

**THE 3<sup>RD</sup> SOUTH AFRICAN  
OPEN GOVERNMENT PARTNERSHIP  
COUNTRY ACTION PLAN, 2015-2017**



## 1. INTRODUCTION

The development of South Africa's Open Government Partnership (OGP) occurs at a very unique phase in the country's post-apartheid democratic transition. At a national level, the political and electoral mandate of the Fifth Democratic Administration focuses on the implementation of the National Development Plan (NDP) as a major driver for transformation and consolidation of democracy. The NDP was adopted in September 2012 as a vision for South Africa by 2030. Internationally, the process of developing a post-2015 Development Agenda resulted in the production of the Global Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development establishes a set of global priorities to help eradicate extreme poverty and shift all countries toward inclusive, sustainable development. During the 70<sup>th</sup> Regular Session of the United Nations General Assembly that took place in September 2015, seventeen goals and a hundred and sixty-nine targets were formally adopted as a set of global priorities to help eradicate extreme poverty and shift all countries toward inclusive, sustainable development.

In support of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, the OGP Steering Committee adopted a Declaration called "*The Open Government for the Implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*". The Declaration outlines the importance of OGP's core values of transparency, accountability and citizen participation, as a foundation for the success of the 2030 Agenda. This Declaration, is further linked to Goal 16 of the SDGs, which aims to, "promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels".

The principles and objectives of the OGP emphasise that successful Country Action Plans should focus on ambitious national open government priorities that are relevant to the values of transparency, accountability and public participation. These must also contain specific, time-bound and measureable commitments.

The OGP aims to promote ambitious open government reforms that stretch the government beyond its current state of practice, significantly improving the status quo by strengthening transparency, accountability and public participation in government. Countries may choose to initiate new open government initiatives in their action plans, or improve on existing, ongoing reforms. Countries are encouraged to show clear improvement from one action plan to the next action plan.

## Background to the Open Government Partnership

Whereas transparency and accountability are not new concepts, particularly in South Africa, their formalisation into the OGP has certainly gathered considerable momentum recently.

Five years ago the Open Government Partnership was established to support governments in making country commitments in partnership with civil society to improve transparency, accountability and civic participation.

The OGP is overseen by a Steering Committee comprising governments and civil society organisations. The Deputy Minister for Public Service and Administration, Ms Ayanda Dlodlo, is the representative for South Africa on the Steering Committee.

In just over five years the OGP has grown from a membership of eight countries to 69 countries.

Countries wishing to join have to meet certain eligibility criteria. Excellence is rewarded and poor performance is penalised through the Independent Reporting Mechanism.

Countries are encouraged to promote open government reforms that stretch governance beyond its current state of practice. This will in turn significantly transform the status quo by strengthening transparency, accountability and public participation in government. Countries may select to either initiate new open government initiatives in their action plans or improve on existing and on-going reforms.

There should be a clear and demonstrable improvement from one action plan to the next. The OGP Country Action Plan should focus on ensuring that it is responsive, retains relevance and that each commitment is clearly advancing one or more of the following OGP principles:

- **Transparency:** This includes publication of all government-held information (as opposed to only information on government activities); proactive or reactive releases of information; mechanisms to strengthen the right to information; and open access to government information.
- **Accountability:** There are rules, regulations and mechanisms in place that call upon government officials to justify their actions, act upon criticisms or requirements made of them, and accept responsibility for failure to perform with respect to laws or commitments. Commitments on accountability should typically include an answerability element, i.e. that they are not purely internal systems of accountability but involve the public.
- **Participation:** Governments seek to mobilize citizens to engage in dialogue on government policies or programs, provide input or feedback, and make contributions that lead to more responsive, innovative and effective governance.

- **Technology and Innovation:** Governments embrace the importance of providing citizens with open access to technology, the role of new technologies in driving innovation, and the importance of increasing the capacity of citizens to use technology. E-government initiatives are welcome, but in order to be relevant to OGP, action plans should explain how these initiatives advance government transparency, accountability and/or public participation

The OGP principles, objectives, and focus, are in line with the 1995 White Paper on the Transformation of the Public Service and the South African Constitution. The White Paper emphasises that government:

- Provides quality public goods and services to all.
- Is geared towards development and eradicating poverty.
- Facilitates inclusive economic development and growth; and
- Is people-centred and people driven.

Section 195 sub-section (1) of Chapter 10 of the 1996 Constitution of the Republic of South Africa describes the principles under which the government should engage with citizens and provide services. These are:

- A high standard of professional ethics.
- Public administration must be development oriented.
- People's needs must be responded to and the public must be encouraged to participate in policy making.
- Public administration must be accountable; and
- Transparency must be fostered by providing the public with timely, accessible and accurate information.

During the past four years since South Africa became a member of the OGP, there has always been a constant linkage between the priorities and objectives of the programme and governments programme.

The priorities of the current administration are to accelerate growth, create decent work and promote investment in a competitive economy. This is a continuation of government's commitment towards the consolidation and sustenance of the post-apartheid democratic dispensation characterised by non-racialism, non-sexism, unity and prosperity.

As part of South Africa's attempts at reflection as a means of consolidation of democracy and development, the 2009-2014 administration published a Twenty Year Review that outlined progress that has been made since 1994. This review also identified challenges faced by the country's as it journeys towards realizing the constitutionally guaranteed right to an improved quality of life for all its citizens. Despite highlighting numerous achievements and progress South Africa has made

since 1994, the Twenty Year Review also identified the persistent and stubborn challenges of poverty, inequality and unemployment that the government needed to address.

The Fifth Administration has unveiled a *Nine Point Plan* to ignite growth and create jobs. These include: increasing the energy pool and reserves; revitalizing agriculture and the agro-processing value chain; beneficiation of the minerals products; more effective implementation of a higher Impact Industrial Policy Action Plan; intensification of private sector investment; moderating work place conflict, unlocking the potential of SMMEs, cooperatives, township and rural enterprises; state reform, boosting the role of State Owned Companies, develop ICT infrastructure and roll out of broadband; reform, boost and diversify the economy by developing water, sanitation and transport infrastructure; as well as growing the ocean economy.

In implementing these priorities, government has developed a Medium Term Strategic Framework (MTSF) as a plan that sets out targets for the implementation of the 2014-2019 electoral term mandate and commitments expressed in the nine point plan. This includes the commitment to implement the priorities of the National Development Plan. In order to improve service delivery to its citizens, the MTSF also sets out a framework for all the three spheres of government namely National, Provincial and Local to operate with efficiency.

The MTSF focuses on building capacity for a competitive economy, creation of decent work opportunities and the encouragement of investment. This strategic framework forms part of the first five year building block towards the achievement of the 20 year NDP Vision 2030. The focus of the NDP is achieving radical socio-economic change through a capable and developmental state, a thriving business sector and strong civil society institutions with shared and complementary responsibilities. It identifies decent work, education and the capacity of the equally important priorities.

The 2014-2019 electoral mandate of the Fifth Administration focuses on the following priorities:

- Radical economic transformation, rapid economic growth and job creation
- Rural development, land and agrarian reform and food security
- Ensuring access to adequate human settlements and quality basic services
- Improving the quality of and expanding access to education and training
- Ensuring quality health care and social security for all citizens
- Fighting corruption and crime
- Contributing to a better Africa and a better world
- Social cohesion and nation-building.

The Mid-Year State of the Nation Address presented on 11 August 2015 by the President of the Republic, His Excellency President Jacob Zuma, reflected on both programmes and challenges in the implementation of the mandate of the Fifth Administration.

## **2. OPEN GOVERNMENT EFFORTS TO DATE**

South Africa has been a member of the Open Government Partnership (OGP) initiative since September 2011. National Action Plans are at the core of a country's participation in OGP. They are the product of a co-creation process in which government and civil society define ambitious commitments to foster transparency, accountability and public participation.

South Africa as the first cohort of the OGP countries developed and submitted its 1<sup>st</sup> Country Action Plan in September 2011. The South African government submitted a Self-Assessment report in April 2013 which looked at the progress of implementation of the OGP domestically. In July 2013 South Africa's progress on the implementation of the action plan was reviewed by the Independent Review Mechanism (IRM).

In developing the 2<sup>nd</sup> Country Action Plan comments made by the IRM on the 1<sup>st</sup> Country Action Plan, were taken into consideration. Mechanisms used to develop the 1<sup>st</sup> Country Action Plan were further explored and built upon. The second Country Action Plan was developed and implemented through hosting joint government and civil society forums. These were held in the various provinces namely Free State, Western Cape and Northern Cape. There were consultations with the Congress of Traditional Leaders of South Africa (CONTRALESA), South African National Civic Organization (SANCO), African Peer Review Mechanism National Governing Council (APRM NGC), and the South African National NGO Coalition (SANGOCO) and consequently the 2<sup>nd</sup> Country Action Plan was developed.

