

While most commitments in Canada's third action plan showed substantial progress by the midterm, they were generally modest, rather than ambitious improvements. Public consultations have improved and the creation of the Multi-Stakeholder Forum on Open Government is a promising development. The IRM recommends that Canada lead by example and assume stronger and more ambitious commitments as the incoming co-chair of OGP, including embracing a model of robust co-creation.

NOTEWORTHY COMMITMENTS

GRANTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS TRANSPARENCY
Centralise and expand information on grants and contracting on open.canada.ca, align with international standards, and pilot an approach with Canadian Heritage.

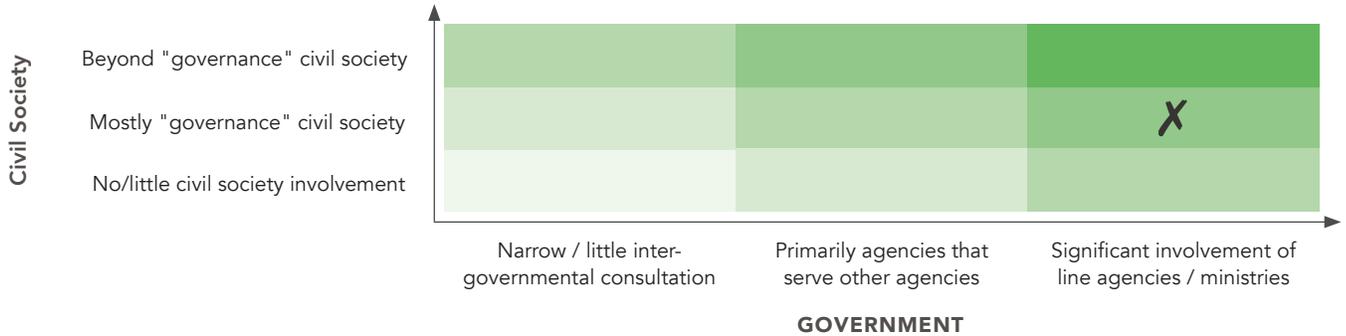
ENGAGE CIVIL SOCIETY ON OPEN GOVERNMENT
Develop and maintain a permanent multi-stakeholder consultation mechanism and carry out targeted engagement activities with civil society.

OPEN DATA CANADA
Collaborate with provincial, territorial, and municipal partners to improve access to data across jurisdictions.

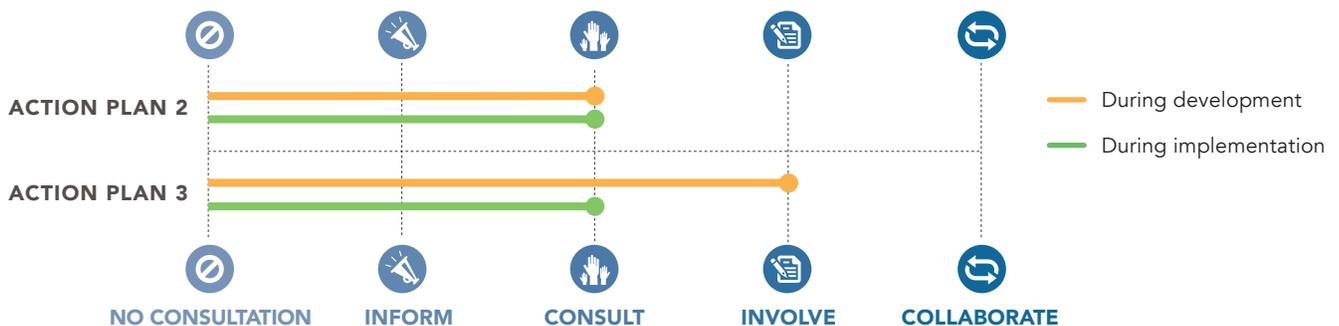
1 Co-Creation and Decision Making

The development of Canada's action plans initially lacked both sufficient notice of consultations and the circulation of a draft. The process has improved over time, but problems remain. For example, the development of the third plan was heavily dominated by government voices. However, the recently established Multi-Stakeholder Forum on Open Government could significantly expand civil society's role going forward. The figures below show who was involved in the development of the third action plan, as well as the level of public influence.

WHO WAS INVOLVED?

