

# **Independent Reporting Mechanism**

Action Plan Review:  
Morocco 2024–2028

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Open  
Government  
Partnership



Independent  
Reporting  
Mechanism

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## Section I: Overview of the 2024–2028 Action Plan

**Morocco’s third action plan continues a positive trend toward increasingly collaborative development and ambitious commitments. The plan seeks to strengthen civic participation and inclusion, with promising commitments to amend the Right to Access Information Law, strengthen civic space, amend the Press and Publishing Code, and ensure equal access to government services and information for Amazigh speakers.**

Morocco’s third national action plan consists of 12 commitments with a mixture of new and ongoing reforms. The plan continues efforts to strengthen access to information; open up government data, local government, and justice institutions; as well as draft a public consultation law. It introduces new reforms to strengthen media freedom and ensure equal access to public services and information for Amazigh speakers. It also expands efforts to create a supportive funding and legal environment for civil society associations in Commitment 4.<sup>1</sup> The plan aligns with Morocco’s New Development Model, which targets improving public services, gender equality, and administrative reform.<sup>2</sup>

This report features four commitments with particular promise to address key open government opportunities in Morocco. Commitment 1 aims to improve access to information by amending the Right to Information Law through broad consultations. Commitment 4 seeks to address Moroccan civil society’s legal, funding, and capacity challenges and better enable civil society to operate and engage the government.<sup>3</sup> Commitment 5 seeks to amend the Press and Publishing Code through a participatory approach. Commitment 6 aims to strengthen equal access to information and public services for Amazigh speakers, providing linguistic inclusivity in governance. At the time of writing, the Government of Morocco had submitted Commitments 1, 4, and 5 to the Open Gov Challenge.<sup>4</sup>

This is Morocco’s first four-year action plan, with an implementation period from June 2024 to June 2028. Reformers will have the opportunity to take stock and revise the action plan as needed at the midpoint in June 2026. This report highlights opportunities to amend commitments to increase their ambition to align with the four-year time frame. The IRM will reassess any new or significantly amended commitments submitted following the midpoint refresh process.

### AT A GLANCE

**Participating since** 2018  
**Number of commitments:** 12

**Overview of commitments:**  
Commitments with an open government lens: 10 (83%)  
Commitments with substantial potential for results: 1 (12%)  
Promising commitments: 4

**Policy areas:**  
Carried over from previous action plans:

- Access to information
- Open data
- Local open government
- Open justice
- Public service delivery

Emerging in this action plan:

- Media freedom
- Inclusion

**Compliance with OGP minimum requirements for co-creation:**  
Yes

Morocco's open government ecosystem continues to expand. OGP is located within the Ministry of Digital Transition and Administrative Reform. The ministry created a dedicated Open Government Service within the Division for Probity, Transparency, and Openness, the chief of this service was in the process of being appointed at the time of writing.<sup>5</sup> Morocco's parliament remains engaged in open government work, concluding implementation of the second open parliament plan in 2024.<sup>6</sup> Moroccan members of the OGP Local have increased to eight, including the city of Agadir and a consortium composed of Souss-Massa, Oriental, Drâa-Tafilalet and et Laâyoune-Sakia Al Hamra regional councils.<sup>7</sup>

The government, in collaboration with civil society through the steering committee (COPIL), organized an extensive co-creation process between May 2023 and May 2023.<sup>8</sup> Ten themes were identified through a national consultation.<sup>9</sup> Civil society held regional co-creation workshops to gather proposals alongside a concurrent online public consultation.<sup>10</sup> The final draft was made available online for further consultation.<sup>11</sup> More than 270<sup>12</sup> citizens and civil society stakeholders participated in the in-person co-creation process, and 73 online propositions were gathered. The final action plan reflects stakeholder priorities and feedback from consultations, including local open government<sup>13</sup> reviewing the Access to Information Law 31-13,<sup>14</sup> and developing a legal framework for the operation of associations and public consultation.<sup>15</sup>

Civil society members of COPIL organized regional workshops and, alongside the Ministry of Digital Transition and Administrative Reform, supported co-creation. This included negotiation and drafting with other implementing institutions. Civil society appreciated the autonomy given to organize workshops and include new actors from academia and the private sector.<sup>16</sup> The government, particularly the Ministry of Digital Transition and Administration Reform, valued the structured feedback from regional workshops and digital platforms and provided feedback for online propositions.<sup>17</sup> This process resulted in a more ambitious action plan with new thematic areas and participating government and nongovernment actors.

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<sup>1</sup> Open Government Partnership, *Morocco Action Plan 2023–2024*, 16 June 2024, <https://www.opengovpartnership.org/documents/morocco-action-plan-2024-2027/>.

<sup>2</sup> Special Commission on the Development Model, *New Development Model*, April 2021, <https://csmd.ma/rapport-en>.

<sup>3</sup> Aïmane Amalik, (COPIL member and President of the NGO 4Chabab), interview by IRM researcher, 16 August 2024; Miloud Rezzouki (President of the NGO ACODEC and member of the COPIL), interview by IRM researcher, 21 August 2024.

<sup>4</sup> "Open Government Challenge," Open Government Partnership, accessed 13 November 2024. <https://www.opengovpartnership.org/the-open-gov-challenge/open-government-challenge-areas/>.

<sup>5</sup> Mustapha Bahedda (Head of the Division for Probity, Transparency, and Openness and OGP Point of Contact), interview by IRM researcher, 16 July 2024.

<sup>6</sup> "Morocco," Open Government Partnership, <https://www.opengovpartnership.org/members/morocco/>.

<sup>7</sup> "OGP Local," Open Government Partnership, <https://www.opengovpartnership.org/ogp-local/>.

<sup>8</sup> "Co-Creation Period Steps," May–November 2023, <https://gouvernement-ouvert.ma/co-steps.php?pan=3&lang=fr>.

<sup>9</sup> "Identified Themes for the Propositions Period," Government of Morocco OGP, <https://gouvernement-ouvert.ma/themes.php?pan=3&lang=fr>.

<sup>10</sup> "Summary of In-Person Co-Creation Workshops," October–November 2023, Government of Morocco OGP, <https://gouvernement-ouvert.ma/ateliers.php?pan=3&lang=fr>.

<sup>11</sup> "Launch of a National Consultation on the Draft of the Final 12 Commitments," 22 April–6 May 2024, Government of Morocco OGP, <https://gouvernement-ouvert.ma/event.php?id=183&lang=fr>.

<sup>12</sup> Calculation done by the addition of statistics from each report, "Report of the Co-Creation In-person Workshops 2023–2027 Action Plan," Government of Morocco OGP, <https://gouvernement-ouvert.ma/ateliers.php?pan=3&lang=fr>.

<sup>13</sup> "Themes Studied in Fes-Meknes and Tangier, Tetouan, Al-Hoceima Regional Workshops," 21 October 2023, Government of Morocco OGP, <https://gouvernement-ouvert.ma/event.php?id=162&lang=fr>.

<sup>14</sup> “Themes Studied in the Oriental Regional Workshop,” 19 October 2023, Government of Morocco OGP, <https://gouvernement-ouvert.ma/event.php?id=161&lang=fr>.

<sup>15</sup> “Themes Studied in Tangier, Tetouan, Al-Hoceima Regional Workshops,” 28 October 2023, Government of Morocco OGP, <https://gouvernement-ouvert.ma/event.php?id=163&lang=fr>.

