

# BIBLIOMETRIC ANALYSIS OF OPEN GOVERNMENT: A STUDY ON THE OPEN GOVERNMENT PARTNERSHIP

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## Article History

Received: 21-08-2023

Revision: 27-08-2023

Accepted: 28-08-2023

Published: 03-09-2023

**Abstract.** This study aims to analyze the Open Government Partnership (OGP) bibliometrics. The OGP is a global effort to realize open government. In the Google Scholar database, in the span of the last decade, there have been 117 OGP articles that have been cited 486 times. From the article, there are 15 keyword clusters, 1196 total link strengths, and 428 occurrences. Open government partnership, national government, action plans, local government, and multilateral institutions are the keywords with the highest scores. Currently, 73 countries and 110 local governments have joined the OGP. To achieve open government, OGP is committed to increasing the availability of information on government activities, supporting citizen participation, applying the highest standards of professional integrity, and increasing access to new technologies. As a follow-up, OGP established ten policy areas, namely: anti-corruption and integrity, civic space, digital governance, fiscal openness, inclusion, justice, natural resources, open parliaments, public service delivery, and the right to information. OGP has also forged partnerships with leading multilateral institutions to promote and support open government.

**Keywords:** Bibliometric Analysis, Open Government, Open Government Partnership

**Abstrak.** Penelitian ini bertujuan menganalisis bibliometrik *Open Government Partnership* (OGP). OGP merupakan upaya global untuk mewujudkan *open government*. Hasil penelitian ini menunjukkan bahwa pada *database* Google Scholar, dalam kurun waktu satu dekade terakhir, terdapat 117 paper OGP dan telah disitasi 486 kali. Dari paper tersebut, terdapat 15 kluster keyword, 1196 *total link strengths*, dan 428 *occurrences*. *Open Government Partnership*, pemerintah nasional, rencana aksi, pemerintah lokal, dan lembaga multilateral merupakan *keyword* dengan skor tertinggi. Saat ini, 73 negara dan 110 pemerintah local telah bergabung dalam OGP. Untuk mencapai pemerintahan yang terbuka, OGP berkomitmen meningkatkan ketersediaan informasi tentang kegiatan pemerintah, mendukung partisipasi warga negara, menerapkan standar integritas profesional tertinggi, dan meningkatkan akses ke teknologi baru. OGP menetapkan sepuluh bidang kebijakan yakni antikorupsi dan integritas, ruang sipil, tata kelola digital, keterbukaan fiskal, inklusi, keadilan, sumber daya alam, parlemen terbuka, penyelenggaraan layanan publik, dan hak atas informasi. OGP juga menjalin kemitraan dengan lembaga multilateral terkemuka untuk mempromosikan dan mendukung pemerintahan terbuka.

**Kata Kunci:** Analisis Bibliometrik, Open Government, Open Government Partnership

**How to Cite:** Erdayani, R., Afandi, M., & Afandi, S. A. (2023). Bibliometric Analysis of Open Government: A Study on the Open Government Partnership. *Indo-Fintech Intellectuals: Journal of Economics and Business*, x 3 (2), 276-294. <http://doi.org/10.54373/ifiheb.v3i2.180>.

## INTRODUCTION

Over the past decade, Open Government (OG) has been seen as a potent instrument for enacting administrative changes and transforming governments all over the world (S. A. Afandi et al., 2022; Erdayani et al., 2022, 2023). While OG has been around since the codification of Athenian law in Greece (Moon, 2020), the current OG effort concerned with people's access to information may be dated back to the Visigothic Code of the Kingdom of Sweden. Different from market-oriented and bureaucratic principles, OG is a trend in public management reform that strives to set up a transparent and collaborative governance structure (Ingrams, 2020). Although OG is not a new notion, how it is understood has changed because of shifting social circumstances and developments in information and communication technologies (M. Afandi & Afandi, 2018a, 2018b; Wirtz et al., 2019).

The definition of OG can be traced to the Obama administration, which focused on the intensive use of information and communication technology to facilitate government transparency, citizen participation, and public collaboration (M. Afandi & Afandi, 2019; Ingrams et al., 2020; Prastya et al., 2021; Zulfa & Afandi, 2023). OG has been an interesting agenda being promoted by many governments since the 2000s. OG can be said to be as important as the New Public Management in the 1980s and 1990s (Moon, 2020). The OG initiative has been widely introduced not only in Western democracies, but also in developing countries such as Thailand, Sri Lanka, Kenya, and Indonesia (M. Afandi & Afandi, 2018c).

