



Australian Government

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Partnership
Australia



Midterm Self-Assessment Report for Australia's First Open Government National Action Plan 2016-18



Midterm Self-Assessment Report for Australia's First Open Government National Action Plan 2016-18

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| 978-1-925362-77-0 | Midterm Self-Assessment Report for Australia's First Open Government National Action Plan 2016-18 (PDF) |
| 978-1-925362-78-7 | Midterm Self-Assessment Report for Australia's First Open Government National Action Plan 2016-18 (DOCX) |
| 978-1-925362-79-4 | Midterm Self-Assessment Report for Australia's First Open Government National Action Plan 2016-18 (HTML) |

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Introduction and Background

Open government is the idea – simple and transformative – that governments should be transparent, accountable, and engaging.

Government decision-making should be open to scrutiny, because governments work better when that happens. And because better decisions are made when everyone can contribute, governments should invite and facilitate citizen participation, and open up their troves of useful data for public use.

Australia joined the Open Government Partnership to put these principles into practice. [Australia's first Open Government National Action Plan 2016-18](#) comprises 15 ambitious commitments to strengthen and improve:

- transparency and accountability in business
- the availability of open data and the digital transformation of government services
- access to government information
- integrity in the public sector, and
- public participation and engagement.

As detailed in the National Action Plan, Australia's Open Government commitments together address all five of the OGP Grand Challenges.

This Midterm Self-Assessment Report provides an assessment of Australia's progress towards fulfilling the promise of our Open Government commitments, and in particular, in meeting the [OGP Participation & Co-creation Standards](#).

As Australia's first National Action Plan was released in December 2016, the period covered by this Midterm Self-Assessment Report is an initial eight months, rather than the typical year. Additionally, as this is Australia's first self-assessment report against its first National Action Plan, some standards, particularly relating to prior self-assessments and Independent Reporting Mechanism processes, are not yet applicable. Australia will report against applicable standards in future self-assessment reports.

National Action Plan Process

Participation and co-creation throughout the OGP cycle

Australia has consistently engaged citizens and civil society through a multistakeholder process throughout the OGP cycle. Participatory mechanisms have included:

OGP Australia Website

The OGP Australia website (<http://ogpau.govspace.gov.au> and then, from December 2016, <https://ogpau.pmc.gov.au/>) was established soon after Australia commenced participation in the OGP. It includes information on all aspects of the national OGP cycle, published in plain and accessible language, including:

- general information about the OGP
- information about consultations around the first National Action Plan
- the full text of Australia's first Open Government National Action Plan 2016-18
- information about the various OGP Australia discussion and decision-making bodies, including the Interim Working Group and Open Government Forum, and OGP Interdepartmental Committee
- a historical record of documents related to the OGP cycle, including consultation documents, and agendas, meeting papers and minutes of all meetings of these bodies
- information about opportunities for participation in consultations around Australia's Open Government commitments
- since July 2017, updates on the implementation status of each of Australia's Open Government commitments, refreshed at least every two months, and including contact details of each commitment's implementing agency or agencies
- news and updates about Australia's OGP cycle
- a facility to subscribe to the OGP Australia email list, which, together with the website, and the @pmc_gov_au Twitter and Periscope accounts, is used to communicate with stakeholders to ensure they are informed and prepared to participate in all stages of the OGP cycle, and
- contact details of the lead agency and point of contact for OGP Australia.

Open Government Forum

The Open Government Forum, established in July 2017 (and succeeding the Interim Working Group: see below), is Australia's multistakeholder forum. It is tasked with:

- monitoring and driving implementation of the current Open Government National Action Plan
- helping develop the next Open Government National Action Plan, and
- raising awareness about open government.

The Forum includes an even balance of governmental and non-governmental representatives, and is co-chaired by an individual of each group. Biographies of current Forum members are at

Attachment A.

Governmental members include high-level representatives with decision-making authority, generally including officials at the Deputy Secretary level, of all Australian Government agencies leading implementation of Open Government commitments. This ensures the Forum is sufficiently empowered to take action, and reflects the decision-making structures of Australia's participation in the OGP, which is coordinated and facilitated by the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, with individual Open Government commitments being implemented by other Australian Government agencies.

Non-governmental members include individuals with a variety of expertise relevant to the OGP, including existing or probable future Australian Open Government commitments, and together, they bring in a diverse range of views. They were appointed on the recommendation of a selection panel comprised of a majority of non-governmental members, following an open process where nominations were assessed against published criteria. To facilitate a fair and transparent process, the selection panel published all nominations, as well as a statement of reasons for the final selection of members.

The Forum will generally meet in person every two months, including in different capital cities. Opportunities for participation via teleconference or other types of remote participation are provided for all meetings, so that members unable to attend physically are still able to participate.

The Forum proactively communicates and reports back on its decisions and activities to wider government and civil society stakeholders through the OGP Australia website. The agendas, meeting papers and minutes of all Forum meetings are published online. The Forum's contact details are available on the OGP Australia website, and it invites inputs and representation from any civil society or other stakeholder, including questions regarding the National Action Plan process.

Additionally, the Interim Working Group, which preceded the Forum (and about which more information can be found below), conducted outreach and awareness raising activities using a range of channels commonly used by citizens, civil society and other stakeholders. This included Twitter question and answer sessions and face-to-face and livestreamed workshops open to any interested members of the public, in order to inform and engage them across the OGP cycle. The Forum's terms of reference require that it seek a high level of community engagement by electronic means, including through trialling new methods of engagement, and it is expected that it will continue and build upon these types of practices as it matures.

Full terms of reference for the Open Government Forum, covering its remit, membership and governance, were developed following rounds of online and in-person public consultation, and were ratified by the Forum itself at its first meeting. The Forum is able to amend these terms of reference at any time. Current terms are communicated on the OGP Australia website and are at **Attachment B**.

[Participation and co-creation when developing the National Action Plan](#)

Australia aimed for a participatory and co-creative approach to developing the National Action Plan, consulting through a variety of channels to raise awareness and involve government, civil society and the public.

[Background](#)

Australia signed a letter of intent to join the Open Government Partnership in May 2013, under the government led by then Prime Minister Julia Gillard. Preparations for joining the Partnership remained unfinalised when elections in September 2013 resulted in a new government, led by then Prime Minister Tony Abbott. In November 2015, Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull wrote to the Open Government Partnership advising that Australia would soon finalise its membership of the Partnership and reaffirming its commitment to developing its first National Action Plan.

Australia's official participation in the Open Government Partnership commenced in November 2015, when it started to consult with civil society organisations and develop the National Action Plan through a four-stage process:

1: Raising Awareness: November-December 2015

This first stage involved building understanding of the history of open government in Australia, establishing a vision for the future of open government, and introducing the idea and structure of an Open Government National Action Plan. The OGP Australia website was established, and an email list created. These channels were used to promote consultation and information sessions held in December in Brisbane, Sydney, Canberra and Melbourne. To facilitate online participation, the Canberra session was livestreamed. The government communicated a full consultation timeline via the OGP Australia website, which included details of key stages and deadlines, and opportunities to be involved in the National Action Plan development process. This information was communicated – via the OGP Australia website and at meeting events – with adequate notice to interested stakeholders so they could participate in an informed manner.

2: Seeking Ideas: December 2015-May 2016

This second stage involved further developing the structure of the National Action Plan. As part of this stage:

- In accordance with feedback from Stage 1, a wiki was established, and stakeholders were invited to submit ideas, specific actions or commitments to support greater open government, and in particular, those related to the OGP Grand Challenges. Users were also able to comment on other commitments proposed.
- Frequent teleconferences were held throughout March to update participants on progress and users were encouraged to join the conversation on Twitter, using #ogpau.

This stage also involved an ambitious co-creation workshop held in Canberra in April 2016. The aim of this workshop was to discuss and prioritise the actions suggested in the previous stage.

Civil society organisations and members of the public who had provided a submission in previous stages were invited to join government representatives at this workshop. 63 governmental and nongovernmental representatives, including two personnel from the Open Government Support Unit, attended. Participants together developed 14 draft commitments and discussed the formation of an implementation committee to oversee the future development of the National Action Plan.

A report, detailing the consultation process and an overview of public contributions received, is included at **Attachment C**. This report summarises the engagement undertaken between November 2015 and 19 May 2016 for the development of the National Action Plan.

In these initial stages:

- 162 people attended the information sessions in four capital cities across Australia
- 93 individuals and organisations suggested 210 potential actions, across all platforms
- 63 people contributed to the co-creation workshop; and
- 187 people used #ogpau on Twitter.

In early May 2016, the Australian Government announced an election would occur on 2 July, 2016. During this period, in line with the caretaker conventions, Australia avoided making major policy decisions that would be likely to commit an incoming government, which included progressing work on possible Open Government commitments.

3: Drafting: August-November 2016

Work to finalise the National Action Plan resumed following the outcome of the July 2016 election.

As a result of a suggestion from civil society, an Interim Working Group was established in August 2016 to encourage ongoing engagement and enable greater partnership among senior government officials and non-government representatives in the drafting of the National Action Plan. An open application process received 40 expressions of interest for the six civil society positions on the Interim Working Group. The Government appointed an equal number of senior official representatives, and the Group was co-chaired by representatives from government and civil society. Biographies of Interim Working Group members are at **Attachment D**.

The co-creation workshop additionally recommended future establishment of a permanent multistakeholder forum, as required by the *OGP Participation & Co-creation Standards*. This would allow a more considered selection process to better engage civil society stakeholders with a variety of expertise relevant to the Open Government commitments in Australia's finalised National Action Plan. The idea to establish a multistakeholder forum would itself ultimately form a commitment in Australia's National Action Plan (see *Open Government Forum*, above).

Throughout September and October 2016, the Interim Working Group met four times in Canberra and Sydney to discuss, agree and oversee the National Action Plan development process. Matters discussed included:

- the government's priorities for commitments and the political feasibility of adopting civil society priorities and proposed commitments
- the scope, ambition and level of detail of the proposed commitments
- the structure of the National Action Plan; and
- the approach to the broader public consultation and awareness-raising process for the National Action Plan.

The Sydney workshop was also attended by Assistant Minister for Cities and Digital Transformation, the Hon Angus Taylor MP.

The final draft National Action Plan was published on 31 October 2016 on the OGP Australia website, with public submissions invited until 18 November 2016. This allowed the public three weeks to provide feedback.

63 submissions were received and were published on the OGP Australia website.

In this period, Australia also hosted further information sessions in Melbourne, Brisbane, Sydney, Perth and Canberra on the National Action Plan and its ongoing implementation and reporting. There was also a separate online webinar for those who couldn't attend the consultation sessions in-person. The Brisbane and Canberra sessions, as well as the webinar, were recorded and published on the OGP Australia website. Over 200 people participated in person or via the online session.

In late November 2016, the Interim Working Group met for a fifth time to finalise the National Action Plan before submitting the final version to the Government for its consideration. The Group reviewed feedback received from the public, the final selection of commitments to be included in the National Action Plan, and focussed on how to respond to key issues under each commitment. Commitment proposals were assessed through an open and transparent process, with all parties contributing equally to discussions to finalise the commitments included in the National Action Plan.

The Australian Government considers that the consultations conducted throughout the development of the National Action Plan led to substantial expansion in the ambition and scope of Open Government commitments. Changes were suggested by both government and civil society and there was considerable debate and negotiation about which proposals to accept and the provisions of commitments that were agreed. For example:

- two OGP Grand Challenges were originally prioritised, but ultimately commitments addressing all five Grand Challenges were included
- *Commitment 1.2 - Beneficial ownership transparency*, *Commitment 1.3 - Extractive industries transparency*, and *Commitment 5.2 - Enhance public participation in government decision making* were all substantially strengthened through civil society input
- *Commitment 1.4 - Combatting corporate crime* emerged from public consultation as a new inclusion, bringing the total number of Open Government commitments to 15, and
- a new section on Australia's international engagement was included in the National Action Plan at the suggestion of civil society stakeholders.

4: Launch: December 2016

Senator the Hon Mathias Cormann, the Minister for Finance, announced the release of Australia's first Open Government National Action Plan 2016-18 on 7 December, 2016, in conjunction with Australia's participation in the OGP Global Summit in Paris. The National Action Plan was published on the OGP Australia website in a variety of formats.

Participation and co-creation when implementing, monitoring, and reporting a National Action Plan

Australia is committed to facilitating public engagement throughout the implementation, monitoring and reporting against our first National Action Plan.

In May 2017, the Interim Working Group endorsed guidance about how Australian Government agencies should engage civil society in implementing Australia's Open Government commitments. This guidance complemented and supported work being progressed on Open Government commitment 5.2, which will establish a new Australian Government framework for public participation and engagement.

Since July 2017, the OGP Australia website has included a dashboard detailing progress of all 15 Open Government commitments. The form of the updates, identical to the reporting included below as part of this Midterm Self-Assessment Report, features accessible and easy-to-understand information on the implementation status of commitments (including a traffic-light rating system), as well as detailed reporting against milestones, links to consultations and reports, reasons for any delays, and next steps. It is updated approximately every two months, or more frequently if developments warrant.










In addition to being published online, updates are also provided to the Open Government Forum as part of their regular meeting papers. This facilitates the Forum's ongoing monitoring of implementation of all commitments, and their deliberations on how to improve implementation. Individual civil society Forum members have also allocated between themselves commitments to monitor on a continuing basis. Comments made by the Open Government Forum are captured in the minutes of their meetings, and are actioned as required. Public comments and discussion of the progress of commitments is similarly encouraged through a feature on the OGP Australia website.











This Midterm Self-Assessment Report was submitted to the Open Government Forum for their comment and feedback on the content of the Report the week prior to its public exposure in early September 2017 for a two-week public consultation and comment period. Australia proactively disseminated and promoted the comment period through multiple channels, including the OGP Australia website, email list, and social media accounts.

Implementation of Open Government Commitments

Australia's first Open Government National Action Plan 2016-18 contains 15 commitments. For the purpose of this Midterm Self-Assessment Report, status reporting for commitment 3.3: *Improve the discoverability and accessibility of government data*, has been split into five different streams, reflecting different processes and outcomes for each focus.

Reporting below includes, for each commitment, a status assessment of each milestone, and an overall status assessment. The overall status assessment reflects the agency's assessment of total performance against all milestones:

| | |
|---|---|
| 1.1: Improve whistle-blower protections in the tax and corporate sectors |  On Track |
| 1.2: Beneficial ownership transparency |  On Track |
| 1.3: Extractive industries transparency |  Delayed |
| 1.4: Combating corporate crime |  On Track |
| 2.1: Release high-value datasets and enable data-driven innovation |  On Track |
| 2.2: Build and maintain public trust to address concerns about data sharing and release |  On Track |
| 2.3: Digitally transform the delivery of government services |  On Track |
| 3.1: Information management and access laws for the 21 st century |  On Track |
| 3.2: Understand the use of freedom of information |  On Track |

| | |
|---|---|
| 3.3: Improve the discoverability and accessibility of government data: Public data |  On Track |
| 3.3: Improve the discoverability and accessibility of government data: Grants |  Completed |
| 3.3: Improve the discoverability and accessibility of government data: Corporate and administrative reporting |  On Track |
| 3.3: Improve the discoverability and accessibility of government data: Archived records |  On Track |
| 3.3: Improve the discoverability and accessibility of government data: Environmental information |  On Track |
| 4.1: Confidence in the electoral system and political parties |  On Track |
| 4.2: National Integrity Framework |  Delayed |
| 4.3: Open contracting |  Delayed |
| 5.1: Delivery of Australia's Open Government National Action Plan |  On Track |
| 5.2: Enhance public participation in government decision making |  On Track |



1.1: Improve whistle-blower protections in the tax and corporate sectors



ON TRACK

This [commitment](#) will ensure Australia has appropriate protections in place for people who report corruption, fraud, tax evasion or avoidance, and misconduct within the corporate sector. This will be achieved by:

- introducing whistle-blower protections for people who disclose information about tax misconduct to the Australian Taxation Office; and
- strengthening and harmonising corporate whistleblower protections with those available in the public sector.

In the 2016-17 Budget, the Government announced the introduction of new arrangements to better protect tax whistleblowers as part of its commitment to strengthening the integrity of Australia's tax system. Currently, there are no specific protections for tax whistleblowers and the current range of tax secrecy and privacy provisions are incapable of guaranteeing absolute protection.

This commitment will advance the OGP values of public accountability and transparency by:

- encouraging, protecting and compensating whistle-blowers whose information reveals artificial tax structures and misconduct; and
- reducing other forms of corruption, fraud and misconduct by ensuring corporate whistleblowers are encouraged to come forward, are protected and are compensated.

Current status

On 30 November 2016, the Senate referred [an inquiry into whistleblower protections in the corporate, public and not-for-profit sectors](#) to the Parliamentary Joint Committee on Corporations and Financial Services for report by 30 June 2017. Submissions closed on 10 February 2017. On 14 June 2017, the Senate extended the reporting date from 30 June 2017 to 14 September 2017.

On 20 December, the Government released for consultation the paper titled the [Review of Tax and Corporate Whistleblower Protections in Australia](#) seeking public comments to assist the Government with the introduction of appropriate protections for tax whistleblowers and in assessing the adequacy of existing whistleblower protections in the corporate sector. Submissions closed on 10 February 2017.

The Government is progressing with reforms to introduce protections for tax whistleblowers and strengthening and harmonising the existing whistleblower protections in the corporate sector.

Public consultation on draft legislation for whistleblower protections will occur in sufficient time for the introduction of legislation into the Parliament in December 2017.

Once enacted, a new whistleblower regime will protect disclosures made in relation to tax law. Corporate sector whistleblowing protections will also be strengthened to address existing

deficiencies and bring those protections in line with what is considered to be domestic and international best practice.

Contact







The Treasury: whistleblowers@treasury.gov.au

Other Stakeholders

Government: Australian Taxation Office, Australian Securities and Investments Commission, Australian Prudential Regulation Authority, Attorney-General's Department, Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet and other relevant agencies, state and territory governments, Parliament of Australia.

Non-Government: Corporations, peak industry bodies (including Law Council of Australia, tax advisors, other law and accounting bodies), non-government organisations (including Australian Open Government Partnership Network, Transparency International Australia, Accountability Round Table), Board of Taxation, academia, and whistle-blowers.

