



Government
of Canada

Gouvernement
du Canada

CANADA'S NATIONAL ACTION PLAN ON OPEN GOVERNMENT

2022–24

Canada



TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. Message from the President of the Treasury Board	2
2. Letter from the Multi-Stakeholder Forum on Open Government	4
3. Introduction	7
4. Progress achieved to date implementing open government in Canada	9
5. Developing Canada's National Action Plan for 2022–24	12
a. Feminist and inclusive open government	12
i. Inclusive public engagement	13
ii. Support to departments and agencies: inclusive departmental engagement and commitments	14
b. Intersection with Sustainable Development Goals	15
c. Engaging with the Multi-Stakeholder Forum	15
d. Lessons learned	16
6. Resulting commitments	17
7. 2022–24 National Action Plan on Open Government commitments	18
1. Climate change and sustainable growth	18
2. Democracy and civic space	23
3. Fiscal, financial and corporate transparency	29
4. Justice	32
5. Open data for results	38
Annex A – Feedback to consider for future national action plans	45
Annex B – Inclusion Toolkit	48
Annex C – Our guidelines to help draft commitments, milestones and indicators	57

1. MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE TREASURY BOARD



I am pleased to present Canada's 2022-2024 National Action Plan on Open Government. The Government of Canada, in collaboration with civil society, citizens and other partners, is continuing to embark on a journey to increase transparency, accountability, integrity, and citizen participation across the federal government. Over the course of this on-going work, we have witnessed encouraging successes, faced some

unavoidable challenges, and learned at each step along the way how we can better achieve a more open government.

The development of the 2022-2024 National Action Plan occurred during a difficult moment for our country and the world. In the face of a global pandemic, and like many other organizations, we pivoted to working remotely, engaging with Canadians through virtual events and online discussion forums. We asked Canadians what public policy issues mattered to them, and which ones could benefit from the application of the principles and tools of open government. In addition to this extensive consultation process, we worked closely with Canada's Multi-stakeholder Forum on Open Government to develop the 5 commitments detailed in the plan that follows here. These commitments will be tracked and measured so that we can collectively learn and continuously improve our efforts.

Open government facilitates the environment for democratic governments to build trust in institutions. In fact, there

is a growing, global recognition that the discipline of open government – increasing transparency, accountability, integrity, and citizen participation – is not only essential to building this trust, but also key to promoting the well-being of all people. Learning to consistently apply these principles will be critical to fostering an inclusive social and economic recovery and building a better future for all.

It is with pride that I look back at what the Government of Canada has accomplished as a member of the Open Government Partnership, and it is with anticipation that I look forward to the next 2 years as we advance the commitments set out in this National Action Plan. I encourage you to follow our progress on the [open government portal](#) and to engage with your government to let us know how you think we are doing.

The Honourable Mona Fortier, P.C., M.P.
President of the Treasury Board

2. LETTER FROM THE MULTI-STAKEHOLDER FORUM ON OPEN GOVERNMENT

The [Multi-Stakeholder Forum on Open Government](#) (MSF) is a group of 12 members, including eight civil society representatives and four federal government officials who provide input and advice on the development and implementation of the Government of Canada's open government activities. The MSF is co-chaired by one government and one civil society member.

In addition to being an international best practice, the Open Government Partnership (OGP) requires that all member countries maintain a Multi-Stakeholder Forum to enable regular multi-stakeholder consultation on National Action Plan implementation.

The MSF was formally established in 2018 to support ongoing dialogue on open government between Canadian civil society and government. Canada's 2022-2024 National Action Plan on Open Government is the second National Action Plan developed collaboratively between the federal government and the MSF.

How to open government during a pandemic?

The last two years challenged how we think about implementing open government. As the public service pivoted to protecting Canadians from a global pandemic, one major question emerged: What would progress towards Open Government look like in the context of a global pandemic?

The most obvious change in context included an "all of government" focus on mitigating the COVID-19 crisis. Besides the reallocation of existing resources to this priority, it also meant that the attention of senior decision-makers turned to pandemic

response efforts. We also had to recognize that, especially in the early days, many public servants could not work as normal. Their roles were shifting in response to the pandemic, they had changing responsibilities in their home lives, and even getting online or connecting to government IT resources could not be taken for granted. On the other side, civil society members had similar increased demands on their time, non-profits had to switch to working online, and they had their own mitigation plans to put into place.

It was important to the MSF that our work would not interfere with the urgent actions the government had to take to respond to the pandemic. While increasing the availability of health information to the public had become an immediate priority, the current members of the MSF did not possess an expertise in public health, and other groups were better positioned to support the sharing of that critical health data.

Some of the principal concerns prioritized by the MSF in previous years – including Beneficial Ownership, reform of the Access to Information legislation and its application and improving the openness of government procurement – had not diminished in importance. However, as people adapted to the "new normal," we asked ourselves: could the priorities previously identified move forward in the COVID-19 context, or would the MSF achieve a greater impact by focusing on other areas? In the end, we envisioned striking a balance

between those previously established challenges and emerging opportunities. Collectively, the MSF also decided to focus on improving the NAP co-creation process and committed to engaging more directly with external civil society experts as part of that work.

Developing the commitments

The MSF approached the 2022-24 National Action Plan with a focus on strengthening meaningful collaboration between the federal government and civil society. The MSF was more engaged than ever, throughout every step of the process, from designing the consultations to drafting one-pagers and inviting civil society peers to participate and helping them review and respond to draft commitments as they were developed. It was not easy, and it took a lot of time. This collaboration took the MSF one step further towards achieving the goal of a co-created National Action Plan.

As anticipated, improving the consultation process was challenging; the overall results were mixed. Government and civil society members of the MSF collaborated to design the consultations but struggled to co-create the commitments in the National Action Plan itself.

Civil society members expressed dissatisfaction with the lack of commitments on the issues of disinformation and environmental justice for marginalized people, as well as with the level of detail about disability open data in the plan. There was frustration with federal departments' participation in thematic meetings, and disappointment vis-à-vis how challenging it seemed for public servants to authentically engage with civil society groups. However, MSF civil society members recognized the pressure that public servants were under and the limits they were facing and appreciated their continued advocacy for change.

Indeed, it was challenging for many public servants to exchange openly and directly with civil society members during thematic meetings. This is a reminder that open government is still a new way to do things, and that it remains scary for those who aren't used to working in the open. And while civil society members were disappointed by the level of engagement from departments, many public servants found the experience a success. This demonstrates a disparity in our perceptions about authentic engagement, collaboration, and co-creation, and highlights an area where further work is required within government.

“As the public service pivoted to protecting Canadians from a global pandemic, one major question emerged: What would progress towards Open Government look like in the context of a global pandemic?”

On the government side, while being conscious that not all requests could be fulfilled, there was a sense of excitement in being able to apply an open government approach to new areas, such as climate or justice, and in being able to include many of the suggestions of civil society given the longer lead time that government processes would have normally required. Eyes were opened on areas where much more needs to be done, and seeds have been planted for the next action plan.

Concluding thoughts

The need to foster trust, improve transparency, and support citizen engagement became even more noticeable in the context of the pandemic. The federal government saw the demand for, necessity, and value of making real-time data and information publicly available. In a context where the scientific understanding of COVID was still emerging, and in a political landscape that had to contend with misinformation and disinformation, it became very clear that the line of trust between citizens and government was an essential resource for public health, among many other things.

There is a balance between ambitious commitments for open government reform and the ability of the federal public service to deliver results in a timely manner.

Yet through this process, as challenging as it may be, civil society has helped the Government of Canada raise its level of ambition. Civil society members of the MSF successfully advocated for the inclusion of the Open Data for Results theme and were the driver behind collaboration between civil society organizations and government departments to shape the commitments for each National Action Plan theme. This collaboration took the MSF one step further towards achieving the goal of a co-created National Action Plan.

The MSF is committed to developing and advocating for new, necessary approaches to open government that strengthen our ability to address collective challenges through active citizen participation. The COVID-19 pandemic has forced us to realize, once again, how critical it is to have citizens active and engaged in their relationship with government - the expectations of Canadians are changing, and open government enables public institutions to adapt alongside them.

Ultimately, government and civil society members of the MSF continue to contribute because of a collective belief in making government more open, transparent, and accountable. There will be differences and opportunities for learning along the way, but the MSF is excited to continue our work.

Mélanie Robert

(Government Co-chair)

Michael Lenczner

(Civil Society Co-chair)

3. INTRODUCTION

Canada has been a member of the [Open Government Partnership](#) (OGP) since 2012. The OGP is a global partnership that includes 77 national governments, 76 local governments and thousands of civil society organizations.

Through the OGP model, members use multistakeholder approaches (collaboration between government and civil society) to tackle challenges, forge coalitions to advance reforms, and spread innovation across countries. The OGP helps government members co-create, implement and report on national action plans on open government to make governments more inclusive, responsive, and accountable.

The Government of Canada is committed to open government and has made good progress over the past ten years. It has worked with partners in government and civil society across Canada and around the world to support and promote an approach to governance that focuses on transparency, accountability, integrity and citizen participation.

Canada is seen as a global open government leader, particularly in open data and for an inclusive and feminist open government. This reputation has been gained through Canada's membership in the OGP, our role as a co-chair of the [OGP Steering Committee](#) in 2018–19, and hosting the 6th OGP Global Summit in 2019. Canada's participation in the Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) [Working Party on Open Government](#) and the [OECD Expert Group on Open Government Data](#), and work with the [International Open Data Charter](#), have solidified this position.