OG has become an important strategy for administrative reform, driving countries around the world to design and implement initiatives related to access to information, transparency, participation, and collaboration (S. A. Afandi, Afandi, & Anugerah, 2023; Gil-Garcia et al., 2020). Many governments have expanded OG, for example, the Obama administration announced the Open Government Directive in 2009 and later took a leading role in forming the Open Government Partnership (OGP), which is a multinational effort to promote OG worldwide (Moon, 2020; Schmidhuber & Hilgers, 2021). OGP is based on the idea that OG is more accessible, responsive, and accountable to citizens, and that improving the relationship between citizens and government has long-term and exponential benefits for everyone. OGP is a broad partnership that includes members at the national and local levels and thousands of civil society organizations. Through partnerships, these forces work together to create an action plan with commitments and concrete steps (Gao et al., 2021). All OGP members signed the Open Government Declaration and are required to work with civil society organizations to co-create reforms as part of an action plan that can provide real benefits for citizens (Ruijter et al., 2020). Today, people around the world are demanding more openness in government. They

call for greater civic participation in public affairs and work to make their governments more transparent, responsive, accountable, and effective.

Countries in the world are at different capacities in their efforts to promote openness in government. OGP is an effort to strengthen state commitments to promoting transparency, fighting corruption, empowering people, and leveraging new technologies to make government more effective and accountable (S. A. Afandi, Afandi, Erdayani, et al., 2023; Tai, 2021). Open government is a process that requires ongoing commitment, and for that, OGP is urgently needed. OGP members commit to leading by example and contributing to advancing open government in other countries by sharing best practices and expertise and by following agreed commitments. OGP emphasizes the importance of promoting openness, a comprehensive approach, and the availability of technical assistance to support institutional and capacity building.

OGP has attracted the interest of researchers from various countries over the last decade, including studies of the “open government reform” movement: the case of the Open Government Partnership and U.S. transparency policies (Piotrowski, 2017), what’s in a name? a comparison of ‘open government’ definitions across seven Open Government Partnership members (Clarke & Francoli, 2014), the Open Government Partnership: mere smokescreen or new paradigm? (Fraundorfer, 2017), the socialization of civic participation norms in government?: assessing the effect of the Open Government Partnership on countries' e-participation (Wilson, 2020), exploring the effects of the adoption of the Open Government Partnership: a cross-country panel data analysis (Park & Kim, 2022), dan Open Government Partnership: unutilized potential in post-communist EU members? (case of the Czech Republic) (Laboutková, 2018). Although many Open Government Partnership studies have been conducted, this study focuses on bibliometric analysis so that the findings of this research will enrich the Open Government Partnership literature.

## METHOD

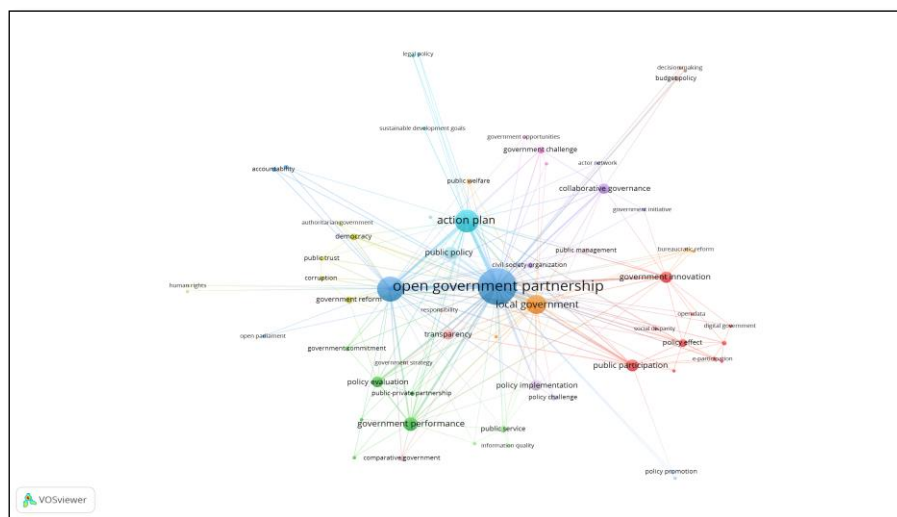
This study uses a qualitative approach with bibliometric analysis methods. Bibliometric analysis highlights critical insights generated from scientific literature provided annually by researchers (S. A. Afandi, Afandi, Erdayani, et al., 2023; S. A. Afandi, Erdayani, et al., 2023; Gaviria-Marin et al., 2019). This study uses secondary data from the Google Scholar database using Publish or Perish with the keyword “open government partnership”. OGP was formed in 2011, and we found the first OGP study in 2012, so this research uses data from 2012–2023. The collected data is then stored in the RIS file format and entered into Mendeley to complete

the file details, especially in the keyword section. The data is then stored again in the RIS file format and processed using Vosviewer to obtain a bibliometric map.