Furthermore, the advertisements on the inputs to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Country Action Plan were placed in various newspapers calling for citizen submissions, through which such inputs were received as a result. In addition, the OGP programme formed a partnership with A Thousand Voices movement. This partnership with the NGO sector resulted in the shared hosting of a workshop on 18 November 2013 to consult on the draft plan, raise awareness about the OGP as well as to set the stage for launching the plan. Community Development Workers assisted with a citizen satisfaction survey, conducted to contribute to the formulation of the Draft Action Plan. It also created a more objective assessment of citizen satisfaction with government's performance under the OGP principles.

The NAP2 and the OGP progress report were presented to the President's Coordinating Council (PCC) in October 2013. The report was discussed by members

of the PCC with President Jacob Zuma whereupon the President affirmed the importance of the OGP as part of the National Plan.

It is important to note that the OGP has received high level political commitment and support and has been a government-wide priority as exhibited through the Deputy Minister and the President's statements at occasions such as the High Level event in New York in September 2014; the SDG-side event at the United Nations General Assembly in September 2015, and the Ministry of Public Service and Administration's budget vote speech in 2015. South Africa was represented by Deputy President Cyril Ramaphosa alongside Deputy Minister Ayanda Dlodlo at the Global Summit hosted in Mexico from 27 – 28 October 2015 where this commitment was not only reinforced, but the responsibility of OGP Lead Chair was also accepted.

## **2.1. PROGRESS ON OGP 2nd NAP - 7 COMMITMENTS**

South Africa's 2<sup>nd</sup> Country Action Plan had the following seven commitments:

- Development and Implementation of an Accountability/Consequences Management Framework for Public Servants;
- Service Delivery Improvement Forums (SDIFs);
- Know Your Service Rights and Responsibilities Campaign;
- Develop a comprehensive and publicly accessible portal of environmental management information;
- Mainstream citizen participation in the Public Service;
- Development of an online crowd sourcing tool; and
- Schools connectivity.

With the assistance of officials from the various government departments and agencies that form the data portal task team, the OGP managed to successfully develop the OGP Portal. The portal serves as an extension for increased participation from civil society and citizens. It is a mechanism for enhanced access to information and a platform through which citizens can engage effectively with government to pioneer the principles of the OGP and improve service delivery and accountability.

Furthermore, the DPSA, in collaboration with a corporate business partner successfully hosted a hackathon which encouraged participants to develop applications and technological solutions using already available government data in an effort to address service delivery challenges and improve citizen experience of government. Collaboration between the OGP, DPSA and Business and Civil Society resulted in the development of [www.data.gov.za](http://www.data.gov.za) which is currently being piloted.

## **3<sup>rd</sup> NATIONAL ACTION PLAN**

The Country Self-Assessment Report revealed remarkable progress on the country's OGP commitments as well as challenges. These include, among others, challenges in fostering citizen participation due to a diversity of voices representing civil society,

and time constraints in developing the NAP2 as stipulated in the OGP Articles of Governance.

On the other hand, the Independent Reporting Mechanism (IRM) highlighted lack of adequate civil society engagement in the OGP programme.

It is important to note that the process of the development of the 3<sup>rd</sup> NAP took cognisance of the recommendations made by the IRM report on the NAP2.

### 3.1 Methodology

During the production of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Country Action Plan, South Africa utilized a number complimentary methods to collect inputs. These included requesting inputs from government departments on commitments, undertaking community-based consultations in various Provinces, conducting stakeholder workshops with civil society and using surveys in order to assess the level of citizen's satisfaction with the provision and delivery of services in accordance with the principles of the OGP that include Partnership, Accountability, Transparency, Anti-Corruption and Use of Technology.

The survey and its results was further used to assess government's efforts in implementing OGP commitments. The survey was conducted during the month of September 2015 and covered three of the nine Provinces of South Africa, namely, Mpumalanga, North West and Limpopo. In an effort to increase the reach and coverage, the survey was also published online. A total of 2 239 members of the public participated in the survey.

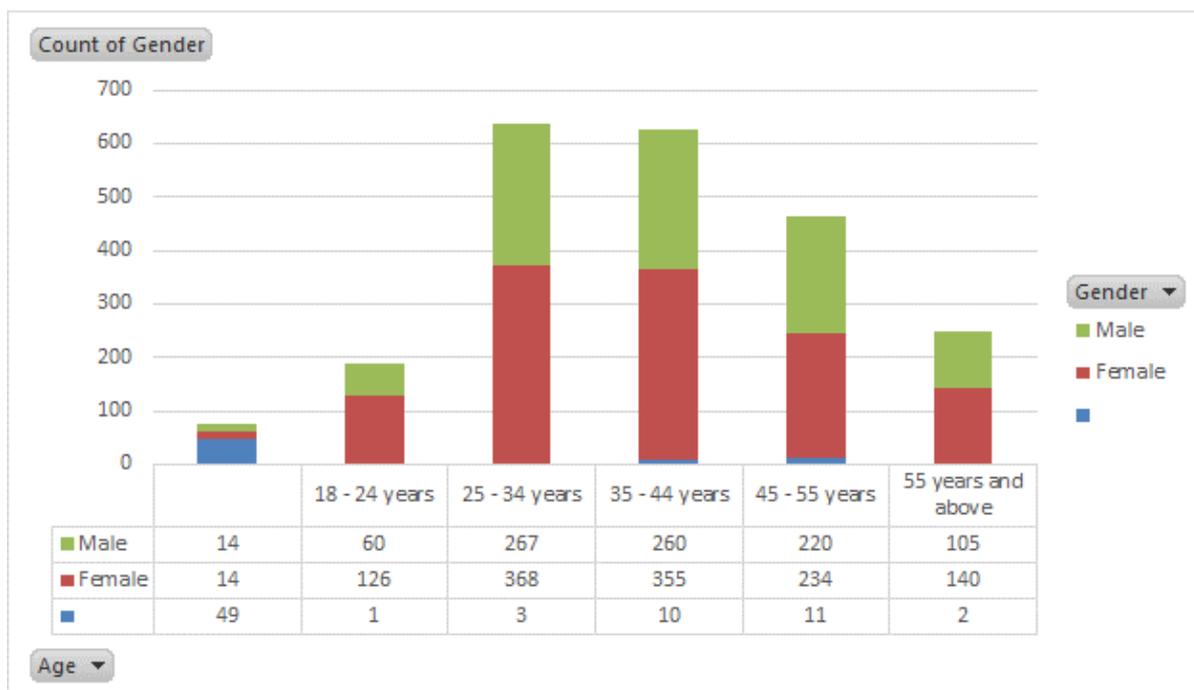
The survey questionnaire was administered by Community Development Workers (CDWs) based in the three Provinces. It was used mainly to provide quantitative assessment of the levels of Satisfaction and Importance against Government performance against OGP principles. This was preceded by training on the instrument used for data collection. The CDWs were also briefly trained on basic research techniques to ensure effective engagement with the citizens and to standardise data quality. The survey was household-based and was administered on paper to a single qualifying member of a household. The criteria for inclusion was that a citizen had to be over the age of 18 and willing to participate in the survey.

A mixed methodology of both quantitative and quantitative data collection was used as the main tool and focus groups served as a complimentary qualitative tool. The questionnaire was used to measure the level of importance that citizens attached to the various OGP principles and the consequent level of satisfaction regarding government performance against the same principles. The total length of the questionnaire was 15 questions that were rated on Importance and Satisfaction on a 5 point Likert scale.