This National Action Plan on Open Government (the Plan) was developed during a global pandemic when open government was critical. Building and maintaining public trust in government institutions became more relevant than ever as:

- public health measures were established to protect the health and safety of people
- new government programs were implemented in just weeks
- critical personal protective equipment was procured at a speed and scale never seen before
- most of the public service moved to a remote work environment

The pandemic demonstrated that open government is essential to providing the data and information that citizens needed to understand the decisions made and to help them keep their government accountable on the management of public funds.

The global pandemic arrived just as we started to develop the Plan. Therefore, we had to stop and take a moment to consult our partners. As a result, the decision was made to change our OGP cohort to 2022–24.

This extra time helped ensure that our online engagement approach was inclusive. It also meant that we could be more ambitious with the Plan. We were able to integrate into this Plan commitments that Canada made at the [Summit for Democracy](#), since many of the commitments aligned with what we heard throughout our consultation.

Canada's 10th anniversary as a member of the OGP is in 2022. The 2022–24 National Action Plan on Open Government will continue to improve open government for the people of Canada.



4. PROGRESS ACHIEVED TO DATE IMPLEMENTING OPEN GOVERNMENT IN CANADA

Canada has demonstrated its commitment to open government across the Government of Canada; in provincial, territorial and municipal governments; and in civil society organizations across the country.

To implement the 2018–20 National Action Plan, we took significant steps to make government more open, including:

- releasing more information about artificial intelligence (AI) programs that the government uses for public services. The Government of Canada AI Advisory Council Public Awareness Working Group conducted a national survey and virtual deliberations with Canadians on their perspectives of AI to help make our policies better in the future
- launching a [Roadmap for Open Science](#) in February 2020
- science-based departments releasing [Departmental Open Science Action Plans](#)
- launching a [performance dashboard](#) to track how the government serves Canadians. The dashboard was published on open.canada.ca and contains information about online availability, service standard performance, fees and volumetric data
- a 100% completion rate of our “Corporate Transparency” commitment. This included implementing legislative amendments to require federal corporations to maintain accurate and up-to-date beneficial ownership information and working with provincial and territorial governments to improve beneficial ownership practices.
- a 100% completion rate of our “Healthy Democracy” commitment by:
 - » supporting a healthy and reliable news ecosystem by delivering on the Budget 2018 commitment to provide \$50 million to support local journalism in underserved communities
 - » strengthening democracy and democratic institutions in advance of, and following, the 2019 federal general election by modernizing election laws to be more secure, transparent and accessible
 - » delivering on the Budget 2018 commitment to support a new process that would ensure that federal leaders’ debates are organized in the public interest

In all, we were able to implement 111 of the 133 indicators (or 84%) in our 2018–20 Plan. You can learn more about our successes and the lessons we learned in our self-assessment report.

The 2018–20 Plan gave us an important framework to guide our open government efforts. But the Government of Canada continues to do more to advance openness.

As of January 2022, 163 departments and agencies and six provinces are contributing data and information to open.canada.ca, the open government portal. This is an increase from the 67 organizations that were contributing data and information in 2018.

This increase is thanks, in part, to the federation of open data portals across Canada, and the coming into effect in 2019 of Bill C-58, an *Act to amend the Access to Information and the Privacy Act*, which came into effect in 2019. This legislation improves the way government information is provided to Canadians by:

- giving the Information Commissioner the power to make binding orders in relation to access to information requests, including the release of government records

- eliminating all fees except the \$5 application fee
- requiring institutions to proactively publish specific information that is known to be of interest to the public, without the need for a request
- allowing government institutions within the same ministerial portfolio to work together to process requests more efficiently

The Government of Canada has taken other actions to increase openness in recent years:

- The Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat engaged with Canadians to create a [Policy on Service and Digital](#) that outlines requirements for services, information technology, information management and data
- The Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat, Privy Council Office and Statistics Canada collaborated to develop a [Data Strategy Roadmap for the Federal Public Service](#), with plans to update it in 2022
- Extensive efforts were made to improve the quality of data available on [open.canada.ca](#) by:

- » creating new data quality criteria
- » developing a new data quality rating system
- » reviewing 200 frequently downloaded datasets for quality and standardization
- » reviewing 500 geospatial datasets using the Federal Geospatial Platform's data quality assessment
- The Government of Canada is making it easier for Canadians to access government information by improving the [Access to Information and Privacy \(ATIP\) Online Request Service](#). The ATIP Online Request Service was launched in October 2018 with eight institutions, increasing to 208 institutions by June 2021
- The Government of Canada made advances in gender equality and inclusion. Budget 2019 was tabled with a [Gender Report](#) for all new announced budget measures. The Budget also included a [Gender Statement](#), which provided an update on progress on the [Gender Results Framework](#)
- Canada's 4th National Action Plan on Open Government also improved the availability of relevant and timely gender and inclusion data. For example, Statistics Canada adopted new standards on the collection and measurement of data on gender identity and sex
- Since 2018, departments and agencies across the Government of Canada completed nearly 1,000 public consultations and engagement activities on a wide variety of topics including beneficial ownership registries, digital and data services and transformation, access to information, gender equality, fair housing, open science and more



5. DEVELOPING CANADA'S NATIONAL ACTION PLAN FOR 2022–24

Canada has taken an incremental approach to open government, seeking to reach new levels of maturity as we progress on this journey.

In previous years, our main focus was publishing government data and information to help make government more open. We have grown with this Plan, focusing on the issues that matter most to citizens, and then applying the principles of transparency, accountability, integrity and citizen participation to help solve real-world problems.

We ensured that the Multi-Stakeholder Forum was included in our process, from the first idea to the final iteration of the Plan. Together, we created a space for dialogue between civil society members of the Multi-Stakeholder Forum and public officials.

The Plan was developed during challenging times. The pandemic highlighted how important it is to have the voices of all people heard and to offer opportunities for citizens to participate. It is critical that from the outset, government designs ways to engage with the public that include communities that have too often been marginalized or under-represented.

5a. Feminist and inclusive open government


The Government of Canada launched the Feminist and Inclusive Open Government Initiative with the Open Government Partnership in 2018, and inclusion continues to be one of the Government of Canada's open government priorities. Canada's 2018–20 National Action Plan on Open Government included a commitment to feminist and inclusive dialogue and included a [gender-based analysis plus \(GBA Plus\) assessment](#) of the Plan.

We reconsidered our approach to inclusion based on the lessons learned from our previous Plans, the Feminist Open Government Day we hosted at Canada's 2019 OGP Summit, and the recommendations of the GBA Plus assessment and the Independent Reporting Mechanism (IRM) report.

We did not consider inclusion just for stand-alone commitments. We decided that the 2022–24 Plan should include inclusion throughout.

With that decision in mind, we set three goals for this Plan:

1. Adopt an inclusive approach from the start
2. Include inclusion throughout the Plan

- 
3. Better engage with and reflect the expectations of under-represented and marginalized communities, like women, girls, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and two spirit (LGBTQ2S) people, racialized communities, persons with disabilities, young Canadians, low-income Canadians and others

Our approach was based on two pillars: public engagement and support to departments and agencies.

Inclusive public engagement

The Government of Canada conducted an extensive public engagement process from January 2020 to February 2022 to understand Canadians' priorities and expectations. We wanted to reach a wider audience and talk about issues important to our stakeholders, while making sure our activities were inclusive.

From late 2019 to early 2020, we reached out to groups that we identified as having fewer opportunities to engage in open government, but that could be highly impacted by its benefits. This pre-engagement phase was meant to better equip new stakeholders to participate in discussions about open government in Canada.

In early 2020, we started with in-person events in Ottawa, Kingston, Victoria and Vancouver. However, the pandemic forced us to move to online. But we knew that conducting engagement

activities exclusively online could increase the digital divide and exclude some communities from conversations. Therefore, we refocused on inclusion, both in the Plan and in its development.

The online engagement activities started in March 2020. We asked civil society, private sector representatives, marginalized and under-represented communities, the Multi-Stakeholder Forum on Open Government, and the public what problems they would like open government to tackle in the following years.

To make sure that we hosted inclusive events for our first digital-only consultation, we piloted Women and Gender Equality Canada's inclusive public engagement guide. The guide taught us how to design public engagement activities to reduce or prevent barriers to participation.

For example, we offered multiple options for participating at different times of the day to maximize participation across several time zones. Additionally, all online sessions were equipped with on-screen captions provided by CART Services writers from the Canadian Hearing Society.

We wanted to provide options for people who had limited or no access to the Internet, or for people who preferred to participate offline. Therefore, we offered telephone town halls where participants could propose ideas for the Plan.

We needed to promote these events differently to reach individuals who may not have access to the Internet. We collaborated with the Canadian Federation of Library Associations and l'Association des bibliothèques publiques du Québec to send out flyers about the telephone town halls for members to post in their libraries.

Finally, for potential participants who could not or did not want to participate in an event, we provided three alternative avenues:

- online discussion forums on our engagement platform
- a private feedback form (also available on our platform)
- an email address to provide feedback

Ideas were submitted via telephone, email and online through the 76engage and letstalkpengov.ca platforms. We conducted several online events, including a series of public webinars on key thematic areas and meetings with civil society. In total, we received over 500 comments, suggestions, and ideas for the 2022–24 Plan.

