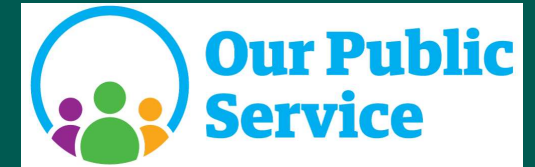




An Roinn Caiteachais
Phoiblí agus Athchóirithe
Department of Public
Expenditure and Reform



Open Government Round Table

5th meeting, 11th May 2022 (rescheduled)



Round Table preparation



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

1. [To agree/amend] Proposed agenda (slide 3-5).
2. [To agree] Round Table Meeting 4 outcomes (slides 6-8).
3. [To note] Further milestones achieved since March 2022 (slide 9)
4. [To note] Post Round Table 4th meeting developments (slide 10) informing the proposed agenda(s).
5. [To note] Secretariat admin update (slide 11)

Agreed Agenda / Meeting Outcome (1/3)



10:00 Civil Society Co-Chair (Antoin) to welcome Round Table members

Meeting Chair: Antoin

10:05 The Secretariat will request Round Table members' agreement that the minutes reflect that below have been agreed/noted as appropriate:

- i. [To agree/amend] Proposed agenda (slide 3-5).
- ii. [To agree] Round Table Meeting 4 outcomes (slides 6-8).
- iii. [To note] Further milestones achieved since March 2022 (slide 9)
- iv. [To note] Post Round Table 4th meeting developments (slide 10) informing the proposed agenda(s).
- v. [To note] Secretariat admin update (slide 11)

Round Table agreed and noted.

Agreed Agenda / Meeting Outcome (2/3)



10:10 Ireland's 3rd National Action Plan draft text – discussion.

Mon 16th May: Civil Society to revert with suggestions to simplify text, noting multiple audiences.

Wed 18th May: Co-Chairs to agree the amendments and circulate the outcome to Round Table.

10:25 Further amendments to commitments – discussion and vote – **Agreed.**

10:35 Round Table's presentation of the draft national action plan to the public.

Civil Society members shared below to guide the Round Table's process to decision:

- 1) What is the purpose of the consultation?
- 2) What is the scope of change? What changes could be made as a result of public input? Is it sufficient to merit the consultation?
- 3) What are the questions we need to answer at the consultation?
- 4) If there were no consultation, whether Draft commitments, pending government approval, would be posted on website?

Round Table support provided (slide 12) and from direction given the outcome (slides 13) arose.

Agreed Agenda / Meeting Outcome (3/3)



- 11:10 Round Table is asked to discuss and decide on the draft Civic Participation subgroup terms of reference circulated, without 1st bullet point.
(Rationale for the removal 1st bullet point: It is the role of the Round Table in plenary session to monitor the national action plan commitments and the role of the Secretariat to seek the updates)
Agreed
- 11:20 Any other business – None.
- 11:30 Round Table is invited and agreed
- i. To share insights on **by 15th June** to guide the Co-Chairs in structuring the 6th meeting:
 - Their insights of the current process with concrete suggestions on how to address for the next action plan process (4th meeting);
 - How to enhance the submission evaluation process (2nd meeting); and
 - How to increase the inclusiveness and diversity of the OGP engagement (1st meeting).
 - ii. To agree the next meeting date: **29th June 2022 at 10:00 – 12:00**

Agreed Round Table 4th meeting outcomes (1/3)



(1) The Round Table agreed that below had been agreed/noted:

- i. Agreed - Proposed agenda (slide 3-5).
- ii. Agreed - Round Table Meeting 3 outcomes (slides 6-7).
- iii. Considered - Draft commitment on civic participation (circulated).
- iv. Noted - Further milestones achieved since February 2022 is noted (slide 8).
- v. Noted - Post 3rd Round Table meeting: Vote outcome is that the draft commitment circulated in relation to the Public Participation Network will be included in the next National Action Plan (slide 9).
- vi. Noted - Secretariat admin update (slide 10)
- vii. Noted - Monitoring update: March 2022 (slide 11) and (FYI - 3 attachments circulated)
- viii. Noted - Letter from the Joint Committee on Disability Matters (circulated), shared with Donal O'Shea as part of the Round Table reasoned response to his submission.
- ix. Noted - Ireland's commitments - Summit for Democracy 2021 (circulated).
- x. Noted - No suggestions received to date on how to increase the inclusiveness and diversity of the OGP engagement (Meeting 1) and how to enhance the submission evaluation process (meeting 2).

