



**COMPENDIUM OF GOOD  
PRACTICES ON  
ANTI-CORRUPTION  
FOR OGP ACTION PLANS**

Transparency International is a global movement with one vision: a world in which government, business, civil society and the daily lives of people are free of corruption. Through more than 100 chapters worldwide and an international secretariat in Berlin, we are leading the fight against corruption to turn this vision into reality.

**[www.transparency.org](http://www.transparency.org)**

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# INTRODUCTION

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Corruption takes many forms and continues to be one of the most pressing problems affecting countries all over the world. It affects people's daily lives and erodes their trust in political and economic systems, institutions and leaders. Transparency International's Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI) 2017 indicates that many countries have made little to no progress in ending corruption. In addition, according to Transparency International's Global Corruption Barometer 2017, when asked how well or badly they thought their government was doing at fighting corruption in their country, 57 per cent of citizens thought that their government was performing poorly.<sup>1</sup> Corruption takes away much needed tax dollars that should go towards essential services for citizens. Only when effective measures are taken to tackle corruption, fraud and waste will service delivery improve and citizens regain trust in government. However, implementing anti-corruption measures requires committed governments and an engaged civil society.

To this effect, Transparency International is working with the Open Government Partnership (OGP) to advance ambitious anti-corruption commitments. The OGP presents a unique opportunity to achieve anti-corruption reforms as participating countries adopt the Open Government Declaration, which includes the commitment to "hav[e] robust anti-corruption policies, mechanisms and practices, ensuring transparency in the management of public finances and government purchasing, and strengthening the rule of law".<sup>2</sup> While over 200 anti-corruption commitments have been included in National Action Plans to date,<sup>3</sup> more can be done to promote more specific, actionable and ambitious anti-corruption commitments.

Many existing OGP commitments, such as freedom of information laws, play a crucial role in fighting corruption; however, there are many more opportunities to pursue robust anti-corruption commitments across a spectrum of public integrity measures. Anti-corruption commitments that seek to increase transparency in government processes at higher risk of corruption, civic participation in monitoring and decision-making or increased sanctioning and accountability measures should be included in OGP action plans in order to have a more direct effect in preventing and reducing the incidence of corruption.

Open Government Partnership action plans can be used as a mechanism to embed reforms on anti-corruption stemming from internationally agreed standards, while at the same time fulfilling country obligations to implement integrity policies acquired through different international and regional fora. Despite the fact that international and regional standards on anti-corruption strategies have been around for decades, implementation of these has been slow at best. With the support from national and international civil society organisation as well as peer governments, countries can close the implementation gap and adopt concrete actions to adhere to internationally agreed standards on anti-corruption.

In 2016, members of the OGP reaffirmed the Partnership's principles and values through the "Paris Declaration on Open Government." Through this declaration, governments and civil society organisations committed to push forward international cooperation toward fostering greater transparency, integrity and the fight against corruption.<sup>4</sup> As a result, a set of priority anti-corruption measures have been identified as key to advance within the OGP to re-build trust between governments and their citizens and promote effective service delivery to all sectors of society;

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<sup>1</sup> Pring, Coralie (2017) [People and Corruption: Citizens' Voices from Around the World](#). Global Corruption Barometer, Transparency International.

<sup>2</sup> Open Government Partnership (2011) [Open Government Declaration](#). Open Government Partnership.

<sup>3</sup> 193 commitments were identified by Independent Reporting Mechanism data as being relevant to corruption in the period between September 2011-2017.

<sup>4</sup> Open Government Partnership (2016) [Paris Declaration](#). Open Government Partnership.

they include:

- asset and interest declarations
- beneficial ownership transparency
- transparency in political financing
- whistleblowing
- transparency in lobbying
- open contracting

In order to make a difference and reduce the incidence of corruption, governments and civil society must come together to turn promises into action. They can do so by committing to and implementing ambitious reforms in their action plans that tackle the most pressing corruption risks countries are currently facing. This reference guide intends to provide easily accessible resources as government and civil society stakeholders develop and implement appropriate and ambitious commitments for inclusion in their action plans.

## Structure of this compendium

This guide is a curated list of internationally accepted policies and practical approaches to tackling corruption. It provides examples that are useful not only in developing commitments but also during their implementation. It is written for government officials and national civil society organisations developing ambitious commitments for the OGP action plans.