Steps to implementation

| | | |
|--|-------------------|--|
| Establish Parliamentary inquiry | Nov 2016 |  Completed |
| Treasury to release a public consultation paper covering both tax whistle-blower protections and options to strengthen and harmonise corporate whistle-blower protections with those in the public sector. | Dec 2016 |  Completed |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development and public exposure of draft legislation for tax whistle-blower protections (informed by consultation). | May-Jul 2017 |  Delayed |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recommendation to Government on reforms to strengthen and harmonise whistle-blower protections in the corporate sector with those in the public sector (informed by consultation). | May-Jul 2017 |  Completed |
| Finalise and introduce legislation for tax whistle-blower protections. | Aug-Dec 2017 |  On Track |
| Introduce legislation to establish greater protections for whistle-blowers in the corporate sector, with a parliamentary vote no later than 30 June 2018. | Dec 2017-Jun 2018 |  Not yet commenced |



1.2: Beneficial ownership transparency



ON TRACK

This [commitment](#) will improve transparency of information of beneficial ownership and control of companies available to relevant authorities. This will assist these authorities to address illegal activities of tax evasion, money laundering, corruption and terrorist financing.

The [Financial Action Taskforce](#) (FATF) has developed internationally recognised standards for combating of money laundering and the financing of terrorism. This commitment will progress Australia's compliance with the relevant standard on beneficial ownership of companies and advance the OGP values of transparency and accountability in business by:

- improving the effectiveness of our legal, regulatory and institutional frameworks
- deterring the misuse of corporate structures for illicit purposes such as corruption, tax evasion and money laundering
- protecting the integrity of the financial system; and
- increasing growth through private sector investment

Current status

Treasury has considered submissions to the public consultation. The Government is considering what action may be needed to increase the transparency of beneficial ownership. Next steps will include development of any necessary legislative reforms and their implementation.




Contact

The Treasury: beneficialownership@treasury.gov.au

Other Stakeholders

Government: Attorney General's Department, Australian Securities and Investment Commission, G20, Australian Taxation Office, Australian Transaction Reports and Analysis Centre, Australian Criminal Intelligence Commission, Office of the Australian Information Commissioner, regional partners and Australian Accounting Standards Board, state and territory governments.

Non-Government: Companies, peak bodies (including Law Council of Australia), non-government organisations (including Australian Open Government Partnership Network, Publish What You Pay Australia and Transparency International Australia), reporting entities under the Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorism Financing Act, FATF, Global Forum, international tax partners

| Steps to implementation | | |
|---|---|--|
| Treasury to release a public consultation paper seeking views on the details, scope and implementation of a beneficial ownership register for companies. The consultation will also consider the use of nominee shareholdings to conceal beneficial ownership | Feb-Apr 2017 |  Completed |
| <p>Treasury is continuing to consult with stakeholders on this initiative.</p> <p>Treasury will provide a recommendation to Government on the details, scope and implementation of a beneficial ownership register for companies (informed by public consultation).</p> | Jul 2017 |  Completed |
| Begin work to implement Government decision on transparency of beneficial ownership of companies. | Aug 2017 - expected to continue for the duration of this Plan |  Delayed |



1.3: Extractive industries transparency



DELAYED

This [commitment](#) will advance the OGP values of access to information and public accountability by:

- providing timely, reliable, publicly available and independently verified data on the extractives industries' contribution to the Australian economy
- encouraging EITI adoption in resource-rich countries and support a level playing field for Australian companies seeking to invest in those markets
- demonstrating Australia's commitment to global transparency, anti-corruption and tackling tax avoidance; consistent with current domestic and international trends; and
- supporting the extractive industries' social licence to operate, demonstrating its commitment to transparent and accountable operations.

Current status

- A [Multi-Stakeholder Group](#) (MSG) was established on 23 November 2016 to oversee the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI) process in Australia. The MSG is a requirement of the EITI Standard.
- The MSG met on 6 April 2017 and is developing the detailed work plan that will underpin [Australia's EITI candidacy application](#).
- Progressing Australia's EITI candidacy application requires a comprehensive review of the requirements of the 2016 EITI Standard against the Australian adapted model developed by the Australian 2014 EITI pilot.
- The Australian EITI MSG will need to agree on how the 2016 EITI Standard will be applied, ensuring consistency with Australian legislative and policy frameworks.




Contact

[Department of Industry, Innovation and Science](#): EITI@industry.gov.au

Other Stakeholders

Government: Department of Industry, Innovation and Science; Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Australian Taxation Office, Department of the Treasury, state and territory governments.

Non-Government: Multi-Stakeholder Group (MSG) with 21 voting members representing governments, the extractive industry and civil society organisations.

| Steps to implementation | | |
|--|---|--|
| Establishment of the Australian EITI Multi Stakeholder Group (MSG) | Nov 2016 |  Completed |
| Australia to apply for EITI Candidate Country status | Mar-June 2017 |  Delayed |
| Australia to publish first EITI report | 18 months after obtaining EITI Candidate Country status |  Not yet commenced |



1.4: Combating corporate crime



ON TRACK

This [commitment](#) will strengthen Australia's ability to prevent, detect and respond to corporate crime, particularly bribery of foreign public officials, money laundering and terrorism financing. We plan to do so by improving the effectiveness of our legislation and exploring options to encourage companies to self-report criminal behaviour.

This commitment will advance the OGP value of public accountability by strengthening our laws and improving our ability to detect and respond to corporate criminal behaviour, in consultation with the public.

This commitment was included in the National Action Plan to explore ways to better target and enforce our financial and corporate criminal laws and thereby reduce opportunities for corporate criminals to exploit Australia's financial system for their own illicit gain.

Current status

Foreign bribery and DPAs (milestones 1 and 2)

The Minister for Justice released public discussion papers on a [proposed deferred prosecution agreement \(DPA\) scheme](#) (March 2017) and possible [reform of laws applying to bribery of foreign public officials](#) (April 2017).

Public consultations on foreign bribery and DPA proposed reforms closed on 1 May 2017.

The consultation process included engagement with non-government stakeholders through the Government Business Anti-Corruption Roundtable held on 31 March 2017 (the subject of commitment 4.2) and a further consultation event held on 27 April.

The Government is currently considering the proposed law reforms, which incorporate views expressed in the submissions and through the public consultation sessions.

AML/CTF Act review (milestone 3)

On 17 August 2017, the Minister for Justice, the Hon Michael Keenan MP, introduced the [Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorism Financing Amendment Bill 2017](#) (the Bill) in the Parliament.

The Bill comprises the first phase of legislative reform implementing the recommendations of the [statutory review of Australia's AML/CTF regime](#) and contains a number of measures to modernise the regime.

The statutory review recommended the Government develop options for regulating 'tranche two' entities (lawyers, conveyancers, accountants, real estate agents, trust and company service providers and high-value dealers) under the AML/CTF regime and undertake a cost-benefit analysis (CBA) of the options developed.

The CBA was completed on 30 June 2017 and is currently being considered by the Minister for Justice.

If passed, the Bill would regulate digital currency exchange businesses under the AML/CTF regime. The Bill would also provide regulatory relief to industry, including by de-regulating the cash-in-transit sector and clarifying financial institutions' correspondent banking due diligence obligations. The Bill is expected to result in estimated savings to industry each year for the ten years after the measures come into force of \$36,086,393. This financial impact includes average annual regulatory costs of \$662,221 for business and community organisations arising from measures to regulate digital currency exchange providers.

Should Government decide to regulate Tranche Two sectors, these sectors would be subject to obligations under the AML/CTF regime. The nature and extent of any such obligations would be considered during further consultation with industry.

Australian Securities and Investment Commission enforcement review taskforce (milestone 4)

The taskforce will be consulting on a number of issues, including penalties for corporate fraud, prior to the delivery of a final report to Government.

The Taskforce is led by a Panel chaired by the Department of the Treasury, and includes senior representatives from Australian Securities and Investments Commission, the Attorney-General's Department, and the office of the Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions, with support from an Expert Group drawn from academia and legal experts recognised for their expertise in corporations, consumer, financial and credit law. The Expert Group is providing ongoing advice and feedback to the Panel in preparing its report and recommendations.

A final report will be provided to Government by the end of September 2017.

Contact





Attorney-General's Department: CriminalLaw@ag.gov.au (foreign bribery and deferred prosecution agreements scheme law reforms), antimoneylaundering@ag.gov.au (anti-money laundering and counter-terrorism financing matters)

The Treasury: ASICenforcementreview@treasury.gov.au

Other Stakeholders

Government: Australian Commission for Law Enforcement Integrity, Australian Federal Police, Australian Securities and Investments Commission, Australian Transaction Reports and Analysis Centre, Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions, The Department of the Treasury, Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Non-Government: industry, peak bodies (including Law Council of Australia), non-government organisations (including Australian Open Government Partnership Network, Accountability Round Table), academia and international partners

| Steps to implementation | | |
|---|-------------------|--|
| AGD to review laws applying to foreign bribery and consult publicly on possible reform options. | Dec 2016-Mar 2017 |  Completed |
| Respond to the consultation on a possible Australian DPA scheme and consult on possible models. | Dec 2016-Jul 2017 |  Completed |
| Consult publicly on the recommendations from the statutory review of the Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorism Financing Act 2006 and associated Rules and Regulations , and implement legislative reforms. | 2019 |  On track |
| Final report of the ASIC enforcement review taskforce to Government. | 2017 |  On track |



2.1: Release high-value datasets and enable data-driven innovation



Australia will continue to make more public data openly available and supports its use to launch commercial and non-profit ventures, conduct research, make data-driven decisions and solve complex problems.

By developing an open dialogue with the research, not-for-profit and private sectors to identify the characteristics of high-value public datasets, and to promote innovative use of data to drive social and economic outcomes.

This [commitment](#) will advance the OGP values of access to information, technology and innovation and public participation by:

- identifying and prioritising high-value datasets for priority release
- understanding how Australian businesses and not-for-profits are using public data
- stimulating use and re-use of public data to create social value
- providing access to and encouraging the use of public data
- identifying and addressing barriers impeding the sharing of and access to data; and
- fostering a dialogue on how public data can be made more useful.

Current status

The activities and work to support commitment 2.1 have been incorporated into the work plan of the Data and Digital branch in the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet.

Round table discussions

Between October 2016 and April 2017, Government consulted the public, including a broad cross-section of stakeholders and sectors in a series of roundtable discussions and 'data pulse check' surveys. Participants identified key issues surrounding access to and release of public data, including privacy concerns, standards, cultural and bureaucratic barriers.

Feedback received through the roundtables and surveys is informing the development of the high-value dataset framework. The framework will assist data custodians to identify high-value data for release.

Data Availability and Use Inquiry

The Productivity Commission (PC) delivered its final report of its [Data Availability and Use Inquiry](#) in March 2017 and the Government has since established a cross-portfolio taskforce to prepare the Government's response to the report's recommendations. The Taskforce has consulted with a range of government and non-government stakeholders and will deliver the Government's response in the second half of 2017.

The PC report proposes reforms to strengthen Australia's data system and give individuals more control over their digital data. Several of the recommendations relate to high value datasets, including the designation of National Interest Datasets and a public nomination process for access to high value datasets.

PM&C will further consider its program of work to assess barriers, identify and release high-value datasets following the Government's response to the PC Inquiry.

GovHack

[GovHack](#) is a community led event that has grown since 2009 to cover 36 locations across Australia and is supported by numerous sponsors from Government and industry. GovHack events continue to be supported by mentors from government agencies to assist in unlocking the value of public data in new and innovative ways.

Open Data 500

[The Open Data 500 \(OD500\)](#) is an online survey designed to help identify the types of government data that businesses use. The roundtable events and work undertaken by the PC response Taskforce to identify high value data across the academic, business and community sectors has comprehensively addressed this question. The PC response Taskforce has also explored attitudes across sectors on a process to identify National Interest Datasets and a subsequent process for their release. The Government considers that this has fulfilled the policy need to understand business use of government data in a broad and strategic way, and therefore fulfilled the policy intent of undertaking a second round of the Open Data 500 initiative.











Contact

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet: datapolicy@pmc.gov.au

Other Stakeholders

Government: Australian Government agencies, state and territory and local governments.

Non-Government: Non-government organisations (including Australian Open Government Partnership Network, Open Knowledge Foundation, Electronic Frontiers Australia, Australian Privacy Foundation), research, not-for-profit and private sectors.

| Steps to implementation | | |
|---|-------------------|--|
| Consultation to assess barriers to using data, identify the characteristics of ‘high-value’ data and help inform the development of the High-Value Dataset Framework, including: 1. Roundtable discussions with the research, private and not-for-profit sectors. | Dec-Apr 2017 |  Completed |
| 2. Undertake the second round of the Open Data 500. | Jan-Jul 2017 |  Completed |
| 3. Broader public consultation through surveys, social media and blog posts. | Oct 2017 |  On track |
| 4. Undertake regular meetings of the Government Open Data Community Forum for public servants from federal, state and territory, and local government to share experience and discuss their ongoing open data work | Ongoing |  On track |
| Identify and release high-value data 1. Develop the High-Value Dataset Framework (informed by public consultation). | Apr-Dec 2017 |  Delayed |
| 2. Develop and release a public registry of significant non sensitive datasets yet to be published on data.gov.au | Dec 2017-Jul 2018 |  Not yet commenced |
| 3. Release non-sensitive data by default, with a focus on releasing high-value datasets. | Ongoing |  On track |
| Stimulate innovative use and re-use of public data 1. Review and publicise the outcomes from the pilot DataStart initiative. | Early 2017 |  Completed |
| 2. Expand the DataStart initiative. | Jul 2017-Jul 2018 |  On track |
| 3. Provide support and mentoring at GovHack events. | Ongoing |  On track |



2.2: Build and maintain public trust to address concerns about data sharing and release



ON TRACK

Australia will build public trust around data sharing and release. We will do this by actively engaging with the public regarding how public data is being used to better communicate the benefits and understand public concerns, and we will improve privacy risk management capability across Government. This commitment aims to build trust about the use of integrated data and actively respond to public concerns about data sharing. It will comply with international best practice on open data principles and enable Australia to participate in global fora on data.

This [commitment](#) will advance the OGP values of public accountability and civic participation by:

- providing greater transparency on how Government is using the data it collects and protecting personal information;
- enabling the public to engage with Government and raise issues of concerns;
- enabling experts outside of Government to inform the public debate; and
- providing more targeted and effective policy, service delivery and program evaluation.

Current status

The Government is currently developing a framework to build and maintain public trust and to address concerns about data sharing and release. This framework will ensure alignment across government data and digital initiatives and will go beyond what is committed to in the National Action Plan. Work to develop this framework draws from both research involving public focus groups, and expertise and existing work programs within Government. Public engagement at a broader level is on track to commence in the second half of 2017, in line with the Government's response to the [Productivity Commission's Inquiry into Data Availability and Use](#) (see Current status of Commitment 2.1 for further information).

The development of this framework, along with work to establish an expert panel to advise Government and help communicate the benefits and risks of sharing data, complements recommendations under consideration from the *Productivity Commission's Inquiry into Data Availability and Use* report. The Government's response to this report is expected in the second half of 2017 and the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet will further consider its program of work to establish an expert advisory panel following the Government's response to the Productivity Commission's Inquiry.

In preparation, Terms of Reference are under development with a recommendation that the panel should include non-government representation from data groups, privacy groups, digital rights organisations, consumer rights groups, industry associations and civil society. Draft aims and purpose of the panel have been circulated with a broader group of agencies for input and are currently being raised at Secretary level.

The Government has been working to improve privacy and personal information protections in using and sharing data. In December 2016, the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet [published a process on data.gov.au](#) that guides government agencies in how to release sensitive

unit record datasets as open data. The process is intended to apply to datasets released on data.gov.au, as well as data made available openly through agency websites.

In May 2017, the Secretary of the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet wrote to the Australian Information and Privacy Commissioner to confirm the Department's commitment to [working collaboratively on the development of a new Privacy Code for the Australian Public Service](#) (APS). The Privacy Code will strengthen the existing privacy capability of agencies by setting out the minimum requirements that the Commissioner expects of all agencies. It will provide consistency in privacy governance across the APS and will play a key role in building trust in the APS, in supporting the Government's public data agenda, and in enhancing privacy governance and capability. Consultation on the draft Code closed in August and the Office of the Australian Information Commissioner is currently developing supporting resources for the Code, in consultation with agencies.

The Government has undertaken work in 2017 to ensure it complies with international best practice on open data principles, through Australia's adoption of the International Open Data Charter in March 2017. A letter from Assistant Minister Taylor adopting the Charter is published on the [Open Data Charter website](#). Australia has offered to support the Charter Secretariat as they establish the Charter working groups and test projects over the next 12 months.

Under the 2017-18 Budget announcement for the Data Integration Partnership for Australia (DIPA), resourcing of \$2.842m over three years has been allocated to address the need for a social licence from the public for the collection and use of data. This includes funding for consultants to advise on engagement, a group of eminent persons to engage with stakeholders and the public and secretariat support.








Contact

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet: datapolicy@pmc.gov.au

Other Stakeholders

Government: Attorney General's Department, Treasury, Fair Work Ombudsman, Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, Department of Social Services, Department of Industry, Innovation and Science and Department of Health, Department of Human Services, Australian Taxation Office and Australian Federal Police, state and territory governments.

Non-Government: Non-government organisations (including Australian Open Government Partnership Network, Open Data Institute Queensland, Open Knowledge Foundation, Electronic Frontiers Australia, Australian Privacy Foundation, other privacy groups, digital rights organisations), library associations and the public.

| Steps to implementation | | |
|--|---------------------|--|
| Develop an ongoing and collaborative conversation with the public about the risks and benefits of data sharing and integration: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish an expert panel to advise Government and to help communicate: value and utility of data sharing and integration; how Government is using the data it collects; and how Government is protecting personal information. | Early 2016-Mid 2017 |  Delayed |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop and implement a public engagement process to demonstrate public-value examples and enable an ongoing dialogue with the public. | Dec 2016-Dec 2017 |  On track |
| Improve privacy and personal information protections in using and sharing data: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Publicly release a process for Government agencies to determine whether sensitive data can be made sufficiently confidential to enable open publication. | End 2016-Early 2017 |  Completed |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work with the Office of the Australian Information Commissioner to improve privacy risk management capability across the Australian Public Service. | Jul 2018 |  On track |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Respond to the Productivity Commission's recommendations on consumer rights and safeguards for data. | Mar-Sep 2017 |  On track |
| Comply with international best practice on open data principles and participate in global fora on data: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adopt the International Open Data Charter and develop a high-level public statement with public consultation. | Mar 2017 |  Completed |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participate in the International Open Data Stewards Group. | Ongoing |  On track |



2.3: Digitally transform the delivery of government services



The Government is committed to digital transformation of government services. This [commitment](#) will mean Australia continues to invest in digital technologies. This will make government services simpler, faster and cheaper. Better services will make it easier for the public to work and interact with Government.

