



OPEN + OPEN RESPONSE + RECOVERY

Open Response + Open Recovery: Inclusive Participation and Civic Space in Times of Crisis

Open Government Partnership (OGP) Regional Asia-Pasifik mengadakan diskusi terkait partisipasi dan ruang kebebasan publik pada hari Selasa, 7 Juli 2020. Diskusi yang berjudul *Open Response + Open Recovery: Inclusive Participation and Civic Space in Times of Crisis* ini dibagi menjadi dua sesi yakni forum diskusi dan *breakout session*. Dalam forum diskusi, ada lima pembicara yang diundang untuk berbagi pengalaman mereka di negara masing-masing. Selanjutnya, dalam *breakout session*, peserta dibagi menjadi beberapa kelompok kecil untuk mendiskusikan kondisi negara mereka dan kontribusi institusi mereka dalam kondisi tersebut.

Pembicara pertama adalah **Yujin Lee** yang merupakan Deputy Director of Ministry of the Interior and Safety serta OGP Point of Contact, Government of the Republic of Korea. Yujin menjelaskan bahwa pemerintah Korea Selatan sedang menyelesaikan permasalahan di area prioritas sekaligus tetap memberikan ruang kebebasan untuk publik. Masalah yang dihadapi masyarakat di awal pandemi, misalnya, dapat diselesaikan dengan membuat ruang dimana masyarakat dapat menggunakan data. Dalam pemilihan umum di bulan Mei 2020, jumlah suara yang diberikan masyarakat mencapai angka tertinggi sepanjang sejarah demokrasi Korea Selatan. Hal ini menunjukkan bahwa ruang kebebasan publik tidak semestinya terancam ketika krisis melanda. Dalam hal ini, pemerintah Korea Selatan menerapkan sistem untuk mendesain, mengimplementasikan, dan mengevaluasi program bersama dengan masyarakat karena pemerintah mengetahui pentingnya transparansi dan partisipasi selama krisis.

The Open Government Partnership (OGP) Asia-Pacific held a discussion regarding public participation and civic space on Tuesday, July 7, 2020. The discussion entitled "Open Response + Open Recovery: Inclusive Participation and Civic Space in the Times of Crisis" was divided into two sessions namely discussion forums and breakout sessions. During the discussion, there were five speakers invited to share their experiences in their respective countries. Next, in the breakout session, participants were divided into small groups to discuss the conditions of their countries and the contribution of their institutions during these conditions.

*The first speaker was **Yujin Lee** who is the Deputy Director of the Ministry of the Interior and Safety and the OGP Point of Contact, Government of the Republic of Korea. Yujin explained that the South Korean government is solving problems in the priority areas while still providing freedom for the public. Problems faced by the community at the beginning of the pandemic, for example, can be solved by creating spaces where the community can use data. In the May 2020 general elections, the number of votes cast by the public reached the highest number in the history of South Korean democracy. This shows that the civic space should not be threatened when the crisis hit. In this regard, the South Korean government created a system to design, implement and evaluate programs together with the community because the government understands the importance of transparency and participation during the crisis.*



Selanjutnya, **Maryati Abdullah** selaku Director of Publish What You Pay Indonesia dan OGP Envoy menceritakan kondisi Indonesia. Maryati menjelaskan ada hal positif dan tantangan dalam mewujudkan adanya partisipasi dan keterbukaan ruang publik selama masa pandemi. Hal positif yang bisa didapatkan adalah adanya kekuatan dari jejaring sosial untuk terus menjangkau masyarakat yang membutuhkan selama pandemi. Namun, kebebasan ruang publik terutama bagi jurnalis dan akademisi menjadi tantangan tersendiri. Misalnya, saat ini, masyarakat sedang melayangkan protes terkait proses legislasi yang lambat dan tidak membuka ruang partisipasi.

Karol Ilagan yang merupakan Senior Content Producer, Philippine Center for Investigative Journalism menjelaskan kondisi di Filipina. Menurut Karol, pemerintah menggunakan situasi pandemi untuk kepentingan mereka sendiri dengan menggunakan keamanan nasional sebagai alasan. Namun, langkah ini menjadi ancaman tersendiri bagi demokrasi di Filipina. Para reporter berada dalam tekanan tinggi baik dari sisi ekonomi, psikologi, dan fisik. Oleh karena itu, seluruh elemen perlu sepakat bahwa kebebasan untuk berbicara dan melayangkan kritik yang semakin sempit akibat pandemic perlu didorong lagi. Misalnya, banyak usaha yang dilakukan oleh individu untuk mempublikasikan informasi terkait pandemi untuk mengatasi masalah ini. Selanjutnya, masyarakat perlu paham bahwa pemerintah bukanlah sebuah entitas monolitik. Pemerintah bersifat kompleks karena terdiri dari banyak elemen misalnya pemerintah daerah dan pemerintah pusat. Kolaborasi antara pemerintah dan masyarakat perlu dikuatkan lagi.