This document is divided into six sections following the priority issues listed above. Within those sections, there is a brief discussion of the issue and its importance in fighting corruption, followed by a list of references. Each reference includes a description and information about where practitioners may find particularly relevant information for the development and implementation of an OGP commitment. A specific effort was made to identify country case studies and practical examples. Finally, each section ends with an example of an OGP commitment on the issue.

The following criteria were used to select the resources included in this guide to ensure they were the most relevant to the needs of practitioners within the OGP:

- The resource has been published within the past five years. In some cases, exceptions were made, when a reference still provided relevant information and there was no more recent document to replace it.
- The resource is from a globally recognised institution and contains a consensus of policies and approaches on the anti-corruption theme.
- The resource is of a global or regional nature, to maintain relevance for a wide audience.
- The resource contains practical advice or policy recommendations that go beyond theoretical discussions. In some cases, documents that are more theoretical were included when they also covered detailed country case studies, which provided practical information.

In some cases, additional resources were identified that did not meet the criteria for inclusion used in this guide; however, they were still deemed useful. Many of these focused only on specific regions or countries. These resources can be found in the Additional References section at the end of the document.

# ASSET DECLARATION AND INTEREST DISCLOSURE

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Interest and asset declarations are considered key instruments to both prevent conflicts of interest and uncover illicit enrichment. Disclosure of information on private interests increases the accountability of office holders for their actions. It provides a powerful incentive to public officials to act with integrity, as well as facilitating access to oversight agencies and watchdog organisations to identify and sanction cases of conflict of interest and illicit enrichment.

A functional system of declaration of interest and assets is necessary in order to promote integrity within any public administration. To be effective, these declaration systems must be reviewed by an independent and well-resourced public body, disclosure must be mandatory and information should be made public, when appropriate.

The following resources can help civil society organisations and governments in developing appropriate, ambitious commitments on asset and interest declarations.

## References

[Open Government Guide: Asset Disclosure and Conflicts of Interest](#) (page 21) (2014)

This guide provides an example of commitments for asset and conflict of interest disclosure, ranging from initial to innovative. Each commitment is accompanied by a justification, recommendations for design and implementation, additional guidance and standards to review, followed by country examples.

[World Bank - Public Office, Private Interests: Accountability through Income and Asset Disclosure](#) (2012)

A comprehensive guide based on the analysis of income and asset disclosure legal frameworks in 88 countries. It provides an introduction to these types of disclosure systems, as well as information on how to design, implement and enforce them. Part 1.3 (page 16) summarises the key questions to consider when designing and implementing income and asset disclosure systems, as well as how differing answers to these questions can be addressed. Parts two and three go into more detail on the elements of a disclosure system and how it can be enforced, providing several examples and brief case studies from implementing countries.

[World Bank - Income and Asset Disclosure: Case Study Illustrations](#) (2013)

This is a companion to the above resource, providing in-depth case studies on the income and asset disclosure systems of 11 countries from around the world. On page four of the introduction, it reviews the key considerations in designing and implementing a financial disclosure system. The following chapters review individual country systems, covering their background, legal frameworks, agency structures, as well as system resources and procedures. Countries reviewed are Argentina, Croatia, Guatemala, Hong Kong SAR, Indonesia, Jordan, Kyrgyz Republic, Mongolia, Rwanda, Slovenia and the United States.

[U4 Expert Answer – Declaration of Interest, Assets and Liabilities: Oversight Mechanisms, Disclosure Policy and Sanctions](#) (2013)

This helpdesk answer provides a brief and concise overview of asset, interest and liabilities declarations. It covers international standards, oversight mechanisms, disclosure policy examples, as well as sanctions for non-compliance and management of conflicts of interest.

[OECD - Asset Declarations for Public Officials – A Tool to Prevent Corruption](#) (2011)

This is a detailed study that provides an analysis of existing asset declaration practice, focusing particularly on countries in Eastern Europe and Central Asia. Part I outlines policy recommendations and the “how and why” surrounding asset declaration systems, including which institutions should be responsible, who should report assets and how to enforce asset declaration systems. Part II goes into more detail on existing asset declaration practices, covering its history and legal basis. Part II, chapter five (page 61) in particular, discusses what should be included in a thorough asset declaration system. Part III provides case studies of asset declaration in Lithuania, Romania, Spain and Ukraine.

