WHAT WE DO and WHY WE DO IT

Our mission is to support progress toward open, accountable and effective governance around the world, so that citizens can exercise their rights, and societies are better able to address the challenges they face.

We believe that more open, accountable and effective governance emerges through locally-led processes of innovation, learning and adaptation, rather than through externally-driven efforts to replicate standard solutions across diverse contexts. We support these processes, combining country level work and global engagement, with a view towards shaping thinking, policy, and practice on governance and development.

At country-level we facilitate collaborative, data-driven, learning and action to support government and civil society partners as they craft solutions to the complex and often political development challenges they face. We work with those partners to generate, access, analyze and use data, evidence and insights to understand the challenges they face and to inform and inspire their search for solutions. And we support multi-stakeholder processes of policy design and implementation that center on meeting citizens' needs.

We work on four interrelated themes which are key elements of the open governance agenda. We also co-founded and manage the Open Gov Hub, in Washington D.C.

INTEGRITY AND ANTI-CORRUPTION

Our work in this area aims to strengthen domestic and international actors' efforts to enhance integrity and tackle corruption. We do this by enhancing the quality, use and impact of governance data and anti-corruption diagnostics, and by supporting the use of data to craft solutions to governance and corruption-related challenges. Examples of our work include the Africa Integrity Indicators – annual governance assessments conducted with local researchers across 54 African countries – and a recent project with Transparency International which explores through country case studies in Tunisia and Georgia how citizens make decisions about whether and how to engage against corruption.

Key projects: _Africa Integrity Indicators_ | _State Integrity Investigation_ | _What Drives People to Act Against Corruption_

MULTI-STAKEHOLDER GOVERNANCE INITIATIVES

Our work in this area aims to sharpen the impact and effectiveness of MSGIs, primarily by supporting their efforts to put learning center-stage. This has included our five-country assessment of how the Open Government Partnership (OGP) played out in practice, and our recent work with Making All Voices Count grantees in Kenya, Tanzania, South Africa, Indonesia and the Philippines, where - through a combination of bilateral engagement and facilitated peer learning - we supported their efforts to strengthen the implementation and impact of OGP commitments.

Key Projects: _Learning to Open Government_ | _Learning to Make All Voices Count_

We work at the **OpenGov Hub**

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GLOBAL INTEGRITY

OPEN FISCAL GOVERNANCE

Our work in this area aims to ensure that public resources are used to meet citizens' needs, by enabling them to follow and shape the use of those resources from revenues, to expenditures, to results. We are currently in a second phase of work, partnering with Mexican civil society organizations and government agencies to conduct citizen-centered assessments of the availability and usefulness of fiscal data, with these assessments used to inform the design and implementation of policies which can enable citizens to address sectoral challenges relating to the use and impact of public funds.

Key Projects: _Follow the Money Mexico Phase 1_ | _Follow the Money Mexico Phase 2_

MONEY IN POLITICS

Our work in this area aims to inform the regulation of campaign finance, increasingly extending beyond data collection to supporting country-level policy dialogue. We engage with a variety of the sector's actors as we make the case for tailored approaches to addressing the challenges of money in politics.

Key Projects: _Campaign Finance Indicators_

OPEN GOV HUB

Through our leadership of the Open Gov Hub, which we co-founded and manage alongside Development Gateway, we aim to foster increased efficiency and support learning and collaboration among organizations working for more open, accountable, and effective governance. The Open Gov Hub is the first co-working space of its kind, bringing together over 40 like-minded groups to share resources, cultivate community and open governance. We have recently broadened this work through growing a network of international affiliates, and through a new program of US-focused work on Defending Democracy, in partnership with the Sunlight Foundation and Transparency International.

Key Projects: _Defending Democracy - Lessons from International Experience_

We deploy the evidence and insights generated from our country-level work to inform global discussions about the value and limits of learning-centered and adaptive approaches to development. This includes our engagement with actors such as the Open Government Partnership, the World Bank, USAID, the Millennium Challenge Corporation, and DFID, to inform and encourage their efforts to work in ways that support the emergence of locally-led solutions to complex and fundamentally political challenges.

In recent months our engagement has focused on taking forward discussions about three sets of issues: first, the development of a new wave of governance assessments and corruption diagnostics; second, the importance of giving greater attention to the path that leads from data availability, through use, to impact; and, third, the ways in which external actors can support data-driven, politically-engaged, and adaptive approaches to policy design and implementation.

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