BELIZE OPEN GOVERNMENT WEBINARS PROGRAM

For interested participants of the Open Government Belize ecosystem

In the framework of the Project:
“Transformation to an Open Public Administration in Belize (2019-2021)”
Implemented by the Trust for the Americas and the Department for Effective Public Management of the OAS, with the Support of the Embassy of the United State of America in Belize


This session is intended to provide an in-depth overview of the standards and practices when developing open government national action plans. What are actions plans, what’s in them, and how to get there, will be some of the topics to be covered. The Speakers will dive into the processes that had enable co-creation of action plan, also looking at the specific case of Uruguay, where government and civil society have incrementally progressed in the embracing of open government. February 20, 2020 - BTEC, Belize City

Facilitated by Mike Mora, Specialist of the Department for Effective Public Management of the Organization of American States

Mike Mora
Specialist, Digital & Open Government, Department for Effective Public Management (DEPM)
DEPM/OAS

Virginia Pardo
Director of Digital Citizenship eGovernment and Information and Knowledge Society National Agency - AGESIC
Government of Uruguay

Daniel Carranza
Co-founder of DATAUy and Representative to the Open Government Network of Uruguay
Civil Society of Uruguay

PRESENTATION

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VIDEO
Objective:

To build capacities and raise awareness of members of the Belize Open Government National Steering Committee on their role by exposing them to knowledge and experiences from around the world that have contributed to the implementation of successful open government steering committees.

Rationale:

The introduction of open government in any given adopting country since 2011 had inspired adjustments that enable its successful implementation by operating under certain standards. One of these adjustments addresses the generation of an in-country multi-stakeholder working group willing to orient the open government actions to be adopted. With the inception of the very first national open government steering committee in Belize in 2020, this project seeks to contribute in the preparation of those actors willing to participate of the steering committee by providing three basic training sessions on fundamentals of the role and expected actions; including the development of the national open government action plan. Upon successful completion of the training sessions, members of the Steering Committee will acquire the necessary proficiency to successfully undertake their roles. The sessions will be accompanied by the project’s coordinating team in Belize and will be delivered to the group in Belize by international experts in a videoconference format, overseen by the OAS and the Open Government Partnership (OGP).

Speakers BIOs:

Eng Virginia Pardo, PMP

Virginia is a System Engineer, graduated from Universidad de la República Oriental del Uruguay. She is currently the Digital Citizenship Area Director for the e-government Agency of Uruguay (AGESIC), responsible for carrying out projects related to Unify Portal, Government Open Data, Citizen e-participation, and e-government regulatory framework since 2010. She is a Council member of the Public Information Access Unit (UAIP), and the Personal Data Control and Regulatory Unit (URCDP), of Uruguay, Since 2010. Among others, she is responsible of articulating and promoting Open Government in Uruguay; therefore, she is the local representative (POC) of the Government of Uruguay to the Open Government Partnership (OGP) since 2011, She has been in charge of the construction of the 4 national action plans of Uruguay. Virginia has an extensive experience in project management, specifically in the area of e-government, IT information and telecommunications. She has also been Software Development Project Manager for implementation and improvement of processes and standards in the
National Telecommunications Administration (ANTEL), as well as teaching Project Management and IT Service Management.

**Daniel Carranza**
Daniel is the Co-founder of DATA Uruguay (DataUy), a civil society organization that creates tools and advocates for Open Data and Open Government locally and regionally through initiatives such as ABRELATAM. DataUy is also a Member of the Open Government Network of Uruguay (a coalition of Uruguayan civil society organizations advocating for open government acting as the civil society coalition to the open government partnership processes in Uruguay). Daniel is a Consultant in digital tools and media for multilaterals, government, civil society and business. Mr. Carranza specializes in Open Government and eGovernment, and is an Open Government Fellow of the Organization of American States (OAS).

**Mike Mora**
Mike is a Senior Specialist of the Department for Effective Public Management on Digital Government, Open Government and Open Data, working since 2008 with the Organization of American States (OAS). He oversees a portfolio of programs and projects in these areas, including the Inter-American Program on Open Data to Prevent and Combat Corruption (PIDA), and the Technical Secretariat of the Inter-American Network on Digital Government (RedGealc). He is responsible for facilitating the intergovernmental regional open data working group within this network. In his role, Mike promotes innovative initiatives to strengthening democratic governance by making public administrations more efficient and transparent and with mechanisms of citizen participation, including in collaboration with the Trust for the Americas in issues of open government. He is Technical Secretariat of the Inter-American Network on Cadastre and Property Registry, and formerly to the Inter-American Network on Government Procurement as well.

**Links shared:**

https://www.opengovpartnership.org/members/uruguay/

http://rga.uy/


**Chat Transcript:**

Audrey Robin (Trust): Hi and thanks all for joining us. We will start th webinar in 25 minutes, at 10:30AM
Melanie Eiley (BCSP): Good Morning, Mike... all!
David Aguilar (Galen University): Hello. I can hear you.
Noel Carballo [Corozal Junior College]: Clear & loud
Manuel Medina - University of Belize: Hi I can hear you
Melissa Zuniga - BSCAP: Good morning everyone
Robin: The sound is good now Mike
Mike Mora: To participants, please send your questions to speakers at any time using this chat tool
Mike Mora: for participants in belize you can share questions to Audrey or Malenie, our project tem in Belize at the oniste venue
Mike Mora: If you want to know more about Uruguay's Open Government initiatives check this link: [https://www.opengovpartnership.org/members/uruguay/](https://www.opengovpartnership.org/members/uruguay/)
Robin: Indeed. You can reach the local coordinators of the project in Belize at arobin@trust-oea.org and mbarnes@trust-oea.org
Mike Mora: Virginia, could you give us an example of one or two commitments that you like the most (in any plan) and why?
Christine: What would be a recommendation for a country that is just starting to develop the first action plan
Paco Smith [Belize PEACE Movement]: I understand that such efforts are in and of themselves unique, but I wish to ask what was the relative time frame involved in developing Uruguay's initial Action Plan?
Melanie Eiley (BCSP): Did you all receive any funding or it was totally voluntary at the inception?
Melanie Eiley (BCSP): I asked that question as in Belize, it's challenging to mobilize people without funding.
Mike Mora: (In Spanish) Learn more about the open government coalition in Uruguay, known as the Open Government Network: [http://rga.uy/](http://rga.uy/)
Melanie Eiley (BCSP): Thanks! That's what it will take in Belize - commitment from interested partners.
Paco Smith [Belize PEACE Movement]: I appreciate the distinction and dynamic shared between "Open Space" and "Open Government".
Yvette and Roberto Mazariegos: Thank you, have a nice day. Bye
Melanie Eiley (BCSP): Gracias!!
Mike Mora: Thank you to all participants