This commitment will advance OGP values of technology and innovation and transparency by:

- increasing public access to government services;
- making government services more efficient and cheaper; and
- Increasing transparency around performance of government services.

The Digital Transformation Agency has committed to delivering four key projects in support of this commitment:

- A Digital Transformation Roadmap
- Individual Sector Roadmaps
- A Digital Marketplace; and
- A Public Dashboard to improve transparency around the performance of government services.

Current status

The [Whole-of-Government Digital Transformation Roadmap](#) was delivered in December 2016. The Digital Transformation Agency has also released Beta versions of both the [Digital Marketplace](#) and the [Performance Dashboard](#). This completes the commitment to release a Beta version of the marketplace.

Milestone 1

The Digital Marketplace is currently online in Public Beta. It opened in August 2016 with a limited number of product categories for sellers and buyers. In February 2017, the marketplace opened to an unlimited number of sellers in an increased number of categories. The Digital Transformation Agency continues to promote the Marketplace. The Marketplace has dramatically increased SME involvement and made procurement of a range of services easier.

Milestone 2

The Performance Dashboard is currently online in Public Beta. It hosts 7 services and tracks a range of measures including user satisfaction, digital take-up, completion rate and cost per transaction. The Digital Transformation Agency continues to seek additional services for the Performance Dashboard.

Milestone 3

The [Whole-of-Government Digital Transformation Roadmap](#) was delivered in December 2016.

Milestone 4

The Digital Transformation Agency is currently on track to support agencies in the creation of sector wide roadmaps, which will augment the work already completed on the whole-of-

government roadmap. The first of these sector roadmaps is the Business Sector Roadmap being done in collaboration with DIIS and in line with the National Business Simplification Initiative. Resources are increasingly coming online for this work.

Contact





Digital Transformation Agency: policy@digital.gov.au

Other Stakeholders

Government: Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, Department of Human Services, Department of Health, Department of Industry, Innovation and Science, all other Commonwealth Departments.

Non-government: Non-government organisations (including Australian Open Government Partnership Network), private sector.

Steps to implementation

| | | |
|--|-----------|--|
| Release and promote a beta version of the Digital Marketplace for ICT procurement. | Aug 2016 |  Completed |
| Release and promote a live dashboard measuring the performance of government services, with user satisfaction being one of the key performance indicators. | Oct 2016 |  Completed |
| Deliver a whole-of-government digital transformation roadmap. | Dec 2016 |  Completed |
| Release agency-level digital transformation roadmaps. | Late 2017 |  On track |



3.1: Information management and access laws for the 21st century



ON TRACK

This [commitment](#) will ensure Australia's information access laws, policies and practices are modern and appropriate for the digital information age.

As part of this, we will consider and consult on options to develop a simpler and more coherent framework for managing and accessing government information that better reflects the digital era, including the [Freedom of Information Act 1982](#) (FOI Act), the [Archives Act 1983](#) (Archives Act) and, where relevant, the [Privacy Act 1988](#) (Privacy Act) with primary focus on the Archives Act and FOI Act, which is supported by efficient and effective policies and practices.

This commitment will advance the OGP values of access to information and public accountability by:

- ensuring government information access laws are modern and capable of meeting the demands of the digital age
- increasing awareness of public access rights to government information; and
- improving the efficiency of processing access to information requests.

The core frameworks of Australia's information access laws (in particular the FOI Act and the Archives Act) remain substantially the same as when they commenced in the early 1980s when government operated in a paper-based environment. It is therefore timely and appropriate to consider how access to government information is best managed in the future in the context of digital government.

In 2010 the Government passed reforms to the FOI Act as part of a broader plan to improve transparency and to encourage public engagement in decision-making. Since then, there have been a number of reviews recommending changes to the FOI Act, including:

- Dr Allan Hawke's report, [Review of the Freedom of Information Act 1982 and the Australian Information Commissioner Act 2010](#) (2013)
- Ms Barbara Belcher's report, [Independent Review of Whole-of-Government Internal Regulation](#) (2015) (Belcher Review); and
- Professor Peter Shergold's report, [Learning from failure: why large government policy initiatives have gone so badly wrong in the past](#) (2016)

The Belcher Review made a number of recommendations relating to information frameworks, including in the areas of information and communications technology, planning and reporting, publishing and tabling, Senate continuing orders, FOI, and the Protective Security Policy Framework. Notably, the Belcher Review found there was duplication, inconsistency and a lack of coherence in the operation between information access schemes under the FOI Act, the Privacy Act and the Archives Act.

Recommendation 18.4 of the Belcher Review (which the Attorney-General's Department (AGD) is responsible for implementing) is linked to Commitment 3.1, and is:

Recommendation 18.4: AGD begin work with relevant entities to scope and develop a simpler and more coherent legislative framework for managing and accessing government information during its life-cycle in a digital environment through staged reforms, commencing with legislation regulating archives.

The implementation of Commitment 3.1 and recommendation 18.4 provides an opportunity for a holistic assessment of information frameworks and consideration of wide-ranging legislative and policy reform. Reform to information frameworks would provide strong support to information projects across Government by setting the overarching framework for information management and access, and providing a strong driver to progress reforms in policy, technology and culture.

Current status

Milestone 1

In January to June 2017 the Attorney-General's Department (AGD) [undertook a discovery phase of user research](#), consulting with a broad range of stakeholders (government and non-government) to better understand how current information frameworks operate in practice. AGD has adopted the Digital Transformation Agency's user-centred design approach to consultation, to better understand what users need, expect and experience. AGD has consulted 32 government agencies, 17 civil society members and nine end users.

Milestone 2 and 3

On 30-31 August 2017, AGD held a workshop in conjunction with the Department of Human Services Design Hub to continue its user-centred design approach to implement Commitment 3.1. The aim of the workshop was for AGD to present its findings of the initial consultation (the discovery phase) and for government, non-government and civil society stakeholders to come together to develop and co-design reform options to make access to, and management of, government information easier in the 21st century.






Contact

Attorney-General's Department: informationframeworks@ag.gov.au

Other Stakeholders

Government: National Archives of Australia, Office of the Australian Information Commissioner, and Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet.

Non-Government: Non-government organisations (including Australian Open Government Partnership Network, Accountability Round Table, and Australian Privacy Foundation), peak bodies (including Law Council of Australia, Australian Press Council, Media Entertainment and Arts Alliance), archivists, academics and researchers, journalists, and state/territory information commissioners.

| Steps to implementation | | |
|--|--------------------|---|
| AGD undertake work with a range of stakeholders (government and non-government) to better understand how current information frameworks operate in practice and identify issues. | Jan-Mar 2017 |  Completed |
| AGD develop, in consultation with stakeholders, a range of options for reform to information access laws, policies and practices, including consideration of oversight mechanisms. | Mar-Jun 2017 |  Completed |
| AGD conduct broad public consultation on options for reform to information frameworks. | Jul-Aug 2017 |  Completed |
| Recommendation to Government, informed by consultation outcomes, on preferred reforms to deliver a coherent and simpler framework for information management and access, supported by effective and efficient policies and practices, that is appropriate for the digital information age. | Sep-Dec 2017 |  On track |
| Implementation of Government decision on reforms to information access laws, policies and practices. | Jan 2018-July 2019 |  Not yet commenced |



3.2: Understand the use of freedom of information



This [commitment](#) aims to better measure and improve our understanding of the public's use of rights under freedom of information laws. We will do this by working with states and territories to develop uniform metrics on public use of freedom of information access rights, and by collecting and publishing this data.

There is currently a lack of a baseline, coherent national perspective that incorporates all jurisdictions.

The outcome will be a national view of the use of FOI laws which will help build a more complete picture of freedom of information rights in Australia and could help governments improve processing of information access requests. Importantly, international measurements have been developed by the World Justice Project and published as the [Open Government Index 2015](#). That index considers four quadrants to measure open government, and ranks countries around the world. The quadrants are:

1. publicised laws and government data
2. the legislated right to information
3. opportunities for civic participation, and
4. complaint mechanisms.

The 2015 Open Government Index found that there was no relationship between the presence of right to information laws and how successfully those laws work in practice. Measuring the effectiveness of right to information laws is essential to ascertaining how they are being accessed by citizens and the operation of these laws in practice. As a democratic society it is important that we have systems in place to measure the how citizens are using the legislated right to information and the provision of information in a timely, effective manner by governments in response to citizen requests. The proposed metrics will align with World Justice Project Open Government Index measures and facilitate an assessment of the right to information, the exercise of that right and the effectiveness of that right in providing information to citizens.

The commitment directly addresses the OGP access to information and public accountability values by providing a national perspective on the operation of laws, for example identifying the extent to which decisions are made on time.

The value of the metrics is that they will:

- enable the community to compare the performance of their local FOI laws with those in other states/territories/Commonwealth and advocate accordingly
- improve community understanding of how FOI laws work
- stimulate discussion on what makes for 'good' FOI laws and performance
- support related commitments under the National Action Plan, such as commitment 3.1 – Information management and access laws for the 21st century; and
- provide a baseline for measuring changes in FOI laws and the impact of Australia's National Action Plan.

Current status

The development of the metrics is being led by the NSW Information Commissioner on behalf of the Association of Information Access Commissioners (AIAC) within the remit of each of their jurisdictions.

The AIAC established an officer-level Working Group with representatives from each jurisdiction to develop the proposed metrics. The Working Group has overseen:

- an initial desktop review by the NSW Information and Privacy Commission (NSW IPC) of whether/how data for the proposed metrics are currently collected and reported across all jurisdictions
- development and circulation of working papers with proposals for each metric aligned to World Justice Project Open Government Index measures
- teleconferences between jurisdictional representatives to discuss the draft metrics and issues canvassed in the working papers
- integration of jurisdictional views and further development of the proposed metrics; and
- preparation of papers to meetings of the AIAC

Proposed metrics

The proposed suite of metrics was agreed by the AIAC in March 2017 and published on the NSW IPC [website](#) in May 2017. Communications collateral was circulated to all jurisdictions and the OGP Secretariat to promote publication. Feedback has been sought generally by the NSW IPC and other jurisdictions via metricsconsult@ipc.nsw.gov.au.

Consultation

The NSW IPC worked and engaged with civil society representatives on the National Action Plan Interim Working Group (IWG) to develop a consultation strategy on the metrics. The recommended approach was a survey of the public.

A survey was released on 18 July 2017 and distributed broadly through the NSW IPC, AIAC, Interim Working Group and OGP Secretariat. The survey was also directly sent by the IPC to the OGP civil society distribution list and contacts nominated by civil society representatives on the Interim Working Group. It was also promoted through the OGP Australia website, IPC Bulletin and via Twitter. The survey closed on 9 August 2017.

Forty-two responses to the survey were received, including one response provided directly rather than through the survey mechanism.

The feedback will be considered and used in the preparation of the final metrics to be presented to the AIAC at its September 2017 meeting for approval and use in delivering a dataset dashboard for publication.

A summary of feedback received will be prepared and distributed to those who nominated to receive the summary and published more broadly.

Data validation and publication

Data on the metrics for both the 2014/15 and 2015/16 reporting years has been collected from jurisdictions and used to create a draft dataset dashboard. The dataset was circulated to AIAC members in July 2017 for validation. The dataset dashboard is currently with each jurisdiction for validation ahead of being presented to the AIAC at its September 2017 meeting for publication.

The commitment is on track to meet the target of publicly releasing the 2015/16 dataset dashboard by December 2017.

Contact

New South Wales Information and Privacy Commission: metricsconsult@ipc.nsw.gov.au;
ipcinfo@ipc.nsw.gov.au





Office of the Australian Information Commissioner: enquiries@oaic.gov.au

Other Stakeholders

Government: Information Commissioners (Commonwealth, NSW, NT, Queensland, Victoria and WA), and Ombudsmen (SA and Tasmania).

Non-Government: The IPC has established contact with the OpenAustralia Foundation and is engaging with other civil society representatives.

Steps to implementation

| | | |
|--|--------------|---|
| Information Commissioners and Ombudsman to agree and publish metrics on information access rights, aligned with the Open Government Index. | Dec 2016 |  Completed but delayed |
| Undertake pilot for data collection and validation for the 2014/15 financial year. | May 2017 |  Completed |
| Data collection and validation for the 2015/16 financial year. | Jul-Nov 2017 |  On track |
| Publicly release dataset on 2015/16 metrics. | Dec 2017 |  On track |



3.3: Improve the discoverability and accessibility of government data: Public data



Australia will make it easier for the public to find, access and use government data and information. We will do this by making greater use of central portals, digital platforms and other tools to improve discoverability and accessibility.

This [commitment](#) is included in the National Action Plan based on stakeholder suggestions during consultations held in approximately August 2016. This commitment addresses a number of suggestions, including: strengthening Australia's data infrastructure; promoting 'mashable' open government data (interoperable via open standards and APIs); and improving accessibility to data from a range of topics.

Current status

The Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet is working with Data61 to develop the next generation of the data.gov.au platform. Together we have released an alpha version of new search functionality at search.data.gov.au and have shared early concepts of potential functionality at preview.data.gov.au. Since its launch in March 2017 the alpha search has been accessed by over 3,300 users.

We are exploring ways to make data.gov.au more robust, including strengthening some of the backend functionality such as admin user interfaces and the ease with which the website is easily (re)deployed. This functionality will help ensure future owners of the website can easily deploy the website with little specialised expertise in open data portal infrastructure, should responsibility move to a different government agency.

Our aim is to continue sharing the work we are doing to improve data.gov.au. We invite feedback and comments from the public about the new functionality and features.





The activities and work to support commitment 3.3 are a part of the work plan of the Data and Digital Branch in the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet. Additionally, Data61 received funding through the National Innovation and Science Agenda to develop platforms for high value open data platforms. Data61 uses this funding as part of its work on this commitment.

Contact

[Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet](#) and [data.gov.au](#): data@pmc.gov.au

Other Stakeholders

Government: CSIRO's Data61

| Steps to implementation | | |
|--|--------------------------|--|
| Work with Data 61 to conduct research and discovery into data consumption (to better understand user behaviours and needs) and publishing (to improve quality, timeliness and value of published data). | Mid 2017 |  Completed |
| Work with Data 61 to create, circulate and gather feedback on design concepts and prototypes for improved search functionality and user experience on the data.gov.au platform. | Late 2016- Late 2017 |  On track |
| Deliver live platform elements for data.gov.au, including integration with NationalMap to provide a more efficient workflow for the publishing and discovery of spatial data. | Early 2017- Late 2017 |  On track |
| Design and prototype further data.gov.au platform capabilities, including: functionality to promote examples and collaboration using public data; and integration with other platforms for open data projects and third party open data platforms. | Early 2017- Mid 2018 |  On track |



3.3: Improve the discoverability and accessibility of government data: Grants



COMPLETED

Under this [commitment](#), the Government is building [GrantConnect](#), a central whole-of-government system that will forecast and publish grant opportunities, automatically notify public users of grant opportunities of interest, and publish information on grants awarded.

Current status

GrantConnect went live on 6 February 2017 for Phase 1 functionality, the central discovery and notification of Commonwealth grant opportunities, and access to grant guidelines.

The publishing mandate for Phase 1 took effect on 30 April 2017. All non-corporate Commonwealth entities must now publish grant opportunities and grant opportunity guidelines on GrantConnect.

To date 16 entities, representing more than 90% of Commonwealth granting activity, have used GrantConnect to advertise 118 grant opportunities. Entities have also published forecast opportunities to provide early notice of future potential grant opportunities. Over 2,950 potential grantees and interested parties have registered to receive notification of relevant forecast and grant opportunities of interest, which has in turn improved the discoverability and accessibility of grant opportunities.

Contact

Department of Finance: GrantConnect@finance.gov.au

Other Stakeholders

Government: All non-Corporate Commonwealth entities that undertake grants administration.

Non-Government: All potential grant recipients (e.g. business, not-for-profits, individuals).

Steps to implementation

Finance to implement Phase One of the GrantConnect platform to enable public users to:

- register to receive notification on grant opportunities that match their self-defined profiles
- watch forecast opportunities as they move from planning to grant opportunities open for applications; and
- access grant guidelines for each opportunity and be notified about changes to grants processes.

Late 2016-
Late 2017



Completed



3.3: Improve the discoverability and accessibility of government data: Corporate and administrative reporting



ON TRACK

This [commitment](#) is to undertake work to make reporting of government corporate and administrative information more discoverable and accessible through digitisation.

Corporate and administrative reporting information is currently located on individual agency websites or in hard copy, making it difficult to compare and contrast documents. The Department of Finance is working to make reporting information more discoverable and accessible through the digitalisation of this information.

Current status

The Department of Finance is developing a pilot of a digital corporate and administrative reporting platform that will demonstrate the benefits of digitalisation of this information. For presentation purposes, the pilot is currently focused on presenting digitalised annual reporting information from a small number of Commonwealth entities. However, if adopted, it is intended that all Commonwealth entities and Commonwealth companies will be covered under the new arrangements.

A fully functioning annual report pilot has now been developed and Finance is currently consulting key internal stakeholders. The agreement of key stakeholders is needed before further development can be undertaken.

The Department of Finance has internally funded the development of the Pilot. To date \$276,000 have been provided for the development of the technical solution, in addition to the use of existing departmental resources.

Contact

Department of Finance: accountabilityprojects@finance.gov.au

Other Stakeholders

Government: [GovCMS](#) and Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet.

Steps to implementation

Finance to launch the pilot of the digital corporate and administrative reporting platform

Late 2016-
Late 2017



On track



3.3: Improve the discoverability and accessibility of government data: Archived records



This [commitment](#) is aimed at making it easier for the public to find, access and use government data and information. We will do this by making greater use of central portals, digital platforms and other tools to improve discoverability and accessibility.

The commitment by the National Archives of Australia is to modernise and improve access to the national archival collection.

