



**MINISTÈRE  
CHARGÉ DU RENOUVEAU  
DÉMOCRATIQUE,  
PORTE-PAROLAT  
DU GOUVERNEMENT**

*Liberté  
Égalité  
Fraternité*



**Partenariat pour un  
Gouvernement  
Ouvert**





## Foreword by the Minister Delegate for Democratic Renewal, Government Spokesperson

Everywhere around the world, our democracies are facing low voter turnout rates, reflecting the public's growing distrust of political representatives and institutions as a whole.

Yet we are witnessing more and more people seeking to bring change and play a part in society, especially younger generations who care more about the planet now than at any other time in history. All around our country, each day people are serving the public interest in different ways, some of which are new. They are active in organisations, on social media and in their local community, to name just a few outlets.

I do not believe we are in the midst of a "crisis of democracy" for this very reason. Quite the contrary. People want to get involved – much more than ever before. We need more deliberative initiatives to engage with citizens and increase their contribution to public policy. We need more consultation to allow each and every citizen to have their say outside of elections. We need more initiatives encouraging participation and openness among a broader cross-section of the population so everyone can feel empowered and play a meaningful role.

That is what democratic renewal is all about.

The Prime Minister gave me the honour to lead the Ministry for Democratic Renewal. In this capacity, I will engage with civil society, institutions and elected representatives and encourage the emergence of new democratic practices.

The French President has been advocating for democratic renewal since 2017 through a series of trailblazing initiatives that include the Great National Debate, a nationwide consultation on an unprecedented scale, and the Citizens' Conventions on Climate Change and Assisted Dying, led by the Economic, Social and Environmental Council (CESE), whose role we expanded in 2021. Another initiative is the National Councils for Refoundation (CNR) on education and healthcare, which are taking place all over France.

While democratic renewal opens up exciting new possibilities, it also raises some questions. How can we seamlessly and effectively combine representative democracy with consultation and deliberation? How can we engage with everyone and remove symbolic or systemic barriers which may prevent some citizens from participating in public life? How can we ensure that government decision-making meets citizens' expectations?

In response to these questions, my predecessor set about drafting France's fourth National Action Plan for the Open Government Partnership (OGP).

From the outset, the National Action Plan was co-created with civil society through a multistakeholder forum (MSF), a collaboration intended to be a long-term initiative that promotes OGP's principles and practices. The MSF's mission will be to monitor the Plan's implementation and design future plans.

The National Action Plan in its current form outlines a number of commitments to meet France's goals for democratic renewal, revolving around three key priorities for the 2024–2026 period: (I) improve and strengthen citizen participation and democratic innovation practices to give citizens a more prominent role in government decision-making, (II) improve inclusion and citizen engagement nationwide to address major public policy challenges, and (III) use digital technology to encourage more transparent and more participatory government action.

The fourth Plan has an emphasis on effectiveness. It builds on the previous plans, while focusing on 17 core commitments to develop initiatives which will have the greatest impact.

I am particularly proud to endorse the National Action Plan. It has been drafted to the highest standards and these standards will be applied more broadly in the future to other areas. My focus will be on long-term outcomes, carrying out concrete actions hand-in-hand with every stakeholder in democratic renewal and civil society.

The Interministerial Directorate for Public Transformation (DITP) will draw on the strengths of stakeholder coalitions and every ministry for the successful implementation of this bold and concrete National Action Plan.

**Prisca Thevenot,**  
**Minister Delegate for Democratic Renewal, Government Spokesperson**

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# **1. France, a long-standing member of the Open Government Partnership**

## A. France's involvement in open government since 2014 at the highest level

The Open Government Partnership (OGP) is an international initiative with members from 75 countries and thousands of civil society organisations. Its goal is to promote the principles of transparency, participation and accountability in order to improve government action and make governments more accessible, more effective and more accountable to citizens.

France joined the OGP in 2014 and has played a major role in developing the Partnership. Since then, the importance of consulting widely with civil society has been underlined in France's goal to improve the transparency of government action and build trust.

France's first two National Action Plans were coordinated by the Interministerial Directorate for Digital Affairs (DINUM). Concrete commitments led to major progress in opening up and sharing public-sector data. The Ministerial Data, Algorithm and Source Code Administrator (AMDAC) network was established to design a strategy for open ministerial data and an initiative was launched to open public procurement data, detailed originally in OGP National Action Plans.

France hosted the OGP Global Summit in Paris in 2016 and was co-chair with the World Resources Institute. Several priority policy areas emerged, including transparency and integrity, fighting corruption, climate change and sustainable development, and shared digital commons. The summit brought together more than 4,000 participants from around the world. It also provided an opportunity to welcome new members, such as Germany and Burkina Faso, and support the commitments of several countries, in particular from French-speaking Africa, as they implemented reforms to join the OGP.

During his speech at the OGP Leaders' Summit at the UN General Assembly in September 2020, President Macron reiterated France's commitment to OGP: "This is why France is a strong supporter of the Open Government Partnership, the foremost global forum for governments, civil society, citizens and the private sector to come together – not to tell each other what to do but to share innovations, ideas and solutions to improve our countries".<sup>1</sup>

When the third National Action Plan was drafted, France had become the European leader for open government data and had introduced significant innovations for citizens to participate more actively in government decision-making, including the Great National Debate, the Citizens' Climate Convention and the Conference on the Future of Europe. The outcome was a bold National Action Plan designed to move even further forward in the areas of transparency and citizen participation, especially the green transition and the response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

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<sup>1</sup> Statement by French President Emmanuel Macron on the Open Government Partnership, Paris, 24 September 2020.

At the OGP Global Summit in Seoul on 15 December 2021, President Macron renewed France's commitment to open government with the release of the third National Action Plan: "Within OGP, since the beginning, we have not ceased to be partners, deepening this inclusive mobilisation, this collective intelligence. And we are right to do so. The response to the crises that we experience, the ability to meet the great challenges of the century, such as climate change or the COVID pandemic, are at the heart of this effort".

## **B. Review of the third National Action Plan: Strengths and areas for improvement**

France's third National Action Plan was drafted within the framework of a productive exchange between civil society and government organisations.

The Plan involved both central government departments and new stakeholders which were vital for the process. These included the Government Audit Office, the French Supreme Court of Appeal, the French Supreme Administrative Court, the French Data Protection Authority, the French Audiovisual Board (now the Regulatory Authority for Audiovisual and Digital Communication, or ARCOM) and the French Digital Council.

A total of 59 commitments were made by these government organisations and their civil society partners. The commitments were detailed in the National Action Plan and posted on a special online platform accessible to the general public.

Generally speaking, the third National Action Plan provided an opportunity to promote the culture and values of openness beyond interministerial bodies (i.e. the Interministerial Directorate for Digital Affairs and the Interministerial Directorate for Public Transformation), which coordinated the previous National Action Plans. In areas such as open government data and the need for proactive consultation with citizens and civil society, 21 ministries and government actors implemented concrete initiatives to promote transparency, participation and accountability within their scope of responsibility.

In this context, the Ministry for Health held forums to allow citizens to have their say on the use of digital technology in healthcare. The Ministry for the Ecological Transition co-developed the National Strategy for Biodiversity for 2021–2030. And the French Digital Council led a nationwide debate about digital culture.

Building on the momentum of this unprecedented initiative, the Interministerial Directorate for Public Transformation (DITP) went on to form and coordinate a network of open government correspondents. Working across government departments and organisations, the correspondents were responsible for relaying news about the OGP and monitoring commitments. Other responsibilities included developing dialogue with civil society and

promoting openness within their organisations. Forming this network was an important building block towards perpetuating OGP principles in France.

In education, the OGP helped to improve the skills of academic stakeholders in participatory practices and raise their awareness of open government issues. Highlights of the consultation process in 2022 with this community included training sessions in co-design, introductory workshops on collaborative practices, a datathon and the production of a range of materials accessible online.

In justice, legal decisions were made available as open public data, an innovative process that was the subject of a commitment designed and developed in conjunction with all stakeholders from the justice and data ecosystem.

In August 2022, the OGP's Independent Reporting Mechanism (IRM) handed down its report on the co-creation process for the third National Action Plan. The report acknowledged France's efforts to involve new stakeholders in the OGP process and address new priority policy areas, such as education and healthcare. It identified and highlighted three of the Plan's core commitments (see below).

#### **Review of three core commitments of the third National Action Plan:**

##### **Database of France's official development assistance**

Prompted by the OECD's initiative, France adopted the planning act on solidarity development and reducing global inequality on 4 August 2021. The act allowed for an open database to be set up of France's bilateral and multilateral official development assistance.

In full compliance with the act, the Ministry for the Economy, Finance and Industrial and Digital Sovereignty (MEFSIN), the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (MEAE) and the French Development Agency (AFD) worked together to set up an official development assistance website to promote aid projects and allow users to view data in real time. The data has been available online since October 2022, facilitating access to and understanding of France's development programme.

To ensure the data was of high quality, the project focused in particular on the data collection process, which involved 450 people in France and other countries with the support of French embassies and consulates, Espaces d'Action Française (EAF) and Alliances Françaises, as well as operators and local and regional authorities.

The Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs is building on this experience to pursue its efforts in open data and data management, strengthening the infrastructure required for data handling and enhancement.

Find out more: <https://data.aide-developpement.gouv.fr/>

### **Citizen-led audit reports from the Government Audit Office**

The Government Audit Office held an online citizen consultation from 9 March to 20 May 2022 to allow citizens to have a say on its work programme. Thousands of contributors suggested areas for audit, and commented on and “liked” other contributors’ suggestions.

The Government Audit Office then examined citizens’ contributions and worked collectively to make a selection of citizen-led audits for inclusion in its work programme.

The Office selected six areas of focus (15 proposals). These were: (1) inclusive education (2) detection of tax evasion among individuals (3) government support for hunting organisations (4) gender equality (5) the use of locum doctors and continuity of care, and (6) government outsourcing to private consultants. All these audits were published throughout 2023.

The first report resulting from the citizen consultation process was released in July 2023.

This citizen participation initiative by the Government Audit Office has the potential to bring about major change. It marks the start of what is now known as “citizen-led audit reports”.

Find out more: <https://participationcitoyenne.ccomptes.fr/>

### **Citizen Initiatives Accelerator**

The Citizen Initiatives Accelerator (AIC) was announced by the French President at the 7<sup>th</sup> OGP Global Summit in Seoul in 2021. The first round came to a close on 29 November 2022 with nine initiatives awarded, chosen from 200 applications by a panel of experts and a group of 15 citizens. Initiatives awarded included getting approval from a ministry or moving to new regions, with award-winners stating that they had saved a considerable amount of time by cooperating with government actors.

