

Application

Preliminary Question

In which language are you submitting the application (check one)?

Please note that each country has the option of either submitting an application in English, or in their native language **if they are unable to pay for translation into English**. For applications submitted in the native language, OGP will pay for the translation into English before passing on to the judges.

- English
 Native language (please mention)

If you are submitting in your native language and it is non-Latin based language, you will have the option of uploading a PDF file at the end of this application. Please follow the questions and word limits mentioned in the application template.

A. THE TEAM

The following information is required to capture a basic understanding of those responsible for your initiative and any partnerships that have helped you to meet your goals.

INITIATIVE NAME (required)

Provide the name of the initiative that your team is submitting for consideration of the 2015 Open Government Awards. If the initiative is operating under one or more alternate name(s), provide the name that is most commonly recognized.

Data4All (Access, be aware and reuse #opendata)

THE NOMINATION (required)

Begin by describing how this initiative was selected. For example, mention any nomination or consultation process held with civil society partners or others when selecting the initiative.

[100 words]

Data4All is the name that regroup several projects carried on by the Presidency of Council in the last 12 months with a common aim: improve the efficiency of public administration and the quality of public services, releasing useful and understandable public information with the help of open data visualization tools.

The center of the initiative is the new version of dati.gov.it, the national open data portal, released at the end of May.

The project includes also:

- SoldiPubblici - soldipubblici.gov.it
- ItaliaSicura - italiasicura.gov.it
- OpenExpo - dati.openexpo.it

Is this initiative included in your country's OGP National Action Plan?

(Applicants can choose initiatives from within OR outside their OGP National Action Plans)

- Yes No

GOVERNMENT POINT OF CONTACT (required)

Provide the name, title, phone number(s), email address(es) and mailing address of a single point of contact for the purposes of communicating with your team. The person should be the senior most individual responsible for overseeing the application requirements.

Please also provide the name and professional title of the government official responsible for implementing the initiative, if different from above.

Single point of contact

Dott. Stefano Pizzicannella
 Department for Public Administration
 Director International Relations
 Corso Vittorio Emanuele II, 116
 00186 Roma - Italy
 Tel. +39 06.68.99.70.49
 ogp@governo.it
 s.pizzicannella@governo.it

Government official responsible for implementing the initiative

Dott. Marco Bani
 AgID - National Agency for Digital Italy
 Via Liszt, 21
 00144 Rome Italy
 info@agid.gov.it

TYPE OF APPLICATION (required)

We strongly encourage applicants to submit a joint application from a government agency and a civil society organization. Only submit a joint application if a civil society organization was involved in either designing, implementing or monitoring the initiative jointly with the government.

Is this a joint application?

- Yes No

If yes, please fill out the "civil society point of contact" field below.

CIVIL SOCIETY POINT OF CONTACT

Please provide the name and title of a single point of contact at the organization. By providing these details you acknowledge that you are jointly applying with a civil society organization for the 2015 Open Government Awards.

Dott. Ugo Bonelli
 Stati Generali dell'Innovazione
 Via Emanuele Filiberto, 257
 00185 - Roma
 Mob. Ph. +39 338 45.17.233
 Tel./Fax +39 06.77.20.78.50
 u.bonelli@fastwebnet.it

OTHER PARTNERSHIPS (optional)

If you are partnering with one or more other government agencies, private sector entities, media etc., please list each partner. In 250 words or less, provide a brief narrative of the partnership and the role each partner plays in your initiative.

B. THE INITIATIVE

The Open Government Partnership (OGP) is prepared to celebrate a range of successful applicants for the Open Government Awards. This year's theme is Improving Public Services through Open Government. Please visit here for more clarification on the theme. To qualify for recognition, we need to understand the various elements of success of your initiative and its sustainability over time. Please answer the following questions:

PROBLEM DEFINITION (required)

In 200 words or less, please identify the specific problem your initiative intended to solve. Why was this problem important to solve at a particular time and what were the challenges posed by your national (or local) economic or political context?

In Italy the dissemination of data produced by the State is still limited and, in the various administrative areas, it is based on extremely variable rules and practices.

The quality of published data is generally low and the possibility of their reuse is often undermined by the use of non-open formats and licenses that don't allow their re-use for commercial purposes. Although there are not regulatory barriers, public authorities find it difficult to publish open data (and update them).

Dati.gov.it, the National Portal of Open Data, was born in 2011 to host the adoption of open data published by ministries, regional and local governments. Over time, fostered by the adoption of national and regional laws, the number of open data published has increased significantly.

However, after more than three years, an increase of the amount of published data has not been followed either by an increase in the perceived transparency, or improved efficiency of the administration and - more generally - a re-use of the published information. This is caused by an approach based on the quantity rather than the quality of data.