The National Archives can best be described as the memory of our nation: we care for, preserve and make available for public access records that document the actions and decisions of the Government reflecting Australia's history, democracy and identity. As well as preserving history, the Archives plays a key role in helping to ensure the Government and its agencies are effective, transparent and accountable to the people. The most significant records of the Government are held by the National Archives of Australia. To facilitate citizens' access to these records through digital and online channels, the Archives will continue to lead the transition from paper to digital information practices in government agencies, digitise paper records of high research value and increase the number of records available for public access.

Current status

In April 2017, the National Archives published on its website the 2016 Report to the Portfolio Minister, the Attorney-General, on [Implementation of Digital Continuity in the Australian Government](#). The report is based on surveys of government agencies by the Archives conducted in 2015 and 2016 and provides metrics on agencies progress towards managing government information digitally. In the same month the Archives released its [Information Management Standard](#) which assists government agencies to create and manage business information effectively. The next Digital Continuity progress report is being prepared for the Portfolio Minister and will be published on the website later in 2017.

Under the [Archives Act 1983](#), the Archives provides access to, promotes and interprets the national archival collection. The collection can be accessed online through the Archives' websites with new material added each week. The Archives also provides access to the collection via the National Reference Service and reading rooms in each capital city, some co-located with state or territory archives or libraries, providing a one-stop shop for researchers. In addition, the Archives engages with diverse audiences, including school children, veterans and their families and Australians from culturally and linguistically diverse communities to assist them to learn about their heritage and democracy.

Since July 2016, the Archives has proactively released for public access over 260,400 records from 320 groups of archival records including key 1992–93 Cabinet records, records relating to the Mabo High Court case, and the 1967 Referendum. The Archives has also released an additional 40,910 records in response to applications for access received from members of the public.

In 2016/17 the Archives has added over 9.4 million digital images of collection material to its website. Subjects covered by these new images include Cabinet, passenger arrival, and military

service. Throughout the year the Archives has supported a number of community organisations, government agencies and researchers to commemorate World War I and World War II anniversaries by making records about Indigenous service personnel, military medical officers and serving and repatriated veterans from various localities available for public access.

In addition to promoting access in reading rooms and via its website, the Archives provides websites, publications, exhibitions, displays and events that allow people to engage with and explore the collection and its impact on the nation's heritage and democracy. The Archives also provides an education program that introduces students and others to the national archival collection and Australia's history and develops marketing and communication programs, including media engagement, to inform people about the Archives and its' services.

In 2016/17 the Archives hosted 5.6 million visits to online and onsite programs and services with 4.7 million records accessed online or onsite.

Digital access projects launched by the Archives in 2017 include:

- [Facing Two Fronts: the fight for respect](#) telling the stories of Indigenous service personnel and their fight for social justice.
- Four new video tutorials were released on the Archives' [Discovering Anzacs](#) website to assist the public understand World War I service records.
- The upgraded [Destination: Australia: Sharing our post war migrant stories](#) was launched on 8 May 2017. The upgrade, which has generated much positive feedback has facilitated increased public engagement with the Archives' extensive collection of photographs which document the arrival and settlement of post war migrants.

Through its network of consultative forums in each capital city, and the planned redevelopment of its corporate website the Archives is refocussing its public engagement mechanisms to further encourage public input into decisions about the proactive release of records in the Archives collection.




Contact

National Archives of Australia: archives@naa.gov.au

Other Stakeholders

Government: All Australian Government departments are required to participate in implementation of the Digital Continuity 2020 policy.

Non-Government: National Archives Consultative Forums consisting of representatives of historical, genealogical, military and other research interest groups.

| Steps to implementation | | |
|---|-----------------------|---|
| The Archives will lead the transition to fully digital information management practices in government agencies. Creating and maintaining information in digital formats better supports timely online access to government data online. | Dec 2016- Dec 2018 |  On track |
| The Archives will increase the number of archival records available in digital formats, including World War II service and passenger arrival records. | Dec 2016- Dec 2018 |  On track |
| Make additional groups of archival records of high research interest available for public access. | Dec 2016- mid 2018 |  On track |



3.3: Improve the discoverability and accessibility of government data: Environmental information



ON TRACK

This [commitment](#) builds on progress made by the Government in recent years to work with stakeholders to make significant environmental datasets discoverable, accessible and available to all Australians to help make better decisions about environmental management.

The Department of the Environment and Energy is committed to improving the accessibility and discoverability of the data that underpins key responsibilities, such as the State of the Environment (SoE) reporting and research into the impacts of coal and coal seam gas developments on ground water.

This commitment will advance the OGP values of access to information and technology and innovation by enabling information and data reuse for economic and social benefits and increasing the accessibility, usability and discoverability of public data.

Current status

SoE Digital

The State of the Environment 2016 interactive digital platform, [SoE Digital](#), was launched on 7 March 2017. To date, SoE Digital has had 25,000 unique visitors, and two and half thousand hours on the site. The SoE 2016 content was developed by a team of independent experts supported by the Department of the Environment and Energy. This content was reviewed by stakeholders, fact checked and peer reviewed by subject-matter experts.

In parallel with the content development, the SoE Digital team worked on the information design and architecture. Strong partnerships with public and private enterprise helped resolve challenges in connecting govCMS as the platform and data.gov.au as the data host. User testing with researchers, non-government organisations, and businesses started in October 2016.

SoE Digital is a step-change in environmental reporting. User-centric design and advanced search and visualisation features make analysis accessible to anyone, anywhere.

Spatial data is explorable through SoE Digital, and datasets can be viewed through the [SoE instance of NationalMap](#). Geospatial overlays then provide the opportunity to find out new things. SoE Digital makes available over 330 government data sets, and enables previously impossible research and analysis for informing business planning and investment and policy and program design.

All data used in State of the Environment reporting is stored on [data.gov.au](#), the Government's open data portal. All of the data available for download can be found at [data.gov.au/organization/state-of-the-environment](#).

Bioregional Assessments and the impacts of coal and coal seam gas developments

Bioregional assessments involve a broad range of data from disciplines such as geology, hydrology, hydrogeology, modelling and ecology. The data has been provided by state and Australian governments, industry, technical experts, regional communities and individuals.

The information made available under the Bioregional Assessments program will be useful for the Independent Expert Scientific Committee on Coal Seam Gas and Large Coal Mining Development, state government regulators, natural resource managers, coal seam gas and large coal mine proponents, and interested community members.

Making this valuable information publicly available is an important aspect of the program. The degree of openness and potential for re-use varies between regions due to differing amounts of information and license restrictions. There are over 1,100 datasets available for download from the Government's public data information service (<http://data.gov.au/organization/bioregional-assessment-programme>).

Information on the bioregional assessments, the approach, methods, products data and metadata are available on-line at <http://www.bioregionalassessments.gov.au/>. This Information Platform was developed from February 2015 and went live in April 2016.

Between January and June 2017 over 5,600 users, mainly from Australia, but with some users from the USA, UK and Japan, visited the site. They viewed nearly 24,000 pages of assessment content. There were over 1,100 returning users.

To allow users to explore the data and assessments visually, the bioregional assessments team is working on an on-line mapping tool, the Bioregional Assessment Explorer. The Explorer tool will be launched to visualise the results for the Maranoa-Balonne-Condamine assessment in late 2017. Interactive spatial results for the remaining assessments, Hunter, Gloucester, Namoi and Galilee, will be progressively made available as they are finalised during 2017-18. Delays are due to data delivery from the underlying technical program being slower than originally anticipated.



Contact

Department of the Environment and Energy: environmentalinfo@environment.gov.au

Other Stakeholders

Government: Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet and Data61 (National Map); Department of Finance (govCMS); Bureau of Meteorology; Geoscience Australia

Non-Government: Private web development companies; researchers; non-government organisations; and businesses involved in defining user needs and user testing

| Steps to implementation | | |
|---|--------------------------|--|
| Publish the State of the Environment 2016 report through an online information publishing and reporting platform and release the underlying data on data.gov.au | Mar 2017 |  Completed |
| Launch a map-based tool to visualise Bioregional Assessment results | Early 2017- June 2017 |  Delayed |



4.1: Confidence in the electoral system and political parties



This [commitment](#) will enhance the integrity of, and confidence in, Australia's electoral system.

This commitment will advance the OGP values of accountability, transparency and access to information by:

- reducing the risk of undemocratic behaviour and conduct, which leads to the perception or reality of corrupt behaviour by politicians and political parties; and
- increasing public confidence in Australian democracy.

Current status

The Government asked Parliament's Joint Standing Committee on Electoral Matters (JSCem) to investigate a range of matters relating to the 2016 federal election.

In response, the JSCem has tabled three interim reports to date:

- [Interim Report on the authorisation of voter communication](#) (tabled 9 December 2016)
- [Second interim report on the inquiry into the conduct of the 2016 federal election: Foreign Donations](#) (tabled 10 March 2017), and
- [Third interim report on the inquiry into the conduct of the 2016 federal election: AEC modernisation](#) (tabled 21 June 2017).

These reports were based on an extensive public consultation process, which involved the receipt of 133 public submissions and 12 public hearings at locations across Australia. The JSCem continues to work with civil society through further public hearings, with additional reports expected to be tabled later in 2017.

Informed by JSCem's findings, the Government is taking action to enhance integrity and confidence in Australia's electoral system. On 15 September, 2017, the [Electoral and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2017](#) (Electoral Act) became law. The Electoral Act addresses many of the recommendations of the JSCem First Interim Report, and is expected to contribute to this commitment by enhancing the transparency of communication with voters.

The Government has committed to introducing legislation in the Spring Sittings (August-December 2017) to prohibit foreign political donations. This legislation will address the second JSCem interim report.

Contact




Department of Finance: electoralpolicy@finance.gov.au

Other Stakeholders

Government: Australian Electoral Commission, Attorney-General's Department, JSCEM.

Non-Government: JSCEM is anticipated to engage with political parties, non-government organisations and the public.

Steps to implementation

| | | |
|--|--|--|
| JSCEM inquiry and reporting. | 2016-2017 (further progress subject to Committee reporting) |  On track |
| Government considers recommendations. | 2017 |  On track |
| Parliament and other relevant stakeholders address Government decisions. | Ongoing |  On track |



4.2: National Integrity Framework



This [commitment](#) will strengthen Australia's ability to prevent, detect and respond to corruption in the public sector. We plan to do so by collaborating with the corporate sector, non-government organisations, academia and the public, including by holding the first Government Business Roundtable on Anti-Corruption in 2017.

We will also review the jurisdiction and capabilities of our key anti-corruption bodies, the Australian Commission for Law Enforcement Integrity (ACLEI) and the Australian Federal Police (AFP)-led Fraud and Anti-Corruption Centre (FACC), with the development of each National Action Plan to ensure they can focus on protecting Commonwealth agencies from risks of corruption.

This commitment will advance the OGP value of public accountability by improving the effectiveness of our legal, regulatory and institutional frameworks and by protecting the integrity and transparency of the execution of public policy and management.

Current status

Parliamentary Joint Committee on ACLEI's report (milestone 1)

- The Attorney-General's Department (AGD) is continuing consultations with affected agencies to develop a government response to the [Parliamentary Joint Committee on ACLEI's report into ACLEI's jurisdiction](#).

Government Business Roundtable on Anti-Corruption (milestones 2 and 3)

- The Government Business Anti-Corruption Roundtable was held on 31 March 2017 (milestone 2).
- Next steps are to respond to recommendations for reform from the Roundtable (milestone 3), including as part of the consultations on a proposed deferred prosecution agreement scheme and foreign bribery law reforms (the subject of Open Government commitment 1.4: *Combating Corporate Crime*).
- The Government is currently considering the proposed law reforms, which incorporate views expressed at the Roundtable and via the public consultation processes.
- As the reforms are complex and would impact on business and a number of Australian Government agencies, the Government is reviewing them thoroughly and consulting with relevant stakeholders.

Review the jurisdiction and capabilities of ACLEI and FACC (milestone 4)

- We plan to commence the review of the jurisdiction and capabilities of ACLEI and FACC as part of Australia's next Open Government National Action Plan in early 2018.

Contact

Attorney-General's Department: anticorruption@ag.gov.au

Other Stakeholders

Government: Australian Commission for Law Enforcement Integrity, Australian Federal Police, Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions, Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Non-Government: industry, peak bodies (including Law Council of Australia), non-government organisations (including Australian Open Government Partnership Network) and international partners

Steps to implementation

| | | |
|--|---------------------|--|
| Respond to the recommendation of the Parliamentary Joint Committee on ACLEI's report into the jurisdiction of ACLEI. | Early 2017 |  Delayed |
| Hold the first Government Business Roundtable on Anti-Corruption to improve cooperation and consultation on anti-corruption work, and identify areas for reform. | Jul 2017 |  Completed |
| Respond to recommendations for reform and improvement arising from the Roundtable. | Jul 2017-Aug 2017 |  Delayed |
| Review the jurisdiction and capabilities of ACLEI and FACC in consultation with the public in the context of developing Australia's next Open Government National Action Plan 2018-20. | Early 2018-Mid 2018 |  Not yet commenced |



4.3: Open contracting



This [commitment](#) is to review the Government's compliance with the [Open Contracting Data Standard](#).

The Open Contracting Data Standard sets out key documents and data that should be published at each stage of government procurement. The Standard enables disclosure of data and documents at all stages of the contracting process by defining a common data model. It was created to support organisations to increase contracting transparency, and allow deeper analysis of contracting data by a wide range of users.

In line with the [Commonwealth Procurement Rules](#), Australian Government entities are required to report all procurement contracts with a value of \$10,000 or more on [AusTender](#). However, there has not been a formal assessment of the extent to which current practice meets the requirements of the Open Contracting Data Standard.

Current status

The Department of Finance engaged an independent service provider to undertake the review of the Government's compliance with the Open Contracting Data Standard. The review has been completed, and the report was released for public comment via the [Australian Government Procurement Coordinator's blog](#) on 19 July 2017. Public consultation closed on Thursday 10 August 2017.




The Department of Finance is consolidating feedback received during the public comment process, and will report to Government the review outcome as well as any potential improvement measures for implementation.

Contact

Department of Finance: procurementagencyadvice@finance.gov.au

Other Stakeholders

Government: All Australian Government entities.

| Steps to implementation | | |
|---|--------------|---|
| Undertake review of compliance with the Open Contracting Data Standard. | Feb-Apr 2017 |  Completed |
| Publish review and receive public comment on the review. | May-Jun 2017 |  Completed but delayed |
| Implement measures to improve compliance with the Open Contracting Data Standard (if required). | Jun-Aug 2017 |  Delayed |



5.1: Delivery of Australia's Open Government National Action Plan



ON TRACK

This [commitment](#) establishes an Open Government multistakeholder forum, as required in the [OGP Participation and Co-Creation Standards](#), to:

- monitor and drive implementation of Australia's first Open Government National Action Plan
- help develop the next Open Government National Action Plan, and
- raise awareness about open government.

Current status

This commitment has now been completed:

A 15-week process to establish a Forum, administered by a small team based at the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, commenced on 17 April, 2017.



A phase of [public engagement](#) included:

- publication, on 1 May, of a proposal by the Interim Working Group on how the Multistakeholder Forum might work. Four submissions were received, responding to 10 targeted questions posed in the proposal;
- a Twitter Q&A with the Interim Working Group Co-Chairs on 4 May, which resulted in nearly 500 engagements (retweets and likes) and nearly 21,000 impressions; and
- a public workshop in Melbourne on 17 May, attended by 29 participants. About 200 viewers viewed the opening and closing of the workshop, which was livestreamed.

The Interim Working Group met on 18 May and considered the results of the consultations. It made [recommendations](#) to Government about how Australia's first multistakeholder forum, which

it proposed should be called the Open Government Forum, should be appointed, structured and run. Government adopted these recommendations.

[Nominations to the Forum](#) were open from 8-22 June, 2017. 25 nominations for 8 vacant civil society positions were received. All were published online.

A selection panel, comprising Co-Chairs of Australia's Open Government Interim Working Group (Dr Steven Kennedy and Fiona McLeod) and the Hon Murray Kellam AO, assessed nominations against published selection criteria. The panel made recommendations to Government on the appointment of members.

On 21 July 2017, the Government appointed the individuals listed in **Attachment A** of this Midterm Self-Assessment Report to Australia's first Open Government Forum.

The first [meeting](#) of the Open Government Forum, which also served as a handover from the Open Government Interim Working Group, was held in Canberra on Friday 28 July, 2017. At this meeting, the Open Government Forum also ratified its terms of reference, at **Attachment B**. It is envisioned that the Open Government Forum will continue to meet approximately every two months.




Contact

[Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet: OGP@pmc.gov.au](mailto:OGP@pmc.gov.au)

Other Stakeholders

Government: Department of the Treasury, Department of Innovation, Industry and Science, Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, Attorney-General's Department, Digital Transformation Agency, NSW Information and Privacy Commission, Office of the Australian Information Commissioner, Department of Finance, National Archives Australia, Department of the Environment and Energy.

Non-Government: Civil society members of the Interim Working Group and Open Government Forum.

| Steps to implementation | | |
|--|-----------------------|---|
| Establish the OGP multi stakeholder forum by partnering with civil society to determine its structure, role, governance and membership, including reporting and accountability mechanisms for this National Action Plan. | Dec 2016- Mar 2017 |  Completed but delayed |
| Operation of the multi-stakeholder forum, with (at a minimum) the following responsibilities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • inform the co-creation of future National Action Plans; • track and report on implementation of National Action Plan commitments; • facilitate broader community engagement and conduct awareness activities that foster informed participation, including face-to-face meetings and events; and document decisions and publish reports. | 2017- Jul 2018 |  On track |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review the National Action Plan and update milestones and commitments (as necessary) to provide further clarity and ambition for plan. | Dec 2016- Jul 2018 |  On track |



5.2: Enhance public participation in government decision making



This [commitment](#) focusses on improving participation and engagement to enhance policy and service delivery outcomes.

It has a broad range of impacts, and specifically advances OGP values of:

- **Civic participation:** by allowing further access to information to ensure meaningful input from interested members of the public into decisions; citizens' right to have their voices heard; and opening up decision making to more interested members of the public.
- **Technology and innovation for openness and accountability:** by promoting new technologies that offer opportunities for information sharing, public participation and collaboration; and making more information public in ways that enable people to both understand what their governments do and to influence decisions.

Current status

A design thinking approach is being applied to implement the Commitment. For more information on the methodology, see the appendix.

