

How ambitious are OGP commitments?

While rates of implementation are on the rise, the ambition and potential impact of commitments have not improved and too few commitments are transformative in nature. Only 15% of commitments are assessed as potentially transformative and only 5.7% led to specific, transformative, relevant, and complete open government reforms

Ambition in OGP

Total IRM assessed: **1948**

Completion at mid-term: 962 (49%)
(substantial or complete)

Potentially transformative, specific, relevant but pending completion: 125 (6.4%)

Stars: 112 (5.7%)
(specific, relevant to opengov, substantially or fully complete, and potentially transformative)

What are the trends in civic space commitments?

Data from CIVICUS and others shows that civic space is shrinking across the globe, including in many OGP countries. Are OGP countries making commitments on this issue? Our data shows that across action plans, there are more commitments, and more countries making commitments on opening up space for participation than on improving the enabling environment for civil society to operate. An analysis of the specific nature of these commitments is currently underway.

Trends in civic space commitments

Opening space for participation (social audits, e-petitions, and public participation)

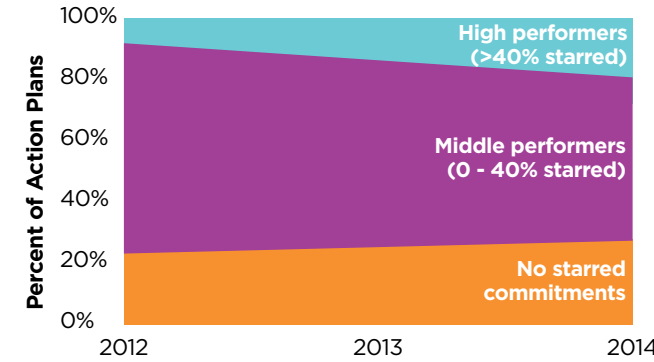
ACTION PLAN CYCLE	NO OF COMMITMENTS	COUNTRIES	EXAMPLE
1	193	53/64	TUNISIA: Developing an e-platform for youth to provide feedback on public service delivery and requiring responsible public authorities to address the issues raised.
2	244	47/53	
3	98	18/18	

Enabling environment (NGO Law, labor, human rights, media)

ACTION PLAN CYCLE	NO OF COMMITMENTS	COUNTRIES	EXAMPLE
1	50	26/64	MONGOLIA: Will run a public consultation and adopt a new law on the freedom of media in line with international standards
2	41	23/53	
3	13	9/18	

In May 2016 the Steering Committee resolved that Azerbaijan will be designated as inactive in OGP under OGP's Response Policy due to unresolved constraints on the operating environment for NGOs.

The shrinking middle



Each year, a growing minority of countries are achieving high rates of completion, relevance, and ambition with starred commitments. At the same time, the number of countries with no starred commitments is increasing, potentially signaling a split between those countries that are really using OGP and those that are not.

COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS ON STRATEGIC REFRESH

Over the past several months, civil society members of the OGP Steering Committee led a series of "Strategy Dialogues" with the civil society community engaged in OGP to hear about their experience with OGP to date and seek ideas on the way forward for the Partnership.

July - December 2016

3 REGIONAL TELECONFERENCES

5 IN-PERSON CROSS-REGIONAL DIALOGUES
Manila, Madrid, New York, Panama, Paris

500 COMMUNITY PARTICIPANTS

What is working?

- Placing open government on the policy agenda
- Catalyzing high-level political commitment
- Identifying reform champions in government
- Expanding spaces for civil society-government dialogue
- Getting civil society coordinated on priority reforms

