

Application

Participant: Indonesia Team

PRELIMINARY QUESTIONS:

As you consider which initiative to put forward for the Open Government Awards, please consider the following questions:

(1) Does the initiative seek to improve a public policy or service?
 Yes No

(2) If yes, does the initiative seek to improve the ability of citizens to provide feedback and/or to make decisions in the design or implementation of a policy or service? For examples of initiatives, see:
<http://www.opengovguide.com/topics/citizen-engagement>
 Yes No

If you have answered "Yes" to BOTH of these questions, please proceed with your application.

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 by the judges of the 2014 Open Government Awards (under the inaugural theme, Citizen Engagement). If the initiative is operating under one or more alternate name(s), provide the name that is most commonly recognized.

SOLUSIMU (Your Solution)

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. Please offer your explanation of this process in 200 words or less.

The President's Delivery Unit as the responsible ministry for OGP in Indonesia set up an initial consultation with the coordinator of civil society group to discuss the best working mechanism to select an initiative to be submitted to Open Government Awards (OGA) competition. Following the consultation, a meeting involving ten Civil Society Organizations (CSO) was arranged to discuss the nomination process. In the meeting the group was asked to utilize their networks to recommend initiatives which followed the criteria given by the OGA in three days. The group also agreed to form a team of curators consisting of representation from the CSO, government, academician, youth and donor. The role of the curators was to select the best initiative to be nominated through voting process. Three initiatives, namely, Matamassa, SOLUSIMU and a film 'Kita vs. Korupsi' were submitted to the curators. Following a four-day process, the curators picked SOLUSIMU to represent Indonesia in the competition. SOLUSIMU won the majority of the vote by 3 to 2 for its innovative nature in improving citizen engagement in a wide scale.

GOVERNMENT POINT OF CONTACT (required)

Provide the name and title of a single point of contact for the purposes of communicating with your team. The person should be the most senior individual responsible for overseeing the application submission. Provide the phone number(s), email address(es), and physical address of your designated point of contact. You may provide alternate contact information, if it is a direct means for reaching the designated point of contact.

Point of Contact:

Ms. Karina Kusumawardani
 Associate Director
 President's Delivery Unit for Development
 Monitoring and Oversight (UKP4)
 Mobile: +6281513122900
 Email address:
karina.kusumawardani@ukp.go.id
 Address: Jalan Veteran III No. 2, Jakarta Pusat, Indonesia 10110

Alternate Contact:

Mr. Dedi Noor Cahyanto
 Director Open Government Indonesia
 President's Delivery Unit for Development
 Monitoring and Oversight (UKP4)
 Mobile: +6281388522644
 Email address: dedi.cahyanto@ukp.go.id
 Address: Jalan Veteran III No. 2, Jakarta Pusat, Indonesia 10110

CIVIL SOCIETY POINT OF CONTACT (strongly recommended)

We strongly encourage applicants to submit a joint application from a government agency and a civil society partner. If submitting a joint application, please provide the name and title of a single point of contact at the partner organization. If not, please be sure to focus on the "validation of claims" in Section B (see pg. A-3).

OTHER PARTNERSHIPS (optional)

If you are partnering with one or more other government agencies, private sector entities, media, or other organizations, please list each partner. In 250 words or less, provide a brief narrative of the partnership, including the roles that each partner assumes in the initiative.

B. THE INITIATIVE

The Open Government Partnership (OGP) is prepared to celebrate a range of successful applicants to the Open Government Awards. This year's theme is "citizen engagement." To qualify for recognition, we need to understand the various elements of success for your initiative and its sustainability over time.

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 for the particular context in which you are working?

The government effort to listen to its people has been imparted in its decision making process. One example of that is the Development Deliberation Forum which is held annually in three different levels of administration, district, province, and national. Albeit well-intentioned, unfortunately the forum has not been running effectively. This is mainly due to three issues: limited budget and vested political interests which require the government to reorientize its programs; and a lack of clarity on accountable departments to execute the planned programs. If these issues are not addressed, it will create public disengagement, decreased public ownership to the government programs, and eventually reduce public trust.

The year of 2014 is a critical year as Indonesia is going through a change in leadership. To keep the bureaucracy reforms momentum going, a sustainable action plan needs to be formalized to be passed on to the next administration. Therefore in October 2013, SOLUSIMU was initiated to introduce novel and direct ways to engage public in policy making process.

TARGET POPULATION (required)

In 100 words or less, please identify the target population who may benefit from this initiative. Highlight your understanding of the needs or demands of the target population that were addressed by your initiative.

SOLUSIMU tried to target as many people as possible in Indonesia to answer the needs of a more responsive government. However recognizing the wide geographical span of the country, we realized that the best way to reach out is to tap on areas where population is heavily concentrated. Java Island, the area we tap, is where 60% of the entire country's population lives. To reach out to other areas outside Java, the team went on a road show and made stops to few major cities in each other region in the country.

INITIATIVE DESIGN (required)

In 350 words or less, describe your initiative's goals and objectives. Focus specifically on how the initiative was designed to meet those objectives. For example, identify stage(s) of the policy/service design or implementation when you solicited citizen participation. What kind of participation did you seek from citizens (e.g., feedback, consultation, joint decision-making, monitoring of activities, etc.)? Explain why this particular approach was best suited to achieve the initiative's goals. How did you encourage citizens to participate? Describe any innovations in the design of the initiative.