Discover phase - Problem identification stage

The report for the project's problem identification phase was released publicly and to the project reference group in April 2017. It summarises how public participation can help the Australian Public Service (APS) deliver better policy and programmes; and identifies what potential problems stop public servants from engaging the community more often and more effectively. It draws on findings and analysis from initial stakeholder engagement with 20 practitioners, thought leaders and academics, and a literature review of 60 publications.

Discover phase – Empathise stage (ongoing)

This stage aims to better understand current APS engagement practices and explore potential barriers to using a broader range of engagement activities and the conditions that would see the APS better utilise the full range of public participation approaches.

APS and Non-APS interviews

To date, 38 APS staff from 13 organisations have been interviewed to better understand their experience of public participation in the APS.

Outside the APS, we have met the South Australian Engagement team (Your SAY) in the South Australian Department of Premier and Cabinet, the Victorian Department of Premier and Cabinet (DPC), the Victorian Auditor General, and the NSW Department of Premier and Cabinet.

Outside Government, 36 people across 34 organisations have been interviewed, in five different states and territories. These organisations included digital engagement companies, industry associations/peak bodies, non-government organisations, businesses, engagement consultants, academics, environmental activists, and others in the private sector.

Stocktake of best practice

13 Australian Government departments responded to the stocktake survey on engagement approaches, potential improvements and barriers to co-design. The responses are currently being analysed to understand trends, motivations and limitations within the APS.

Business Research and Innovation Initiative (BRII)

The design of the framework will inform the BRII challenge to develop a platform that digitally enables community engagement in policy, programme and service design. BRII is a National Innovation and Science Agenda initiative that is designed to ensure that a greater share of government procurement fosters innovation. The implementing team has participated in the assessment of the BRII finalists. The challengers who will progress have attributes that will assist in addressing some of the barriers found in the research. Additionally, the challengers' proof of concept prototypes will be tested as demonstration projects for this Open Government commitment.

Next steps

The data synthesis from the APS and non-APS interviews is being finalised, including developing personas to better understand the motivations and intentions of both the APS and non-APS. The synthesis will provide the themes that will underpin the design questions for the create phase.

Demonstration Engagement

A number of demonstration engagements are underway to better inform the development of the framework. The first initiative is supporting the design of engagement with the community and other stakeholders in the development of a digital economy strategy. The first step in this has been completed in the delivery of an internal workshop with the senior executive to further the development of the strategy.

Workshops

The Create phase will include workshops to generate ideas from the platforms developed in the Discover phase.

Evidence of public impact

Anecdotally, the people that have been engaged to date welcome this Commitment and are pleased to be engaged. There will be more opportunities to obtain public input and to loop back to those who have already been engaged, including the reference group, in the Create and Deliver phases, particularly in responding to design questions.

A key attribute of the project is to ensure the project is transparent to the public, including the release of initial findings prior to final deadlines, and the literature review undertaken in developing the report. The feedback from people engaged has been consistent: that people would appreciate public servants publishing the data they rely on in their work more often. This is the spirit in which the draft report and literature review was published.

This transparency has resulted in only a few concrete contributions of expertise to the project thus far. However, the initial findings and literature review topics are already well understood in civil society. It is likely that there will be more contributions in response to future work that will include more novel ideas, such as demonstration pieces, themes from user interviews, and the personas.

Contact

Department of Innovation, Industry and Science: ogp@industry.gov.au

Other Stakeholders

Government: All Australian Government departments and agencies.

Non-Government: None formally involved, but a reference group has been established comprising experts and practitioners from academia, engagement consultancies and think tanks. The Create phase will involve further co-design with the public, and the workshop will involve the Australian Futures Project, an NGO.

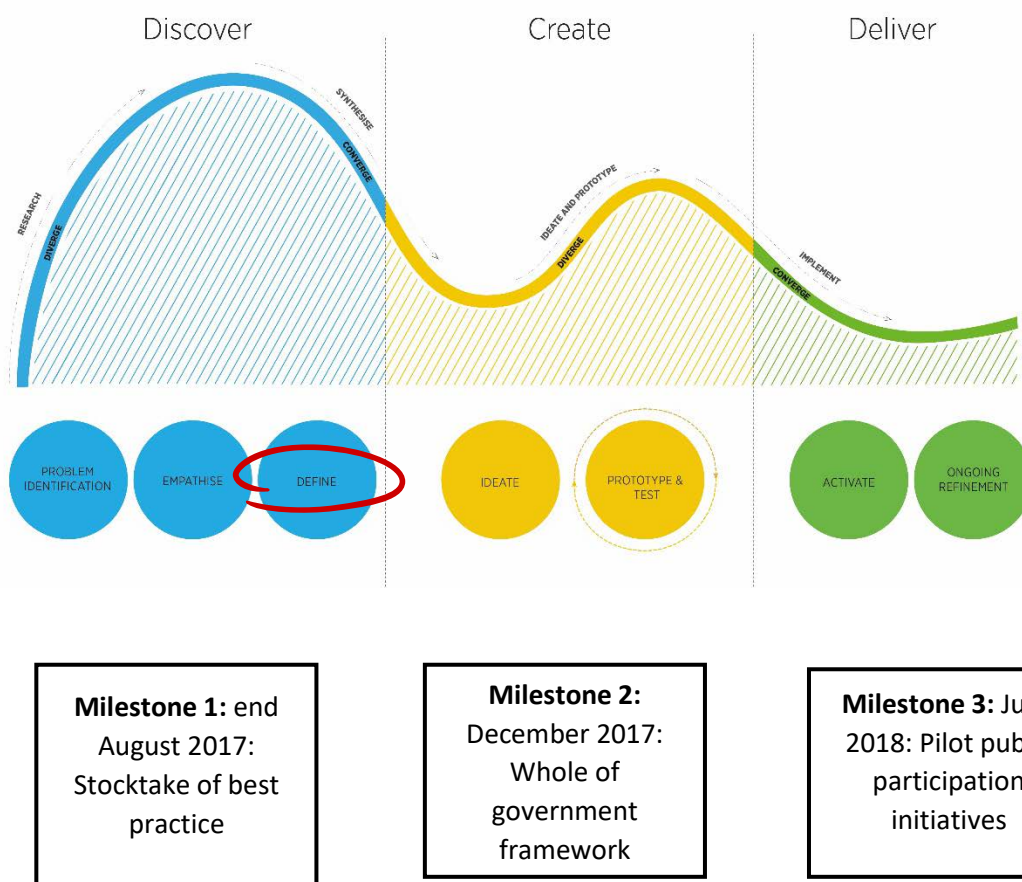
Steps to implementation

| | | |
|--|-----------------------|--|
| Discover phase Undertake and publicly release a stocktake of current approaches to public participation to determine best practice activities (including international and domestic examples, user experience research, methodologies to encourage adoption, and relevant standards, such as IAP2 values). | Jan 2017- Aug 2017 |  On track |
| Create phase Work with government agencies, the public and organisations outside of government to develop and implement a whole-of-government framework (with guidance / principles and potential public participation initiatives) for improving public participation and engagement across the Commonwealth. | Sep 2017- Dec 2017 |  On track |
| Deliver phase Undertake pilot public participation initiatives, including working with the BRIL challengers to more effectively use digital channels for engagement. Review processes and iterate as necessary. | Mid 2018 |  Not yet commenced |

Appendix: Design thinking methodology being applied to implement the project

The design thinking methodology, mapped to this Open Government commitment, is set out below. This methodology is used by Bizlab, the Department of Industry, Innovation and Science's Innovation Lab. As well as including processes and tools that boost innovation, design thinking ensures that users (i.e. the public) are at the centre of the work through the Open Government commitment's implementation. This boosts both the quality of work and its legitimacy in the eyes of the public.

Bizlab's design thinking project methodology: Discover, Create and Deliver



Exchange and Learning

Australia has engaged in informal, officer-level discussions with other OGP countries including New Zealand, Canada, the United Kingdom and Germany to share learnings and observations throughout the OGP cycle, including around development of our National Action Plan and multistakeholder forum and preparation of this Midterm Self-Assessment Report.

Australia was represented by a delegation that included Senator the Hon Mathias Cormann, Minister for Finance, four government officials and eight civil society representatives at the OGP Global Summit in Paris in December 2016. At the event, Australian representatives attended meetings with the CEO of the Open Government Partnership, and the President of the Canadian Treasury Board, and participated in an OGP Ministerial Roundtable. Australia committed to two collective actions outlined in the Paris Declaration for the Open Government Partnership.

Next Steps and Conclusion

Australia's current priorities are to ensure continued effective and timely implementation and reporting of its current Open Government commitments, and to work with the Open Government Forum to help design the process for developing Australia's next Open Government National Action Plan 2018-20.

In undertaking these activities, it is useful to recall the two previous assessments of Australia's performance throughout the OGP cycle: once in the middle of the development of the National Action Plan (**Attachment C**) and again at the establishment of the Open Government Forum (see the [reflections of government officials on OGP experiences](#) and the [minutes from Australia's first Open Government Forum Meeting](#)). Several themes from these assessments remain relevant:

- Australia should continue to work closely with its Open Government Forum to better leverage the skills and networks of civil society and to better engage the public, including traditionally underserved stakeholder groups, through multiple outreach avenues, possibly including:
 - convening communities of interest around each Open Government commitment
 - accessible face-to-face events around the country, livestreamed as appropriate, and
 - more frequent online engagement, including through an online forum
- In particular, Australia should ensure its Open Government Forum guides National Action Plan processes by building upon input and learnings from development of Australia's first National Action Plan, to ensure future commitments remain appropriately progressive and ambitious.
- Australia should consider ways to better engage a fuller range of interests, including the parliament and judiciary, state and local governments and industry groups in future Open Government commitments
- The Government should better explain its own processes, reasoning and responses to civil society input, and more expressly recognise and articulate political engagements, so we can better work together to identify what is ambitious and achievable
- The Government should better balance the need for senior government engagement and opportunities when junior or mid-level officials' involvement is more practical or useful; and
- Australia should consider better promoting its OGP cycle and leveraging the OGP brand in publicising related initiatives.

Overall, this Midterm Self-Assessment Report demonstrates solid progress against Australia's first Open Government National Action Plan 2016-18, especially in meeting the OGP Participation and Co-creation Standards – as well as an embedded appreciation of the importance of open government to a strong and fair society. Learning from its first eight months of participation in the OGP, the Australian Government is confident of its ability to complete its Open Government commitments and looks forward to developing its next, ambitious National Action Plan in partnership with civil society.

Attachment A: Membership of Australia's Open Government Forum

Government Members

- Dr Steven Kennedy PSM, Deputy Secretary, **Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet** (Co-chair)
- Mr Peter Alexander, Chief Digital Officer, **Digital Transformation Agency**
- Mr Iain Anderson, Deputy Secretary, **Attorney-General's Department**
- Ms Diane Brown, Division Head, **The Treasury**
- Mr David Hazlehurst, Deputy Secretary, **Department of Industry, Innovation and Science**
- Dr Stein Helgeby, Deputy Secretary, **Department of Finance**
- Ms Anne Lyons, Assistant Director-General, **National Archives of Australia**
- Mr Timothy Pilgrim PSM, **Australian Information Commissioner and Australian Privacy Commissioner**

The **NSW Information Commissioner**, Ms Elizabeth Tydd will also be a non-voting jurisdictional member, reflecting the Australian Government's desire to build stronger relationships with the states on open government matters.

Non-governmental Members

- **Ms Fiona McLeod SC**, President, Law Council of Australia (Co-chair)
Fiona McLeod is the President of the Law Council of Australia and has previously served as the President of the Australian Bar Association, as Chair of the Victorian Bar, and as a member of the Law Council Executive Board. She brings considerable leadership experience to her role as Co-Chair, and substantial experience working with government, corporate and non-government sectors.
- **Mr James Christian**, CEO, NSW Aboriginal Land Council
James Christian is Chief Executive Officer, NSW Aboriginal Land Council. The NSW Aboriginal Land Council is Australia's largest Aboriginal member-based organisation with over 23,000 individual members. He has a history of working within and across civil society. He has also worked in government at state (NSW) and federal levels; leading government policy in the areas of Aboriginal affairs, disability, carers and community services, and brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to the Forum.
- **The Hon. Dr Ken Coghill**, Deputy Chair and Treasurer, Accountability Round Table
Ken Coghill is an Associate Professor at Monash University where he leads research in governance and parliamentary studies. He teaches Governance – directly relevant to the OGP, and his previous membership in the Interim Working Group. He is Chair of the Australian OGP Network. Ken was formerly a public servant, Wodonga Councillor, Member of Parliament in the Victorian Parliament, Parliamentary Secretary and Speaker.
- **Mr James Horton**, Founder and Chief Executive Officer, Datanomics Pty Ltd
James Horton is founder and CEO of Datanomics Pty Ltd, a data innovation venture, as well as a member of the Innovation Reference Group for the Victorian Government's 10 Year Mental Health Plan, and Deputy Chair of the Victorian Mental Illness Awareness Council. He is also a member of the OGP Civil Society Network Steering Committee. James brings over 25 years' experience in data and information work of the Forum.

- **Ms Emily Howie**, Director of Legal Advocacy, Human Rights Law Centre
Emily Howie is the Director of Legal Advocacy at the Human Rights Law Centre. She leads the Centre's work protecting Australia's democracy, which includes protecting voting rights and data privacy, promoting open and transparent government, and improving whistleblower protections. She is a lawyer with 15 years' experience.
- **Ms Serena Lillywhite**, Chief Executive Officer, Transparency International Australia
Serena Lillywhite is the Chief Executive Officer of Transparency International Australia, the leading global movement working to combat bribery and corruption. She is internationally-recognised for her 15 years' experience in responsible business conduct, including senior positions with Oxfam and the Brotherhood of St Laurence. She is one of Australia's leading civil society actors, with extensive private sector (mining, financial services and manufacturing) and government engagement, both in Australia and at the OECD. She has expertise in multistakeholder initiatives, including the Extractives Industry Transparency Initiative (EITI), and has held high level-advisory positions on tax justice, good governance, and global regulatory frameworks.
- **Ms Katherine Szuminska**, Co-Founder and Director, OpenAustralia Foundation
Kat Szuminska is a Co-Founder and Director of the OpenAustralia Foundation. She has worked with parliamentary and government bodies to open up information, create pathways for dialogue, and produce online services including [openaustralia](#), [planningalerts](#), [electionleaflets](#), [righttoknow](#), and [theyvoteforyou](#), used by millions of people. Kat was a founding member of the Australian OGP Network, was a member of Australia's Open Government Interim Working Group, and helped develop Australia's first Open Government National Action Plan 2016-18.
- **Mr Mark Zirnsak**, Director, Social Justice Unit, Synod of Victoria and Tasmania, Uniting Church in Australia
Mark Zirnsak is the Director, Justice and International Mission, Synod of Victoria and Tasmania, Uniting Church in Australia. He is a member of the Victorian Responsible Gambling Ministerial Advisory Council, the Victorian Alcohol Policy Coalition, and Chair of the Victorian Inter-Church Gambling Taskforce and Victorian Inter-Church Criminal Justice Taskforce. He is also a member of the Secretariat for the Tax Justice Network in Australia. Mark is also active in anti-corruption movements, including Publish What You Pay Australia and Transparency International Australia.



Australia's Open Government Forum

Terms of Reference

Purpose

The Open Government Forum should:

- monitor and drive implementation of the current Open Government National Action Plan
- help develop the next Open Government National Action Plan, and
- raise awareness about open government.

Specifically, it should:

- seek to make government and other relevant institutions work more effectively and efficiently for people through enhanced transparency, policy development, service delivery and decision-making
- oversee implementation of Australia's Open Government Commitments, including monitoring, advising, assessing, reporting to the government and community on progress, and overseeing broad community engagement
- develop recommendations on future Commitments, informed by public consultation and including consideration of potential Commitments identified in earlier consultation processes, based on:
 - consistency and level of priority against the OGP principles and grand challenges, as outlined in the OGP Articles of Governance
 - the desirability of specific, measurable, actionable, relevant and time-bound Commitments
 - the level of ambition and transformational impact of proposed Commitments
 - the feasibility and the likelihood of implementation success
 - the costs and benefits of the proposed Commitments, including alternatives to achieve a similar outcome, and
 - the views expressed by the community and the Australian Government.
- facilitate broad community engagement on prospective Commitments and raise awareness about open government generally, and
- consider submitting a letter of commendation to the Open Government Partnership to accompany each National Action Plan.

Structure

The Forum should:

- comprise not more than 16 members, with equal representation from government (including Australian and State and Territory Governments) and civil society, and
- be co-chaired by a member each from its government and civil society membership.

Ways of Working

The Forum should:

- meet at least every two months unless otherwise agreed, including in different capital cities
- conduct its work, as required and / or convenient, by electronic means. The Forum should seek a high level of community engagement by electronic means, including by disseminating its meeting agendas, minutes and working documents online, live-streaming important proceedings, and trialling other methods of engagement
- seek to develop and engage communities of interest relating to existing or probable future Australian Open Government commitments
- receive regular updates on implementation of Australia's Open Government Commitments, and be able to make requests for relevant information, including the possibility of discussing particular commitments through 'deep dives' or similar means
- be supported by the Australian Government Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet through:
 - preparation of draft agendas, working documents and minutes
 - organisation of logistics for Forum meetings, and
 - publishing of the agenda and minutes of Forum meetings online.
- reimburse its civil society members for reasonable travel costs
- regularly review its own ways of working
- convene an inaugural meeting that also includes members of the Interim Working Group, to hand over.

Appointment

Civil society members of the Multistakeholder Forum should be appointed as individuals, with regard to:

- their demonstrated support of OGP's vision and the Open Government Declaration
- their expertise relevant to the Open Government Partnership, including existing or probable future Australian Open Government commitments
- their ability to engage broad and diverse community networks
- their previous experience working with and influencing government
- the desirability of maintaining some continuity between successive Forums, balanced with the desirability of reaching new communities and reflecting emerging open government priorities

Candidates for initial appointment should be assessed by a selection panel comprising Co-Chairs of the Interim Working Group (who will continue as Co-Chairs of the Multistakeholder Forum) and an additional eminent person as agreed by the Co-Chairs. The panel will then make unanimous recommendations to government on the Forum's civil society membership.

Nominees should be required to provide a short cover letter outlining their motivations for joining and addressing the selection criteria, which should be published.