The Ministry for Public Transformation and the Civil Service started the second round of this promising programme in May 2023 in order to develop its full potential. Led by the Interministerial Directorate for Digital Affairs, round two of the AIC aims to connect digital commons project developers from civil society with government departments that use digital commons.

Find out more: <https://citoyens.transformation.gouv.fr/>

Despite France's significant achievements, the IRM's report pointed out that France did not have a Multi-Stakeholder Forum, falling short of this requirement. The OGP's participation guidelines require a space for dialogue to be created between government and civil society in order to monitor National Action Plans jointly and promote open government through regular meetings, with the rules made available to the public.

For the first time, a Multi-Stakeholder Forum has been set up to develop this fourth National Action Plan. This will now be a permanent initiative to pursue the co-creation process with organised civil society and improve the transparency and accountability mechanisms for the design and implementation of OGP commitments.

## **2. Open Government, a major building block in France's new democratic model**

## **A. The French version of Open Government, the embodiment of a global and coherent vision of a new democratic model.**

### **→ *Move the country forward with a focus on dialogue and shared accountability***

As we face the green transition, the demographic transition and the digital transition, we cannot rely on institutional, political or societal stakeholders alone. These major transitions are so complex and so profound that we need to bring together multiple stakeholders to develop new avenues of cooperation with the government and government departments.

In this context, we need to build consensus – or a framework for dissensus – and put French citizens back at the centre of the government decision-making process and work from the ground up. The clearly stated goal is to move the country forward with a focus on dialogue and shared accountability.

By establishing “stakeholder coalitions”, the French President has laid the foundations for dialogue, development and co-creation. The “working with you” principle is behind the National Councils for Refoundation (CNR) in various areas of government action, with the implementation of new and innovative deliberative processes to make recommendations on the big issues facing society.

### **→ *Revitalise democracy by combining participatory democracy with representative democracy and involving stakeholder coalitions***

Revitalising our democracy is about striking a balance between different forms of democracy which have to co-exist in harmony: representative democracy, on the one hand, and participatory and deliberative democracy on the other.

We need to build on their complementary strengths to produce a “win-win” outcome with each side of the equation coming out stronger. We need to be able to stand for the idea of a “continuous democracy” in the eyes of our citizens so they can continue to participate in shaping public policy beyond elections.

In this light, a “continuous democracy” is also about building “coalitions” with all the relevant stakeholders. Our role is to involve government departments and operators, local and regional authorities, the private sector and civil society to work together to more effectively address the major challenges and transitions we are facing.

“Getting other actors on board is not a question of having a “smaller State”, but of building a more effective governance model to oversee policy that is more in tune with regional issues and our fellow citizens’ expectations”.<sup>2</sup>

“Delivered top-down, every policy issue becomes an opportunity for position-taking or division. But if it comes from the bottom-up, from the grassroots, giving our fellow citizens a chance to actually get involved in a visible and measurable manner, it’s a completely different story”.<sup>3</sup>

## B. Concrete achievements in the fundamental issues facing society

The key ideas detailed above now “have hands”, to cite the expression used by French philosopher Baptiste Morizot.<sup>4</sup> They can be seen in the concrete, far-reaching achievements of a new democratic model France is promoting.

### → ***Build on the cycle of citizens’ conventions that have been fine-tuned***

Conventions on climate change and assisted dying have involved dozens of randomly selected citizens together with experts and researchers over several months to produce recommendations to support the government decision-making process. These events are tangible proof that deliberative mini-publics are effective.

In June 2020, the Citizens’ Climate Convention made 149 proposals to fight global warming. The proposals were used to draft legislation, in particular the Climate and Resilience Act adopted on 24 August 2021, and further address key issues such as improving air quality in cities, reducing urban sprawl and introducing “scoop and weigh” self-service sections in supermarkets by 2030.

Another Citizens’ Convention was held on assisted dying between December 2022 and March 2023, bringing together 184 people selected randomly from a broad cross-section of French society. The Convention aimed to provide a response to the Prime Minister’s question: “Is the framework for assisted dying suited to the cases in which it is considered or should it be amended?”. After nine working sessions and 27 days of discussion, the members of the Convention were invited to the Elysée palace by the French President, who announced that the government would be asked to draft a new assisted dying bill in France based on their recommendations.

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<sup>2</sup> Speech by Prime Minister Elisabeth Borne at a meeting of senior government officials in May 2023.

<sup>3</sup> Jean Castex, general policy speech, July 2020.

<sup>4</sup> “Raviver les braises du vivant. En défense des foyers de libre évolution”, Baptiste Morizot, 2019, HAL Archives ouvertes.

More recently, the *États généraux de l'information* (EIG) conferences were launched by the French President in July 2023 in order to examine the challenges facing news and information and suggest concrete initiatives for implementation at national, European and international levels. The conferences are being coordinated by an independent steering committee between October 2023 and May 2024. Thematic working groups are also running during this same period to draft a list of recommendations to address the future of news and information. The Economic, Social and Environmental Council (CESE) is a partner of the EIG conferences and will provide a submission through its Education, Culture and Communication Commission.

These bold initiatives come within the scope of the 2021 reform of the Economic, Social and Environmental Council (CESE), the third constitutional body, which represents organised civil society. The CESE has been reformed to lead major consultations at the government's request or on its own initiative. The 2021 reform allows civil society to play a greater part in designing public policy, putting the CESE at the "crossroads of public consultation" and boosting its role as a benchmark institution for citizen participation. Because it is so important for democratic renewal, the CESE has been involved directly in co-creating France's fourth National Action Plan for the OGP.

In addition to these significant democratic exercises, it is important to highlight the efforts of the **Interministerial Centre for Citizen Participation (CIPC)**, established under the aegis of the Ministry for Democratic Renewal to develop citizen participation within the government. Founded in 2019, the CIPC helps government departments to design and steer their participatory and deliberative initiatives.

Below are some of the activities involving the CIPC:

- During the Conference on the Future of Europe, the CIPC helped the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs to coordinate 18 regional forums involving 746 citizens selected randomly in mainland and overseas France and a national conference in Paris. The aim was to determine priorities for the European Union.
- As part of the National Consultation on the Future of the Energy Mix led by the Directorate General for Energy and Climate, the CIPC coordinated the youth forum bringing together 200 young people aged 18 to 35, selected randomly in mainland and overseas France. Citizens were asked to contribute to drafting the Energy and Climate Planning Act (LPEC).

**→ Promote mass citizen participation by unlocking the potential of digital technology: The Agora digital app developed by the Ministry for Democratic Renewal**

Digital technology is a powerful tool for the mass participation of citizens in the design and implementation of public policy.

Developed by the Ministry for Democratic Renewal, the Agora mobile app was launched on 28 September 2023 as the government's first digital project for direct, continuous engagement with French people nationwide.

This free, accessible app allows citizens to respond to different ministries' consultations in just a few clicks. The goal is to provide feedback on current public policy and interact directly with the government via a new system of "citizen questions".

The app has been downloaded by more than 100,000 French people in less than three months. Ten issues are available for consultation, including the green transition, the future of Europe, disability policy and combating child abuse, attracting more than 85,000 contributions. These will all be followed up in pieces of legislation, new guidelines, budget announcements, ministerial plans, etc.

The government has received nearly 10,000 questions from citizens, with more than 250,000 people "liking" the questions. A video answer to the most popular question each week is provided by the relevant ministry.

**→ Build on National Councils for Refoundation in healthcare and education at regional level**

The National Council for Refoundation (CNR) was established by the French President on 8 September 2022. Its remit is to engage with stakeholders in new ways in order to build consensus around a shared vision of the country's situation and provide concrete solutions to key issues affecting our fellow citizens' everyday lives.

Since its launch, the Council has focused on two big challenges facing our country: major transitions, with thematic Councils on a national scale, and local and regional government services with Councils addressing healthcare and education at local and regional level.

The Councils are user-centric organisations made up of coalitions of different stakeholders eager to participate in co-creation. They use shared data and findings to evaluate a situation.

After a 12-month process, the thematic Councils started in 2022 have now completed their work and produced a range of outcomes, including bills, roadmaps and direct measures. On 7 September 2023, the French President announced that mental health and France's manufacturing model would be the focus of forthcoming Councils.

The Councils on healthcare and education are still in progress. The success of these Councils throughout France has shown how important and relevant the initiative has been. Already more than 10,000 concrete projects have been submitted for the education sector and over 450 Council meetings have been held on healthcare, delivering 250 fully funded regional projects in major areas like equal access to healthcare.

Schools and institutions can apply for support and funding for projects from education authorities and the educational innovation fund. Applications can be made at any time of the school year and support can be single-year or multi-year depending on the project. The €500 million-plus educational innovation fund can be accessed during the five-year presidential term.

## C. Open government initiatives in France are part of a wave of democratic innovation

**→ *The OGP does not replace our existing democratic practices, but rather enhances them***

The Open Government Partnership (OGP) is vital for the concrete implementation of the “new method” endorsed by the French President and the French government to involve civil society and citizens in designing public policy.

It is a framework for action that we can build on and a powerful driver for the government’s roadmap to “democratic renewal”.

**→ *A platform for resources***

First and foremost, the OGP is a platform for resources and research at international level. The OGP’s Europe and Global teams draw on a large pool of expertise developed jointly with government actors and civil society over the past ten years.

The OGP Vital Signs report released in 2021 to coincide with the OGP’s tenth anniversary underscores its work in documenting and reviewing open government practices at local and national level in 75 countries and 104 local governments.

**→ *An organised community***

The OGP is a high-level network of government actors engaged with civil society and citizen initiatives. It encourages sharing of experiences and best practice and promotes use cases, and can be mobilised easily at the political level and at other more technical levels.

This community also works in thematic groups, focusing on issues such as education, the fight against corruption, justice, inclusion, civic space, the right to information, open parliaments and digital governance.

**→ *A framework for methodology and action***

The OGP provides a framework for action which has been working for ten years in different countries.

The co-creation process and the formal, institutionalised co-implementation of two-year National Action Plans, which are reviewed independently before and after implementation, are part of the “turnkey” framework which we can build on further.

### **3. Democratic renewal as the backbone of France's fourth National Action Plan**

## A. Rigorous co-creation process must extend to the implementation phase (2024–2026)

Designed under the leadership of the Minister for Democratic Renewal Oliver Véran, this fourth OGP National Action Plan focuses on the challenges of deepening democratic renewal.

In order to comply with OGP guidelines, the co-creation process for the fourth National Action Plan revolves around four fundamental principles:

### → **Responsibility**

Stakeholders have been jointly responsible for defining and implementing the commitments that will be included in the fourth National Action Plan. In recognition of their long-standing involvement in the OGP, NGOs *Démocratie Ouverte* and *Transparency International France* were asked to contribute to the process in close cooperation with the Interministerial Directorate for Government Transformation (DITP), with each party engaging with their respective networks in the co-creation stages.