Support to departments and agencies: inclusive departmental engagement and commitments

The Government of Canada is committed to supporting the full implementation of GBA Plus across federal departments to ensure that government policy, legislation and regulations are sensitive to the different impacts that decisions can have on diverse groups of people.

Departments leading commitments worked with Women and Gender Equality Canada, the Canada School of Public Service, Heritage Canada and departmental GBA Plus experts to develop Plan commitments and ensure inclusion throughout the Plan.

All commitment leads were invited to a one-hour workshop providing the theoretical and practical foundations needed to embed inclusion and GBA Plus considerations throughout their contributions to the Plan.

We also developed and shared an Inclusion Toolkit (Appendix B), with resources and training options, to help departments draft inclusive commitments.

Finally, Canadian Heritage and Women and Gender Equality Canada were asked to review the draft commitments during the public consultation phases and provide recommendations on how they could be drafted in a more inclusive way.

5b. Intersection with Sustainable Development Goals

The United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its [17 Sustainable Development Goals \(SDGs\)](#) are a global call to action to tackle the world's most pressing challenges such as poverty, inequality and climate change. The Government of Canada adopted a [Strategy](#) and an [implementation plan](#) to achieve these goals and tracks its progress through the [open SDG Hub](#).

All five of the commitments in the Plan interconnect with SDGs. Some targets, ambitions and indicators from both international and Canadian SDG frameworks appear across multiple commitments and milestones in this Plan.

5c. Engaging with the Multi-Stakeholder Forum

Government of Canada officials engaged with civil society representatives through Canada's [Multi-Stakeholder Forum on Open Government](#). The Forum supports ongoing dialogue between government and Canadian civil society on open government. The Forum's mandate is to:

- provide input and advice on the Government of Canada's commitments on open government
- identify new areas of focus
- build the open government community across Canada

Civil society members of the Multi-Stakeholder Forum identified several key action areas for inclusion in the Plan, such as an open data theme, inclusive open government, and beneficial ownership transparency.

The Multi-Stakeholder Forum met virtually on a regular basis to discuss, provide advice and give recommendations on the broad direction of the Plan and individual elements of the commitments. Within the [thematic background documents](#), members also provided their perspectives on what concrete actions should be prioritized for each theme.

For the first time, civil society members of the Multi-Stakeholder Forum and additional civil society representatives were able to meet with departmental officials to share input from the thematic backgrounders and to convey ideas for each of the commitment themes. This took place before Government of Canada departments started drafting milestones and indicators. [Summaries of the meetings](#) were made available during the first and second phase of consultation.

The resulting draft commitments were made publicly available through online consultations. Canadians were invited to provide their feedback on the draft commitments during two separate consultation periods, over a period of five weeks. Throughout the consultation periods for the draft commitments, 222 comments and ideas were received, which have helped improve and shape the Plan's final commitments.

5d. Lessons learned

While we made every effort to consider inclusion in this Plan, we know that we could always do more. Our experience in developing the Plan has shown us where a different and more dedicated approach is required.

Three of the five themes of the Plan commitments involve working with Indigenous Peoples and communities. We acknowledge that a two-year cycle is insufficient for meaningful engagement with Indigenous Peoples and communities. We plan to make concerted efforts to solve this gap by creating ongoing and meaningful Nation-to-Nation engagement opportunities in parallel to the Plan process.

Developing this Plan was a unique experience, lived during an unprecedented time. It taught us lessons about inclusivity and digital divides, and where open government can make a real difference. Circumstances pushed us to make a better Plan than we initially envisioned. The last two years have showed how much more we can

do to make future national action plans stronger to promote transparency, accountability, integrity and citizen participation.

We will explore this with the Multi-Stakeholder Forum and take into account recommendations from the OGP IRM.

We believe we have drafted an ambitious, problem-based and forward-thinking Plan that not only reflects the OGP values of transparency, accountability and participation, but also reflects our priorities of inclusion, participation and impact. We look forward to working with our partners throughout the federal government, across Canada, and around the world to implement these commitments.

6. RESULTING COMMITMENTS

The 2022–24 National Action Plan on Open Government has five themes with associated commitments, with open government principles reflected throughout:

1

Climate change and sustainable growth

2

Democracy and civic space

3

Fiscal, financial and corporate transparency

4

Justice

5

Open data for results

7. 2022–24 NATIONAL ACTION PLAN ON OPEN GOVERNMENT COMMITMENTS

1. Theme: Climate change and sustainable growth

Issue to be addressed

People in Canada are increasingly concerned about climate change. According to a [2021 United Nations Development Program Survey](#), three-quarters of Canadians surveyed believed climate change is an emergency. As pointed out by the OECD, governments must keep the environment in mind in their COVID-19 recovery plans.

Governments, the business community and citizens want to make informed decisions to help reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, protect against climate risk, and adapt to climate change and modifications of the natural environment.

The annual [Synthesis Report on the Pan-Canadian Framework on Clean Growth and Climate Change](#) provides information on Canada's progress in the fight against climate change. [Canada's strengthened climate plan](#) presents what the Government of Canada plans to do, with provinces, territories and Indigenous Peoples, to continue the fight against climate change, protect our environment, and ensure sustainable growth.

Problem statement

People in Canada raised the need for the Government of Canada to better communicate and engage with citizens on its decisions and progress on combatting climate change and ensuring sustainable growth, as well as on the climate science, information and data underpinning its decisions and actions.

Commitment

By doing its part to enhance access to detailed, reliable, accessible and timely climate and environmental science, information and data, and learning from Indigenous communities, the Government of Canada will join other levels of governments, businesses, and citizens in improving our collective understanding of climate change and its impacts on ecosystems. Overall, it will help inform decision-making and build climate change resiliency, which will contribute to the implementation of the National Adaptation Strategy, to be released in 2022-23.

Interconnections with Sustainable Development Goals



Lead departments

- Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC)
- Natural Resources Canada (NRCan)
- Statistics Canada (StatCan)
- International Development Research Centre (IDRC)

Milestones

WHAT WILL WE DO?

1.1 Through the [Open Science and Data Platform](#) make information related to cumulative effects, including climate change and sustainable growth, easier for people in Canada to find and understand

WHAT IS OUR DEADLINE?



DEPT.



HOW WILL WE KNOW WE SUCCEEDED?

1.1.1 Add content and features to the [Open Science and Data Platform](#), using user engagement and feedback, both internal and external to government, to set priorities for additions

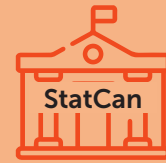
1.1.2 Provide accessible science-based educational content on 10 key topics (air, biodiversity, climate, cumulative effects, development activities, economy and industry, health, land, society and culture, and water), which may be supported by interactive maps

1.1.3 Engage with governments, Indigenous Peoples and external groups (such as industry, environmental non-government organizations) to verify that cumulative effects are better understood, new content is identified (data, publications) and overall use of the platform is increased

WHAT WILL WE DO?

1.2 Improve and expand information on energy use and GHG emissions through the [Physical Flow Accounts](#) as part of the [Canadian Centre for Energy Information \(CCEI\)](#)

DEPT.



HOW WILL WE KNOW WE SUCCEEDED?

WHAT IS OUR DEADLINE?



1.2.1 Share an infographic and datasets related to the GHG emissions embedded in goods and services purchased by households. Link and share environmental data on energy consumption and GHG emission physical flow accounts with economic satellite accounts on tourism, clean technologies, natural resources

By June 2024

1.2.2 Develop an "Energy and Environment" webpage for the CCEI portal that will include detailed GHG information from both StatCan and ECCC, including several data visualization dashboards and indicators

By 2022

1.2.3 Link and share environmental data on energy consumption and GHG emission [Physical Flow Accounts](#) with economic satellite accounts on transportation and agriculture

By June 2024

WHAT WILL WE DO?

1.3 Making climate change science more open and accessible

HOW WILL WE KNOW WE SUCCEEDED?

WHAT IS OUR DEADLINE?



DEPT.



1.3.1 New metric to be designed and included in yearly reports to assess open access of climate change science publication using data from an abstract and citation database

By June 2022

ECCC

1.3.2 Yearly reports on progress against existing metrics that measure how science-based departments and agencies implement open science, with a focus on open access metrics and diverse types of open access, to be released in the open

By June 2022
for reporting year 2022,
and June 2023
for reporting year 2023

ECCC

1.3.3 Support 10 climate change innovation research projects and 10 master's students focused on the intersection of machine learning and climate change in sub-Saharan Africa and promote knowledge exchange with Canadian scholars

By December 2024

IDRC

1.3.4 Work with Lacuna Fund to support the creation, aggregation and maintenance of open datasets for the training and evaluation of machine learning models by and for local communities most affected by climate change around the world

By March 2023

IDRC

WHAT WILL WE DO?

1.4 Provide accessible, reliable and practical climate data and information to support adaptation decision-making and help people of Canada, across all sectors and regions, build their resilience to climate change

WHAT IS OUR DEADLINE?



DEPT.



HOW WILL WE KNOW WE SUCCEEDED?

