

Application Questions

[1. Challenge Question](#)

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1. Challenge Question

Select which challenge question you are applying for:

How will you use open contracting* to...

- Fight corruption and strengthen democratic institutions?
- Protect the environment or improve climate resilience?
- Promote economic and social inclusion?

**Open contracting is an approach to open up and reimagine public procurement through data-driven, results-focused, collaborative, digital procurement.*

Please refer to the Lift application website for definitions for all of these terms, as well as examples.

2. Applicant Background

Please limit each answer to 250 words.

Applicant Information

- Country:

- **Lead Organization:**
- **Organization Sector:**
 - Government
 - Civil Society/Non-Profit
 - Private sector
- **Departments represented on core team (If government):**

- **Co-Lead Organization (if applicable):**
- **Organization Sector:**
 - Government
 - Civil Society/Non-Profit
 - Private sector

Contact information

- **Project lead 1:**
 - Name
 - Title / Organization
 - Email
 - Can you commit, to the best of your ability, to your current role and to leading this project for the full duration of the Lift program (August 2023 - February 2025)? (Yes/No + Initials)
- **Project lead 2 (from same or different agency or organization, as applicable):**
 - Name
 - Title / Organization
 - Email
 - Can you commit, to the best of your ability, to your current role and to leading this project for the full duration of the Lift program (August 2023 - February 2025)? (Yes/No + Initials)

3. Application Questions

Please limit each answer to 250 words.

Project Impact & Plan

1. What is the problem that you are seeking to address through Lift?

Your problem should address one of our three challenge topics:

- Fighting corruption or strengthening democratic institutions
- Protecting the environment or improving climate resilience
- Promoting economic and social inclusion

In your answer, please provide a one sentence statement on the problem. Then, please specify how this problem is linked to procurement.

Tip: A good problem statement **defines the gap** between your current situation and the future you want to see. It should also be precise and actionable. You should make clear how procurement is linked to the problem that you are trying to address. For examples of strong problem statements, [check out our blog post](#).

2. Please state your project goal.

Please explain the measurable impact you want to see by the end of the 18-month Lift program.

Tip: A good goal statement is a specific and measurable outcome. It describes the final result, or the big change, that you want to achieve and can measure.

3. How will your team achieve your project goal?

Please provide an overview of your proposed solution, and explain the concrete outputs you anticipate to achieve during the Lift program.

Tip: Focus on outputs, which are the tangible pieces that you need to have in place so that you can achieve your big-picture changes. These could include improvements to procurement policies, data, processes, capacities, or other concrete changes.

4. How will you define and measure your progress using data?

Please describe what key metrics you plan to use to know if your efforts are making a difference, and what datasets you will use. Please indicate if your team is currently able to calculate baselines for these metrics, or if more work needs to be done to gather and analyze your data. *Note: You do not need to have OCDS data to apply.*

Tip: Consider what metrics, such as key performance indicators (KPIs) or monitoring indicators, might help you track the different types of progress from your project. Often this means using both indicators that link to your concrete outputs, and indicators for your overarching outcomes. Ideally, you are already able to calculate some of your indicators. [Here](#) are some ideas of what you could include.

5. How will Lift help you achieve your project goals?

Please describe how Lift will make a difference for your project success.

6. Why is now the right time for your Lift project?

Please describe why now is the right moment for us to work with you through Lift. If relevant, please include any other initiatives already in place or upcoming opportunities that might support your progress.

Your Power to Make Change

7. Who from leadership in your or other agencies/organizations is advocating most strongly for your project?

Please describe how you will maintain and build on their support to have the power to implement your project, and how you will broaden that support to include more changemakers.

8. Who from your or other agencies/organizations might oppose your project or are not yet fully bought in?

In your answer, please explain why their involvement is important.

Tip: Check out our guidance on understanding your stakeholders to think through this question. Every project has some skeptics or opponents. We encourage you to be honest and realistic about potential obstacles.

9. What, if any, current policies, processes, or other developments might inhibit your progress?

Please describe these policies, laws or processes, and if changing them is within your core team's power.

Your Capacity

10. Do you have any financial resources to support this particular project, such a program budget or donor support?

11. Who is on your core team, and what roles will they have in your reform project?

We require the team to include at least 4 members from key agencies or organizations. We strongly encourage teams to represent a minimum of two agencies/organizations, and come from across sectors, such as government, non-profit, academia, media or business. We are looking for diverse teams that bring together different skill sets, backgrounds, and genders, to deliver the best projects.

In addition, we know that reform teams are strongest when they have these roles:

- Two **Team Leads** who have the authority and capacity to coordinate the team and who will serve as the main points of contact and manage the day-to-day project implementation for the duration of the Lift program; If the team is cross-departmental or cross-organizational, we expect that each department or organization would have a designated lead.
- **Relationship Manager**, who is skilled at navigating bureaucracy and building political buy-in.
- **Procurement Expert**, who has deep knowledge of the procurement system.
- **Data Expert**, who understands data analysis and can calculate baseline indicators, and if needed, who will oversee technical implementation work.

Please list between 4-8 core team members who will fill these roles. Note: One person can fill multiple roles. For example, the Data Expert may also be a Team Lead.

Name:

Department/Organization, Title:

Role (if applicable):

Why on team:

12. How is your team and project supporting fair and inclusive project design and outcomes?

INVITE-ONLY: PREP PITCH PRESENTATION

The strongest applicants will be invited to prepare and deliver a pitch presentation, followed by an interview with OCP staff.

Pitch presentation requirements

- Maximum 10 minutes
- Maximum 8 slides
- Must address the following topics:
 - **Problem overview:** What is the problem that you are trying to address?
 - **Solution overview:** What is your proposed solution for this problem?

- **Potential impact:** What outcomes will measurably improve as a result of your project?
- **Solution strengths:** What makes you confident that you will achieve success over the 18-month program?
- **Challenges:** What are the key challenges that you will have to address during the project?
- **Why Lift:** How will Lift help you achieve your goals?

What makes a good pitch presentation?

- Be precise and passionate about your problem and your solution.
- Be ambitious and clear in the impact you would like to achieve.
- Use a mix of data, qualitative statements, pictures and graphics to get your key messages across.
- Avoid text-heavy slides, focus on your core messages, and be selective about the information that you include.
- Have more than one person deliver your pitch to help us get to know your team.
- Pay attention to length and timing – you will have 10 minutes sharp, so this means spending no more than 1-2 minutes per slide.
- Practice, practice, practice!