### → **Co-creation**

The working and governance methods were shared with OGP stakeholders from both the public sector and civil society. This process produced a new balanced framework for cooperation between government and civil society, formalised at the two co-creation workshops facilitated by the DITP on 30 October and 27 November 2023 at the *Lieu de la Transformation Publique*. The workshops were attended by OGP correspondents from the different ministries, as well as academics from organisations like the *World Resources Institute* and the *IMODEV* research centre at the *Paris I Panthéon-Sorbonne University*. Other participants included civil society organisations from the democratic innovation and open government ecosystem, including *A Voté*, *Tous Élus*, *Anticor*, *ACTE*, *DebatLab*, *Les Budgets Participatifs*, *UNICEF France*, *Parlons Démocratie*, *Décider Ensemble* and *27<sup>ème</sup> Région*. Using the “funnel” technique, the co-creation workshops succeeded in securing stakeholder support for the rationale of the fourth National Action Plan and identifying the barriers and incentives to maximise the impact of the new Plan. The workshops also pinpointed problem-prone thematic areas and drew up a list of proposed commitments.

### → **Transparency**

A commitment has been made to transparency, with the different stages of the process and the methods used to involve civil society made public. The workshop dates were announced in advance to civil society stakeholders and OGP correspondents in government departments. And a collaborative tool was implemented to allow organisations to make submissions transparently so other stakeholders could see them.

### → **Accountability**

We recognised the requirement to be accountable to stakeholders about how we addressed their submissions or why we rejected some of them. To keep the productive co-creation process alive and ensure everyone’s ongoing commitment, we recommend setting up a “What We Heard” space like other OGP countries such as Spain and Canada. This space will summarise proposed commitments which are not included in the final National Action Plan, in compliance with the principle of accountability while also leaving the door open to stakeholders to include new commitments during the first year after the release of the National Action Plan.

## **B. Bold commitments based on three thematic priorities**

*(See appendices for a detailed overview of commitments)*

Consistent with OGP principles, constructive government–civil society dialogue has produced 17 commitments grouped under three main thematic priorities:

### **Priority 1: Improve and strengthen citizen participation and democratic innovation practices to give citizens a more prominent role in government decision-making**

The aim of these commitments is to help to promote citizen participation over the long term in order to enhance the quality of our methodology, particularly in relationship to decision-making. This involves improving the skills and standards of the democratic innovation sphere, training civil servants and public policymakers and institutionalising participatory practices.

- 1. Draw up an inventory of participatory and democratic innovation practices to encourage all ministries to adopt and implement these practices on a large scale – Ministry for Democratic Renewal (MRD), Interministerial Directorate of Public Transformation (DITP)**

In France and elsewhere, representative democracy is facing growing criticism and questions as to whether it legitimately reflects society’s aspirations in its decisions. To respond to this challenge, participatory democracy initiatives have grown in number in recent years, seeking to increase citizen input in the government decision-making process.

Yet participatory democracy is still criticised for seemingly not being representative of some groups and for its potential to be used as a political outlet. There are also concerns about the complexity of demonstrating its impact on decision-making and monitoring participatory initiatives. Such criticism may undermine the credibility of these initiatives.

This commitment therefore aims to draw up an inventory of participatory and democratic innovation methods and practices carried out in every government department. This will be the first time a summary is prepared of initiatives and best practice in democratic renewal. The goal is to highlight all the initiatives implemented and capitalise on these initiatives to promote them more broadly and better identify actions that are inspiring, but also problems and pitfalls. The inventory will be drafted with all government departments and circulated widely as a reference framework for government actors.

## **2. Train civil servants in collective intelligence methods and tools (facilitation and stakeholder coalitions) and in citizen participation with a common training framework shared between government departments – *Interministerial Directorate of Public Transformation (DITP)***

There is currently a severe shortfall in training in facilitation, collective intelligence and citizen participation for French civil servants. Staff turnover is leading to a skills shortage, compromising the long-term future of these innovative methods in government organisations.

Moreover, these skillsets do not always get the recognition they deserve and are therefore not embedded in daily work practices. Despite many attempts to promote them, they are often widely dispersed and largely unchannelled, highlighting the need for a common framework for every civil servant.

For these practices to be firmly anchored in the civil service, it is also essential to establish and maintain a network of trained civil servants in the long term. These skillsets will be passed on to other staff members and become part of the work culture of government departments.

Training is based on incremental learning to allow new facilitators to acquire the skills step by step. For instance, the first course in facilitation is held over two days and provides an introduction to the basic tools and practices. It is available to all civil servants on a voluntary basis.

Trainees who use the methods regularly will be able to upskill through one of the additional training courses, e.g. the fundamentals of graphic facilitation tools, facilitation of citizen debate and deliberation, and introduction to co-development. They will also have the opportunity to participate in inspirational events with speakers

from civil society, e.g. Démocratie Ouverte, academics, etc., to raise awareness and highlight their experiences in citizen participation and collective intelligence in various settings.

A delegation of trained civil servants could also participate in the Rencontres Européennes de la Participation organised by NGO Décider Ensemble to gain insight into participatory initiatives from across France. The event has been held each year since 2017 for professionals and practitioners involved in citizen participation and consultation in French-speaking countries and around Europe.

The network of regional innovation labs coordinated by the DITP could be used to develop regional skills and practices in facilitation, collective intelligence and citizen participation. Reporting to regional *préfets*, the labs will be expanded in 2024 with additional staff and funding. Public innovation labs aim to encourage civil servants to put forward solutions which are then trialled in pilot programmes.

Labs have been set up all over France to help to encourage different public policymakers to collaborate outside of existing governmental silos. Their aim is to draw on initiatives developed by civil servants and/or introduce innovation in government to areas where it is still lacking. Labs also provide a boost to training and cultural transformation by “doing”.

**3. Establish an institutionalised space for open government dialogue and action between government actors and organised civil society (i.e. a “multistakeholder forum”) and provide long-term coordination – Ministry for Democratic Renewal, Interministerial Directorate of Public Transformation (DITP), Economic, Social and Environmental Council (CESE)**

Since joining the Open Government Partnership in 2014, France has still not met the OGP requirement to set up a framework for co-creation between government and civil society. It is therefore both necessary and useful for France to establish a space for dialogue and co-creation between government departments and civil society organisations and coordinate a community of OGP members.

Hosted by the CESE – the institution for citizen participation and organised civil society – the Open Government Forum will be France’s space for governance in the OGP, drawing inspiration from the model used by other members.

The Forum will have several goals: co-create National Action Plans in line with the government’s priority policy areas, monitor and steer the implementation of commitments and assess actions carried out.

It will be co-chaired by a government actor and a member of civil society elected at the first plenary session. The secretariat will be provided by the Ministry for

Democratic Renewal, which is responsible for the OGP, assisted by the DITP, which convenes the government departments and drafts and approves the agendas agreed on jointly with the management committee. Members of civil society will be selected from a call for applications or appointed directly depending on the needs identified by the thematic working groups.

**4. Continue and expand France’s technical and financial support for actors involved in promoting open government principles, human rights and democratic innovation in Africa and other partner regions under France’s solidarity and sustainable investment policy – Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (MEAE) and French Development Agency (AFD)**

Transparency, access to information and citizen participation are relevant issues everywhere in the world now that democracy is coming increasingly under fire. The OGP is a community of practitioners working to advance democratic processes outside of elections. It operates at several levels, in France and in all the member countries and local government areas.

France is committed to supporting actors working in open government and democratic innovation in other countries through its solidarity and sustainable investment policy, in line with Priority 8 of the Presidential Development Council, and included in the agenda of the Interministerial Committee for International Cooperation and Development (CICID) in July 2023 under “Support human rights and democracy and fight disinformation”.

Since 2017, France has been supporting OGP member countries in French-speaking Africa to help them to implement their OGP commitments via the Open Government Support Programme in French-speaking Africa (PAGOF).

Phase 1 (2018–2022) of the PAGOF was the subject of a positive external review, which highlighted in particular the programme’s encouraging results in meeting OGP commitments and strengthening both the open government culture in the governments supported and government–civil society dialogue. The review also pointed to the emergence of a community of practitioners between Africa and Europe.

These positive results have prompted France to continue its activities in partner countries to support and strengthen reform and openness efforts. Since the launch of Phase 2 of the PAGOF (2022–2025), a number of recommendations have been adopted. The next step will be to expand France’s support beyond Africa and prioritise human rights and democratic innovation.

**5. Define a framework for a citizen participant status – Economic, Social and Environmental Council (CESE) and Interministerial Directorate of Public Transformation (DITP)**

At present, some citizens cannot volunteer for participatory or deliberative initiatives because of their work, financial or family commitments. Getting involved in a long-term activity of this kind often requires balancing commitments and volunteers who work need permission from their employer.

As a result, all citizens cannot meaningfully participate in developing public policy and some socio-economic categories are under-represented in citizen participation, e.g. vulnerable people, single-parent families and shift workers.

Under this commitment, a framework will be defined for what could become a citizen participant status for people involved in long-term deliberative initiatives. This could include the following:

- Payment for citizen participants
- Special leave for citizen participation
- Introduction of a recognition programme for skills acquired during such initiatives

This commitment should allow citizens to meaningfully contribute to participatory actions and serve the public interest in a way that is fair for everyone.

**Priority 2: Improve inclusion and citizen engagement nationwide to address major public policy challenges**

The commitments which come under Priority 2 focus on improving inclusion and citizen engagement nationwide, in particular to address priority policy areas. The aim is to involve the entire population in democratic processes and establish a broader and more representative form of citizen participation.

**6. Develop new ways of disseminating knowledge about democratic institutions and thereby promote civic engagement among young people by creating and mass-distributing a *Fresque de la Démocratie* – Ministry for Democratic Renewal (MRD), Interministerial Directorate of Public Transformation (DITP) and NGO partners**

In response to a referral by the Prime Minister, the CESE issued an opinion on Youth Engagement and Democratic Participation in March 2022. Faced with record low voter

turnout and growing mistrust of democratic institutions, the report sounded the alarm on younger generations feeling excluded at times from the democratic process. It highlighted the importance of improving young people's civic engagement so their voice could be heard more often.

The report's first recommendation was to introduce an active democracy education programme starting in nursery school to promote civic duties from a young age. An interactive approach was recommended to encourage continuous learning through practice, using group activities and cooperative learning methods. This commitment aims to address this issue.

Emulating the concept of the *Fresque du Climat* workshops, which more than 1.5 million French people have attended, the *Fresque de la Démocratie* is designed to raise citizens' awareness of government action and the role of our institutions. Citizens have the chance to explore how our democracy works in a fun way.

