BEST PRACTICES IN GOOD GOVERNANCE

The Good Governance Unit
INTRODUCTION

**Institution:** Good Governance Unit

**Establishment Date:** June 2022

**Objective:** Promote and strengthen good governance in the country.

**Areas Covered:** Anticorruption, transparency, accountability, rule of law.

**Alignment:** Complies with international standards set by the International Convention against corruption.
DESCRIPTION OF THE BEST PRACTICE

Unit Establishment: Good Governance Unit (GGU)

Affiliation: Ministry of the Public Service, Constitutional and Political Reform, and Religious Affairs

Sustainability: Affiliation with the ministry ensures sustainability.
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<th><strong>KEY FEATURES OF THE GOOD GOVERNANCE UNIT</strong></th>
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<td><strong>Clear Vision and Mission:</strong> Focus on promoting good governance, integrity, transparency, and accountability.</td>
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<td><strong>Core Values:</strong> Emphasis on transparency, accountability, and the rule of law.</td>
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<td><strong>Goals and Objectives:</strong> Including increasing public awareness and enhancing transparency.</td>
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<td><strong>Secretariat Role:</strong> Serves as the Secretariat of the People’s Constitution Commission.</td>
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<td><strong>Transparency and Accountability:</strong> Aims to increase transparency and accountability.</td>
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<td><strong>Civil Society Engagement:</strong> Forging meaningful relationships between civil societies and the government.</td>
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<td><strong>Implementation of Initiatives:</strong> Responsible for implementing Good Governance Initiatives.</td>
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<td><strong>National and International Initiatives:</strong> Dedicated to implementing both national and international anti-corruption initiatives.</td>
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<td><strong>Ministry Affiliation:</strong> Affiliated with the Ministry of the Public Service, Constitutional and Political Reform, and Religious Affairs for long-term sustainability.</td>
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Corruption in Belize: Longstanding concern with bribery, embezzlement, and misuse of public funds.

Negative Impacts: Undermined public trust, hindered economic development, and impeded social progress.

GGU Formation: Aims to combat corruption, promote good governance, and rebuild public trust.

Emphasis: Transparency, accountability, and the rule of law.
**Design and Methodology:** Focus on structured anti-corruption efforts.

**Considerations:** Emphasis on transparency, accountability, and legal frameworks.

**International Influence:** Aligned with international conventions and anti-corruption models.
IMPLEMENTATION

**Team:** Comprises Director of Good Governance, Legal Counsel, Good Governance Officer, Communications Officer, and two Legal/Research Assistants.

**Resource Needs:** Expansion required for full implementation.

**Financial Resources:** Needed for National Good Governance Agenda and anti-corruption measures.

**Ongoing Investment:** Required for sustainability.
CONSTITUTIONAL REFORM: GGU facilitates Commission meetings, public meetings, and lectures.

STRATEGIC PLAN: Drafted for Constitutional Reform process.

PARTNERSHIPS: Formed with government departments, civil societies, and external good governance entities.

ENGAGEMENT: E-Governance and Digitalization Unit, NGO Humana People to People Belize, Transparency International, Open Government Partnership.

REVIEW: Conducted by UNODC on progress in implementing UNCAC.
POTENTIAL FOR TECHNICAL COOPERATION

Adaptability:
Consideration for other countries.

Technical Assistance:
Possible assistance to other countries.

Point of Contact: Chief Executive Officer, Ministry of the Public Service, Constitutional and Political Reform, and Religious Affairs.
**FOLLOW-UP**

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<th>Monitoring</th>
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| Reporting  | Reporting: Quarterly/annual reports to the Ministry's Management Team.  
|            | https://drive.google.com/file/d/1WK4Y7q9ZzhMhCEeAP_Yk9g99891Tt/view?usp=sharing |
LESSONS AND CHALLENGES

**Lessons:** Need for partnerships with government agencies, civil societies, both local and international.

**Challenges:** Bureaucracy of the Public Service, lack of clear communication structure, insufficient technical and financial resources.