



JAMAICA OPEN GOVERNMENT PARTNERSHIP



NATIONAL ACTION
PLAN 2021-23



Jamaica – Open Government Partnership: National Action Plan 2021-23

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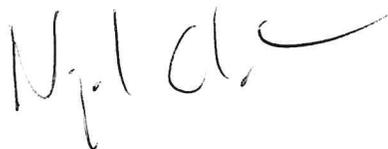
Message From Minister of Finance and the Public Service

Governments around the world are grappling with complex political, economic and social challenges. In addition to citizens expecting their leaders to address these challenges with transparency, accountability and integrity, citizens are also seeking greater opportunities to participate and have their voices heard in public affairs. Promoting open, collaborative and engaging environments is one means of building public trust, facilitating citizen engagement in public decision-making, and strengthening governance and accountability within government. The Open Government Partnership (OGP) provides an important forum for countries working to be more open, accountable and responsive to citizens.

Jamaica's policy development has embraced open government principles over a long period of time. Having signaled the intention to join the Open Government Partnership (OGP) in 2016, and formally launching the engagement chapter of Jamaica's OGP process in January 2021, our participation in the OGP enables us to showcase and build on the tremendous strides that have been made. The publication of Jamaica's first National Action Plan, which was developed during the worst global health crisis in 100 years, reaffirms the Government of Jamaica's commitment to the principles of transparency, accountability and public participation in government.

An open and collaborative process has been linked to more ambitious and successfully implemented action plans. These in turn, translate into measurable improvements in governance and government openness. I must commend the government and civil society members of the Multi- Stakeholder Forum for facilitating and engaging in the process of formulating the national action plan, with support from the OGP Secretariat. The deliberate emphasis on multi-stakeholder engagement and openness ultimately contributes to enhanced accountability and transparency.

The Ministry of Finance and the Public Service, as the lead ministry for the OGP process in Jamaica, is committed to ensuring the successful implementation of the country's first National Action Plan under the OGP, for the advancement of open government and the benefit of our citizens.



Nigel Clarke, DPhil, MP

Minister of Finance and the Public Service

Message From Government Co-Chair of the Multi-Stakeholder Forum

The Open Government Partnership (OGP) provides an international platform which promotes and supports the application of the principles of open government in participating countries, including Jamaica. At the heart of open government is the integration of transparency, accountability and inclusiveness in the relationship between government and citizens. The OGP process in Jamaica offers new avenues for stakeholders across the public sector, private sector and civil society to collaborate in developing and implementing concrete actions to advance these principles.

The Multi-Stakeholder Forum (MSF) plays a central role in this collaboration and co-creation process under the OGP model. Jamaica's MSF was established in August 2021 with six members each from government and civil society, and a Government of Jamaica (GOJ) Co-Chair and a Civil Society Co-Chair. The roles of the MSF include providing oversight and guidance for the development, implementation, monitoring and reporting for Jamaica's first two-year National Action Plan under the OGP.

The GOJ therefore thanks the government and civil society stakeholders and their representatives on the MSF for their commitment and participation in the OGP process in Jamaica, and their contributions to the development of this National Action Plan for Jamaica. We also thank the members of the Ministry of Finance and the Public Service communication team and Strategic Public Sector Transformation Project team for their essential support for the OGP process in Jamaica. We look forward to our continued collaboration together to ensure the successful implementation and monitoring of our first OGP National Action Plan.



Lorris Jarrett

Deputy Financial Secretary, Public Expenditure Division, Ministry of Finance and the Public Service

GOJ Point of Contact, OGP

GOJ Co-Chair, OGP, Multi-Stakeholder Forum

Civil Society Message From the Multi-Stakeholder Forum

Civil society is proud to have contributed to the publication of Jamaica's first Open Government Partnership (OGP) National Action Plan. Jamaica's OGP membership establishes a new kind of institution through which government and civil society work together to advance Jamaica's development. This new institution extends Jamaica's long-standing commitment to open government principles within our national project and provides another venue for our people to engage in critical and collaborative dialogue amongst ourselves and with the global community as we seek ongoing improvement.

The Multi-Stakeholder Forum (MSF) civil society members commend the Government for the foresight demonstrated in pursuing OGP membership in 2016, and, notably, for remaining committed to its completion despite the unprecedented demands thrust upon the government and country by the COVID-19 global pandemic.

Civil society plays an active role in Jamaica's development. This has been especially true for this OGP milestone. The advocacy and support of the Civil Society Working Group was critical in building momentum for the National Action Plan and advancing Jamaica's OGP progress between 2016 and the establishment of the MSF in 2021.

We thank the Ministry of Finance and the Public Service, as the lead ministry for the OGP process, and the Government representatives on the MSF for the collaborative modality in which they have engaged in this exercise. I am also grateful for the contributions of the many members of civil society who have participated in workshops, small group discussions, and commitment reviews, sharing their ideas, critique, and networks to make this achievement possible.

As with many firsts, we acknowledge its success and the areas of improvement identified throughout the OGP co-creation process. We see this first iteration as valuable learning, and we remain committed to its improvement. This first National Action Plan provides a precedent on which future MSFs will work, as we all strive to realise the ambition captured in Jamaica's vision to become the place of choice to live, work, raise families and do business.



Matthew McNaughton

Principal, SlashRoots Foundation

Civil Society Member, OGP Multi-Stakeholder Forum

Acronyms and Abbreviations

ATI	Access to Information
CIO	Chief Information Officer
CPI	Corruption Perceptions Index
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
GOJ	Government of Jamaica
IRM	Independent Reporting Mechanism
JLIP	Jamaica Legal Information Portal
JSC	Joint Select Committee
MDAs	Ministries, Departments and Agencies
MEGJC	Ministry of Economic Growth and Job Creation
MOEY	Ministry of Education and Youth
MOEYI	Ministry of Education, Youth and Information
MOFPS	Ministry of Finance and the Public Service
MOJ	Ministry of Justice
MSET	Ministry of Science, Energy and Technology
MSF	Multi-Stakeholder Forum
MTF	Medium Term Socio-Economic Policy Framework
NAP	National Action Plan
NAS	National Anti-Corruption Strategy
OGP	Open Government Partnership
OPM	Office of the Prime Minister
PIOJ	Planning Institute of Jamaica
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

Executive Summary

Background and Context

The Open Government Partnership (OGP) is a voluntary, international forum of countries working to be more open, accountable and responsive to citizens. Participation in the OGP requires countries to endorse a high-level Open Government Declaration, deliver a National Action Plan (NAP) developed with public consultation with civil society with commitments which advance the OGP values, and commit to independent reporting on its implementation, including through the Independent Reporting Mechanism (IRM).

In December 2016, the Government of Jamaica (GOJ) became a member of the Open Government Partnership (OGP), through submission of a Letter of Intent signed by Prime Minister, Most Honourable Andrew Holness, and has endorsed the high-level Open Government Declaration. GOJ's engagement with the OGP is led by the Ministry of Finance and the Public Service (MOFPS). The GOJ has joined the OGP and committed to the OGP process, as the objectives of the OGP coincide well with the GOJ's anti-corruption policy and strategies towards achieving greater transparency, accountability, public sector efficiency and the overall strengthening of governance.

The Open Government Partnership Process in Jamaica

The public launch of the OGP process in Jamaica was held on January 15, 2021 as a virtual event organised by the Ministry of Finance and the Public Service, with keynote address by the Minister of Finance and the Public Service, Dr. the Hon. Nigel Clarke, as the Ministerial focal point for the OGP process in Jamaica. An OGP Webinar on Open Response and Recovery to COVID-19 also was held on February 19, 2021, which was organized by the MOFPS in collaboration with civil society stakeholders. The engagement of civil society organizations and representatives in the OGP process in Jamaica commenced in 2018. A civil society OGP workshop was held on May 9, 2019 and an OGP civil society working group has continued meeting during 2019-2021.

The Multi-Stakeholder Forum (MSF) for the OGP process in Jamaica was established in 2021 with six (6) GOJ members and six (6) Civil Society members, with a GOJ Co-Chair and a Civil Society Co-Chair. The main purpose of the Multi-Stakeholder Forum is to provide oversight and guidance to the co-creation process for the development, submission, implementation, monitoring and reporting for each National Action Plan for the consecutive two-year action planning cycles for Jamaica under the OGP. The first meeting of the MSF was held on August 12, 2021, as a virtual meeting hosted by the MOFPS. The MSF has held ten (10) meetings over the period from August 12, 2021 to December 16, 2021. The Terms of Reference for the MSF has been unanimously approved by all members of the MSF.

Preparation of Jamaica’s First OGP National Action Plan

The MSF approved the development of commitments for the first NAP in the following four (4) thematic areas: Justice and Human Rights; Natural Resources, Environment and Climate; Access to Information; and Youth. This selection is based on the results of online voting on priority thematic areas for the OGP by civil society stakeholders over the period June 28-July 9, 2021. The MSF also approved two (2) pro-active commitments based on open government initiatives already underway or proposed by the government.

The MSF organized several rounds of meetings of OGP stakeholder consultation groups for each of the four (4) selected thematic areas, in order to discuss and develop proposed commitments for each thematic area for inclusion in the first OGP National Action Plan for Jamaica. The stakeholder consultation groups meetings were held as Zoom meetings hosted by MOFPS over the period September 30-November 1, 2021.