The project involves creating an interactive visual tool to be used in workshops and seminars and at educational events. It may include sections about the separation of powers, electoral processes, fundamental rights and other key aspects of democracy. Each component would come with clear, readily accessible explanations to promote deeper understanding and participation.

By encouraging interaction, the *Fresque de la Démocratie* aims to foster dialogue and collective reflection, but also improve knowledge of how public life works and its challenges among a broad cross-section of the population, especially young people.

**7. Simplify voting procedures and make it easier to register to vote or update registration details by streamlining the digital process – Ministry of Public Transformation and Civil Service, with the Ministry of the Interior and Overseas France**

As part of the "Simplifying ten government services for French citizens" initiative to streamline how people deal with government departments based on their feedback, the French government is committed to simplifying voting procedures.

DITP and DINUM teams are both supporting the Ministry of the Interior to modernise and simplify voting procedures, working closely with civil society organisations such as A Voté and Tous Élus.

As a result, three key stages need to be streamlined as a priority:

- Registration on the electoral register: Due to the large number of proof of identity documents required, the process can be streamlined using a "tell us once" procedure involving several web interfaces

- Application for a proxy vote: The process is partly online and applicants need to go to a police station, a gendarmerie or a court of justice to finalise their application
- Informing voters, e.g. campaign materials: Materials are posted out to voters and are not read, digital campaign materials are only available for parliamentary elections (the digital interface should be made more user-friendly and accessible)

The aim of these measures to simplify voting procedures is to encourage more citizens to vote.

**8. Meet specific healthcare requirements in regional areas as effectively as possible by involving stakeholders in the National Councils for Refoundation (CNR) in healthcare at regional level – *Ministry for Health and Prevention (MSP)***

The healthcare system is facing various challenges, including access to healthcare, development of new care arrangements, local coordination of healthcare, a stronger focus on preventive healthcare and the changing role of healthcare professionals. These challenges affect regions in different ways.

Suitable solutions need to be found for the problems in each region, with a customised response that can be adapted to a particular situation. The aim is to work from the ground up, using different lived experiences of French people, to put forward innovations, pilot programmes and practical solutions to the problems. Local healthcare services also need to be involved in order to implement shared solutions with local support.

This commitment aims to continue to develop the National Councils for Refoundation (CNR) model for local healthcare policy and implement the proposals identified within this framework.

Following on from the initial consultation phase between October 2022 and January 2023 involving some 10,000 participants nationwide, National Councils for Refoundation in healthcare are becoming permanent fixtures. They are governed at *département* level (Département Directorate for Regional Health Agencies) and *infra-département* level through local democratic institutions for healthcare (Regional Healthcare Councils, or CTS). This new organisation helps to fast-track high-priority, high-impact projects, with Director Generals of Regional Health Agencies (ARS) able to request an exemption from standard procedures and access €30 million in funds under the Regional Intervention Fund (FIR) in 2023, and receive design support for projects where required. Many Regional Health Agencies have chosen to implement their Regional Healthcare Projects (PRS) by running National Councils for Refoundation

involving stakeholders, which have led to Local Healthcare Contracts (CLS) for Regional Healthcare Projects.

National Councils for Refoundation in healthcare are now used for all the activities of the Ministry for Health and Prevention. The minutes prepared from local discussions help to guide and prioritise the Ministry's programmes:

- In line with the Prime Minister's commitment, 100 health buses will be operated to provide medical services to people in the most remote areas, in partnership with regional authorities
- To improve citizens' access to healthcare and encourage cooperation between healthcare professionals, 4,000 healthcare centres will open across France
- The National Health Insurance Fund is working hard to ensure that each patient with a chronic health condition has access to a GP
- To ease pressure on emergency departments, a recruitment campaign has been launched for medical dispatch support officers, who answer emergency calls and play a key role in assessing callers
- Because providing local solutions to local problems is about promoting dialogue and exercising democracy in healthcare, the Valletoux Act provides for Regional Communities of Healthcare Professionals (CPTS) to be set up all over France and for all stakeholders to be involved as required

**9. Design educational projects that meet local needs, improve students' achievement and wellbeing and combat inequality through the National Council for Refoundation (CNR) initiative in education, *Notre école, faisons-la ensemble* – Ministry of Education and Youth Affairs (MENJ)**

Public education is the cornerstone of our republican social contract. But it does not always fulfil its purpose of allowing each student to learn the foundations and providing everyone with the same opportunities for achievement. In response to this challenge, the National Council for Refoundation (CNR) will help to revitalise education policy by drawing on local initiatives in each education community that volunteers for the programme.

Coordinated by the school principal, the CNR initiative in education brings together every stakeholder in an education community, i.e. teachers, parents, students, social workers, healthcare professionals and administrative staff, as well as local and regional authorities, economic partners and NGOs. The goal is to help each school to become a place for life and for learning again, revolving around civic duties and the society of the future. The initiative will promote trials of new teaching methods and practices,

encourage educational cooperation within the school and support the school's projects, which are designed to meet students' needs as effectively as possible.

The school's master plan is supported by a range of projects designed by teaching teams in different areas of education policy (e.g. improving achievement, combating inequality, improving health and wellbeing) in order to define a collaborative approach to teaching and learning for the long term. In each regional education authority, a team has been formed as close as possible to grassroots level to provide school principals with technical support to develop and monitor these innovative projects, at their request.

These two elements are essential:

- Support the initiatives of teaching teams in terms of staffing, funding and the approval process and encourage the sharing of experiences through the €500 million, five-year educational innovation fund (2022–2027)
- Improve schools' project management expertise by training senior staff and supporting project leads as part of a self-assessment programme

**10. Involve as many stakeholders as possible in the country's ecological planning by using educational resources that are easily accessible, promoting interactive learning models and empowering people to act in their individual sphere of responsibility – *General Secretariat for Ecological Planning (SGPE)***

Global warming is accelerating, biodiversity is declining and we are facing transitions that are affecting the way we live. We need to give ourselves the means to come up with a powerful collective response to all this upheaval.

The green transition is this century's biggest emergency and requires us to plan our actions, from a global level to a local level, and step up our efforts to cut greenhouse gas emissions and help our society to adjust to climate change.

Building consensus is crucial to moving forward, implementing solutions that we know and coming up with new ones. More precisely, it is time to go beyond just stating the facts and identify solutions that we can act on, with 22 projects in six main areas: (1) Travel better (2) Protect our ecosystem better (3) Eat better (4) Manufacture better (5) House ourselves better, and (6) Consume better.

To achieve these targets, we need to speed up our collective efforts and bring together all the actors involved: the central government, local and regional authorities, businesses and citizens.

For this reason, the General Secretariat for Ecological Planning (SGPE) is in constant dialogue with all the stakeholders involved in ecological planning, especially organised civil society and citizens. Through regular exchange, the SGPE implements initiatives designed to address different points of view and promote involvement of all groups. Conferences of the Parties (COP) have been organised in each region since November 2023 in order to design shared action plans that are consistent, taking into account the specific features of each region.

In addition, a digital support programme will be rolled out to help French people to take action for the green transition. Co-developed with end users, the programme will help people to understand their individual carbon footprint and make it easier to access government support.

**11. Strengthen participation, government–civil society dialogue and information to create a digital/AI culture – *Health Data Hub***

Digital technology and data are controversial issues at the moment because people do not fully understand what they cover and lack information and awareness. There are also problems with tracking and using data, and how it is made available to the community, i.e. civil society. These problems are partly due to the fact that each sector – healthcare, environment, transport, digital technology, etc. – has their own way of dealing with the issues, or the focus is on a particular aspect of digital technology, i.e. open data, digital inclusion, etc. When citizens are involved, there is often an emphasis on the digital divide or digital inclusion.

To address the situation, the Health Data Hub aims to work collaboratively with local and regional authorities and civil society organisations to design and promote a shared digital culture. This initiative builds on the Health Data Hub's actions during the third National Action Plan, in particular the consensus-based meeting with France Assos Santé which was designed to collect citizen feedback on raising society's awareness of sharing health data.

**12. Share our experience in data and combating disinformation with our citizens – *Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (MEAE)***

The Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs has built up its experience in fighting disinformation which it should consider sharing more effectively with our citizens.

Our citizens are located all over the world and legislation differs from country to country, especially privacy laws. When legislation is not robust enough to protect our citizens' privacy, citizens have to learn how to protect their data, e.g. managing personal information, spotting disinformation, information manipulation during elections, etc.

To address this challenge, the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs aims to make its expertise available to the general public, producing materials that are easily understandable and sharing real-life experiences in the months ahead.

### **Priority 3: Use digital technology to encourage more transparent and more participatory government action**

The aim of this priority is to improve the transparency of government action, while facilitating access to information and citizen participation in these processes. Several commitments focus on promoting an open digital culture “by default”, encouraging all government actors to use open-source software and the digital commons.

#### **13. Continue to ensure transparency around the outcomes of the government’s roadmap for all French people, right down to the grassroots, with the Public Policy Outcomes Barometer – *Interministerial Directorate of Public Transformation (DITP)***

Coordinated by the Ministry for Government Transformation and the Civil Service, with the support of the DITP and the Government Information Department, the Public Policy Outcomes Barometer lets everyone monitor the exact progress of the government’s priority actions via around 100 indicators at *département*, regional and national level. For example, the outcomes of the following actions have been released:

- Increase power generation from solar PV tenfold by 2050: Users can track regional power generation from solar PV and see the changes
- Reduce healthcare professionals’ administrative tasks: The number of medical assistants hired is detailed for each *département*, with a target of 10,000 by end-2026
- Combat bullying and cyberbullying at school, with the rollout of preventive actions in schools: The indicator which can be monitored is the rollout of the pHARe programme at schools in each *département*

In May 2023, new goals were set for the Barometer with three major upgrades:

- More accessible, with clear explanations about the reforms and public policies for which outcomes are provided
- More service-oriented: For each project, users are redirected to government or *préfecture* websites so they can get more information and access measures

- A strong regional focus: Outcomes are detailed at grassroots level to monitor the progress of reforms in each region. In November 2023, the *préfectures* ran an information campaign called #Cequichangepourmoi with the Government Information Department to promote each region's progress

The Public Policy Outcomes Barometer is a tangible achievement of one of the French President's major commitments – transparency of the outcomes of government action – and is unprecedented under the Fifth Republic. It also illustrates the government's determination to improve citizens' daily lives in every region, fast-track reforms and assess government action more effectively, by monitoring outcomes and data.

For each indicator, an open-source CSV file is available on the data.gouv.fr website.

**14. Develop mass citizen consultation on major public policy challenges using the Agora app – Interministerial Directorate of Public Transformation (DITP)**

Digital technology is a powerful tool for the mass participation of citizens in the design and implementation of public policy.

