



An Roinn Caiteachais
Phoiblí agus Athchóirithe
Department of Public
Expenditure and Reform



Open Government Round Table

3rd meeting, 16th February 2022






Round Table preparation

Round Table members are asked to review the following in advance:

- (i) Proposed agenda
- (ii) Further milestones achieved since January 2022...
- (iii) Open Government Partnership timelines
- (iv) Proposed Round Table ‘ways of working’ slides
- (v) Review the subgroup updates:
 - Section 22 of the Electoral Act – decision note (*email attachment*).
 - Public Participation Network civic partition – *update to follow*.
 - Civic Participation subgroup – update note (*email attachment*).

Further milestones achieved since January 2022...



-  Ireland has officially emerged from the Open Government Partnership procedural review process – a key milestone in progressing the Programme for Government commitment to reinvigorate the process.
- ✓ Round Table subgroups have actively deliberated and co-developed an update for Round Table consideration.
- ✓ The Secretariat has finalised the ‘reasoned responses’ for the Co-Chairs approval.
- ✓ The Secretariat has now received clarification of the upcoming Open Government Partnership Independent Review Mechanism (IRM) process and what are the requirements to support the Action Plan Review process (ongoing correspondence and two meetings).

WIP Open Government website update.

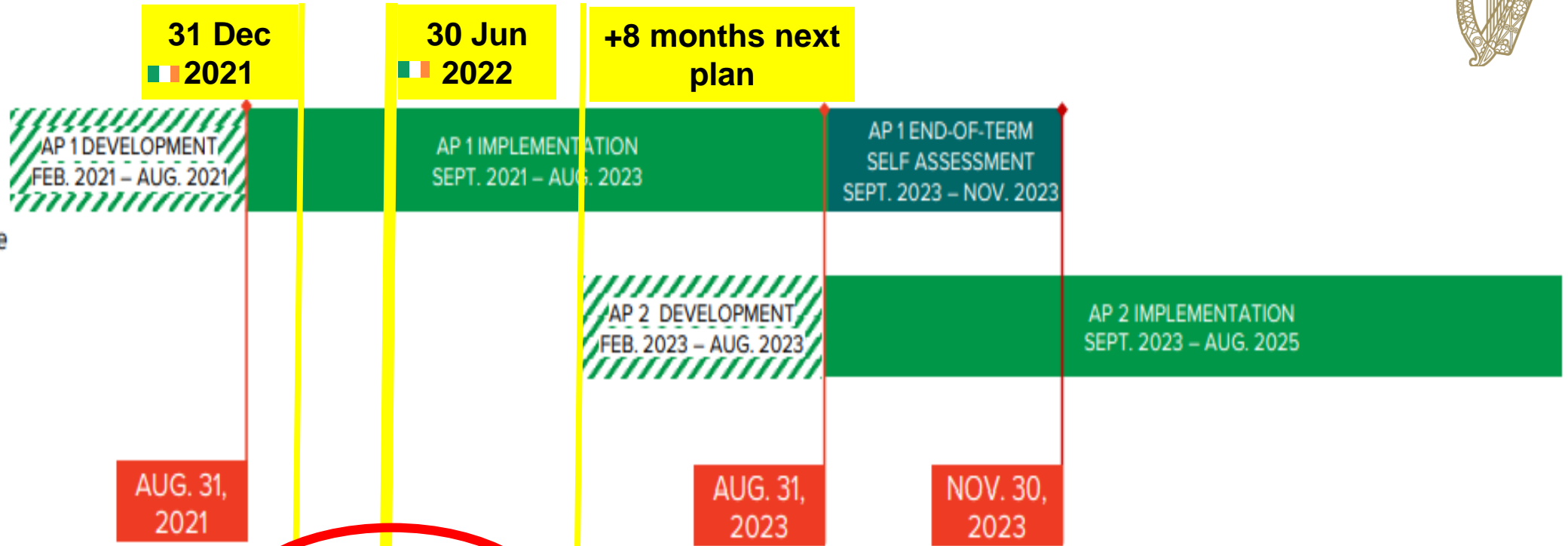
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Open Government Partnership timelines



OGP Members will draft their action plan jointly with civil society and continuously implement commitments. They produce and update their online repository at least twice a year. An End of Term Self-Assessment report is submitted on conclusion of implementation.



IRM Products will monitor development and implementation. The distinct products contribute to the learning and accountability in OGP processes.