Pembicara keempat adalah **Tur-Od Lkhagvajav** selaku Transparency International Mongolia Board Member and OGP Steering Committee Member. Keterbukaan pemerintah dalam masa pandemi menjadi sangat rentan. Kirgistan, misalnya,

*Next, **Maryati Abdullah** as the Director of Publish What You Pay Indonesia and OGP Envoy discussed the condition of Indonesia. Maryati explained that there were positive sides and challenges in creating public participation and civic space during the pandemic. The positive side that can be obtained is the strength of social networks to continue reaching people in need during COVID-19 pandemic. However, civic space, especially for journalists and scholars faces challenges. For example, currently, the public is protesting over the slow process of legislation and little space for participation.*

***Karol Ilagan** who is a Senior Content Producer, Philippine Center for Investigative Journalism explains the conditions in the Philippines. According to Karol, the government used the pandemic situation for their own interests by using national security as a pretext. However, this step poses a threat to democracy in the Philippines. Reporters are under high pressure from the economic, psychological and physical aspects. Therefore, all elements need to agree that the freedom to speak and provide criticism which becomes increasingly narrow due to the pandemic needs to be encouraged again. For example, many attempts were made by individuals to publish information related to pandemics to overcome this problem. Furthermore, people need to understand that the government is not a monolithic entity. Government is complex because it consists of many elements such as local government and central government. Collaboration between the government and the community needs to be re-strengthened.*

*The fourth speaker was **Tur-Od Lkhagvajav** as the Transparency International Mongolia Board Member and OGP Steering Committee Member. Open government during the pandemic is very vulnerable. Kyrgyzstan, for example, approved regulations that increasingly restricted freedom. Therefore, Transparency International seeks to encourage the disclosure of information, especially in the extractive sector to uncover administrative processes in the mining sector. Furthermore, the general election period in various*



menyetujui peraturan yang semakin mengekang kebebasan. Oleh karena itu, Transparency International berusaha mendorong keterbukaan informasi khususnya di bidang ekstraktif untuk mengungkap proses administrasi di bidang pertambangan. Selanjutnya, periode pemilihan umum di berbagai negara yang akan diadakan dalam bulan-bulan mendatang perlu diawasi karena pandemi akan menjadi tantang tersendiri dalam proses pemilu.

Terakhir, **Raman Chima** yang merupakan Senior International Counsel and Asia Pacific Policy Director, Access Now menjelaskan pentingnya teknologi dalam era keterbukaan. Dalam kenyatannya, semua isu berkaitan dengan teknologi digital. Namun, hal ini perlu diiringi dengan adanya keamanan digital. Keamanan ini menekankan pada hak-hak yang perlu dipenuhi untuk menjamin privasi perorangan terjaga.

Dalam sesi breakout session, **Jennifer Bretana** selaku OGP Point of Contact for South Cotabato, Philippines menjelaskan inisiatif yang telah dilakukan selama pandemi. Sistem lokal di tingkat provinsi dikembangkan untuk menjawab adanya permasalahan inklusi karena banyak masyarakat yang tidak memiliki telepon dan akses terhadap internet. Sistem ini bekerja seperti logbook, tapi dalam bentuk digital. Masyarakat hanya perlu membawa sebuah kartu untuk memindai kode QR. Namun, sistem ini mendapat pertentangan dari gereja karena dianggap telah menyalahgunakan data. Oleh karena itu, tim audit internal dibentuk untuk mengawasi. Selain itu, ada persyaratan-persyaratan yang harus dipenuhi misalnya semua data harus dihapus setelah pandemi berakhir serta data hanya bisa tersimpan selama 60 hari.

countries which will be held in the coming months needs to be monitored because the pandemic will be a challenge in the election process.

*Finally, **Raman Chima**, who is Senior International Counsel and Asia Pacific Policy Director, Access Now explains the importance of technology in the era of transparency. In reality, all issues are related to digital technology. However, this needs to be accompanied by digital security. This security emphasizes the rights that need to be fulfilled to ensure personal privacy.*

*In the breakout session, **Jennifer Bretana** as the OGP Point of Contact for South Cotabato, Philippines explained the initiatives that had been carried out during the pandemic. A local system at the provincial level was developed to address the problem of inclusion because many people do not have telephone and internet access. This system works like a logbook, but in digital form. People only need to bring a card to scan the QR code. However, this system was opposed by the church because it was considered to have misused data. Therefore, an internal audit team was formed to oversee whether the data are being used properly. In addition, there are requirements that must be met; for example, all data must be deleted after the pandemic ends and data can only be stored for 60 days only.*