The MSF reviewed five (5) draft commitments submitted by the stakeholder consultation groups, along with the two (2) draft pro-active commitments. The seven (7) selected draft commitments were refined based on the suggested OGP template for OGP commitments, including timelines and milestones for implementation, and included in the draft National Action Plan (NAP). In December 2021, Cabinet approved seven (7) OGP commitments for inclusion in Jamaica’s first National Action Plan. Jamaica’s first National Action Plan was completed based on the feedback on the OGP commitments from stakeholders, implementing ministries, and review by the MSF, and was submitted to the OGP before the end of December 2021.

The commitments in the National Action Plan will be implemented over the two-year OGP action planning cycle through August 2023. The MSF will coordinate the monitoring and reporting on the implementation of the NAP, including publication of regular progress reports on the dedicated online OGP webpage on the MOFPS website.

OGP National Action Plan Commitments

The seven (7) commitments included in Jamaica’s first National Action Plan under the OGP are summarized in the following table:

Commitment	Lead Implementing Agency
1. Complete National Anti-Corruption Strategy	Integrity Commission
2. Upgrade and Strengthen the Open Data System in Jamaica	Ministry of Science, Energy and Technology (MSET)
3. Amend the Access to Information (ATI) Act and Strengthen the ATI System in Jamaica	Office of the Prime Minister (OPM)
4. Increase Access to Information on and Public Awareness of the Justice System and Human Rights	Ministry of Justice (MOJ)
5. Complete Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations	Ministry of Economic Growth and Job Creation (MEGJC)
6. Update and Implement the Climate Change Policy Framework	Ministry of Economic Growth and Job Creation (MEGJC)
7. Strengthen Youth Participation and Access to Services	Ministry of Education and Youth (MOEY)

Revision of OGP National Action Plan

Following the submission of Jamaica's first National Action Plan to the OGP before the end of December 2021, the NAP was placed on the MOFPS website and circulated to stakeholders for a period from January 3-19, 2022, for review and feedback by stakeholders and the public. Following this review period, revisions were made to the NAP, including the following:

- i. In response to stakeholder feedback received, a new milestone activity was added to each of the OGP commitments to Upgrade and Strengthen the Open Data System in Jamaica and to Update and Implement the Climate Change Policy Framework;
- ii. Based on feedback received from lead implementing agencies, revisions were made to the timelines for some of the milestone activities for the OGP commitments to: Upgrade and Strengthen the Open Data System in Jamaica; Amend the Access to Information (ATI) Act and Strengthen the ATI System in Jamaica; Increase Access to Information on and Public Awareness of the Justice System and Human Rights; and Strengthen Youth Participation and Access to Services;
- iii. Changes were made to reflect the Cabinet reshuffle and reassignment of portfolios and subjects announced by the Government on January 10, 2022;
- iv. Messages have been included from the Minister of Finance and the Public Service, from the Government Co-Chair of the MSF and from the Civil Society membership of the MSF;
- v. Sections were inserted for Acronyms and Abbreviations and Executive Summary;
- vi. Minor edits were made for grammar, presentation and reformatting.

The main revisions made to the NAP have been footnoted in the relevant sections and OGP commitments. The review and revision process provided the basis for the submission of the revised OGP National Action Plan to Cabinet and the OGP in June 2022.

Jamaica – Open Government Partnership: National Action Plan 2021-23

1.0 Background and Context

1.1 The Open Government Partnership (OGP)

The Open Government Partnership (OGP) is a voluntary, international forum of countries working to be more open, accountable and responsive to citizens. The OGP was formally launched on September 20, 2011, by eight (8) founding governments (Brazil, Indonesia, Mexico, Norway, the Philippines, South Africa, the United Kingdom and the United States). The OGP has subsequently grown to include 78 national members, a growing number of local governments and thousands of civil society participants. Participation in the OGP requires countries to endorse a high-level Open Government Declaration, deliver a National Action Plan (NAP) developed with public consultation with civil society with commitments which advance the OGP values, and commit to independent reporting on its implementation, including through the Independent Reporting Mechanism (IRM).

The OGP process is guided by the values of:

- Access to Information
- Civic Participation
- Public Accountability
- Technology and Innovation for Transparency and Accountability

Figure 1: Open Government Partnership Overview

Open Government Partnership



1.2 Jamaica’s Involvement in the OGP

In December 2016, the Government of Jamaica (GOJ) became a member of the Open Government Partnership (OGP), through submission of a Letter of Intent signed by Prime Minister, Most Honourable Andrew Holness, and has endorsed the high-level Open Government Declaration.

GOJ’s engagement with the OGP is led by the Ministry of Finance and the Public Service (MOFPS). Cabinet decisions in June 2018 and February 2020 granted approval for the MOFPS to initiate the OGP process in Jamaica through: i) Preparation of the National Action Plan (NAP) in keeping with the OGP’s Participation and Co-creation Standards; ii) Establishment of a Multistakeholder Forum, comprised of citizens, civil society organizations and government, with responsibility for assisting in the oversight of the OGP co-creation process; and iii) Designation of the MOFPS as the Government of Jamaica’s OGP Lead Agency. In December 2021, Cabinet approved seven (7) OGP commitments for inclusion in Jamaica’s first National Action Plan, and submission of the National Action Plan to the OGP before end-December 2021. Cabinet also granted approval for the OGP NAP to be put into the public domain for review and comments by stakeholders and the public for a two (2) week period, which provided a basis for approval and submission to the OGP of a revised OGP NAP in 2022. The GOJ is committed to implementing the OGP National Action Plan over the period to August 2023, and to monitoring and reporting on its implementation through August 2023.

1.3 Jamaica’s Background in Open Governance

The GOJ has joined the OGP and committed to the OGP process, as the objectives of the OGP coincide well with the GOJ’s anti-corruption policy and strategies towards achieving greater transparency, accountability, public sector efficiency and the overall strengthening of governance. The Government of Jamaica has a long history of implementing initiatives towards enhancing open governance, including the following:

- Passage of the Access to Information Act in 2002 and establishment of the Access to Information Unit;
- Passage of the Public Bodies Management and Accountability Act (2001) and the Corruption Prevention Act (2002);
- Establishment of the Government’s fiscal responsibility framework through amendments to the Financial Administration and Audit Act and the Public Bodies Management and Accountability Act (2010);
- Passage of the Integrity Commission Act (2017);
- Publication of annual Citizen’s Guide to the Central Government’s Budget commencing with Financial Year 2019/2020;
- Launch of InvestmentMap Jamaica (November 2020) which tracks the country’s public investment projects and makes information available to citizens in a user-friendly format;

- Passage of the Bank of Jamaica (Amendment) Act (2020) which modernises Jamaica’s central bank through clarification of its mandate and enhancement of its governance structure, and which came into effect in April 2021;
- Passage of legislation in Parliament to establish a Fiscal Commission (February 2021).

1.4 Benefits of Open Governance and the OGP

The benefits of enhanced open governance to the citizens and residents of Jamaica include the following:

- Better access to information on the performance of government ministries and agencies and on matters of public interest;
- Greater transparency on the allocation and expenditure of public resources;
- Strengthened mechanisms to detect and address corruption in the administration of central government and public bodies;
- Enhanced ability to hold government and public officials accountable for the efficient and effective use of public resources and the achievement of targeted results;
- Greater opportunities for citizens to participate in the determination of government priorities and the monitoring of outcomes.

The OGP process has the potential to contribute to open governance in Jamaica through a range of mechanisms, including the following:

- The OGP provides an international framework within which participating countries including Jamaica are required to demonstrate and maintain commitment to the principles of open government;
- The OGP fosters and encourages partnership and collaboration between government and civil society stakeholders in participating countries;
- The OGP allows for the identification and implementation of priority actions that will advance access to information, civic participation and public accountability in participating countries including Jamaica;
- The OGP can provide technical support and a community of best practices that can help to build the capacity for open government in participating countries;
- The monitoring, reporting and assessment requirements of the OGP process, including self-assessment by participating governments and independent reporting by the Independent Reporting Mechanism (IRM), will strengthen the transparency and accountability in implementing open government reforms.

2.0 The Open Government Partnership Process in Jamaica

2.1 Formal Launch of the OGP Process in Jamaica

The public launch of the OGP process in Jamaica was held on January 15, 2021 as a virtual event organised by the Ministry of Finance and the Public Service, with keynote address by the Minister of Finance and the Public Service, Dr. the Hon. Nigel Clarke, as the Ministerial focal point for the OGP process in Jamaica. The public launch was attended by representatives of government and civil society in Jamaica, the private sector, the OGP and multilateral institutions, and served as the official launch of the National Action Plan preparation process in Jamaica.

An OGP Webinar on Open Response and Recovery to COVID-19 also was held on February 19, 2021, which was organized by the MOFPS in collaboration with civil society stakeholders.

The engagement of civil society organizations and representatives in the OGP process in Jamaica commenced in 2018. A civil society OGP workshop was held on May 9, 2019 and an OGP civil society working group has continued meeting during 2019-2021.

2.2 Establishment of Jamaica's OGP Multi-Stakeholder Forum

The Multi-Stakeholder Forum (MSF) plays a central role under the OGP model in the process of co-creation of National Action Plans (NAPs), and in the monitoring, reporting and assessment of NAPs. There is no one-size-fits-all model for the MSF, and different countries have adopted different approaches. However, the general recommendations by the OGP are that government and civil society should have an equal standing in the Forum by means of an equal number of representatives, and they should share responsibility for directing and coordinating the Forum.