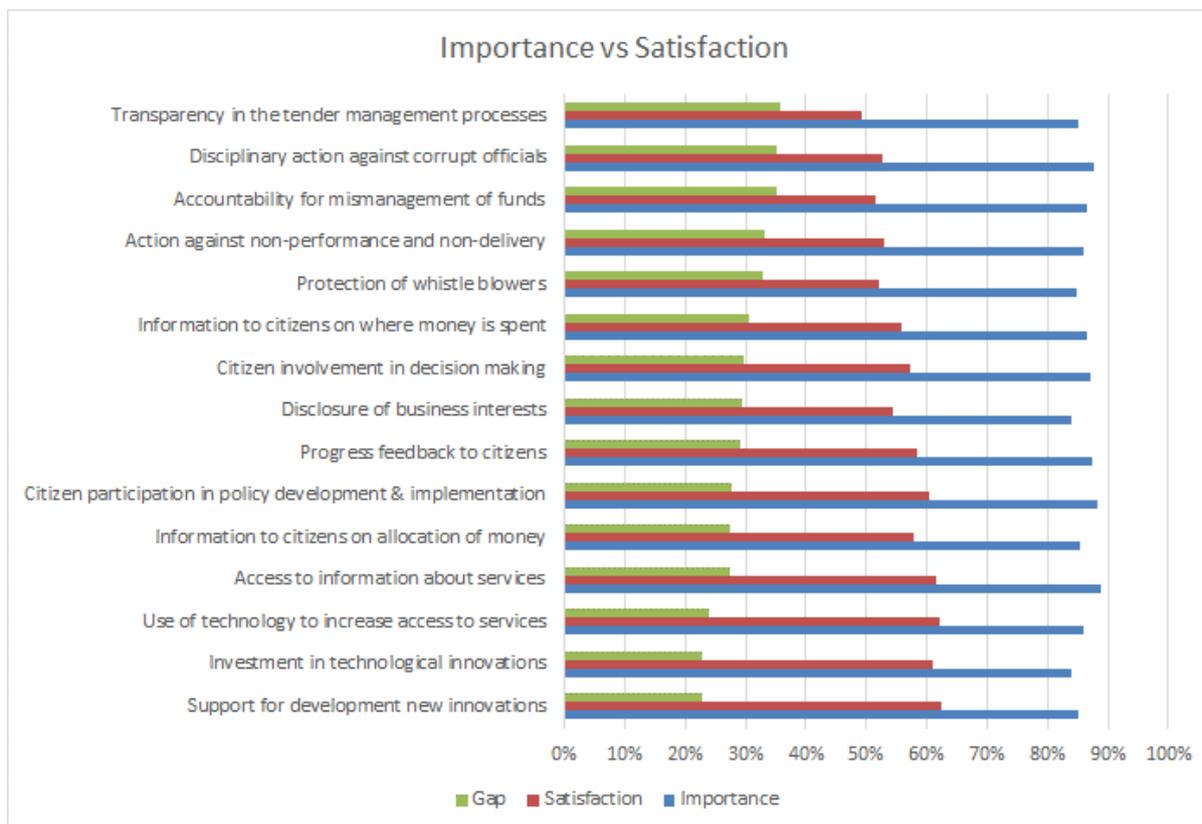
The survey questionnaire was administered by the Community Development Workers (CDWs) and was used mainly to provide quantitative assessment of the levels of Importance and Satisfaction against government performance on OGP principles. It should be noted that due to time constraints no specific sampling methodology was adopted for the survey, but the survey was conducted in such a manner that it covered a sufficient number of citizens to give government an indication of the views held by the respondents on performance against OGP principles.

The respondents from whom data was collected were predominantly female with most being in the age brackets of 25 to 44. The respondents were predominantly black with half of them having achieved high school level of education and the rest being evenly spread across the educational spectrum, ranging from “no formal education” to “Post Graduate Degree”. Another observation is that almost half of the respondents are unemployed.

### Age and Gender profile



Below is a graphical outcome of the Importance vs Satisfaction Survey:



An additional open-ended question was added to obtain a qualitative understanding from the respondents on the service delivery areas in need of improvement. One respondent emphasized the importance of strengthening the principles of Transparency and Accountability by saying *“Our tendering system is weak and projects are not completed, if completed, the quality is compromised. Officials still demand 10% to suppliers. We have good policies in place so let’s improve in monitoring, evaluating and reporting so that we do away with unwanted behavior within public service”*. It is such comments that inform the commitments relating to transparency and accountability in public budgets and finance. This is in line with letter and spirit of the OGP.

According to respondents from the survey “little is being done to take action against non-performance, non-delivery and corruption by government officials”. It is imperative that citizens participate in this process of holding government accountable. Public participation, monitoring, and accountability are key mechanisms that ensure that commitments such as Commitment 1 in the NAP3 are included and escalated as they reflect the realities of and feedback from some communities in South Africa.

The diversity in nationalities, ethnicities, and cultures is what makes South Africa the vibrant country that it is. South Africa has 11 official languages, English being the medium of instruction. According to data from gov.za, 79% of the population are Black

Africans and 22% of the population speak IsiZulu at home, 16% speak IsiXhosa, 13% speak Afrikaans, and only 9% speak English ([www.data.gov.za](http://www.data.gov.za); accessed 5 November 2015).

According to Stats SA, about 15, 8% of the population aged 20 years and older are functionally illiterate, with only 28, 7% attaining grade 12 (Stats SA 2015; General Household Survey). This means that as South Africa moves towards more innovations in the manner in which it implements and rolls out the OGP in the country, the demographic and literacy factors should be taken into account in order to ensure that communication and transmission of information on Open Government and the monitoring of commitments in NAP3 have adequate reach to all communities across the country. The implications here are that the OGP should take into account the asymmetrical levels of development as well as national dynamics and complexities in participating countries. South Africa intends to ensure that the NAP3 is made available in all the country's official languages, including Braille, for ease of access to all communities.

### 3.2 Consultations

The OGP and another civic organisation co-hosted a national roundtable discussion in the Western Province on October 2015. The aim of the meeting was to reflect on the IRM reviews on the NAP2 so as to solicit inputs on how to remedy South Africa's shortcomings in developing the NAP3. The roundtable discussion also served as a platform to critically discuss ways to improve citizen engagement through pilot projects such as Citizen Based Monitoring, roll out the connectivity portal in a number of schools and more innovative partnerships amongst others.

The OGP together with the Mpumalanga provincial government, held a public participation outreach programme in the province in October 2015. The outreach sought to engage the local community of the Msukaligwa Municipality on how to improve issues of service delivery, and empower the community through meaningful public participation that will strengthen the principles of the OGP.

In Kwa-Zulu Natal on the 17<sup>th</sup> September 2015, the OGP held a community Imbizo attended by members of civil society and the public where the draft and progress of the NAP3 was presented

An Imbizo in the Eastern Cape in June 2015 resulted in a positive public education of citizens about the OGP and its commitments. This platform afforded members of the local community an opportunity to engage with government on issues relating to service delivery that they would like to see being taken forward in the OGP and subsequently the NAP3.

The last consultation held on the NAP3 was convened in the Western Cape in November 2015. The community wide Imbizo was preceded by a meeting of all sectoral stakeholders from government and civil society charged with the implementation and monitoring of the action plan. There was a positive response and extensive engagements on the nature and content of the action plan and various themes were raised, including how to ensure that OGP commitments and priorities are sensitive to and inclusive of the concerns of the differently abled members of society.

During October 2015, government officials and representatives of civil society gathered at the 1<sup>st</sup> Validation Meeting of the NAP3. The purpose of the validation meeting was to present the draft NAP3 to the various stakeholders following a series of consultations. The NAP3 was then made available to civil society and the public, through various public platforms, to express further comments and suggestions in order to inform the final NAP3. Comments and outcomes from the numerous outreaches and consultation forums were then incorporated to the final NAP3.

The second and last Validation Meeting on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Country Action Plan took place on Monday, 14 December 2015 and reflected on the final version as well as validating whether or not issues raised by all the concerned stakeholders were taken on board. South Africa's 3<sup>rd</sup> OGP Country Action Plan clearly reflects the adherence to the partnerships principles and has linked national commitments to the SDGs by including Goal 16 related activities such as a commitment to Access to Justice. This commitment is led and driven by civil society as an implementing partner, something that shows innovation, improvement and ownership in the NAP3.

### 3. COMMITMENTS

<b>COMMITMENT 1</b>	<b>OVERVIEW</b>	<b>CHALLENGES</b>
Strengthen Citizen-Based Monitoring in order to enhance Accountability and Performance.	Support government departments to strengthen the voice of citizens in monitoring service delivery.	Routine accountability mechanisms, particularly at the point of service delivery, which are weak, with insufficient feedback from the community and frontline staff in the mechanisms for allocating resources and setting standards and measuring performance.
<b>COMMITMENT 2</b>	<b>OVERVIEW</b>	<b>CHALLENGES</b>
Open Budgeting.	Civil society involvement in the budget process is enhanced in order to improve the progressive realisation of socioeconomic rights, and enable citizens to track public expenditure.	Lack of active involvement of civil society in the budgeting process is addressed in order to ensure that fiscal accountability and transparency result to an equally high level of citizen participation in budget processes.
<b>COMMITMENT 3</b>	<b>OVERVIEW</b>	<b>CHALLENGES</b>
Back to Basics Programme	Promote public confidence in local government by developing a tool kit for citizen engagement for local government and conducting annual citizen satisfaction surveys: Department of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs.	A collapse in core municipal infrastructure services has resulted to services insufficient delivery of quality services, exacerbated by low levels of revenue collection by municipalities. These results in social distance between public representatives and communities they serve, further increasing the “trust deficit” challenge.