1.4.1 Increase the number of clients accessing climate information through [Canadian Centre for Climate Services](#) (CCCS) services by 10% by 2023 from 2021 baseline, by working to increase climate data and addressing information gaps driven by user needs

1.4.2 Publish two sector-based modules on [Climate Data](#) by 2023 to provide relevant climate projections and information for users in the building and transportation sectors

1.4.3 Respond to at least 300 user enquiries via the CCCS support desk each year to continue to provide high-level quality of support, and use their feedback to help us advance our mandate to help users understand and become more resilient to climate change

2. Theme: Democracy and civic space

Issue to be addressed

Democratic governments must take appropriate measures to ensure that everyone – including the most marginalized – can participate in decisions that affect them. For democracy to prosper, it must be inclusive, safe and participatory.

Holding free and fair elections is a first essential step. It is critical to maintain all the rights, processes and institutions that make up a healthy democracy, from a free press to an independent judiciary to the holding of free and fair elections. But we must be mindful of the opportunities and challenges presented by rapidly evolving digital technologies. For instance, the spread of online disinformation since the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic further demonstrates how the malicious use of technology can have harmful consequences to the health of democracy and the lives of individuals.

Problem statement

There is a need to take action to ensure a healthy and inclusive democracy in Canada.

Commitment

The Government of Canada commits to ensuring that democracy works for all by actively combatting disinformation, safeguarding fair elections, fostering social inclusion and trust toward public institutions, and protecting civic space online and offline in an inclusive way.

Interconnections with Sustainable Development Goals



Lead departments

- Canadian Heritage (PCH)
- Privy Council Office (PCO)
- Global Affairs Canada (GAC)
- Public Safety (PS)
- Women and Gender Equality (WAGE)
- International Development Research Centre (IDRC)

Milestones

WHAT WILL WE DO?

2.1 Take action to address the rising spread of disinformation in Canada and its consequences on the health of our democracy

HOW WILL WE KNOW WE SUCCEEDED?

WHAT IS OUR DEADLINE?



DEPT.



2.1.1 Summit for Democracy: Projects are supported by the [Digital Citizen Contribution Program](#) with a focus on combatting online disinformation and other harms in a Canadian context to better understand the origins, impacts and potential response to online disinformation

By March 2023

PCH

2.1.2 Summit for Democracy: Projects are supported by PCH's [Joint Initiative](#) with Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council with a focus on combatting online disinformation and other harms in a Canadian context

By March 2023

PCH

2.1.3 Summit for Democracy: Annual Digital Citizen Initiative conferences are held, bringing together stakeholders for capacity building and knowledge dissemination

By February 2022 and
February 2023

PCH

2.1.4 Summit for Democracy: New models are explored that enable private giving and philanthropic support for trusted, professional, non-profit journalism and local news

By March 2024

PCH

2.1.5 Summit for Democracy: The Local Journalism Initiative supports the hiring of journalists to provide coverage for under-served communities across Canada to support a healthy, diverse and reliable news ecosystem

By March 2024

PCH

HOW WILL WE KNOW WE SUCCEEDED?

WHAT IS OUR DEADLINE?



DEPT.



2.1.6 Lead a multi-stakeholder working group to develop and advance international priorities related to Diversity of Content Online

By March 2023

PCH

2.1.7 Finalize voluntary actions in line with the Guiding Principles on diversity of content online

By December 2022

PCH

2.1.8 Countries, private sectors and civil society organizations sign on to the Guiding Principles and commit to advancing voluntary actions

By March 2023

PCH

2.1.9 Summit for Democracy: During its tenure as Chair of the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (IDEA) in 2022, Canada will engage partners on the challenges created by disinformation, particularly those affecting governments and marginalized and vulnerable groups, and its impact on democratic processes, including participation and representation

By December 2022

GAC

2.1.10 Publish an educational document for Canadians that would raise awareness on what the national security community does, why they do it and how, with specific reference to national security efforts to combat disinformation meant to undermine our democratic system and social cohesion

By September 2022

PS

2.1.11 Launch an online engagement tool to foster dialogue with Canadians on national security transparency issues, with specific reference to national security efforts to combat disinformation meant to undermine our democratic system and social cohesion

By June 2022

PS

WHAT WILL WE DO?

2.2 Continue protecting democracy at home and abroad and safeguarding Canada's electoral and democracy processes by combatting foreign threats to democracy

HOW WILL WE KNOW WE SUCCEEDED?

WHAT IS OUR DEADLINE?



DEPT.



2.2.1 Summit for Democracy: Release an annual G7 Rapid Response Mechanism public report aimed at raising awareness of and strengthening societal resilience to foreign interference, including state-sponsored disinformation, by keeping publics in the G7 member states informed about the latest threats and countermeasures

By May 2022

GAC

2.2.2 Summit for Democracy: Share Canada's experience in implementing its Plan to Protect Democracy, such as the Critical Election Incident Public Protocol and the Declaration, with domestic and international partners

By fall 2022

PCO

2.2.3 Summit for Democracy: Engage provincial and territorial officials on threat awareness, including countering cyber threats and disinformation in electoral processes

By fall 2022

PCO

2.2.4 Summit for Democracy: Implement the Declaration for Electoral Integrity Online commitment to enhance the circulation of authoritative and verifiable government information in the Internet ecosystem, including ensuring that electoral management bodies are identified as the leading source of information online for where, when and the ways to vote

By fall 2022

PCO

2.2.5 Summit for Democracy: Work with social media companies on the next iteration of the Declaration for Electoral Integrity Online

By fall 2022

PCO

HOW WILL WE KNOW WE SUCCEEDED?

2.2.6 Summit for Democracy: Canada will establish a new centre to spread Canadian expertise and assistance to those seeking to build peace; advance justice; promote human rights, inclusion and democracy; and deliver good governance

WHAT IS OUR DEADLINE?



By fiscal year 2023–24

DEPT.



GAC

2.2.7 Summit for Democracy: As co-chairs of the Media Freedom Coalition in 2022, Canada will take positive steps toward strengthening its capacity to defend journalists around the world and protect the right to freedom of expression, public interest media, and the safety of journalists

By December 2022

GAC

WHAT WILL WE DO?

2.3 Take steps toward strengthening trust, inclusion and social cohesion in Canada

HOW WILL WE KNOW WE SUCCEEDED?

2.3.1 Summit for Democracy: Monitor trends on trust in government and identify lessons learned from other countries through the OECD's work and its survey on what drives trust and how trust can foster greater social cohesion

WHAT IS OUR DEADLINE?



By fall 2022

DEPT.



PCO

2.3.2 Summit for Democracy: Support research to better understand the state of civic discourse (both online and offline) and social cohesion in Canada

By fall 2022

PCO

2.3.3 Summit for Democracy: Canada will launch its first-ever federal LGBTQ2 Action Plan to advance the health, social and economic outcomes of LGBTQ2 people in Canada and the human rights of LGBTQ2 individuals internationally

By December 2022

WAGE

WHAT WILL WE DO?

2.4 Advance digital inclusion at home and abroad with a focus on shaping global norms, empowering multi-stakeholder engagement, and boosting communication and outreach

HOW WILL WE KNOW WE SUCCEEDED?

WHAT IS OUR DEADLINE?



DEPT.



2.4.1 Summit for Democracy: Launch a program of action for Canada's 2022 chairship of the Freedom Online Coalition to advance digital inclusion to ensure that everyone can participate in society online and offline, at home and abroad, with a focus on shaping global norms and expanding diplomatic networks, promoting multi-stakeholder engagement, and increasing advocacy, communication and outreach

By December 2022

GAC

2.4.2 Conduct a landscape study and a mapping on disinformation in the four global south regions: Middle East and North Africa, Latin America, sub-Saharan Africa, Asia; examine policies and actors; and build an agenda to work together to reduce disinformation

By spring 2022

IDRC

2.4.3 Support research in 18 countries on how technology has facilitated gender-based violence (GBV)

By spring 2022

IDRC

2.4.4 Conduct research on fostering a feminist Internet: infrastructure, data, discourse from AI to LGBTQI+ (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and intersex, plus) to labour to GBV

By June 2022

IDRC

2.4.5 Support two countries in the global south to advance legal and gender transformative approaches to countering sexist hate speech online (India and Brazil)

By December 2022

IDRC

3. Theme: Fiscal, financial and corporate transparency

Issue to be addressed

Fiscal, financial and corporate transparency is an open government policy area that requires time and persistence. While progress has been made through various past commitments, open contracting data, beneficial ownership transparency, and fiscal transparency are key components of an open government. This is especially true when it comes to managing the COVID-19 response and recovery programs, managing public funds and countering the risks of corruption.

Civil society also raised the issue of the accountability of our democratic institutions becoming more privatized through technology and software, where non-state parties are increasingly dictating how certain technologies will affect citizens.

Problem statement

People of Canada raised the need for increased transparency and accountability around the management of public funds during the COVID-19 pandemic and the need to incentivize the private sector to be more transparent about their ultimate owners.

Commitment

The Government of Canada commits to take the first steps toward the implementation of a publicly accessible beneficial ownership registry, including engaging partners to support coordinated implementation and a harmonized approach, and monitor the strategic management of public procurement of technology and software. Overall, it will help improve corporate and governmental transparency and accountability.

Interconnections with Sustainable Development Goals



Lead departments

- Innovation, Science and Economic Development (ISED)
- Department of Finance Canada (FIN)
- Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat (TBS)

Milestones

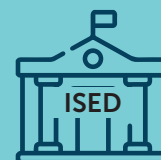
WHAT WILL WE DO?