The Multi-Stakeholder Forum (MSF) for the OGP process in Jamaica has been established in 2021 with six (6) GOJ members and six (6) Civil Society members, with a GOJ Co-Chair and a Civil Society Co-Chair. The six GOJ members of the MSF were nominated, following letters of invitation sent by the Financial Secretary of the MOFPS to five (5) key Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs). The six Civil Society members were selected through a process of nomination and election designed and conducted by civil society stakeholders, with online voting on fifteen nominees by civil society stakeholders taking place over the period June 28-July 9, 2021. The Civil Society Co-Chair was selected by the Civil Society members of the MSF. The first meeting of the MSF was held on August 12, 2021, as a virtual meeting hosted by the MOFPS. The MSF has held ten (10) meetings over the period from August 12, 2021 to December 16, 2021. The Terms of Reference for the MSF has been unanimously approved by all members of the MSF.

The main purpose of the Multi-Stakeholder Forum is to provide oversight and guidance to the co-creation process for the development, submission, implementation, monitoring and

reporting for each National Action Plan for the consecutive two-year action planning cycles for Jamaica under the OGP.

The twelve (12) members of the MSF, as well as GOJ alternate members, are listed in Appendix 1.

2.3 Communication of the OGP Process

The OGP process in Jamaica is supported by a communication programme led by the Corporate Communication and Public Relations Branch of the Ministry of Finance and the Public Service. The OGP communication programme includes the following aspects:

- Dissemination of information and updates on the progress of the OGP process on a range of online and digital media channels;
- Logistics, promotion, live-streaming and media relations for OGP events including the public launch in January 2021 and the OGP webinar in February 2021;
- Production of short informational video on the OGP (4 minutes in length) for the launch event;
- Design and production of OGP Jamaica publications, including the National Action Plan.

The OGP Co-creation and Participation Standards outline the following basic standards for online communication:

- Have a visible, accessible and searchable national OGP website/webpage with information related to the country's OGP activities;
- Collect, document and publish a repository that provides access to all documents related to the national OGP process, accounting for the development and implementation of the OGP action plan;
- Provide regular progress updates during the development and implementation of the National Action Plan (NAP);
- Provide opportunities for public feedback and comments.

An OGP document repository has been established on the MOFPS website, consisting of a series of dedicated folders where relevant documents for the OGP process are stored and are accessible for downloading by civil society and government stakeholders and members of the public.

It is intended that Jamaica's involvement in the OGP process will include the establishment of a national OGP webpage on the MOFPS website which will be visible, accessible and searchable, and where information on all aspects of the national OGP process is proactively published. The MOFPS is currently in the process of carrying out a redesign and rebranding of its existing website. It is projected that, following the completion of the new MOFPS website, a dedicated landing page/webpage for the OGP process in Jamaica will be developed on the new MOFPS website.

The communication of the OGP process in Jamaica also benefits from the ongoing sharing of information on the OGP process among civil society stakeholder networks by the OGP civil society working group.

3.0 Preparation of Jamaica's First OGP National Action Plan

3.1 Selection of Priority Thematic Areas

The Multi-Stakeholder Forum (MSF) approved the development of commitments for the first NAP in the following four (4) thematic areas: Justice and Human Rights; Natural Resources, Environment and Climate; Access to Information; and Youth. This selection is based on the results of online voting on priority thematic areas for the OGP by civil society stakeholders over the period June 28-July 9, 2021. The results of the online voting on priority thematic areas for the OGP by civil society stakeholders are shown in Appendix 2.

The MSF also approved two (2) pro-active commitments based on open government initiatives already underway or proposed by the government.

3.2 Stakeholder Consultations

The MSF organized several rounds of meetings of OGP stakeholder consultation groups for each of the four (4) selected thematic areas, in order to discuss and develop proposed commitments for each thematic area for inclusion in the first OGP National Action Plan for Jamaica. The stakeholder consultation groups meetings were held as Zoom meetings hosted by MOFPS over the period September 30-November 1, 2021. The schedule of the stakeholder consultation group meetings is shown in Appendix 3.

The participants in the stakeholder consultation group meetings included representatives of relevant government ministries, departments and agencies (MDAs), civil society organizations, the private sector, trade unions, faith-based organizations, youth organizations and academia. The participants were selected and recommended by the government and civil society members of the MSF, as well as by other government MDAs and by the OGP civil society working group.

The stakeholder consultation group meetings were informed by relevant documentation on each thematic area shared with the participants in advance of the meetings, and by panel presentations on the main issues and challenges in each area by government and civil society representatives. The meetings were also informed by the results of a stakeholder consultation form circulated to government and civil society stakeholders over the period September 21-29, 2021, by which stakeholders provided their suggestions as to the priority issues and challenges and proposed actions for each of the four (4) selected thematic areas.

Through the rounds of meetings, three (3) of the four (4) OGP stakeholder consultation groups developed one (1) draft commitment each for their respective thematic areas, while

the stakeholder consultation group for Natural Resources, Environment and Climate developed two (2) draft commitments for their thematic area. The draft commitments were submitted to the MSF for review.

3.3 Preparation and Review of Draft National Action Plan

The MSF reviewed the five (5) draft commitments submitted by the stakeholder consultation groups, based on a range of criteria, including ambition of potential impact, feasibility for implementation, resource availability, and alignment with existing government policies and priorities. The MSF also reviewed the two (2) draft pro-active commitments based on open government initiatives already underway or proposed by the government. The seven (7) selected draft commitments were refined based on the suggested OGP template for OGP commitments, including timelines and milestones for implementation, and included in the draft National Action Plan (NAP).

3.4 Completion and Revision of National Action Plan¹

Jamaica's first National Action Plan was completed based on the feedback on the draft OGP commitments from stakeholders, implementing ministries, and review by the Multi-Stakeholder Forum. A summary schedule of the key steps in the OGP co-creation process for Jamaica's first National Action Plan over the period from September – December 2021 is included as Appendix 4. The NAP was placed on the MOFPS website and circulated to stakeholders for a period from January 3-19, 2022, for review and feedback by stakeholders and the public. Following this review period, revisions were made to the NAP, which provided the basis for the submission of the revised OGP National Action Plan to Cabinet and the OGP in June 2022.

3.5 Framework for Implementation and Monitoring of National Action Plan

The commitments in the National Action Plan will be implemented over the two-year OGP action planning cycle through August 2023. The MSF will coordinate the monitoring and reporting on the implementation of the NAP, including publication of regular progress reports on the dedicated online OGP webpage on the MOFPS website. The MSF will also coordinate a minimum of two (2) consultations on the implementation of the NAP with civil society stakeholders over the two-year implementation period.

The reporting on the implementation of Jamaica's first OGP National Action Plan will also include a Mid-Term Progress Report and End-of-Term Report by the Independent Reporting Mechanism (IRM), and an End-of-Term Self-Assessment Report by the GOJ.

A list of key OGP links that provide sources of information on the OGP process is included as Appendix 5.

¹ Section 3.4 revised to include reference to revision of NAP.

4.0 OGP National Action Plan Commitments

The seven (7) commitments included in Jamaica’s first National Action Plan under the OGP are summarized in the following table, including the name of each commitment, the lead implementing MDA, OGP thematic area, and policy alignment with the Vision 2030 Jamaica – National Development Plan, Medium Term Socio-Economic Policy Framework (MTF) and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The commitments are described in detail in the following sections 4.1 – 4.7, using the template for OGP commitments, including timelines and milestones for implementation.

Table 1: National Action Plan Commitments

Commitment	Lead Implementing Agency ²	OGP Thematic Areas	Policy Alignment	
			Vision 2030 Jamaica/Medium Term Socio-Economic Policy Framework (MTF)	Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
1. Complete National Anti-Corruption Strategy	Integrity Commission	Transparency, Accountability and Anti-Corruption (Pro-Active Commitment)	National Outcome No. 6 Effective Governance	SDG 16 Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions
2. Upgrade and Strengthen the Open Data System in Jamaica	Ministry of Science, Energy and Technology (MSET)	Access to Information, Digital Governance (Pro-Active Commitment)	National Outcome No. 6 Effective Governance National Outcome No. 11 A Technology-Enabled Society	SDG 16 Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions
3. Amend the Access to Information (ATI) Act and Strengthen the ATI System in Jamaica	Office of the Prime Minister (OPM)	Access to Information	National Outcome No. 6 Effective Governance National Outcome No. 11 A Technology-Enabled Society	SDG 16 Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

² Lead implementing agencies revised to reflect the Cabinet reshuffle and reassignment of portfolios and subjects announced by the Government on January 10, 2022.