<sup>16</sup> Amalik, interview; Rezzouki, interview.

<sup>17</sup> “Feedback on Propositions,” Open Government Partnership of Morocco, <https://gouvernement-ouvert.ma/idea-detail.php?id=339&lang=fr>.

Section II: Promising Commitments

The following review looks at the four commitments that the IRM identified as having the potential to realize the most promising results. Promising commitments address a policy area that is important to stakeholders or the national context. They must be verifiable, have a relevant open government lens, and have modest or substantial potential for results. This review also provides an analysis of challenges, opportunities, and recommendations to contribute to the learning and implementation process of this action plan.

Table 1. Promising commitments

Promising Commitments
<b>Commitment 1:</b> Promises to amend the Law on the Right of Access to Information through a participatory process
<b>Commitment 4:</b> Aims to strengthen civic space and pass a national law on public consultations
<b>Commitment 5:</b> Seeks to amend the Press and Publishing Code in collaboration with the media sector
<b>Commitment 6:</b> Promises to increase access to public services and government information for Amazigh speakers

Commitment 1: Consultation on the revision of the Law on the Right of Access to Information  
[The Ministry of Digital Transition and Administration Reform]

For a complete description, see Commitment 1 of the [action plan](#).

Context and objectives

The Government of Morocco enacted Law 31-13 on the Right to Access Information in 2018.<sup>1</sup> The Law implemented right-to-information provisions in the 2011 Constitution and fulfilled requirements for OGP membership. Implementation has been a priority area in Morocco’s previous two action plans. The government has launched the Chafafiya portal (online since March 13, 2020) to respond to information requests, increased open data publication, and provided training and resources for information officers.<sup>2</sup> These efforts have improved Moroccans’ access to administration-held information.

However, government and civil society recognize a need to strengthen the Right to Access Information Law. This commitment aims to do so through a participatory process that includes civil society and public consultations. Amending the law emerged as a key priority during the co-creation process in regional workshops and a survey.<sup>3</sup> Deliberation of the Right to Information Access Commission (CDAI)<sup>4</sup> and a 2024 OECD report on open governance in Morocco<sup>5</sup> have also underscored opportunities to improve the law.

Potential for results: Substantial

This commitment has a substantial potential to strengthen government transparency and civic participation in government decision-making. It promises to strengthen the Right to Access

Information Law (RTI) through a participatory approach, setting a more robust legal foundation for Moroccans to access administration-held information. However, the commitment currently only includes milestones until March 2026, less than halfway through the four-year implementation period. Implementers are encouraged to expand the commitment to implement the amended law in the remaining two years.

At the time of assessment, the joint commission to oversee the revision of Law No. 31-13 on Access to Information in Milestone 1 is operational, with a launch meeting on 9 July 2024.<sup>6</sup> The commission is coordinated by the MNTRA and the CDAI and its composed of representatives from the services of the Head of Government, the Ministry of Interior, the Ministry of Justice, and other relevant bodies such as the Ministry of Economy and Finance, the Court of Auditors, and the National Human Rights Council, the National Authority for Probity, Prevention and the Fight against Corruption (INPPLC), the Ombudsman of the Kingdom, the Public Prosecution Service, the High Council of the Judiciary, the General Directorate of Local Territories, and the Department of Communication. The commission's mandate is to oversee the revision process, contribute to the draft law, and validate the outcomes of each phase.<sup>7</sup>

The joint commission will implement public consultation mechanisms to gather broad input on the amendments. Listening sessions will be held for public institutions and public consultations will be held for civil society to identify recommendations and proposals to improve the status quo (Milestone 3). Civil society organizations (CSOs) will receive support to organize regional consultation workshops and collect comments and suggestions (Milestone 4). Digital tools, such as an interactive digital platform, will enable citizens to share their opinions and comments related to the law's implementation. Additionally, a multilevel survey will be conducted for three groups: right-to-information officers, a sample of citizens, and selected public administrations (Milestone 5). Finally, the draft amended law will be published to gather comments and suggestions from citizens (Milestone 11).<sup>8</sup>

According to the Division Chief of Probity, Transparency, and Openness in the Ministry of Digital Transition and Administrative Reform,<sup>9</sup> public consultation activities will significantly improve Morocco's legislative drafting process. He notes that public consultation is becoming more common in legislative practices.<sup>10</sup> However, this approach marks a consolidation of citizen engagement practices, aligning with national legislative norms and ensuring that the amendments are grounded in public input.<sup>11</sup> Successful implementation of the proposed milestones promises to ensure the revised law is more responsive to citizen needs and aligned with international standards.

Several shortcomings in Morocco's current Access to Information Law are cited as particularly impeding public access to information. Civil servants often use "non-availability of requested information" under Article 18 as a blanket justification to deny information requests. Additionally, the journalist and cofounder of the Regional Observatory for the Right to Information,<sup>12</sup> highlighted how the "good faith" clause in Article 27 protects officials from repercussions when they refuse to provide information, weakening the law's accountability mechanisms. The law also limits the right to information to citizens, excluding CSOs and journalists from making requests on behalf of organizations. This undermines their ability to access and use information for public accountability. Therefore, for this commitment, there is an opportunity to amend the law to clearly include CSOs and journalists as eligible requesters of information. While Morocco has also sought to strengthen access to information at the territorial level,<sup>13</sup> civil society has flagged that

local governments often withhold information,<sup>14</sup> indicating work remains at the territorial level as well.

Access to information advocates have highlighted opportunities to better align Morocco's ATI law with international standards. The law does not have a preamble outlining its objectives and guiding principles. A preamble could clarify its interpretation and give priority to the right to information, as recommended by the African Model Law.<sup>15</sup> The law's broad scope of exceptions is not aligned with international human rights frameworks, which emphasize narrowing exceptions to promote greater openness. According to RTI Rating, Morocco's RTI law scores 74 out of 150 points globally, placing it at an average level. While having some strengths, the law lacks harm-tested exemptions, a mandatory public interest override, effective oversight powers, and sanctions for noncompliant public authorities.<sup>16</sup> Institutions' response time frames for information requests often exceed the legal limits. Delays affect journalists who rely on timely access to information and contradict the standards set by the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights' Article 19.<sup>17</sup> The law's provisions for proactive disclosure do not currently meet the expectations of UNCAC Article 10,<sup>18</sup> which calls for public institutions' regular and automatic publication of key information. The Global Data Barometer notes that Morocco's Law 31-13 does not mandate collection or publication of RTI performance data, limiting transparency on effectiveness.<sup>19</sup>

### **Opportunities, challenges, and recommendations during implementation**

This reform benefits from a strong coalition of government and civil society reformers. The breadth of participatory processes to amend the law is promising. It will take close coordination to document, respond, and act on input received through various mechanisms. Civil society COPIL members can help provide their expertise in facilitating public consultations and connections to local communities to support the consultation process.

Implementers can consider what activities will take place in the remainder of the implementation period up to June 2028. This could include implementing the amended law and creating a multi-stakeholder mechanism to monitor implementation of the law. Similarly, implementers can clarify activities that remain to be determined, such as the innovation lab in Milestone 2. The action plan's midpoint in June 2026 offers an opportunity to take stock and amend the commitment as needed. Reformers can consider the following questions to guide this discussion:

- Are consultations inclusive and engaging diverse stakeholders?
- How is the revised law addressing loopholes in Article 18 and the accountability gaps in Article 27?
- What progress has been made in enforcing proactive publication?
- Is there a plan to include an RTI performance collection and publication for accountability, as suggested by the Global Data Barometer?
- Is there a plan to include a preamble for clarity, as suggested by the African Model Law?
- How can professional secrecy be clarified to prevent misuse and ensure consistent application of ATI laws?
- How can implementers monitor progress and integration of citizen feedback into the amendments?