Developed by the Ministry for Democratic Renewal, the Agora mobile app was launched on 28 September 2023 as the government's first digital project for direct, continuous engagement with French people nationwide.

This free, accessible app allows citizens to respond to different ministries' consultations in just a few clicks. The goal is to provide feedback on current public policy and interact directly with the government with a new system of "citizen questions".

The app has been downloaded by more than 100,000 French people in less than three months. Ten issues are available for consultation, including the green transition, the future of Europe, disability policy and combating child abuse, attracting more than 85,000 contributions. The government has received nearly 10,000 questions from citizens, with more than 250,000 people "liking" the questions. A video answer to the most popular question each week is provided by the relevant ministry.

Under this commitment, the government plans to add new features to the app in the months ahead, like providing access to citizen consultations from other organisations, e.g. *préfectures* and CESE.

**15. Establish long-term partnerships between the government and open-source digital commons project developers – Interministerial Directorate for Digital Affairs (DINUM)**

Cooperation between government departments and the open-source digital commons is a powerful lever for developing public-interest digital technology and resilient, sovereign digital services, which contribute to the transparency of government action.

There are several civil society stakeholders active in the field of public-interest digital technology. These include digital commons project developers, who work on, and sometimes advocate for, open-source digital products, databases and content, which are designed and maintained by communities of contributors on a national, or even global, scale.

Establishing long-term partnerships between the government and open-source digital commons project developers in data commons and open-source software involves the following:

- For government organisations: Find out which open-source software they need to migrate to first, then identify ten programs from the catalogue of government-approved open-source software (<https://code.gouv.fr/sill>) and develop services to support the successful migration to open-source software.
- For digital commons project developers from civil society: Provide a better interface between open-source digital commons and public policy. It can be hard to access government resources and know which government department can help. Gaining recognition or receiving support from government services or civil servants can be essential for reaching a wider audience.

In this context, the Interministerial Directorate for Digital Affairs recommends two other actions:

- Identify ten key open-source programs that are listed in the catalogue of government-approved open-source software (SILL) and design migration support services. The services should include solutions to annoyances identified by government departments in relation to migration and provide methods that government agencies can easily implement themselves.
- Increase cooperation between the government and citizen-led digital commons for the public interest with the support of the Citizen Initiatives Accelerator (AIC). The AIC commitment has been in place since 2022, providing a dedicated space within the government where government departments and the digital commons can collaborate on a long-term basis. We are supporting the development of concrete use cases in the government, with government departments that use the digital commons.

The aim of this commitment is to continue to encourage the co-development of public-interest digital technology by civil society.

**16. Establish a Public Data Monitoring Centre – *Interministerial Directorate for Digital Affairs (DINUM)***

Article 14 of the 2016 Digital Republic Act provides for reference data to be made available as a public service by the government in order to facilitate reuse of data.

Coordinated by Etalab, the Public Reference Data Service (SPDR) aims to make available datasets of common reference data used to name or identify products, services, countries or people.

To date, nine datasets have been classified as “reference data”. Each dataset contains national data with a major economic and social impact. Their “pivot” identifiers are used to cross-reference many other datasets.

The Public Data Monitoring Centre will release regular status reports on the datasets in order to further increase their use and promote the transparency of public data. It will focus on content quality, in particular exhaustivity, frequency of updates, compliance with formats and specifications, and availability of download services and APIs. The Centre will help to promote the work of government departments involved in improving data quality.

The Centre will also identify datasets that comply with criteria under L321-4 and implement a procedure to improve the quality of reference data, in accordance with the provisions of R321-8 of the Code Governing Relations Between Government Departments and the Public (CRPA).

**17. Develop projects to make available centralised open government data portals, especially for the green transition – *Ministry for the Ecological Transition and Regional Cohesion (MTECT)/General Commission for Sustainable Development (CGDD)***

There is still room to improve access to data on the green transition and data discoverability for public policymakers, researchers and citizens.

Data on the green transition is highly scattered; there are over 130 information systems sharing data across more than 50 platforms and 130 organisations that own the data. A study carried out has listed 156 problems related to using one data platform. These cover six main areas: data quality, discoverability, familiarity, use value, reproducibility and governance.

In this context, government actors are stepping up their efforts in data openness in order to respond to users’ problems and encourage data reuse.

The Ecosphères project, for example, aims to lastingly reference relevant data for each region to support the Ministry for the Ecological and Energy Transition and Regional Cohesion in response to the France Nation Verte programme.

Organisations such as the National Institute for Geographical and Forestry Information (IGN) and Météo France also play a key role in this process designed to promote the reuse of data which will be crucial for a successful green transition. To encourage innovation, in 2024 Météo France will open up access to all its public data relating to observations, forecasts, the climate and outlooks.

## **Appendices**

### **Detailed overview of commitments**

# COMMITMENT 1

## INVENTORY OF PARTICIPATORY PRACTICES

### What is the issue that the commitment will address?

In France and elsewhere, representative democracy is facing growing mistrust and questions as to whether it legitimately reflects society's aspirations in its decisions. To respond to this challenge, participatory democracy initiatives have grown in number in recent years, seeking to increase citizen input in the government decision-making process.

Yet participatory democracy is still criticised for seemingly not being representative of some groups and for its potential to be used as a political outlet. There are also concerns about the complexity of demonstrating its impact on decision-making and monitoring participatory initiatives. Such criticism may undermine the credibility of these initiatives.

### What is the commitment?

**Title: Draw up an inventory of participatory and democratic innovation practices to encourage all ministries to adopt and implement these practices on a large scale**

### How will the commitment contribute to solving the public problem?

This commitment therefore aims to draw up an inventory of participatory and democratic innovation methods and practices carried out in every government department. This will be the first time a summary is prepared of initiatives and best practice in democratic renewal. The goal is to highlight all the initiatives implemented and capitalise on these initiatives to promote them more broadly and better identify actions that are inspiring, but also problems and pitfalls.

### Why is this commitment relevant to OGP values?

Revitalising our democracy is about striking a balance between different forms of democracy which have to co-exist in harmony: representative democracy, on the one hand, and participatory and deliberative democracy on the other.

We need to build on their complementary strengths to produce a "win-win" outcome with each side of the equation coming out stronger. We need to be able to stand for the idea of a "continuous democracy" in the eyes of our citizens so they can continue to participate in shaping public policy outside of elections.

### What are the expected impacts?

The inventory will be drafted with all government departments and circulated widely as a reference framework for government actors.

Lead institution(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ministry for Democratic Renewal</li> <li>• Interministerial Directorate of Public Transformation</li> </ul>
Stakeholders to involve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Civil society organisations participating in the open multi-stakeholder forum (Démocratie Ouverte, Debatlab, etc.)</li> </ul>
Milestones	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Q1 2024</i>: Establish a working group to monitor the implementation of this commitment</li> <li>• <i>By end-2024</i>: Based on the inventory, draft a bold report for public release</li> </ul>

## COMMITMENT 2

### TRAIN CIVIL SERVANTS

#### What is the issue that the commitment will address?

There is currently a severe shortfall in training in facilitation, collective intelligence and citizen participation for French civil servants. High staff turnover is leading to a skills shortage, compromising the long-term future of these innovative methods in government organisations.

Moreover, these skillsets do not always get the recognition they deserve and are therefore not embedded in daily work practices. Despite many attempts to promote them, they are often widely dispersed and largely unchannelled, highlighting the urgent need for a common framework for every civil servant. For these practices to be firmly anchored in the civil service, it is also essential to establish and maintain a network of trained civil servants in the long term. These skillsets will be passed on to other staff members and become part of the work culture of government departments.

#### What is the commitment?

**Title: Train civil servants in collective intelligence methods and tools (facilitation and stakeholder coalitions) and in citizen participation with a common training framework shared between government departments**

**Description:** Training is based on incremental learning to allow new facilitators to acquire the skills step by step.

For instance, the first course in facilitation is held over two days and provides an introduction to the basic tools and practices. It is available to all civil servants on a voluntary basis.

Trainees who use the methods regularly will be able to upskill through one of the additional training courses, e.g. the fundamentals of graphic facilitation tools, facilitation of citizen debate and deliberation, and introduction to co-development. They will also have the opportunity to participate in inspirational events with speakers from civil society, e.g. *Démocratie Ouverte*, academics, etc., to raise awareness and highlight their different experiences in citizen participation and collective intelligence in various settings.

A delegation of trained civil servants could also participate in the *Rencontres Européennes de la Participation* organised by NGO *Décider Ensemble* to gain insight into participatory initiatives from across France. The event has been held each year since 2017 for professionals and practitioners involved in citizen participation and consultation in French-speaking countries and around Europe.

The network of regional innovation labs coordinated by the DITP could be used to develop regional skills and practices in facilitation, collective intelligence and citizen participation. Reporting to regional *préfets*, the labs will be expanded in 2024 with additional staff and funding. Public innovation labs aim to encourage civil servants to put forward solutions which are then trialled in pilot programmes.

Labs have been set up all over France to help to encourage different public policymakers to collaborate outside of existing governmental silos. Their aim is to draw on initiatives developed by civil servants and/or introduce innovation in government in areas where it is still lacking. Labs also provide a boost to training and cultural transformation by “doing”.

### How will the commitment contribute to solving the public problem?

To improve the effectiveness and legitimacy of government processes, civil servants must be given the opportunity to gain skills in using and passing on participatory practices.

By providing civil servants with the knowledge needed to embed participatory practices in their tasks, the civil service can bring about lasting cultural change. Not only does this make it easier to better understand citizens’ needs, but it also introduces more agile, innovative and open processes.

The government is laying the foundations for a more responsive, effective civil service that is aligned with society’s expectations by encouraging civil servants to make these practices part of their everyday work.

Training civil servants in facilitation, collective intelligence and citizen participation, while implementing a network-based organisation in the civil service, is essential for making participatory practices a permanent fixture in government departments. Like the major training initiatives for the green transition and project management, training in all forms of collective intelligence should enable civil servants to use practices such as co-creation workshops and inclusive decision-making processes involving civil society in their work.

The training is expected to empower civil servants to innovate in the workplace, becoming “legitimate actors able to participate in the implementation and renewal of the civil service’s activities and goals” (Warin, 1997). A stronger focus on participation should help to build and encourage social cohesion and collective learning (Neveu, 2002).

For implementation to be effective and relevant, we must not underestimate the need for the highest standards of design in participatory practices. “To design, facilitate and support complex processes, it is important to access knowledge and professionals who know what they are doing and know how to use the processes properly. Many policies fail because the participatory design process falls short” (Loïc Blondiaux, *Article on the Vie publique website, La démocratie participative: une réalité mouvante et un mouvement résistible*).

More broadly, we need to respond to our society’s calls for increased participation and make government services proactive drivers of innovation in participation.