[G20 Anti-corruption Working Group - Good Practices in Asset Disclosure Systems in G20 Countries](#)

A draft paper identifying good practices in the design and implementation of asset disclosure systems in G20 countries, based on the review of practices in 18<sup>5</sup> G20 countries that implement disclosure requirements. It breaks down the G20 High Level Principles on Asset Disclosure and provides a list of good practices for each.

## OGP EXAMPLE

**Georgia** has a long history with public official asset declarations. An early adopter of asset declaration systems, Georgia has continually improved upon its systems, striving to increase accountability of public officials. Beginning in 2010, Georgia developed and implemented an online asset declaration system to improve transparency and citizen access. Georgia’s most recent [National Action Plan \(NAP\)](#) (2016-2018) includes a commitment to introduce a public official’s asset declaration monitoring system (Commitment 9), which, as of the midterm review, has already been substantially completed. This commitment advances the asset declaration system, by incorporating a monitoring system overseen by an independent committee in order to better regulate and audit public official disclosures. This is expected to improve incentives to accurately disclose information and allows officials to enforce non-compliance.

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<sup>5</sup> Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, the Republic of Korea, Mexico, Russia, South Africa, Turkey, the United Kingdom, and the United States

# BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP TRANSPARENCY

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Anonymous companies underpin corrupt and illicit financial transactions. They were used in 70 per cent of grand corruption cases reviewed by the World Bank<sup>6</sup> to move, launder and spend dirty money. As a result, there is a growing consensus among countries such as the G20, the EU and initiatives like EITI, that a necessary tool to end anonymous company ownership is to create open, public registers of the true “beneficial” owners of all corporate entities operating in the country – those individuals who ultimately control or profit from a company. In order to ensure beneficial ownership registers that are useful to combat money laundering, it is recommended that governments use the [Beneficial Ownership Data Standard](#) to ensure that disclosure meets global norms. In addition, it is necessary to ensure that regulations on beneficial ownership transparency clearly and narrowly define beneficial owners, providing for the collection and verification of appropriate information, and effectively sanctioning those who do not comply.

The following resources can help civil society organisations and governments in developing appropriate, ambitious commitments on beneficial ownership transparency.

## References

[World Bank Group Open Learning Campus – Beneficial Ownership Transparency](#) (2018)

This is a learning module combining videos and slide decks to provide a basic overview of transparency in beneficial ownership. It covers what a beneficial owner is, the need for international standards, as well as tools to enhance transparency.

[Transparency International - Recommendations on Beneficial Ownership Transparency for Open Government Partnership National Action Plans](#) (2018)

This concise briefing discusses why beneficial ownership is a priority for OGP participating countries, lists good practices for creating open registers and provides examples of existing and model commitments in OGP National Action Plans.

[G20 High-Level Principles on Beneficial Ownership Transparency](#) (2014)

A brief document outlining the 10 core principles of beneficial ownership transparency endorsed by the G20. These principles were built upon existing international standards and designed to allow flexibility for different constitutional and legal frameworks. These principles can be used as a starting point for developing beneficial ownership commitments.

[Transparency International – Technical Guide: Implementing the G20 Beneficial Ownership Principles](#) (2015)

An in-depth technical guide for practitioners within government or civil society to strengthen the implementation of beneficial ownership transparency commitments. The guide goes through each of the G20 principles on beneficial ownership transparency (see above) and outlines current applicable international standards. Additional steps that countries should take beyond the G20 principles are also included to ensure that they are implemented effectively.

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<sup>6</sup> Stolen Asset Recovery Initiative, Fact Sheet: The Puppet Masters: How the Corrupt Use Legal Structures to Hide Stolen Assets and What to Do About It.

[\*Financial Action Task Force – Transparency and Beneficial Ownership\*](#) (2014)

This is a comprehensive guidance covering the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) recommendations on beneficial ownership transparency. It begins with an introduction to beneficial ownership before delving into effective mechanisms to combat the misuse of legal persons and arrangements, describing them both extensively. This guidance goes a step further than other resources by discussing (on page 35) how beneficial ownership mechanisms relate to other recommendations, such as customer due diligence and wire transfer requirements to be carried out by financial institutions.