**Commitment 4: Strengthening the enabling environment for civil society associations**  
[Ministry Delegate to the Head of Government in Charge of Relations with Parliament]

For a complete description, see Commitment 4 of the [action plan](#).

**Context and objectives**

This commitment proposes a range of reforms to strengthen civic space and public participation in government decision-making. Four projects within this commitment include updating the legal framework governing public funding for CSOs, creating a website of resources for civil society, developing a framework to standardize government engagement with civil society, and preparing a draft law of public consultations.

The Ministry Delegate to the Head of Government in charge of Relations with Parliament proposed this commitment in alignment with the “Nassij” strategy (2022–2026).<sup>20</sup> Grounded in the 2011 Constitution, Articles 12, 13, and 139 emphasize civil society’s contribution to the formulation, implementation, and evaluation of public policies and development programs at both national and local levels. Shaped through consultations between civil society and government, the commitment draws also on input from regional co-creation workshops.<sup>21</sup> Additionally, the Economic, Social, and Environmental Council (CESE) recommends legal and structural reforms that address financial constraints and fiscal policies limiting civil society’s effectiveness.

**Potential for results: Modest**

This commitment seeks to enhance transparency and civic participation by establishing a comprehensive legal, digital, and capacity-building framework for CSOs and enacting a public consultation law. A civil society COPIL member stated<sup>22</sup> that the commitment has the potential to promote transparency by ensuring access to public funds for CSOs, enhance civic participation by involving systematic associations in the law-making process, and strengthen public accountability by institutionalizing civil society’s role in governance. This builds on previous commitments<sup>23</sup> to formalize civil society’s role in shaping public policies.

Morocco has progressively strengthened civic space over recent years. However, opportunities remain to make it easier for CSOs to operate and engage the government. Morocco currently falls short on both indicators in the OGP Values Check,<sup>24</sup> highlighting limitations on CSOs to enter, operate, and exit public life.<sup>25</sup> Freedom House notes that while CSOs are active, authorities often deny registration to those operating in particular lines of work.<sup>26</sup> CSOs must be registered to make financial transactions or receive domestic or foreign funding.<sup>27</sup> CIVICUS rates Morocco’s civil society as “obstructed,” scoring 45 out of a possible 100 points.<sup>28</sup>

This commitment aims to develop a decree to formalize and regulate government funding for civil society across all sectors. A 2003 circular currently regulates government funding for CSOs.<sup>29</sup> This circular, while significant, lacks the binding legal status to comprehensively manage government-CSO partnerships. According to the point of contact for this commitment, the new decree will mandate all government sectors to use the Charaka platform, a unified portal for managing CSO funding.<sup>30</sup> This would strengthen transparency by requiring government entities to publish projected funding and calls for proposals at the start of each year. The president of ACODEC, a member of COPIL, flagged that it is essential to reduce the vulnerability of

associations, which often depend heavily on donor funding and sometimes face the challenge of being subject to private sector labor laws, without the resources to comply.<sup>31</sup>

The Delegated Ministry in charge of Relations with Parliament, in its capacity as the government authority responsible for relations with civil society has launched in late December 2024 the *societe-civile.ma* platform,<sup>32</sup> which will be a one-stop shop for civil society associations offering various services (legal texts relating to associative life, the various procedures to follow, guides, enhancement of association work, the association sectoral register ...), as well as internal management tools (*asso manager*) offered free of charge to associations for their management (Milestone 9). As of October 2024, the platform is in the final stages of technical development. According to the ministry,<sup>33</sup> the government has conducted consultations with various sectors and piloted the platform in regions like Fes-Meknes (July 2023) and with national associations in Rabat (September 2023) (Milestone 6, Milestone 7). Once operational, the platform is expected to significantly improve the administrative and operational capacities of CSOs by providing essential digital tools for organizational management. It will offer resources such as legal frameworks, procedures, guides, and other documents relevant to civil society operations. The platform will also include tools such as *Asset Manager*, offering free services to help CSOs manage human resources, project tracking, and financial operations. These digital resources aim to increase CSO capacity and operational efficiency, potentially enabling a more structured civil society engagement with the government.

The commitment aims to consolidate the currently fragmented capacity-building programs for CSOs, which are administered separately by various government sectors. The commitment point of contact stated a lack of coordination has led to inconsistent training and limited impact on CSO development.<sup>34</sup> To address these gaps, this commitment proposes a unified framework (Milestone 10) that harmonizes training programs and standards (Milestone 12) across sectors focusing on skills development for CSOs.

#### *Draft public consultation law*

Morocco has several legal provisions regulating certain citizen participation mechanisms, such as petitions and consultative bodies. However, it lacks a comprehensive and structured framework for public participation in governance, particularly beyond the local or territorial level. Various institutions have made independent efforts to promote public participation as provided for in Article 13 of the 2011 Constitution. For example, the National Human Rights Council (CNDH)<sup>35</sup> and CESE<sup>36</sup> have implemented different mechanisms for public consultation. Similarly, the General Directorate of Territorial Collectivities launched the REMACTO platform to facilitate citizen engagement at the local level. Legal frameworks such as Laws 111-13, 112-12, and 113-14 establish mechanisms for public participation through advisory bodies at regional, communal, and provincial levels, allowing these entities to contribute to budgetary processes and advise on local policy matters.

Notably, this commitment aims to prepare a national law on public consultations from the previous action plan. According to the Chief of the Studies and Research Service at the Ministry Responsible for Relations with Parliament and Civil Society, the law will create a comprehensive legal framework that mandates public consultation in policy development. The law would require all sectors to submit projects and strategies for public consultation before implementation. By making consultation a standardized requirement, the law could significantly strengthen the

public's ability to influence decision-making processes. Milestones currently include drafting the law, organizing consultations, and proposing the law to the parliament. A draft public consultation law was prepared with civil society input during Morocco's previous action plan. Civil society and international partners had expressed confusion regarding the delay in the draft's progress.<sup>37</sup> Given the action plan's four-year implementation period, reformers could expand the commitment to include finalizing the draft through consultations, passing the law, and preparing regulations to commence implementation. This could significantly raise the commitment's level of ambition.

### **Opportunities, challenges, and recommendations during implementation**

This commitment's strength is in its multi-pronged approach to addressing legal, financial, and capacity gaps for civil society engagement in government decision-making. Currently, the commitment only includes milestones until December 2025. Reformers can consider how they will use the remaining two years of the implementation period. Expanding the commitment's scope to include the passage and initial operationalization of laws on CSO public funding and public consultations could notably increase ambition.

This commitment undertakes important reforms to support Moroccan civic space. As reformers continue this important work, additional opportunities to strengthen CSOs' access to funding include streamlined procedures, enhanced fiscal support, and tailored labor laws for CSO workers.<sup>38</sup> There is also an opportunity to strengthen the functionality of the Charaka platform, such as broadening use across government, improving user-friendliness, and publishing funding data in an open format. CESE has also recommended implementing multi-year public funding for CSOs to provide greater financial stability.

