

# “The Future is Open: Enhancing Cooperation and Driving Ambitious Reforms Through Open Government”

## Open Government Partnership Leaders Roundtable Thursday September 26, 2024 | 8:00-10:30 AM

The 79th General Assembly of the United Nations (UNGA) beginning in September will be held in an unprecedented year of democratic transition, with at least 64 countries holding elections. Against a backdrop of multiple military conflicts, the climate emergency, polarization and disruptive use of emerging technology such as AI, this is a crucial moment for political leaders to collectively address these growing challenges. This year UNGA also coincides with the [Summit of the Future](#), marking the midway point for achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030, and which aims to reorient the global community towards more effective collective actions and greater responsibility for delivery.

Over the past thirteen years, the Open Government Partnership (OGP) has demonstrated itself to be an effective mechanism for delivering on international commitments that strengthen democracy and upgrade governments’ domestic delivery for and with their people for better societal outcomes. That model of delivery has proven effectiveness and can be a critical tool for implementing ambitious commitments that deliver on the SDGs, the Paris Agreement and other pledges.

This ministerial-level gathering is organized as a side event to UNGA to bring together a diverse coalition in support of democracy and open government, including representatives from national and local governments, civil society, funders, and partner organizations. Attendees will share examples of inspiring and innovative open government approaches to global and domestic challenges and identify opportunities for enhanced collaboration in the future, with a particular focus on supporting the implementation of ambitious commitments pledged through the [Open Gov Challenge](#).

### Agenda

#### Welcome and opening remarks

- Moderator, Helen Clark, former Prime Minister of New Zealand and OGP Ambassador, sets the scene
- Welcome Remarks by Martín Abregú, Vice President, International Programs, Ford Foundation
- Opening Remarks by Sanjay Pradhan, CEO of the Open Government Partnership

#### Discussion Round 1 : Open government reforms as a means to reinforce democracy

- What are the open government areas your country / organization is focusing on and that are having the most promising results in reinforcing democracy?
- What is your vision for your government / organization to drive these reforms forward towards more ambitious goals and impact, and how will you implement it?
- How is your participation in, or collaboration with, the OGP supporting your efforts?



### **Participation**

Citizens around the world are asking for more opportunities for participating in policy and decision making. Innovative reforms are being designed and implemented in the OGP National and Local Action Plans, or through the Open Government Challenge, to address this request. However, while promising, many are ad hoc, lack institutionalization and do not yield the expected results. This session will reflect on the role of open government reforms to provide citizens and civil society with new roles in shaping policies and services.

- Robin Carnahan, Administrator, General Services Administration, United States of America
- Mukhtar Ahmed Mohammed, Commissioner of Planning and Budget, Kaduna State, Nigeria
- Blair Glencorse, Co-CEO, Accountability Lab

### **Digital**

Democratizing digital governance has become one of the key priorities for many OGP members. The disruptive effects of online mis- and dis-information, artificial intelligence and the use of algorithms in public services are calling for greater transparency and stakeholder engagement in the way they are used by the public sector. This session will explore the many ways in which open government principles can be used to ensure that digital technologies improve and do not hamper democratic practices.

- Korir Song'ei, Principal Secretary of Foreign Affairs in the Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs, Republic of Kenya
- Natalia Carfi, Executive Director, Open Data Charter
- Jamila Ibrahim, Minister of Youth Development, Federal Republic of Nigeria
- Camille Grenier, Secretary General, Forum on Information and Democracy

### **Reinforcing Democracy / Civic Space**

Against a backdrop of political polarization and closing civic space, open government reforms can play a critical role in reinforcing democratic institutions by ensuring their integrity and accountability and to protect the enabling environment for citizens to organize and express their opinions and needs. This session will provide an opportunity to identify key challenges countries are facing in these areas and showcase relevant reforms to address them.

- Vinicius Marques de Carvalho, Minister of the Office of the Comptroller General, Federative Republic of Brazil
- Anabel Cruz, Founding Director, Institute for Communication and Development
- Thoriq Ibrahim, Minister of Climate Change, Environment and Energy, Republic of Maldives
- Katerina Hadzi-Miceva Evans, Executive Director, European Center for Not-for-Profit Law

### **Anti-Corruption and Integrity**

Reforms that promote integrity and anti-corruption have been a hallmark of OGP Action Plans for many years, including on key areas like beneficial ownership transparency, open contracting and political integrity. Building on this positive outcome, the OGP community is now ready to raise the bar and aim at more ambitious reforms in this field. This session will identify ways to design and implement initiatives that are more focused on institutionalization through whole-of-government integrity and anti-corruption strategies and long term, measurable impacts.

- Mark Robinson, Executive Director, Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative



- Amenah Pangandaman, Secretary of the Department of Budget and Management, Republic of the Philippines

### **Global Action**

As democracies worldwide face unprecedented challenges but are also exploring new and potentially game-changing reforms through OGP National and Local Action Plans, this conversation will ask key international players to present their strategies and initiatives to promote open government principles and standards at the global level and through development cooperation programmes.