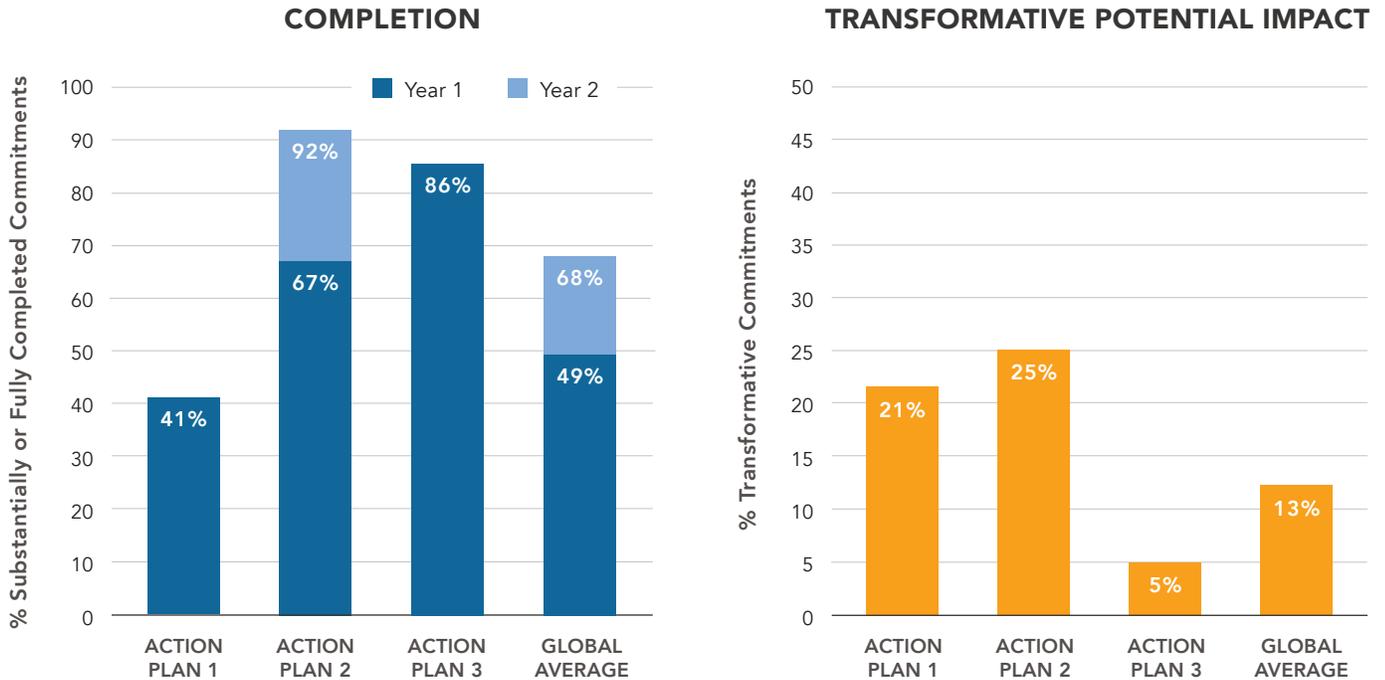


LEVEL OF PUBLIC INFLUENCE?



2 Commitment Performance

Canada's level of implementation has generally been strong, and the third action plan continues this trend. The breadth of the action plan is also noteworthy. The latest plan covers a wide variety of open government subthemes, such as freedom of association and the civic space, open data, engagement with indigenous Canadians, and access to cultural materials. The figures below show the levels of completion and ambition of Canada's three action plans, as well as how they compare to global averages according to the latest IRM data.



★ STARRED COMMITMENTS

ACTION PLAN 1

ACTION PLAN 2

ACTION PLAN 3

MOST STARS IN AN OGP ACTION PLAN



3 Recommendations

1
IMPROVE CONSULTATIONS

Canada's next action plan should be developed in a more consultative manner, following robust co-creation standards.

2
FUND OGP COMMITMENTS

OGP in Canada requires that the government allocate specific resources for the implementation of commitments.

3
FIRST NATIONS ENGAGEMENT

Canada can work with the First Nations to develop mutual commitments for improving openness, engagement and transparency.

4
ACCESS TO INFORMATION REFORM

In response to a recurring demand from civil society, Canada should commit to robust improvements to the Access to Information Act.

5
IMPROVE OPEN DATA

Craft solutions to accessibility and usability which break down departmental silos, integrating data from different sources and promoting a culture of openness.