### **Commitment 5: Strengthening press freedom and publishing**

[Ministry of Youth, Culture and Communication – Department of Communication]

For a complete description of the commitments, see Commitments 5 in the [action plan](#).

#### **Context and objectives:**

This commitment aims to reform the three laws that comprise Morocco's Press and Publication Code (CPE) through a participatory process. These amendments aim to update the legal framework governing the media sector to address challenges around strengthening self-regulation, promoting technological innovation and information ethics. According to Reporters Without Borders, Morocco's press freedom ranking improved in 2024, climbing from 144 to 129 out of 180 countries. However, concerns around media freedom and diversity in Morocco persist.<sup>39</sup>

The 2016 Press and Publication Code encompasses Law 88.13<sup>40</sup> on press and publishing, Law 89.13<sup>41</sup> on the status of journalists, and Law 90.13<sup>42</sup> establishing the National Press Council. It strengthened media freedom, such as by removing prison penalties for press offenses. However, gaps remain in regulating digital news platforms and upholding professional standards. CSOs<sup>43</sup> and national institutions like the National Human Rights Council (CNDH)<sup>44</sup> have actively advocated for reforms.

This is the first time that media freedom has been addressed in Morocco’s OGP process and brings the Ministry of Youth, Culture and Communication into the OGP framework. The reform aims to integrate a participatory approach to address gaps and weaknesses in the CPE in alignment with international standards. However, many milestones took place before the implementation period of June 2024 to June 2028. The IRM therefore advises that this commitment be revised at the midpoint.

**Potential for results: Modest**

This commitment seeks to reform Morocco’s Press and Publication Code (CPE) through a participatory process involving different stakeholders in the media sector, CSOs, and public institutions. It aims to address challenges in the media sector, such as ethical breaches and inadequate professional training. According to the commitment’s focal point,<sup>45</sup> the reform intends to establish a revised legal framework aligned with international standards that reflects the evolving needs of the media sector. By fostering collaboration among key stakeholders, improving working conditions for journalists, and supporting technological adaptation for press institutions, this commitment aims to strengthen media freedom and freedom of expression by contributing to a more credible and resilient media ecosystem.

Following the passage of the CPE in 2016, a National Press Council was established to coordinate self-regulation in the press and publishing sector. This independent institution was composed of journalists, editors, representatives of other national councils, associations, and unions. When the terms for the council’s members ended in 2022, a Provisory Commission for the Management of Press and Publishing Affairs was established by law no. 15.23 to replace it for a transitional period. This commission’s mandate was to collect input and propose amendments to the Press and Publishing Code, beginning with Law 90.13 on the governance of the National Press Council. At the time of writing, the commission had submitted its recommendations on Law 90.13, and the law was expected to be amended and a new council established in 2025.<sup>46</sup>

The Provisory Commission for the Management of Press and Publishing Affairs completed milestones 1 through 4 before the implementation period. The commission invited stakeholders to submit written recommendations and participate in meetings through an online call to participation, circulated by some media outlets.<sup>47</sup> These “Listening Sessions” commenced on 22 May 2024<sup>48</sup> and included contributions from civil society members such as the Moroccan Forum for Young Journalists. The forum<sup>49</sup> highlighted communication gaps regarding the consultation process, with announcements limited to publication on the National Press Council’s website.

On 5 July 2024, the commission presented the results of its nine-month assessment to the Ministry of Youth, Culture, and Communication.<sup>50</sup> This assessment, conducted through consultations with various professional press associations, proposed amendments to the legal framework governing the sector. The proposed reforms aim to address key issues such as access to the journalism profession, self-regulation, ethical standards, and ongoing professional training. Additionally, they seek to strengthen press institutions by improving human resources, legal structures, management practices, and their broader economic and commercial environment.<sup>51</sup>

A technical commission within the ministry will use the commission’s input to inform amendments to the Press and Publishing Code. The technical commission was established before the

implementation period (Milestone 7).<sup>52</sup> It has prioritized drafting amendments to Law 90.13 on the National Council for Press and Media for completion before the end of the term for the Provisory Commission in 2025.<sup>53</sup> The technical commission will then turn to Law 88.13<sup>54</sup> on press and publishing and Law 89.13<sup>55</sup> on the status of journalists.

The ministry no longer intends to carry out Milestone 5 to form a commission with representatives from across government bodies. To shorten the timeline for the legal amendments, the ministry will directly consult the government bodies, such as the Ministry of Justice and Ministry of Interior, directly.<sup>56</sup>

At the time of writing in February 2025, remaining activities included the adoption of the revised laws by the government council and submission to parliament for approval (Milestones 6 and 8). This could include making the draft laws available on the House of Representatives' portal for public comment. Since this commitment's implementation period is June 2024 to June 2028, implementers are encouraged to amend the commitment at the midpoint. The amended commitment can clarify the activities and objectives for this reform up to June 2028. This can include reestablishing the National Press Council and implementing other legal amendments.

This commitment could achieve notable results if the resulting amendments to the Press and Publishing Code strengthen the protection, the independence, and the pluralism of media, which were the main axes around which the 2016 Press and Publishing Code was built, the aim today with these amendments is to reinforce these principles. A representative from the Moroccan Forum for Young Journalists noted positive signs of the ministry and council's willingness to work with organizations like hers in the sector. She added that Morocco is still in a learning phase as it only began to implement the approach of self-regulation of the media sector in 2016, through the National Press Council. She flagged positive developments, such as the ability of media professionals to meet with the minister and council president, offering a constructive means of engagement. She also noted that it was a positive signal that the government established the Provisory Commission when the council's term ended rather than reverting media regulation to a ministry.<sup>57</sup>

### **Opportunities, challenges, and recommendations during implementation**

The participatory nature of this commitment presents a critical opportunity to create a legal framework that reflects the needs of media professionals and the aspirations and expectations of the general public in terms of media content. It is important to note that the implementer of this commitment has the option to modify the commitment at the mid-term to align it with the four-year implementation period. There are several opportunities to ensure a robust and transparent participatory process. Thus far, there has been limited communication following consultations, such as information on participants and summaries of discussions and outcomes.<sup>58</sup> Additionally, there could be more clarity on the criteria for considering and prioritizing recommendations gathered through consultations. Implementers can therefore consider the following recommendations:

- **Enhance communication and transparency:** Publish a summary of the diagnostic findings, lists of participating organizations, and details of the recommendations received during consultations to demonstrate inclusivity and transparency.

- **Develop clear evaluation criteria for collected recommendations:** Establish transparent guidelines for assessing and incorporating stakeholder recommendations into the legal framework to build trust in the reform process.
- **Strengthen feedback mechanisms:** Introduce a mechanism for stakeholders to track the status of their contributions and understand the rationale behind decisions made during the amendment process. A feedback report can be an effective tool for informing stakeholders and building trust.

Morocco has submitted this reform to the Open Gov Challenge, indicating its commitment to implementing ambitious change. For the reform to achieve its full potential, the IRM recommends that the Technical Commission **engage Parliament in implementation**. For instance, **Parliament could publish the draft law online to make it available for public comment**. As public use of the portal to comment on draft legislation remains relatively new and receives limited traffic, the IRM recommends that parliament staff and the Technical Committee:

- **work with the press to disseminate information on the opportunity to comment on the draft amendments,**
- **provide offline opportunities to comment,**
- **and provide a summary of how input collected through the portal shaped the draft amendments.**

#### **Commitment 6: Promotion of inclusive access to public services for Amazigh-speaking users** [Ministry of Digital Transition and Administrative Reform]

For a complete description, see Commitment 6 of [the action plan](#).