## RESULTS

There have been 117 Open Government Partnership studies on the Google Scholar database in the last decade, and they have been cited 486 times. The paper obtains 44.18 citations per year, 4.15 citations per paper, an h-index of 8, and a g-index of 20. The h-index is an index that measures the productivity and impact of a work published by an undergraduate. This index is based on the number of scientific works produced by a scholar and the number of citations received from other publications.

This index is designed to improve on previous indexes, such as the total number of citations or publications. Unlike the h-index, the g-index is an alternative to the h-index. Similar to the h-index, the g-index is also a citation metric at the individual author level. However, this index is calculated based on the distribution of citations received by a researcher's article. Unlike the h-index, this index pays attention to the average number of citations. Based on the results of the network visualization (Figure 1), there are 60 keywords from 117 Open Government Partnership papers. This figure is obtained from the calculation that keywords that appear more than once are still counted as one keyword.



**Figure 1.** Network visualization (Source: vosviewer analysis results, 2023)

Labels and circles serve as the representation of keywords in network visualization. The weights of the label and circle determine their respective sizes. The more keywords, the bigger the labels and circles that are produced (Gaviria-Marin et al., 2019). The cluster where the

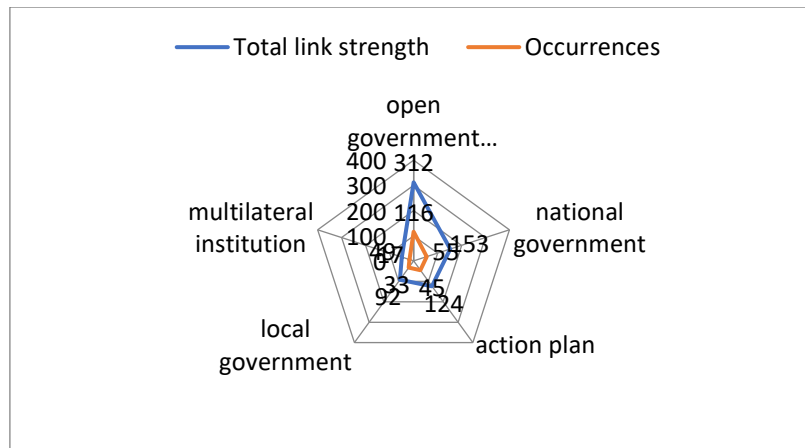
keywords are located (table 1) determines the color of the network visualization, and the lines between the keywords stand in for links (Ham et al., 2019). Some keywords are not displayed because they avoid overlapping. The closer the keywords are, the stronger the linkage will be (Lnenicka & Saxena, 2021).

**Table 1.** Keyword clusters

Cluster	Item
1	public participation, government innovation, policy effect, e-government, e-participation, policy socialization, digital government, economic policy, open data, social disparity
2	government performance, policy evaluation, government commitment, public-private partnership, accessibility, policy recommendation
3	open government partnership, national government, local government, accountability, open parliament
4	democracy, government reform, public trust, corruption, authoritarian government
5	collaborative governance, civil society organization, actor network, government initiative
6	action plan, legal policy, open justice, sustainable development goals
7	bureaucratic reform, policy strategy, policy implication, public welfare
8	budget policy, decision making, dynamic programming
9	government challenge, government opportunities, policy institutionalization
10	transparency, government strategy, responsibility
11	public service, service standard, information quality
12	policy promotion, administrative reform, public management
13	policy implementation, policy challenge, comparative government
14	human rights, inclusive government
15	public policy, diffusion effects

Source: Vosviewer analysis results, 2023

There are 15 keyword clusters generated by this visualization. Each cluster has a number of different keywords. There are 10 keywords in cluster 1; 6 keywords in cluster 2; 5 keywords in clusters 3 and 4; 4 keywords in clusters 5, 6, and 7; 3 keywords in clusters 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, and 13; and 2 keywords in clusters 14 and 15. The grouping of keywords in this visualization is based on links between keywords contained in each paper. While the keywords that have the largest label and circle sizes (picture 2) in this visualization are based on the calculation of the total link strength and occurrences.



**Figure 2.** Total link strength and occurrences (Source: Vosviewer Analysis Results, 2023)

Open government partnership (312 total link strengths and 116 occurrences), national government (153 total link strengths and 55 occurrences), action plans (124 total link strengths and 45 occurrences), local government (92 total link strengths and 33 occurrences), and multilateral institutions (49 total link strengths and 17 occurrences) are the keywords that dominate this visualization. There are 1196 total link strengths and 428 occurrences of all keywords in the Open Government Partnership paper. Total link strength shows the total link strength of a keyword with other keywords, while occurrences show the total occurrence of a keyword in all papers (Safarov, 2019).

