



VALUE FOR MONEY, VALUE FOR MANY

Government contracting is vital to delivering public goods and services.

Vast amounts of money – \$9.5 trillion – are spent on public contracting every year and it is government's number one corruption risk.

Open contracting can transform this spending by:

- making documents and data 'open by default' across the entire chain of public contracting; and
- using information to engage business and citizens to shape better outcomes.

No more piles of yellowing paper in government basements but actionable open data and analysis. **The result: better deals for governments, a level playing field for business, improved public integrity, and quality goods and services for citizens.**

\$9.5 trillion if stacked in dollar bills would reach to the moon and back.

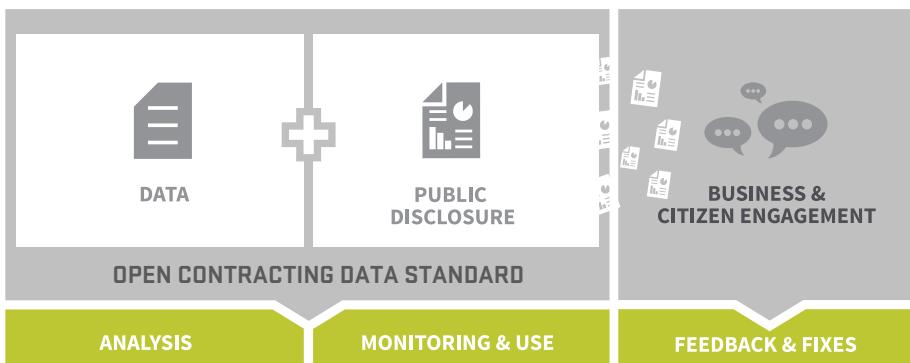
FROM PRINCIPLES TO DATA

Open contracting is guided by a set of global principles for improving disclosure, data and engagement across the entire chain of public procurement.

The Open Contracting Data Standard (OCDS) describes what to publish and how to make this information useful and practical. It is a technical schema that provides for structured, machine-readable information on documents and data like budgets, bid proposals, bidder information, contracts, and invoices. Unique identifiers facilitate tracking and analysis.

The Standard is based around four key user needs:

- Value for money: comparing bids and prices;
- Businesses aspiring to win contracts: understanding what government buys and what past contracts look like;
- Public integrity: scrutinizing who won which contracts when, how and for what;
- Service delivery: tracking quality, delivery and milestones in contracts.



TRANSFORMING GOVERNMENT CONTRACTING

More than 20 countries and cities are working towards publishing open contracting data and using that information to drive business and civic engagement. Innovations include:

Ukraine

Open contracting is at the heart of a new e-procurement system saving the government a fortune and increasing business participation.



Nigeria

Civil society connects health and education budgets with contracts and tracks delivery using OCDS.



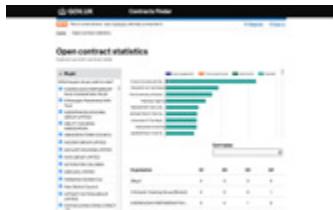
Mexico City

8.8 million residents can explore what, how and from whom the government is buying, from planning to implementation of contracts.



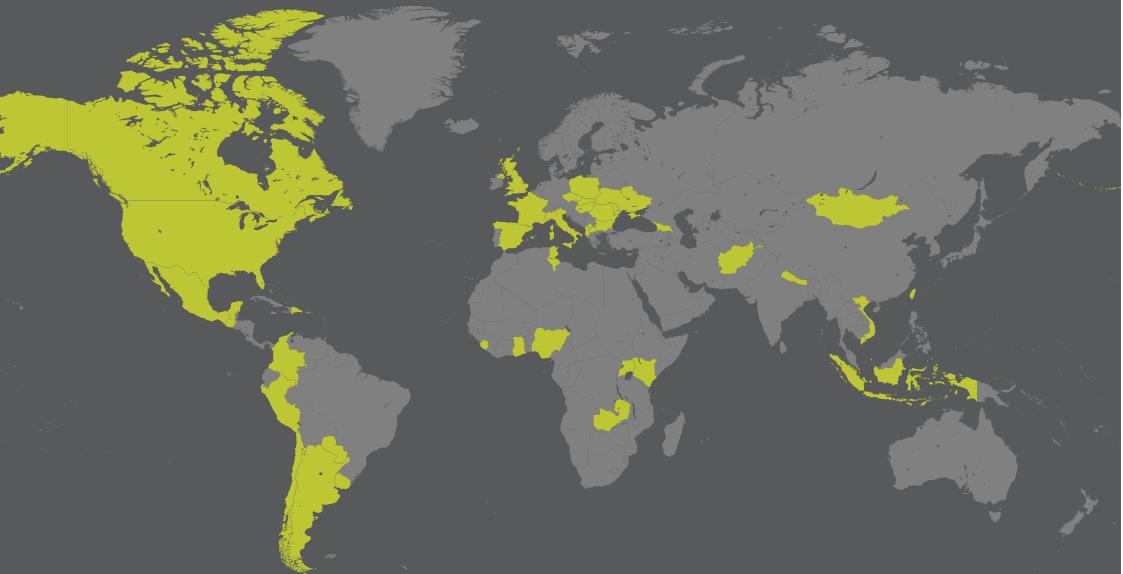
UK

Business, especially SMEs, can access detailed statistics on all current and future tender opportunities through an OCDS platform.



See our 7 steps to get started

MAKE YOUR MARK IN A GROWING GLOBAL COMMUNITY



GET IN TOUCH

The Open Contracting Partnership connects governments, civil society and business to open up and transform public contracting so it is smarter, better and fairer.

We support open contracting innovators worldwide, working across sectors and along the whole chain of government contracting. Our free global helpdesk at data@open-contracting.org stands ready to help.