SOLUSIMU was an initiative aimed to improve public participation in the government policy making process and ultimately regain public trust to the government. It was conducted in a format of national-wide competition. The competition asked citizens to give solutions towards national/sub-national development problems they see and/or encounter within their respective societies and what the government should do about it. With a clear target population as reflected above and the needs to reach out beyond Jakarta where the central government is located, two approaches (online and offline) were used to promote the competition. Information on how to take part was disseminated through website, Twitter, and Facebook. Public who wished to participate can submit their ideas through these channels. Albeit the vast usage of internet in the country, 70% of the populations remained unconnected. Thus we set up offline approach by visiting 34 universities, 40 public services, and 35 public areas in 12 major cities across Indonesia. Posters and submission forms were distributed throughout the road show. In collaboration with different municipalities' representatives, civil society groups, campuses and media, we held interactive talks to encourage people to participate in the program. This allowed us to have physical engagement directly with the citizens.

To incentivize public to participate, we made it clear from the beginning that relevant solutions from the public would be incorporated to the Indonesia Action Plan for Open Government for 2014-2015. The action plan is the principal guide for related ministries and agencies as well as the civil society groups in the implementation and monitoring of Indonesia open government commitments. Winners of the competition would get free holiday trip to famous tourist destinations in Indonesia. The competition had two categories of submission: infographics and written applications. Written application allowed public to be descriptive in conveying their ideas. While the infographics application was to recognize that visuals helped people understand better how data sets work rather than verbal description.

INITIATIVE OUTCOMES (required)

In 250 words or less, describe the intended outcomes and the actual outcomes that the initiative achieved. Who were the ultimate beneficiaries, and what benefits did they experience? For example, list any concrete improvements in policy, services, behaviors, or power relations between the government and citizens. Try to present your case from the perspective of the various stakeholders involved (e.g., your agency, citizens, Civil Society Organizations, media, et al.). If there are any baseline indicators or standards to measure the outcomes of the initiative, such as the breadth of depth of engagement, please describe them in detail.

SOLUSIMU aims to increase public participation and ultimately public ownership to government programs. Maximizing public involvement in every cycle of policy making process will bring mutual benefits for government and the public also enhance the former's accountability. The program allowed government to receive inputs from the citizens on any development gaps, while the public got to utilize their rights to observe the progress and result of government's commitment. At the end we received 3,314 submissions from the initial target of 3,000 entries. These were collected both from online and offline approaches. Around 20 ideas were incorporated to the Action Plan.

People are the ultimate beneficiaries of the program. This was shown through participation and submissions from different backgrounds of people during the road show. Those who participated in the road show and final stage of competition got the chance to improve their knowledge on good and open governance practices and contribute directly to the process. For the government, the biggest lesson learnt is that public service delivery works better when there is collaboration with its people.

INITIATIVE SUSTAINABILITY (required)

In 200 words or less, please describe any plans for scaling up and/or sustaining the initiative in the future. Base your description of the strategy on 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 intend to manage those risks on a regular basis.

Solusimu departs from a straightforward concept and it is made that way so that when there is subsequent public demand, it could be easily replicated. SOLUSIMU provided direct and accountable channel for citizens to voice their ideas and solutions towards problems within their society. To ensure there was and will be enough traction for the approach we ensured that public was engaged and there was knowledge transfers between government and its citizens throughout the process.

The main challenge is the uncertainty of how would the new administration (will be elected in October 2014) take up the next round of SOLUSIMU. In anticipation of that, the initiative is equipped with a website that can be used whenever the project resumes. In parallel, SOLUSIMU is in its initial stage to be infused to the existing public service contest spearheaded by the Ministry of State Apparatus and Bureaucracy Reform which is another champion agency on Open Government in Indonesia. Global appreciation such as through the Open Government Awards will also help generate wide-ranging public attention and help maintain the future sustainability of the project.

VALIDATION OF CLAIMS (required)

While it is strongly encouraged that each initiative includes partners, such as Civil Society Organizations, private sector agencies, media entities, etc., it is not a requirement. However, you are required to secure and upload documents from one or more credible nongovernmental actors who can attest to the veracity of any 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.

OGP Award Validation of Claims.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.

Rosa Pentury, Director of Pelangi Foundation, was one of our partners in organizing events with local community during the roadshow to Ambon. The Foundation main works have been to promote greater transparency, education, gender equality, and good governance practices in Ambon, one of the most eastern cities in the country.

Rosa has worked for 25 years to push for a more open local administration in Ambon. For Rosa, SOLUSIMU was the first program throughout her career that was initiated and facilitated by the central government that actually exerted the extra miles to meet and have a dialogue with the citizens on local development needs. Not just that, for Rosa, it was the first time that she was involved in such a transparent and accessible program that initiated by a government agency. Transparent because all the results from the contest can be monitored through the website; accessible because during the program she witnessed how citizens can give their feedback directly to central government, hassle-free. She added that while SOLUSIMU shared the same approach with the Development Deliberation Forum, SOLUSIMU managed to prove that people's inputs were being efficiently considered.

Additionally, according to Yustinus Esa, the 1st winner of SOLUSIMU, the competition provided a unique opportunity for his ideas to be reviewed and challenged by the judges. Yustinus added that he also received some feedback to improve his initiatives.

VIDEO SUBMISSION (recommended)

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:

- Include the following:
 - 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?
- Hone your content:
 - Keep your description and language simple.
 - Demonstrate passion through your words and enthusiasm.

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. We hope that this option offers a new and inventive way in which you can best express the results of your work.