Agreed Round Table 4th meeting outcomes (2/3)



The Round Table decided:

- (1) To agree that the Round Table members will reach decision(s) by majority vote in plenary session, as outlined in the agenda.
- (2) To include the draft commitment circulated on civic participation, but to also record that the commitment did not match the proposal and to explain the process in reaching this destination in the main text.

Overview: Round Table members, having reviewed the draft in advance, received an overview of the process from the subgroup lead and Secretariat before deliberating in breakout groups with the resulting insights shared with the plenary group. Key points included that there was a lack of shared understanding of the ‘what’ of a the proposed governance framework; that the commitment was the minimum threshold with no ceiling on what can be undertaken/delivered by the Round Table which can be captured during monitoring process; there is potential for a subgroup to form and clarify the ‘what’ / ‘what good looks like’ for the next plan to address the dilution of proposal’s deliberative engagement; without further clarity on the ‘what’, monitoring and accountability for future SMART commitment will be a challenge. While a vote was not called for, it was offered but not taken up.

- (3) Further to AOB discussion, agenda of the 6th Round Table meeting, that members share their insights of the current process with concrete suggestions on how to address for the next national action plan process.
- (4) To agree the next meeting date: **Wednesday 27th April 2022 at 10:00 – 12:00** (*after Easter break*).

Subsequently rescheduled due to unforeseeable external demands on Secretariat which delayed drafting (several FOI requests).

Agreed Round Table 4th meeting outcomes (3/3)



Actions arising from the meeting:

- (i) All Round Table members are reminded to share their actionable suggestions on how to increase the inclusiveness and diversity of the OGP engagement (c/f Meeting 1) and how to enhance the submission evaluation process (c/f meeting 2) and insights on the current process with concrete suggestions on how to address for the next national action plan process (meeting 4).
- (ii) The four Round Table members who expressed an interest in forming a subgroup in relation to civic participation to determine whether they will progress and to draft terms of reference for consideration by the Round Table at the next meeting.
- (iii) Further to a Round Table member request under AOB, Round Table members (particularly Civil Society members) are actively encouraged to share their suggestions with the Secretariat on guiding the public's consideration of the draft national action plan. The Secretariat has received clarification from the OGP Support Unit that the requirement is that the national action plan is available to the public for a minimum of 2 weeks, under the co-creation standards.
- (iv) The Secretariat to follow up with all the subgroup leads to capture the evidence of the process undertaken (e.g. number of meetings; iterative engagement via email etc) for the text of the national action plan.
- (v) The Secretariat to progress the drafting of the national action plan for consideration at the next meeting.

Further milestones achieved since 4th Meeting...



- √ The Secretariat has issued all the personalised reasoned decisions of the Round Table on the submissions received.
- √ The Secretariat has updated the [Open Government website](#), to make the submissions; meeting 2 & 3 agenda, outcome, actions arising and circulated material; and reasoned responses (with personal information redacted throughout) publically available [here](#).
- √ The Secretariat has drafted and circulated national action plan context text in advance of the 5th meeting.



Post Round Table 4th meeting developments



To ensure transparency on Round Table decision making, further changes were sought to both commitments agreed at the last meeting:

(i) Public Participation Network commitment:

- Further changes were proposed (25th March) and seconded (29th March) on the basis of a letter (21st March) from the Minister for the Department of Rural and Community Development to Councillor Vanessa Liston. Procedural clarification was sought from the Civil Society Co-Chair (25th March). DRCD have indicated that the proposed changes are fine (30th March) and the Secretariat acknowledge receipt (1st April).
- **At 5th meeting:** Round Table agreed to the further changes to the commitment proposed.

(ii) Re-opening of Civic Participation commitment:

- A new title and the removal of ‘subject to establishing a subgroup’ delivery mechanism were proposed (30th March). To facilitate, the Secretariat response (31st March) sought that the four Civil Society Round Table members, who had indicated at the 4th Round Table meeting, a willingness to form a new subgroup provide draft terms of reference for the 5th meeting (received 25th April) and (ii) proposed that the Secretariat would circulate the subgroup’s written output to the relevant public sector Round Table members so that the subgroup could consider their observations in advance of circulating to full Round Table discussion.
- **At 5th meeting:** Round Table agreed to the further changes to the commitment proposed. Secretariat circulate formal invite.

At 6th meeting: Decision making insights above to be included in process discussion scheduled.

