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# The future of open contracting in Latin America

**Background**

Open contracting has gained momentum in Latin America during 2018. The region continues to be a hotbed for innovation in the publishing and use of data. New high-level commitments such as the one resulting from the Summit of the Americas in Lima, where Presidents backed an open data initiative, for which open contracting is an important element, clearly demonstrate that interest among publishers has grown. Focus is now turning from having more publishers, to ensuring high-quality data and internal data use, to engaging better with civil and private stakeholders to promote the use of data and achieve measurable impact.

**Objectives of the event**

* Share experiences, successes and challenges for implementing open contracting among directors of public procurement agencies
* Provide illustration about how data can be used both by government and other stakeholders for achieving impact in several possible use cases
* Understand how can OAS/INGP, OCP, ILDA and Hivos could better support the implementation of open contracting in the region by identifying needs and goals
* Share ideas about how governments could work better with local civil society organizations and the private sector for using open contracting data
* Define next steps for 2019 including the roll-out of the public policy on open contracting for the Americas

**Facilitators**

OAS - Helena Fonseca

Hivos - Julio Herrera

ILDA - Fabrizio Scrollini

OCP - Georg Neumann

**Agenda**

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| Start | End | Activity | Speaker |
| 8:45 am | 9:00 am | Registration |  |
| 9:00 am | 9:15 am | Welcome remarks and expectations from the event   * Inter-American Open Data Plan * Participation of civil society and private sector * OCDS as a tool in the region | OAS, OCP, Hivos, ILDA |
| 9:15 am | 9:45 am | 3 groups:   * How can open contracting support and accelerate agency priorities to reach objectives? * Understanding the status of open contracting in each country   Back in plenary: report back on what they learned according to key questions to be handled by facilitators | Each director |
| 9:45 am | 10:05 am | Use cases - how can data help   * Framing: summary of activities of civil society using data in the region * Paraguay: Using data to track contract amendments, payment opportunity and other internal key performance indicators * Uruguay: Building a civil society program based on standardized open data * Colombia: Breaking up vested interests & delivering improved services / PAE | Georg Neumann- OCP / country partners |
| 10:05 am | 10:20 am | Coffee break |  |
| 10:20 am | 11:20 am | Public policy on open contracting  Directors give feedback on the policy | ILDA, directors |
| 11:20 am | 11:50 am | Open discussion: identifying needs and challenges for 2019 - “What I have / what I need” activity |  |
| 11:50 am | 12:00 pm | Closing remarks |  |
| 12:00 pm | 12:30 pm | Light lunch |  |