#### **Context and objectives**

This commitment aims to promote inclusive access to public services for Amazigh-speaking citizens. Currently, there is limited use of Amazigh language in public services, which creates a linguistic barrier to Amazigh-speaking citizens to fully access their civic rights. The commitment originates from Amazigh NGO and coalitions' advocacy and government priorities.<sup>59</sup> These efforts align with broader public consultations on the need for equitable access to services.<sup>60</sup>

Amazigh became an official language in Morocco under Article 5 of the 2011 Constitution.<sup>61</sup> Organic Law No. 26.16, enacted in 2019, outlines steps to implement Amazigh as an official language. In line with its cross-cutting mandates, the Ministry of Digital Transition and Administrative Reform (MTNRA) supports public administrations in developing their action plans for integrating the Amazigh language within their mandates. This represents a tangible contribution to the preservation and promotion of the Amazigh language. The government created a dedicated fund with 1 billion MAD allocated by 2025, including the release of 300 million MAD<sup>62</sup> to the Ministry of Digital Transition and Administrative Reform for promoting Amazigh.

#### **Potential for results: Modest**

The commitment's objective is to facilitate access to public services for Amazigh-speaking users by integrating the Amazigh language into government services, such as reception, signage,



online platforms, and telephone support. Milestones include training agents in the language, installing signage, and creating a visual identity for the Amazigh language in its three variants of Tarifit, Tamazight, and Tachelhit in public spaces. The reform will begin with key ministerial sectors such as health, justice, and culture. It aims to provide simultaneous Amazigh interpretation for parliamentary sessions and government weekly press conferences on national television and radio. While these actions are critical, the depth of transformation will depend on sustained efforts and proper resource allocation.

The Directorate of Amazigh Language Development is implementing this commitment alongside a coalition of civil society associations. The ministry is working with related ministries of health, justice, and culture through a partnership agreement.<sup>63</sup> The Head of Studies and Training Division from the Ministry of Digital Transition and Administration<sup>64</sup> explained that these ministries were selected based on their service-oriented approach and territorial reach. These ministries provide essential, immediate services directly affecting citizens' daily lives, meeting urgent needs with clear and well-defined public services. Additionally, According to the human resources report accompanying the Finance Act for 2025, the Ministries of Health and Justice have 67,496 civil servants in the health sector and over 15,455 civil servants in the justice sector respectively, allowing the project to reach Amazigh-speaking communities across Morocco.<sup>65</sup> This ensures that the selected ministries are well-positioned to implement the commitment effectively and at scale. Before the implementation of this commitment, access to public services for Amazigh-speaking citizens was limited, with Arabic and French as the primary languages in public administration.<sup>66</sup> As of 2022, Morocco has an official estimated 13.8 million Amazigh speakers out of a population of around 37 million.<sup>67</sup>

Progress is underway, with 469 Amazigh-speaking agents and 69 call center assistants mobilized across nine call centers.<sup>68</sup> Simultaneous Amazigh interpretation for parliamentary sessions and government weekly press conferences was already in place before this commitment. Despite these efforts, CSOs specializing in Amazigh<sup>69</sup> issues have pointed out that the number of services offering Amazigh language resources remains insufficient, highlighting a gap between existing needs and available resources. The administration has taken stock to implement improvements. The Ministry launched a study to review the level of integration of Amazigh on public administration websites.<sup>70</sup> IRCAM (Royal Institute of Amazigh Culture)<sup>71</sup> and the Ministry of Education's use of Amazigh on their websites have provided a point of reference for used on other sites. In January 2024, the Ministry also held a meeting with civil society to discuss steps to further integrate Amazigh language into public administration.<sup>72</sup>

The commitment implementer underscored this reform's potential to increase Amazigh speakers' access to information and equal access to government services. He also noted the distinction between creating materials designed for Amazigh speakers, rather than simply translating, to ensure relevance.<sup>73</sup> According to a member and former president of AZETTA Amazigh,<sup>74</sup> "Integrating the Amazigh language into public services is essential for eliminating linguistic barriers that hinder citizens from fully exercising their rights. When citizens cannot access services in their native language, it creates opportunities for corruption and undermines trust in public institutions." He emphasized that this commitment could help Amazigh speakers engage with public services without facing ambiguity or unnecessary obstacles. When citizens cannot receive services in their native language, they become dependent on intermediaries, which opens the door to potential manipulation, misuse of personnel data, and unnecessary costs. He

states that eliminating language barriers in public services can not only reduce the risk of corruption but also increase trust, inclusion, and accessibility.<sup>75</sup>

Implementing this commitment could yield moderate improvements in the inclusivity of public services by ensuring that Amazigh speakers have equal access to essential services like health, justice, and local administration. By integrating the language into public platforms and improving human resources' communication skills in the Amazigh language, this commitment can reduce the linguistic barriers that limit civic participation and trust in public institutions. UNESCO highlights the importance of linguistic diversity in fostering democratic engagement and cultural identity.<sup>76</sup> Promoting local languages directly empowers communities, improving their ability to engage in social and political life and participate more fully in governance processes.<sup>77</sup>

### **Opportunities, challenges, and recommendations during implementation**

This commitment, while positive, focuses on government communication to Amazigh speakers. Given the action plan's four-year timeline and many milestones already underway, reformers can consider opportunities to expand the commitment's scope. The IRM recommends that implementers **consider adding activities that enable Amazigh speakers to communicate with the public administration in their language**. This could include enabling citizens to make submissions on the e-participation platform<sup>78</sup> in Amazigh, to make access to information requests in the Chafafiya portal<sup>79</sup> in Amazigh, and to provide information on government services on the Idarati portal<sup>80</sup> in Amazigh. Milestones for this commitment currently end in December 2027. Implementers could add activities for the remaining six months of the implementation period.

A key potential challenge is ensuring service sustainability. Many Amazigh-speaking staff are employed through private companies and lack job security. A civil society representative proposes establishing a quota of Amazigh-speaking staff in public recruitment to ensure long-term inclusivity. Additionally, creating permanent budgetary positions for these staff could stabilize services. Expanding training programs for public employees and collaborating with educational institutions can also help build a steady pool of qualified professionals.<sup>81</sup>

Another challenge is the risk of partial implementation, where services in Amazigh might not reach all regions equally. The management of the Amazigh Fund could be transparent and participatory, allowing civil society to oversee its use for long-term impact, as recommended by AZETTA. The President of AZETTA emphasizes that the fund can prioritize functional spending over folkloric or cultural events, which do not contribute to sustainable improvements in public services. Additionally, the final tranche of the 1 billion dirhams allocated for this initiative can be released on schedule to keep progress on track. A clear focus on long-term structural support will ensure the Amazigh-speaking population benefits from genuine and lasting inclusion. Civil society engagement in monitoring the Amazigh Fund can be regularly reviewed to maintain transparency and accountability.



## Other commitments

As a four-year action plan, implementers can review progress and amend the action plan as needed at the midpoint. The IRM will reassess any new or significantly amended commitments. Several commitments with particular opportunity to clarify their activities and strengthen their open government approach are noted below.