Jamaica – Open Government Partnership: National Action Plan 2021-2023

Commitment	Lead Implementing Agency ²	OGP Thematic Areas	Policy Alignment	
			Vision 2030 Jamaica/Medium Term Socio-Economic Policy Framework (MTF)	Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
4. Increase Access to Information on and Public Awareness of the Justice System and Human Rights	Ministry of Justice (MOJ) Ministry of Legal and Constitutional Affairs	Justice and Human Rights	National Outcome No. 6 Effective Governance	SDG 16 Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions
5. Complete Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations	Ministry of Economic Growth and Job Creation (MEGJC)	Environment	National Outcomes No. 13, 14 and 15	SDGs 11, 13, 14 and 15
6. Update and Implement the Climate Change Policy Framework	Ministry of Economic Growth and Job Creation (MEGJC)	Climate Change	National Outcomes No. 10, 13, 14 and 15	SDGs 7, 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15
7. Strengthen Youth Participation and Access to Services	Ministry of Education and Youth (MOEY)	Youth	National Outcome No. 1 A Healthy and Stable Population National Outcome No. 2 World-Class Education and Training	SDGs 16 and 17

4.1 Complete the National Anti-Corruption Strategy	
Commitment Start and End Date November 2021-August 2023	
Lead implementing agency/actor	The Integrity Commission of Jamaica
Commitment description	
What is the public problem that the commitment will address?	<p>In the 19 years (2002-2020) that Transparency International has been ranking Jamaica, the country has averaged a Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI) score of only 37.5 out of 100. Prior to its 2017 and 2018 CPI scores of 44 Jamaica had never scored higher than 41 (2015 CPI score) while Jamaica’s lowest CPI score ever was 30 which was recorded in 2009. A CPI score of below 50 means that a country has a serious corruption problem. In 2020 Jamaica had a CPI score of 44 and ranked 69th out of 179 countries.</p> <p>A 2015 USAID Final Report entitled “Combatting Corruption in Jamaica Final Performance Evaluation Caribbean Basin Security Initiative” cited a deficit in Jamaica’s efforts as follows, “While institutional progress has been made, the Government’s approach to corruption remains piecemeal and unfinished.” Additionally, Jamaica’s 2014 National Security Policy estimates that 5% of GDP or nearly J\$100 billion is lost to corruption annually.</p>
What is the commitment?	To complete the development of Jamaica’s National Anti-Corruption Strategy.
How will the commitment contribute to solving the public problem?	The country has specialised agencies and organisations with a range of roles which are mandated to address causes of corruption, including The Integrity Commission, The Major Organised Crime Anti-Corruption Agency (MOCA), Financial Investigations Division, Revenue Protection Division and Jamaica Customs Agency. Despite the presence of these agencies, and the promulgation of new laws and measures, the country has not had the benefit of an integrated and coordinated approach in dealing with corruption issues. The completion of the National Anti-Corruption Strategy (NAS) will provide a structured framework for coordinated action among relevant agencies and stakeholders in addressing the causes and manifestations of corruption in the public and private sectors on a sustainable basis. The NAS will include a monitoring and evaluation framework that will enhance transparency in its implementation.

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<p>Why is this commitment relevant to OGP values?</p>	<p>The completion of Jamaica’s National Anti-Corruption Strategy (NAS) is relevant to the following OGP values:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Access to Information: The NAS will strengthen reporting requirements and transparency. 2. Civic Participation: The process of completion of the NAS will include extensive stakeholder consultation and the NAS will include defined roles for stakeholders in the implementation, monitoring and evaluation. 3. Public Accountability: The NAS will strengthen prevention and detection of corruption within government, public bodies and the private sector. 	
<p>Additional information</p>	<p>The completion of Jamaica’s National Anti-Corruption Strategy (NAS) is aligned with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section 6 (1)(j) of the Integrity Commission Act (2017) – Co-ordinate the implementation of an anti-corruption strategy • Vision 2030 Jamaica National Development Plan – National Outcome No. 6 Effective Governance, including National Strategy 6-1 Strengthen the Process of Citizen Participation in Governance and National Strategy 6-7 Strengthen Accountability and Transparency Mechanisms • Medium Term Socio-Economic Policy Framework (MTF) for the relevant three-year period • Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 16 Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions – Target 16.5 Substantially reduce corruption and bribery in all their forms • Lima Commitment, OAS VIII Summit of the Americas (2018) - Democratic Governance Against Corruption 	
<p>Milestone Activity with a verifiable deliverable</p>	<p>Start Date:</p>	<p>End Date:</p>
<p>Procure consultant to support development of Draft National Anti-Corruption Strategy</p>	<p>December 2021</p>	<p>February 2022</p>
<p>Conduct extensive stakeholder consultations on preparation of National Anti-Corruption Strategy</p>	<p>February 2022</p>	<p>April 2022</p>
<p>Develop Draft National Anti-Corruption Strategy</p>	<p>April 2022</p>	<p>December 2022</p>
<p>Conduct extensive stakeholder consultations on Draft National Anti-Corruption Strategy</p>	<p>January 2023</p>	<p>February 2023</p>
<p>Complete National Anti-Corruption Strategy and submit to Cabinet</p>	<p>March 2023</p>	<p>June 2023</p>

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Contact information		
Contacts		<p>Mr. Ryan Evans - Director of Corruption Prevention, Stakeholder Engagement and Anti-Corruption Strategy, Integrity Commission</p> <p>Mr. Maurice Barrett - Manager, Anti-Corruption Policy and Strategic Engagement, Integrity Commission</p>
Email and Phone		<p>Ryan.Evans@integrity.gov.jm</p> <p>Maurice.Barrett@integrity.gov.jm</p> <p>876-929-6460, 876-929-6466, 876-929-7535, 876-929-7536</p>
Other Actors Involved	State actors involved	<p>Ministry of Finance and the Public Service</p> <p>Ministry of National Security</p> <p>Ministry of Justice</p> <p>Major Organised Crime Anti-Corruption Agency</p> <p>Tax Administration Jamaica</p> <p>Jamaica Customs Agency</p> <p>Auditor General’s Department</p> <p>Attorney General’s Chambers</p>
	CSOs, private sector, multilateral agencies, working groups	<p>Private Sector Organization of Jamaica</p> <p>Jamaica Chamber of Commerce</p> <p>National Integrity Action</p> <p>Jamaica Accountability Meter Portal</p>

4.2 Upgrade and Strengthen the Open Data System in Jamaica	
Commitment Start and End Date December 2021-August 2023	
Lead implementing agency/actor	Ministry of Science, Energy and Technology (MSET)
Commitment Description	
What is the public problem that the commitment will address?	On a global scale, Open Data has become a major initiative by governments to increase the availability and useability of information and data generated to facilitate research, and promote government transparency, private sector technology growth, innovation and policy formulation. There is high demand for government data in Jamaica, and there is a vast amount of data available on government websites to meet this demand. However, the main limitation is that much of this data is not in a readily reusable format and the barriers to converting it have challenged potential users of government data. The Open Data Portal established by the government in June 2016 hosts data in a range of subjects including on the economy, finance, infrastructure, health, education, agriculture and transportation. ³ However, the Open Data Portal has experienced challenges in its operation, and much of the data on the portal is not current.
What is the commitment?	To upgrade and strengthen the Open Data system in Jamaica through strategic actions in the Implementation Plan for the Open Data Policy, including upgrading of the Open Data Portal.
How will the commitment contribute to solving the public problem?	The Government of Jamaica Open Data Policy which was approved by the Cabinet in July 2021 provides the Vision, Guiding Principles, Goals, Objectives and Strategies for the advancement of Open Government Data in Jamaica. The Implementation Plan will provide the basis for the realization of the Open Data Goals. The key strategic actions included in the OGP Open Data commitment will address key constraints, including through upgrading the Open Data Portal, application of technology to automate aspects of the Open Data system, mapping relevant Open Government Data sets across the public sector, conducting a comprehensive demand survey of Open Data users across society, undertaking technology transfer and training, and expanding the participation of civil society in Open Data governance.

³ <https://www.data.gov.jm>

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<p>Why is this commitment relevant to OGP values?</p>	<p>The upgrading and strengthening of the Open Data system in Jamaica is relevant to the following OGP values:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Access to Information: The upgrading and strengthening of the Open Data system will significantly improve the provision of Open Government Data in Jamaica. The commitment will also strengthen the relationship between the Open Data system and the Access to Information system. 2. Civic Participation: The development of the Implementation Plan for the Open Data Policy will include stakeholder consultation and the representation and role of civil society on the Open Data Committee will be expanded. 3. Public Accountability: The increased availability of Open Government Data will enable more effective monitoring of performance of government entities, projects and programmes. 4. Technology and Innovation for Openness and Accountability: The strategic actions in the Implementation Plan for the Open Data Policy will deploy technology to increase the provision of Open Government Data, including upgrading of the Open Data Portal. 	
<p>Additional information</p>	<p>The upgrading and strengthening of the Open Data system in Jamaica is aligned with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Government of Jamaica Open Data Policy (2021) • Vision 2030 Jamaica National Development Plan – National Outcome No. 6 Effective Governance, including National Strategy 6-1 Strengthen the Process of Citizen Participation in Governance, National Strategy 6-5 Strengthen Public Institutions to Deliver Efficient and Effective Public Goods and Services, and National Strategy 6-7 Strengthen Accountability and Transparency Mechanisms; National Outcome No. 11 A Technology-Enabled Society, including National Strategy 11-1 Integrate Science and Technology into All Areas of Development • Medium Term Socio-Economic Policy Framework (MTF) for the relevant three-year period • Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 16 Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions – Target 16.10 Ensure public access to information; Open Data is also seen as playing a cross-cutting role, contributing towards the achievement of all seventeen SDGs 	
<p>Milestone Activity with a Verifiable Deliverable</p>	<p>Start Date:⁴</p>	<p>End Date:⁵</p>
<p>Complete Implementation Plan for the Open Data Policy</p>	<p>December 2021 (Revised)</p>	<p>June 2022 (Revised)</p>

⁴ Start Dates revised as noted.

⁵ End Dates revised as noted.

