Partnerships around openness: OpeningParliament.org and the Open Government Partnership

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NDI

Red Latinoamericana por la Transparencia Legislativa

SUNLIGHT FOUNDATION

OpeningParliament.org

DECLARATION ON PARLIAMENTARY OPENNESS

A call on the world's parliaments to make concrete commitments to enhancing openness, transparency and citizen engagement

DECLARATION ON PARLIAMENTARY OPENNESS

Provision Commentary

Promoting a Culture of Openness

1. Recognizing Public Ownership of Parliamentary Information

Parliamentary information belongs to the public; citizens should be allowed to reuse and republish parliamentary information, in whole or in part. Any exceptions or restrictions to this principle shall be narrowly defined by law.

The notion that parliamentarians serve at the behest of the public is fundamental to democratic governance. It follows that information produced by or for parliament belongs to the citizens. While this principle enjoys broad support of a variety of international bodies, some parliaments limit citizen access to information, which can limit public engagement in policy discussions. In other instances, parliament may provide certain information only upon request, rather than as a matter of course. Parliament may also provide information in formats that restrict the tools available to citizens to access, reuse and analyze legislative information. The availability of parliamentary information, with limited and clearly defined restrictions for particularly sensitive material, ensures maximum accountability of the legislative body to the public and amplifies the role of citizens in the legislative process.

This principle has been enshrined in the African Union's *Declaration of Principles on Freedom of Expression in Africa*, that "Public bodies hold information not for themselves

DOCUMENT

Contents of the Declaration

1. Promoting a culture of openness
2. Making parliamentary information transparent
3. Easing access to parliamentary information
4. Enabling electronic communication of parliamentary information