<b>COMMITMENT 4</b>	<b>OVERVIEW</b>	<b>CHALLENGES</b>
<p>Develop an integrated and publicly accessible portal of environmental management information</p>	<p>The portal will integrate spatial data on biodiversity, ecosystems, water, agriculture, protected areas, conservation areas, air quality priority areas, important bird areas and other environmental data to identify and map environmentally sensitive areas at a national level. Users of the portal will be able to view and interrogate the data in map format: Department of Environmental Affairs</p>	<p>Development of a centralised depository for environmental data that can provide the public with access to information on sensitive environments</p>
<b>COMMITMENT 5</b>	<b>OVERVIEW</b>	<b>CHALLENGES</b>
<p>Institutionalisation of Community Advice Offices as part of the wider Justice network</p>	<p>This commitment seeks to strengthen the advice office sector by ensuring that the sector has the skills to lead advocacy and communications initiatives critical for long-term sector sustainability. Skills and knowledge in networking and engaging civic groupings and government are critical for shaping policy and debates on the value</p>	<p>Institutionalisation of Community Advice Offices as part of the wider justice network, making the advice offices a permanent feature at grassroots level in communities as a means to advance access to justice at the coalface and frontline of community engagement.</p>

	<p>and impact of the work of community advice offices. This is essential for the sector to be recognised (through a regulatory framework and/or legislation and has access to the funding from the fiscus).</p> <p>The main objective of this project is to contribute to the long-term development and sustainability of the community advice office sector in South Africa. Its specific objectives are to: (1) ensure that community based paralegals have the requisite skills to advocate for access to justice for marginalised and vulnerable (2) that they have the knowledge and skills to engage other civic groupings and government so as to advance the constitutional rights of citizens and communities (3) that the leadership within the sector is skilled to confront various challenges (4) that research and evaluations of programmes are</p>	
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	<p>conducted to ensure evidence based and cost effective interventions to advance arguments for sustainability of the sector (5) that the sector has access to a Case Management System (CMS) in selected provinces and based on the results</p>	
<b>COMMITMENT 6</b>	<b>OVERVIEW</b>	<b>CHALLENGES</b>
<p>Development of Pilot Open Data Portal for South Africa</p>	<p>Piloting of an Open Data Portal for South Africa to make data already published by government availed to the public in an accessible format: Department of Public Service and Administration</p>	<p>This commitment addresses OGP value relevance with regards to access to information and furthermore on access to raw data on issues of service delivery, as well as technology and innovation for transparency and accountability.</p>
<b>COMMITMENT 7</b>	<b>OVERVIEW</b>	<b>CHALLENGES</b>
<p>Roll-out Open Government Awareness Raising Campaign</p>	<p>Roll-out Open Government Awareness Raising Campaign: Government Communications and Information Services.</p>	<p>There is a low level of awareness in communities and the public regarding South Africa's obligations in the OGP. Need to communicate on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Country Action Plan commitments as well as provision of regular feedback to ensure citizen engagement in monitoring and delivery.</p>
<b>COMMITMENT 8</b>	<b>OVERVIEW</b>	<b>CHALLENGES</b>

<p>Implement South Africa's action plan on the G20 High Level Principles on Beneficial Ownership Transparency and implement a register of legal persons and arrangements which is available to the public in open data formats, in order to protect the integrity and transparency of the global financial and public procurement systems: Department of Public Service and Administration and Treasury.</p>	<p>The establishment of an Inter-Departmental Committee responsible for developing, implementing and reporting on a Country Implementation/Action Plan. Development of the Country Implementation Plan in order to address challenge of transparency of legal persons and arrangements in the global financial system.</p>	<p>Attempt by G20 countries to prevent the misuse of and ensure transparency of legal persons and legal arrangements. Improve the transparency of legal persons and arrangements in order to protect the integrity and transparency of the global financial system.</p>
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<b>Open Government Partnership Grand Challenges</b>
<p>1. <b>Improving public services</b>- measures that address the full spectrum of citizen services including health, education, criminal justice, water, telecommunications and any other relevant service areas, by fostering public service improvement or private sector innovation</p>
<p>2. <b>Increasing public integrity</b> – measures that address corruption and public ethics, access to information, campaign finance reform, media and civil society freedom.</p>
<p>3. <b>More effectively managing public resources</b> –measures that address budgets, procurement, natural resources and foreign assistance.</p>
<p>4. <b>Creating safer communities</b> – measures that address public safety, the security sector, disaster and crisis response and environmental threats.</p>
<p>5. <b>Increasing corporate accountability</b>- measures that address corporate responsibility on issues such as the environment, anti –corruption, consumer protection and community engagement.</p>

## 5. CONCLUSION

The steps followed in the preparation of South Africa’s OGP 3<sup>rd</sup> Country Action Plan involved an extensive participatory and consultative process that ensured that all stakeholders involved in the programme were active drivers of the process and owners of its end-product.

The activities followed in the development of the NAP included public participation forums and engagements through Imbizo, stakeholder workshops and meetings with various government departments to solicit inputs and commitments.

South Africa’s NAP illustrates a deep adherence to the OGP principles while ensuring new and innovative solutions to governance through its presentation of new commitments aimed at strengthening open government and improved service delivery. These commitments have a close link to most of the issues that were raised during public consultations, stakeholder engagements and Izimbizo across the Provinces. For example, the lack of education and health infrastructure in some Provincial districts was cited as a challenge in human settlements planning. This can be addressed with the development and utilization of Land Use Data in the planning and implementation phases. The same information will contribute to addressing some of the environmental challenges identified during consultations.

Picture: Community members participating and giving feedback at consultative process of the OGP

## 6. NATIONAL ACTION PLAN MATRIX

	COMMITMENT	INDICATOR	OGP PRINCIPLES	COORDINATING DEPARTMENTS/OFFICIALS
1.	Strengthening Citizen-Based Monitoring in order to enhance Accountability and Performance.	Level of access to information on citizen’s rights and expectations of quality of public service delivery	Civic Participation, Public Accountability, Technology, Innovation for Openness and Accountability	Department of Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation  Mr Jonathan Timm  Director: Citizen-Based Monitoring
2.	Open Budgeting	Level of public participation in government planning and budgeting processes	Effectively Managing Public Resources through Access to information, public accountability, civic participation,	South African National Treasury  Dr. Kay Brown  Chief Director: Expenditure Planning

			and technology and innovation for openness and accountability	
3.	Back to Basics Programme	Level of civic participation in the provision of basic services	Access to information, public accountability, civic participation, and technology and innovation for openness and accountability	Department of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs Ms. Gigi Gosnell Chief Director: Office of the Director-General
4.	Development an integrated and publicly accessible portal for environmental management information	Accessibility and usage of an integrated environmental management information portal to citizens	Harness the power of technology to increase access to information and service delivery planning	Department of Environmental Affairs Mr. Deon Marais Chief GISc Professional National DEA
5.	Institutionalisation of Community Advice Offices as part of the wider Justice network	Levels of skills, knowledge and awareness of community based paralegals	Access to information, public accountability, civic participation, and technology and innovation for openness and accountability	National Alliance for the Development of Community Advice Offices Director: Nomboniso Maqubela
6.	Development of Pilot Open Data Portal for South Africa	Level of development of Open Data Portal for South Africa	Harness the power of technology to increase access to information and service delivery planning	Department of Public Service and Administration Mr Zaid Aboobaker Chief Director: E-Enablement, Office of the Government CIO

7.	Roll-out Open Government Awareness Raising Campaign: Government Communications and Information Services.	Number of OGP awareness campaigns rolled out per province annually	Effectively Managing Public Resources through Access to information, public accountability, civic participation, and technology and innovation for openness and accountability	Government Communication Information System (GCIS)  Mr. Donald Liphoko
8.	Implement South Africa's action plan on the G20 High Level Principles on Beneficial Ownership Transparency by implementing a register of legal persons	Global Corruption Index	Effectively Managing Public Resources through Access to information, public accountability, civic participation, and technology and innovation for openness and accountability	Department of Public Service and Administration  Mr Kenny Govender  Deputy Director-General Governance

## Commitment 1

### Strengthening citizen-based monitoring

Leading implementing agency		Department of Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation
Name of responsible person from implementing agency		Jonathan Timm
Title, Department		Director: Citizen-Based Monitoring, DPME
Email		jonathan@presidency-dpme.gov.za
Phone		012 312 0327
Other actors involved	Government	South African Police Service, Department of Health, South African Social Security Agency
	CSOs, private sector, working groups, multilaterals	Good Governance Learning Network, Seriti Institute, Canadian International Development Agency, local community organisations specific to the government facilities where work is being done
Status quo or problem/ issue to be addressed		Routine accountability mechanisms, particularly at the point of service delivery, are weak, with insufficient feedback from community and frontline staff in the mechanisms for allocating resources and setting targets and measuring performance
Main objective		Support government departments to strengthen the citizen voice in monitoring service delivery
Brief Description of Commitment		DPME will work with 3 service delivery departments to strengthen the voice of citizens in their monitoring and planning. DPME will provide a knowledge broker service w.r.t citizen based monitoring by hosting workshops and discussions with government and civil society partners, aimed at strengthening the voice of citizens in monitoring and planning.
OGP challenge addressed by the commitment		Civic Participation, Public Accountability, Technology and innovation for openness and accountability
<p>Relevance</p> <p><i>Briefly describe the way in which this commitment is relevant to further advancing OGP values of access to information, public accountability, civic participation, and technology and innovation for openness and accountability. (A detailed description of these values is available in the <a href="#">OGP Values Guidance Note</a>: <a href="http://www.opengovpartnership.org/sites/default/files/attachments/OGPvaluesguidancenote.pdf">http://www.opengovpartnership.org/sites/default/files/attachments/OGPvaluesguidancenote.pdf</a> ).</i></p>		<p>This commitment is relevant to :</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) Civic Participation: The citizen-based monitoring model advanced by DPME includes developing a set of actions and commitments for addressing service delivery challenges. This is done through discussion groups made up of officials and community leaders/members and these commitment charters are further shared and refined at a public meeting. The model also includes reporting and accounting for progress to community forums such as ward committees, community police forums and other community structures.</li> <li>(2) Public Accountability: The use of community surveys/audits of service delivery is a key part of the citizen-based monitoring method. These involve community members conducting the surveys and participating in the sense-making and feedback step.</li> <li>(3) Technology and innovation for openness and accountability: An on-line reporting platform has been developed for capturing and</li> </ol>