CHANGE: The Action Plan Review commencing in Feb, not Q3 when finalised plan submitted as previously understood.



Proposed Agenda (1/2)



- 10:00 Public Sector Co-Chair (Philip) to welcome Round Table members.
- 10:05 The Secretariat will request Round Table members' agreement for the minutes that below have been noted:
- i. Round Table subgroup updates (email attachments).
 - ii. Proposed agenda (slide 3).
 - iii. Further milestones achieved since January 2022 (slides 4).
 - iv. Draft Round Table 'ways of working (slides x – x).

I Ways of Working

- 10:10 Civil Society Co-Chair (Antoin) to present 'ways of working' slides.
- 10:20 Breakout groups to discuss above.
- 10:30 Lead for each breakout groups to report back to Round Table plenary.
- 10:40 Comfort break.



Proposed Agenda (2/2)



II Subgroups update to Round Table:

10:50 Subgroup on Section 22 of Electoral Act

11:00 Subgroup on Public Participation Networks/Local Authority.

11:10 Subgroup on Civic Participation.

11:20 Breakout groups to discuss above.

11:35 Lead for each breakout groups to report back to Round Table plenary.

11:45 Any other business.

11:50 Secretariat seeks Round Table approval:

- i. For next meeting date: **Wednesday, 16th March 2022 at 10:00 – 12:00**
- ii. To provide OGP Independent Review team with contact details etc. as required.
- iii. Suggestion on how to integrate consideration of OGP themes at meetings.

Ways of working



■ Participation

- *Embrace a spirit of sharing*
- *Talk to and include the people you don't know*
- *Ask Questions*

■ Respect

- *Respect schedules*
- *Listen carefully*
- *Manage debate, focus on the goals of the group*

■ Inclusion

- *The 'rule of 1' – make one point, let others speak*
- *The Rule of 'n' – In a group of 'n' people, speak "1/nth" of the time*
- *Keep a check on technical language, jargon*

Ways of working



- A safe environment
 - *Avoid language that will make others uncomfortable*
 - *Privacy and discretion – talk to the source before you share or repeat non-public information. Respect privacy of participants*
 - *Harassment of any sort will not be tolerated and should/will be addressed immediately.*

Based on <https://facilitation.aspirationtech.org/index.php?title=Participants:Guidelines>

Ways of working - Lobbying



- Am I lobbying? Am I being lobbied?
 - *Lobbying Commission's 'three step test'.*
- Obligation is on person lobbying to register, submit returns.
- Obligation is on public official to keep proper records of their participation.
- Lobbying.ie has further information in a jargon-free format.

Reference: <https://www.lobbying.ie/help-resources/information-for-lobbyists/am-i-lobbying/>



1. Are you one of the following?

- An **employer** with more than 10 employees where the communications are made on your behalf
- A **representative body** with at least one employee communicating on behalf of its members and the communication is made by a paid employee or office holder of the body
- An **advocacy body** with at least one employee that exists primarily to take up particular issues and a paid employee or office holder of the body is communicating on such issues
- A **third party** being paid to communicate on behalf of a client who fits into one of the preceding three categories
- Any **person** communicating about the [development or zoning of land](#)

You can read more details on this question [here](#), and specifically on the zoning and development of land [here](#).

2. Are you communicating about a relevant matter?

A relevant matter is one which relates to:

- The initiation, development or modification of any public policy or of any public programme
- The preparation or amendment of any law
- The award of any grant, loan, contract, or of any licence or other authorisation involving public funds

other than the implementation of any such policy, programme, enactment or award or any matter of a technical nature only.

There are excepted and exempted [communications](#).

3. Are you communicating either directly or indirectly with a Designated Public Official?

You can find more information about [Designated Public Officials](#).

Secretariat proposals re Subgroup output (1/2)



Secretariat proposed that the Round Table:

- (1) Agree with the recommendation of the Subgroup on Section 22 of Electoral Act that a commitment is not possible for the 3rd National Action Plan and that as further clarity will emerge (both the civil society campaign and the legislative process) that this matter be considered again for the 4th National Action Plan.
- (2) Note that the Subgroup on Public Participation Networks/Local Authority wishes to have a commitment in the 3rd National Action Plan, but can't agree wording. There is a deliberative process for the Structural Review of PPN, which is considering many of the issues raised. The Round Table is asked to consider and decide whether to include a commitment and the Secretariat flags that the ongoing monitoring may assist in bridging this gap.