3.1 Pursuant to the Budget 2022 commitment the Government of Canada will implement a public and searchable beneficial ownership registry by the end of 2023. The registry will cover federally regulated corporations and will be scalable to allow access to the beneficial ownership data held by provinces and territories that agree to participate in a national registry

WHAT IS OUR DEADLINE?



DEPT.



HOW WILL WE KNOW WE SUCCEEDED?

3.1.1 Summit for Democracy: The Government's approach to beneficial ownership disclosures is informed by stakeholders' views on specifications for a made-in-Canada solution

3.1.2 Federal legislative provisions necessary to implement the national beneficial ownership registry are in place in a timely manner, to support launch of the registry

3.1.3 The registry is accessible to the public by the end of 2023

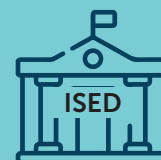
WHAT WILL WE DO?

3.2 Engage federal, provincial and territorial partners to support coordinated implementation and a harmonized approach to ultimate beneficial ownership

WHAT IS OUR DEADLINE?



DEPT.



HOW WILL WE KNOW WE SUCCEEDED?

3.2.1 Summit for Democracy: Regular consultations are held with federal, provincial and territorial partners and counterparts to discuss a harmonized made-in-Canada solution that is scalable and can facilitate participation by the provinces and territories

3.2.2 Canada consults with international counterparts to acquire lessons learned and best practices for implementing a publicly accessible beneficial ownership registry

WHAT WILL WE DO?

3.3 Monitor the strategic management of technology and software procurement within the Government of Canada

WHAT IS OUR DEADLINE?



DEPT.



HOW WILL WE KNOW WE SUCCEEDED?

3.3.1 Based on data availability, release the aggregate details of applications used by the Government of Canada

3.3.2 Work toward developing policy instruments for the ethical use of information technology in the Government of Canada

4. Theme: Justice

Issue to be addressed

The events of 2020–21 showed the importance of justice, anti-racism and anti-discrimination efforts, which were brought to the forefront through international movements. We also saw side-effects of the global pandemic, which created access to justice issues, such as legal problems related to detention, employment, housing and debt. Access to justice and open justice are key to helping all individuals, communities, civil society organizations and governments across the country have access to the data, information and services they need to identify and effectively resolve their legal problems.

Problem statement

There is a need to address the access to justice crisis in this country and promote just outcomes for all.

Commitment

The Government of Canada commits to collect and share data, including disaggregated data, advance legal literacy, identify and share promising practices, and foster partnerships and collaboration. Overall, it will promote a people-centred approach to justice, which works to advance equality, legal empowerment, and a better understanding of the legal needs of all the people of Canada, including Indigenous Peoples, racialized communities and other traditionally underserved populations.

Interconnections with Sustainable Development Goals



Lead departments

- Justice Canada (JUS)
- Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP)
- International Development Research Centre (IDRC)

Milestones

WHAT WILL WE DO?

4.1 Collect and share data, including disaggregated data

HOW WILL WE KNOW WE SUCCEEDED?

WHAT IS OUR DEADLINE?



DEPT.



4.1.1 Complete the [Canadian Legal Problems Survey](#) (CLPS) and share the results, including Public Use Microdata File (PUMF)

February 2022

JUS

4.1.2 Complete and share the findings of qualitative studies on LGBTQ2S populations, Black Canadians, persons with disabilities, immigrants and Indigenous Peoples, to complement the CLPS quantitative data

Spring 2022

JUS

4.1.3 Prepare and publish [Legal Aid Reports](#)

Annually

JUS

4.1.4 Update and maintain the [State of the Criminal Justice System](#) Report and Dashboard

Annually

JUS

4.1.5 Collect and release high-value data related to various policing activities, workforce composition and more

May 2023 and ongoing

RCMP

- 4.1.5.1 Establish and release an RCMP inventory of data and information resources of business value
- 4.1.5.2 Release to the Government of Canada open data portal identified and approved open RCMP datasets

Fall 2023 and ongoing

Fall 2022 and ongoing

WHAT WILL WE DO?

4.2 Identify and share promising practices

DEPT.



HOW WILL WE KNOW WE SUCCEEDED?

WHAT IS OUR DEADLINE?



4.2.1 Collaborate with the Council of Canadian Administrative Tribunals ([CCAT](#)) to support delivery of workshops to better understand and promote good practices

June 2022

4.2.2 Support development of Community Justice Centres as a promising practice

Winter 2024

4.2.3 Publish promising practices from evaluations, annual reports and federal, provincial and territorial work, as appropriate

Winter 2024

WHAT WILL WE DO?

4.3 Advance legal literacy and empowerment

DEPT.



HOW WILL WE KNOW WE SUCCEEDED?

WHAT IS OUR DEADLINE?



4.3.1 Regularly update [Charterpedia](#) on the Justice website

Winter 2024

4.3.2 Publish geo-spatial mapping of services funded by Indigenous Justice Program

Winter 2024

HOW WILL WE KNOW WE SUCCEEDED?

WHAT IS OUR DEADLINE?



4.3.3 Release a range of family law tools, including:

- 4.3.3.1 Five forthcoming [online courses](#) on Bill C-78 (family violence, relocation, family dispute resolution and the duties of the parties, parenting, and Inter-jurisdictional support proceedings under the Divorce Act)
- 4.3.3.2 Online fact sheet on the official languages provisions in C-78
- 4.3.3.3 Online materials for legal professionals on the 1996 and 2007 Hague Conventions
- 4.3.3.4 Online materials for professionals on the amendments to the *Family Orders and Agreements Enforcement Assistance Act*, particularly those relating to income disclosure
- 4.3.3.5 A family violence tool for family law legal advisors

Summer 2023

4.3.4. Develop a Children's Rights Impact Assessment (CRIA) tool and guide on how to use the CRIA tool, with the accompanying online course on the [United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child](#)

May 2022

4.3.5 Support for a network of legal information hubs providing free services to official language minority communities

Winter 2024

4.3.6 Communications activities to support legal literacy, including:

- 4.3.6.1 Promotion of [Charter](#) anniversary and online resources each April
- 4.3.6.2 Public awareness of the [UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples](#) and the proposed federal legislation
- 4.3.6.3 Updates to the [digital Braille version of the Criminal Code](#) and the release of accessible versions of legislation and related content
- 4.3.6.4 Accessible versions of Canada's medical assistance in dying ([MAID](#)) communications products

Winter 2024

WHAT WILL WE DO?

4.4 Foster partnerships and collaborate to advance access to justice

DEPT.



HOW WILL WE KNOW WE SUCCEEDED?

WHAT IS OUR DEADLINE?



4.4.1 Work with provincial and territorial partners

Winter 2024

4.4.2 Participation on [OGP Coalition on Justice](#)

Spring 2022

4.4.3 Collaboration with [Action Committee on Access to Justice in Civil and Family Matters](#)

Winter 2024

4.4.4 Fostering international partnerships, including OECD and [Pathfinders](#)

Winter 2024

WHAT WILL WE DO?

4.5 A multi-year roadmap for open government at the RCMP

DEPT.



HOW WILL WE KNOW WE SUCCEEDED?

WHAT IS OUR
DEADLINE?



4.5.1 Develop an RCMP open government strategy with multi-year action plan (released publicly)

September 2022

4.5.2 Establish an Open Government Office with resources dedicated to the advancement of openness and transparency across the RCMP

June 2022

4.5.3 Establish an RCMP Open Government Working Group of key stakeholders across the RCMP to identify and release data and information, and advance a culture of openness, transparency and accountability based on open government principles and practices. In addition, the RCMP will be an active participant in interdepartmental working groups/efforts around justice and justice-related topics of transparency and open government

June 2022

4.5.4 Establish an RCMP Multi-Stakeholder Forum (non-governmental organizations, other government departments, private sector, academia, community representatives including Indigenous Peoples, LGBTQ, youth) to help engage in discussions on priorities and areas of focus for openness and transparency in the RCMP

Fall 2023

5. Theme: Open data for results

Issue to be addressed

Practitioners and experts have refined their thoughts on open data. While the end state is still open by default, where everything that can be released is released, we need to focus on releasing timely, relevant and high-quality data that has the highest potential for impact. The prioritization of open data work needs to be informed by public demand.

Problem statement

People in Canada raised the need to apply transparency, accountability and citizen participation principles and tools to open data to drive results for citizens.

Commitment

The Government of Canada commits to managing data and information in an open and strategic manner, building a more mature open government and open data ecosystem, and focusing on disaggregated data. Overall, a better management of data, and a prioritization of publicly demanded, high-value data and information, will enable a more inclusive and barrier-free Canada.

Interconnections with Sustainable Development Goals



Lead departments

- Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat (TBS)
- Employment and Social Development Canada (ESDC)
- Statistics Canada (StatCan)
- Natural Resources Canada (NRCan)
- Indigenous Services Canada (ISC)
- Health Canada (HC)
- International Development Research Centre (IDRC)
- Women and Gender Equality Canada (WAGE)

Milestones

WHAT WILL WE DO?

5.1 Ensure open and strategic management of data and information

DEPT.



HOW WILL WE KNOW WE SUCCEEDED?

WHAT IS OUR DEADLINE?



