participation in the OGP Local Program will not only benefit the community but also serve as a positive example for other local governments seeking to enhance transparency and citizen engagement. The exchange of best practices and the opportunity to collaborate with other OGP Local Program participants will undoubtedly contribute to the continued success of GADP Pichincha in promoting open and accountable governance.

Please consider this letter as a formal endorsement of GADP Pichincha's application to the OGP Local Program. We are confident that their inclusion in this program will lead to positive outcomes for the community and contribute to the overall success of the Open Government Partnership.

If you require any additional information or if there are further steps we can take to support GADP Pichincha's application, please do not hesitate to contact us. We look forward to contributing to the implementation of Pichincha's First Open Government Action Plan soon, hopefully, as part of OGP Local.

Sincerely,



Firmado electrónicamente por:
JOSE RICARDO
HIDALGO OTTOLENGHI

RICARDO HIDALGO OTTOLENGHI
RECTOR UNIVERSIDAD UTE