This commitment makes a significant contribution to achieving this goal, training our civil servants in participatory practices in our government departments.

### Why is this commitment relevant to OGP values?

This commitment meets the OGP’s participation standards, which are based on the idea that collaboration between government and citizens can deliver policy that is more effective, more inclusive and more aligned with society’s actual needs. Co-creation and consultation processes promote a more open government and build trust between citizens and their governments. The French civil service must acquire the necessary skills to implement these processes. Training a large number of civil servants will make participatory practices widespread in government departments.

Once trained, civil servants will be able to embed inclusivity into their projects and activities. In the medium and long term, training civil servants in collective intelligence methods will lead to more transparent, more responsible and more collaborative governance.

### What are the expected impacts?

- A large number of civil servants trained (500 per year) through the DITP reference framework
- The resources and tools produced by the French government and civil society stakeholders will go into a shared document database

#### Lead institution(s)

- Interministerial Directorate of Public Transformation – Innovation Department

#### Stakeholders to involve

- Civil society organisations participating in the open multi-stakeholder forum (Démocratie Ouverte, Décider Ensemble, etc.)

#### Milestones

- *Regular training sessions in facilitation (one per quarter)*
- *Facilitation training for trainers:* Train civil servants in running training sessions in their government departments and pass on methods
- *Facilitating a network with civil society:* Introductory sessions about participatory innovation practices in conjunction with civil society stakeholders

## COMMITMENT 3

### MULTISTAKEHOLDER FORUM

#### What is the issue that the commitment will address?

Since joining the Open Government Partnership in 2014, France has still not met the OGP requirement to set up a framework for co-creation between government and civil society. It was therefore both necessary and useful for France to establish a space for dialogue and co-creation between government departments and civil society organisations and coordinate a community of OGP members.

#### What is the commitment?

**Title: Establish an institutionalised space for open government dialogue and action between government actors and organised civil society (i.e. a “multistakeholder forum”) and provide long-term coordination**

**Description:** Hosted by the Economic, Social and Environmental Council (CESE) – the institution for citizen participation and organised civil society – the Open Government Forum will be France’s space for governance in the OGP, drawing inspiration from the OGP model in other countries and forums set up by other members.

The Forum will have several goals: co-create National Action Plans in line with the government’s priority policy areas, monitor and steer the implementation of commitments and report on and assess actions carried out. It will be co-chaired by a government actor and a member of civil society elected at the first plenary session.

The secretariat will be provided by the Ministry for Democratic Renewal, which is responsible for the OGP, and the CESE, which convenes the government departments and drafts and approves the agendas agreed on jointly with the management committee.

The management committee will be made up of the chairperson(s) and four members from civil society and government, elected for a two-year term at a plenary session. Members of civil society will be selected from a call for applications or appointed directly depending on the needs identified by the thematic working groups.

#### How will the commitment contribute to solving the public problem?

Based on the models used by neighbouring countries and the OGP’s recommendations, there are two types of meetings:

- **Plenary sessions.** *Planned frequency:* Twice a year  
*Goals:* Report on the work carried out and take decisions about forum governance and operating procedures (management committee members, priorities examined by working groups, etc.)

- **Thematic working groups.** *Planned frequency:* Once a quarter  
*Goal:* Draft and work on a common roadmap to implement commitments

#### Why is this commitment relevant to OGP values?

This commitment is relevant because it institutionalises the co-creation process for the National Action Plan, the monitoring of the implementation of commitments and the accountability requirement.

#### What are the expected impacts?

- Allow government actors to (1) benefit from each other’s input by regularly sharing experiences and best practice and (2) interact with civil society and watch what civil society is doing in order to design government action that is more aligned with citizens’ actual needs
- Strengthen collaboration between government and civil society
- Promote open government values and practices by engaging with new government actors and civil society within the framework of the forum

#### Lead institution(s)

- Ministry for Democratic Renewal
- Interministerial Directorate of Public Transformation
- Economic, Social and Environmental Council (CESE)
- Démocratie Ouverte and other civil society organisations

#### Stakeholders to involve

- IMODEV research centre at the Paris I Panthéon-Sorbonne University

#### Milestones

- *February 2024:* Establish a multi-stakeholder working group to approve the procedures for the forum’s governance, selection of members and operating model
- *H1 2024:* Start the first plenary session
- *H2 2024:* Set up the first thematic working groups

## COMMITMENT 4

### SUPPORT DEMOCRATIC INNOVATION IN OTHER COUNTRIES

#### What is the issue that the commitment will address?

Transparency, access to information and citizen participation are relevant issues everywhere in the world now that democracy is coming increasingly under fire. The OGP is a community of practitioners working to advance democratic processes outside of elections. It operates at several levels, in France and in all the member countries and local government areas.

France is committed to supporting actors working in open government and democratic innovation in other countries through its solidarity and sustainable investment policy, in line with Priority 8 of the Presidential Development Council, and included in the agenda of the Interministerial Committee for International Cooperation and Development (CICID) in July 2023 under “Support human rights and democracy and fight disinformation”.

#### What is the commitment?

**Title: Continue and expand France’s technical and financial support for actors involved in promoting open government principles, human rights and democratic innovation in Africa and other partner regions under France’s solidarity and sustainable investment policy**

#### Description:

- 2024: Promote and continue the Open Government Support Programme in French-speaking Africa (PAGOF) with new countries funded by the French Development Agency (eligible for loans under the 209 programme – possibly in Latin America, the Balkans, the Indo-Pacific and the Middle East)
- 2025: Launch a new initiative to support open government actors with a focus on promoting human rights and democratic innovation in regions that face significant challenges in transitioning to and consolidating democracy (loans under the 209 programme could be funded by the French Development Agency)

#### How will the commitment contribute to solving the public problem?

Since 2017, France has been supporting OGP member countries in French-speaking Africa to help them to implement their OGP commitments via the Open Government Support Programme in French-speaking Africa (PAGOF). Phase 1 (2018–2022) of the PAGOF was the subject of a positive external review, which highlighted in particular the programme’s encouraging results in meeting OGP commitments and strengthening both the open government culture in the governments supported and government–civil society dialogue. The review also pointed to the emergence of a community of practitioners between Africa and Europe.

These positive results have prompted France to continue its activities in partner countries to promote ongoing reform and openness efforts. Since the launch of Phase 2 of the PAGOF (2022–2025), a number of recommendations have been adopted. Recommendations for the future could include expanding France’s support beyond Africa and prioritising human rights and democratic innovation.

### Why is this commitment relevant to OGP values?

This commitment helps to:

- Promote open government principles in government departments, local and regional authorities and parliaments and among civil society organisations in order to foster greater transparency and increased participation in public policy design and implementation
- Establish ties between open government actors in France and partners in other countries to share best practice and advocate jointly (North-South and South-South partnerships)
- Support initiatives designed to promote democratic principles, such as citizen participation, transparency and accountability, in partner countries under France’s solidarity investment policy, by funding projects proposed by civil society organisations, local and regional authorities and government actors

### What are the expected impacts?

Democratic processes are consolidated in partner countries benefiting from France’s solidarity and sustainable investment policy through improved understanding of open government principles and practices and exchanges between North-South and South-South practitioners. In particular, government transparency, citizen participation, accountability and access to information are strengthened.

Lead institution(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs</li> <li>• French Development Agency</li> </ul>
Stakeholders to involve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• French actors involved in France’s National Action Plan (government, parliaments, French civil society organisations)</li> <li>• Partner countries’ governments</li> <li>• Democratic innovators in partner countries</li> </ul>
Milestones	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Early 2024</i>: Promote the PAGOF during the release of France’s National Action Plan</li> <li>• <i>Mid-2024</i>: Promote the PAGOF at the OGP Africa and the Middle East Regional Meeting in Kenya</li> <li>• <i>September 2024 – June 2025</i>: Prepare a new phase in the support programme for open government, human rights and democratic innovation</li> </ul>

## COMMITMENT 5

### PARTICIPANT CITIZEN STATUS

#### What is the issue that the commitment will address?

At present, some citizens cannot volunteer for participatory or deliberative initiatives because of their work, financial or family commitments. Getting involved in a long-term activity of this kind often requires balancing commitments and volunteers need permission from their employer.

As a result, all citizens cannot meaningfully participate in developing public policy and some socio-economic categories are under-represented in citizen participation, e.g. vulnerable people, single-parent families and shift workers.

#### What is the commitment?

**Title: Define a framework for a “participant citizen” status**

**Description:** A framework will be defined for citizens participating in long-term deliberative practices which could become an actual status. This could include the following:

- Payment for citizen participants
- Employers being unable to reject a staff member’s application for citizen participation
- Special leave for citizen participation
- Introduction of a skills recognition programme for skills acquired during such initiatives

This commitment should allow citizens to meaningfully contribute to participatory actions and serve the public interest in a way that is fair for everyone.

#### How will the commitment contribute to solving the public problem?

This commitment will give legitimacy to participatory practices and government decision-making as a result, improving representativeness and including all categories of citizens. It therefore aims to contribute to the credibility of participatory and deliberative initiatives.

#### Why is this commitment relevant to OGP values?

This commitment aims to allow everyone to participate in democracy, regardless of their income level. It upholds the principle of fairness by giving all citizens a chance to contribute to public policy design. It is consistent with Priority 2 to improve inclusion and citizen engagement.

#### What are the expected impacts?

Introducing a “participant citizen” status would be a major step forward in allowing all categories of citizens to participate in government action. It would also make a big social impact because it has never been available in a form other than one-off payments for some consultation exercises (compensation for participants, etc.).

In the short term, the status will make it easier for citizens to participate in citizen initiatives and public policy co-creation processes, especially the most time-intensive practices, which are always at risk of attracting few participants or participants who are not representative of all the different socio-economic categories. In the medium term, the status will help to send a strong message to citizens and economic actors about how important it is to engage in these initiatives and provide recognition for citizen engagement, in particular by counting participation as employment experience.

Regularly involving citizens from all backgrounds also builds trust in institutions and government decision-making.

Lead institution(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ministry for Democratic Renewal</li> <li>• Economic, Social and Environmental Council</li> </ul>
Stakeholders to involve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Government actors and civil society organisations participating in the open multi-stakeholder forum</li> </ul>
Milestones	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>By end-2024:</i> Share a proposed framework for a citizen participant status</li> </ul>

## COMMITMENT 6

### FRESQUE DE LA DÉMOCRATIE

#### What is the issue that the commitment will address?

In response to a referral by the Prime Minister, the CESE issued an opinion on Youth Engagement and Democratic Participation in March 2022. Faced with record low voter turnout and growing mistrust of democratic institutions, the report sounded the alarm on younger generations feeling excluded at times from the democratic process. It highlighted the importance of improving young people's civic engagement so their voice could be heard more often and taken into account.