THE OPEN CONTRACTING JOURNEY

Step-by-Step

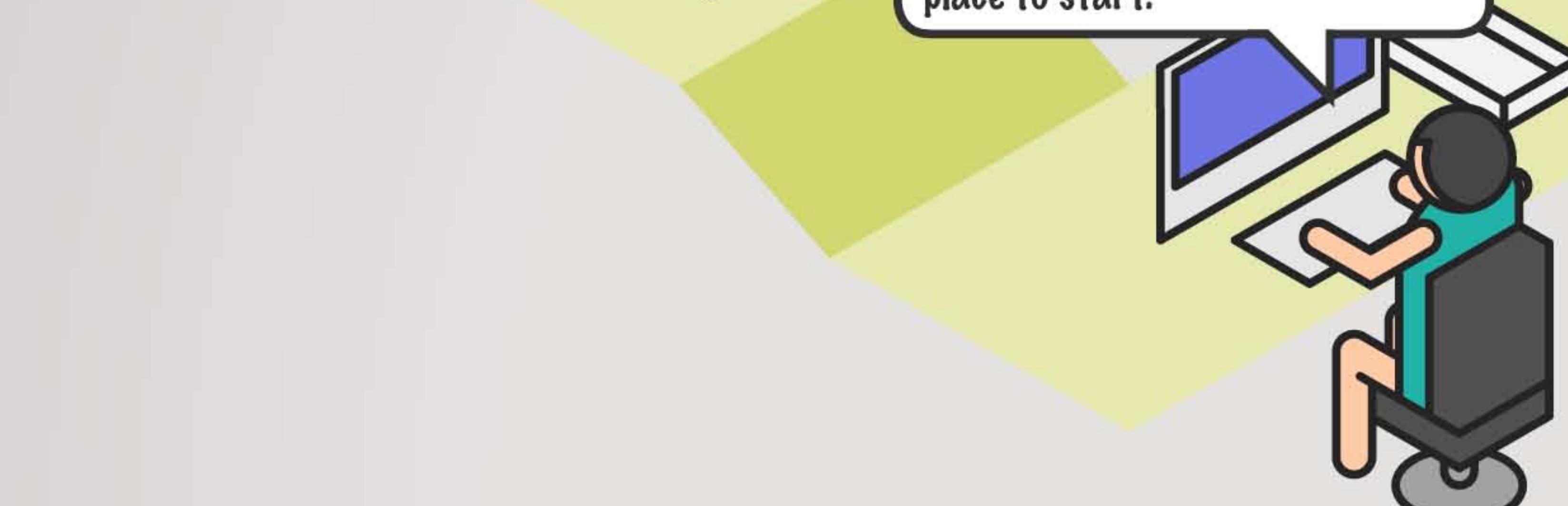
1 DESIGN

Identify the key things you want open contracting to help you with. These goals will guide your priorities throughout.

Build a team with policy and technology skills, engage with stakeholders, and plan how you will measure success.



Consider making a public commitment. Your country's Open Government Partnership National Action Plan is a good place to start.



4 PUBLISH

Publish your OCDS data and documents as open data in line with a clear publication policy.

A publication policy will help you:

- keep your data up to date
- manage privacy and confidentiality
- establish how you will address user feedback

5 USE

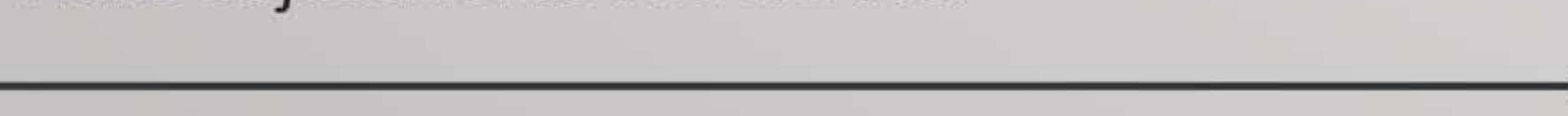
Now you can put your information to use to make a difference.

- Work with partners to build tools that make your data digestible and accessible
- Establish feedback loops and user engagement to fix problems and foster accountability

6 LEARN

Everyone is learning. Improve on what you started.

Make adjustments and iterate.



Open contracting is a journey. These seven steps have helped innovators around the world to transform their contracting processes and create impact. Change is never easy. Feedback, learning, and iteration are important parts of this process.

The Open Contracting Partnership and the growing open contracting community are ready to assist. For resources, case studies and stories about open contracting visit www.open-contracting.org. We run a free helpdesk at data@open-contracting.org. Data tools and the Open Contracting Data Standard documentation in English, Spanish and French are available at <http://standard.open-contracting.org>.

2 MAP

Match your data and documents to the Open Contracting Data Standard and make a publication plan.

Which data and documents do you need to meet specific user needs? Use the OCDS mapping tools to identify information that is available and missing.

This step can also cover the legal and institutional context, issues of technical capacity and identifying new stakeholders to engage.

OCDS mapping tools

Publication plan: Do your data match your goals? Do you need policy changes? Make and share a publication plan so it is clear what you intend to publish and how that information can be used.



3 BUILD

Create your first OCDS data releases. This might involve adapting existing systems or building new tools to extract, collect and transform data and documents.

Validate your draft data against the standard.

Validator tool

Tip: Don't ignore extra data in your systems. You can build extensions to capture locally important information.

Extensions tool

7 SHOW

What have you accomplished? Share your story.

Document your impact: Did you meet your objectives? How did you improve? We can help you create a framework.

Share your innovation so that others can adapt and implement: Have you created new extensions? Tools? Monitoring programs? Legal reforms?

Celebrate your progress with us and the growing global community!



We are ready to help. Share your plans or get feedback on your draft data. Ask early. Ask often.