Togo

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GONG
FEFA
Kuwait Transparency Society
Lebanese Parliamentary Monitor
ACCION CIUDADANA
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KohoVolit.eu
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SMDT
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TRANSPARENCE INTERNATIONAL FRANCE
KDI
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CITIZEN CONGRESS WATCH
RegardsCitoyens.org
povtrack.us
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مدارك
Iraqi Parliament Monitor
Poder Ciudadano
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LDH
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MUSLIMS FOR HUMAN RIGHTS
AL BAWSALA
CDD-GHANA
parliamentwatch.org
epf
EP Foundation
OpenAustralia Foundation
hack democracy
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PILDAT
Pakistan Institute of Legislative Development And Transparency
TRANSPARENCY INTERNATIONAL BANGLADESH
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mysociety
Reflexión DEMOCRÁTICA
Louhos Finland
louhos.github.com
OPEN STATE
openparliament.ca
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INDONESIAN PARLIAMENTARY CENTER
associazione openpolis
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ADC / Asociación por los Derechos Civile
CIPPEC
MOST
Citizen's Association
ICP
Instituto de Ciencia Política
Hernán Echavarría Olózaga
CiViO
Fundación Ciudadana
InfoNET
Borderless Synergies
NAYMOTE
QHLD
Gov2u
DATA
مرصد البرلمان الأردني
Jordanian Parliament Monitor
CongresoVisible.org
Fundación Directorio Legislativo
CENTER FOR RESEARCH TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY
CIUDADANO INTELIGENTE.ORG
ЧЕСНО
PMG
PARLIAMENTARY MONITORING GROUP
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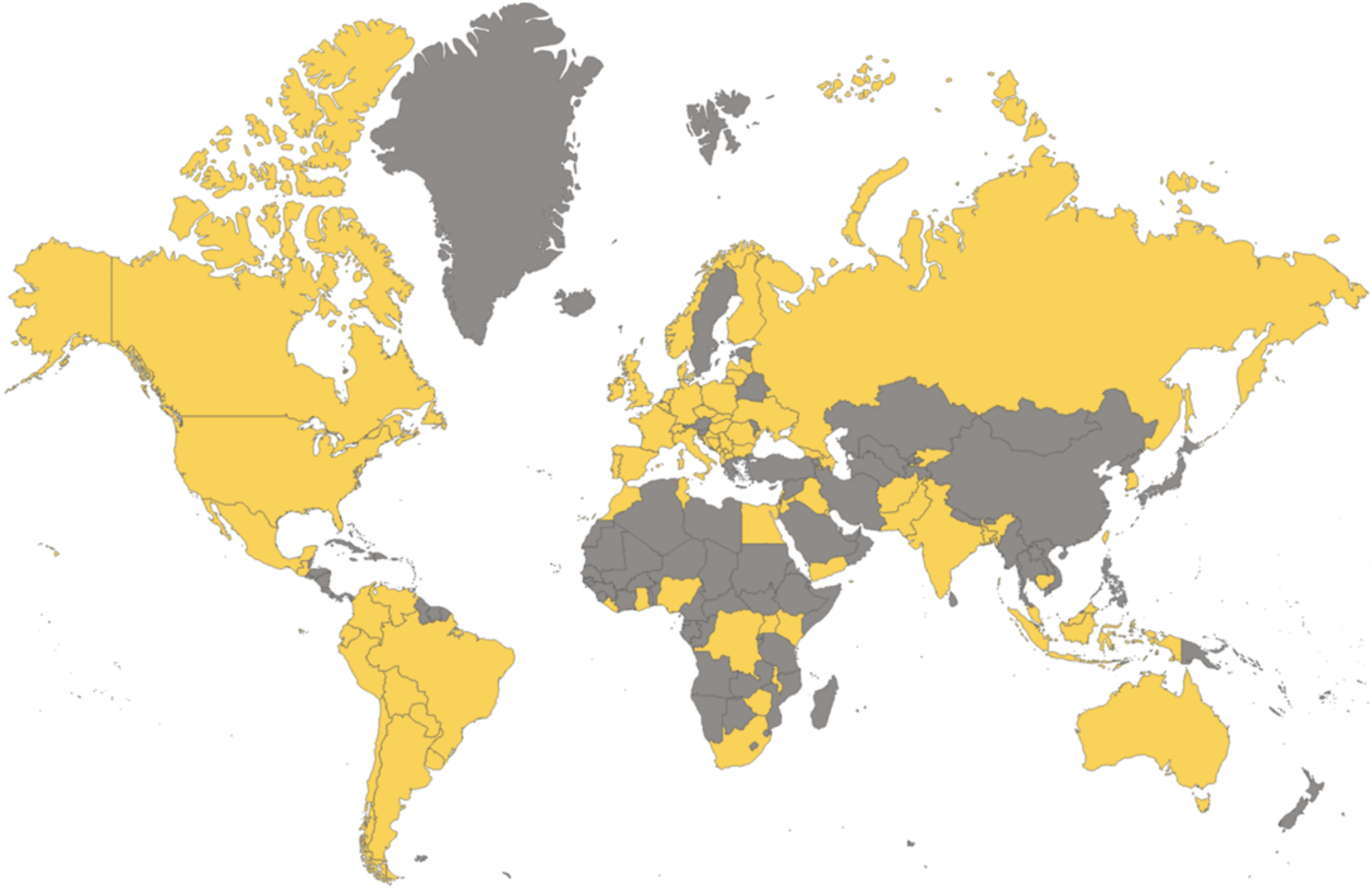


OpeningParliament.org

DECLARATION ON PARLIAMENTARY OPENNESS

العربية

Bosanski/
Hrvatskom/Srpski

Čeština

دری

Ελληνικά

Français

Crnogorski Jezik

हिंदी

Język Polski

ру́сский язы́к

English

Português

украї́нська мо́ва

Deutsch

Lietuviškai

한국어

Español

議會開放宣言

OpeningParliament.org

Blog About Declaration Case Studies Networking Supporting Organizations Contact

Welcome to OpeningParliament.org, a forum intended to help connect the world's civic organizations engaged in monitoring, supporting and opening up their countries' parliaments and legislative institutions.

Tweets Follow

OpeningParliament 13 Feb
@OpenParl
Hangout with @SayItPoplus starts in about 1 hr. Check it out:
mysociety.org/2014/02/05/han... @steiny
More on SayIt here:
blog.openingparliament.org/post/756116652

SOCIAL MEDIA

OSCE PA
Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY

Time for parliaments to commit to openness

by **Ranko Krivokapic** **30.07.2013 - 11:11**

In the premises of the only city that has been the capital of two great empires, parliamentarians from across Europe, Asia and North America gathered this month to continue the ongoing debate on human rights and security.