The report's first recommendation was to introduce an active democracy education programme starting in nursery school to encourage civic duties from a young age. An interactive approach was recommended to promote continuous learning through practice, using group activities and cooperative learning methods. This commitment aims to address this issue.

#### What is the commitment?

**Title: Develop new ways of disseminating knowledge about democratic institutions and thereby promote civic engagement among young people by creating and mass-distributing a *Fresque de la Démocratie***

**Description:** Emulating the concept of the *Fresque du Climat* workshops, which more than 1.5 million French people have attended, the *Fresque de la Démocratie* is designed to raise citizens' awareness of government action and the role of our institutions. Citizens have the chance to explore how our democracy works in a fun way.

#### How will the commitment contribute to solving the public problem?

The project involves creating an interactive visual tool to be used in workshops and seminars and at educational events. It may include sections about the separation of powers, electoral processes, fundamental rights and other key aspects of democracy. Each component would come with clear, readily accessible explanations to promote deeper understanding and participation.

By encouraging interaction, the *Fresque de la Démocratie* aims to foster dialogue and collective reflection, but also improve knowledge of how public life works and its challenges among a broad cross-section of the population, especially young people

### Why is this commitment relevant to OGP values?

This commitment is aligned with OGP values, principles and standards because it involves various stakeholders from the education community and academia, plus experts in design, open innovation and citizen participation, in the design and implementation of the *Fresque de la Démocratie*.

It may also be possible to include a group of students in the process, with the guidelines and dates still to be defined.

### What are the expected impacts?

The impacts are expected at three levels:

- Improve understanding of democracy and the issues at stake: The *Fresque de la Démocratie* will help to produce tools that are accessible and engaging to allow people to explore how our political system works.
- Promote dialogue: The *Fresque de la Démocratie* formats will have to encourage dialogue and constructive debate about political issues because this is vital for strengthening democracy. Dialogue will take place between students, supported by teachers, and specialists from institutions that should be involved.
- Share ideas: Identifying real-life settings (e.g. civic education classes) is a unique opportunity to come together, think about the challenges facing democracy and work out solutions to address the issue of civic engagement among young people.

Lead institution(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ministry for Democratic Renewal (MRD)</li> <li>• Alongside other relevant ministries, including the Ministry of Education and Youth Affairs (MENJS)</li> </ul>
Stakeholders to involve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Two key NGOs specialising in democracy are contributing to the process: <i>Démocratie Ouverte</i> and <i>Parlons Démocratie</i></li> <li>• Other stakeholders from civil society and academia could also be involved</li> </ul>
Milestones	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>H1 2024</i>: Provide a brief, conduct research and outline the project with stakeholders</li> <li>• <i>H2 2024</i>: Launch a trial with some target user groups</li> <li>• <i>Q1 2025</i>: Assess the results of the trial</li> <li>• <i>Q2 2025</i>: Finalise the <i>Fresque de la Démocratie</i></li> </ul>

## COMMITMENT 7

### VOTING PROCEDURES

#### What is the issue that the commitment will address?

The 2022 election had a very low voter turnout, especially among young people. While low voter turnout is a complex phenomenon, the failure to update registration details largely explains low voter turnout rates among under-35s (Braconnier, C., Dormagen, J., Gabalda, G. & Niel, X. (2016)). In 2017, 7.6 million people had not updated their registration details on the electoral register (31% of 25-34 year-olds were in this category). The chances of these people not voting increase threefold.

This is why the French government is committed to making it easier to vote. Simplifying government services for French citizens is one of the government's priorities. The goal is to de-silo government departments and look at the entire user journey, identifying areas that can be improved at each stage.

#### What is the commitment?

**Title: Simplify voting procedures and make it easier to register to vote or update registration details by streamlining the digital process**

#### How will the commitment contribute to solving the public problem?

This commitment is a response to the twin problem of low voter turnout and failure to update registration details. Registering to vote and checking or updating polling stations become online processes and involve government and para-government actors.

On 3 February 2023, the Ministry for Democratic Renewal (MRD), the Interministerial Directorate for Digital Technology (DINUM), the Interministerial Directorate for Government Transformation (DITP) and representatives of NGOs such as A Voté and Tous Élus came together at a kick-off workshop to map the journey for users of government services, detailing the organisations involved and the main annoyances encountered by users.

Meetings were also scheduled with a panel of stakeholders who have worked on the issue, including the National Centre for Scientific Research (CNRS), the National Institute of Statistics and Economic Studies (INSEE), local government players (Association of French Mayors – AMF, Association of French Towns – APVF), the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (MEAE) and the Legal and Administrative Information Directorate (DILA).

As a result, three key stages need to be streamlined as a priority:

- **Registration on the electoral register**

*Main annoyances identified:* Due to the large number of proof of identity documents

required, the process can be streamlined using a “tell us once” procedure involving several web interfaces

- **Application for a proxy vote**

*Main annoyance identified:* The process is partly online and applicants need to go to a police station, a gendarmerie or a court of justice to finalise their application

- **Informing voters, e.g. campaign materials**

*Main annoyances identified:* Materials are posted out to voters and are not read, digital campaign materials are only available for parliamentary elections (the digital interface should be made more user-friendly and accessible)

### Why is this commitment relevant to OGP values?

The aim of these measures to simplify voting procedures is to encourage more citizens to vote.

### What are the expected impacts?

- In the short term, send a push notification to everyone arranging their move online to ask them to check their registration on the electoral register
- In the medium or long term, reduce the number of people who have not updated their registration details

#### Lead institution(s)

- Ministry for Government Transformation and the Civil Service, with the Ministry of the Interior and Overseas France and the Ministry for Democratic Renewal

#### Stakeholders to involve

- Interministerial Directorate for Digital Affairs (DINUM)
- Civil society organisations (A Voté, Tous Élus)

#### Milestones

To move forward and build on the process, the Interministerial Directorate of Public Transformation (DITP) has suggested the following stages:

- January 2024: Create a task force involving behavioural science experts to examine the situation further and identify barriers and incentives to voting
- At the same time, establish immersion programmes in local and regional government and work alongside NGOs

## COMMITMENT 8

### NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR REFOUNDATION (CNR) IN HEALTHCARE

#### What is the issue that the commitment will address?

The healthcare system is facing various challenges, including improved access to healthcare, development of new care arrangements, local coordination of healthcare, a stronger focus on preventive healthcare and the changing role of healthcare professionals. These challenges affect regions in different ways.

Suitable solutions need to be found for the problems in each region, with a customised response that can be adapted to a particular situation. The aim is to work from the ground up, using different lived experiences of French people from region to region, to put forward innovations, pilot programmes and practical solutions to the problems. Local healthcare services also need to be involved in order to implement shared solutions with local support.

#### What is the commitment?

**Title: Meet specific healthcare requirements in regional areas as effectively as possible by involving stakeholders in the National Councils for Refoundation (CNR) in healthcare at regional level**

**Description:** The National Council for Refoundation (CNR) in healthcare was started on 3 October 2022 in Le Mans. The aim was to bring together all the stakeholders in the healthcare industry – citizens, healthcare professionals who work in hospitals and who are self-employed, Regional Health Agencies, elected officials, the French Social Security Collections Agency, NGOs, etc. – to reach an agreement on the region’s healthcare needs and address these needs as effectively as possible through concrete local solutions and innovative projects to improve access to healthcare, continuity of care, attractiveness of healthcare professions and prevention.

#### How will the commitment contribute to solving the public problem?

CNRs in healthcare aim to bring together all the stakeholders in healthcare – citizens, healthcare professionals, Regional Health Agencies, elected officials, etc. – to:

- Reach an agreement on the region’s healthcare needs in terms of access to healthcare and prevention
- Address these needs as effectively as possible through concrete local solutions and innovative projects

The proposals and solutions put forward by CNRs in healthcare vary greatly from region to region. However, some nationwide trends have emerged:

- Reach “the last mile”, for example by setting up mobile healthcare and prevention teams who travel to remote areas with limited access to healthcare
- Deliver healthcare outside of traditional settings, for example by using peer support as an interface between patients and the healthcare system
- Improve the service delivered to patients and put their needs at the centre of the healthcare system’s organisation, for example by providing better access to healthcare professionals for care arrangements, developing regional networks of healthcare professionals, reducing medical practitioners’ administrative tasks so they can improve the quality of care and spend more time with patients, and reducing tasks related to issuing medical certificates (for sport, leave, death, childcare centres, etc.)
- Break down silos and work together to attract healthcare professionals to regions where there are shortages, for example by pooling recruitment needs at *département* level or encouraging healthcare professionals to move to a region with their family (setting up a “one-stop shop” with all the information about moving to a region, including housing assistance, schooling, upgrades to infrastructure and facilities, etc.)
- Transition from the role of institutional “micro-manager” to facilitator, for example by helping groups of stakeholders to develop projects they are advocating for.

#### Why is this commitment relevant to OGP values?

CNRs help to establish constructive dialogue between all the stakeholders in healthcare and co-create customised, shared solutions. CNRs in healthcare therefore contribute to the goal of participation and co-creation of public policy.

CNRs in healthcare also address the need for transparency and accountability. From the start of their launch, the Ministry for Health has released monthly progress reports on the different projects. Trials will also be assessed continuously and successful trials will be rolled out in other regions.

#### What are the expected impacts?

Following on from the initial consultation phase between October 2022 and January 2023 involving some 10,000 participants nationwide, CNRs in healthcare are becoming permanent fixtures. They are governed at *département* level (Département Directorate for Regional Health Agencies) and infra-*département* level through local democratic institutions for healthcare (Regional Healthcare Councils, or CTS).

This new organisation helps to fast-track high-priority, high-impact projects, with Director Generals of Regional Health Agencies (ARS) able to request an exemption from standard procedures and access €30 million in funds under the Regional Intervention Fund (FIR) in 2023, and receive design support for projects where required. Many Regional Health Agencies have chosen to implement their Regional Healthcare Projects (PRS) by running CNRs involving stakeholders, which have led to Local Healthcare Contracts (CLS) for Regional Healthcare Projects.