	<p>reporting citizen feedback. This is in its early stages of development, but in its current iteration it provides a portal for producing citizen feedback reports. This system will evolve based on demand and use. Innovation is central to the evolution of the CBM method, with action learning cycles driving the process.</p>		
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Ambition</b> <i>Briefly describe the intended results of the commitment and how it will either make government more open or improve government through more openness.</i></p>	<p>The Department of Planning Monitoring and Evaluation, a department in the Presidency is tasked to promote citizen-based monitoring (CBM) within government. The CBM programme supports the achievement of a Cabinet resolution (2013) that all departments that delivery services to the public must introduce citizen- based monitoring. Following an intensive two year action learning process with four service delivery departments and 34 government facilities (police stations, health facilities, grants offices and social welfare service points), DPME is now moving into a strategic support role to advance the routine use of citizen (and frontline staff) feedback and engagement to drive continuous improvement. The approach that DPME is following is to build capacity in selected service delivery departments through providing hands-on support to officials in service delivery departments to adapt and scale DPME’s 3-step CBM model (get feedback, use this feedback to develop commitments for improvements; monitor these commitment with civil society and community structures). This is aimed to progressively grow a cadre of officials and civil society participants who been part of developing the tools and knowledge of how to use feedback and community participation as a contribution to building capable and developmental state working in concert with an active citizenry. Improving the responsiveness of government is the key objective. DPME intends to host discussion that will bring government and civil society together to discuss planning and monitoring on an on-going basis.</p>		
<p style="text-align: center;">Verifiable and measurable milestones to fulfil the commitment</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">New or on-going commitment</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Start Date:</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">End Date:</p>
<p>1. Citizen-based monitoring model implemented in nine police stations as a first wave of CBM in South African Police Service.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">New</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Nov 2015</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Oct 2016</p>
<p>2. Conference to share lessons, experience and shape discussion on citizen-based monitoring with government and civil society.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">New</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Nov 2015</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Feb 2016</p>
<p>3. Citizen-based monitoring toolkit and video published.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">New</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">First Version Nov 2015</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Second Version June 2016</p>



## Commitment 2

Open Budgeting		
Leading implementing agency	South African National Treasury	
Name of responsible person from implementing agency	Dr. Kay Brown	
Title, Department	Chief Director, Expenditure Planning. South African National Treasury	
Email	<a href="mailto:Kay.Brown@treasury.gov.za">Kay.Brown@treasury.gov.za</a>	
Phone	012 315 5450	
Other actors involved	Government	Government departments and entities
	CSOs, private sector, working groups, multilaterals	Civil Society Organisations
Status quo or problem/ issue to be addressed	South Africa is highly ranked in the world in terms of budget transparency. The vast amount of budget and reporting information available has however generally not equated to an equally high level of citizen participation in budget processes.	
Main objective	Civil society involvement in the budget process in order to enhance the progressive realisation of socioeconomic rights, and enable citizens to track public expenditure.	
Brief Description of Commitment	This commitment involves civil society in various aspects of the budget process from planning to implementation and monitoring and evaluation, enabling them to have a firmer grasp of how national resources are generated, distributed and reported upon.	
OGP challenge addressed by the commitment	This commitment addresses the OGP grand challenge of More Effectively Managing Public Resources.	
<p style="text-align: center;">Relevance</p> <p><i>Briefly describe the way in which this commitment is relevant to further advancing OGP values of access to information, public accountability, civic participation, and technology and innovation for openness and accountability. (A detailed description of these values is available in the <b>OGP Values Guidance Note</b>: <a href="http://www.opengovpartnership.org/sites/default/files/attachments/OGPvaluesguidancenote.pdf">http://www.opengovpartnership.org/sites/default/files/attachments/OGPvaluesguidancenote.pdf</a> ).</i></p>	<p>The commitment of involving civil society in the budget process is all encompassing as it addresses the various OGP values through measures that will be taken to fulfil the commitment. These measures and their contributions to the OGP values are outlined below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continuing to publish extensive budget data and the reforms being carried out by the Office of the Chief Procurement Officer in the National Treasury to make extensive procurement information available on a centrally accessible websites. Through these initiatives, government held information is put in the public domain allowing for public analysis and scrutiny, affording citizens the opportunity to track government's progress in terms of spending commitments made during the budget process. This aligns with the OGP values of access to information and public accountability.</li> <li>• Support civil society in their preparation of citizen-friendly publications about national budgets tabled in Parliament. This also aligns with the OGP value of access to information.</li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussions regarding the possible creation of a data portal advances the OGP value of technology and innovation for openness and accountability, as it will provide an interactive media platform for citizens to engage with government officials and receive feedback on specific aspects of the budget process. It will also allow for information sharing, public participation, and more accessible collaboration between citizens and government.</li> <li>• The organisation of budget road shows and information sessions serves to enhance civic participation as such platforms will afford citizens the opportunity to voice their opinions on specific budget issues relevant to their stakeholders.</li> </ul>		
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Ambition</b></p> <p><i>Briefly describe the intended results of the commitment and how it will either make government more open or improve government through more openness.</i></p>	<p>Opening up the budget process through the continuous publication of extensive budget and reporting information and data will be leveraged through organised engagement with civil society and will enable grass-root participation in governance, to ensure accountability in public financial management.</p>		
<p><b>Verifiable and measurable milestones to fulfil the commitment</b></p>	<p><b>New or on-going commitment</b></p>	<p><b>Start Date</b> :</p>	<p><b>End Date</b> :</p>
<p>1. Information sessions organised to engage with civil society and other stakeholders on the budgetary and reporting issues.</p> <p>2. Civil society engagement on current procurement reforms being undertaken by the Office of the Chief Procurement Officer in the National Treasury.</p> <p>3. The National Treasury will continue to provide information and support to civil society organisations to enable them to publish Citizens Guides to the Budget.</p> <p>4. The National Treasury will collaborate with civil society organisations to discuss the possible development of an interactive data portal to furnish the public with extensive information on the budget and expenditure outcomes to make data more understandable and to aid civil society in their analysis.</p>	<p>On-going</p> <p>On-going</p> <p>On-going and New</p> <p>New</p>	<p></p> <p></p> <p></p> <p>2016 /17</p>	<p></p> <p></p> <p></p> <p></p>



## Commitment 3

### Back to Basics Programme

Leading implementing agency		Department of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs
Name of responsible person from implementing agency		Ms. Gigi Gosnell
Title, Department		Chief Director, Office of the Director General,
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Phone		
Other actors involved	Government	Ministry of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs, Municipalities, South African Local Government Association (SALGA)
	CSOs, private sector, working groups, multilaterals	Civil society organisations, Community Development Workers, Local government interest groups.
Status quo or problem/ issue to be addressed		<p>Local government is a primary site for the delivery of services in South Africa, and since 1994 tremendous progress has been made in delivering water, electricity, sanitation and refuses removal services - at rates of delivery unprecedented anywhere in the world.</p> <p>Yet despite these achievements there are areas in which local government is facing challenges, where a collapse in core municipal infrastructure services has resulted in services either not being provided at all, or provided at unacceptably low standards. Concomitant with this collapse are problems associated with municipal governance, capacity and financial viability. The low rate of collection of revenue continues to undermine the ability of municipalities to deliver services to communities. There are for too many instances both of inappropriate placements, and skills not measuring up to requirements. This is compounded by widespread instances of rent seeking and corruption amongst public representatives and business, reflecting a broader breakdown in the values and good governance principles. These municipalities lack a culture of public service, and there are slow or inadequate responses to service delivery challenges, which are in turn linked to the breakdown of trust between Councils and communities. Social distance by our public representatives is reflected in inadequate public participation and poorly functioning ward councillors and committees.</p> <p>In 2014 COGTA undertook a review of South Africa's 278 municipalities, which revealed that the top third of municipalities manage to do the basics right and perform their functions at least adequately. Within this group, there are a small group of top performers who are doing extremely well.</p> <p>The middle third of municipalities reviewed are fairly functional, but there remain some worrying signs of poor performance or decline. This middle</p>

group can be classed as 'at risk', since if left unchecked these could presage a further decline.

The bottom third of municipalities are frankly dysfunctional, and the basic mechanisms to perform their functions are not in place. These municipalities are failing our people dramatically, and urgent intervention is required in order to correct the decay in the system.

Local government enters its 15th year as a democratic sphere of government. While significant achievements have been made by local government in delivering services to the previously marginalised communities, the backlog caused by apartheid in delivering such services is immense. This situation is further exacerbated by the growing inward migration into cities, resulting in the emergence of informal settlements and an increased demand for services.