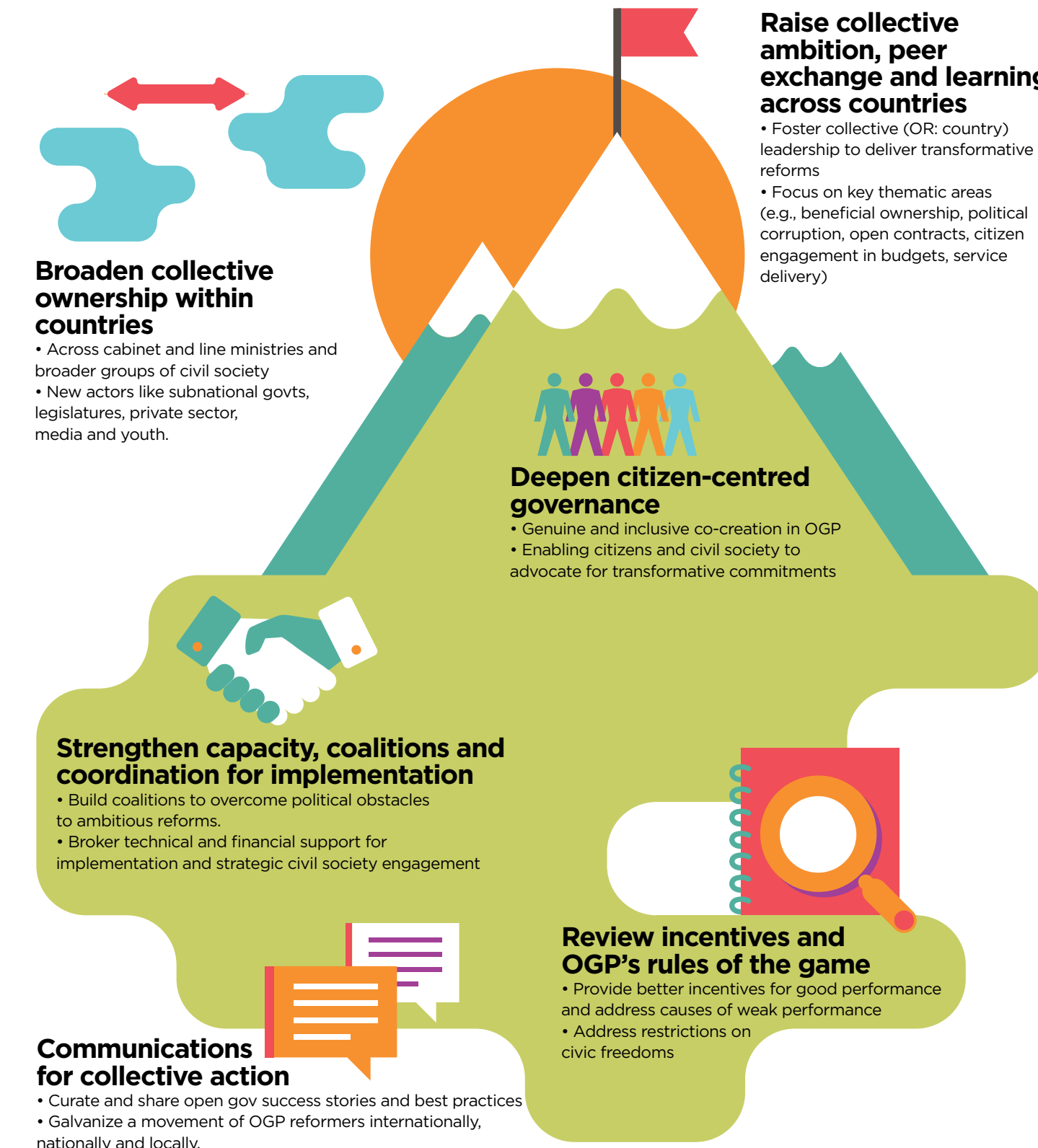
Examples of key OGP-supported reforms

- UNITED KINGDOM:** Beneficial ownership and anti-corruption
- CHILE:** Lobbying law
- KENYA:** Access to Information Law
- UKRAINE:** Establishing e-procurement system ProZorro
- PHILIPPINES:** Reducing red tape & improving ease of doing business