[\*OECD - Options for Obtaining Beneficial Ownership and Control Information\*](#) (2002)

This is a short but detailed template, which provides three options on how to obtain information on beneficial ownership and control. It outlines three possible options and describes how to ascertain whether an option is suitable for a given jurisdiction and then describes the characteristics of each system and what is required for each system to be effective. Beyond that, the document also provides information on the fundamental objectives of these types of systems.

## OGP EXAMPLE

The **United Kingdom (UK)** is at the forefront of beneficial ownership transparency measures. The UK included the development of a company register of beneficial owners in their [2013-2015 National Action Plan](#) (NAP) which was later expanded in the [2016-2018 NAP](#). Beginning in 2016, the UK published the world's first open register of company beneficial ownership information for all companies, property, land and trusts or companies that bid on UK central government contracts. The register is publicly accessible and searchable (except for information on trusts), which has allowed data scientists to cross-reference the data and discover beneficial owners using tax haven addresses, and other inconsistencies. Recently, the UK has expanded its reporting requirements to its Overseas Territories, which will be required to have public registers by the end of 2020. Despite the need for improvements to the register of beneficial ownership, the UK has taken important

# TRANSPARENCY IN POLITICAL FINANCING

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Poorly regulated political finance can diminish political equality, increase opportunities for organised crime to exercise political influence and lead to policy capture, thus undermining public confidence in elections. To ensure that elections are free, fair and equitably funded, governments must enhance their political finance regulations. Such regulations may include introducing limits on sources and amounts of donations to political parties and candidates, and establishing regulation on the disclosure of income, spending, assets and loans of both parties and candidates on an on-going basis, ensuring that all information is published on a single online portal, in open data format. Oversight agencies must also be given the powers and capacity to effectively enforce political finance regulations, receive and investigate public complaints, report on outcomes, and sanction those who breach regulations.

The following resources can help civil society and governments in developing appropriate, ambitious commitments for transparency in political party financing.

## References

[Transparency International – Recommendation on Political Financing for Open Government Partnership National Action Plans](#) (2018)

A concise briefing covering why political financing should be a priority for OGP participating countries, as well as trends and good practice in regulation in this field. It also includes a brief discussion of existing commitments and outlines what elements should be included in successful political finance commitments.

[International IDEA – Digital Solutions for Political Finance Reporting and Disclosure](#) (2017)

This resource outlines the benefits of digitising political financing reporting systems and goes through the step-by-step process of how to plan, design, implement and maintain a digital reporting system. Each phase of the process includes detailed considerations covering legal basis, finances and other resources required. In addition, it showcases various existing digital reporting systems, to illustrate how these systems can be formatted and provides an overview of, and links to, all of these reporting systems.

[OECD - Financing Democracy: Funding of Political Parties and Election Campaigns and the Risk of Policy Capture](#) (2016)

An in-depth report on political finance, covering risks of policy capture, promoting balanced funding, the disclosure of campaign funding and ensuring compliance. Chapter three (page 65), in particular, focuses on measures to ensure transparency and accountability in political financing. In Part two there are country case studies of Canada, Chile, Estonia, France, Korea, Mexico, the United Kingdom, Brazil and India. These case studies outline the legislative frameworks that exist in each country, how these lead to greater transparency and accountability, and the challenges and risks that remain.

[International IDEA – Funding of Political Parties and Election Campaigns](#) (2014)

This handbook provides a thorough analysis of political finance regulations around the world and guidance for reform. It addresses regulatory frameworks and political realities regionally, exploring the issues and offering recommendations for Africa, Asia, Latin America, Europe (broken down by region) and Central Asia, as well as “the established Anglophone democracies.” This handbook also goes further in exploring political finance for gender equality.

[\*International Foundation for Electoral Systems – Political Finance Oversight Handbook\*](#) (2013)

This is a comprehensive overview of political finance regulation. Part One covers the current context of political finance, including the history of regulations around the world, issues with enforcement and causes of non-enforcement. Part Two (page 40) goes into the practical aspects of regulating political finance, covering various structures, how to implement and enforce these systems, and additional tools to assist in enhancing transparency. Part Three discusses the abuse of state resources in more depth.