The inability of some municipalities to deliver these services has seen violent community responses in the form of service delivery protests and a general decline in public confidence in local government. This situation has sent a message to government on the need to engage communities better in the service delivery and development processes in their municipalities, and necessitated government to take steps to increase public confidence in local government. Local government is perceived to be corrupt and unable to deliver services. This has resulted in a general refusal by citizens to pay for services and a low public interest in communities being part of local government as contemplated in the constitution. The Back to Basics programme in this regard aims to increase public confidence in the system, develop better mechanisms of citizen engagement, deal with corruption and motivate communities to take responsibility through contributing to the delivery of services.

Main objective

Properly functioning municipal services are inherent to human dignity, and in terms of the Constitution everyone has the right to have their dignity respected and protected. At the same time, citizens need to accept their responsibilities and duties as citizens, with respect to participating in municipal affairs; respecting public property and assets, and paying for the municipal services they receive.

The B2B Programme aims to give all South Africans a basic set of tools by which they can hold their municipalities to account and measure whether they are living up to their promises. Councils are meant to exercise oversight over the municipalities for which they are accountable, and citizens in turn need to have the tools and forums in which they can hold the councillors they have elected accountable for the electoral promises they have made. DCOG will support greater accountability and

	<p>transparency by collating and publishing the Back-to-Basics indicators for public use. DCOG will also conduct regular national citizen satisfaction surveys, and assist municipalities in developing community engagement plans targeting hotspots and potential hotspots areas.</p>
<p>Brief Description of Commitment</p>	<p><b>1. Increase public confidence in local government</b></p> <p>Properly functioning municipal services are inherent to human dignity, and in terms of the Constitution everyone has the right to have their dignity respected and protected. At the same time, citizens need to accept their responsibilities and duties as citizens, with respect to participating in municipal affairs; respecting public property and assets, and paying for the municipal services they receive.</p> <p>The B2B approach is premised on changing a set of fundamental relationships that underpin our Constitutional order and the local government system, namely that</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Between local government and the people we are meant to serve (putting people first, instilling a culture of ‘service’ rather than ‘service delivery’).</li> <li>• Between leaders and the municipalities they are meant to lead (good governance rather than extractive elites).</li> <li>• Between people and the public services they receive (responsible citizenship, payment for services).</li> </ul> <p><b>2. Entrench a culture of good governance and instil a new morality of service and integrity in local government</b></p> <p>Ultimately we need to change the political culture in local government, and we aim to do this by popularising a new morality of service and integrity, making sure that effective leaders and well run municipalities are recognised and rewarded, insulating institutional systems from political manipulation, and ensuring consequences for maladministration, mismanagement, fraud and corruption</p> <p>There will be a targeted and vigorous response to corruption and fraud, and a zero tolerance approach to ensure that these practices are rooted out. Supply chain management practices in municipalities will be closely scrutinized. Where corruption and mismanagement have been identified, we will not hesitate to make sure these are decisively dealt with through provisions such as asset forfeiture and civil claims. We will also work to change practices in the private sector, and enlist the support of civil society to change the national morality.</p>

	<p>To ensure compliance with the B2B pillars and establishing enforcement mechanisms DCOG will establish an investigative capacity, which will prepare and package cases for on-referral to law enforcement and other agencies with a view to crack down on corruption and corrupt activities in the local government sphere.</p> <p><b>3. Implement initiatives to improve financial sustainability, revenue management and audit outcomes in Local Government</b></p> <p>A national campaign on improving the culture of payment will be implemented in partnership with communities, municipalities, and civil society organisations. In addition, the campaign will seek to improve accountability to citizens through better management of municipal finances.</p>
<p>OGP challenge addressed by the commitment</p>	<p>The commitment seeks to address the following OGP challenges:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• improving public services,</li> <li>• increasing public integrity,</li> <li>• effectively managing public resources</li> <li>• improving transparency, citizen participation, accountability</li> </ul>
<p>Relevance</p> <p><i>Briefly describe the way in which this commitment is relevant to further advancing OGP values of access to information, public accountability, civic participation, and technology and innovation for openness and accountability. (A detailed description of these values is available in the <b>OGP Values Guidance Note</b>: <a href="http://www.opengovpartnership.org/sites/default/files/attachments/OGPvaluesguidancenote.pdf">http://www.opengovpartnership.org/sites/default/files/attachments/OGPvaluesguidancenote.pdf</a> ).</i></p>	<p><b>OGP Value: Civic Participation</b></p> <p>The identified projects will assist local government to improve public participation through reforming the current public participation model in local government through providing municipalities with national mechanisms of citizen engagement.</p> <p>Furthermore, local government will seek to improve the culture of payment of services by citizens through implementing an interactive national campaign and improve municipal accountability to citizens through better management of municipal finances by improving audit outcomes of municipalities.</p> <p><b>OGP Value: Public Accountability</b></p> <p>National government will strengthen anti-corruption measures and enforce applicable legislation and policies, Promote good governance and an ethical culture in local government through developing and implementing a Local Government Code of Good Governance based on the King III Report on Corporate Governance. Furthermore, a Local Government Anti-corruption tribunal will be established.</p>
	<p>The intended results of the commitment include,</p>

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Ambition</b></p> <p><i>Briefly describe the intended results of the commitment and how it will either make government more open or improve government through more openness.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Improved levels of civic participation resulting in increased confidence and trust in local government. More importantly, the introduction of better citizen engagement tools and methods that will ensure openness of local government to citizen engagement.</li> <li>- Improved levels of confidence in local government through dealing with corruption and introduction of effective mechanisms to deal with corruption.</li> <li>- Improve service delivery through a creation of a responsible citizenry and an accountable local government.</li> </ul>		
Verifiable and measurable milestones to fulfil the commitment	New or on-going commitment	Start Date:	End Date:
<p><b>1. Promote public confidence in the local government system through citizen engagement mechanisms</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Public participation regulatory framework piloted in 50 dysfunctional municipalities</li> <li>- Develop a tool kit for citizen engagement</li> <li>- 190 municipalities supported to develop and implement citizen empowerment programmes</li> <li>- Conduct an annual national citizen satisfaction survey</li> </ul>	<b>New</b>	<b>March 2015</b>	<b>March 2018</b>
<p><b>2. Entrench a culture of good governance and instil a new morality of service and integrity in local government.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Local Government Code of Good Governance (Based on the King III Report on Corporate Governance) developed and implemented across 278 municipalities</li> <li>- Strengthen anti-corruption measures and enforce applicable legislation and policies by March 2019</li> </ul>	<b>New</b>	<b>March 2015</b>	<b>March 2019</b>
<p><b>3. Implement initiatives to improve financial sustainability, revenue management and audit outcomes in Local Government.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A national campaign on improving the culture of payment implemented by target date.</li> <li>- Improve the Percentage of unqualified audit outcomes by target date</li> </ul>	<b>New</b>	<b>March 2015</b>	<b>March 2018</b>





## Commitment 4

Develop an integrated and publicly accessible portal of environmental management information

Lead implementing agency	Department of Environmental Affairs	
Name of responsible person from implementing agency	Dr JR Pretorius	
Title, Department	Chief GISc Professional, Integrated Environmental Management Systems	
Email	<a href="mailto:rpretorius@environment.gov.za">rpretorius@environment.gov.za</a>	
Phone	012 3999 299	
Other actors involved	Government	State Information Technology Agency
	CSOs, private sector, working groups, multilaterals	Mintech Working Group 7
Status quo or problem/issue to be addressed		
Main objective	Development of a portal that will provide public access to information on sensitive environments.	
Brief description of commitment	The portal will integrate spatial data on biodiversity, ecosystems, water, agriculture, protected areas, conservation areas, air quality priority areas, important bird areas and other environmental data to identify and map environmentally sensitive areas at a national level. Users of the portal will be able to view and interrogate the data in map format.	
OGP challenge addressed by the commitment	Transparency\Accountability\Participation\Technology innovation.	
Relevance Briefly describe the way which this commitment is relevant to further advancing OGP values of access to information, public accountability, civic participation, and technology and innovation for openness and accountability. (A detailed description of these values is available in the OGP Values Guidance Note.)	This commitment will allow easy and unrestricted access to spatial environmental data. It will support the right to information. The envisaged screening report that the public can generate from the portal will provide access to and use exactly the same information base being used by government officials. The technology that will be deployed will, for the first time, allow government officials and the general public to see on a map where major developments are being proposed or have been approved. Citizens will be able to determine if such developments have the potential to impact negatively on their environment, or if it supports or compromise environmental sustainability and livelihoods.	
Ambition Briefly describe the intended results of the commitment and how it will either make government more open or improve government through more openness.	Phase 1 of the project, to be completed at the end of March 2015, will enable users to access a range of environmental spatial datasets through one portal instead of several portals. Access to data will be easier than before. Users will be able to identify environmental sensitive areas, identify areas of high environmental potential, and obtain information describing these areas in more detail.	

