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 | How People Decide 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 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.

To view this online please go to http://bit.ly/GI_WhatWeDo

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