Key challenges

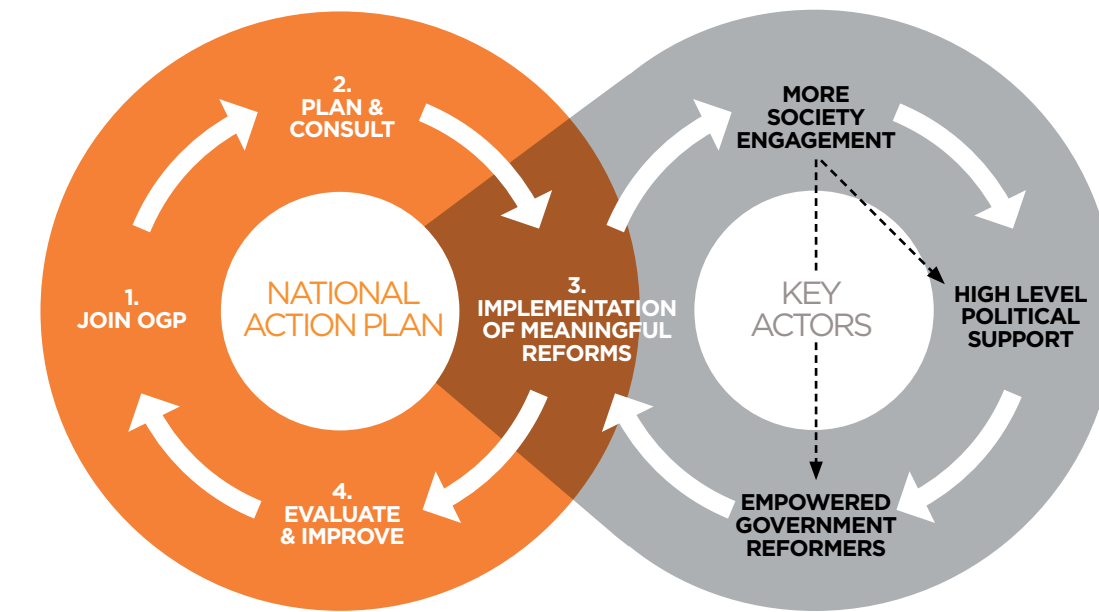
- CIVIC SPACE:** Space to operate is challenged across the world, including in many OGP countries
- BUY-IN:** Lack of awareness and buy-in amongst a broader base of government and civil society stakeholders
- AMBITION AND COMPLETION:** Low levels of ambition and implementation of commitments and many not changing citizens lives directly
- LIMITED STICKS:** OGP "rules of the game" seen as relatively weak in design and enforcement, including on co-creation and delivery
- RESOURCES:** Lack of resources for strategic coordination and engagement by civil society in national OGP processes

EMERGING PRIORITIES FOR OGP



OGP'S THEORY OF CHANGE

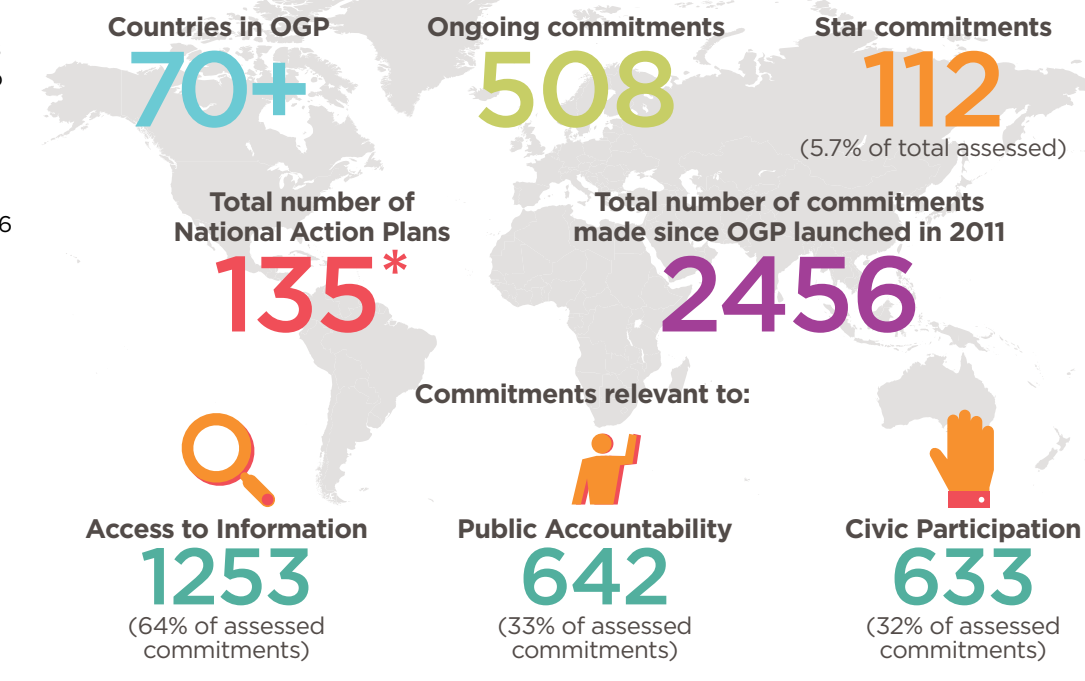
OGP was launched in 2011 with the idea of bringing together government and civil society as equal partners in improving government transparency, accountability and public participation in policy making. This equal partnership between government and civil society is at the very heart of the initiative and key to its success.