AUTHOR

Ranko Krivokapic

CPA COMMONWEALTH PARLIAMENTARY ASSOCIATION

OpeningParliament.org

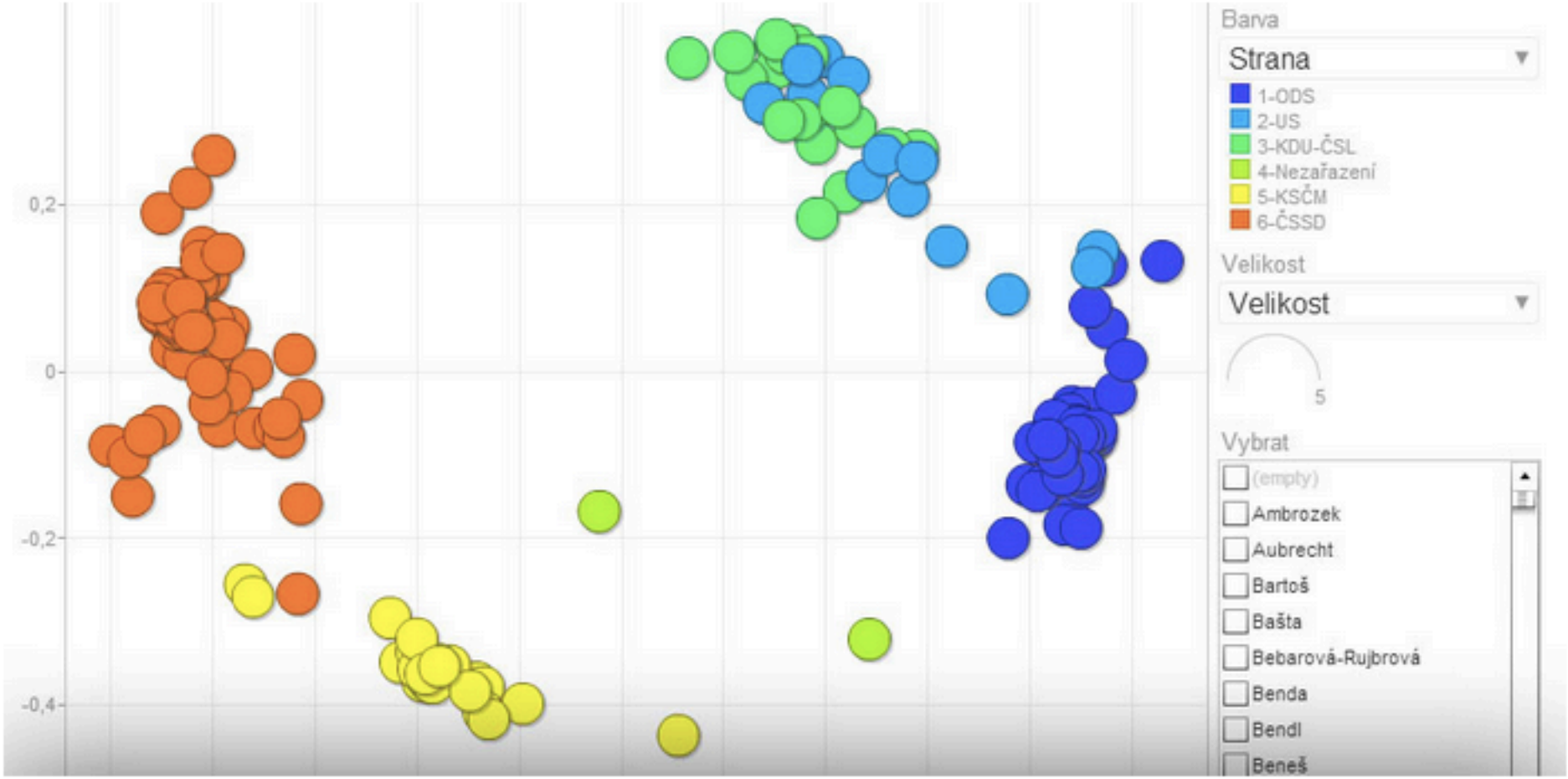
Transp. Legislativa
@RedLTL

Following

Congresistas Peruan@s suscriben Declaración de Transparencia Parlamentaria @ACTransparencia @congresoperu