- Freya Jackson, Director for Multilateral and Human Rights, FCDO, United Kingdom
- Erica Gerretsen, Director of DG INTPA Directorate G “Human Development, Migration, Governance and Peace”, European Commission
- Kevin Casas-Zamora, Secretary-General, International IDEA
- Paige Alexander, CEO, Carter Center

Final remarks from Zambia

- Mavis Nkomesha, Permanent Secretary - Resettlement, Zambia

Discussion Round 2: Open Discussion

OGP Challenge Video

Closing Remarks

- Óscar López Águeda, Minister for Digital Transformation & Civil Service, Kingdom of Spain
- Cielo Magno, President of Bantay Kita / Publish What You Pay Philippines

## **Attendees**

Australia	Jonathan Pryke, Lead Economist, Pacific Economic and Infrastructure Division Office of the Pacific, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
Brazil	Vinicius Marques de Carvalho, Minister of the Office of the Comptroller General Daniela Matos Thomson de Andrade, Communications/Press Advisor Jeannine Torres, Chief of Protocol
Kenya	Maragaret Ndung'u, Cabinet Secretary for the Ministry of ICT and Digital Economy Korir Sing'oei, Principal Secretary of Foreign Affairs in the Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs Ambassador Phillip Thigo, Special Envoy for Technology to the President of Kenya Kate Idwasi, Advisor to the Special Envoy Tony Oweke, Economic Advisor at the Kenya Mission to the UN Clarke Wafula, Advisor at the Kenya Mission to the UN



Malawi	Anjimile Mtila, Principal Secretary Monitoring & Evaluation, Office of the President and Cabinet
Maldives	Thoriq Ibrahim, Minister of Climate Change, Environment and Energy
Nigeria	Jamila Ibrahim, Minister of Youth Development Semiye Michael Obialunanma Nnaobi-Ayodele, CS Co-Chair, OGP Nigeria
Kaduna State, Nigeria	Mukhtar Ahmed Mohammed, Commissioner, Planning and Budget Commission
Philippines	Amenah Pangandaman, Secretary of the Department of Budget and Management Margaux Marie V. Salcedo, Undersecretary of Budget and Management Jose Miguel B. Solis
Senegal	Alassane Gueye, Director of the Promotion of Good Governance, Ministry of Justice
Spain	Oscár López Águeda, Minister for Digital Transformation & Public Function Clara Mapelli Marchena, Secretary of State Julia Gracia, Director of Cabinet
Sweden	Marcus Holknekt, Permanent Mission of Sweden to the United Nations
United Kingdom	Freya Jackson, Director for Multilateral and Human Rights, FCDO, United Kingdom
United States	Robin Carnahan, Administrator, General Services Administration Daniel York, Director, U.S. Open Government Secretariat, GSA Jennifer Lewis, Senior Advisor for Open Government, Executive Office of the President Shannon Green, Assistant to the Administrator of the Bureau for Democracy, Human Rights, and Governance, USAID
Zambia	Mavis Nkomesha, Permanent Secretary - Resettlement, Office of the Vice President

Alex Gillies, Director, Global Anti-Corruption Consortium, OCCRP
Anabel Cruz, Founding Director, Institute for Communication and Development
Blair Glencorse, Co-CEO, Accountability Lab
Camille Grenier, Secretary General, Forum on Information and Democracy
Cielo Magno, President of Bantay Kita/Publish What You Pay Philippines
Cynthia Romero, Director of Communications, International Budget Partnership
Erica Gerretsen, Director of DG INTPA Directorate G “Human Development, Migration, Governance and Peace”, European Commission
Jamie Drummond, Founder, Sharing Strategies



Josh Lerner, Co-Executive Director, People Powered
Katerina Hadzi-Miceva Evans, Executive Director, European Center for Not-for-Profit Law
Kathrin Frauscher, Deputy Executive Director, Open Contracting Partnership
Kevin Casas-Zamora, Secretary-General, International IDEA
Kristen Sample, Director of Democratic Governance, National Democratic Institute
Laura Neuman, Senior Advisor, Carter Center
Mandeep Tiwana, Chief Programmes Officer, Civicus
Mark Robinson, Executive Director, Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative
Martín Abregú, Vice President For International Programs, Ford Foundation
Michael Jarvis, Executive Director, Trust, Accountability, and Inclusion (TAI) Collaborative
Nancy Lindborg, President and CEO, David and Lucile Packard Foundation
Natalia Carfi, Executive Director, Open Data Charter
Paige Alexander, CEO, Carter Center
Rakesh Rajani, President, JustSystems
Robin Hodess, Strategy Lead, B-Team
Sanjay Pradhan, CEO, Open Government Partnership
Stephen Davenport, Global Lead for Anti Corruption, Openness, and Transparency, World Bank
Sarah Lister, Head of Governance, United Nations Development Programme
Thai Jungpanich, Director of Strategic Partnerships, Political Watch
Tim Hanstad, Vice Chair, Chander Foundation
Toyin Akinniyi, VP for Africa, Luminate
Vonda Brown, Director Global Democratic Renewal, Open Society Foundations
Zoe Reiter, Director, Combatting Kleptocracy, National Endowment for Democracy