OGP SNAPSHOT IN NUMBERS

How is OGP doing 5 years since its launch?

From 8 founding countries in 2011, OGP's membership has now expanded to more than 70. Together these countries have produced 135 national action plans with over 2456 commitments. Of 1948 commitments assessed, only 5.7% are 'star' commitments recognized for their transformative potential, completion and relevance to OGP values.



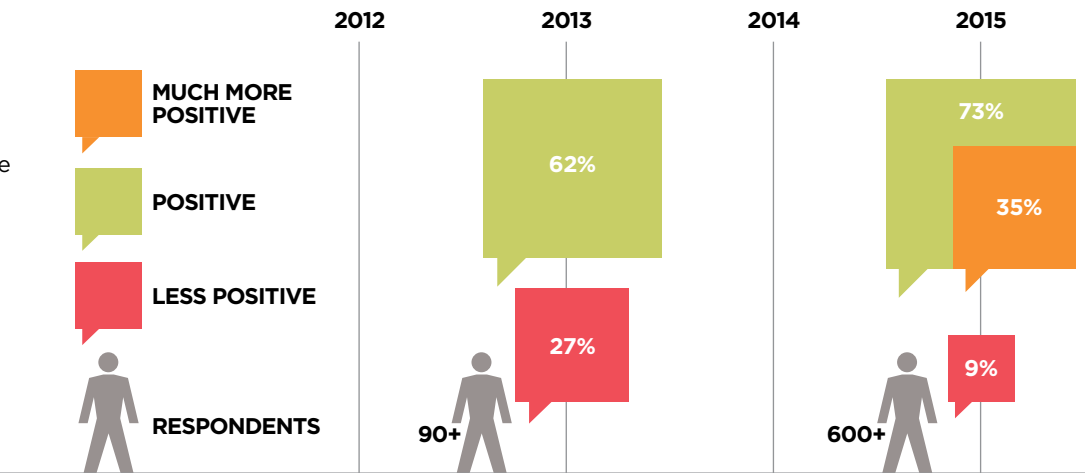
*Does not include action plans submitted after July 1

2015 CIVIL SOCIETY SURVEY FINDINGS

What's civil society's outlook on OGP?

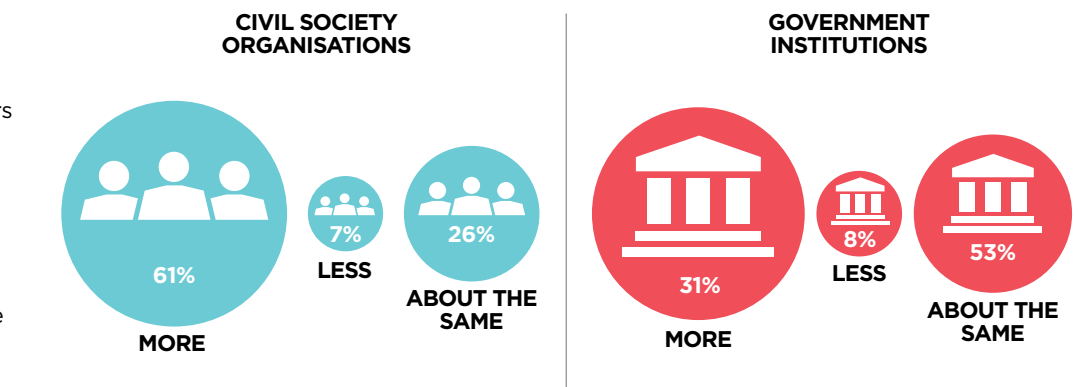
More than 600 people took the 2015 Civil Society Survey. 73% said they were more positive about OGP in the last 12 months (of which 35% even much more positive), 16% said there's been no change, and only 9% said they were less positive. The findings show a significant improvement since 2013.