INITIATIVE DESIGN (required)

In 250 words or less, describe your initiative's goals and objectives. How did it aim to improve public service delivery, who was it intended to benefit (specify the target population), and why was it important to use open government approaches to achieve this goal? If your initiative was designed to improve access or services for disadvantaged or marginalized groups, provide details on this here. Describe any innovations in the design of the initiative.

Data4All has been designed around the use of interactive tools and an enhanced research capacity, plus a better data semantics and usability, in order to allow a greater awareness of the information and increasing the sense of transparency and accountability.

The effort is to give priority to the quality rather than the quantity of published data, in order to:

- prioritize the information that can help improve the quality of decision making;
- improve the quality of public services;
- encourage the participation of citizens in decision-making;
- increase access to published information and reuse.

The new Dati.gov.it, one of the pillar of the initiative, has been designed to go beyond the logic of the traditional open data portal, as the hub center of «data4all», containing all the information required to access and describe the data released and published by the other projects.

Hackathons and contests organized by schools (<http://www.programmalfuturo.it/>) promoted the reuse and the creation of applications of published data. Following events will be thematic (data concerning food, traffic, public expenditure, etc.), pushing on the quality of data.

The other projects involve online expenses (SoldiPubblici), the hydrogeological situation and, in particular, the state of emergencies (such as floods and landslides) and related work carried out by the Government in that sector (Italia Sicura), and the financial flows, all the purchases and payments, the state of construction site regarding the universal exhibition Expo 2015 (OpenExpo).

INITIATIVE OUTCOMES (required)

In 450 words or less, explain how your initiative was able to demonstrate one or more of the following results:

- Citizens have better access to information on the public services to which they are entitled, and/or information on the performance of public service providers
- Governments are better at asking for and responding to feedback or complaints by citizens on the quality of public services
- Citizens have ways to actively participate in the design and delivery of public services
- Citizens have mechanisms to monitor and oversee public works and services

Initiatives should also provide evidence if the initiative was able to expand access to public services to a larger population than before or if the quality and efficiency of public services has improved.

If there are any baseline indicators to measure the outcomes of the initiative, please describe them in detail. If the initiative was included in the OGP Action Plan, please describe how this did (or did not) contribute to the initiative's success.

The project Data4All rises from the fact that so far the Open data published through the National Portal of dati.gov.it had a modest impact.

For this reason, even with the help of consultations with civil society, the most important dataset to be published and to be made available through views have been identified, working through single project to exploit them in the best way.

The results achieved in a few months - in terms of reuse - were far superior to those achieved in the past. The visualization tools not only make information more accessible, but they stimulate the use and reuse.

In particular, in a few months, they have been already registered the following impacts:

- better access to information: in six months more than 10 million searches were made thanks to visualization tools of government expenditure "SoldiPubblici". Among these, a lot of research by journalists have been followed by reports and services (both on national and local media); monitoring public works: through Data4All it have been published data of all contracts in progress for Expo 2015, the universal exhibition held in Milan (very sensitive from the point of view regarding the risk of corruption) and all the sites for hydrogeological risks (with indication of the sums allocated for each work)
- co-creation services: thanks to the published data of Expo2015, an association of civil society (Wikitalia) has created a dashboard on the progress of the work through a methodology that can be used for any other public work. After the publication of "OpenExpo" the magazine Wired Italy has organized a hackathon dedicated to datajournalists and developers (<http://www.wired.it/economia/business/2014/12/05/i-ritardi-expo-2015-come-gli-open-data-avrebbero-potuto-farci-risparmiare-denaro/>).

The same method was also used for ItaliaSicura (the code of the application is also available on Github <https://github.com/italiasicura/mappa-italiasicura>).

The application mappa.italiasicura.gov.it and the related data give a comprehensive framework for understanding flood areas of Italy, offering a number of risk indicators across the national territory (e.g. the government spending in public works for flood prevention, emergencies and damages). The application, aiming to increase social engagement and consciousness about natural disasters, is itself an instrument to improve community resiliency.

Over the next few months, after the publication of new dataset, new contest and hackathon will be programmed, in order to promote the creation of new services, along with application to monitor the social and economic impacts in terms of increased efficiency of public administrations.

INITIATIVE SUSTAINABILITY (required)

In 200 words or less, please describe any plans for scaling up or sustaining the initiative. Base your description of the strategy on the information provided in the previous sections, such as how you intend to leverage your current success and increase your reach or capacity. Address any threats or operational challenges to your initiative and describe how you manage those risks on a regular basis.

The results described above were achieved in just nine months and - in this short period - Data4All has already published three sub-projects (OpenExpo, SoldiPubblici and ItaliaSicura) and at least two more will be launched in the following months.

