

**Open Contracting Partnership (OCP)
Advisory Board Meeting
Public Minutes
London, UK November 9 - 10, 2015**

Attendance

Present Advisory Board Members: Robert Hunja (Chair), Rakesh Rajani (Vice-Chair), Chris Anderson, Alan Detheridge, Angge Gregorio Medel, Jeff Gutman, Stephen Peel, Claire Schouten, Jeni Tenison and Paca Zuleta.

Excused: Amin Mohamed Adam, Laura Bacon, Beth Noveck

Other participants: Gavin Hayman (Executive Director Open Contracting Partnership), Kathrin Frauscher (Deputy and Program Director), Georg Neumann (Senior Communications Manager)

Key Decisions

OCP Progress Update

The Open Contracting Partnership team gave an update on progress and challenges since the last Advisory Board meeting in November. According to the targets outlined in the [strategy](#), the team is slightly ahead of its annual targets. The focus now is on shifting from a 'start up' phase, which was centered around formulating the strategy and opportunistic engagements with supporters and allies, to a comprehensive program to achieve our strategy. The OCP now plans to expand its advocacy engagement to start the decisive global shift to openness. We will deepen our country engagement to make sure they yield real results on the ground, support partners and champions with arguments, technical assistance and learning, documenting and research. Continuing to raise resources through fundraising remains a priority.

The OCP team also presented its draft budget for the financial year from October 2015 to September 2016. The budget was provisionally approved by the Board, pending a full review by the end of the year once it has been put into the management reports from the Partnership's new fiscal sponsor, the Fund for the City of New York.

Advisory Board members were pleased with the progress by the OCP. Clarifications about the OCP's engagement in the G20 and the SDGs process were given. The Board discussed the link between beneficial ownership and open contracting, especially with regards to the upcoming Anti-Corruption Summit in the UK. The Advisory Board recommended that the OCP engages more strongly with the private sector. The Advisory Board offered that members can play a stronger role in international advocacy and public representation.

The Board discussed three key priorities in greater depth:

i. Advocacy & Implementation

The Advisory Board discussed the OCP's advocacy and country implementation strategies. It recommended to link advocacy and in-country engagements more strongly. The Board asked the team to develop and publish criteria for choosing future showcase and learning projects and

advocacy engagements. As part of the OCPs engagement in the SDG process, the Board advised to focus more strongly on impactful country engagement versus the global agenda. The Board will form an *ad hoc* subcommittee on private sector engagement to support the OCP team in reaching out to strategic companies and business fora.

2) Fundraising

Since the last Board meeting, the OCP received grants from the Omidyar Network (\$2.5m until December 2017), a private foundation in Texas (\$1.3m until October 2013) and the Open Society Foundation (\$199K until December 2015). The Board recommended to focus on a number of strategic core funders and, where possible, avoid small, opportunistic project-related funding. The next targets for fundraising are bilaterals and regional development banks. The Board offered its help to establish more strategic connections with funders.

3) Board Engagement and Reporting

Advisory Board members offered to support the OCP more in public communications and outreach and to represent the OCP at events. The OCP will report to the Board with an annual report, a semi-annual report and regular letters in-between. The OCP and Board will develop a register of interest.

Advisory Board Committees

Building on the decisions from the last Advisory Board meeting, the Board decided to establish three standing committees and one ad-hoc committee. The standing committees are:

- Executive Committee: Robert Hunja, Rakesh Rajani and Claire Schouten
- Governance Committee: Rakesh Rajani (Committee chair), Alan Detheridge (treasurer), Jeni Tennison, Robert Hunja, Stephen Peel; supported by Gavin Hayman from the OCP.
- Program and Learning Committee: Claire Schouten (Committee chair), Jeff Gutman, Ange Gregorio Medel; supported by Kathrin Frauscher from the OCP.

The draft TORs for these committees will be finalized based after integrating all requested changes.

The ad hoc committee on private sector engagement consists of Stephen Peel, Alan Detheridge, Chris Anderson, Paca Zuleta, supported by Gavin Hayman from the OCP. The ad hoc committee will be time bound and have a very specific TOR.

Deep Dive on Outreach and Communications

The Board and the OCP team visited the exhibition of Chinese artist Ai Weiwei for inspiration in how to communicate a dry topic like public contracting in a compelling way. e were especially inspired by his work "Straight" which speaks to the human tragedy behind the tofu schools that collapsed in Sichuan in 2008. The Board confirmed that outreach and communications are key priorities for the OCP and discussed some of the key advocacy upcoming communication. The OCP gave the Board an overview of its communication plan focussing on showing data and impact of open contracting, telling the stories of victims and champions, explaining open contracting being technically sound without sounding technical, and engaging with our partners and the overall network of open contracting.

The Advisory Board highlighted that the OCP should make sure to communicate in Spanish and French, and broaden the scope of audiences. Advisory Board members are willing to support the OCP's issues through editorials, blogs or letters.

Global Open Contracting Summit

Continuing conversations from the last meeting, the Advisory Board and the OCP team decided to pursue the organization of a global meeting that brings together open contracting practitioners focussed on celebrating champions, sharing evidence and learning, and highlighting the benefits of open contracting. The meeting will host diverse collaborators, including businesses and service-delivery CSOs. The World Bank will co-host and organize the meeting which will take place in the Fall/Winter of 2016. Additional fundraising needs to be undertaken for the meeting. If not enough funds can be raised by the Summer, the team will not pursue the organization of the event.

Next Advisory Board Meeting

The next meeting will take place in New York City on April 7 and 8, 2016. The Ford Foundation will host the meeting.