Given the civil society members should be appointed until appointment of the next Forum under the next Open Government National Action Plan, any mid-term vacancies should be filled on the recommendation of the Co-Chairs of the Forum.

Civil society members should only be eligible for reappointment for a single additional term.

The Australian Government should appoint Government members of the Forum.

The Forum should seek to broadly reflect the diversity of the Australian community. In particular, consistent with the Australian Government's target, women and men should hold at least 40 per cent of positions on the Forum. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, and young people, should be particularly encouraged to apply.



OGPAU Engagement report

Development of Australia's first National Action Plan

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Purpose of this document

This document is a summary of engagement undertaken between November 2015 and 19 May 2016 for the development of Australia's first Open Government National Action Plan.

It summarises the channels used for engagement, how stakeholders used these channels during the engagement period and the key themes of input received during engagement. It also outlines lessons learned by engage2 during the process, and our recommendation to the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (PM&C) for ongoing engagement with stakeholders during the delivery and implementation of the National Action Plan.

The strategy to engage stakeholders during the development of the National Action Plan was published as a draft in February 2016 as an extension of the consultation plan outlined by PM&C in November 2015. Updates made during the project and the original consultation plans are all available on the OGPAU website: <https://ogpau.govspace.gov.au/contribute/>

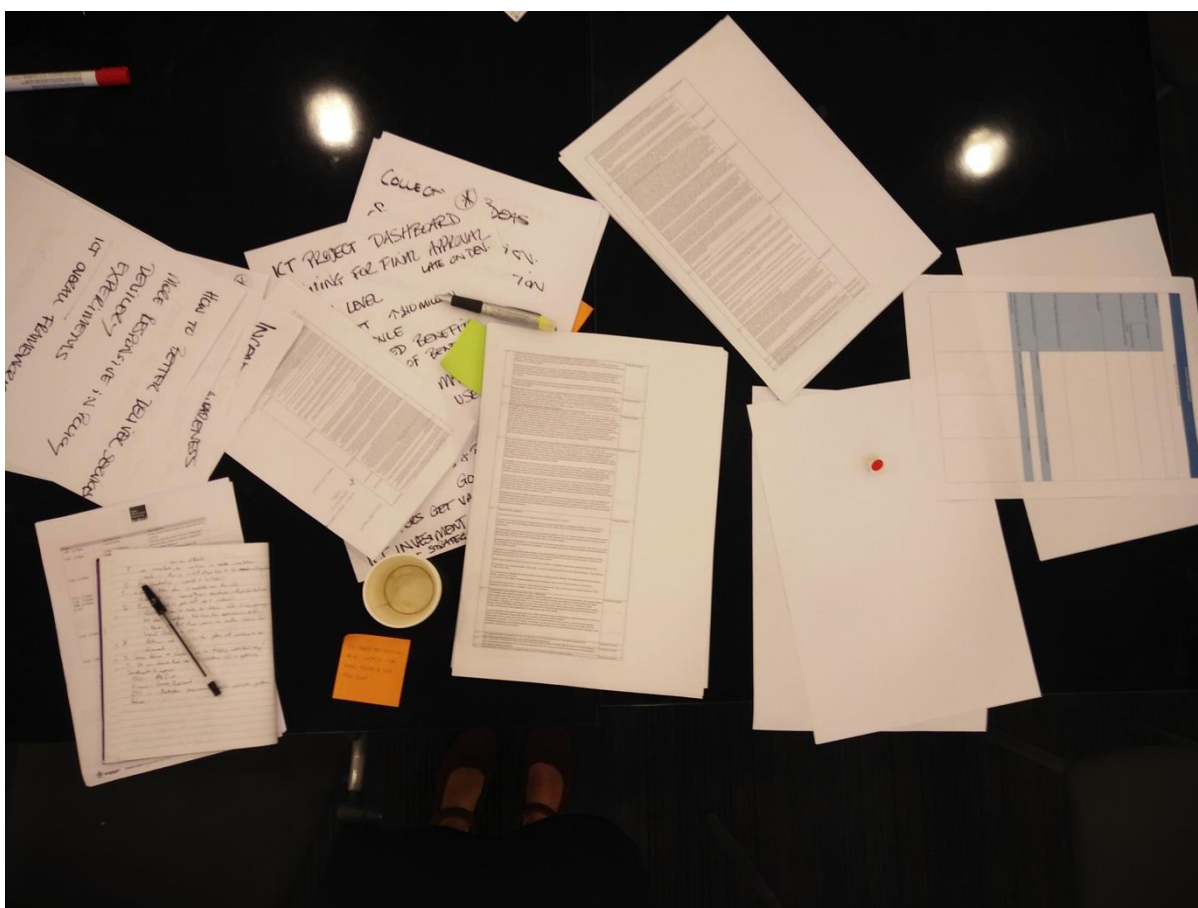


Image 1: Photograph of materials on the table at the co-creation workshop Canberra

Highlights

Stakeholder engagement

- 88 stakeholders provided 302 submissions between 15th November 2015 and 19th May 2016. This included 196 suggested actions, 3 emailed submissions and 103 comments on the wiki and blog.
- 486 stakeholders were informed about the opportunity to participate in the process through 16 email updates sent by the project team between November and May 2016.
- 4,067 people came to the website between 15 November and 19 May 2016. Over 55% returned for a total of 7,287 sessions and 15,545 page views.
- 987 people came to the wiki between 2 February and 19 May 2016. Over 50% returned for a total of 2,444 sessions and 8,680 page views.
- The stakeholder list now includes 430 stakeholders – a 34% increase since 1 February 2016. 84 of these stakeholders have consented to ongoing engagement.
- 63 people participated in the co-creation workshop – this included 39 civil society stakeholders (incl. state & local governments, and the NSW Information Commissioner) and 15 representatives from Commonwealth agencies: 6 from the project team (PM&C plus engage2), 2 from the Civil Society Support Unit, 1 observer from a Minister's office.

Types of Stakeholders

- Stakeholders were located across Australia, with the exception of the Northern Territory and Tasmania.
- Stakeholders represented diverse interests and sectors across the Open Government spectrum from Open Data and Access to Information, to Public Participation and increased Transparency and Accountability. Sectors represented include Government, Private and NGO sectors.

How they participated

- Participants engaged and provided input in the process as follows:
 - 162 people attended information sessions in four capital cities across Australia
 - 25 people participated in the blog
 - 71 people participated in the wiki
 - 88 people provided suggested actions and made submissions
 - 65 people participated in 12 teleconferences
 - 63 people contributed to the co-creation workshop
 - 91 people were contacted by the project team by phone during the process
 - 187 people used the hashtag #ogpau between November 2015 – May 2016.

How we engaged

Purpose of engagement

To encourage collaboration among stakeholders across Australia, working with them to develop suggested actions to be included in the Open Government National Action Plan.

Three stages of engagement:

There were five stages of the project, the first three involved engagement (see image 2).

1. Stage 1: Preparation, framework and history (November – December 2015).

To inform stakeholders and encourage their input into the design of consultation and input into the background and context sections of the document

2. Stage 2: Raise awareness, gather suggestions (January – March 2016)

To promote the project and encourage stakeholders to suggest potential actions for consideration in the National Action Plan.

3. Stage 3: Prioritisation and drafting workshop (April – May 2016)

To encourage discussion about, and prioritisation of, suggested actions and co-create templates for potential commitments for Ministers and Cabinet to consider in Stage 4.

4. Stage 4: Consideration of the National Action Plan by the Australian Government.

5. Stage 5: Launch of the National Action Plan.

At the time of writing, stages 4 and 5 had been delayed by the timing of the Federal election, and the associated caretaker conventions.

Please refer to the strategy document for more information about the stages, objectives for each stage and channels used for engagement: <https://ogpau.govspace.gov.au/contribute/>

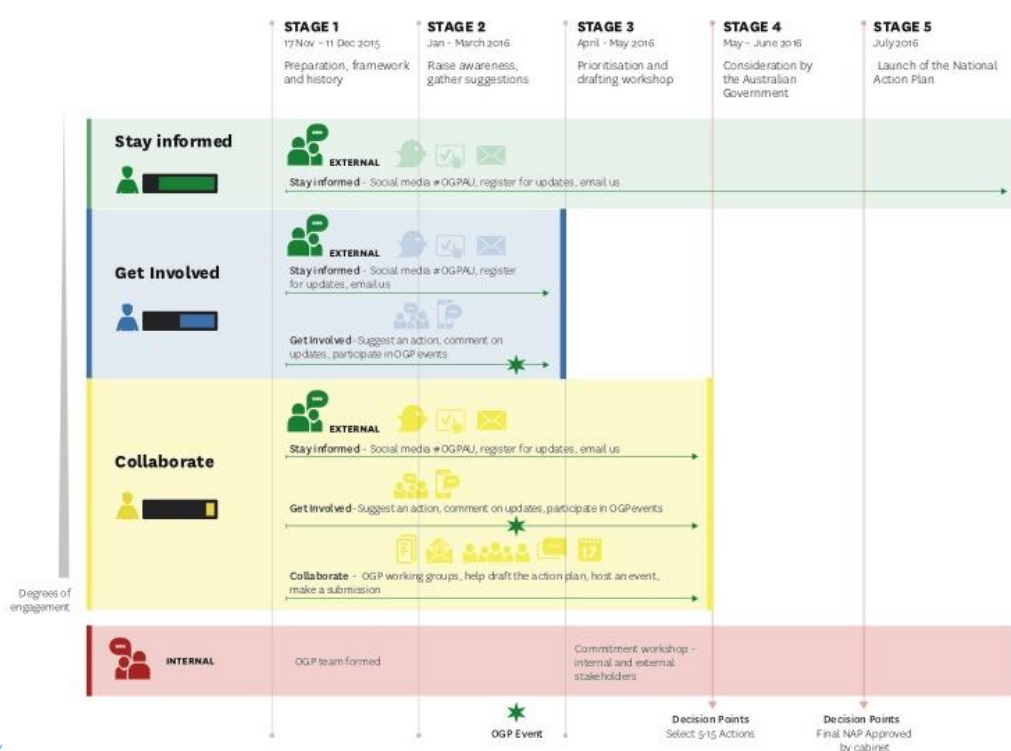


Image 2: Stages of engagement

Approach to engagement

Engagement was designed to encourage participation from anyone. It was not a deliberative or representative process, but we did our best to reach stakeholders across Australia. engage2 sought to raise awareness of the project and suggested actions, as well as promote opportunities to participate.

Our approach was: open; transparent; accessible; responsive; efficient for stakeholders and government; and we intentionally set out to build stakeholder capabilities to engage in the process.

The project team was named publicly and all communications were signed off with their direct contact details; stakeholders could easily contact the project team at any time to get support and have their questions answered. Multiple channels were used to make it easy for people to participate at varying degrees of engagement. Weekly updates were provided about engagement and teleconferences took place as open discussions with questions answered in real time; records of teleconferences were uploaded to the wiki for those interested who could not attend.

engage2 identified 'primary stakeholders' including state government Open Government teams, Local Government Associations, related professional associations and convenors of Open Government networks. engage2 engaged with them directly at the start of the process so they could engage their networks early on. engage2 also attended industry events and provided newsletter content, and 'Introduction to Open Government' and 'How to Suggest an Action' tips and templates content for stakeholders to share with their networks.

Degrees of engagement

We accommodated three levels of engagement in the process. Participants could:

- Stay informed – by registering for updates
- Get involved – by suggesting an action on the wiki, commenting on updates on the blog; participating in OGP events (teleconferences and co-creation workshop); making a submission
- Collaborate – join an OGP working group; host an event; participate in the co-creation workshop

These levels are presented in image 2, and image 3 outlines how many stakeholders engaged at various levels.

Engagement was promoted through:

- Information sessions run by PM&C during November and December in 4 locations across Australia. The hashtag #ogpau was created and one of these sessions was videocast so participants who could not attend physical locations could join the discussion.
- 16 updates were sent about the project by email and uploaded to the blog.

The channels set up for engagement included:

- OGPAU Website and blog: <http://ogpau.govspace.gov.au>
- OGPAU Wiki – share an idea, comment on others: <http://ogpau.wikispaces.com>
- Email to PM&C at ogp@pmc.gov.au and to engage2 at Amelia@engage2.com.au
- Phone inquiries directly to Amelia Loye (engage2) at 0411950585

- Teleconferences using join.me
- Co-creation workshop in Canberra on 12th April
- Interested stakeholders could request participation from the project team at their events through an online form
- The hashtag #ogpau was created to discuss the project on social media
- Participants could also join the OGP working groups – these were promoted during Stage 2 of the project to encourage stakeholders to suggest an action

How stakeholders engaged

The following image summarises how stakeholders engaged and used channels provided for engagement. These figures are described in more detail below.

DEGREES OF ENGAGEMENT



Stay informed

Stakeholders received weekly updates which were also posted to the blog on the website. Stakeholders could also visit the wiki to see what other people were saying about the project.

Project updates

- 16 updates were posted to the blog and emailed to stakeholders

The website (see image 4)

- 4,067 people came to the website between 15 November and 19 May 2016. Over 55% returned for a total of 7,287 sessions and 15,545 page views.
- Those who did visit spent an average of 2.59 minutes on the website.
- The largest peak for visitors was at the launch of the project on 17 November when 266 people visited the site following the Prime Minister's letter to the Open Government Partnership.

This is presented in image 4 below.

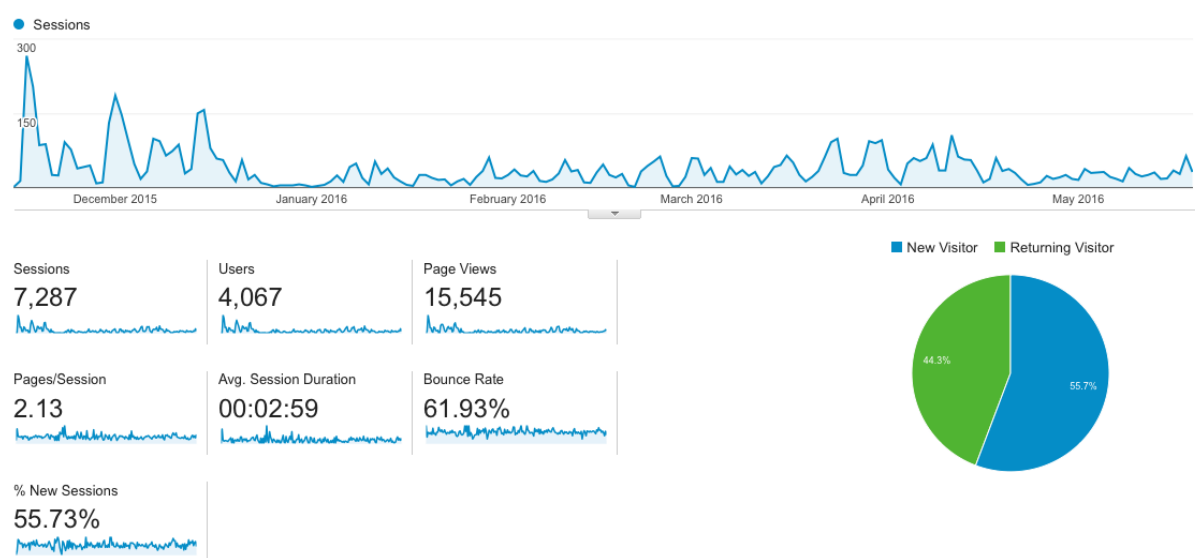


Image 4: Visitors to the website

The wiki

- 987 people came to the wiki between 2 February and 19 May 2016. Over 50% returned for a total of 2,444 sessions and 8,680 page views.
- Those who did visit spent an average of 5.27 minutes on the wiki.
- Peaks included 179 sessions on the final day of submissions on 31 March 2016.
- Between 24 and 31 March (the final week for submissions) there were 281 visitors, who made over 605 sessions viewing 2,658 pages for an average of 7.55 minutes on the site.

This is presented in image 5 below.

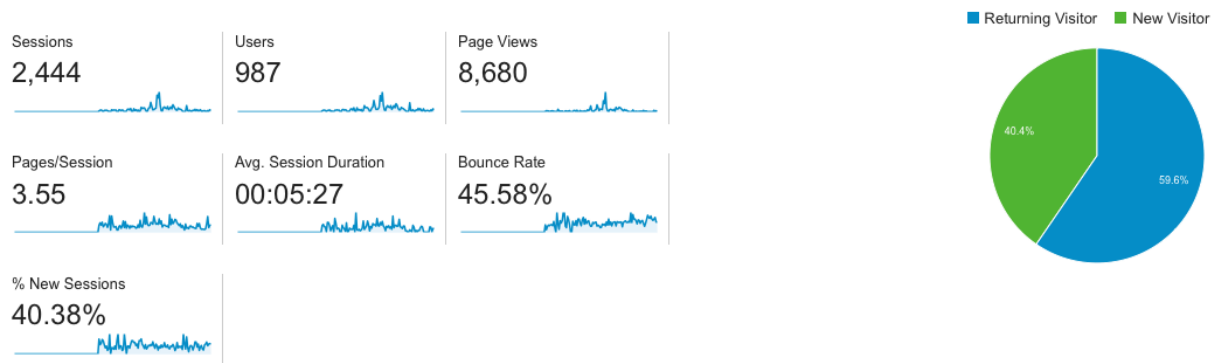


Image 5: Visitors to the wiki

Get involved

All channels were well used by stakeholders. Image 6 provides a breakdown of how stakeholders engaged using the appropriate project channels.