The sustainability of the initiative in the medium-long term is provided by the low cost in implementing individual projects and the systematic involvement of civil society, of national experts, journalists and researchers in the various areas.

The format of the various projects involved in Data4All can be replicated for other similar initiatives, fostering the reuse and the sharing of data and the creation of valuable apps that could promote citizen engagement and increase the standards of living.

The Agency for Digital Italy is committed to guarantee periodic updates of data of all projects, through agreements with other data owners (especially central and local administrations).

Moreover a national open data strategy will be released every year with reference to future data that are going to be published and displayed, giving new priorities identified on the premises of a permanent consultation with civil society.

To promote the reuse of data, in addition to those already made, hackathon and contest will be promoted.

VALIDATION OF CLAIMS (required)

While it is strongly encouraged that each initiative includes an implementing partner, such as a Civil Society Organization, private sector agency, media entity, etc., it is not a requirement. However, you are required to secure and upload documents from at least two credible nongovernmental actors, who can attest to the veracity of the claims made in your application.

You are only allowed to upload one file. If you have multiple documents, please zip them into a single file first. The file types that are allowed to be uploaded have an extension of .ZIP, .PDF, .DOC, .DOCX, .XLS or .XLSX.

Validation of claims - Data4All - Italy.pdf

C. THE PITCH

The following information allows each applicant to make their strongest (and final) case for consideration.

BEST CASE (required)

In 250 words or less, please present the most compelling facts for why your initiative should be recognized. This is an opportunity to distinguish your initiative, based on any factors that you have not had the opportunity to describe in the previous sections. What is your best argument for why your initiative has achieved a meaningful outcome? What elements of the initiative make it different and better than others that have been tried and tested? Be creative and concise.

How much money the mayor spends for consultancies?

How much money the hospital spends for cleaning?

Until six months ago, the citizens did not know who to ask and journalists had several difficulties to find this information.

From december 2014, citizens can download open data of public expenditures updated every week. They can also view and compare the expenditures of public administration with the visualization tool "Soldipubblici" (in a really simple way because only few people know how to read a ".csv" file).

Through "Soldipubblici" - in just six months - there were made more than 10 million searches on these data.

Make the data easier to read has enabled:

- Citizens to access to information easily;
- Journalists to do investigations on public spending;
- Administrations to compare their data with others of a visualization review.

These advantages were been recorded also for all the other tools of Data4All: ItaliaSicura and OpenExpo (this one developed directly by civil society).

These three datasets, in a few months, were used more than any other dataset (over 10 thousand) which for months have been published during last years on national portal.

Access, be aware, re-use.

Data are used only if they become open to all.

VIDEO SUBMISSION or ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS (optional*)

OGP does not offer a venue for applicants to meet our judges during the application process. In order to provide the opportunity for making a personal connection, you are encouraged to upload a short video to complement your application. You may also depict an individual participant in your initiative and describe his or her experience. We do not need to know actual names or personal details. Take this opportunity to tell a story, to connect with our panel of experts, so that they might better understand your attention to specific needs.

Video submissions should follow these guidelines:
 Maximum length of 3-4 minutes.
 Please focus on personal presentations; it's not necessary to develop a sophisticated or polished video.
 Here are some logistical and technical suggestions:

Video cameras, digital cameras, and phones are easy ways to record a video.
 Laptop and desktop computers can typically record video through Skype or other software.
 If possible, set to a low resolution to reduce file size. This will enable an easier video uploading process.
 If you are having difficulty uploading the video file, try logging out of the application and logging back in using another internet browser.
 Here are general suggestions for delivering a high-quality video pitch:
 Introduce yourself and your initiative. Focus on describing your intended benefits and/or services and how they have been effective. What is unique about your initiative, partners, or technical approach? Keep your description and language simple.

* NOTE

If the burden of developing a video presentation is either prohibitive or might not reflect the best characterization of your initiative, then you are not required to submit one, and the judges are instructed not to discount your application because it may not include a video. You may upload additional documents instead, such as proof of implementation and results if you wish. This could take the form of evaluation or audit reports, citizen surveys, media reports etc. that would provide additional validation for judges. We hope that this option offers a new and inventive way in which you can best express the results of your work.
 You are only allowed to upload one file with a maximum of 3 pages. This file must be in English or in your native language. If you have multiple documents, please zip them into a single file first. The file types that are allowed to be uploaded have an extension of .ZIP, .PDF, .DOC, .DOCX, .XLS or .XLSX.

Full Submission Of non-Latin Based Native Language

If your language is Latin based, DO NOT use this upload field. Please use the application above.

You are only allowed to upload one file with an extension of .PDF