[\*Council of Europe – Recommendation on common rules against corruption in the funding of political parties and electoral campaigns\*](#) (2003)

This brief recommendation from the Council of Europe provides a concise listing of the common rules against corruption in political party financing. It very briefly outlines the minimum requirements for achieving transparency in political party financing.

## OGP EXAMPLE

**Australia** has been working to regulate political finance, particularly following the 2016 elections. Therefore, in the [2016-2018 National Action Plan \(NAP\)](#), Australia included a commitment to increase confidence in the electoral system. The commitment will investigate the current framework of donations to political parties and political entities and to what extent donations are being received from foreign sources.

In **Argentina's** [2017-2019 NAP](#), the country committed to drafting a bill on political party financing, which will increase the transparency of funds received, ensuring legal sources, and how funds are spent. The commitment was also notable for its inclusion of public consultations during the design phase, as well as working with civil society, academics, government branches and political parties to discuss the principles of the reform.

# WHISTLEBLOWING

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Whistleblowers play an essential role in exposing corruption, fraud, mismanagement and other wrongdoing that threatens the rule of law and the public interest. However, retaliation by employers and society means whistleblowers risk their careers and personal safety in reporting wrongdoing. Governments should ensure that robust, comprehensive protection is in place and enforced to mitigate these risks and empower citizens to speak up against corruption and other malpractice. Governments should also establish competent authorities with the mandate to facilitate whistleblowing, protect whistleblowers and run public awareness campaigns to improve the perception of whistleblowers throughout society.

The following resources can help civil society, the private sector and governments in developing appropriate, ambitious commitments for whistleblower protections.

## References

[Transparency International – A Best Practice Guide for Whistleblowing Legislation](#) (2018)

A comprehensive best practice guide that goes through the dos and don'ts of whistleblower protections, covering scope, types of protection, disclosure procedures, relief, government agencies and how to operate and review legislative structures. It contains the *International Principles for Whistleblower Legislation* (page 69) and outlines how these must be considered when developing legislation. Each section also provides numerous examples of legislation from various countries.

[OECD – Committing to Effective Whistleblower Protection](#) (2016)

This is an in-depth report on whistleblower protection policies and practices, covering global standards, public sector whistleblower protection laws, how they work in practice, how to encourage reporting and protections in the private sector. In Part II (page 133), there are country case studies of Belgium, Canada, Chile, Ireland, Switzerland and the United States. These case studies outline existing legislation, design and scope, implementation and impact, as well as challenges.

[Government Accountability Project - International Best Practices for Whistleblower Policies](#) (2016)

The focus of this brief guide on whistleblower policies is on legislation; however, it clearly lays out the elements that strong whistleblower commitments should address. Additionally, for each aspect of coverage, there is a list of existing policies and legislation from around the world to look to for examples.

[The United Nations Convention against Corruption – Resource Guide on Good Practices in the Protection of Reporting Persons](#) (2015)

This resource guide introduces the benefits of reporting, the framework of the UN Convention against Corruption, and the importance of conducting a national assessment when planning to introduce or reform legislation in this area. Beginning on page 21, the guide delves into how to facilitate reporting of wrongdoing and protecting those who report. The final section (on page 77) covers implementation, including how to train designated reporting units, promote legislation, cooperate with other governments and monitor and evaluate progress.

[Whistleblower Protection Rules in G20 Countries: The Next Action Plan](#) (2014)

This report analyses the progress of G20 members in the development of whistleblower protections into law. It contains a concise table of *Best Practice Criteria for Whistleblowing Legislation* (page 4) and evaluates the public and private sector laws from each G20 member against these criteria. It then goes into country analyses of all G20 members, with the exception of the European Union.

[CleanGovBiz Integrity in Practice – Whistleblower Protection: Encouraging Reporting](#) (2012)

A brief guide on whistleblower protection, it outlines priorities (page 5) and then provides implementation guidance for achieving each one. It also provides detailed examples from countries including the US, the UK, Canada, South Korea and Japan, for each priority. Beginning on page 19, there are further resources including regional organisations.

[Open Government Guide: Whistleblower Protection \(page 361\)](#) (2014)

This guide provides an example of commitments for whistleblower protection, ranging from initial to innovative. With each commitment, there is also a justification, recommendations for design and implementation, additional guidance and standards to review, followed by country examples. This is an accessible resource for drafting quality commitments around this issue area.