## DISCUSSION

### Government Membership

Currently, 73 countries (table 2) and 110 local governments (table 3) have joined the OGP (Schmidhuber & Hilgers, 2021; Steering Committee Open Government Partnership, 2022; Wirtz et al., 2019). Every two years, all of these members make an action plan outlining concrete commitments in efforts to increase transparency, accountability, and public participation in government.

**Table 2.** National members

Areas	Countries
Europe	Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Montenegro, Netherlands, North Macedonia, Norway, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Serbia, Slovak Republic, Spain, Sweden, Ukraine, United Kingdom

Asia and the Pacific	Armenia, Australia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Indonesia, Kyrgyz Republic, Mongolia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Sri Lanka
America	Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Guatemala, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, United States, Uruguay
Africa and the Middle East	Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Jordan, Kenya, Liberia, Malawi, Morocco, Nigeria, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Tunisia

Source: Open Government Partnership (2022), data processed

Founded in 2011, currently 28 OGP member countries are from Europe, 13 countries are from Asia and the Pacific, 17 countries are from America, and 15 countries are from Africa and the Middle East. As for local OGP, there are 25 local governments from Europe, 21 local governments from Asia and the Pacific, 41 local governments from America, and 23 local governments from Africa and the Middle East. The most local governments joining OGP are Mexico (13 local governments), Indonesia (6 local governments), Georgia (6 local governments), Ghana (6 local governments), Spain (6 local governments), and Argentina (5 local governments).

**Table 3.** Local members

Areas	Local Governments
Europe	Aragón, Spain; Asturias, Spain; Banská Bystrica, Slovak Republic; Basque Country, Spain; Catalonia, Spain; Detmold, Germany; Elbasan, Albania; Glasgow, United Kingdom; Hamburg, Germany; Iași, Romania; Khmelnytskyi, Ukraine; Kildare, Ireland; Madrid, Spain; Northern Ireland, United Kingdom; Novi Pazar, Serbia; Palermo, Italy; Paris, France; Scotland, United Kingdom; Sveti Nikole, North Macedonia; Ternopil, Ukraine; Timișoara, Romania; Tirana, Albania; Valencian Community, Spain; Vinnytsia, Ukraine; Žilina (Region), Slovak Republic
Asia and the Pacific	Akhaltzikhe, Georgia; Armavir, Armenia; Banggai, Indonesia; Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic; Bojonegoro, Indonesia; Borongan, Philippines; Brebes, Indonesia; Gwangju, Republic of Korea; Gyumri, Armenia; Khoni, Georgia; Kutaisi, Georgia; Ozurgeti, Georgia; Rustavi, Georgia; Semarang, Indonesia; Seoul, South Korea; South Cotabato, Philippines; Tbilisi, Georgia; Vanadzor, Armenia; West Nusa Tenggara, Indonesia; West Sumbawa, Indonesia; Yerevan, Armenia
America	Austin, United States; Bogotá, Colombia; Buenos Aires, Argentina; Cartagena de Indias, Colombia; Chepo, Panama; Chihuahua (Municipality), Mexico; Contagem, Brazil; Córdoba (Province), Argentina; Corrientes (City), Argentina; Cuauhtémoc, Mexico; Curridabat, Costa Rica; Jalisco, Mexico; La Libertad, Peru; Lima, Peru; Los Angeles, United States; Maipú, Chile; Manizales, Colombia; Mendoza, Argentina; Mérida, Mexico; Mexico City, Mexico; Mexico State, Mexico; Monterrey, Mexico; Montevideo, Uruguay; Nariño, Colombia; Nuevo Leon (State), Mexico; Ontario, Canada; Osasco, Brazil; Peñalolén, Chile; Québec, Canada; Quintana Roo, Mexico;

	Quito, Ecuador; Rosario, Argentina; Salcedo, Dominican Republic; San Pedro Garza García, Mexico; Santa Catarina, Brazil; Santo Domingo de los Tsáchilas, Ecuador; São Paulo, Brazil; Sarchí, Costa Rica; Tlajomulco de Zuñiga, Mexico; Tlalnepantla de Baz, Mexico; Yucatán, Mexico
Africa and the Middle East	Abuja, Nigeria; Anloga District, Ghana; Béni Mellal-Khénifra, Morocco; Carthage, Tunisia; El Kef, Tunisia; Elgeyo Marakwet, Kenya; Greater Karak, Jordan; Greater Salt, Jordan; Kaduna State, Nigeria; Ketu South, Ghana; Kigoma-Ujiji, Tanzania; Makhanda, South Africa; Makueni, Kenya; Nairobi, Kenya; Nandi, Kenya; Plateau, Nigeria; Regueb, Tunisia; Sekondi-Takoradi, Ghana; Shama, Ghana; Tangier – Tetouan – Al Hoceima, Morocco; Tarkwa Nsuaem, Ghana; Tétouan (Municipality), Morocco; Wassa Amenfi East, Ghana