kohovolit.eu

HOME PROJECTS ANALYSES BLOGS MEDIA ABOUT US CONTACT



Segunda Reunión Ordinaria. Comité de Garantía de

Segunda Reunión Ordinaria. Comité de Garantía de
Acceso y Transparencia de la Información
Presentación de la Declaración sobre la Transparencia Parlamentaria

SEMANA de la
Transparencia y
PARLAMENTO ABIERTO
Transparencia
PARLAMENTO ABIERTO
SEN. LAURA A. ROJAS HERNANDEZ
SEN. RAUL CERVANTES ANDRADE

Open Government Partnership

THE LEGISLATIVE OPENNESS WORKING GROUP:

OPEN GOVERNMENT PARTNERSHIP

www.opengovpartnership.org

OGP Legislative Openness Working Group

WHAT IS OGP?

OGP Legislative Openness Working Group

WHAT IS OGP?

ELIGIBILITY

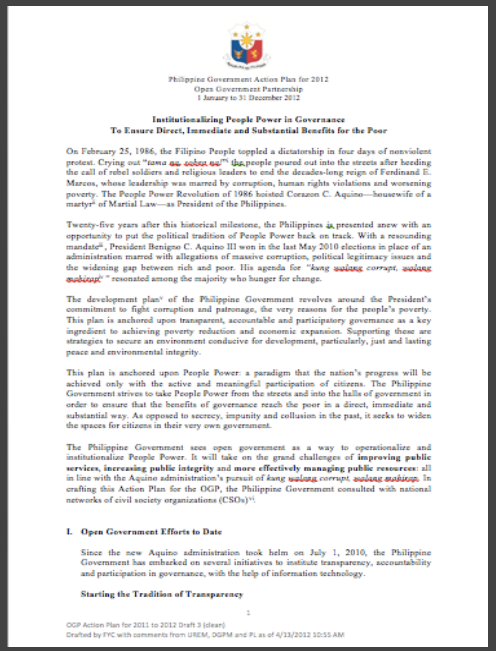
- Fiscal transparency
- Access to information
- Public disclosure
- Citizen engagement

WHAT IS OGP?

REQUIREMENTS:

- Work with CSOs to develop an Action Plan
- Implement OGP commitments
- Prepare annual self-assessment report
- Participate in Independent Reporting Mechanism
- Contribute to peer learning