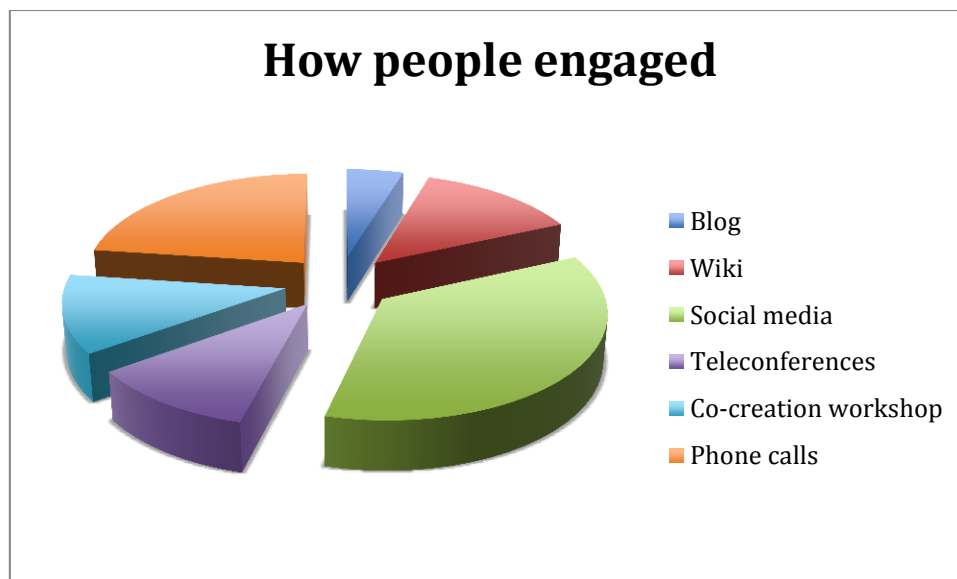


Image 6: How stakeholders used engagement channels

Online engagement – the blog and wiki

- Participants engaged with the project team online through the blog and wiki which resulted in:
 - 59 blog comments from 25 stakeholders
 - 75 people participating in the wiki through 304 posts

Social media

#ogpau was mentioned 1097 times by 187 people between 1 November 2015 and 11 May 2016 including:

- 522 tweets
- 575 re-tweets
- 542 mentions from 132 people during the week of the co-creation workshop in April 2016.



Image 7: word cloud result of content analysis from Vizie, Data61's online monitoring tool

Phone engagement

- 65 participants attended 12 teleconferences.
- 91 people were personally phoned by the project team to inform them about the opportunity to engage in the process in February and March. A record of these contacts was kept by engage2.

Emails

- 3 submissions were emailed through OGP@pmc.gov.au

Collaborate

Face-to-face engagement

- 162 people attended the four information sessions in person in November 2015, 45 people logged in to watch the livestreams online.
- 63 people participated in the co-creation workshop on 12 April 2016 in Canberra:
 - 36 from Civil Society – NGOs and individuals who had suggested actions
 - 4 from PM&C, including the Deputy Secretary for Innovation and Transformation
 - 15 staff from Commonwealth agencies including:
 - Digital Transformation Office
 - Department of Finance
 - National Archives of Australia
 - Department of Industry, Innovation and Science
 - 1 from Assistant Minister Taylor's Office
 - The NSW Information Commissioner
 - 2 from the International Open Government Partnership Support Unit
 - 2 from state governments
 - 2 from engage2 to facilitate and manage the process



Image 8: Photograph from the co-creation workshop in Canberra 12 April 2016

Input received

Submissions

88 stakeholders provided submissions between 15 November 2015 and 19 May 2016:

- 302 submissions in total
- 196 suggested actions – 185 on the wiki and 11 on the blog
- 3 emailed submissions
- 103 comments on suggested actions

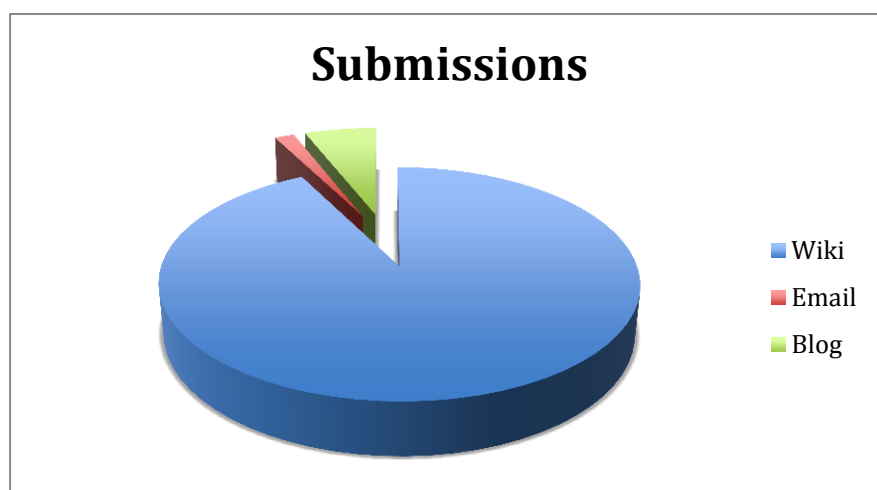


Image 9: How stakeholders submitted proposed actions

Submissions were posted publicly by stakeholders, or on behalf of stakeholders, to the wiki so they could be viewed and commented on by other stakeholders. A spreadsheet of all submissions was also produced and considered by participants at the co-creation workshop.

Key themes

The input (actions and comments) received was categorised into 10 themes*.

| Theme No. | Theme | No. of comments/ actions |
|-----------|---|-----------------------------|
| 1 | Public Participation – <i>increased input into both policy and agenda setting, online methods, civic education and training for staff</i> | 34 |
| 2 | Government Integrity – <i>procurement, political donations, anti-corruption, parliamentary openness</i> | 29 |
| 3 | Freedom of Information – <i>review of the act, role of the commissioners, privacy, copyright review</i> | 20 |
| 4 | Fiscal Transparency – <i>open budget, political donations</i> | 12 |
| 5 | Public Service Delivery – <i>how Gov work with community and industry, how citizens find services</i> | 14 |
| 6 | Resources Management – <i>sustainable development, working with</i> | 4 |

| | | |
|----|---|----|
| | <i>indigenous communities, see also OpenData and Government Data for Access to Information and Transparency</i> | |
| 7 | <i>Open Data – standardised formats, public register and open raw data, publishing practices for data and publications including natural resource data,</i> | 45 |
| 8 | <i>Government Data for Access to Information and Transparency - extractive industry data and transparency initiative</i> | 6 |
| 9 | <i>Fostering innovation – enabling and delivering innovation within Gov given budget and procurement processes, open innovation models that deliver innovation outcomes rather than tender to deliver outputs, support small to medium size businesses to use open data and deliver services.</i> | 20 |
| 10 | <i>Engagement for OGP – raising awareness now, engaging the States, forums for ongoing engagement, mentoring staff</i> | 28 |

*These figures include comments made on suggested actions and submissions that were provided by email and blog. Further, the figures provided do not add up to total number of submissions, because some of the input received was allocated to more than one theme.

Sub-categories of the key themes

Posts within the 10 themes can be broken into sub-categories to reveal more about their content. Appendix A provides 10 tables with sub-categories for each theme, and the number of times they were raised and commented on.

KEY THEMES



Image 10: Key themes raised during engagement

Outputs of engagement

- All input received during engagement was published in real time on the wiki and is now available on the blog in PDF format and Excel format. Available here: <https://ogpau.govspace.gov.au/category/submissions/>
- All outputs from the workshop have been published here: <http://ogpau.wikispaces.com/Co-creation+workshop+outputs>
- 14 commitment templates were drafted during the co-creation workshop:
 - 2 Open Data: infrastructure, better open data for the public
 - 5 Government Integrity: contract transparency, anti-corruption, open policy and consultation, whistle blower protection, parliamentary conduct
 - 2 Innovation: fostering innovation, opening procurement processes
 - 2 Fiscal Transparency: EITI, beneficial ownership transparency
 - 1 Access to info: FOI and role of OAIC
 - 2 Public Participation: values to guide P2, new ways to engage
 - 1 Ongoing Engagement: see notes on How to manage OGP page
- The stakeholder list now includes 430 stakeholders, a 34% increase since 1 February 2016. 84 of these stakeholders have consented to ongoing engagement to date – see image 11 below. A survey has been set up to gain permission to share contact details.

1. I provide consent to share my contact details with:

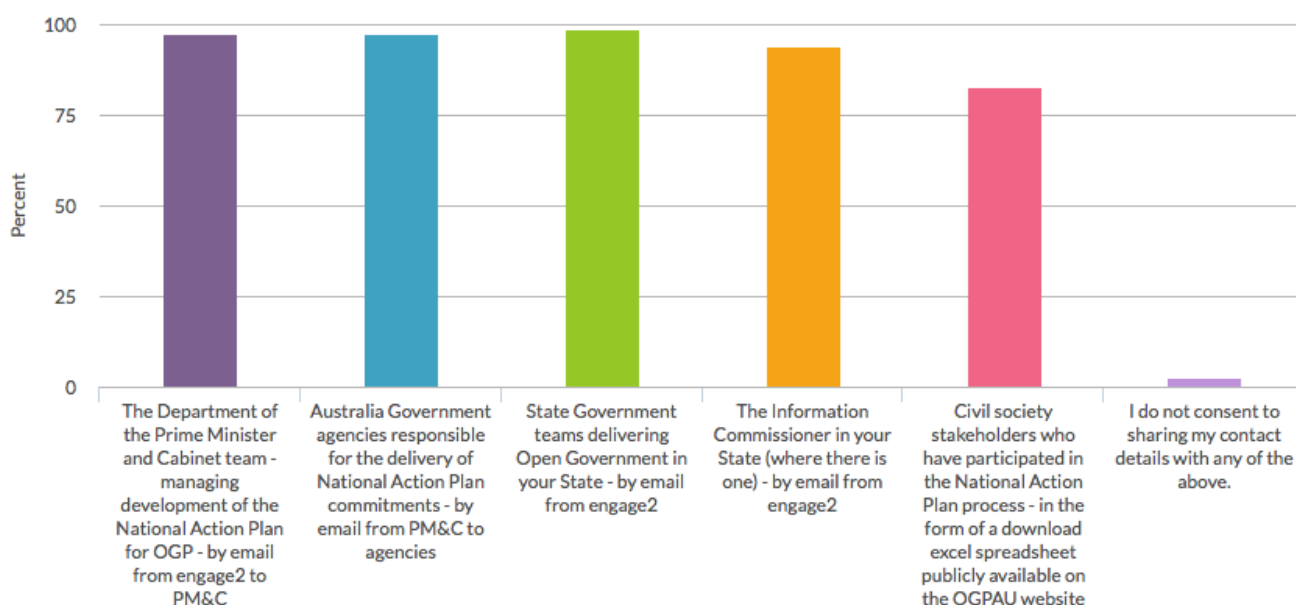


Image 11: Consent to share contact details

Request for ongoing engagement

During the co-creation workshop and since the event in April, several stakeholders have expressed their views about ongoing engagement. They have requested that an interim multi-stakeholder group be set up to enable greater partnership among senior government officials and non-government representatives to engage more of civil society, business and other organisations. They would like this group to report to the Prime Minister to showcase and further develop the draft National Action Plan. After being trialled, they would like to see this interim arrangement established as a formal mechanism for ongoing OGP engagement. They have requested government cover the expenses of members of the interim committee.

Lessons learned

What worked well

- Working with, not for, PM&C meant that engage2 could:
 - relate to, and build personal relationships with, stakeholders which helped to increase trust;
 - be open and transparent about the engagement process and answer questions from our perspective not as representatives of government;
 - be proactive at sharing information and project updates without having to go through editing and approval processes;
 - be responsive and accessible to stakeholders when they had questions;
 - support stakeholders to provide input into formats that made it easier for government to consider and respond to; and
 - encourage engagement and collaboration among them when they had related ideas; which meant collaborative relationships were developed and ideas were refined before the co-creation workshop.
- The teleconferences had several advantages:
 - stakeholders could participate from home or their office, appreciated Amelia answering questions in real time and in front of others, and enjoyed talking to each other;
 - they were informal interactions that gave stakeholders recognition for their investment into the process and helped them build relationships with each other before the workshop which supported ongoing open government delivery;
 - having a clear agenda, structure and facilitation helped keep discussion on track and ensured everyone who participated had significant time for introductions and questions; and
 - using video worked particularly well – even if only available to some stakeholders.
- Online comments required logging in which ensured stakeholders were credited for their investment and input, and also increased accountability of those commenting online.
- Providing a name and direct contact details demonstrated openness and provided a personal touch which stakeholders appreciated. Initially it was thought this would result in more contact from stakeholders and possible spamming, but it actually had the opposite effect. Being available demonstrated transparency and openness, and meant stakeholder questions were answered quickly in a personal fashion that stakeholders appreciated.
- This personalised support also meant that Amelia was able to build good working relationships with motivated and passionate stakeholders making both online and offline engagement, and issues management more effective. For example, through:

- knowing stakeholders and their interests meant Amelia could acknowledge and respond to them directly which helped with moderation;
 - by the time stakeholders arrived at the co-creation workshop they knew Amelia and she was able to acknowledge their investment, passions and input, facilitate the dynamics in the room and increase the level of collaboration and co-creation;
 - identifying passionate and motivated stakeholders; making sure they were engaged early, that their interests were understood, personally inviting them to have a role in the process and letting them know they can talk openly at any time; and
 - being transparent with stakeholders about how their input would be used and offering them support to shape it into useful formats for Government consideration. Connecting them to other stakeholders with similar interests so they can discuss ideas and work together on suggested actions.
- Tracking and reporting input as frequently as possible to both PM&C and the public helped stakeholders understand each other's interests and build on each other's ideas. Publishing comments on the wiki encouraged stakeholders to engage with each other and also helped government understand what stakeholders were interested in so they could discuss the input internally and prepare an official response.

Opportunities for improvement

- A longer lead-time for engagement would have helped to expand the reach of engagement. It was hard to get the attention of the NGO and business sectors. Many had never heard of the Open Government Partnership and communicating the opportunity took time. As stakeholders started to understand the opportunity they were more likely to engage and promote engagement among their networks.
- Increased promotion of the project through media and social media would have helped to increase awareness of the project and may have expanded the reach of engagement.
- Leveraging soft media like industry newsletters and events was very effective. Promoting newsletter content and encouraging greater involvement of the project team in events would have helped increase reach and depth of engagement.
- Stakeholders wanted to see more ownership of the project from PM&C and greater transparency around the way the political arm of government was engaging in the process.
- Greater clarity around the challenges and a statement about issues that were not being addressed through this process was required to manage expectations and would have helped to redirect attention / tension around those topics away from the project.
- To deliver on all the actions suggested, Government would also need to nominate an organisation that could manage and respond to actions suggested for Parliamentary openness and reform. Having an organisation like this involved would have:
 - emphasised the separation of powers between the Parliament and bureaucracy

- helped to demonstrate accountability at that level of Government, and removed the pressure off the project team to manage inquiries about issues outside their remit
- helped to educate stakeholders about role (and limitations) of the bureaucracy in open government making the scope of influence clearer.
- To the point above, it would have been useful at the start of the process for the Open Government Partnership Support Unit to provide greater clarity to both the public and the project team about how these types of issues are usually addressed in action plans among other partners.
- The teleconferences worked well – they were responsive to stakeholders needs and project dynamics - but it may have been better to:
 - have a combination of planned and responsive teleconferences throughout the process. Scheduling teleconferences, particularly later in the process, would have enabled stakeholder interested in meeting each other and participating in person, to organise local events where they could participate as a group; and
 - have a mix of sessions for just stakeholders, and a mix with government representatives. For example, scheduling a regular session with representatives at the beginning and end of a teleconference, then allowing time for open discussion amongst civil society during the middle of the teleconference agenda may have helped to increase the transparency of the internal processes and may have helped to build relationships between stakeholders with government.
- Tracking and reporting input frequently to government and the public could have been done better by providing input from both the blog and wiki page in a format that was easier for both government and stakeholders to consider and respond to.
- Select digital tools and integrate technology used for engagement that makes it easier to track issues, analyse and report data collected through engagement. This process was manual, which was slow, making it hard to show real time summaries of issues and reducing the time available to engage with stakeholders. This would have also helped with the point above.
- Social media listening did not work on this project largely due to the limited promotion of content about the project. Promoting more content would have allowed us visibility of who shared it and built upon it. Understanding this may have helped to identify stakeholders, influencers and networks for engagement around the project and ongoing open government actions across Australia.
- The response to Local Government Associations' engagement was mixed. It is recommended that PM&C engage with these groups more formally to introduce Open Government Partnership and invite their involvement in engaging Local Government Associations.
- An email informing stakeholders about caretaker mode and its impact on the project would have helped to 'close the loop' with stakeholders engaged.
- Engage with representatives from government and civil society from Tasmania and Northern Territory. If representatives are not present, identify potential organisations or individuals likely to be interested and help build capacity in the region.

- Hold co-creation workshops in multiple major cities to allow individuals unable to fund themselves to travel to Canberra to participate.
- Increased engagement with Indigenous and Torres Strait communities and organisation to allow for improved representation in the process.

Recommendations

1. Publish this report

It is recommended that this report be made public to demonstrate transparency and to support the Independent Reporting Mechanism.

2. Update stakeholders and 'close the loop'

Closing the loop of engagement is about wrapping up the current stage of the project, thanking stakeholders for their investment into the process, acknowledging input and advising them about the outcome of the project or next stage of the process.

To close the loop with stakeholders engaged through this process, it is recommended that:

- i. An email update be sent to all stakeholders to:
 - o Thank them for their time, their input and the actions suggested and their support to get the National Action Plan to this stage of development.
 - o Inform them about the status of the plans and how they can stay updated about the project (and the delivery of action).
 - o Request consent for the ongoing use and sharing of their contact details from those who have not already provided it.
 - o Link to this engagement report published on the project or engage2 website.
 - o Invite ongoing contact and/or participation in ongoing engagement for OGP engagement - or to inform them about when to expect an update about the formal ongoing engagement mechanism.
 - o Acknowledge progress on Open Government in Australia more generally.
- ii. Release a detailed outline of how input received to date has been considered and addressed as a compliment to this engagement report. This should include a summary of how each commitment template prepared at the co-creation workshop has been responded to.

3. Consultation to finalise the National Action Plan

Given that the finalisation of Australia's National Action Plan has been held up by the election, it is recommended that after the election PM&C continue to engage stakeholders in the development of the National Action Plan. This engagement should include:

- i. Consultation on the draft National Action Plan – enabling comments or asking questions at specific sections of the document, including each potential commitment;
- OR
- ii. Consultation on the commitment templates drafted at the co-creation workshop with specific questions asked to indicate the Government's position about them and request further input for consideration.

This process will need to clarify which commitments are on the table for further consideration in the National Action Plan and which ones are not. It is highly recommended that clear responses also be provided to actions proposed / drafted commitment templates that will not

be addressed through the current National Action Plan. This may also include a second engagement process, as outlined below.

This process should also seek to reach stakeholders not well represented in the process including:

- Not for profit sector
- Indigenous representatives

If any new commitments are proposed in the draft to be launched for consultation, it is recommended that stakeholders who have provided input to date on related topics and those who may be impacted be engaged directly prior to the launch.