Phase 2 of the project, to be completed in the 2015/2016 financial year, will allow users to generate environmental sensitivity reports for any area in South Africa. These reports are prescribed in the 2014 EIA regulations. Such reports will enable government officials and the public to consider, in a more transparent way, what the potential impact of major developmental projects on the environment will be, and if any sensitive environments will be affected.

Phase 2 will also integrate the portal with the Coordinated and Integrated Permitting System (which deals inter alia with Environmental Authorisations under the Environmental Impact Regulations). The Coordinated and Integrated Permitting System is currently being developed by the Department of Environmental Affairs in collaboration with the State Information Technology Agency. This integration will on the one hand enable government departments to accurately determine the footprint associated with environmental authorisations, and on the other hand enable the public to see exactly where major developments that may have impacts on communities are planned or taking place.

Phase 3, to commence in 2016/2017, will further expand the portal to include marine and coastal datasets which are currently not available.

The portal will allow the public, developers and government officials to interrogate the same environmental datasets, generate environmental reports based on the same underlying spatial information and hence promote openness and transparency. Once fully integrated with the Coordinated and Integrated Permitting System, users will also be able to see visually where development applications have been approved, or where developments are being proposed. The public will be empowered to keep track of development proposals in any particular area in South Africa.

Verifiable and measurable milestones to fulfil the commitment	New or ongoing commitment	Start Date:	End Date:
1. Open the portal for public access.	Ongoing	April 2015	Portal open April 2015
2. Allow users, including public to create environmental screening reports in accordance with the 2014 EIA Regulations.	New commitment	August 2015	Function operational for public to use August 2015  March 2016
3. Integrate the portal with the Integrated Permitting System.	New commitment	April 2015	March 2017
	New commitment		

4. Add marine and coastal datasets to the portal and make available for access to the public.		April 2016	
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## Commitment 5

### Institutionalisation of Community Advice Offices as part of the wider Justice network

Leading implementing agency		National Alliance for the Development of Community Advice Offices
Name of responsible person from implementing agency		Nomboniso Maqubela
Title, Department		Director
Email		nomboniso@nadcao.org.za
Phone		076 950 2293
Other actors involved	Government	
	CSOs, private sector, working groups, multilaterals	Association of Community-based Advice Offices of South Africa (ACAOSA)
Status quo or problem/ issue to be addressed		Institutionalisation of Community Advice Offices as part of the wider justice network, making the advice offices a permanent feature at grassroots level in communities as a means to advance access to justice at the coalface and frontline of community engagement.
Main objective		The main objective of this project is <b>to contribute to the long-term development and sustainability of the community advice office sector in South Africa</b> . Its specific objectives are to: (1) ensure that community based paralegals have the requisite skills to advocate for access to justice for marginalised and vulnerable (2) that they have the knowledge and skills to engage other civic groupings and government so as to advance the constitutional rights of citizens and communities (3) that the leadership within the sector is skilled to confront various challenges (4) that research and evaluations of programmes are conducted to ensure evidence based and cost effective interventions to advance arguments for sustainability of the sector (5) that the sector has access to a Case Management System (CMS) in selected provinces and based on the results consider the viability of a wider rolling out of the system
Brief Description of Commitment		Nadcao seeks to strengthen the advice office sector by ensuring that the sector has the skills to lead advocacy and communications initiatives critical for long-term sector sustainability. Skills and knowledge in networking and engaging civic groupings and government are critical for shaping policy and debates on the value and impact of the work of community advice offices. This is essential for the sector to be recognised (through a regulatory framework and/or legislation and has access to the funding from the fiscus).
OGP challenge addressed by the commitment		Civic Engagement and Participation; Public Accountability; Technology and innovation for openness and accountability; Strong Institutions at Grassroots level; Access to Justice
Relevance		This commitment is relevant to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Public Accountability:</b> Nadcao is committed to improving access to justice by making justice mechanisms cheaper, faster, or easier to</li> </ol>

<p>Briefly describe the way in which this commitment is relevant to further advancing OGP values of access to information, public accountability, civic participation, and technology and innovation for openness and accountability. (A detailed description of these values is available in the <i>OGP Values Guidance Note</i>: <a href="http://www.opengovpartnership.org/sites/default/files/attachments/OGPvaluesguidancenote.pdf">http://www.opengovpartnership.org/sites/default/files/attachments/OGPvaluesguidancenote.pdf</a> ).</p>	<p>use. The objective is to improve “the quality and access to basic services with a specific focus on sustainable development of communities and social cohesion.” In essence, without financial support from the national government of South Africa and other actors, the advice office sector will continue to struggle and this hampers the quality and accessibility of legal and human rights services to low income and indigent sectors of the population.</p> <p>Goal 16 of the post-2015 sustainable development goals (SDGs) which is to, “Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels”, is an opportunity for CAOs to contribute to the achievement of some of the indicators of this goal. It is also an opportunity for national government and other CSO actors to recognise the sector through a committed budget allocation to it. Furthermore, a well-financed and sustainable advice office sector enables poor communities to access justice and other human rights information and services.</p> <p><b>2. Technology and innovation for openness and accountability:</b> A well-funded community advice office sector will ensure access to technologies like computers, tablets and the internet which are essential for information sharing, public participation, and collaboration. Access to information for the public has the added advantage of enabling people to both understand what their governments are doing and on the other hand, the power to critique and influence decisions thus at the same time, promoting civic/public participation.</p> <p>Technologically advanced community advice offices will make it easier to put an efficient national Case Management System in place which would be useful in creating a broad understanding of the kinds of issues dealt with at community level. Such information would be useful to understand trends, develop policy and advocacy initiatives by both government and civil society in improving access to justice for the poor and marginalized members of South African communities.</p>
<p>Ambition</p>	<p>An increased flow of resources to the advice office sector will ensure development and sustainability of the sector. This will ultimately lead to a strengthened and consolidated community advice office sector with clear governance and accountability structures and a quality assurance framework. Furthermore, wider and richer networks (i.e. government;</p>

<p><i>Briefly describe the intended results of the commitment and how it will either make government more open or improve government through more openness.</i></p>	<p>philanthropic entities; civil society actors) have the potential to shape and influence policy and debates concerning specifically the advice office sector and broadly the social justice sector. Finally, Nadcao aims to achieve sector recognition as evidenced by a regulatory framework endorsed by key political actors and ‘government’ commitment to, over time, pass legislation for sector regulation and funding.</p>		
Verifiable and measurable milestones to fulfil the commitment	New or on-going commitment	Start Date:	End Date:
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Training community-based paralegals on leadership, governance and accountability. This will be implemented four times a year and will be aligned to ACAOSA council meetings. The intention is to ensure that community based paralegals interact with their provincial structures organised under ACAOSA and are kept abreast of the activities of ACAOSA in order to understand the internal leadership environment of the sector. During such training, a plan and implementation plan of programmes will be crafted and a monitoring and evaluation plan agreed to.</li> <li>2. Sector training in fundraising, communications and advocacy. Through training and capacity building, the idea is to produce high impact advocacy and communications raising the profile of the sector, its work and value addition and the importance of access to justice in line with goal 16 of the Agenda 2030 SDGs.</li> <li>3. Sector training in engaging and networking with other civic groupings and government. Engaging the DoJ &amp; CD on a regulatory framework for the advice office sector – the output will be better understanding and appreciation of the sector by government and commitment to regulation of the sector, which will lead to adequate investment in the long-term sustainability of the sector. A long term result will be a clear regulatory and funding framework and legislation that will eventually a piece of law on regulation of community-based paralegals. Coupled with research on sector funding models, viability and related challenges confronting the sector, this will enable long term sustainability and advocacy interventions based on empirical evidence from research.</li> <li>4. Through the annual Dullah Omar School for paralegals this project will aim to build a cohort of individuals with a firm grasp of the needs of marginalised local communities and the key role of CBPs in driving access to justice for these marginalised communities. The output from this activity will be 100 paralegals per year – over three years – that are well versed in the Agenda 2030 indicators on access to justice. This will result in better quality services to marginalised, poor and working class communities.</li> </ol>	Ongoing	Jan 2016	Dec 2017

<p>5. Engaging international actors such as the OGP, United Nations, think tanks and other networks – the result will be a better-informed sector in relation to opportunities and strategies. This will result in long-term collaboration and sharing of knowledge to drive the access to justice agenda in South Africa. This can also be achieved through partnering with identified sector role players to create platforms for debate and engagement on the post-2015 Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) on access to justice (Goal 16)</p> <p>6. Awareness campaigns on access to socio-economic rights led by CAOs</p>			
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## Commitment 6