Source: Open Government Partnership (2022), data processed

Apart from aiming to achieve open government, OGP also has an agenda to promote open government throughout the world. Of the eight OGP founding countries, in the United States only Austin and Los Angeles have joined the local OGP; in Indonesia only Banggai, Bojonegoro, Brebes, Semarang, West Nusa Tenggara, and West Sumbawa; in England only Glasgow, Northern Ireland, and Scotland; in Mexico, only Chihuahua, Cuauhtémoc, Jalisco, Mérida, Mexico City, Mexico State, Monterrey, Nuevo Leon, Quintana Roo, San Pedro Garza García, Tlajomulco de Zuñiga, Tlalnepantla de Baz, and Yucatán; in Brazil only Contagem, Osasco, Santa Catarina, São Paulo; in the Philippines only Wholesale and South Cotabato; in South Africa only Makhanda; whereas in Norway there is not a single local government that joins OGP.

Unlike OGP, which was launched in 2011, local OGP was only launched in 2016. However, OGP and local OGP have the same goal. Building partnerships between local governments and civil society organizations aims to make governments more open, inclusive, participatory, and accountable to their citizens. Local government is the main service provider that has a direct impact on people's daily lives. Through OGP's local initiatives, local governments can learn how to use open government values such as transparency, accountability, responsiveness, and inclusion to better meet the needs of the citizens they serve. In order to achieve an open government, all OGP members have made four commitments, namely: increasing the availability of information on government activities; supporting citizen participation; applying the highest standards of professional integrity; and increasing access to new technologies for openness and accountability (S. A. Afandi et al., 2022; Gil-Garcia et al., 2020; Ingrams, 2020).



## Action plan

The action plan is a policy framework for governments as OGP members in a joint effort to achieve open government worldwide. This policy, which has been implemented for two years, is a follow-up to the OGP commitments that have been mutually agreed upon. There are ten OGP policy areas that each member has agreed to implement (Gao et al., 2021; Piotrowski et al., 2022; Steering Committee Open Government Partnership, 2022). Each OGP member does not have to implement these policies concurrently, but each member's policy must comply with this policy area.

### *Anti-Corruption and Integrity*

OGP leads the eradication of corruption, including through policies related to issues such as beneficial ownership and open contracts. OGP action plans are an important tool to help implement anti-corruption laws and strategies. OGP members have used their action plans to translate announcements made in global forums (including the London Anti-Corruption Summit 2016, the G20 and G7 Summits, and the SDGs 2030) into concrete actions through close coordination with civil society organizations, international expert organizations, and other stakeholders (Steering Committee Open Government Partnership, 2022).

In 2021, OGP co-chairs, Republic of Korea and Maria Baron, called on OGP members to fight corruption. They have offered ideas to implement through the OGP action plan. These offerings cover areas such as money in politics, open contracts and public procurement transparency, beneficial ownership, whistleblower protection, asset recovery, and fundamental cross-cutting areas such as the right to information, fiscal transparency, and gender and inclusion (Steering Committee Open Government Partnership, 2022).

### *Civilian Space*

OGP works to uphold the basic freedoms of expression, assembly, and association. Civic space is the foundation of open government, enabling people to think and speak freely, act in coordination, and advocate for change without fear of government violence. However, currently, according to CIVICUS, only 3.1 percent of the world's population lives in countries with open civic spaces. OGP's 46 members have made 117 commitments to protect civic space. The number of such commitments has decreased over the past few years, with only 14 members implementing civic space commitments in the 2019, 2020, and 2021 action plans (Steering Committee Open Government Partnership, 2022).

To support states in protecting and enhancing civic space, the OGP Support Unit works to: strengthen the co-creation process, which serves as an important platform for dialogue between

government and civil society; coordinate with various partners to help countries develop commitments to protect civic space and prevent human rights undermining; mobilize civil society and government coalitions; and promote ideas to advance civic space efforts. OGP recommends three civil liberties, namely the freedom of assembly, association, and expression (Steering Committee Open Government Partnership, 2022).