This engagement should include a mix of online and face-to-face engagement, and should get beyond the capital cities. It is recommended that government agencies that will lead drafted commitments nominate a key representative for this engagement and that they are briefed about input to date and relationships built so the investment made by stakeholders is recognised and partnerships for delivery can be established.

4. A separate engagement process about Parliamentary Openness

It is understood that some countries in the OGP have developed a separate Plan for Parliamentary openness and reform. Based on this information and input collected throughout this engagement, it is recommended that the Australian Government consider running a second engagement process so actions that cannot be delivered by government agencies can be considered.

An authority that could accept responsibility to deliver these kinds of actions would need to be nominated to manage this engagement process.

This would help the Government complete the current action plan, emphasise the separation of powers and demonstrate a willingness of the Government to consider development of a second National Action Plan that addresses Parliamentary openness specifically.

5. Ongoing engagement for the National Action Plan OGP

The formal mechanism

The OGP requires that a formal mechanism be created for ongoing engagement. In the co-creation workshop it was proposed that PM&C recommend that a commitment to this formal mechanism be included in Australia's National Action Plan.

It is recommended that this formal mechanism be:

- Populated through an expression of interest that is widely promoted with clear criteria for the group. As a starting point, this criteria might include:
 - representativeness – demographic, across sectors, discursive and regional representation should be sought
 - some experience using Open Data, engaging stakeholders or engaging with government
 - representatives from other levels of government
 - regional open government champions
 - access to variety of networks / industries / communities

- representatives who are experienced at reaching Culturally Linguistically Diverse Communities and people from Non-English Speaking Backgrounds
- funded but not managed by government
- appointed and managed by an independent body and that a secretariat be provided to support the management of this group including:
 - coordination and facilitation of meetings
 - publishing of meeting outputs
 - opportunities for other stakeholders to provide feedback on outputs of the formal mechanism and input into their discussions
 - engagement with the OGP Support Unit and working groups

Several stakeholders formed a group, called the Australian Open Government Partnership Network (AOGPN), early in the engagement process. It is recommended that their members be invited to express their interest in participating in the formal mechanism but that this organisation does not become the formal mechanism.

The stakeholders in this group are highly experienced in Open Government and highly effective advocates. The insight into Open Government they have shown throughout this process and their willingness to drive Open Government in Australia has been invaluable. Their ongoing engagement will be critical to the success of the OGP in Australia. It should be noted that their membership is not representative of the spectrum of topics covered by Open Government, and several stakeholders throughout the engagement process expressed a discomfort with joining the group because they felt their approach was geared to lobbying ~ advocacy as opposed to collaboration.

To meet the proposed criteria for a formal mechanism outlined above, this group should adjust the way they engage with other stakeholders outside of their core team. They would also require a secretariat and ongoing funding to be sustainable and deliver the transparency and engagement required by a formal ongoing engagement mechanism.

Amelia has made these suggestions to four members of the AOGPN Steering Committee directly.

Delivery of the actions proposed

Each of the commitment templates name a lead agency and partners to support the delivery of proposed commitments and actions. It is recommended that the agencies nominated to lead these actions engage with these stakeholders to acknowledge input, enlist support, and demonstrate transparency and the desire to work with stakeholders as soon as possible.

To support this engagement it is recommended that PM&C:

- Brief lead agencies about specific stakeholders engaged throughout the OGP process whose input relates to their commitments and whose involvement would help to support their delivery of actions proposed. Then request consent from stakeholders to share their contact details with agencies.
- Share contact details of those who have provided consent at the co-creation workshop as soon as possible

State government engagement

Some of the commitments proposed require the implementation of standards and the coordination of activities across levels of government. Our engagement with the state and

government Open Government teams was very well received. Several states have significant teams and initiatives and were keen for further leadership and engagement from PM&C about Open Government. Contacts from these engagements have now been shared. It is highly recommended that PM&C send a formal letter to all state government Open Government contacts inviting their input into the National Action Plan before requesting their involvement in the delivery of specific actions.

Local government engagement

engage2 hoped to be able to work with Local Government Associations (LGAs). The response to our engagement with Local Government Associations was mixed. It is recommended that PM&C engage with these groups more formally perhaps before the draft National Action Plan is released, then invite their support for implementation and promotion of Open Government in LGAs more widely.

6. Informal engagement with and among stakeholders

To demonstrate its commitment to Open Government it is recommended that PM&C show leadership and support for others delivering Open Government across Australia by:

- Creating a unique online environment that enables:
 - public reporting of progress against commitments and milestones outlined in the National Action Plan
 - promotion of opportunities to engage / have input / use data etc.
 - stakeholders to engage and collaborate with each other, even forming online communities of practice around topic areas if there is interest
 - stakeholders to offer and request support for open government initiatives
 - stakeholders to upload case studies
 - the formal mechanism to engage with stakeholders and invite their input into their processes; including meeting agendas, materials they develop and their suggestions to Government
 - opportunities to engage stakeholders in the self-assessment process or throughout National Action Plan cycles
 - methods to inform stakeholders about engagement for future National Action Plan development
 - the sharing of materials from the OGP and others around the world that are supporting Government and stakeholders to deliver Open Government. For example the Open Private Sector platform from the World Bank.
 - links to the OGP website and databases of actions from other countries
 - anyone to request involvement in events to talk about the OGP and Open Government more generally
- Creating a suite of materials about the OGP and Australia's National Action Plan that can be downloaded and shared by stakeholders with their networks. This might include a presentation deck, input for newsletters, discussion points for events / workshops, guidance for other levels of Government. It is highly recommended that these materials also include some materials about Open Government actions and benefits to specific industries and sectors e.g. how open data is being used for

collaborative impact and social outcomes in indigenous communities, the open company's initiatives and benefits and examples of how a transparency initiative is affecting/potentially benefitting extractive industries.

- Run high profile open events mid-term with Open Government champions and influencers from around the country and the world, for example the Open State events being run in South Australia in October this year.
- Publishing and sharing contact details of stakeholders with others consent is provided.
- Create a social media channel for the OGPAU project – it is an ongoing project that requires updates and engagement.
- Ensure these activities are well resourced for ongoing content creation, community management and engagement.

This type of approach will make self-assessment and engagement to develop future National Action Plans easier for government. It will enable government to:

1. demonstrate openness, transparency and accountability of Government initiatives
2. keep stakeholders updated which will help to maintain trust
3. maintain up-to-date contact details of stakeholders, and skills and relationships that can be leveraged for open government initiatives
4. stay across Open Government activities going on across Australia.
5. inform self-assessments and leverage stakeholder input into them
6. ensure understanding of stakeholders perception of Government initiatives and interests so they do not come as a surprise through the independent review – this will also help inform initiatives and priorities
7. build relationships among civil society and Government in preparation for the co-creation of development of the next National Action Plan

7. Australia's attendance at the OGP Summit

It is recommended that the Australian Government consider attending the OGP Summit to be held in Paris in December 2016 to demonstrate its commitment to the Open Government Partnership, build relationships with contact points in other countries and gain a deeper understanding of commitments and processes.

8. Start engagement for the second National Action Plan earlier

Prepare now.

Appendix A: Sub-categories of themes – summary of input received

Open data

| Themes | Sub-categories | # of times raised in submissions* | Supporting comments |
|-----------|--|-----------------------------------|---------------------|
| Open Data | JSON format | 1 | |
| | Agency data registers | 1 | |
| | Engage in setting list of high value data / management / evaluation | 3 | 3 |
| | Participatory budget | 1 | |
| | Community estimates | 1 | |
| | Central register of public research and data outputs | 3 | 3 |
| | Open Data standards - meta standards and cross-jurisdictional support etc. | 9 | 3 |
| | Extend access and use of natural resource data sets | | |
| | Register of best practice examples | 1 | |
| | API / Mashable Gov | 2 | 1 |
| | Open Gov publications | 7 | |
| | Improved management of and accessibility to info and records | 1 | |
| | Open Data Challenges | 2 | 2 |
| | Use ODI's Open Data Pathway | 1 | 2 |
| | Create a Data Futures Forum and catalyst projects to engage influencers across sectors | 1 | |
| | Open Data Linked System | 2 | |
| | Pilot projects for use of open data across levels of Gov / sectors | 2 | |
| | EU Open Data Monitor style portal | 1 | |
| | Declassify Gov data for release | 1 | |
| | Open data about Public Sector employment | 1 | 1 |
| | Open personal data options | 1 | |
| | Open Data Monitor | 1 | 3 |
| | Open Data Certificates | 1 | 1 |
| | Standards for IoT | 1 | |
| | Gov IT practices | 1 | |

Freedom of information

| Themes | Sub-categories | # of times raised in submissions* | Supporting comments |
|------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|---------------------|
| Freedom of Information | APIs / Mashable Gov | 1 | 2 |
| | Right to know platform / single point / central team | 1 | |
| | Review FOI Act | 6 | |
| | Watchdog for Open Gov | 1 | |
| | Reappoint commissioner | 1 | |
| | Customs data | 1 | |
| | Include private contractors | 1 | |
| | Copyright exception | 1 | |
| | Personal info | 1 | 2 |
| | OAIC | 3 | |
| | Cabinet papers | 1 | |
| | Consistent metrics to access use | 1 | |

Fiscal transparency

| Themes | Sub-categories | # of times raised in submissions* | Supporting comments |
|---------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------|
| Fiscal transparency | Forecasting | 1 | |
| | EITI | 1 | |
| | Paid legal settlements | 1 | |
| | Beneficial ownership | 1 | 3 |
| | Procurement | 1 | |
| | Grants | 2 | |
| | Participatory budgeting | 1 | 3 |
| | Expenditure reporting | 2 | |
| | Open Source | 1 | |
| | Open contracting | 3 | |

Fostering innovation

| Themes | Sub-categories | # of times raised in submissions* | Supporting comments |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------|
| Fostering Innovation | Procurement that enables | 5 | |
| | Network society | 1 | |
| | Unsolicited proposals | 1 | |
| | Cross-sector collaboration | 1 | |
| | City data infrastructure | 1 | 2 |
| | Utilise superannuation | 3 | |
| | Cooperative research centre | 1 | |
| | Intellectual property review | 1 | |
| | Involve students | 1 | |
| | Share code across Gov | 1 | |
| | Cultural change | 1 | |
| | Reward outcome delivery | 1 | |
| | Social Impact Bonds | 1 | |
| | Track projects through panels | 1 | |
| | Pilot projects in Gov | 1 | |

Government data for access to information and transparency

| Themes | Sub-categories | # of times raised in submissions* | Supporting comments |
|---|---|-----------------------------------|---------------------|
| Government Data for Access to Information and Transparency | Industry transparency | 2 | 4 |
| | Sustainable development goals | 1 | |
| | FOI review / OAIC | 2 | |
| | Cross-sector /cross- jurisdiction data standards | 3 | |
| | Natural resources data / standards across Australia | 1 | |

Ongoing engagement for OGP

| Themes | Sub-categories | # of times raised in submissions* | Supporting comments |
|-----------------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|---------------------|
| Ongoing engagement for OGP | Advisory body | 1 | |
| | Grand Challenges | 3 | |
| | AOGPN | 1 | |
| | Engage beyond cities | 2 | |
| | Indigenous engagement in OGP | 3 | |
| | Engagement platform | 1 | |
| | Interagency / cross jurisdictional engagement | 1 | |
| | Formal mechanism | 1 | |
| | Vision statement | 2 | |
| | Standards | 1 | |
| | Sustainable development goals | 1 | |
| | Further consultation | 1 | |
| | Establish team for OGP engagement | 1 | |
| | NFP sector engagement | 1 | |
| | Private sector | 1 | |
| | Iterative plan | 1 | |
| | Coordination of Gov process to review and develop OG plans | 1 | |
| | Education campaign | 1 | |
| | Australian Open Gov research centre | 1 | |
| | Citizens Jury for OGP plan | 1 | |
| | Review and report progress of OGP implementation | 1 | |
| | Test open data platforms, engage in design of online service | 1 | |

Government integrity

| Themes | Sub-categories | # of times raised in submissions* | Supporting comments |
|-----------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|---------------------|
| Government Integrity | Independent Parliamentary Entitlements System | 1 | |
| | Transparent contracts | 1 | |
| | Parliamentarian calendars | 1 | |
| | Feedback systems | 1 | |
| | Changes to parliamentary code of conduct | 1 | |
| | Clearer processes | 1 | |
| | Regular legislative openness review | 1 | |
| | Legal privilege and FOI | 1 | |
| | Whistle blower legislation | 1 | |
| | Federal ICAC | 3 | |
| | Register of lobbyists | 1 | |
| | Political donations | 2 | |
| | Parliamentary openness declaration | 1 | |
| | Timing of hansards / proceedings release | 1 | |
| | Public commitment to anti-corruption and applicable International Open Data standards | 1 | |
| | Parliamentary integrity system | 1 | |
| | Online register of community plans | 1 | |
| | Collate local Gov datasets | 1 | |
| | Corporate memory | 1 | |
| | Annual report MPs | 1 | |
| | Parliamentary integrity commissioner | 1 | |

Resource Management

| Themes | Sub-categories | # of times raised in submissions* | Supporting comments |
|----------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|---------------------|
| Resource Management | Single platform for NRM & EI data across Australia | 1 | |
| | Standards for publishing and monitoring of NRM data | 1 | |
| | Data requirements for triple bottom line assessments | 1 | |

Public Participation

| Themes | Sub-categories | # of times raised in submissions* | Supporting comments |
|-----------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|---------------------|
| Public Participation | Private sector engagement | 1 | |
| | Civic education | 3 | |
| | Standards & Guidance, Capabilities | 4 | 3 |
| | Challenge platform | 1 | 2 |
| | Open approach to unsolicited proposals | 1 | 1 |
| | Citizen introduced legislation | 1 | 2 |
| | Longer exposure period | 1 | |
| | Parliamentary committee for each Bill | 1 | |
| | Weighting of input | 1 | |
| | Build guidance and capabilities | 1 | 2 |
| | Online engagement platform | 5 | |
| | Working group to scope P2 opportunities | 2 | |
| | Engage in food policy | 1 | |
| | Public Advisory Panel - peak organisation for P2 | 1 | 2 |
| | Open up engagement / invited data / share across agencies | 4 | |
| | Indigenous participation | 1 | 3 |
| | Public participation in statistical classifications | | |
| | Open policy | 2 | 1 |
| | Open international agreements | 1 | 1 |
| | Public satisfaction and open democracy survey | 1 | 1 |
| | Deliberation on complex issues | 1 | 2 |
| | Big data to listen | | |
| | Networked society | 1 | |
| | Use participatory budgeting for grant funding | 1 | 3 |
| | Evaluate effectiveness | 1 | |
| | P2 Champions | 1 | |
| | Citizen juries / random selection | 1 | 2 |

Public Service Delivery

| Themes | Sub-categories | # of times raised in submissions* | Supporting comments |
|--------------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|---------------------|
| Public Service Delivery | P2 in Public Service challenges | 3 | 1 |
| | Open Data in Public Service Challenge | 1 | |
| | Build capabilities | 2 | |
| | Corporate memory | 2 | |
| | Natural Resources open data | 1 | |
| | Transparent decision making / case management in immigration services | | |
| | Data sharing across agencies | 2 | |
| | Digital information management and preservation | 1 | 3 |
| | P2 in open data priorities | 2 | |
| | Mandatory APIs when delivering for Gov | 1 | 3 |
| | Open Gov plan for each agency | 1 | |



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Attachment D: Membership of the Interim Working Group

Government Members

- Dr Steven Kennedy PSM, Deputy Secretary, **Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet** (Co-chair)
- Dr Stein Helgeby, Deputy Secretary, **Department of Finance**
- Mr Iain Anderson, Deputy Secretary, **Attorney-General's Department**
- Ms Meghan Quinn, Division Head, **The Treasury**
- Mr Timothy Pilgrim PSM, **Australian Privacy Commissioner and Acting Australian Information Commissioner**
- Ms Anne Lyons, Assistant Director-General, **National Archives of Australia**.

Non-governmental Members

- **Ms Fiona McLeod SC (Co-chair):** Fiona is the President-elect of the Law Council of Australia and has also previously served as the President of the Australian Bar Association, as Chair of the Victorian Bar, and as a member of the Law Council Executive Board. Fiona brings considerable leadership experience to her role as co-chair, and substantial experience working with government, corporate and non-government sectors. The Law Council engages closely in parliamentary and public sector reform processes related to transparency and strengthening the integrity of public offices.
- **The Hon. Dr Ken Coghill:** Ken is an Associate Professor at Monash University with research and teaching interests in government accountability and governance. He is also a former Member of Parliament in Victoria, and Deputy Chair and Treasurer of the Accountability Round Table, which advocates for transparency as a key factor of accountability. Ken has written extensively on Commonwealth, State and Territory government accountability and parliamentary reforms.
- **Mr Mark Zirnsak:** Mark is the Director of the Social Justice Unit of the Synod of Victoria and Tasmania, Uniting Church in Australia. In this role, he has advocated for transparency, accountability and open government, including through his involvement in Publish What You Pay Australia, Transparency International Australia and as a member of the Secretariat for the Tax Justice Network in Australia.
- **Ms Maree Adshead:** Maree is the CEO of the Open Data Institute Queensland, a node of the international Open Data Institute. She has held a number of industry representative roles, including as past Chair of the Technology Council of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry Queensland, and past Chair of the Australian Information Industry Association Queensland. ODI Queensland promotes the release of public data to increase accountability, improve efficiencies, and to drive technological innovation.
- **Mr Peter Timmins:** Peter is the Interim Convener of the OGP Civil Society Network, a coalition of civil society organisations and individuals committed to making government work better through transparency, participation and accountability. He also has considerable experience engaging with freedom of information and privacy laws, including as a member of the Australian Law Reform Commission Advisory Committee for the Inquiry into Secrecy Laws and Open Government in Australia, and the NSW Information and Privacy Advisory Committee.
- **Ms Katherine Szuminska:** Kat is the Co-Founder and Director of the OpenAustralia Foundation and also sits on the Steering Committee of the OGP Civil Society Network. The OpenAustralia Foundation uses technologies and tools to encourage public participation in the political process, and to advocate for more transparency and accountability in government. Kat has a strong knowledge of the OGP, having been involved in various international OGP events.