Outlook on OGP in the last 12 months



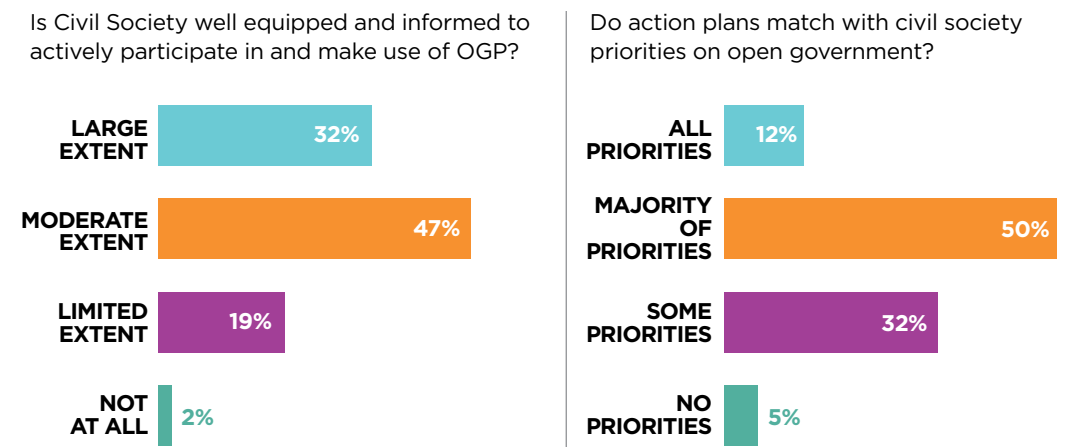
Are more actors getting involved?

Broadening the base of open government reformers is crucial. More than half the survey respondents said that more civil society and government actors are getting involved. Less than 10% said that actors are beginning to disengage with the national OGP process.



Is civil society equipped to use OGP and are their priorities reflected in action plans?

79% of respondents said they are able to actively participate in OGP. Over 60% said that country action plans match most of civil society priorities on open government. The results are positive, but collective efforts will be needed to bridge the remaining gaps.

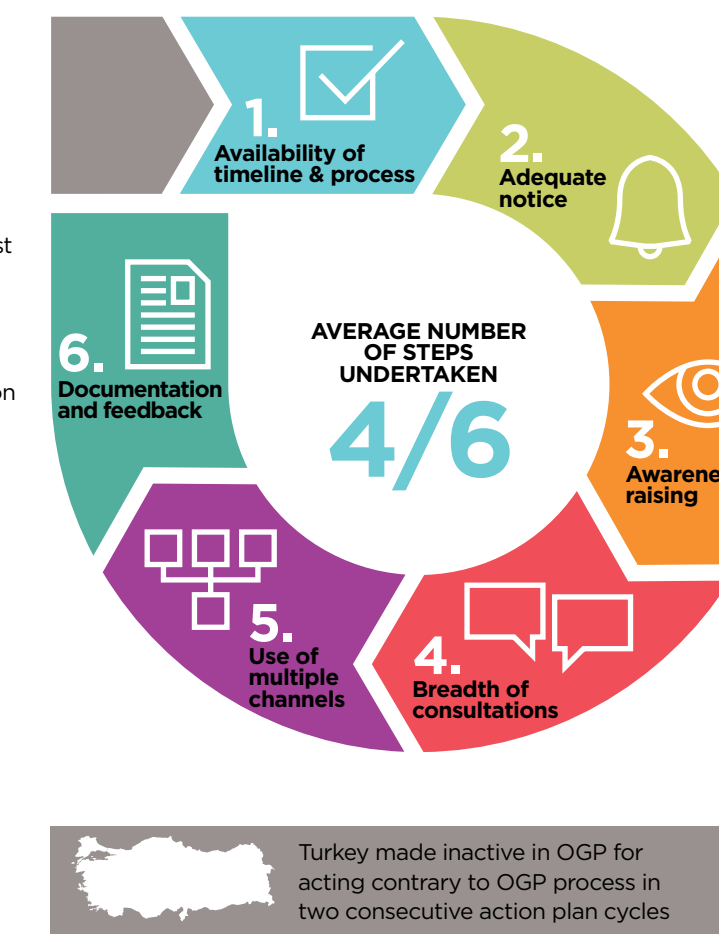


WHAT CAN WE LEARN FROM OGP DATA

How are countries doing on process?

In general, OGP countries have improved in making sure that people can participate in action plan formation. However, significant work remains to be done to ensure that countries move beyond just formally complying with requirements. They must create space for iterative dialogue and for citizens and government to work on policy proposals together.