### *Digital Governance*

OGP capitalizes on emerging technological opportunities, such as artificial intelligence, data-driven algorithms, and mass social networks, while developing policies to address threats, including disinformation, discrimination, and privacy concerns. Digital devices and social media have empowered society through broad access to information and global connections. Citizens use technology to hold governments accountable and exercise their civil rights, whereas governments use technology to become more transparent, accountable, and inclusive (Steering Committee Open Government Partnership, 2022).

Governments are innovating solutions to pressing problems, including providing better services, building sophisticated procurement systems, advancing fiscal transparency, and fighting fraud and abuse. The same technologies can also pose real risks to democracy. Unaccountable institutions use technology to pursue their own interests. In addition, public institutions also deal with the unintended consequences of fast-moving technologies that often exceed the capabilities of governments. OGP recommends inclusive digital transformation and innovation, digital rights, and protection against misuse of digital technology (Steering Committee Open Government Partnership, 2022).

### *Fiscal Transparency*

Fiscal openness includes transparency, public participation, and legislative oversight throughout the budget cycle. This policy is consistently popular among OGP members. Over the past decade, OGP members have used their action plans to increase participation in budgeting (particularly by women and marginalized groups), ensure that fiscal information is published in accessible languages, and more recently, issue a COVID-19 emergency fund. Fiscal transparency is a fundamental policy reform for any anti-corruption, open response, recovery, or renewal efforts (Steering Committee Open Government Partnership, 2022).

Fiscal openness commitments tend to have much higher targets and stronger initial results than other commitments in the OGP. Fiscal transparency through OGP action plans is positively related to improving the performance of OGP members. In particular, OGP countries

that have made commitments regarding fiscal transparency have become more open. The reforms of the last decade would not have been possible without the support of civil society and partner organizations that have consistently provided technical assistance (Steering Committee Open Government Partnership, 2022).

### *Inclusion*

Inclusion is the basis for achieving more just, representative, and accountable policies. Open government is one important way to broaden the base of participation in policymaking and ensure policies reflect the concerns of those most affected. For governments to be truly open and representative, they must serve everyone, including those who may have special policy needs, experience physical, intellectual, or social vulnerability, or have no political access or influence. Open government is one important way to broaden the base of diverse participation in policymaking and ensure policies reflect the needs, priorities, and input of those who use them (Steering Committee Open Government Partnership, 2022).

OGP members have made more than 400 commitments related to engaging with communities that have historically been underrepresented in open government efforts. The commitment to inclusion meets the various needs of underrepresented or vulnerable groups. These commitments range from expanding access to health, employment, education, participatory budgeting, and procurement to increasing leadership and representation in decision-making bodies (Steering Committee Open Government Partnership, 2022).

### *Justice*

OGP works to extend responsiveness, accountability, and inclusion into all justice systems. Within the OGP, justice has also been a popular policy area for reform in recent years. The justice system is one of the main ways that community members protect their rights and hold their governments accountable. In many countries, citizens are still subject to unclear legal processes, inaccessible legal aid, or discriminatory practices that prevent them from obtaining equal access to justice. Issues of justice and judicial independence must also be addressed through increased transparency and accountability (Steering Committee Open Government Partnership, 2022).

The Ministry of Justice as well as institutions at the grassroots level, such as legal aid organizations, have a role to play in delivering justice services and should be involved in designing solutions to people's justice problems. OGP has made a commitment to progress on equity priorities by adopting the United Nations' Sustainable Development Agenda. OGP

brings together governments and civil society organizations to advance this commitment through sharing best practices and developing new commitments (Steering Committee Open Government Partnership, 2022).

### *Natural Resources*

An open government approach is critical in many aspects of resource governance, such as preventing corruption. More than 50 OGP countries depend on oil, gas, and minerals as their most important sources of government and export revenue. However, evidence shows that they perform less well on human development indicators than countries with fewer natural resources. The root of this underperformance is the government's failure to adequately address the institutional and policy challenges that accompany natural resource governance (Steering Committee Open Government Partnership, 2022)

Open government approaches to land governance and spatial planning can also help address inequalities, protect the environment, and maintain peace in communities. Formal, transparent, and accountable land tenure empowers citizens to invest in their own communities, protect their natural resources, and interact peacefully with one another. Likewise, when governments allow communities to participate in the management of their natural resources, those resources can become a source of significant economic benefits, helping to break the cycle of poverty in developing societies (Steering Committee Open Government Partnership, 2022).

### *Open Parliament*

Open parliaments promote transparency, participation, and accountability, both within parliamentary institutions and throughout government. Ensuring access to legislative information and creating mechanisms for public participation and accountability are critical to building open and trusting relationships with citizens. Parliaments can also set an example by adopting the principles of open government in their own processes and practices, including steps to increase their accountability to citizens (Steering Committee Open Government Partnership, 2022).