## OGP EXAMPLE

Beginning in 2014, **Albania** used its [National Action Plan](#) to commit to drafting a law on whistleblower protections, and raise awareness of the new law and protections to ensure its use. The law, which applies to both the public and private sectors, was adopted and entered into force in 2016. After successfully achieving this milestone, they carried the commitment over to their [2016-2018 National Action Plan](#), to continue implementing the law, developing bylaws, regulations and reporting mechanisms, while also continuing to build public awareness of the new system.

# TRANSPARENCY IN LOBBYING

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Lobbying is an important means of participation in public decision-making; however, in the vast majority of the world, lobbying is unregulated. Governments must prohibit unethical activity while facilitating transparent and equitable public access to policy-making. To protect against undue influence and ensure decisions are made that are demonstrably in the national interest, governments must create mandatory, open-data, public registers of records of interactions between lobbyists and public officials. Governments must also introduce mandatory codes of conduct for both officials and lobbyists, and ensure there are appropriate sanctions in place for non-compliance, as well as create open, equitable and responsive channels for public consultation of public policies.

The following resources can help civil society and governments in developing appropriate, ambitious commitments for transparency in lobbying.

## References

[Transparency International - Recommendations on Lobbying for Open Government Partnership National Action Plans](#) (2018)

This is a concise briefing that discusses why tackling lobbying is a priority for OGP participating countries to fight corruption, lists good practices in lobbying, and provides examples of existing and model commitments in national action plans.

[International Standards for Lobbying Regulation](#) (2015)

A concise list of 38 standards, which builds on best practice from existing lobbying regulations and international standards. The standards are organised into three inter-related areas of effective regulation of lobbying: transparency, integrity and participation. The document provides descriptions of lobbying registers, public access to information, codes of conduct for public officials and lobbyists and how the public should be engaged. Finally, starting on page 12, it covers oversight, management and sanctions, as well as regulatory framework design.

[OECD – Lobbyists, Governments and Public Trust, Volume 3](#) (2014)

This is an in-depth report on lobbying practices, the public decision-making process and citizens' trust in government. It covers lobbying risks, scope and feasibility, transparency, integrity in public decision-making, and how to make transparency and integrity in lobbying a reality. Part Two (page 99) contains country case studies for Austria, Brazil, Canada, Chile, the EU, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Mexico, Slovenia, and the United Kingdom. These case studies outline existing legislation, objectives, scope and aims, challenges and impact.

[OECD – Transparency and Integrity in Lobbying](#) (2013)

A concise report on transparency and integrity in lobbying. It reviews worldwide concerns over lobbying, evidence of its size and impact, and what governments can do to enhance transparency. It lays out elements of strong lobbying regulation, as well as the experiences of governments and the lobbying industry in places where reforms have been implemented. Finally, it reviews the 10 Principles for Transparency and Integrity in Lobbying and ends with the progress made in implementing these principles.

## OGP EXAMPLE

**Chile** became the first Latin American country with legislation on lobbying disclosure after announcing a lobbying law in its [first National Action Plan](#). The law includes a legal definition of lobbying and which parties are considered lobbyists and public officials. It also mandates the creation of a public register for disclosing lobbyist contact with government. There are sanctions and fines for non-compliance. Chile's [second National Action Plan](#) contained a commitment on effective implementation, which included creating complementary regulations, training lobbyists and officials on their new duties, and providing technical support to ensure the disclosure platform was operational.<sup>6</sup>

# OPEN CONTRACTING

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Governments spend millions of dollars a year on deals and contracts to deliver goods and services to citizens. Unfortunately, public procurement is one of the government's activities that is most vulnerable to corruption and fraud, and it can lead to millions of wasted taxpayer dollars.<sup>7</sup>

Governments must make all contracts "open by default" to foster a culture of social innovation and market competition in procurement. In addition, mechanisms for consultation and independent monitoring by citizens and civil society must be developed and implemented. Finally, governments must use the Open Contracting Data Standard to publish machine-readable data about the entire procurement cycle.

The following resources can help civil society and governments in developing appropriate, ambitious commitments for open contracting.