OGP ACTION PLANS



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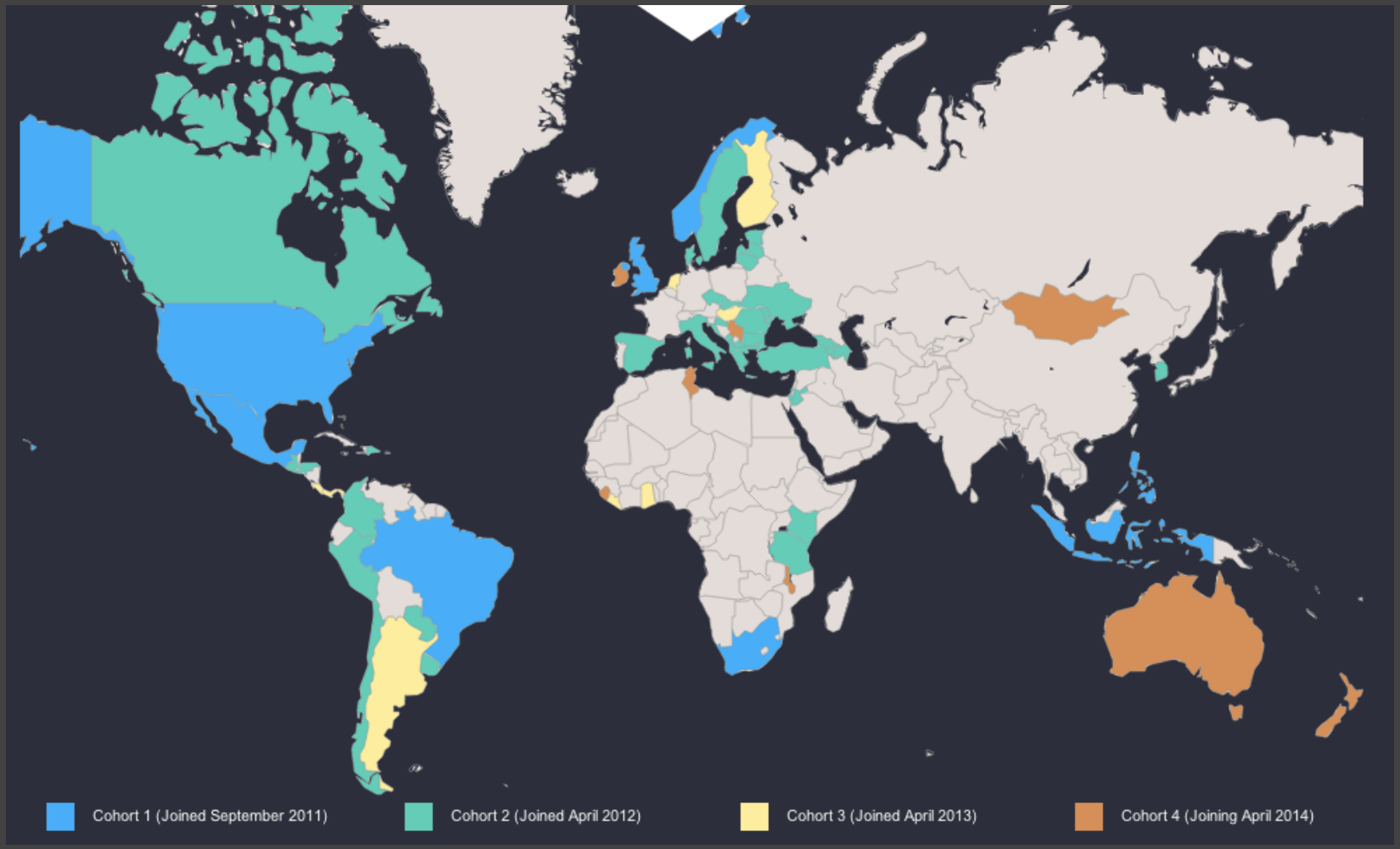
MEMBER COUNTRIES



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2013 OGP ANNUAL SUMMIT

OGP Legislative Openness Working Group

WHERE ARE PARLIAMENTS?

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WORKING GROUPS

- Fiscal Transparency (GIFT and Brazil/Philippines)
- Open Data (GODI and Canada)
- Access to Information (Carter Center and Mexico)
- Extractives (Revenue Watch and Ghana)
- and…

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LEGISLATIVE OPENNESS

- Bicameral Commission on Transparency of the Chilean Congress
- Ministry Secretary-General of the Presidency of Chile
- National Democratic Institute

OGP Legislative Openness Working Group

OBJECTIVES OF THE LOWG

- Help countries create more ambitious Action Plan commitments.
- Facilitate peer-to-peer learning, sharing and support.
- Develop shared tools and resources.
- Explore technical assistance and partnership opportunities between governments, parliaments and civil society.
- Broaden the focus of OGP to include the legislative process.

OGP Legislative Openness Working Group

PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES

Albania
Argentina
Armenia
Brazil
Chile
Colombia
Croatia
Dominican Republic
Estonia
Finland
Georgia
Ghana
Honduras
Indonesia
Israel
Italy
Jordan
Mexico
Moldova
Montenegro
New Zealand
Paraguay
United Kingdom
Uruguay

OGP Legislative Openness Working Group

COMPOSITION

- Executive branch representatives
- Parliamentary/legislative leadership (members or nonpartisan staff)
- Representatives from civil society
- International institutions/organizations

WORKING MEETING

OGP Legislative Openness Working Group

LAUNCH EVENT

"Expectations are rising. People are used to commenting instantly on events and having their voices heard, and they rightly want to have that immediacy and voice heard in the legislative process."

