# Scoping assessment of Argentina's legal framework and opportunities to advance beneficial ownership reform and data availability

# October 2021 - Short-term contract opportunity

## **About Open Ownership**

Open Ownership (OO) is driving the global shift towards transparency over who owns and controls companies. OO enables beneficial ownership disclosures which are accurate, well-structured, complete, and machine-readable. We support governments to make high-quality beneficial ownership data available, and work with governments, businesses, and citizens to use the data. This reduces risks such as corruption and tax evasion, and builds trust and development opportunities.

Our multidisciplinary team works closely with technical and policy implementers, advising them on all aspects of beneficial ownership implementation. To support our donor-funded technical assistance programmes, we have developed a broad range of implementation tools and products, including the Beneficial Ownership Data Standard (BODS) and the Open Ownership Principles of effective beneficial ownership disclosure (OO Principles).

# Purpose of the contract

Together with the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI), OO has recently launched Opening Extractives, an ambitious global programme aiming to transform the availability and use of beneficial ownership information for effective governance in the extractive sector (mining, oil, and gas).

The government of Argentina, through its Undersecretary of Mining Development (Ministry of Productive Development), has formally agreed to participate in the programme. OO, working with international and local partners, will provide technical and policy support aimed at improving the implementation of beneficial ownership transparency (BOT) in Argentina's procedures and systems, as well as encouraging its use to trigger local changes.

To support the initial work in Argentina, we are seeking a short-term contractor, either an organisation or independent consultant, to conduct desk research, interviews, and legal framework analysis that will help identify concrete opportunities for OO and the EITI to provide technical assistance that furthers BOT in Argentina.



### 1. Scope of work

#### Stakeholder mapping

OO aims to provide contextually driven technical support and guidance in implementing BOT reforms. Having an understanding of the type of implementers and users of beneficial ownership data, and their needs, is central to this.

To support this objective, the contractor will be responsible for mapping relevant stakeholders in the public and private sector and civil society. Identified stakeholders may be current holders/users of beneficial ownership data or have an interest in accessing beneficial ownership data. The mapping should focus primarily on the extractive sector, but may also include stakeholders with a more general interest in beneficial ownership data. Stakeholders should include (non-exhaustive):

- fiscal and financial agencies (e.g. Administración Federal de Ingresos Públicos (AFIP), Unidad de Información Financiera (UIF), Comisión Nacional de Valores (CNV), Central Bank);
- companies' registration authority (including those from the federal government and provinces with extractives activities);

- anti-corruption and anti-money laundering agencies (Anti-Corruption Office, the Office of the Prosecutor for Economic Crime and Money Laundering (PROCELAC), etc.);
- civil society, academic institutions, and journalists/ media centers;
- private companies that operate in the extractives sector.

#### Policy and legal analysis

The contractor will provide a detailed overview of the relevant legislative and policy frameworks which guide beneficial ownership implementation and disclosure. The analysis should:

- consider the status and application of the relevant legal provisions, including any challenges that may limit BOT in Argentina;
- identify opportunities for further amendments or introduction of new regulations as well as areas where OO could provide support;
- complete a pre-set scoping questionnaire (provided by OO) which assesses the current status of the country's BOT regime, guided by the OO Principles, and consider areas targeted for technical assistance.

# 2. Expected deliverables

- Stakeholder mapping report: approximately 4-6 pages (including a table/spreadsheet of key actors)
- Record of stakeholder meetings/interviews: approximately 10 (interviewees, dates, sector, etc.)
- Scoping questionnaire

Policy and legal analysis report: approximately 8-15 pages

Deliverables can be submitted in English or Spanish, based on the consultant's preference.

# 3. Contractor profile

The contractor will need to demonstrate a reasonable level of knowledge of Argentina's legal framework, including an understanding of institutional arrangements (federal government) and fiscal and extractives policies.

We welcome applications from contractors with:

- Exceptional communication skills in Spanish (English desired but not essential)
- Knowledge and understanding of Argentina's legal framework

- The ability to self-organise and work autonomously in a remote organisation
- A demonstrated history and experience with engaging with stakeholders relevant to this consultancy (a pre-existing network of local contacts is desired)
- Experience working to deliver or support government reform initiatives (desired)
- Experience working in the fields of corporate transparency, fiscal openness, or anti-corruption (desired)

Preference will be given to candidates and/or organisations within Argentina, though we are also open to applications from consultants based elsewhere who have experience working in the Argentinean context. We want to hear all voices, and particularly encourage individuals of diverse and marginalised communities to apply.

Please note that OO is a fiscally sponsored organisation and the contract will be executed in the name of our fiscal sponsor Global Impact, a US non-profit, on behalf of OO. Due to the legal restrictions placed on the grant that part funds this post, we cannot accept applications from anyone based in the USA.

# 4. Assignment details

The consultancy will last 2-3 months and should be completed by 31 January 2022, so we expect this to be a nearly full-time consultancy.

 A daily contractor rate of USD 300-350 will be offered for this assignment, determined by the experience and expertise of the contractor.  In addition, a budget of USD 300 has been allocated for all eligible costs incurred by the contractor, such as, but not limited to: travel, accommodation, telephone, and data expenses.

The total cost of the consultant must not exceed USD 15,000, including daily fees and additional expenses incurred by the contractor.

# 5. Application process

To apply, qualified contractors should send:

- A brief 2-3-page proposal on how you will successfully deliver on this contract, allocating the number of days for each part of the delivery and including a proposed itemised budget for the delivery of activities. In your proposal, please highlight your most relevant experience and skills for this contract, and indicate the location where you would be based during the assignment.
- A 2-page CV summarising relevant professional experience.

Please send the above to <u>recruitment@openownership.</u> org. Due to the short timeframe, we will accept applications on an ongoing basis until a contractor is appointed. At that point we will remove the advertisement.