

# Opening Open Government: Does participatory and gendered political economy analysis make open government processes more responsive to women?

This action research aims to improve the integration of gender into Open Government Partnership (OGP) processes and commitments. It will pilot the use of a participatory and gendered political economy analysis (PEA) within a live OGP co-creation process. Engagement with and uptake by OGP key stakeholders (civil society, government, OGP support unit) is built directly into the research design and is integral to its success.

It is part of the Feminist Open Government Initiative (FOGO) in support of the OGP and is led by CARE International, in partnership with Results for Development (R4D) and the Government of Canada through the International Development Research Centre (IDRC).

## OBJECTIVES

The project intends to assess the potential of the approach to:



Enhance the capacity of women in civil society to engage effectively in OGP processes, in particular marginalised women;



Increase women's meaningful participation in OGP action planning; and



Increase the quantity and quality of gender-focused commitments.

## EXPECTED OUTCOMES



Women in civil society in the Philippines having more capacity to use gendered political economy analysis within reform processes;



Increased knowledge by OGP stakeholders of the potential for gendered political economy analysis to accelerate women's participation and gender in OGP processes and commitments, both in quantity and quality; and



A set of tailored guidance and tools for OGP to use to scale up the approach.

The **Feminist Open Government Initiative (FOGO)** uses research and action to encourage governments and civil society to champion initiatives leading to gender advancements in open government.

Women use public services, run businesses, pay taxes, drink public water – shouldn't they have an equal say in how governments provide those services? When women are absent from open government, so are their information, knowledge, and skills, and this absence limits the potential of ambitious reforms that will impact daily lives. Yet, women's participation and gender perspectives in OGP are uneven around the world. Only 54 OGP commitments include a gender focus – representing less than 2% of the 3,000 commitments made by national and local governments. By the end of 2019, OGP aims for at least 30% of OGP country and civil society partners to take concrete actions like more ambitious gender commitments and more inclusive co-creation processes.

The Philippines, as an active OGP pioneer member with a vibrant women's movement, has expressed keen interest in contributing to FOGO's goals. This action research is its first step towards a gender-responsive and genuinely inclusive OGP process.

## ACTIVITIES

### Workshop with Women's Rights Organizations (WROs)

29-31 July 2019, Quezon City

This 3-day workshop will bring together representatives of WROs in the Philippines to capacitate these key leaders on meaningfully participating in the OGP process for the 5<sup>th</sup> National Action Plan (NAP). Participants will apply a gender-based typology framework to draft commitments, engage in dialogue with government and non-WRO CSOs on these drafts, and envision what a genuinely women-led OGP process/commitment looks like.

**Open Government Partnership (OGP)** is an organization of reformers inside and outside of government, working to transform how government serves its citizens to promote accountable, responsive and inclusive governance. Since 2011, 79 countries representing more than 2 billion people are members.

OGP secures concrete commitments (implemented in 2-year action plans) from national and subnational governments to promote open government, empower citizens, fight corruption, and harness new technologies to strengthen governance – these commitments are co-created with civil society. The model allows CSOs and direct citizen engagement to play a role in shaping and overseeing governments. In the spirit of multi-stakeholder collaboration, OGP is overseen by a steering committee including representatives of governments and civil society organizations.

The Philippines is a founding member of OGP, and is currently in the process of creating its 5<sup>th</sup> National Action Plan (NAP). The Department of Budget and Management (DBM) acts as the Government Secretariat, while the Caucus of Development NGO Networks (CODE-NGO) serves as the Non-Government Secretariat and main civil society representative.

As of June 2019, 15 national government agencies in collaboration with CSOs have submitted draft commitments. Until October 2019, a series of regional consultations will be conducted nationwide to validate and refine these country commitments with local governments and CSOs.

You can read more about OGP at [www.opengovpartnership.org](http://www.opengovpartnership.org)

Open  
Government  
Partnership



## CARE IN THE PHILIPPINES

CARE is one of the world's largest humanitarian organizations supporting more than 963 poverty-fighting development and humanitarian-aid projects in 94 countries. CARE has worked in the Philippines since 1949, providing emergency relief when disaster strikes, helping communities prepare for disasters, and implementing sustainable livelihood projects. We put women and girls in the center because we know that we cannot overcome poverty until all people have equal rights and opportunities.



**For more details about the project, you may contact:**

Kara Medina, Project Officer

[kara.medina@care.org](mailto:kara.medina@care.org)

+639 17 632 8797



CARE Philippines



[www.care-philippines.org](http://www.care-philippines.org)



Unit 512 Cedar Executive Bldg. #26 Tobias St. corner Timog Avenue, Quezon City, 1100



@CAREPhl



+63 2 351 6458