5.1.1 Develop a roadmap identifying and prioritizing federal data standards

By end of 2022

5.1.2 Create a protocol for the development and management of federal data standards

By 2023

5.1.3 Establish a data and information governance framework to support a holistic approach to governance and to inform direction and decision-making on federal data and information initiatives

By end of 2022

5.1.4 Define a federal data quality framework to build a common understanding of data quality and to harmonize approaches to optimizing the quality of data assets in the Government of Canada

By summer 2023

5.1.5 Develop a new standard for systems that manage information and data in the Government of Canada, anchored in principles and business outcomes, to provide an enterprise approach for all federal records management and business systems

By end of 2022

5.1.6 Develop an assessment and reporting framework that supports implementation of the standard for systems that manage information and data and enables decision-making in the Government of Canada

By end of 2022

WHAT WILL WE DO?

5.2 Build an open government and open data ecosystem

HOW WILL WE KNOW WE SUCCEEDED?

WHAT IS OUR DEADLINE?



DEPT.



5.2.1 Integrate a robust set of open data activities as crucial components in the development of an Open Government Strategy.

By December 2024

TBS

5.2.2 Establish an open data advisory working group made up of diverse internal and external stakeholders to help:

- Inform open data priorities
- Inform the establishment of public reporting on the progress of releasing open data
- Identify users and experts within the open data ecosystem
- Report publicly on the work and deliberations of the working group, as well as on the impact of open data

By December 2024

TBS

5.2.3 Building on the Open Government Strategy, prioritize the development of a dedicated open data plan, through inclusive engagement, to expand on key open data activities.

By December 2024

TBS

5.2.4 Consult on and develop departmental service standards for prioritizing and releasing open data to the open government portal, as part of the open data plan.

By December 2024

TBS

5.2.5 Using existing maturity models, develop a maturity model for open government and open data for the Government of Canada.

By December 2024

TBS

HOW WILL WE KNOW WE SUCCEEDED?

WHAT IS OUR DEADLINE?



DEPT.



5.2.6 Collaborate with departments to develop criteria and a template for implementation plans, as well as self-assessment and annual reporting tools, that departments can:

- Align with the Open Government Strategy and maturity models
- Use to optimize departmental efforts for growth, while monitoring progress and outcomes

By December 2024

TBS

5.2.7 Expand the federated open data search to include open data from all thirteen jurisdictions, thereby providing Canadians with access to open and discoverable data in one place

By March 2023

**NRCan (lead);
TBS (support)**

5.2.8 Working in collaboration with Indigenous Peoples and internal and external stakeholders, create a data-sharing policy that would facilitate data-sharing with Indigenous governments and organizations and their partners, while addressing key data governance issues, such as protecting the confidentiality of community-level information

By 2024

ISC

5.2.9 Develop and test an infrastructure, with supporting governance, to facilitate uptake of citizen science in a health research context (this may include, but is not limited to, research in environmental health [air, water, chemicals, radiation], COVID-19, or other health-related topics)

By 2024

HC

5.2.10 Support the Global Data Barometer and disclose comparative analysis on data in 100+ countries

By spring 2022

IDRC

5.2.11 Increase the number of new women's rights groups engaged in open government practices and data production consultations around the world (at least 15)

By October 2022

IDRC

HOW WILL WE KNOW WE SUCCEEDED?

WHAT IS OUR DEADLINE?



DEPT.



5.2.12 Support organizations in at least 15 OGP countries in developing regions to advance open, fair and efficient use of data to strengthen their democracies

By December 2022

IDRC

5.2.13 Produce a series of synthesis reports, case studies and in-person events that support the global open data community, including the work with the Government of Kenya to co-host the International Open Data Conference

By June 2023

IDRC

5.2.14 Plan and develop a central online hub to facilitate public access to GBA Plus data, information and resources, and to provide a space for learning and participation

By December 2023

WAGE

WHAT WILL WE DO?

5.3 Create a roadmap toward a more inclusive barrier-free Canada

DEPT.



ESDC (lead);
StatCan (support)

HOW WILL WE KNOW WE SUCCEEDED?

WHAT IS OUR DEADLINE?



5.3.1 Disaggregated Data Action Plan Developmental Phase:
Develop a collection strategy for major surveys, survey design for new surveys, terms and conditions for collaborations with partners on the acquisition of new data, establishment and promotion of statistical standards for disaggregated data, exploration of existing data sources, start of release of new data and new indicators

Ongoing

HOW WILL WE KNOW WE SUCCEEDED?

WHAT IS OUR DEADLINE?



5.3.2 Disaggregated Data Action Plan Implementation Phase I: Launch of enhanced surveys, a collaborative analysis space, and an intersectional, population-level platform; further exploration of existing data sources and release of survey data, new indicators and new analytical studies

By March 2023

5.3.3 Disaggregated Data Action Plan Implementation Phase II: Continued release of new indicators, survey data, and analyses; enhancement of the portal of the Centre for Gender, Diversity and Inclusion Statistics, enhanced data integration

By March 2024

5.3.4 Disaggregated Data Action Plan Monitoring Phase: Continued release of new indicators, survey data and analyses; completion of the evaluation framework; course correction

**Completion by March 2025;
report initial progress by 2024**

5.3.5 Disaggregated Data Action Plan Evaluation Phase: Continued release of new indicators, survey data and analyses; evaluation report and recommendations for ongoing data collection and dissemination

**Completion by March 2026;
report initial progress by 2024**

5.3.6 Disaggregated Data Action Plan Continuous Improvement and Monitoring Phase: Continued release of new indicators, survey data and analyses; monitoring of data gaps and emerging needs that should be covered, adherence to diversity data standards (in collaboration with TBS where appropriate) at the agency and all levels of government, flow of data to the agency and statistics from the agency and use of statistics in policymaking

Ongoing

5.3.7 2022 Canadian Survey on Disability data collection

By September 2022

5.3.8 2022 Canadian Survey on Disability data initial results available

By October 2023

5.3.9 Disability screening questions included in future cycles of the General Social Survey, Canadian Income Survey and Indigenous Peoples Survey

Ongoing

HOW WILL WE KNOW WE SUCCEEDED?

WHAT IS OUR DEADLINE?



5.3.10 2017 Canadian Survey on Disabilities data integrated with Canada Recovery Benefits data accessible in Federal Research Data Centre

Ongoing

5.3.11 First set of UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) and Sustainable Development Goals indicators available

By September 2023

5.3.12 Develop a methodology to better understand children with disabilities (CWD) in Canada

By summer 2022

5.3.13 Development of a new survey on children with disabilities

By fall 2023

5.3.14 Launch of the Accessibility Statistics Data Hub in June 2021, and ongoing updates

Ongoing

5.3.15 Analyze and publish the data on the Survey on Accessibility in Federal Sector Organizations (SAFSO)

By March 2022

5.3.16 Publish the 2019–20 public opinion research on the Accessibility Statistics Data Hub

By March 2022

5.3.17 Conduct additional public opinion research to address further data gaps

By December 2022

5.3.18 Publish additional Canada Pension Plan Disability datasets on the Open Government Portal

By December 2023

ANNEX A

Feedback to consider for future national action plans

This annex captures feedback received throughout the creation of the 2022–24 National Action Plan on Open Government that could not be included in this Plan but could factor into future plans. This includes feedback from the Multi-Stakeholder Forum on Open Government and comments received during the consultations.

As general feedback, we heard that we need to ensure that diverse and underserved voices are heard throughout national action plan consultations.

Theme-specific feedback is listed below.

THEME	FEEDBACK TO CONSIDER FOR FUTURE NATIONAL ACTION PLANS
1. Climate change and sustainable growth	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Develop a governance model for environmental data• Link information on a single open data portal for users to access all open government data and information• Release more data on GHG emissions from companies• Provide access to more content in Indigenous languages• Provide more information on progress to reduce plastic use and waste• Enhance interoperability to enable the cross-reference of environmental/climate and socio-economic data to support the National Strategy to Redress Environmental Racism (Bill C-230) and ensure environmental justice• Create a collaborative environmental research group to examine climate change through a disability lens• Provide open data on climate change mitigation spending
2. Strengthening democracy and protecting civic space	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Examine the metrics developed to assess the efficacy of programming to detect and counter disinformation• Promote approaches to countering disinformation that targets marginalized communities (such as Indigenous peoples, seniors, disabled people)• Define the Canadian context of “civic space” and its importance for fair elections

THEME	FEEDBACK TO CONSIDER FOR FUTURE NATIONAL ACTION PLANS
3. Fiscal, financial and corporate transparency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Join the Beneficial Ownership Leadership Group to learn from other member countries about establishing publicly accessible beneficial ownership registries • Commit the federal government to beneficial ownership due diligence on all federal procurement, licenses, permits and grants • Update the disclosure and protection regime under the <i>Public Servants Disclosure Protection Act</i> (PSDPA) to strengthen the protection of whistleblowers from reprisals • Revamp the Registry of Lobbyists database to ensure that lobbyists update their lobbying of Canadian politicians regularly
4. Justice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add references to the specific populations researched using disaggregated data, as well as those researched in qualitative studies (race-based data, disability data) • Release disaggregated equity data about people in the justice system, who are incarcerated and being decarcerated • Release more data about investigation and prosecution of crimes against women • Involve the Public Prosecution Service of Canada (PPSC) in future national action plan consultations to advance legal literacy and empowerment (for example, regarding the assessment of remediation agreements) • Increase transparency about how prosecutors evaluate the public interest criteria when assessing whether it is appropriate to invite an organization to negotiate a remediation agreement • Increase access to justice services, tools and educational resources that are in Indigenous languages and specifically developed for Indigenous communities • Increase access to legal literacy materials that incorporate anti-racism and anti-oppression frameworks, especially to support people with multiple compounding marginalized identities (including but not limited to people who are racialized; are from lower income households; are newcomers; live with disabilities; are not in employment, education or training) • Increase transparency of court decisions by making them publicly available digitally • Consider establishing a public registry/inventory of algorithms and AI systems used by the justice system and the RCMP