Most milestones in **Commitment 2** are positive and modestly ambitious steps to continue strengthening the functionality and use of Morocco’s national open data portal.<sup>82</sup> Notably, the commitment seeks to pass the Open Data Decree, which would provide a legal framework that supports more ambitious open data reforms. Implementers could use the passage of the decree to raise the ambition of this reform at the midpoint.

**Commitment 3** aims to develop a national sustainable development strategy (SNDD) through a participatory process. Collaborative development of this strategy took place before the start of the action plan’s implementation period (which is June 2024 to June 2028 under OGP rules). Therefore, the action plan period coincides with “phase 2” to implement the strategy, which includes largely awareness-raising activities as described in the action plan. At the midpoint, implementers can update the commitment text to align with the implementation period. This could include clarifying activities that will take place up to June 2028 that support Moroccans’ ability to participate in shaping and implementing the strategy. The IRM will reassess this commitment if it is amended to clarify what participatory activities will take place during implementation. An ambitious reform would go beyond one-way information sharing from the government to the public. It could detail activities that would enable the public and civil society to participate in developing public policies within the framework of the strategy. These consultation mechanisms can seek to be inclusive and accessible and include the ministry reporting back to participants on how their input was considered and acted on.

**Commitments 7, 8, and 9** address important social issues but would benefit from a clearer connection to open government. Commitments 7 and 8 from the Ministry of Social Affairs engage civil society in delivering government services related to persons with disability and child protection. While important issues, these commitments lack a clear connection to open government as they do not enable nongovernment actors to participate in government decision-making. CSOs assisting in the provision of child protection services does not in itself constitute public participation. For example, Commitment 7 could be amended to create or strengthen pathways for representatives of the disability community to shape government policy and programs that affect them. Likewise, if Commitment 8 enables CSOs to contribute to the formulation of child protection policies, it could then demonstrate a meaningful connection to open government principles.

**Commitment 9** establishes a national youth volunteering program. While program topics include civic engagement, there is limited information on how the program will enable youth to participate in government decision-making and public debate. This commitment could prove relevant if it empowers youth to engage the government, such as through public participation platforms or municipal open government plans. For instance, there is opportunity to link Commitment 4 on civic space with the national youth volunteering program. Youth participants could receive training, through the online platform provided for civil society or otherwise, on how civil society associations can participate in government decision-making. These volunteers could then disseminate this knowledge to their respective organizational placements.

**Commitment 12** aims to bring 63 new local governments into the Moroccan Network for Open Territorial Collectives (REMACTO).<sup>83</sup> Under the Support Program to Open Territorial Collectivities (PACTO), the Ministry of the Interior and civil society are supporting local governments in developing and implementing open government plans. This commitment continues an ongoing reform that received an award at the OGP Global Summit in Estonia in 2023.<sup>84</sup> As currently written, the commitment sought to onboard the new members before the start of the implementation period in June 2024. Although the implementing government agency provided information in writing, the IRM could not confirm what activities would take place within the implementation period of June 2024 to June 2028.<sup>85</sup> As of February 2025, 102 new local authorities had joined REMACTO, bringing the total membership to 228 local authorities.<sup>86</sup>

This commitment is a positive step to further mainstream open government at the subnational level. However, questions about the program’s depth and sustainability limit its potential. Civil society expressed a desire for the government to provide a legal foundation for local open government reforms, such as through a circular or law.<sup>87</sup> Another civil society representative expressed concerns on the quality of local government collaboration with civil society and commitment to follow through on implementation and monitoring.<sup>88</sup> Implementation of PACTO program is externally funded, while the local government’s open programs are funded by their own resources. Implementers can use the midpoint refresh process to amend the commitment to align with the implementation period. Reformers can also consider adding steps to ensure the sustainability of REMACTO and support local governments to follow through on implementation of their open government plans. The DGCT aims to extend PACTO to cover all Moroccan local governments.<sup>89</sup>

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<sup>5</sup> OECD, *Examen du Gouvernement Ouvert au Maroc 2024*, 25 June 2024, [https://www.oecd.org/fr/publications/examen-du-gouvernement-ouvert-au-maroc-2024\\_a54aa50c-fr.html](https://www.oecd.org/fr/publications/examen-du-gouvernement-ouvert-au-maroc-2024_a54aa50c-fr.html).

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<sup>11</sup> Bahedda, interview.

<sup>12</sup> Kenza Sammoud (Journalist and Co-Founder of the Regional Observatory for the Right to Information), interview by IRM researcher, 7 October 2024.

<sup>13</sup> Independent Reporting Mechanism, Open Government Partnership, *Morocco Results Report 2021–2023*, 19 September 2024, <https://www.opengovpartnership.org/documents/morocco-results-report-2021-2023/>.

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## Section III: Methodology and IRM Indicators

This product is a concise, independent, technical review of the characteristics of the action plan and the strengths and challenges the IRM identifies to inform a stronger implementation process. The IRM highlights commitments that have the highest potential for results, represent a high priority for country stakeholders, acknowledged as a priority in the national open government context, or a combination of these factors.

The IRM products provided during a national action plan cycle include:

- **Co-Creation Brief:** A concise brief that highlights lessons from previous IRM reports to support a country's OGP process, action plan design, and overall learning.
- **Action Plan Review:** A technical review of the characteristics of the action plan and the strengths and challenges the IRM identifies to inform a stronger implementation process.
- **Midterm Review:** A review for four-year action plans after a refresh at the midpoint. The review assesses new or significantly amended commitments in the refreshed action plan, compliance with OGP rules, and an informal update on implementation progress.
- **Results Report:** An overall implementation assessment that focuses on policy-level results and how changes happen. It also checks compliance with OGP rules and informs accountability and longer-term learning.

In the Action Plan Review, the IRM reviews commitments using three indicators:

**1. Verifiability:** The IRM determines whether a commitment is verifiable as written in the action plan. The indicator is assessed as:

- **Yes/No:** Are the stated objectives and proposed actions sufficiently clear and include objectively verifiable activities to assess implementation?
- Commitments that are not verifiable are considered not reviewable, and no further assessment is carried out.

**2. Open Government Lens:** The IRM determines if the commitment relates to the open government values of transparency, civic participation, and/or public accountability as defined by the Open Government Declaration and the OGP Articles of Governance. Based on a close reading of the commitment text, the indicator is assessed as:

- **Yes/No:** Does the commitment set out to make a policy area, institution, or decision-making process more transparent, participatory, or accountable to the public?

The following questions for each OGP value may be used as a reference to identify the specific open government lens in commitment analysis:

- **Transparency:** Will the government disclose more information, improve the legal or institutional frameworks to guarantee the right to information, improve the quality of the information disclosed to the public, or improve the transparency of government decision-making processes or institutions?
- **Civic Participation:** Will the government create or improve opportunities, processes, or mechanisms for the public to inform, influence, or co-create policies, laws and/or decisions? Will the government create, enable, or improve participatory mechanisms for minorities, marginalized or underrepresented groups?

Will the government improve the enabling environment for civil society (which may include NGO laws, funding mechanisms, taxation, reporting requirements, etc.)? Will the government improve legal, policy, institutional, or practical conditions related to civic



space, such as freedom of expression, association, and peaceful assembly that would facilitate participation in the public sphere? Will the government take measures that counter misinformation and disinformation, especially online, to ensure people have access to reliable and factual information (which may include digital and media literacy campaigns, fact-checking, or fostering an independent news media ecosystem)?