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Strengthen Open Data Committee including expanded representation and role of civil society	March 2022 (Revised)	June 2022 (Revised)
Conduct comprehensive demand survey of Open Data users across the public sector, private sector and civil society	April 2022	May 2022
Conduct mapping of relevant Open Government Data sets across the public sector	May 2022 (Revised)	September 2022
Upgrade the Open Data Portal, including application of technology to automate aspects of the Open Data system	June 2022 (Revised)	December 2022
Publish and maintain a public list of Government data sets, including rationale and timelines for their publication or non-disclosure, and quarterly updates on priority list of data sets to be mainstreamed into the Open Data Portal ⁶	January 2023	July 2023
Undertake technology transfer and training on the upgrading of the Open Data Portal	January 2023	March 2023
Contact Information		
Contacts	Mr. Gary Campbell - Director of Technology, Ministry of Science, Energy and Technology	
Email and Phone	gcampbell@mset.gov.jm 876-920-4303, 876-431-1456	
Other Actors Involved	State actors involved	Office of the Prime Minister Ministry of Finance and the Public Service eGOV Jamaica Limited Office of the Chief Information Officer
	CSOs, private sector, multilateral agencies, working groups	Jamaica Technology and Digital Alliance

⁶ Milestone Activity and timelines added in response to stakeholder feedback.

4.3 Amend the Access to Information (ATI) Act and Strengthen the ATI System in Jamaica	
Commitment Start and End Date January 2022-August 2023	
Lead implementing agency/actor ⁷	Office of the Prime Minister (OPM)
Commitment Description	
What is the public problem that the commitment will address?	The Access to Information (ATI) Act that was passed in 2002 and came into effect in 2004 is in need of review and amendment. A comprehensive review of the ATI Act was conducted in 2009-2011, and the Joint Select Committee (JSC) Report to Parliament was tabled in 2011, which made recommendations including the strengthening ATI Unit and extending the public interest test. However, there has been no action taken since 2011 to amend the ATI Act, or implement the recommendations in the JSC Report. The existing ATI system also has constraints including delays in responses to requests for information.
What is the commitment?	To amend the Access to Information (ATI) Act and strengthen the ATI system in Jamaica.
How will the commitment contribute to solving the public problem?	The commitment to amend the ATI Act, based on the JSC Report of 2011 and subsequent developments, and to strengthen the ATI system in Jamaica will improve the legal and regulatory framework and system for provision of information by the government to citizens, both proactively and in response to requests for information, in order to advance certain fundamental principles underlying the system of constitutional democracy, including governmental accountability, transparency, and public participation in decision-making. The actions to improve the existing ATI system, including capacity development and training for ATI officers, public education on the ATI system, improved guidelines for public bodies and ATI officers, strengthening of reporting mechanisms, and development of a proposal for the application of an online platform for making and tracking ATI requests, will improve the operation of the existing ATI system and reduce delays in response to ATI requests.

⁷ Lead implementing agency revised to reflect the Cabinet reshuffle announced on January 10, 2022.

<p>Why is this commitment relevant to OGP values?</p>	<p>The commitment to amend the ATI Act and strengthen the ATI system in Jamaica is relevant to the following OGP values:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Access to Information: The amendments to the ATI Act and strengthening of the ATI system will improve the legal and regulatory framework for ATI and the operation of the ATI system, resulting in improved access to public information for citizens. The commitment will also strengthen the relationship between the Access to Information system and the Open Data system. 2. Civic Participation: The process to amend the ATI Act and regulations will include stakeholder consultations. The re-establishment of the ATI Advisory Stakeholder Committee will expand and strengthen the representation and role of civil society in the ATI reform process. 3. Public Accountability: The increased access to information will enable more effective monitoring of the performance of government entities, projects and programmes.
<p>Additional information</p>	<p>The commitment to amend the Access to Information (ATI) Act and strengthen the ATI system in Jamaica is aligned with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Government of Jamaica Open Data Policy (2021) • Data Protection Act (2020) • Vision 2030 Jamaica National Development Plan – National Outcome No. 6 Effective Governance, including National Strategy 6-1 Strengthen the Process of Citizen Participation in Governance, National Strategy 6-5 Strengthen Public Institutions to Deliver Efficient and Effective Public Goods and Services, and National Strategy 6-7 Strengthen Accountability and Transparency Mechanisms; National Outcome No. 11 A Technology-Enabled Society, including National Strategy 11-1 Integrate Science and Technology into All Areas of Development • Medium Term Socio-Economic Policy Framework (MTF) for the relevant three-year period • Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 16 Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions – Target 16.10 Ensure public access to information; Access to Information is also seen as playing a cross-cutting role, contributing towards the achievement of all seventeen SDGs • Inter-American Convention Against Corruption of which Jamaica is a party and the Committee of Experts that guides the Mechanism for Follow-Up on the implementation of the Convention ('MESICIC') in which Jamaica participates • The Escazu Agreement (2018) to which Jamaica is a signatory • Lima Commitment, OAS VIII Summit of the Americas (2018) - Democratic Governance Against Corruption

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Milestone Activity with a Verifiable Deliverable	Start Date: ⁸	End Date: ⁹
Conduct stakeholder and public consultations for preparation of drafting instructions for amendment of Access to Information (ATI) Act and regulations	May 2022 (Revised)	July 2022 (Revised)
Re-establish the ATI Advisory Stakeholder Committee, including confirmation of membership, approval of Terms of Reference (TOR), and endorsement of the ATI Advisory Stakeholder Committee by the relevant Minister	April 2022 (Revised)	June 2022 (Revised)
Prepare Draft Bill to amend the ATI Act and regulations	April 2022	January 2023
Review of Draft Bill to amend the ATI Act and regulations by the ATI Advisory Stakeholder Committee	February 2023	March 2023
Finalize Bill to amend the ATI Act and regulations ¹⁰	April 2023	August 2023 (Revised)
Prepare improved guidelines for public bodies and ATI officers	January 2022	August 2022 (Revised)
Undertake capacity development and training for ATI officers	July 2022	March 2023 (Revised)
Conduct programme of public education on the ATI system and rights	April 2022	March 2023
Strengthen reporting mechanisms for annual reports, and reporting for the SDGs and Lima Commitment	July 2022	March 2023
Develop proposal for the application of technology for online platform for making and tracking ATI requests	April 2022	March 2023

⁸ Start Dates revised as noted.

⁹ End Dates revised as noted.

¹⁰ Milestone Activity revised in accordance with Cabinet decision.

Contact Information		
Contacts ¹¹		Mr. Damian Cox - Principal Director (Acting), Information Division, Office of the Prime Minister (OPM)
Email and Phone		damian.cox@opm.gov.jm 876-927-9941-3, 876-484-6335
Other Actors Involved	State actors involved	Ministry of Finance and the Public Service Ministry of Science, Energy and Technology Office of the Parliamentary Counsel Attorney General's Chambers
	CSOs, private sector, multilateral agencies, working groups	ATI Advisory Stakeholders Committee

¹¹ Contacts revised to reflect the Cabinet reshuffle announced on January 10, 2022.

4.4 Increase Access to Information on and Public Awareness of the Justice System and Human Rights	
Commitment Start and End Date January 2022-August 2023	
Lead implementing agency/actor ¹²	Ministry of Justice (MOJ) Ministry of Legal and Constitutional Affairs
Commitment description	
What is the public problem that the commitment will address?	<p>The mandate of the Ministry of Justice centers on the provision of policy support and analysis on justice issues as well as support to the maintenance of an efficient and fair system of justice which is accessible to all; the promotion of respect for rights and freedoms, the rule of law and the Constitution and the promotion of and awareness of individual responsibilities and civil obligations.</p> <p>In discharging this mandate the Ministry of Justice is championing an ambitious justice reform program geared to enable effective and efficient responses to challenges within the sector and is leading the process of modernizing the institutions, administration and operations of sector institutions. Within this context, the Ministry’s public interface centres on a commitment to deliver justice for all by creating an enabling environment through a mix of policy, legislation, human and capital resources and services to yield an increase in access to justice outcomes and services.</p> <p>Access to justice is a critical pillar for sustainable development and the achievement of social and economic development and an increase in access to justice services is viewed as critical to the Ministry’s mandate. However access to justice remains a complex issue characterized by economic, social, structural, cultural and institutional barriers, including citizen disengagement, the intricacy and cost of legal processes, as well as the need to deepen partnerships across Government.</p> <p>This also includes the unique challenge which flows from low levels of awareness among stakeholders and the general public on human rights, freedoms and responsibilities of citizens, including as provided in the Charter of Fundamental Rights and Freedoms in the Jamaican Constitution and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. (See for example Jamaica Citizen Scorecard). To date this has led to a failure to translate and apply human rights concepts reflected in documented failures in</p>

¹² Lead implementing agency revised to reflect the Cabinet reshuffle announced on January 10, 2022.