Many of the main aspirations of the open government movement are to pursue a rights-based approach, institute reform, promote and protect civic space, sustain democratic processes, and ensure an open response, which require parliamentary support and approval. In addition, there have been many demands from citizens for parliament to be more open, inclusive, and effective in representing the interests of all. Parliamentary engagement has

become an integral part of the open government philosophy and a key element of open government reform. Parliamentary involvement in OGP ranges from parliaments actively participating in national multistakeholder forums and leading commitments in national action plans to conducting co-creation processes (Steering Committee Open Government Partnership, 2022).

### *Public Service Delivery*

OGP can improve health, education and other public services through transparency and citizen engagement to increase accountability. To date, more than 100 OGP members have committed to reforms related to public services. While most OGP commitments focus solely on transparency, the most successful commitments also include an accountability component. Public service delivery has important intersections with other thematic areas of open government, such as anti-corruption, citizen participation, access to justice, and digital innovation. OGP members can improve public service delivery by opening up budgeting and spending processes, disclosing contract information, reducing conflicts of interest, strengthening citizen participation, expanding access to justice, and using digital innovation to enable citizens to exercise their civil rights and hold governments to account (Steering Committee Open Government Partnership, 2022).

### *Right to Information*

Access to information means access to justice. Citizens armed with information can claim what is rightfully theirs. For this reason, OGP members are required to have a law that guarantees the right to information. The right to access government-owned information is a critical component of democracy and a basic pillar of open government. Access to information inherently increases government transparency, enabling citizens to participate in decision-making and hold governments accountable for their decisions (Steering Committee Open Government Partnership, 2022)

Reform in this area is especially important in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, where many governments have limited right to information laws following the state of emergency. Access to information on government spending and procurement is an important part of open response, recovery, and reform efforts across OGP countries, including in regions such as Europe, where access to information is a fundamental part of the Recovery and Resilience Facility. A country's commitment to proactively provide high-value information is at the heart of open government (Steering Committee Open Government Partnership, 2022).

## Multilateral Institution

Collaboration is a prerequisite for achieving an open government; for this reason, OGP has established partnerships with leading multilateral institutions. OGP has mobilized new investment and technical support to strengthen open government reforms around the world. The World Bank Group (WBG), United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), Organization of American States (OAS), Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), Asian Development Bank (ADB), Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), United Nations Development Program (UNDP), and New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) are OGP partner multilateral institutions in promoting open government (De Blasio & Selva, 2019; Matheus & Janssen, 2020; Schnell, 2020; Steering Committee Open Government Partnership, 2022; Tai, 2021).

- The World Bank Group (WBG) actively supports OGP members across the region as well as countries wishing to join the partnership. The WBG provides financial and technical assistance for the development and implementation of OGP's national action plans and to facilitate the exchange of knowledge among OGP members so that successful experiences in open government practices can be more quickly adopted. The WBG has also established the Open Government Global Solutions Group to ensure an integrated approach to open government, to explore opportunities to align OGP commitments and timelines with Bank portfolios and sizes, and to demonstrate the real value of openness for development (Steering Committee Open Government Partnership, 2022).
- The United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) has supported Latin American and Caribbean countries to formulate and develop their action plans. ECLAC has developed training courses, technical consultations, and research through the publication of documents that blend theory with practice and systematize the experience of regional countries in implementing and developing the principles of open government. ECLAC also acts as a regional platform to facilitate the exchange of experiences, good practices, and innovative initiatives, as well as a catalyst for emerging stakeholder networks from government, civil society, and the private sector in the fields of open governance and open data (Steering Committee Open Government Partnership, 2022).
- The Organization of American States (OAS) contributes to the promotion of the principles of open government through various programs and projects that seek to strengthen public institutions to be more transparent and effective and have mechanisms for public

participation. Through the OAS Fellowship on Open Government and Course on Open Government Strategies, OAS contributes to enhancing the technical capacity and leadership skills of American public officials and political leaders so that they are prepared to address citizen demands. OAS also provides strategies, methodologies, mechanisms, and tools to increase transparency in public services, strengthen accountability, and train public participation. The organization supports its member countries in fighting corruption, increasing access to public information, promoting e-government and open data, and facilitating dialogue and the exchange of experiences on innovative open government practices (Steering Committee Open Government Partnership, 2022).