### Development of Pilot Open Data Portal for South Africa

Leading implementing agency		Department of Public Service and Administration
Name of responsible person from implementing agency		Zaid Aboobaker
Title, Department		Chief Director:E-Enablement, Office of the Government CIO
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Phone		0123361059
Other actors involved	Government	GCIS, Innovation Hub, DTI
	CSOs, private sector, working groups, multilaterals	Code4SA, Microsoft, ChilliSoft
Status quo or problem/ issue to be addressed		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Visibility and accessibility of data is limited:</b> A number of data sets are available in South Africa but these are typically fragmented across various department sites (or geographic regions), with different standards and methods for accessing the data. This reduces adoption by mainstream analysts and users, as well as limiting potential for inter-regional/sectoral integration of data sets which is particularly valuable.</li> <li>• <b>Low use and impact of available data:</b> Making data available does not necessarily result in data being used or analysed for the benefit of citizens or public officials that need it, in priority developmental regions or sectors.</li> </ul>
Main objective		Develop a Pilot national open data portal
Brief Description of Commitment (140 character limit)		Develop a Pilot open data portal, and consolidate various data sets from across the three spheres of government, enabling citizens and businesses to easily access government data. The pilot period of a year will allow for further refinement of strategies.
OGP challenge addressed by the commitment		
<p>Relevance</p> <p><i>Briefly describe the way in which this commitment is relevant to further advancing OGP values of access to information, public accountability, civic participation, and technology and innovation for openness and accountability. (A detailed description of these values is available in the <a href="#">OGP Values Guidance Note</a>:</i></p>		The Open data portal provides an easily accessible mechanism for government published data, dealing directly with the value of access to information. With respect to innovation, the portal will allow for the development of user centric applications utilising data published directly on the portal.

<a href="http://www.opengovpartnership.org/sites/default/files/attachments/OGPvaluesguidancenote.pdf">http://www.opengovpartnership.org/sites/default/files/attachments/OGPvaluesguidancenote.pdf</a> ).			
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Ambition</b></p> <p><i>Briefly describe the intended results of the commitment and how it will either make government more open or improve government through more openness.</i></p>	<p>The portal aims to help citizens and civil servants solve big social and economic challenges in their local context by making relevant data more accessible and useful.</p>		
<b>Verifiable and measurable milestones to fulfil the commitment</b>	<b>New or ongoing commitment</b>	<b>Start Date:</b>	<b>End Date:</b>
<p>1. Pilot open data portal established and operational</p> <p>2. Execution of specific community events designed to interface and interact with the portal.</p>	<p>New</p> <p>New</p>	<p>15 September 2015</p> <p>22 October 2015</p>	<p>30 October 2016</p> <p>24 October 2016</p>



## Commitment 7

Roll-out Open Government Awareness Raising Campaign: Government Communications and Information Services.	
Lead implementing agency	Government Communication and Information System
Name of responsible person from implementing agency	Donald Liphoko
Title, Department	GCIS
Email	precian@gcis.gov.za
Phone	012 473 0245
Other actors involved	Government
	CSOs, private sector, working groups, multilaterals
Status quo or problem/issue to be addressed	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Discharge communication coordination mandate through creating awareness of the initiative by using its products and platforms.</li> <li>2. Support with the development of an Open Data Pilot Portal</li> </ol>
Main objective	Creating awareness and communicating to the people on the initiative
Brief description of commitment	
OGP challenge addressed by the commitment	
Relevance Briefly describe the way which this commitment is relevant to further advancing OGP values of access to information, public accountability, civic participation, and technology and innovation for openness and accountability. (A detailed description of these values is available in the OGP Values Guidance Note.)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Development and implementation of an Accountability/Consequences Management Framework for Public Servants</li> <li>2. Establish Service Delivery Improvement Forums</li> <li>3. Mainstream citizen participation in the Public Sector</li> <li>4. Develop an integrated and publically accessible portal for environmental management information</li> <li>5. Implement a Know Your Rights and Responsibilities campaign</li> </ol>
Ambition Briefly describe the intended results of the commitment and how it will either make government more open or improve government through more openness.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. GCIS to raise awareness amongst public servants of:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Framework and implication to be developed</li> </ol> </li> <li>2. GCIS platforms used to create awareness:               <p>Print:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Vukuzenzele</li> <li>b. Insight</li> <li>c. Government Dialogue</li> <li>d. My District Today</li> <li>e. Public Sector Manager</li> <li>f. SA News</li> </ol> </li> </ol>

	<p>g. Opinion Piece</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Joint collaboration with SABC / GCIS to run OGP information series or to include in already scheduled programmes</li> <li>• Joint collaboration between GCIS / MDDA to prepare material for community radio to introduce OGP into communities using variety of languages</li> </ul> <p>3. Research into what information citizens really would like made available to them</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• GCIS to play a role in working with all government departments to introduce the OGP and what this is. Could also introduce the Citizen Participation Guidelines</li> <li>• Pre budget (at least 2 months before the budget vote) start running campaigns to encourage citizens to put ideas forward for the budget</li> </ul> <p>4. GCIS is providing technical support for the portal</p> <p>5. Use of GCIS platforms:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Series in Vukuzenzele; partnership with community radio; SABC interventions; social media campaigns</li> </ul>		
Verifiable and measureable milestones to fulfil the commitment	New or ongoing commitment	Start Date:	End Date:



## Commitment 8

Implement South Africa's action plan on the G20 High Level Principles on Beneficial Ownership Transparency and implement a register of legal persons and arrangements which is available to the public in open data formats, in order to protect the integrity and transparency of the global financial and public procurement systems: Department of Public Service and Administration and Treasury.

Leading implementing agency		Department of Public Service and Administration
Name of responsible person from implementing agency		Itumeleng V Mongale
Title, Department		Director: Ethics and integrity management
Email		itumelengm@dpsa.gov.za
Phone		+2712 336 1123
Other actors involved	Government	Financial Intelligence Centre, South African Revenue Service, National Treasury, Department of Trade and Industry, Department of Justice and Constitutional Development, National Prosecuting Authority; Companies and Intellectual Property Commission.
	CSOs, private sector, working groups, multilaterals	G20 Anti-corruption Working Group; Financial Action Task Force (FATF)
Status quo or problem/ issue to be addressed		Corporate vehicles (including companies, trusts, foundations, partnerships and other types of legal persons and arrangements) play an essential role in the global economy and conduct a wide variety of legitimate commercial and entrepreneurial activities. However, they are also misused by criminals for illicit purposes, including money laundering, bribery and corruption, insider dealings, tax fraud, terrorist financing and other illegal activities.
Main objective		Take concrete actions to implement the G20 High Level Principles on Beneficial Ownership Transparency and to meet the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) standards regarding the beneficial ownership of companies and other legal arrangements such as trusts.
Brief Description of Commitment		<p>The G20 High-Level Principles on Beneficial Ownership Transparency set out concrete measures G20 countries will take to prevent the misuse of and ensure transparency of legal persons and legal arrangements. The G20 Leaders encourage all countries to tackle the risks raised by the opacity of legal persons and legal arrangements.</p> <p>South Africa commits to take concrete action and to share in writing by means of developing, publishing and reporting regular progress on a Country Implementation Plan regarding the various steps to be taken to implement these principles and improve the effectiveness of their legal, regulatory and institutional frameworks with respect to beneficial ownership transparency</p>

<p>OGP challenge addressed by the commitment</p>	<p>Attempt by G20 countries to prevent the misuse of and ensure transparency of legal persons and legal arrangements. Improve the transparency of legal persons and arrangements in order to protect the integrity and transparency of the global financial system.</p>		
<p>Relevance</p> <p><i>Briefly describe the way in which this commitment is relevant to further advancing OGP values of access to information, public accountability, civic participation, and technology and innovation for openness and accountability. (A detailed description of these values is available in the <b>OGP Values Guidance Note</b>: <a href="http://www.opengovpartnership.org/sites/default/files/attachments/OGPValuesGuidancenote.pdf">http://www.opengovpartnership.org/sites/default/files/attachments/OGPValuesGuidancenote.pdf</a> ).</i></p>	<p>Access to information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This initiative will ensure that South African competent authorities (including law enforcement and prosecutorial authorities, supervisory authorities, the South African Revenue Service (SARS) and the Financial Intelligence Centre) have timely access to adequate, accurate and current information regarding the beneficial ownership of legal persons and legal arrangements.</li> </ul> <p>Technology and innovation for openness and accountability:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The initiative will also ensure that trustees of express trusts maintain adequate, accurate and current beneficial ownership information, including information of settlors, the protector (if any) trustees and beneficiaries.</li> </ul>		
<p>Ambition</p> <p><i>Briefly describe the intended results of the commitment and how it will either make government more open or improve government through more openness.</i></p>	<p>Improving the transparency of legal persons and arrangements is important to protect the integrity and transparency of the global financial system.</p>		
<p>Verifiable and measurable milestones to fulfil the commitment</p>	<p>New or on-going commitment</p>	<p>Start Date</p>	<p>End Date</p>
<p>1. Establishment of an Inter-Departmental Committee responsible for developing, implementing and reporting on a Country Implementation/Action Plan</p> <p>2. Development of the Country Implementation Plan</p>	<p>New</p> <p>New</p>	<p>Nov 2015</p> <p>April 2016</p>	<p>Mar 2015</p> <p>Oct 2016</p>