	<p>recognizing when human rights violations take place. There are also constraints in the existing sources of information on the justice system in Jamaica, including the limited functionality, relevance and effectiveness of the existing Ministry of Justice laws of Jamaica webpage, significant information gaps on the existing webpage, and backlogs in the upload of new legislation and legislative changes.</p>
<p>What is the commitment?</p>	<p>Increase access to information on and public awareness of the Justice System and Human Rights</p>
<p>How will the commitment contribute to solving the public problem?</p>	<p>The Jamaica Legal Information Portal (JLIP) will increase access to information on all existing Laws, regulations and subsidiary legislation, official information contained in the Jamaica Gazette publications, and timely notification of judicial and legislative developments. The JLIP will be in keeping with international best practice premised on the principle that every person has the right of free access to public legal information, which empowers citizens and supports efficient and timely justice processes. The Human Rights and Justice Public Education Programme and the expansion of the Democracy in Schools and Integrity in Schools clubs will provide increased information on human rights and open governance to a broad cross-section of stakeholders and the Jamaican public, including children and youth.</p>
<p>Why is this commitment relevant to OGP values?</p>	<p>The commitment to increase access to information on and public awareness of the Justice System and Human Rights is relevant to the following OGP values:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Access to Information: The Jamaica Legal Information Portal will increase access to information on all existing Laws, regulations and subsidiary legislation, official information contained in the Jamaica Gazette publications, and timely notification of judicial and legislative developments. The Human Rights and Justice Public Education Programme and the expansion of the Democracy in Schools and Integrity in Schools clubs will provide information on human rights and open governance to a broad cross-section of stakeholders and the Jamaican public, including children and youth. 2. Civic Participation: The Human Rights and Justice Public Education Programme and the expansion of the Democracy in Schools and Integrity in Schools clubs will involve the participation of civil society organizations involved in human rights, and children and youth in schools. 3. Technology and Innovation for Openness and Accountability: The Jamaica Legal Information Portal and the virtual, online and social media components of the Human Rights and Justice Public Education Programme and the expansion of the Democracy in Schools and Integrity in Schools clubs will deploy technology to increase access to information on and public awareness of the Justice System and Human Rights in Jamaica.

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<p>Additional information</p>	<p>The commitment to increase access to information on and public awareness of the Justice System and Human Rights is aligned with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Charter of Fundamental Rights and Freedoms (Constitutional Amendment) Act 2011, which expanded the rights in Chapter III of the Jamaican Constitution • Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948) • International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) • International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR) • Vision 2030 Jamaica National Development Plan – National Outcome No. 6 Effective Governance, including National Strategy 6-2 Reform the Justice System and 6-3 Ensure Tolerance and Respect for Human Rights and Freedoms • Medium Term Socio-Economic Policy Framework (MTF) for the relevant three-year period • Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 16 Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions – Target 16.3 Promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all 	
<p>Milestone Activity with a verifiable deliverable</p>	<p>Start Date:¹³</p>	<p>End Date:¹⁴</p>
<p>Establish Jamaica Legal Information Portal (JLIP)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishment of an efficient and comprehensive digitization mechanism • Pilot of JLIP portal 	<p>April 2022</p> <p>April 2022</p>	<p>September 2022</p> <p>March 2023</p>
<p>Conduct stakeholder consultations on preparation of Human Rights and Justice Public Education Programme</p>	<p>June 2022 (Revised)</p>	<p>July 2022 (Revised)</p>
<p>Complete preparation of Human Rights and Justice Public Education Programme</p>	<p>July 2022 (Revised)</p>	<p>August 2022 (Revised)</p>
<p>Implement Human Rights and Justice Public Education Programme</p>	<p>October 2022 (Revised)</p>	<p>September 2023 (Revised)</p>
<p>Expand programme for Democracy in Schools and Integrity in Schools clubs</p>	<p>April 2022</p>	<p>June 2023</p>

¹³ Start Dates revised as noted.

¹⁴ End Dates revised as noted.

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Contact information		
Contacts		Mrs. Sherricca Brandford - Coordinator, Criminal Justice Reform, Ministry of Justice (MOJ)
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Other Actors Involved	State actors involved	Ministry of Finance and the Public Service Ministry of National Security Ministry of Education and Youth Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade Office of the Public Defender
	CSOs, private sector, multilateral agencies, working groups	National Integrity Action Citizens Action for Free and Fair Elections Jamaicans for Justice Stand Up For Jamaica

4.5 Complete Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations	
Commitment Start and End Date January 2022-August 2023	
Lead implementing agency/actor	Ministry of Economic Growth and Job Creation (MEGJC)
Commitment Description	
What is the public problem that the commitment will address?	The framework for the conduct of Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs) in Jamaica has guidelines for inclusion of stakeholder consultations in the decision-making process for development projects and activities that may have a significant impact on the environment or public health. However, such projects and activities often take place without adequate participation by stakeholders who may be affected by their impacts. Lack of citizen awareness and understanding of the environmental and public health impacts of projects are also contributing factors that affect public participation, while public participation may also be improved by provision of greater information on the potential impacts of development projects.
What is the commitment?	To complete and promulgate Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) regulations under the Natural Resources Conservation Authority (NRCA) Act.
How will the commitment contribute to solving the public problem?	The completion and promulgation of Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations will provide the public with access to information on projects and activities that may have a significant impact on the environment and public health throughout all phases of the project or activity, and will require the participation of relevant stakeholders and the public in the environmental decision-making process for the approval of relevant projects and activities. EIA regulations with legal requirements for access to information and public participation will enhance consistency and predictability in the process for approving major projects and developments.

<p>Why is this commitment relevant to OGP values?</p>	<p>The completion and promulgation of Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations in Jamaica is relevant to the following OGP values:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Access to Information: This commitment will strengthen processes to make public relevant information on projects and activities that may have an impact on the environment and public health safety. 2. Civic Participation: The completion and promulgation of EIA Regulations will strengthen the role of consultation with stakeholders in the approval process for development projects and activities, and increase the capacity of citizens to understand how projects and activities can have an effect on their environment and public health. 3. Public Accountability: This commitment aims to put in place a process and standards to be adhered to by implementers of projects which have an impact on the environment and public health. 	
<p>Additional information</p>	<p>The completion and promulgation of Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) regulations is aligned with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Natural Resources Conservation Authority Act 1991 • The Building Act 2018 • Town and Country Planning Act 1958 • The Local Improvements Act 1914 • Vision 2030 Jamaica National Development Plan –National Outcome No. 13 Sustainable Management and Use of Environmental and Natural Resources; National Outcome No. 14 Hazard Risk Reduction and Adaptation to Climate Change; and National Outcome No. 15 Sustainable Urban and Rural Development • Medium Term Socio-Economic Policy Framework (MTF) for the relevant three-year period • The Escazu Agreement (2018) to which Jamaica is a signatory • Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): SDG 11 Sustainable Cities and Communities; SDG 13 Climate Action; SDG 14 Life Below Water; and SDG 15 Life On Land 	
<p>Milestone Activity with a Verifiable Deliverable</p>	<p>Start Date:</p>	<p>End Date:</p>
<p>Conduct stakeholder and public consultations for preparation of drafting instructions for Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) regulations</p>	<p>January 2022</p>	<p>March 2022</p>
<p>Prepare draft Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) regulations</p>	<p>April 2022</p>	<p>December 2022</p>

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Conduct stakeholder consultations on draft Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) regulations		January 2023	February 2023
Complete and promulgate Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) regulations		March 2023	June 2023
Contact Information			
Contacts ¹⁵		Ms. Gillian Guthrie - Chief Technical Director (Acting), Ministry of Economic Growth and Job Creation (MEGJC) Ms. Andrea Donaldson - Senior Manager, Conservation and Protection Subdivision, National Environment and Planning Agency (NEPA)	
Email and Phone		gillian.guthrie@mhurecc.gov.jm ADonaldson@nepa.gov.jm 876-443-3133, 876-754-7526, 876-754-7540	
Other Actors Involved	State actors involved	Ministry of Finance and the Public Service National Environment and Planning Agency	
	CSOs, private sector, multilateral agencies, working groups		

¹⁵ Contacts revised to reflect the Cabinet reshuffle announced on January 10, 2022.

4.6 Update and Implement the Climate Change Policy Framework	
Commitment Start and End Date November 2021-August 2023	
Lead implementing agency/actor ¹⁶	Ministry of Economic Growth and Job Creation (MEGJC)
Commitment Description	
What is the public problem that the commitment will address?	Global atmospheric concentrations of greenhouse gas emissions due to human activities have grown since pre-industrial times (1750), resulting in global warming of approximately 1°C above pre-industrial levels by 2017. As a small-island developing state, Jamaica is particularly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, including sea level rise, increased threats to human health, and increased frequency of extreme weather events such as storms, droughts and hurricanes. Jamaica’s vulnerability to climate change impacts is further compounded by social issues such as poverty, environmental degradation, and the location of human settlements and critical infrastructure in high-risk coastal areas. Jamaica’s existing Climate Change Policy Framework was developed over a period from 2012-2014 and adopted in September 2015. It therefore does not reflect important developments that have taken place since its adoption, including the Paris Agreement of December 2015, and accelerating trends in climate change impacts.
What is the commitment?	To update the Climate Change Policy Framework and commence implementation of key actions under the updated Framework, and appoint a focal point for the Action for Climate Empowerment (ACE) Programme of Work. ¹⁷

¹⁶ Lead implementing agency revised to reflect the Cabinet reshuffle announced on January 10, 2022.

¹⁷ Description of commitment revised to reflect Milestone Activity added in response to stakeholder feedback.