- **Public Accountability:** Will the government create or improve opportunities to hold officials answerable for their actions? Will the government enable legal, policy, or institutional frameworks to foster accountability of public officials?

**3. Potential for Results:** The IRM analyzes the expected results and potential that would be verified in the IRM Results Report after implementation. Potential for results is an early indication of the commitment’s possibility to yield meaningful results based on its articulation in the action plan in contrast with the state of play in the respective policy area. The indicator is assessed as:

- **Unclear:** The commitment is aimed at continuing ongoing practices in line with existing legislation, requirements, or policies without indication of the added value or enhanced open government approach in contrast with existing practice.
- **Modest:** A positive but stand-alone initiative or change to processes, practices, or policies. The commitment does not generate binding or institutionalized changes across government or institutions that govern a policy area. Examples are tools (e.g., websites) or data release, training, or pilot projects.
- **Substantial:** A possible game changer for practices, policies, or institutions that govern a policy area, public sector, or the relationship between citizens and state. The commitment generates binding and institutionalized changes across government.

This review focuses its analysis on promising commitments. Promising commitments are verifiable, have an open government lens, and have at least a modest potential for results. Promising commitments may also be a priority for national stakeholders or for the particular context. The IRM may cluster commitments with a common policy objective or that contribute to the same reform or policy issue. The potential for results of clustered commitments is reviewed as a whole.

This review was prepared by the IRM in collaboration with Sabrina Nassih as researcher and Slobodan Milic as external expert reviewer. During the internal review process of this product, the IRM verifies the accuracy of findings and collects further input through peer review, OGP Support Unit feedback as needed, interviews and validation with country stakeholders, an external expert review, and oversight by IRM’s International Experts Panel (IEP).<sup>1</sup> The IRM methodology, product quality, and review process are overseen by the IEP.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> “International Experts Panel,” Open Government Partnership, accessed 15 July 2024, <https://www.opengovpartnership.org/about/who-we-are/international-experts-panel>.

<sup>2</sup> For more information, see: “Overview—Independent Reporting Mechanism,” Open Government Partnership, accessed 15 July 2024, <https://www.opengovpartnership.org/irm-guidance-overview>.

## Annex 1: Commitment Data<sup>1</sup>

### Commitment 1: Consultations to revise the Access to Information Law

- Verifiable: Yes
- Does it have an open government lens? Yes
- Potential for results: Substantial

### Commitment 2: Publication and reuse of open data

- Verifiable: Yes
- Does it have an open government lens? Yes
- Potential for results: Modest

### Commitment 3: Transparent and participatory implementation of the national sustainable development strategy

- Verifiable: Yes
- Does it have an open government lens? Yes
- Potential for results: Modest

### Commitment 4: Strengthening the enabling environment for civil society associations

- Verifiable: Yes
- Does it have an open government lens? Yes
- Potential for results: Modest

### Commitment 5: Strengthening press freedom and publishing

- Verifiable: Yes
- Does it have an open government lens? Yes
- Potential for results: Modest

### Commitment 6: Inclusive access to public services for Amazigh-speaking users

- Verifiable: Yes
- Does it have an open government lens? Yes
- Potential for results: Modest

### Commitment 7: Transparent disability evaluation system and participatory implementation

- Verifiable: Yes
- Does it have an open government lens? Yes
- Potential for results: Modest

### Commitment 8: Supporting civil society organizations in creating provincial child protection units

- Verifiable: Yes
- Does it have an open government lens? No
- Potential for results: Unclear



<b>Commitment 9: National volunteering program</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Verifiable: Yes</li><li>• Does it have an open government lens? No</li><li>• Potential for results: Unclear</li></ul>
<b>Commitment 10: Inclusive and equal access to justice services while respecting regional specificities</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Verifiable: Yes</li><li>• Does it have an open government lens? Yes</li><li>• Potential for results: Modest</li></ul>
<b>Commitment 11: Promoting women’s Access to legal and judicial information</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Verifiable: Yes</li><li>• Does it have an open government lens? Yes</li><li>• Potential for results: Modest</li></ul>
<b>Commitment 12: Support program for open territorial collectivities</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Verifiable: Yes</li><li>• Does it have an open government lens? Yes</li><li>• Potential for results: Modest</li></ul>

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<sup>1</sup> Editorial note: For commitments that are clustered, the assessment of potential for results is conducted at the cluster level, not individual commitments. Commitment short titles may have been edited for brevity. For the complete text of commitments, please see: <https://www.opengovpartnership.org/documents/morocco-action-plan-2024-2027/>.

## Annex 2: Action Plan Co-Creation

The OGP Participation and Co-Creation Standards are guidelines to support OGP members in undertaking collaborative OGP processes.<sup>1</sup> The standards include minimum requirements that set a baseline for participatory and transparent OGP processes. In the Action Plan Review, the IRM assesses compliance with the minimum requirements applicable during co-creation of the action plan.<sup>2</sup> Members that have not met all minimum requirements are considered to be acting contrary to the OGP process.

Morocco is acting according to the OGP process, as they met all the minimum requirements applicable during development of the action plan. The IRM will assess Morocco's compliance with the OGP process again in two years. Members that are currently not acting according to the OGP process can rectify their status by meeting the minimum requirements relevant at the next moment of assessment.<sup>3</sup>

**Table 2. Compliance with minimum requirements during co-creation**

Minimum requirement	Met?
<b>1.1 Space for dialogue:</b> Morocco's multi-stakeholder space for dialogue (COFIL) has been in place since 2022 and includes both government and civil society members. <sup>4</sup> COFIL meets every three months. Membership, selection process, the handbook, and meeting minutes are publicly available. <sup>5</sup>	Yes
<b>2.1 OGP website:</b> A publicly accessible website includes the latest action plan. <sup>6</sup> The site is updated at least once a month and contains a section for news.	Yes
<b>2.2 Repository:</b> The website includes an online repository updated at least twice a year. <sup>7</sup> It contains information on both the co-creation <sup>8</sup> and implementation, such as minutes of COFIL meetings <sup>9</sup> and reference documents, such as IRM reports and OECD reports. <sup>10</sup>	Yes
<b>3.1 Advanced notice:</b> The co-creation timeline and an overview of opportunities for stakeholders to participate were published on the OGP website at least two weeks <sup>11</sup> before the start of the co-creation process. <sup>12</sup> This ensured that all stakeholders were informed in advance and could plan their participation accordingly; additionally, an email campaign targeted 600 NGOs registered in the civil society space. <sup>13</sup>	Yes
<b>3.2 Outreach:</b> The government and local civil society members (COFIL) organized four regional workshops in Casablanca-Settat, Rabat-Sale-Kenitra, <sup>14</sup> Oriental, <sup>15</sup> Tangier-Tetouan-Al Hoceima, <sup>16</sup> and the Fes-Meknes regions. <sup>17</sup> The Ministry of Digital Transition and Administration Reform participated in the second national civil society forum where Morocco's open government action plans and participation opportunities were showcased. <sup>18</sup>	Yes
<b>3.3 Feedback mechanism:</b> Morocco held regional workshops, <sup>19</sup> where proposals were collected and published in reports by region, <sup>20</sup> as well as a specific co-creation web page that allowed stakeholders to submit inputs from 14 October to 19 November 2023, <sup>21</sup> which collected 73 online propositions over 10 themes.	Yes
<b>4.1 Reasoned response:</b> Contributions from stakeholders were documented during the co-creation process. <sup>22</sup> The government's response to each proposal is available online. <sup>23</sup>	Yes
<b>5.1 Open implementation:</b> The IRM will assess whether meetings were held with civil society stakeholders to present implementation progress and enable civil society to provide comments at least twice a year.	Not applicable