THEME

FEEDBACK TO CONSIDER FOR FUTURE NATIONAL ACTION PLANS

5. Open data for results

- Conduct an inventory across Government of Canada departments to identify and analyze data about disabled people, with civil society actors, experts and people of lived experience involved in an advisory capacity
- Create a national dataset and a typology of collective residences and collective care facilities such as group homes, home care and respite care for people with disabilities
- Lead data governance pilots at specific intersections of federal, provincial and local jurisdiction in areas such as housing/homelessness
- Collaborate with the New Digital Research Infrastructure Organization (NDRIO) in establishing an open data advisory working group
- Develop more training resources to reduce barriers in the use of open data
- Integrate a [Tell us once](#) feature, requiring users to need to share personal information only once. This requires better data and information-sharing across government backed by appropriate infrastructures and legacy systems for information management
- Improve governmental data infrastructures through integrated expertise from the private sector and by overcoming dependence on legacy systems
- Release data about which communities do not have clean drinking water, data on what the federal government is doing to provide temporary supplies of clean drinking water, and data about investment in and the provision of clean water, and the frequency and results of water inspections
- Collect and release disaggregated, location-based data on Internet affordability
- Provide open data about temporary agricultural workers in Canada by location, type of work, hours of work, access to healthcare, living conditions and complaint mechanism, number of complaints and inspection information about working and living conditions

ANNEX B

Background on 5th National Action Plan On Open Government Inclusion Toolkit

The Government of Canada is committed to supporting the full implementation of GBA Plus across federal departments to ensure that government policy, legislation and regulations are sensitive to the different impacts that decisions can have on diverse groups of people.

Departments leading commitments worked with Women and Gender Equality Canada, the Canada School of Public Service, Canadian Heritage and departmental GBA Plus focal points to help them develop National Action Plan commitments and mainstream inclusion throughout the Plan.

We developed and shared this Inclusion Toolkit with resources and training options to further assist them in drafting inclusive commitments.

5th National Action Plan On Open Government Inclusion Toolkit

The Government of Canada is preparing its 5th National Action Plan on Open Government, which will seek to apply the principles of open government, such as transparency, accountability, engagement, collaboration and inclusion, to address targeted societal problems.

As such, an intersectional lens should be applied to open government initiatives so they are designed in a way that acknowledges that various identity factors impact differently one's livelihood and that government initiatives should always strive to respond to the diversity of needs and expectations of peoples in Canada.

Feminist and inclusive open government

The Government of Canada is considered as a "gender and inclusion" leader within the OGP global community.

- **On the international side**, Canada has launched the [Feminist Open Government Initiative \(FOGO\)](#) with the Open Government Partnership (OGP) in 2018. As government co-chair of the OGP's Steering Committee (2018–19), Canada hosted the first ever FOGO day at the 6th OGP global Summit in Ottawa (May 2019). This side event was a key component of the Inclusion track of Canada's OGP co-chair vision (2018–19).
- **On the domestic side**, Canada's [4th National Action Plan on Open Government](#) comprised **two commitments** targeting inclusion-related topics. [Canada's open government Independent Reporting Mechanism \(IRM\)](#) has identified the "Feminist and Inclusive Dialogue" commitment as "an important proactive step in tackling a targeted set of systemic barriers that negatively impact upon the participation of marginalized and underrepresented communities in the Canadian federal government's public engagement and decision-making activities. If implemented fully, it could be considered a major step forward towards inclusion and enhancing participation of equity-seeking communities."

What we heard: Inclusion matters to Canadians and civil society

To inform the Plan, TBS Open Government conducted **public consultations from fall 2019 to the end of 2020**. Areas of concern and interest were raised by **Canadians and civil society** on climate change; disinformation and fair elections; justice; fiscal, financial and corporate transparency; and open data for results.

- **Participants of the consultations**

emphasized that policy and program design, implementation and evaluation of issues facing society would benefit from general open government values and principles as well as from the integration of a diversity, inclusion and equity lens into data collection (collection of disaggregated data) or the application of GBA Plus.

- TBS Open Government also had an ongoing dialogue with the [Multi-Stakeholder Forum on Open Government](#) on the **mentioned topics** shedding light on the **importance of adopting an intersectional approach** to all the development stages of the commitments. Here are some examples of what we heard:

- » **Climate change:** engaging historically marginalized groups and especially Black and Indigenous people in discussions around environmental data management or environmental racism
- » **Fiscal, financial and corporate transparency:** ensuring the integration of GBA Plus and Indigenous procurement strategy into fiscal transparency for public accountability

- » **Disinformation and fair elections:**

identifying and targeting groups with the most need for media and digital literacy (for example: seniors, newcomers) or the barriers to inclusive participation progress necessary for open government commitments caused by issues in the availability, affordability and accessibility of the Internet in some parts of Canada

- » **Justice:** collecting and releasing disaggregated equity data, demand for a special attention to Indigenous groups needs in the justice system and taking an intersectional approach to justice considering who is most marginalized in Canada and barriers to getting access to justice

- » **Open data for results:** collecting and releasing disaggregated equity data with an intersectional lens on multiple topics such as COVID-19 response and recovery, housing and homelessness, bridging the digital divide and accessibility for people with disabilities

A mainstreamed approach to inclusion

The implementation of the 4th National Action Plan, its [GBA Plus review](#) and the [IRM report's](#) conclusions suggest that **mainstreaming inclusion in commitments** would be more inclusive than confining inclusion-related matters in stand-alone commitments.

- The [IRM report's](#) recommended for future national action plans to:
 - » **use benchmarks and metrics** for determining whether the inclusion-centric reforms are fostering hoped-for outcomes
 - » work directly with **equity-seeking communities** for the development of future inclusion-oriented action plan commitments

- The [GBA Plus review](#) of the 4th National Action Plan recommended that future open government initiatives:
 - » should be **inclusive by default**
 - » should **measurably declare how inclusion challenges will be addressed in their implementation**
 - » should use **intersectionality** as an **analytical framework** for the development of the Plan

Those recommendation are supported by international open government best practices and the Government of Canada's approach to inclusion, including **requirements for GBA Plus** and the **call for inclusive actions and disaggregated data in all mandate letters**. Commitment leads will thus be asked to follow these Government of Canada requirements as they draft their commitments, which will be assessed accordingly thanks to OGP commitment templates (see Appendix).

Resources to help draft inclusive commitments

Gender, inclusion and the OGP

TITLE	LINK
OGP Inclusion Resources for Co-creation and Commitments	OGP Inclusion Resources for Co-creation and Commitments
Gender and OGP	Gender Open Government Partnership
Addressing Gender Equity Challenges in Open Government Co-Creation Processes	Addressing Gender Equity Challenges in Open Government Co-Creation Processes
A Guide to Open Government and the Coronavirus: Inclusion and Gender	A Guide to Open Government and the Coronavirus: Inclusion and Gender
Advancing OGP's Gender Strategy	Advancing OGP's Gender Strategy
Actions for a more Inclusive Open Government Partnership	Actions for a More Inclusive Open Government Partnership
OGP Gender Fact Sheet (2021)	Gender-Fact-Sheet-2021.pdf

General GBA Plus tools

TITLE	LINK
Introduction to GBA Plus	Introduction to GBA Plus
GBA Plus microlearning videos	GBA Plus microlearning videos
Job Aid – Demystifying GBA Plus	Demystifying GBA Plus
Job Aid – Intersectionality	Intersectionality
Guidance for conducting GBA Plus	Guidance for conducting GBA Plus (doc)
Guide to Gender-based Analysis Plus (GBA Plus) and Inclusive Open Government	Guide to Gender-based Analysis Plus (GBA+) and Inclusive Open Government
GBA Plus Community of Practice	GCconnex
	GCpedia
GBA Plus resources	GBA Plus resources

General inclusion resources

TITLE	LINK
Diversity is a Fact. Inclusion is a Choice – A FED Talk (limited access)	Diversity is a Fact. Inclusion is a Choice – A FED Talk
How to design inclusive policy	Apolitical – How to design inclusive policy
Removing bias and building trust in your data	Removing bias and building trust in your data

Trainings, webinars and other tools

TITLE	LINK
Training in Support of Respectful and Inclusive Workplaces	CSPS placemat
How to champion inclusion in the public service	Apolitical online workshop – How to champion inclusion in the public service
Understanding Unconscious Bias (W005)	Course description and registration link
Overcoming Your Own Unconscious Biases (W006)	Course description and registration link
Overcoming Unconscious Bias in the Workplace (W007)	Course description and registration link
Indigenous Considerations in Procurement (COR409)	Course description and registration
Indigenous Learning Series	Courses and trainings
Making Your Services Accessible for People with Communication Disabilities (W098)	Course description and registration
Respect Day 2020: Primer on Black Lives Matter, anti-racism and discrimination and unconscious bias	Respect Day 2020: Primer on Black Lives Matter, anti-racism and discrimination, and unconscious bias