<p>How will the commitment contribute to solving the public problem?</p>	<p>The updating of the Climate Change Policy Framework for Jamaica will take into consideration the provisions of the Paris Agreement and other relevant international, regional and national developments in sectors, including the energy and transport sectors, as well as the Fifth Assessment Report (AR5) of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and other relevant United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) reports and material. Extensive consultations with stakeholders and the public will be conducted on the Green Paper which has been prepared for the updating of the Climate Change Policy Framework, which will serve as the basis for preparation of the White Paper for the updating of the Climate Change Policy Framework, to be submitted for Cabinet approval and subsequent tabling in Parliament. The updated Climate Change Policy Framework will advance the strengthening of Jamaica’s adaptive capacity and resilience to reduce its vulnerability to climate change, pursuit of low carbon development and reduced greenhouse gas emissions, enhancement of access to and mobilization of climate finance, and promotion of public education and awareness raising, research and technology transfer towards ambitious climate action. Key actions to be undertaken under the Implementation Plan for the updated Climate Change Policy Framework will also include preparation of climate change legislation; development of the National Adaptation Plan, with funding support from the Green Climate Fund; vulnerability assessments at the national, sectoral and community levels; and a Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency (CBIT) project, funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF), to strengthen Jamaica’s institutional and technical capacity to meet its reporting requirements under the Paris Agreement and UNFCCC. Action for Climate Empowerment (ACE) is a term adopted by the UNFCCC to denote work under Article 6 of the Convention (1992) and Article 12 of the Paris Agreement. Having an ACE focal point will strengthen the implementation of education, training, public awareness, public participation and public access to information so as to enhance actions under the Paris Agreement.¹⁸</p>
<p>Why is this commitment relevant to OGP values?</p>	<p>The updating and implementation of the Climate Change Policy Framework and appointment of an ACE focal point are relevant to the following OGP values:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Access to Information: The overall implementation of the updated Climate Change Policy Framework will facilitate improved capacity for monitoring and reporting on information on emissions and climate change impacts. 2. Civic Participation: The development of the White Paper for the updating of the Climate Change Policy Framework and the National Adaptation Plan (NAP) will include extensive consultations with stakeholders and the public. The over-arching goal of ACE is to empower all members of society to engage in climate action, through education, training, public awareness, public participation, public access to information, and international cooperation on these issues.¹⁹

¹⁸ Discussion of commitment revised to reflect Milestone Activity added in response to stakeholder feedback.

¹⁹ Discussion of commitment revised to reflect Milestone Activity added in response to stakeholder feedback.

	<p>3. Public Accountability: Effective implementation of the updated Climate Change Policy Framework will facilitate the strengthening of the capacity to prepare and regularly publish national reports on the assessment of climate change impacts, projects, programmes and activities including National Communications, Adaptation Communications, Biennial Update Reports (BURs), Biennial Transparency Reports (BTRs), Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and State of the Jamaican Climate Reports.</p>	
<p>Additional information</p>	<p>The updating and implementation of the Climate Change Policy Framework is aligned with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) 1992 • The Paris Agreement 2015 • The SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway 2014 • The Forest Policy of Jamaica 2017 • Jamaica’s National Energy Policy 2009-2030 • National Water Sector Policy and Implementation Plan, 2019 • The National Strategy and Action Plan on Biological Diversity in Jamaica 2016 – 2021 • The Disaster Risk Management Act 2015 • Vision 2030 Jamaica National Development Plan – National Outcome No. 10 Energy Security and Efficiency; National Outcome No. 13 Sustainable Management and Use of Environmental and Natural Resources; National Outcome No. 14 Hazard Risk Reduction and Adaptation to Climate Change; and National Outcome No. 15 Sustainable Urban and Rural Development • Medium Term Socio-Economic Policy Framework (MTF) for the relevant three-year period • Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): SDG 7 Affordable and Clean Energy; SDG 11 Sustainable Cities and Communities; SDG 12 Responsible Consumption and Production; SDG 13 Climate Action; SDG 14 Life Below Water; and SDG 15 Life On Land 	
<p>Milestone Activity with a Verifiable Deliverable</p>	<p>Start Date:</p>	<p>End Date:</p>
<p>Complete stakeholder and public consultations on the Green Paper for the updating of the Climate Change Policy Framework</p>	<p>November 2021</p>	<p>February 2022</p>
<p>Prepare White Paper for the updating of the Climate Change Policy Framework and submit to Cabinet</p>	<p>March 2022</p>	<p>June 2022</p>
<p>Appoint Action for Climate Empowerment (ACE) focal point²⁰</p>	<p>June 2022</p>	<p>November 2022</p>

²⁰ Milestone Activity and timelines added in response to stakeholder feedback.

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Complete stakeholder and public consultations on the preparation of draft climate change legislation	July 2022	September 2022
Prepare Cabinet submission on preparation of draft climate change legislation and submit to Cabinet	October 2022	December 2022
Prepare drafting instructions for preparation of draft climate change legislation	January 2023	July 2023
Contact Information		
Contacts ²¹	Ms. Gillian Guthrie - Chief Technical Director, (Acting), Ministry of Economic Growth and Job Creation (MEGJC) Ms. Una May Gordon - Principal Director, Climate Change Division, MEGJC	
Email and Phone	gillian.guthrie@mhurecc.gov.jm UnaMay.Gordon@megic.gov.jm 876-443-3133, 876-633-7354, 876-851-8876	
Other Actors Involved	State actors involved	Ministry of Science, Energy and Technology Ministry of Finance and the Public Service Ministry of Transport and Mining Meteorological Service of Jamaica National Environment and Planning Agency
	CSOs, private sector, multilateral agencies, working groups	Jamaica Environment Trust Jamaica Climate Change Youth Council Climate Change Advisory Board Mona Climate Studies Group

²¹ Contacts revised to reflect the Cabinet reshuffle announced on January 10, 2022.

4.7 Strengthen Youth Participation and Access to Services	
Commitment Start and End Date December 2021-August 2023	
Lead implementing agency/actor ²²	Ministry of Education and Youth (MOEY)
Commitment Description	
What is the public problem that the commitment will address?	The Youth population of Jamaica comprises approximately 28 per cent of the country’s overall population, based on the Commonwealth’s definition for youth as being from 15 to 29 years. However, the Situational Analysis for Jamaica’s National Youth Policy notes that young people are under-represented in processes of national political and policy engagement and public administration. Youth also have limited awareness and engagement in critical areas of nation building such as governance, culture and the environment. The National Youth Policy recognizes the need for greater youth engagement and youth participation through the creation or expansion of platforms for them to assert their ideas or recommendations and to be involved in processes of national and community development.
What is the commitment?	To strengthen youth participation and access to services in Jamaica through key actions in the Implementation Plan for the National Youth Policy.
How will the commitment contribute to solving the public problem?	The Implementation Plan for the Revised National Youth Policy (2017-2030) will provide the basis for the realization of the Vision, Guiding Principles, Goals, Objectives and Strategies for Youth advancement, development and participation in Jamaica. The key actions included in the OGP Youth commitment will increase Youth participation and access to services, including through: establishment of the Intersectoral Technical Working Group with membership of youth representatives to provide oversight and operational coordination for the implementation and monitoring of the National Youth Policy; completion of the survey of youth programmes and services across the public sector, private sector and civil society; preparation of the Gap Analysis and Recommendations Report for the National Youth Programmatic Inventory; upgrading of the website for the Youth and Adolescents Policy Division; and establishment of the National Youth Programmatic Inventory online directory.

²² Lead implementing agency revised to reflect the Cabinet reshuffle announced on January 10, 2022.

<p>Why is this commitment relevant to OGP values?</p>	<p>The strengthening of youth participation and access to services in Jamaica is relevant to the following OGP values:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Access to Information: The National Youth Programmatic Inventory survey and online directory will significantly improve the provision of information on youth programmes and services in Jamaica. 2. Civic Participation: The development of the Implementation Plan for the National Youth Policy will include stakeholder consultation including with youth stakeholders. The establishment of the Intersectoral Technical Working Group with membership of youth representatives to provide oversight and operational coordination for the implementation of the National Youth Policy including through a monitoring and evaluation framework will increase the representation and role of youth in national decision-making processes. The National Youth Programmatic Inventory online directory will improve the opportunities for youth to participate in youth programmes and services in Jamaica. 3. Public Accountability: The development of the Implementation Plan and monitoring and evaluation framework for the National Youth Policy will enable more effective monitoring of performance of youth projects and programmes. 4. Technology and Innovation for Openness and Accountability: The upgrading of the website for the Youth and Adolescents Policy Division and the National Youth Programmatic Inventory online directory will deploy technology to increase the provision of information on and access to youth programmes and services in Jamaica.
<p>Additional information</p>	<p>The strengthening of youth participation and access to services in Jamaica is aligned with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Revised National Youth Policy (2017-2030) • Vision 2030 Jamaica National Development Plan – National Outcome No. 1 A Healthy and Stable Population, including National Strategy 1-1 Maintain a Stable Population; National Outcome No. 2 World-Class Education and Training, including National Strategy 2-8 Expand Mechanisms to Provide Access to Education and Training for All including Unattached Youth • Medium Term Socio-Economic Policy Framework (MTF) for the relevant three-year period • Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): SDG 16 Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions, and SDG 17 Partnerships for the Goals; Youth is also seen as playing a cross-cutting role, contributing towards the achievement of all seventeen SDGs

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Milestone Activity with a Verifiable Deliverable		Start Date: ²³	End Date: ²⁴
Complete Implementation Plan and Monitoring and Evaluation Framework for the National Youth Policy		December 2021	December 2022 (Revised)
Establish the Intersectoral Technical Working Group with membership of youth representatives to provide oversight and operational coordination for the implementation and monitoring of the National Youth Policy		July 2022	September 2022
Complete comprehensive survey of youth programmes and services across the public sector, private sector and civil society and prepare Gap Analysis and Recommendations Report for the National Youth Programmatic Inventory		January 2022 (Revised)	June 2022 (Revised)
Upgrade the website of the Youth and Adolescents Policy Division		April 2022	September 2022
Establish National Youth Programmatic Inventory online directory based on results of survey and Gap Analysis and Recommendations Report, with mechanisms for ongoing updating and maintenance		May 2022 (Revised)	December 2022
Contact Information			
Contacts ²⁵		Ms. Yanique Williams - Senior Programme Development Specialist, Youth and Adolescents Policy Division, Ministry of Education and Youth (MOEY)	
Email and Phone		yanique.williams@moey.gov.jm 876-922-1400, 876-612-5700-2, 876-360-1067	
Other Actors Involved	State actors involved	Ministry of Finance and the Public Service	
	CSOs, private sector, multilateral agencies, working groups	National Youth Council of Jamaica Youth Advisory Council of Jamaica	

²³ Start Dates revised as noted.