Secretariat admin update



- [29th March 2022] The Secretariat, following assistance provided in 2021, had an initial productive engagement with the Land Development Agency and their consultants on their public consultation strategy in preparation for potential future work on civic participation.
- [30th March 2022] Engagement with Ashley Glover: National Parks and Wildlife Service colleagues comprehensive response flagged as ‘best practice’ which was shared with colleague.
- [31st March 2022] Secretariat had a call from her Northern Ireland counterparty, with Open Government Ireland website being shared.
- [4th April 2022] OGP email received in relation to Kildare County Council’s Local OGP application - Council’s resolution [here](#). Secretariat extended an invitation to the County Council to participate in the national process, further to previous correspondence kindly circulated by the Local Government Management Agency (LGMA).
- [7th April 2022] OGP Reviewer received all the input required (incl. final responses).
- [27th April 2022] OGP Action Plan Review is expected to be received with just 21 days to revert to the Open Government Partnership Independent Review team in the prescribed format (not yet known) prior to OGP publication. Secretariat has undertaken the necessary to initiate **return of obs for deadline 18th May (US time zone)**.
- [8th May 2022] OGP Support Unit and IRM Unit has confirmed that Ireland has met the minimum ‘involve’ standard in the Action Plan Review development phase, as ‘non-red’ meet the standard. *FYI only: Under the expedited process, Ireland’s creation phase continued after Dec 2021. The ‘amber’ rating was triggered solely by the reasoned responses issuing after Dec 2021, yet it is only under new OGP new standard (not applicable to this review) end of creation phase OGP publication date or submission to the OGP Support Unit was defined.*
- No suggestions received to date on how to increase the inclusiveness and diversity of the OGP engagement (1st meeting); how to enhance the submission evaluation process (2nd meeting) and insights on the current process with concrete suggestions on how to address for the next national action plan process (4th meeting).


Round Table discussion support



IAP2 Spectrum of Public Participation



IAP2's Spectrum of Public Participation was designed to assist with the selection of the level of participation that defines the public's role in any public participation process. The Spectrum is used internationally, and it is found in public participation plans around the world.

		INCREASING IMPACT ON THE DECISION 				
		INFORM	CONSULT	INVOLVE	COLLABORATE	EMPOWER
PUBLIC PARTICIPATION GOAL		To provide the public with balanced and objective information to assist them in understanding the problem, alternatives, opportunities and/or solutions.	To obtain public feedback on analysis, alternatives and/or decisions.	To work directly with the public throughout the process to ensure that public concerns and aspirations are consistently understood and considered.	To partner with the public in each aspect of the decision including the development of alternatives and the identification of the preferred solution.	To place final decision making in the hands of the public.
	PROMISE TO THE PUBLIC	We will keep you informed.	We will keep you informed, listen to and acknowledge concerns and aspirations, and provide feedback on how public input influenced the decision.	We will work with you to ensure that your concerns and aspirations are directly reflected in the alternatives developed and provide feedback on how public input influenced the decision.	We will look to you for advice and innovation in formulating solutions and incorporate your advice and recommendations into the decisions to the maximum extent possible.	We will implement what you decide.

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Round Table publication of draft plan



As part of the expedited process to complete the 3rd Open Government National Action Plan, Ireland had a public call for submission [here](#); submissions received [here](#); the Round Table evaluated each submission [here](#) and provided a reasoned decision for each proposal [here \(attached on email\)](#); Round Table subgroups led by Civil Society members progressed 3 proposals [here](#) which has culminated in this draft national action plan which will be brought to Government mid June.

The Round Table is making the draft action plan available to provide public feedback on the civic participation process above and to gather views to inform the ongoing / future work of the Round Table.

Views received by xx June 2022, will be acknowledged, summarised and brought to the attention of the Round Table at its next meeting.

Building on the Round Table decision, the draft text above was influenced by further OGP technical clarification below:

Under the OGP [old standards](#), under the 'When Developing a National Action Plan' section):

"The government publishes and collects feedback on draft commitments. This information should be available and disseminated (i.e. via the national OGP website/webpage and other appropriate channels), include a range of options for stakeholders to respond (e.g. written responses, online discussions, surveys, face-to-face or remote meetings), and be open for an adequate duration (e.g. at least 2 weeks)."