APPENDIX

Quick facts on feminist and inclusive open government

The **Feminist Open Government (FOGO)** initiative aims to advance equality and better governance by increasing transparency, participation, accountability and government responsiveness. FOGO efforts focus on ensuring that underrepresented communities such as women, girls, LGBTQ2 people, racialized communities, persons with disabilities, young Canadians, low-income Canadians and others who face obstacles are empowered, represented and enabled to participate meaningfully in government decision-making. In the context of FOGO:

- **Transparency** mean that equitable efforts are made to ensure that people of all genders understand the workings of their government
- **Participation** should ensure that all people, regardless of sex, age, gender, ethnicity, sexual orientation, disability or economic status can influence the workings of government by engaging with equitable and inclusive public policy processes and public service providers
- **Accountability** means all people can hold the government to account for its policy and service delivery performance
- **In 2018**, at the 5th Open Government Summit in Georgia, the Government of Canada and the Open Government Partnership **launched the Feminist Open Government Initiative** also known as FOGO.
- As **2018–19 government co-chair of the OGP's Steering Committee**, Canada held a global summit in May 2019 in Ottawa. The Government took this opportunity **to advance inclusion and open government both domestically and internationally**:
 - » Canada committed to **a vision of open government that focused on three priorities: inclusion**, participation and impact. The inclusion track had great success thanks to the launch of the [Guide to Gender-based Analysis Plus \(GBA Plus\) and Inclusive Open Government](#) and the feminist open government side event that gathered more than 200 participants from around the world
 - » Domestically, [Canada's 4th National Action Plan on Open Government \(2018–21\)](#) took a more inclusive turn thanks to two key commitments:
- Commitment 8 on Feminist and inclusive dialogue
- Commitment 9 on Reconciliation and open government

4th National Action Plan GBA Plus / Feminist and Inclusive peer review

- In 2018, the Government of Canada undertook for the first time a gender-based analysis plus (GBA Plus) assessment of its open government plan
- [Civil Society reviewers](#) recommended that open government should be an **inclusive government by default**

- It was also recommended that each commitment put forward in Canada's 4th National Action Plan on Open Government **should measurably declare how inclusion challenges will be addressed** in their implementation
- Finally, it was recommended to **use intersectionality as an analytical framework** since it is integral to ensuring the success of the open government commitments

4th National Action Plan IRM's recommendations (p. 48)

- In moving forward **specifying benchmarks and metrics** for determining whether, and the extent to which, the inclusion-centric reforms are fostering hoped-for outcomes is crucial given the ongoing need for information about what works and what does not
- The development of **future inclusion-oriented action plan commitments involves working directly with equity-seeking communities** to identify the most relevant and pressing issues for consideration. One can envision that for some this might entail such actions as augmenting pay-related transparency as a means of reducing intersectional gender-based pay discrepancies, whereas for others it might entail, for example, augmenting the transparency of health-related information – subject to applicable restrictions associated with privacy and confidentiality – to identify biases in the delivery of healthcare services to LGBTQ2 people

International recommendations

- The [OGP encourages countries to take concrete actions on gender actions](#) and more inclusive co-creation processes, and the "gender and inclusion" stream remains one of the OGP's most important priorities, as demonstrated by their recent [Guide to Open Government and the Coronavirus: Inclusion and Gender](#)
- According to [some civil society observers](#) "a handful of gender-specific commitments run the risk of standing separate and apart from other government priorities and being neglected or failing. True feminist open government would have a gender lens applied to every issue the Open Government Partnership focuses on – whether it's infrastructure, natural resources, anti-corruption, health, or nutrition. No public policy is gender neutral"
- In 2019, the UK organized a [FOGO workshop](#) to discuss how to make feminist open government tangible and some of the key lessons comprised:
 - » Policies should all have an **impact assessment with the emphasis on gender/intersectional analysis**, adding an intersectional gender lens to all OGP commitments
 - » **Open data and disaggregated/diversity data** are instrumental to address open government-related issues (such as procurement, fiscal transparency, health)

OGP and CARE: Toolkit for more gender-responsive action plans

Tool 2 in [this](#) document is the OGP's original commitment template adapted to the development of inclusive commitments.

A. WILL THE COMMITMENT ADVANCE OPEN GOVERNMENT OBJECTIVES?	B. WILL THE COMMITMENT ADVANCE GENDER EQUALITY OBJECTIVES? WILL THE COMMITMENT ADVANCE OPEN GOVERNMENT OBJECTIVES FOR WOMEN AND EXCLUDED GROUPS?
Is the open government problem the commitment seeks to address well-defined, specific and evidence-based?	<p>Does the commitment respond to a gender equality problem? If so, is it well-defined, specific and evidence-based?</p> <p>Does the commitment analyze the differential impact of the open government problem it responds to for different groups, including different women?</p>
Does the proposed commitment directly respond/contribute to addressing the problem?	Does the proposed commitment directly respond/contribute to addressing the problem for different groups, including different women?
Does the commitment include elements of data publication and use?	Does the commitment include elements of data publication and use that is (i) sex and age disaggregated (at a minimum, other types of disaggregation may also be desirable), (b) responds to relevant priorities of women and girls, and (c) articulates how those with less access to information will be able to access and use the data?
Does the commitment ensure citizen engagement?	Does the commitment realistically ensure the engagement of women and marginalized groups? Does it clarify how this will go beyond counting women's attendance in events, to look at their meaningful participation and influence?
Are public accountability mechanisms embedded in the commitment?	Are public accountability mechanisms embedded in the commitment that explicitly address accountability to women and marginalized groups and their priorities?

A. WILL THE COMMITMENT ADVANCE OPEN GOVERNMENT OBJECTIVES?	B. WILL THE COMMITMENT ADVANCE GENDER EQUALITY OBJECTIVES? WILL THE COMMITMENT ADVANCE OPEN GOVERNMENT OBJECTIVES FOR <i>WOMEN AND EXCLUDED GROUPS</i> ?
Does the commitment describe how the 'feedback loop' will be closed?	Does the commitment describe how the 'feedback loop' will be closed for women and marginalized groups in particular?
Does the commitment include indicators for transparency, participation and/or public accountability?	Does the commitment include indicators for gender and inclusion? Do they go beyond counting the attendance of women at events related to the commitment?

C. IS THE COMMITMENT BOTH AMBITIOUS AND FEASIBLE?
<p>Does the commitment have the potential to shift power toward less powerful or marginalized groups, including women?</p> <p>Does the commitment have the potential to have a lasting positive effect on the identified problem?</p> <p>Are milestones properly identified and do they respond to OGP's SMART criteria?</p> <p>Are assumptions about the steps needed to achieve milestones realistic, giving prevailing social, political and economic conditions?</p> <p>Are the identified stakeholders sufficient to achieve the milestones, and do they have the necessary capacity and commitment?</p>

ANNEX C

Our guidelines to help draft commitments, milestones and indicators

Guiding questions

1. Does it matter to Canadians?

- a. Are we getting a lot of feedback from Canadians about this commitment?
- b. Are our stakeholders and partners asking for this commitment?
- c. Has this commitment been discussed in public media?

2. Does it align with current priorities?

- a. Is it a continuation of a previous National Action Plan?
- b. Would it help us to deliver on the work the Government of Canada has already committed to doing?
- c. Is it aligned with existing initiatives?
- d. Is it aligned with one of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)?

3. Can we do it?

- a. Is the commitment **realistic**? How long will it take to deliver on this? Do we have the resources to do this?
- b. Is there a Government of Canada department willing to lead the commitment? How many departments would need to collaborate to do this?

- c. Do we have the support of civil society?
- d. What is the level of readiness of departments to undertake this? Are there any obstacles (legal, privacy, security concerns, for example)?

4. Is it an Open Government Partnership priority?

- a. Does the commitment fit with one of the [OGP's policy areas](#) where there are strong opportunities to achieve impact?
- b. Examples:
 - i. gender
 - ii. marginalized communities
 - iii. anti-corruption
 - iv. digital governance
 - v. public service delivery
 - vi. civic space
 - vii. justice
 - viii. education
 - ix. extractive industries
 - x. health
 - xi. fiscal openness

5. Is it ambitious? Will it make a difference?

- a. Is the commitment structured to use open government and open data as mechanisms for tackling particular cultural, economic, social and/or technological problems?
- b. Is it a new and innovative idea?
- c. Will it actually help to open up the government?

Criteria to help draft commitments, milestones and indicators

1. **Specific, precise and clear**

- a. What are we aiming to achieve?
- b. Use the SMART method:
 - i. Specific
 - ii. Measurable
 - iii. Answerable
 - iv. Relevant
 - v. Time-bound
- c. Language provides clear, verifiable activities and measurable deliverable?

2. **Related to open government values**

- a. Access to information
- b. Civic participation
- c. Public accountability
- d. Technology and innovation for transparency and accountability

3. **Show the potential transformative impact**

- a. Transform the “business as usual”
- b. Identify a problem to establish the status quo
- c. Establish the objectives and how they could solve the issue
- d. Identify the activities to achieve the objectives and explain how
- e. Assess the impact in addressing the issue