²⁴ End Dates revised as noted.

²⁵ Contacts revised to reflect the Cabinet reshuffle announced on January 10, 2022.

Appendix 1: Members of Jamaica’s OGP Multi-Stakeholder Forum (MSF)

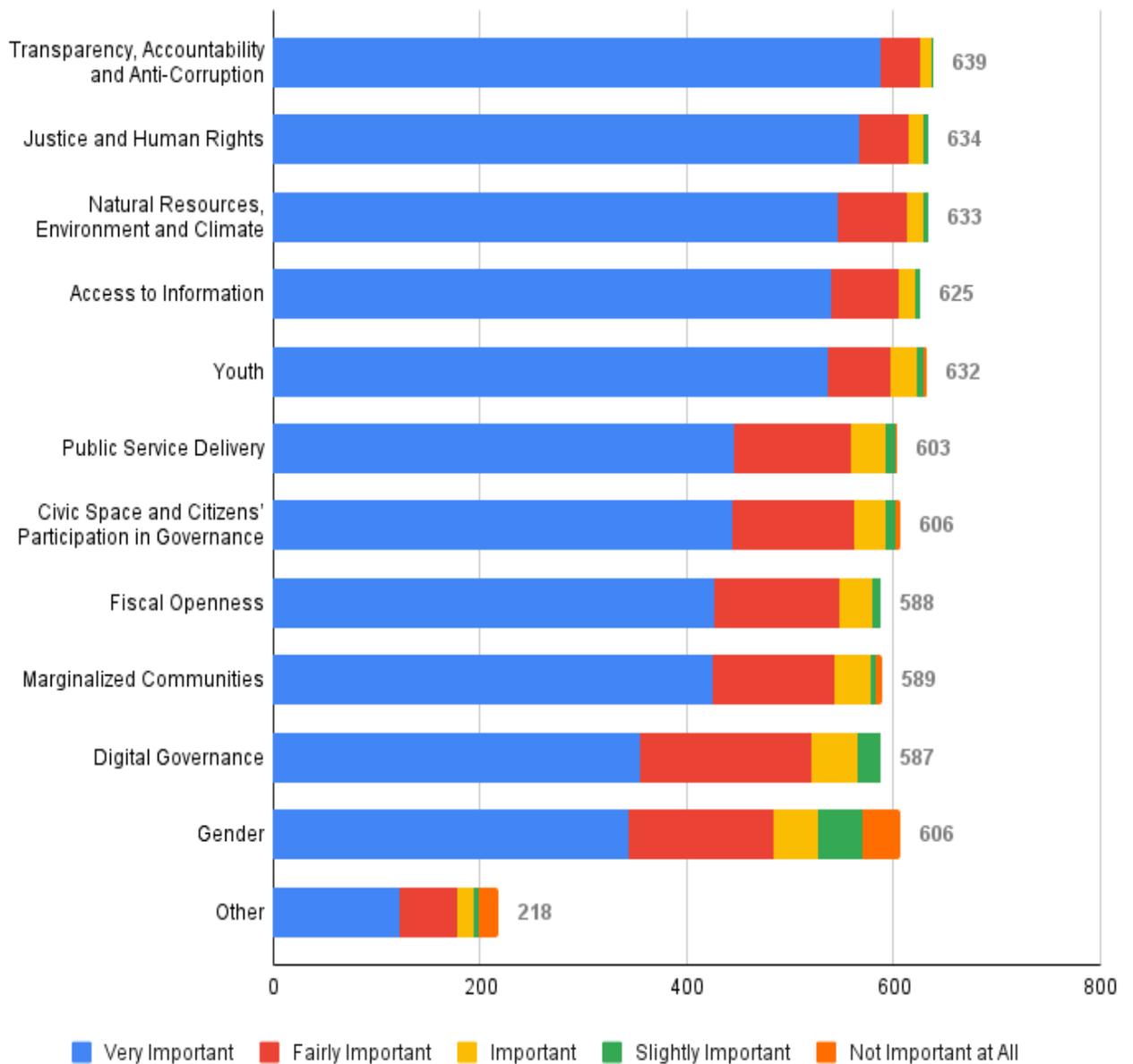
Name	Position	Institution
OGP Multi-Stakeholder Forum (MSF)		
Government of Jamaica (GOJ) Members		
Mrs. Lorris Jarrett (GOJ Co-Chair)	Deputy Financial Secretary, Public Expenditure Division	Ministry of Finance and the Public Service (MOFPS)
Mr. Richard Lumsden (Alternate GOJ Co-Chair)	Director, Economic Reform Monitoring Unit	
Mrs. Sherricca Brandford	Coordinator, Criminal Justice Reform	Ministry of Justice
Ms. Monique Gibbs	Senior Director, Strategic Planning, Performance Monitoring, Evaluation and Modernization	Ministry of Economic Growth and Job Creation (MEGJC) ²⁶
Mr. Gary Campbell	Director of Technology	Ministry of Science, Energy and Technology (MSET)
Mrs. Danielle Jones Cox	Senior Director, Modernization Programme Implementation	Cabinet Office
Mr. Easton Williams	Senior Director, Social Policy, Planning and Research	Planning Institute of Jamaica (PIOJ)
Mrs. Stacey Clarke-Callum (PIOJ Alternate)	Programme Director, Civil Registration and Migration Policy	
Civil Society Members		
Mr. Jason Scott (Civil Society Co-Chair)	Deputy President	Jamaica Technology and Digital Alliance
Mr. Matthew McNaughton	Principal	SlashRoots Foundation
Ms. Dahvia Hylton	Policy and Research Lead	Jamaica Climate Change Youth Council (JCCYC)
Ms. Tamisha Lee	President	Jamaica Network of Rural Women Producers
Mr. Oshane Bailey	Co-Founder/Full Stack Engineer	Osoobe Ltd.
Ms. Thoneisa Jarrett (Youth Representative)	Student	The University of the West Indies, Mona Campus

²⁶ Institution revised to reflect the Cabinet reshuffle announced on January 10, 2022.

Appendix 2: Results of Stakeholder Voting on Priority Thematic Areas for National Action Plan

Civil Society Focus Area Priorities

Responses to online survey conducted 28 June, 2021 - 9 July, 2021



Appendix 3: Schedule of Stakeholder Consultation Meetings and Technical Planning Meetings for NAP

Priority Thematic Areas / Stakeholder Consultation Groups	Schedule of Stakeholder Consultations
	Dates of Meetings Held
Youth	October 4, October 15 and October 27, 2021
Natural Resources, Environment and Climate	October 6, October 22, October 27 and November 1, 2021
Justice and Human Rights	September 30, October 8 and October 28, 2021
Access to Information	October 7 and 14, 2021
Open Data Technical Planning Group (1)	October 12, October 19 and October 26, 2021

Notes:

1. The Open Data Technical Planning Group comprised representatives from MSET, eGov Jamaica, MOFPS, MOEYI, Office of the CIO, and MSF Government and Civil Society members, which met to develop the pro-active draft commitment for Open Data.

Appendix 4: Summary Schedule of OGP Co-Creation Process for National Action Plan

Action	Proposed Timeframe
Send out invitations for OGP stakeholder consultation groups	September 20-October 6, 2021
Circulate form for stakeholder consultation inputs on priority issues and challenges and suggested actions for commitments in OGP National Action Plan (NAP)	September 21-29, 2021
Receive and collate responses to OGP stakeholder consultation form and share with OGP stakeholder consultation groups	September 23-October 4, 2021
Hold meetings of OGP stakeholder consultation groups to develop draft commitments for inclusion in OGP NAP in four thematic areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Justice and Human Rights ➤ Natural Resources, Environment and Climate ➤ Access to Information ➤ Youth 	September 30-November 1, 2021
Hold meetings of OGP technical planning group to develop pro-active draft commitment for Open Data for inclusion in OGP NAP	October 12-26, 2021
Prepare OGP NAP based on stakeholder consultations and inputs	November 3-30, 2021
Complete OGP NAP based on feedback from Multi-Stakeholder Forum, implementing ministries and stakeholders	November 15-December 3, 2021
Finalization and approval of OGP NAP	December 6-13, 2021

Appendix 5: Key OGP Links

The following relevant OGP links provide additional information on the OGP process:

- OGP Website: <https://www.opengovpartnership.org/>
- GOJ OGP Webpage on MOFPS Website: <https://mof.gov.jm/resources/open-government/>
- GOJ OGP Document Repository: <https://mof.gov.jm/resources/programmes/>
- OGP Email Address: ogp@mof.gov.jm
- OGP Informational Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wKp7mHeF-Bk>