REPORT OF THE SESSION "*What is the future of Public Administration? The lessons learnt from Open Government in Brazil and the opportunities for the world*"
22nd IOPD Conference Rio de Janeiro, 6 - 8 November 2023

TITLE	**What is the future of Public Administration? The lessons learnt from Open Government in Brazil and the opportunities for the world**
Participating Institutions	Open Government Partnership (OGP), São Paulo City Hall, Osasco City Hall, Federal University of São Paulo (UNIFESP), State of Santa Catarina, Rio de Janeiro City Hall
Lists of the speakers	**Name:** José María Marín **Position and Affiliation:** Senior Programme Officer at OGP Local - Open Government Partnership (OGP) **Name:** Gabriela de Brelàz **Position and Affiliation:** Professor and OGP's Independent Reporter (IRM) - Federal University of São Paulo (UNIFESP) **Name:** Patrícia Marques **Position and Affiliation:** Open Government Coordinator - São Paulo City Hall **Name:** Carolina Matias **Position and Affiliation:** Director of Open Government and Strengthening Citizenship - Osasco City Hall **Name:** Carolina Kichller **Position and Affiliation:** Social Control Promotion Manager - State of Santa Catarina **Name:** Rodrigo Corrêa **Position and Affiliation:** Municipal Secretary for Integrity, Transparency and Data Protection **Name:** Bruno Venâncio **Position and Affiliation:** Technical Advisor - São Paulo City Hall
Summary of the session	The session aimed to raise a discussion around the idea of Open Government and what potential this approach to governance offers democratic society, especially

*Please share **in a maximum** of 500 words a summary of the session: what was the discussion, the experiences presented and the most important messages that were shared during the session.*	in relation to contemporary challenges such as the rise of authoritarian regimes, disinformation and disbelief in public institutions.

In the Brazilian context, we looked at the country's history of promoting the agenda, both through the actions of the OGP's sub-national members and through the construction of the Brazilian Open Government Network, an important instrument for coordinating and promoting the agenda in the country, and the prospects for building an Open State beyond the executive branch.

In addition, each of the sub-national members offered a glimpse of the possibilities for innovation in governance and civic participation that open government favours: (I) São Paulo gave a history of what innovations have emerged through the exercise of Open Government practices, with emphasis on the Open Government Agents Programme, the Open Book initiative and the Participate+ Platform; (II) Osasco presented the innovation strategies for building a city built on the pillars of Open Government, such as innovations involving citizen participation in risk prevention policies, the valorisation of public servants, and the simplification of budgetary terms for the general population; (III) the State of Santa Catarina highlighted its actions to promote Open Government in its relationship with the region's municipalities, as well as the expansion of the agenda to the state parliament; (IV) and finally, the City of Rio de Janeiro gave a brief overview of how it is moving towards institutionalised open government, presenting the main tools that are being implemented to this end, and the future expectations of joining the Open Government Partnership.

Besides the presentation, the session included a collaborative dynamic of identifying problems in certain challenges and co-creating solutions. Here are a few ideas that came up from those discussions:

To make citizen participation less time-consuming and expensive, governments should explore hybrid participation, offer free transport, and provide allowances for participants.
To address the lack of diversity and representation in participatory programs, governments should segment programs by adapting communication for different audiences, and involving schools and cultural institutions.
To tackle the lack of government-wide #opengov action, governments should map sectoral processes, consider legal obligations, and create intersectoral committees.
To shift negative perceptions of participatory processes, governments should ensure transparent communication, and model specific participatory processes by target audience and territory. |
| **Conclusions**
In a single sentence, state the element that stands out in your session. | A problem always has several perspectives and solutions, and the more people and groups that are included, the greater the chances of success in tackling it. The more people, the more legitimate and inclusive the public policy resulting from the process will be. It is therefore necessary to promote spaces for exchange and discussion within and between groups, in short, it is necessary to make government open. |

| **Recommendations for IOPD** *Share with IOPD your priorities and recommendations in order to advance in the topic of your session* | First of all, we would like to congratulate you on organising the event; it was a very positive experience.

We think the main recommendation would be to provide more opportunities for exchange and networking. Open Government is only possible through sharing and dialogue between participants; the success of such an agenda is the fruit of co-creation, of the perspective that the product of everyone's contribution is always more complete, comprehensive and inclusive than something produced by a specific group. In this way, this session, and the conference as a whole, would have been more fruitful with greater opportunities for interaction between participants, such as coffee breaks with specific stimuli for multi-level conversations.

Breaks between activities would also have been useful, giving flexibility to the length of a given activity and preventing either the next activity from being affected or a mismatch between the planned programme and timetable and what was actually happening. |