

September 7th, 2017, Bratislava, Slovakia

OGP BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP WORKSHOP

Organisers



Supported by



This meeting will bring together reformers and practitioners on beneficial ownership to discuss challenges and opportunities that arise from implementing beneficial ownership registers as a tool to combating corruption and money laundering.



Objectives

At the end of the meeting, the following will have been achieved:

- Seeded cooperation between reformers and practitioners across different fields, stakeholders, and countries both on policy and implementation of beneficial ownership registers.
- Exchanged experience on the development and implementation of beneficial ownership registers, and how OGP can be used as an enabling platform to scale ambition around these issues.
- Exchanged experiences on approaches to secure meaningful use of beneficial ownership information (registers) and follow-up cooperation with law enforcement agencies.
- Proposed next steps for collective push on the adoption of international and European framework (recommendations) on beneficial ownership registers, including how this could be further shared with other OGP countries.

Program

7:45 – 8:30

Registration

8:30 – 9:00

Introduction and welcome

Welcome by **Lucia Žitňanská**, Vice-Prime Minister and Minister of Justice of Slovakia and **Zuzana Wienk**, Fair-Play Alliance. Presentation of workshop objectives and agenda.

9:00 – 10:30

Session 1 – Legislative frameworks for public registers of beneficial ownership information

In this session participants will have a debate on challenges and opportunities in developing a legal framework to support the effective development and use of a beneficial ownership register.

Key Questions

What is the state of the play of current legislative frameworks on public beneficial ownership registers as seen across the different countries: their limitations, risks and advantages?

What have been the challenges and key factors for success when developing these legislative frameworks?

Panellists

Laure Brillaud – Transparency International EU (intro and moderation) / Lucia Žitňanská – Vice-Prime Minister and Minister of Justice, Slovakia / Alexandra Jour – Schroeder Director of Criminal Justice, DG Justice – European Commission / Steve Webster – Department for Business and Industrial Strategy, United Kingdom / Vid Doria – Secretary General, Transparency International Slovenia

10:30 – 11:00

Coffee Break

11:00 – 12:30

Session 2 – Challenges and solutions from implementation of beneficial ownership registers

In this session, participants will discuss challenges and opportunities of implementing a beneficial ownership register and share lessons from early implementation, and recommendations for reformers who plan to follow.

Key Questions

What have been the challenges in implementation of beneficial ownership register your country?

How were the challenges in implementation of beneficial ownership register overcome?

Panellists

Zuzana Wienk – Fair-Play Alliance (moderator) / Zosia Szytkowski – Open Ownership / Olena Sukmanova – Deputy Minister of Justice, Ukraine / Jaroslav Macek – Head of the implementing Court, Žilina, Slovakia / Sigrid Klæboe Jacobsen – Tax Justice Network Norway

12:30 – 14:00

Lunch & Networking

14:00 – 15:30

Session 3 – Using beneficial ownership registers for investigations and oversight

This session will present practical challenges and suggestions of improvements by users of the beneficial ownership registers (i.e. investigators, auditors or journalists, etc.)

Key Questions

What are the challenges and benefits of using beneficial ownership registers to address money laundering and corruption?

How can beneficial ownership registers be improved to better address money laundering and corruption?

What tools do investigators/auditors/journalists use to track down real owners of businesses involved in corruption, money laundering, manipulation of public procurement? What regulation would help them?

Panellists

José M. Marín – Transparency International Secretariat (moderator) / Kamil Kouba – International AML expert, former investigator, Czech Republic / Pavla Holcová – Organized Crime and Corruption Reporting Project / František Lobb – Tatrabank, Slovak Compliance Circle / Andrew Sekandi – KPMG, United Kingdom (TBC)

15:30 – 16:00

Coffee Break

16:00 – 17:30

Session 4 – Advancing the international framework on beneficial ownership transparency

In this session participants will discuss the key existing recommendations and frameworks to advance in beneficial ownership transparency and possible action points for OGP community to contribute to this agenda.

Key Questions

Can we identify a roadmap for greater coordination/collective action in advancing public beneficial ownership registers in Europe and internationally across sectors?

How can OGP support reformers around the room to ramp-up ambition on beneficial ownership in their countries?

What kind of commitments might be useful for these countries to undertake in their next NAP cycle to facilitate greater ambition on this issue, and better implementation and use of beneficial ownership data?

Panellists

Tonu Basu – Open Government Partnership Support Unit (moderator) / Thom Townsend – Cabinet Office, United Kingdom / Markus Meinzer – Tax Justice Network / Oleksiy Orlovsky – Extractives Industries Transparency Initiative, Ukraine