## References

### [Open Contracting Partnership – Open Contracting Data Standard](#)

This website contains extensive information on the open data standard for publication of information from all stages of the contracting process. It provides information on why the open data standard is important, how to get started, schema references and detailed implementation guidance. A very thorough and easy to navigate resource for government officials looking to implement the Open Contracting Data Standard.

### [OECD – OECD Recommendation on Public Procurement](#) (2015)

The OECD recommendations build upon the foundational principles laid out in the 2008 OECD Principles on Integrity in Public Procurement. They are to be used as a policy instrument to help governments prevent waste, fraud and corruption in public procurement. It outlines 12 recommendations (beginning on page seven), which indicate the necessary standards a transparent public procurement system with integrity should have.

### [Transparency International Slovakia – Not In Force Until Published Online: What the Radical Transparency Regime of Public Contracts Achieved in Slovakia](#) (2015)

An interesting and concise case study outlining what happened after Slovakia began publishing most of its public contracts online. It covers how the legislation was implemented, the benefits and costs of this type of transparency, including the public reaction to and use of the online publication platform, and the changes to procurement that resulted. It concludes with the ongoing challenges and recommendations for those working on reform.

### [Center for Global Development – Publishing Government Contracts: Address Concerns and Easing Implementation](#) (2014)

A brief report from the Working Group on Contract Publication covering the benefits of publication of government contracts, costs and risks involved, general principles of publication and when redaction of information is appropriate.

### [Transparency International – Curbing Corruption in Public Procurement: A Practical Guide](#) (2014)

This short guide provides a practical introduction to the risks of corruption in public procurement and outlines key principles and minimum standards that can reduce these risks. It provides a checklist for government officials (page 22) and a comprehensive list of tools to improve the procurement process (page 27).

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<sup>7</sup> OECD (2016) *Preventing Corruption in Public Procurement*. OECD. Available at: [www.oecd.org](http://www.oecd.org)

[Open Contracting Partnership - Open Contracting: A New Frontier for Transparency and Accountability](#) (2013)

This report provides an overview of best practices and methodologies of disclosure and participation in open contracting. It introduces the importance of public contracting, as well as its vulnerabilities and then delves into the roles of civil society, the private sector and donors in open contracting. It includes country examples throughout while also listing country examples of proactive disclosure requirements (Annex 1, page 23),<sup>8</sup> as well as many more resources.

## OGP EXAMPLE

**Nigeria** used its [2017-2019 National Action Plan](#) to implement open contracting and adopt the Open Contracting Data Standard in the public sector. It committed to opening up its contracting processes, enhancing transparency, accountability and citizen engagement in ministries, departments and agencies. The adoption of open contracting will focus in priority sectors such as transportation, agriculture, health, education, the environment and minerals. This commitment includes training of civil society organisations on procurement monitoring, establishing the Nigeria Open Contracting Portal (NOCOPO) and training on open contracting and the portal for the procurement officers in pilot procuring entities.

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<sup>8</sup> Afghanistan, Australia, Brazil, Democratic Republic of Congo, Chile, Colombia, India, Liberia, Mexico, Mongolia, Niger, Philippines, Pakistan, Slovak Republic, South Sudan, Timor-Leste

# CONCLUSION

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The above compendium of resources seeks to support the work of OGP stakeholders in government and civil society in developing and implementing anti-corruption commitments. While the list is not exhaustive, it is a comprehensive starting point for novices and experts alike to identify the appropriate policy and approach to some of the most pressing corruption issues to date.

The inclusion of resources sought to cover a large geographic area, as well as a broad set of policies and approaches, in hopes that this guide will allow reformers and advocates to identify the key knowledge products on the issue.

The OGP enables civil society and governments to shape and implement ambitious governance reforms together. Unlike other anti-corruption pledges, commitments made within national action plans are bound to formal timelines and mechanisms to hold governments accountable. Many countries have already used their action plans to strengthen their anti-corruption frameworks; however, there is clearly still much work to be done. The OGP should be used by civil society and government as a source of learning and inspiration to commit to stronger anti-corruption reforms.

These resources provide information that should enable national reformers to develop a roadmap to achieve stronger reforms on each of the key anti-corruption themes covered by this compendium. Each action plan is an opportunity to transition from rhetoric to action; it is a chance to make governments more transparent, inclusive and accountable.

# REFERENCES & ADDITIONAL SOURCES

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