Rt. Hon. Andrew Lansley
Leader of the House of Commons

POTENTIAL LOWG TOPICS

- Common standards on legislative openness
- Assessment and monitoring of OGP commitments
- Enhancing citizen engagement on legislation through online and offline platforms
- Engaging citizens through legislative data
- Sharing information on asset declarations and other methods to ensure parliamentary integrity

WATCH THE LAUNCH

http://bit.ly/17as7Ov

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OPEN GOVERNMENT GUIDE

www.opengovguide.com

OGP Legislative Openness Working Group

OGP Legislative Openness Working Group
2014 WORKPLAN

The Legislative Openness Working Group (LOWG) will plan to hold at least one international meeting, while playing a role in regional OGP meetings over the course of the following year. Topics for these meetings will focus on the issues identified at the business meeting of the group in London at the 2013 Annual Summit, as well as additional feedback received from working group members.

FEBRUARY

Advocacy regarding Cohort 2/4 Action Plan Development

More than 40 countries that joined OGP as part of Cohorts 2 and 4 are due to present Action Plans during the next several months. OGP has asked the thematic working groups to provide support to countries in building commitments related to each group's topic area. The co-anchors drafted and sent a letter to the legislatures of Cohort 2 and 4 countries encouraging participation in the development of legislative openness commitments. The co-anchors are available to facilitate sharing of peer-to-peer experience regarding legislative openness commitments, as requested.

Deliverable: Letter from co-anchors to speakers of parliament

Distribution of LOWG Email List

Using OGP's platform, LOWG will curate an email list of group members. The email list is open to the public, allowing anyone to participate in discussions about working group activities. Individuals interested in joining should email LOWG co-anchors. Co-anchors will also distribute a regular newsletter containing information on the group activities through this list. Individuals can email the list at LOWG@opengovpartnership.org.

MARCH

Workplan and Statement of Principles Finalized

www.opengovpartnership.org/get-involved/join-working-group

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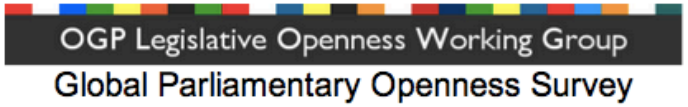
ADDITIONAL EVENTS

- **May 6-7**: OGP Asia Pacific regional
- **May 8-9**: OGP Europe regional
- **September 15-16**: Parliament of Montenegro
- **October 6-7**: Congress of Chile

- **December:** Global legislative hackathon

ANNOUNCING: GLOBAL SURVEY



Welcome to the Global Parliamentary Openness Survey!

This survey was created by the Open Government Partnership's Legislative Openness Working Group to gather information on parliamentary transparency around the world. Specifically, the survey seeks to identify policies and practices with regards to sharing information on the parliament and its activites. By identifying what information parliaments disclose and how they make that information public, this survey will provide parliaments, governments, transparency advocates, and parliamentary development specialists with a global comparative database on parliamentary openness.

A global comparative database on parliamentary openness can help government officials looking to identify areas of success and weakness, assist advocates that are pushing for increased openness in their parliament, and provide a global platform to share best practices across countries and regions.

This survey is the first of two questionnaires designed to gather information on parliamentary openness around the world: this survey gathers data on what information parliaments make public and how they publish that information while the second survey will consider how citizens engage with parliaments. Both surveys are designed to monitor a parliament's adherence to the principles laid out in the Declaration on Parliamentary Openness.

To ensure accuracy and to recognize diverse perspectives, government officials, parliamentary staff, civil society organizations, and other experts are all encouraged to participate. In cases where there are discrepancies or disagreements, efforts will be made to resolve them in a way that is accurate and fair.

Throughout the survey, participants will be prompted to provide links to certain information that is available online. This will assist the researchers in ensuring that the collected information is objective and complete. Additionally, participants will occasionally be asked to answer open-ended

CONTACT INFORMATION

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