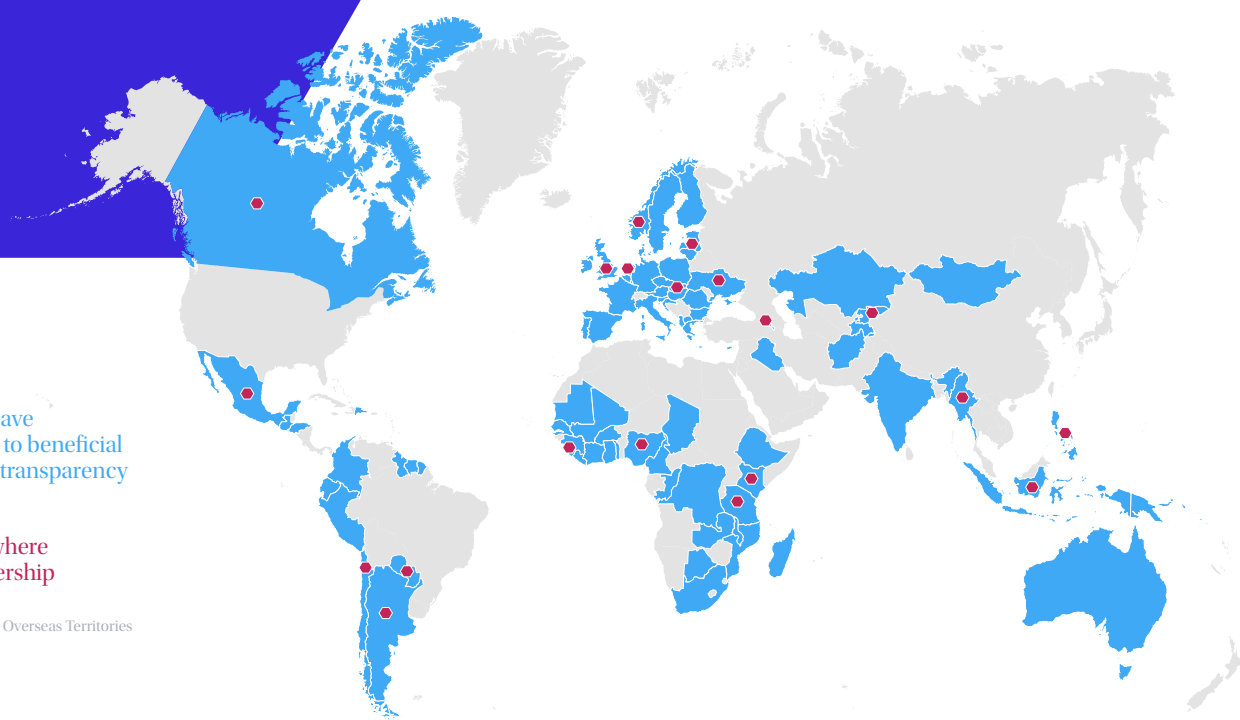# 70%

of corruption cases involve anonymous companies

## OPEN OWNERSHIP

**87** countries have committed to beneficial ownership transparency
as of Feb 2020

**36** countries where OpenOwnership is engaged
including British Overseas Territories

> *OpenOwnership wants a world where business is done in the open, markets are fair and governments run effectively.*

Thom Townsend, Executive Director, OpenOwnership

Governments increasingly want to bring the real owners of companies into the open. This builds fair markets and helps businesses manage risk. It enables effective taxation, helps save money on schools and hospitals, and tackles corruption.

To make this happen, OpenOwnership helps governments by reviewing draft laws and providing guidance on how to build systems that generate open, useful data. Since 2016, over 80 countries have committed to bring in beneficial ownership transparency reforms.

These reforms will only be as good as their implementation, and there is no one-size-fits-all solution. The data that governments generate needs to be consistently high-quality as well as easy to search and cross-reference globally. Technical expertise and tools are required to design systems that meet specific, localised needs.

OpenOwnership is the global centre for this expertise. We work with governments at every stage of the process to make their beneficial ownership reforms work in practice and deliver results for citizens.

We're already starting to see the benefits. Over US$1 billion has been recovered by governments using beneficial ownership data. With our support, countries like Armenia, Nigeria and Ukraine are using public registers to improve governance. It is just the beginning.

## Public beneficial ownership data helps

Build business and market confidence

Run effective tax systems

Improve governance and state procurement

Tackle corruption and criminal activities

Recover stolen assets

# Get started

## 6 steps to implement beneficial ownership transparency

**01 Consider**

**02 Commit**

**03 Legal**

**04 Systems**

**05 Data**

**06 Publish**

# How we do it
## Assistance with every step

There is no one-size-fits-all solution in implementing beneficial ownership transparency reforms. OpenOwnership takes a collaborative, tailored approach to technical assistance. We draw on our own experience and knowledge pooled from our global network of partners, and work with governments and their in country partners to develop a package of support that fits their needs.

This work is supported by a suite of freely-available implementation guides, templates and tools which set out emerging best practice in creating effective registers and useful data.

### Beneficial Ownership Data Standard

Consistently high-quality, machine readable beneficial ownership data is key. OpenOwnership has developed a standard which shows governments what data is needed and how it should be structured and published.

### Implementation guide

Every national context is different, there are universal questions to consider and answer in each case. Our guide helps governments and their local partners navigate the journey from considering beneficial ownership transparency to publishing data on a public register.

### Template forms

Our forms enable the collection of the high-quality beneficial ownership data which is critical to making reforms work in practice, and the information disclosed as useful as possible in a given country as well as globally. They don't leave anything out.

### Online helpdesk

Most problems and opportunities have been seen before in some form. Our helpdesk pools and applies this knowledge and experience for governments or organisations which are implementing, or considering implementing, a beneficial ownership disclosure framework using the standard above.

OpenOwnership exists to connect those who want to make information on company owners freely available, so that business is done in the open, markets are fair and governments run effectively. Whether you are from a community, government, business, foundation or agency – get in touch and see if we can help.

**openownership.org**

@openownership

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