During the co-creation process, civil society steering committee members were granted significant autonomy to facilitate and select partners for regional co-creation workshops. According to the president of 4Chabab, this autonomy allowed them to expand participation to include academic actors and private sector entities, such as the Association of Self-

Entrepreneurs. He highlighted that this practice promotes openness and hopes that future action plans will include private sector commitments as well. This was echoed by the president of the Oriental region association, who noted that including academic actors improved the quality of proposals, particularly seen in Commitment 1. Civil society members also participated in negotiations with ministerial sectors during the formulation of the commitments. For the first time, civil society contributed directly to the shaping commitments in these meetings. The president of 4Chabab emphasized that this was a key demand of the steering committee, which has now been realized. To further enable broad participation in the civil society forum, 4Chabab proposes removing the deposit receipt requirement for participation, which might limit the involvement of informal groups, such as university clubs and the private sector.<sup>24</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Open Government Partnership, *OGP Participation and Co-Creation Standards*, 24 November 2021, [www.opengovpartnership.org/ogp-participation-co-creation-standards](http://www.opengovpartnership.org/ogp-participation-co-creation-standards).

<sup>2</sup> Open Government Partnership, *IRM Guidelines for the Assessment of Minimum Requirements*, 31 May 2022, [www.opengovpartnership.org/documents/irm-guidelines-for-the-assessment-of-minimum-requirements](http://www.opengovpartnership.org/documents/irm-guidelines-for-the-assessment-of-minimum-requirements).

<sup>3</sup> Editorial note: For two-year action plans, the IRM will assess compliance with minimum requirements applicable to implementation in the Results Report. For four-year action plans, the IRM will do so in the Midterm Review. For all action plans, the IRM will provide a comprehensive analysis of participation and co-creation practices throughout the action plan cycle in the Results Report. See: Open Government Partnership, *OGP National Handbook – Rules and Guidance for Participants (2024)*, 11 April 2024, [www.opengovpartnership.org/documents/ogp-national-handbook-rules-and-guidance-for-participants-2024](http://www.opengovpartnership.org/documents/ogp-national-handbook-rules-and-guidance-for-participants-2024).

<sup>4</sup> “Open Government Morocco Steering Committee Members for 2022–2023,” Government of Morocco OGP, <https://gouvernement-ouvert.ma/files/Liste%20Membres%20copil%202022-2023%20vfr.pdf>.

<sup>5</sup> Government of Morocco, *2022 Steering Committee Manual—Second Edition*, June 2022, <https://gouvernement-ouvert.ma/docs/Manuel%20Copil%20v27062022%20fr.pdf>.

<sup>6</sup> Morocco Open Government website, accessed 21 September 2024, <https://gouvernement-ouvert.ma>.

<sup>7</sup> “Documentation Repository,” Government of Morocco OGP, <https://gouvernement-ouvert.ma/documentation.php?lang=fr>.

<sup>8</sup> “Co-Creation Page and Process Steps,” Open Government Partnership Morocco, accessed 21 September 2024 <https://gouvernement-ouvert.ma/co-steps.php?pan=3&lang=fr>.

<sup>9</sup> “Minutes of the Steering Committee Meeting,” Open Government Partnership Morocco, 22 February 2024, [https://gouvernement-ouvert.ma/docs/Relev%C3%A9Conclusions\\_Copil\\_22022024\\_fr%20-LuhoM.pdf](https://gouvernement-ouvert.ma/docs/Relev%C3%A9Conclusions_Copil_22022024_fr%20-LuhoM.pdf).

<sup>10</sup> OCDE, *Examen du Gouvernement Ouvert au Maroc 2024: Analyse et perspectives vers un État ouvert*, *Examens de l'OCDE sur la gouvernance publique*, Éditions OCDE, Paris, 2024, <https://doi.org/10.1787/a54aa50c-fr>.

<sup>11</sup> “Report on Public Consultation for NAP3 Priority Themes,” Morocco OGP website, July 2024, <https://gouvernement-ouvert.ma/docs/R%C3%A9sultats%20de%20la%20consultation%20publique%20sur%20les%20th%C3%A9matiques%20prioritaires%20du%20PAN3-KVE8I.pdf>.

<sup>12</sup> “Call for Proposals to Co-Creation the 3rd National Open Government Action Plan,” Open Government Partnership, 14 October 2023, <https://gouvernement-ouvert.ma/event.php?id=167&lang=fr>.

<sup>13</sup> Mustapha Bahedda (Head of the Division for Probity, Transparency, and Openness and OGP Point of Contact), interview by IRM researcher, 16 July 2024; Aïmane Amalik, COPIL member and President of the NGO 4Chabab, interview by IRM researcher, 16 August 2024.

<sup>14</sup> “Summary of the 1st Event to Co-Creation the 3rd NAP of Open Government,” Government of Morocco OGP, 22 September 2023, <https://gouvernement-ouvert.ma/event.php?id=160&lang=fr>.

<sup>15</sup> “Summary of the 2nd Co-Creation Event of the 3rd NAP of Open Government,” Government of Morocco OGP, 23 September 2023, <https://gouvernement-ouvert.ma/event.php?id=161&lang=fr>.

<sup>16</sup> “Summary of the 4th Co-Creation Event of the 3rd NAP of Open Government,” Government of Morocco OGP, 3 October 2023, <https://gouvernement-ouvert.ma/event.php?id=163&lang=fr>.

<sup>17</sup> “Summary of the 3rd Co-Creation Event of the 3rd NAP of Open Government,” Government of Morocco OGP, 24 September 2023, <https://gouvernement-ouvert.ma/event.php?id=162&lang=fr>.

<sup>18</sup> “Second National Civil Society Forum: Digital Transformation of Associations,” Government of Morocco OGP, 22 December 2024, <https://gouvernement-ouvert.ma/event.php?id=168&lang=fr>.

<sup>19</sup> “Co-Creation Regional Workshops for the Morocco Action Plan 2024–2027,” Government of Morocco OGP, <https://www.gouvernement-ouvert.ma/ateliers.php?pan=3&lang=fr>.

<sup>20</sup> “Co-Creation Regional Workshops for the Morocco Action Plan 2024–2027,” Government of Morocco OGP, <https://www.gouvernement-ouvert.ma/ateliers.php?pan=3&lang=fr>.

<sup>21</sup> “Co-Creation Page for the 3rd Morocco Action Plan 2024–2027,” Government of Morocco OGP, accessed 16 September 2024, <https://www.gouvernement-ouvert.ma/co-steps.php?pan=3&lang=fr>.

<sup>22</sup> “Citizens Online propositions with Filtering Options,” Government of Morocco OGP, accessed 16 September 2024, <https://www.gouvernement-ouvert.ma/ideas-by-themes.php?theme=0&pan=3&lang=fr>.

<sup>23</sup> “Feedback on Propositions for the Morocco Action Plan 2024–2027,” Government of Morocco OGP, accessed 16 September 2024, <https://gouvernement-ouvert.ma/idea-detail.php?id=339&lang=fr>.

<sup>24</sup> Aimane Amalik, COPIL member and President of the NGO 4Chabab, interview by IRM researcher, 16 August 2024.