Secretariat contact details



Críona Brassill

Ireland's Open Government lead <https://bit.ly/OpenGovIE> - *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 (with other policy responsibilities).*

Email: Criona.Brassill@per.gov.ie

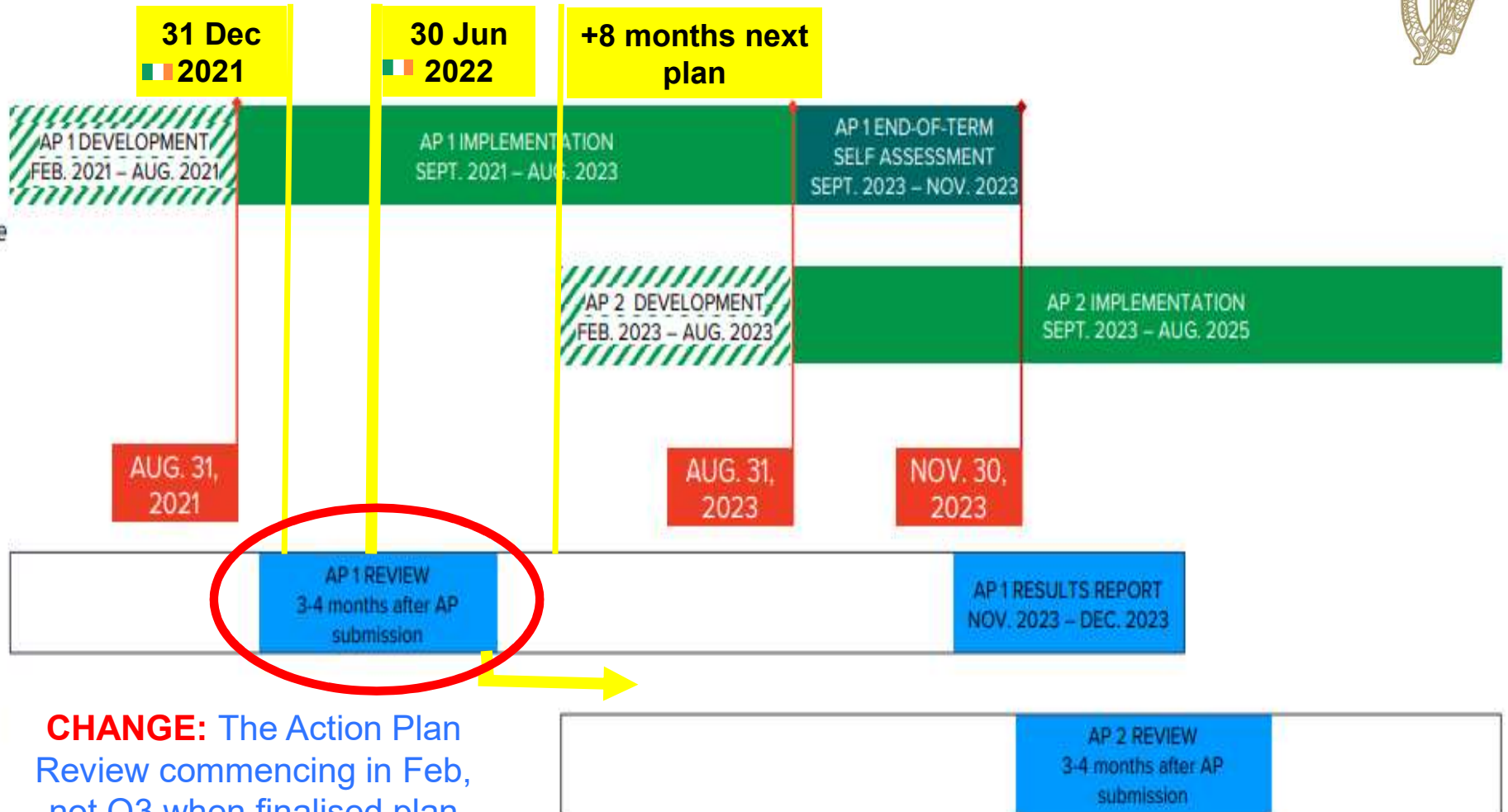


Open Government Partnership timelines



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.

Further milestones achieved since February 2022...




- √ The Secretariat has updated the [Open Government website](#), with further to details of Round Table plenary and subgroup meetings to follow [here](#).
- √ The Secretariat has almost completed the circulation the comprehensive 'reasoned responses' to those who made submissions.
- √ Civic Participation subgroup has met and progressed its work. The Secretariat has drafted a commitment for the Round Table's consideration with milestone dates; e.g. Civic Forum Q3 2022.
- √ The Secretariat has had ongoing engagement with the OGP Independent Reviewer re the Action Plan Review: Drafted and circulated guidance for Co-Chairs & Commitment Leads; Commitment updates to Feb 2022 in progress and interview scheduling. Both Co-Chairs have had discussion with Reviewer and Commitment Policy Lead calls are in progress.



Further milestones achieved since November 2021...



-  **EMBARGO** Good news – Ireland won an Open Government impact award - joint 3rd in the highly competitive European region from among x entries!
- √ 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).