- The Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) has supported the Latin America and Caribbean (LAC) region to design and implement open government policies by: (i) providing interchangeable and non-replaceable financial and technical assistance, such as geo-referential maps of Colombia to monitor mining royalty investments; (ii) generating knowledge, such as an analysis of the OGP action plan on the LAC; and (iii) facilitating policy dialogue for its 26 borrowing member countries. Among these countries, Colombia, El Salvador, Honduras, Paraguay, Peru, Trinidad, and Tobago received technical assistance to fulfill OGP action plan commitments. Specifically with Uruguay, IDB is helping the country increase the availability of online procedures and services, simplify the interactions of citizens and businesses with the government, and promote interoperability between different government agencies (Steering Committee Open Government Partnership, 2022).
- The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has facilitated knowledge sharing through inter-governmental and civil society peer exchanges to identify successful open government practices and promoted the sharing of lessons through a series of regional events and workshops since 2014. ADB has also supported regional outreach events led by Indonesia in Cambodia, Myanmar, Malaysia, and Papua New Guinea. ADB is currently working with the Armenian government and civil society to support community participation and oversight to strengthen the government's school building project. ADB can support member countries in developing and implementing their national action plans at the request of governments. ADB will also work with interested member countries to meet the OGP eligibility criteria (Steering Committee Open Government Partnership, 2022).
- The Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) has provided targeted technical support to countries wishing to join the OGP, helping them implement reforms to meet the OGP's eligibility criteria. In addition, the OECD also supports OGP-

participating countries by enhancing their OGP action plans and the impact of their open government policies. For example, the OECD provides technical guidance to Tunisia's Ministry of Finance as it has worked with civil society representatives to co-produce the citizens' budget. Simultaneously with the publication of the Executive Budget Proposal for the first time, this will enable Tunisia to join the OGP (Steering Committee Open Government Partnership, 2022).

- The United Nations Development Program (UNDP) has supported the development and implementation of OGP commitments in many countries. UNDP has been at the forefront of helping countries build inclusive, responsive, and accountable institutions as a necessity for sustainable development, including as an OGP partner. For example, UNDP has worked with the Government of Mexico to integrate social inclusion indicators into an open data platform that allows citizens to follow Mexico's development progress and engage with the government on creating solutions. In Serbia, UNDP helped set up a parliamentary "moving committee," and in Chile, UNDP supported the elaboration of the first plan of action for legislative openness. UNDP engages with OGP countries to promote peaceful and inclusive societies supported by institutions that are effective, accountable, and responsive to all (Steering Committee Open Government Partnership, 2022).
- The New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) has consolidated democracy and sound economic governance in Africa. Through their program, African leaders have made a commitment to their people and to the world to work together to rebuild the continent. This is a pledge to promote peace and stability, democracy, good economic management, and people-centered development, and to hold each other accountable for the terms of the agreements outlined in the agreed programs (Steering Committee Open Government Partnership, 2022).

OGP's partnerships with leading multilateral institutions are critical to increasing the resources available to support OGP members in implementing their open government reform commitments. Multilateral partners have also been working to expand OGP by assisting countries and local governments that wish to qualify to join.

## CONCLUSION

The Open Government Partnership is a global effort to realize open government. There are 117 OGP articles and 486 citations in the Google Scholar database from the last decade. In this article, there are 15 keyword clusters with a varying number of keywords in each cluster. The



grouping is based on links between keywords contained in each paper. Open government partnership, national government, action plans, local government, and multilateral institutions are the dominating keywords. Overall, there are 1196 total link strengths and 428 occurrences of all keywords in the Open Government Partnership paper. Currently, 73 countries and 110 local governments have joined the OGP. As the founder of OGP noted, in the United States, only two local governments have joined OGP; in Indonesia, six; in England, three; in Mexico, thirteen; in Brazil, four; in the Philippines, two; in South Africa, one; and in Norway, not a single local government has joined OGP.

In order to achieve open government, OGP is committed to increasing the availability of information about government activities, supporting citizen participation, applying the highest standards of professional integrity, and increasing access to new technologies for transparency and accountability. Following this commitment, the OGP established its policy areas for anti-corruption and integrity, civic space, digital governance, fiscal openness, inclusion, justice, natural resources, open parliaments, public service delivery, and the right to information. OGP also collaborates with the World Bank Group, the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, the Organization of American States, the Inter-American Development Bank, the Asian Development Bank, the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development, the United Nations Development Programme, and the New Partnership for Africa's Development in efforts to promote and implement OGP.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

The results of this study can be used as a basis for other researchers who focus on Open Government Partnership studies; in particular, the OGP trends that we present can be followed up as new ideas for other researchers in this field. This research can also be used as material for consideration by stakeholders, including the governments of countries that are members of the Open Government Partnership, in policymaking and can contribute to the Open Government Partnership institutionally to improve performance.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The authors express their gratitude to the Institute for Research and Community Service at Sultan Syarif Kasim Riau State Islamic University for their valuable support in facilitating the execution of this research project.

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