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PUBLIC STATEMENT AS 2026 OPEN GOVERNMENT PARTNERSHIP WEEK ENDS

As we celebrate 15 years of OGP global and 10 years of OGP Nigeria dedication to advancing transparency, accountability, inclusion, and citizen participation. We reflect on our progress, rethink our approach, and redouble our collective efforts towards a more transparent, accountable, and inclusive future.

Today, Friday May 22, 2026 ends the week-long commemoration of OpenGovWeek 2026 of Open Government Partnership (OGP) which started Monday, May 18, 2026 with the theme: **Reflect, Rethink, and Redouble Collective Efforts.**

Globally and across Nigeria, partners celebrated **15 years of OGP global** and **10 years of OGP Nigeria's** dedication to advancing transparency, accountability, inclusion, and citizen participation. We reflect on our progress, rethink our approach, and redouble our collective efforts towards a more transparent, accountable, and inclusive future.

Throughout the week, OGP partners and stakeholders under different collaborative platforms in response to this year's theme on redoubling collective efforts organized series of activities including: press conference, an awareness walk, special podcast, social media advocacy, and virtual policy dialogues, to sensitize, educate, and deepen public understanding of open governance and Nigeria's commitments under the OGP framework.

Nigeria has made commendable progress both at the National and Subnational levels. For example:

At the National level, achievements include: launch of the Citizens' Delivery Tracker (CDT), a mobile and web application of the Nigerian government to allow citizens to monitor the performance of Ministries, Departments, and Agencies (MDAs), track priority projects, and provide real-time feedback. Establishment of the Beneficial Ownership Register (BOR) of corporate companies. Launch of the Nigeria Open Contracting Portal (NOCOPO). Creation of OGP/States Fiscal Transparency, Accountability and Sustainability (SFTAS) to drive and achieve key fiscal transparency reforms at states. Increased Compliance with the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). Establishment of the Beneficial Ownership Portal for extractive companies. Development and Launch of Eyemark. Deployment of a Permanent Dialogue Mechanism (PDM), Participatory Budgeting Process. All these reforms are targeted at increasing citizens engagements and participation in governance. And Improved relation between government and CSOs/Citizens. OGP has helped to improve the relationship

between the government and citizens/civil society organizations, removing unnecessary suspicion and remedying the trust deficit which existed hitherto.

At the State level: 28 States, four Area Councils of the Federal Capital Territory (FCT) and one LGA each in Anambra and Kaduna States, are now part of the OGP Subnational Initiative. Yet, the journey is incomplete. Eight States, namely: Borno, Kwara, Benue, Ogun, Lagos, Bayelsa, Rivers, and Akwa Ibom remain outside the initiative and process. Additionally, only six out of 774 LGAs have signed up at the subnational level. These are four out of the six Area Councils of the FCT - AMAC, Abaji, Kwali, and Gwagwalada; and Anambra East LGA, and Kaduna South LGA. Leaving critical gaps in citizen inclusion at the grassroots level across Nigeria.

As Open Government Week 2026 concludes today, we emphasize that this is not the end of the conversation, but a call to action. The momentum built during this week must translate into sustained reforms, including signing and implementation of the latest NAP, that is NAP IV and other practical actions.

Our Call to Action

- **Federal Government:** Sign and implement OGP National Action Plan IV (NAP IV) without delay. This must be backed with sustainable funding and stronger political will across Ministries, Departments, and Agencies (MDAs). The Federal Government must lead by example, showing that open governance is not just a commitment on paper but a lived reality in Nigeria's democratic practice.
- **State Governments:** The eight States that have not signed-up must join the OGP Subnational Initiative without delay. Citizens in these states deserve transparent, accountable, and inclusive governance. For the 28 states that already joined, the next step is to fully implement the OGP Nigeria framework, starting with development of State Action Plans (SAPs), and funding implementation of the SAPs. Signing up is only the beginning, implementation is where citizens will feel the impact.
- **Civil Society Organizations (CSOs):** Continue to hold government accountable, amplify citizens' voices, and co-create solutions that strengthen democracy and development. CSOs must remain vigilant, ensuring that commitments are not forgotten once the spotlight of Open Government Week fades.
- **Citizens:** Stay engaged, demand transparency, and insist on accountability. Open government thrives only when citizens are active participants. We encourage Nigerians to make their complaints, suggestions, and feedbacks through the

Citizens' Delivery Portal, ensuring that government hears directly from the people about how Nigeria governance can become more responsive, accountable, and effective.

Open governance is not a slogan; it is a promise of democracy that works for everyone. As Nigeria marks OGP@15 globally and OGPNigeria@10, let us ensure that commitments translate into action, and that no State, no LGA, and no citizen is left behind.

**#OpenGovWeek2026 #OGP@15 #OGPNigeria@10
#AccountabilityAndTransparency #CitizenParticipation
#ReflectRethinkRedouble #IRIAD**

Signed

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ABOUT IRIAD AND THE ELECTORAL HUB

The **Initiative for Research, Innovation, and Advocacy in Development** (IRIAD) is an interdisciplinary knowledge, policy, and advocacy hub committed to developing a critical understanding of governance processes and regimes through research, documentation, policy engagement, public education, and impact advocacy to inform policies, advocacies, and other forms of interventions. Whilst promoting and encouraging active citizenship through citizens' engagement, participation, and representation in democratic governance.

IRIAD is committed to strengthening democratic governance by advancing public accountability, citizens' participation, women's rights and gender justice, and strengthening the capacities of governance institutions to be responsive, responsible, accountable, effective and ethical

The Electoral Hub is an interdisciplinary knowledge, policy, and advocacy hub committed to promoting electoral knowledge, integrity, and accountability in Nigeria. Our aim is to strengthen electoral governance and accountability in Nigeria through the provision of data, critical and contextualized analysis, and solutions to improve the credibility and integrity of the electoral process.

Knowledge| Innovation | Inclusion|
#Advocacy #Results #Impact
...promoting electoral knowledge, accountability, inclusion, and integrity