Process followed for developing national action plans



Of 58 countries assessed:

Countries that have taken 6/6 steps: Brazil, Canada, Croatia, Finland, Greece, Honduras, Ireland, Norway, Romania

37 countries have done both online and in-person consultations

29 countries provided a summary of comments received during consultation

24 countries provided a timeline of activities and process

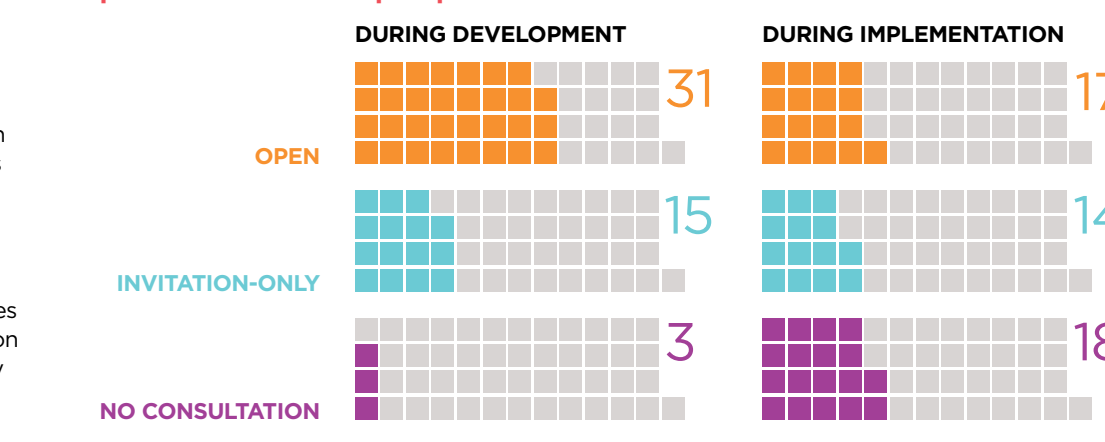
33 countries carried out awareness raising activities

Turkey made inactive in OGP for acting contrary to OGP process in two consecutive action plan cycles

Who gets to participate?

We can look beyond channels of participation to who can participate in the process. While the data used in the illustration does not go into the rights of individual groups or participants to observe, comment and decide, it does show that less than two-thirds of OGP countries had really open consultation where any interested party could participate.

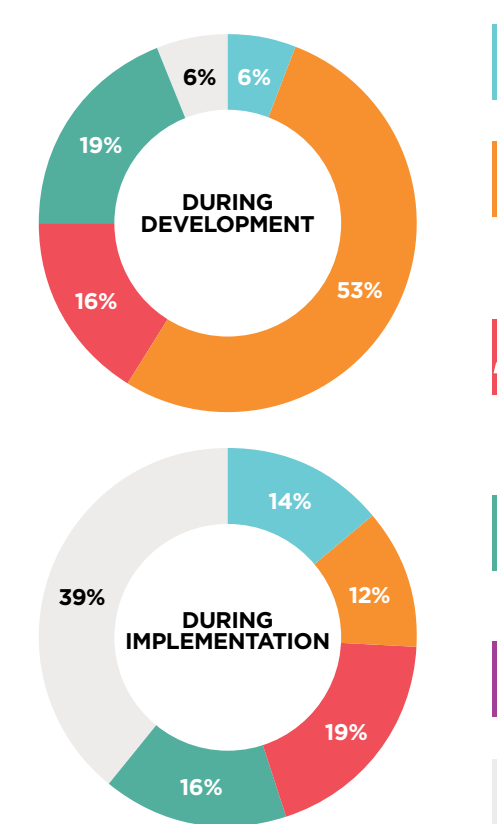
Openness of the action plan process



To what extent does the public influence action plans?

An assessment of 49 action plans shows that the level of influence during action plan implementation is much weaker than during action plan development. More than half of the action plans during implementation had no means of public input at all.

Level of civil society engagement



- INFORM**: Government keeps civil society informed.
- CONSULT**: Government keeps civil society informed, listens to and acknowledges concerns and aspirations, and provides feedback on how public input influences decisions.
- INVOLVE**: Government works with civil society to ensure that their concerns and aspirations are directly reflected in the alternatives developed and provides feedback on how public input influenced the decision.
- COLLABORATE**: Government looks to civil society for advice and incorporates recommendations to the maximum extent possible.
- EMPOWER**: Government implements what civil society decides.
- NO CONSULTATION**: Government does not inform or consult civil society.

Is there regular ongoing dialogue?

Meaningful ongoing dialogue in all OGP phases is key to building trust between governments and civil society and getting the P in OGP right. According to information gathered by the OGP Support Unit, 43 countries continued to or began to hold a regular multi-stakeholder forum for OGP. However there are some mixed signals. The IRM's most recent analysis of data up to 2015 showed that consultation during implementation was on the decline compared to previous years.

Regular forums for consultation during implementation