Secretariat proposals re Subgroup output (2/2)



Secretariat proposed that the Round Table:

(3) Note the update with further clarification reached by the Subgroup on Civic Participation, on both the ambition, its pathway and this first commitment. The Round Table is asked to support the subgroup's recommendation that it progresses this work to leverage this update to draft a first commitment for the 3rd National Action Plan.

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DRAFT Round Table meeting outcomes (1/2)



- (1) The Round Table agreed that below had been noted in advance of the meeting.
 - i. Round Table subgroup updates (email attachments).
 - ii. Proposed agenda (slide 3).
 - iii. Further milestones achieved since January 2022 (slides 4).
 - iv. Draft Round Table 'ways of working' (slides 5 – 11).

The Round Table decided:

- (2) To accept the 'ways of working' as presented.
- (3) To agree with the recommendation of the Subgroup on Section 22 of Electoral Act that a commitment is not possible for the 3rd National Action Plan and that as further clarity will emerge (both the civil society campaign and the legislative process) that this matter be considered again for the 4th National Action Plan.
- (4) To agree the recommendation of **Subgroup on Civil Participation that it progress its work** to draft a first commitment (template format) for the consideration of the Round Table at its next meeting 16th March 2022.
- (5) As the Round Table was unable to reach a decision at the plenary meeting, that the **Secretariat would arrange that a vote for Round Table members to reach a decision** in relation to the deliberations of the PPN subgroup and to capture any additional guidance to bridge the gap which would be put to the subgroup members to vote upon as to whether this guidance would result in subgroup agreement being reached in a final meeting.
- (6) For the purpose of the OGP review that members' contact details etc. could be shared by the Secretariat.

DRAFT Round Table meeting outcomes (2/2)



The Co-Chairs agreed:

(7) To discuss the Civil Society Round Table members views on the process to date (circulated 15th Feb 2022). The Public Sector Co-Chair to seek Public Sector members perspective in advance, to share at the meeting.

The Secretariat advised that:

- (i) Ireland had emerged from the Open Government Partnership procedural process (as circulated 10 Feb 2022)
- (ii) The Open Government Partnership Independent Review team had commenced their review, earlier than the understood Q3 timeline. The Secretariat is in ongoing contact to determine what is involved in the process.
- (iii) The **next meeting Wednesday 16th March 2022 at 10:00** (as circulated).
- (iv) Secretariat was hoping to bring a proposal on how Round Table members might integrate consideration of wider OGP themes into the meetings.
- (v) The Round Table members share their suggestions on how to increase the inclusiveness and diversity of the OGP engagement (Meeting 1) and how to enhance the submission evaluation process (meeting 2), to enable progress to be made.

Secretariat contact details



Críona Brassill

Ireland's Open Government lead <https://bit.ly/OpenGovIE> (with other policy responsibilities)
Open Government Partnership Point of Contact; Secretariat of the Open Government Round Table and Ireland's delegate to the OECD Working Party on Open Government.

Foireann Nuálaíochta na Seirbhíse Poiblí

Public Service Reform unit

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Department: <https://www.per.gov.ie>



Further milestones achieved since November 2021...



- ✓ Ireland's draft 3rd National Action Plan (3 draft commitments) submitted to the OGP on 23rd Dec 2021 – which has been well received.
- ✓ Round Table members have individually reviewed the 18 submissions/24 proposals in preparation for today's discussion.
- ✓ The Co-Chairs have sought facilitation support to set up the co-creation process, especially the 'what' and 'how' to finalise the action plan and to produce a draft report. Welcome Helen Newman.

Hoping that Round Table members enjoyed Christmas and are up to all the challenges of a new year!




Milestones achieved since August 2021...



- ✓ Open Government repository - gov.ie webpages (*required*)
- ✓ Round Table multi-stakeholder forum, with co-created terms of reference – (*required*)

Public influence has reached consult level

- ✓ Public call for expressions of interest to join the Round Table...
(Reach approx. 30,000 via social media & email campaign - 317 clicks - 22 applications)
- ✓ Public call for submissions for the next and future national action plans...
(Reach approx. 30,000 via social media & email campaign - 202 clicks - 18 submissions – 41% unconnected & 59% connected, 41% from/linked to Round Table members)
- ✓ Public sector Round Table members nominated by Secretary Generals.
 ... maybe even an international impact award (✓ application; ✓ campaign).

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