

UNITED STATES



Participating since: 2011 Number of action plans: 3

Number of commitments to date: 105

The three US action plans have involved regular consultations with civil society and the public, but have fallen short of active collaboration. While the ambition of commitments has increased over time, and some commitments have contributed to major changes in government practice, making more transformative commitments remains an important challenge.

NOTEWORTHY COMMITMENTS

MODERNIZATION OF ACCESS TO INFORMATION

Improve online services for making access to information requests and proactively disclose information such as nonprofit tax filings.

OPEN SCIENCE

Publish the results of federally funded scientific research and develop low-cost scientific instrumentation for citizen scientists.

POLICE OPEN DATA

Improve transparency of policing activities by expanding the Police Data Initiative to publish previously undisclosed policing datasets.

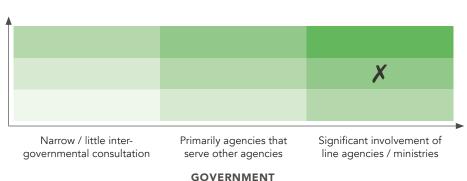


Co-Creation and Decision Making

The development of the three US action plans has involved numerous government agencies and CSOs, though CSOs are mostly from the Washington DC area. Consultations have involved in-person forums, online tools, and quarterly meetings, but the government has not provided feedback on public inputs or published draft action plans for comments. The figures below show who participated in the development of the third action plan, and the level of public influence in the two most recent plans.

WHO WAS INVOLVED?

Beyond "governance" civil society Civil Society Mostly "governance" civil society No/little civil society involvement



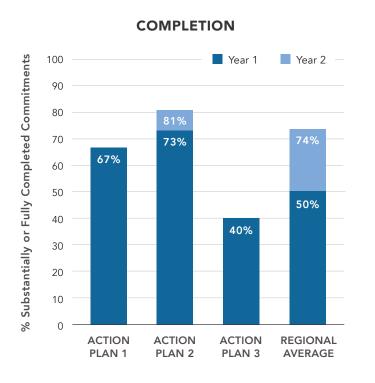
LEVEL OF PUBLIC INFLUENCE?

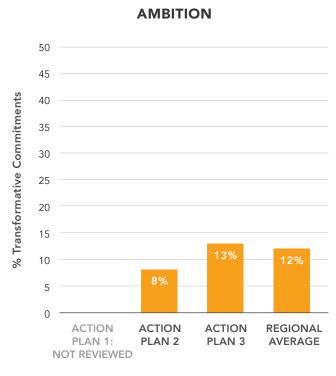


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Commitment Performance

The three US action plans have covered a wide variety of themes and have led to major improvements in areas such as crowdsourcing, online participation, and disclosure of information on extractives and intelligence. While the number and ambition of commitments have increased over the three action plans, the level of implementation declined in the most recent plan. The figures below show the levels of completion and ambition of the three US action plans, as well as how they compare with the regional average during the most recent round of plans.







(3) Recommendations

COLLABORATION WITH THE PUBLIC Create channels for discussion with the public and provide feedback during the development of the next action plan.

IMPROVED COMMITMENTS

Focus on fewer and more-transformative commitments that have clear timelines and stretch government practice.

ETHICS REFORM

Develop ethics commitments that address asset disclosures, conflict of interest, lobbying, and/or campaign finance.

SERVICE DELIVERY AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Integrate open government efforts with priorities such as public-service delivery and infrastructure reform.

LEGISLATIVE BRANCH INVOLVEMENT

Work with permanent and elected officials of Congress to develop open government commitments.