Lead institution(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ministry for Health and Prevention</li> <li>• CNR Secretariat General</li> </ul>
Stakeholders to involve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Public- and private-sector stakeholders in healthcare (healthcare professionals, social workers and medical social workers, healthcare facilities, Regional Health Agencies, local government officials, etc.)</li> <li>• Consumer representative groups and patient and citizen advocacy organisations</li> </ul>
Milestones	<p>National Councils for Refoundation in healthcare are now used for all the activities of the Ministry for Health and Prevention.</p> <p>The minutes prepared from local discussions help to guide and prioritise the Ministry’s programmes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In line with the Prime Minister’s commitment, 100 health buses will be operated to provide medical services to people in the most remote areas, in partnership with regional authorities</li> <li>• To improve citizens’ access to healthcare and encourage cooperation between healthcare professionals, 4,000 healthcare centres will open across France</li> <li>• The National Health Insurance Fund is working hard to ensure that each patient with a chronic health condition has access to a GP</li> <li>• To ease pressure on emergency departments, a recruitment campaign has been launched for medical dispatch support officers, who answer emergency calls and play a key role in assessing callers</li> <li>• Because providing local solutions to local problems is about promoting dialogue and exercising democracy in healthcare, the Valletoux Act provides for Regional Communities of Healthcare Professionals (CPTS) to be set up all over France and for all stakeholders to be involved as required</li> </ul>

## COMMITMENT 9

### NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR REFOUNDATION (CNR) IN EDUCATION

#### What is the issue that the commitment will address?

Firmly anchored in the regions, public education is the cornerstone of our republican social contract. But it does not always fulfil its purpose of allowing each student to learn the foundations and providing everyone with the same opportunities for achievement.

In response to this challenge, the National Council for Refoundation (CNR) will help to revitalise education policy by drawing on local initiatives in each education community that volunteers for the programme.

#### What is the commitment?

**Title: Design educational projects that meet local needs, improve students' achievement and wellbeing and combat inequality through the National Council for Refoundation (CNR) initiative in education, *Notre école, faisons-la ensemble***

**Description:** The CNR initiative in education, *Notre école, faisons-la ensemble*, is a forum for local consultation to identify new, collective actions to improve students' achievement and wellbeing and reduce inequality.

Under the principal's responsibility, it is aimed at every stakeholder and partner in the education community and involves open meetings about school life and how the school works.

Staff, students, parents, local and regional authorities, elected officials and other partners can participate in these discussions on a voluntary basis to get a picture of the school's current situation along with its characteristics, successes and goals and contribute ideas for change.

Teaching staff can use these consultations to design an educational project to support the school's master plan. This type of multi-year project does not have to meet any particular pre-defined specifications, but sets priorities for the education community and provides an action plan to achieve them in one, two or all three key areas of education policy (excellence, equality and wellbeing).

Schools and institutions with projects that need financial assistance can apply for support from education authorities and funding from the €500 million-plus educational innovation fund during the five-year presidential term.

## How will the commitment contribute to solving the public problem?

This is a new method involving all school stakeholders. Local communities work together to allow each school to come up with individual solutions to improve student achievement.

- The consultation is voluntary for teaching teams
- It is not restricted to a particular year: Teams can join the initiative at any time
- It is based on putting trust in stakeholders at the grassroots level: There is no specific framework or standard project
- Making mistakes is part of the process: Some trials will not succeed in their initial format, but teams still have to move forward together to promote student achievement

In each regional education authority, a team has been formed as close as possible to grassroots level to provide school principals with technical support to develop and monitor these innovative projects, at their request. The national support team works closely with regional educational authorities to serve each education community in order to share experiences, exchange inspiring practices and provide the initiative with long-term support.

## Why is this commitment relevant to OGP values?

The CNR initiative in education, *Notre école, faisons-la ensemble*, is aimed at every stakeholder in the education community, under the principal's responsibility. It involves open meetings about school life and how the school works.

School principals decide what type of meeting they want to hold and make sure to involve all staff, as well as local and regional authorities, parents and students, with the format to suit the age and year level of the students. School principals are not necessarily in charge of facilitating the initiative – this role can be given to other members of the education community.

The consultation should also be open to other partners of the school or institution, such as partner organisations, to link up school and before- and after-school activities, as well as economic actors, for assistance with career guidance or vocational training. Involving local businesses is particularly important for junior high schools in order to support students looking to learn a trade and for vocational high schools.

The CNR method in education is fully aligned with OGP values, principles and standards because it helps to establish productive government–civil society dialogue and re-build public education right down to “the last mile”.

## What are the expected impacts?

The projects can cover any topic in three key areas – excellence, wellbeing and equal opportunity – and are funded by the €500 million, five-year educational innovation fund (2022–2027).

The aim is to allow each school or institution with a project to have the means to achieve their goals and improve student achievement (based on assessment results). These two elements are essential:

- Support the initiatives of teaching teams in terms of staffing, funding and the approval process and encourage the sharing of experiences
- Improve schools' project management expertise by training senior staff and supporting project leads as part of a self-assessment programme

Just over one year on from the nationwide launch of the initiative, more than 10,000 projects have been designed by teaching teams, over 4,500 of which have been approved and will now receive extra staffing and funding.

Lead institution(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ministry for Primary and Secondary Education and Youth Affairs</li> <li>• CNR Secretariat General</li> </ul>
Stakeholders to involve	<p>Depending on the local context, schools will be able to involve all public education stakeholders:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Teachers and other staff</li> <li>• Principals</li> <li>• Students</li> <li>• Parents</li> <li>• Local and regional government representatives</li> <li>• Elected officials</li> <li>• Before- and after-school organisations</li> <li>• Businesses</li> <li>• Researchers</li> <li>• Other partners</li> </ul> <p>Regional education authorities and the <i>départements</i> provide local and regional support in the form of funding, training and other resources.</p>
Milestones	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>5 October 2022</i>: First CNR in education <i>Notre école, faisons-la ensemble</i> in Gasville-Oisème (Eure-et-Loir)</li> <li>• <i>December 2022</i>: Project application platform goes live</li> <li>• <i>2024</i>: Each school is responsible for its own consultation schedule and milestones</li> </ul>

## COMMITMENT 10

### ECOLOGICAL PLANNING

#### What is the issue that the commitment will address?

Global warming is accelerating, biodiversity is declining and we are facing transitions that are affecting the way we live. We need to give ourselves the means to come up with a powerful collective response to all this upheaval.

The green transition is this century's biggest emergency and requires us to plan our actions, from a global level to a local level, and step up our efforts to cut greenhouse gas emissions and help our society to adjust to climate change.

Building consensus is crucial to moving forward, implementing solutions that we know and coming up with new ones. More precisely, it is time to go beyond just stating the facts and identify solutions that we can act on, with 22 projects in six main areas: (1) Travel better (2) Protect our ecosystem better (3) Eat better (4) Manufacture better (5) House ourselves better, and (6) Consume better.

To achieve these targets, we need to speed up our collective efforts and bring together all the actors involved: the central government, local and regional authorities, businesses and citizens.

Following on from a nationwide initiative, the focus has now moved to each region in order to facilitate understanding of the goals and identify, at local level, the actions that will enable us to collectively reduce our greenhouse gas emissions, preserve biodiversity and protect natural resources.

We still need to continue to empower and raise awareness among all stakeholders and the general population for a successful outcome to these collective efforts.

#### What is the commitment?

**Title: Involve as many stakeholders as possible in the country's ecological planning by using educational resources that are easily accessible, promoting interactive learning models and empowering people to act in their individual sphere of responsibility**

#### How will the commitment contribute to solving the public problem?

For maximum effectiveness, ecological planning is coordinated by the General Secretariat for Ecological Planning (SGPE), which reports to the Prime Minister.

The SGPE's remit is to monitor ecological policies and ensure policies are consistent, while encouraging and coordinating the involvement of ministries and stakeholders. It also handles all negotiations in its policy area and measures the performance of government actions.

The SGPE's Engagement Department aims to involve all stakeholders outside central government, i.e. businesses, local and regional authorities, civil society and the general public, in the strategies and initiatives implemented for successful ecological planning.

Through regular exchange with these external stakeholders, the SGPE implements a number of initiatives designed to address different points of view and promote involvement of all groups.

Three main initiatives should be highlighted:

- **Regional stakeholders: Regional COPs**

Regional COPs are Conferences of Parties organised in each administrative region to start a discussion at regional level and develop a consistent, shared action plan.

Each COP is coordinated jointly by the region's *Préfet* and the President of the Regional Council, bringing together all the region's senior officials. For the debate stage in particular, the COPs could also involve members of parliament, economic actors (business representatives from manufacturing and agriculture, chambers of commerce, industry and trade, etc.) and civil society stakeholders (environmental NGOs, consumer groups, young people, etc.), who will play a key role in the exercise.

Regional COPs will address the specific characteristics of each region and engage with stakeholders in order to come up with a shared assessment of the situation, conduct a debate about the efforts needed by each sector and draft a regional roadmap leading up to 2030.

- **National stakeholders (businesses, NGOs, the central government): A workshop format to build understanding of ecological planning and get ready for action**

Drawing on the success of the *Fresque* initiatives, the workshop format is a fun and educational way to learn about ecological planning, key areas for action and how each stakeholder can contribute to the group effort. The workshop gives participants the chance to play the role of the government and see what it is like to juggle finite global resources with social acceptance of environmental policy. This is a novel way of going behind the scenes of ecological planning, understanding the different constraints and getting ready for action together, with everyone taking responsibility for their sphere of action.

- **Citizens: A coaching programme to support French people with the green transition**

The environmental crisis is radically changing how we live, affecting energy, water, food, mobility, and other areas of our lives. But because we do not all have the same lifestyle or the same wants, each French person is an individual case.

To support everyone in their efforts, depending on their personal situation and their income level, the Secretariat General for Ecological Planning and its partners are developing a digital service for citizen engagement (website and mobile app) to help each citizen make the green transition.

Co-designed with users, the “step-by-step” programme teaches people about their carbon footprint and provides everyday tips, financial assistance simulators, recommended solutions based on individual situations and communities of action.

### Why is this commitment relevant to OGP values?

This commitment fully meets the OGP’s participation standard. It promotes government–civil society dialogue and co-creation, encouraging the role of intermediary bodies and civil society in ecological planning, relying on collective accountability and trialling new ways of interacting with them for improved engagement.

### What are the expected impacts?

#### **Regional COPs**

The initiative will increase awareness of the role of each region in the national target for 2030 and the need for consistent action. The regions’ commitment is vital for the success of the green transition and the achievement of targets defined by the SGPE.

Final deliverable: A regional roadmap to 2030 for each region.

#### **Workshop**

The workshop will help our stakeholders to increase their understanding of the plan and facilitate a decentralised rollout at the level of business, local and regional authorities and government services. Workshop participants will then be asked to design their own roadmap for their organisation.

#### **Coaching**

This upcoming service will increase everyone’s awareness of their environmental footprint so they can carry out more targeted, effective actions and access assistance. We can expect to see an impact on individual behaviour quickly in areas such as reducing consumption and modal shift.

Lead institution(s)	General Secretariat for Ecological Planning (SGPE)
Stakeholders to involve	<p>Possible stakeholders (non-exhaustive list):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The central government and government agencies: Regional <i>préfecture</i>, Energy and Climate Directorate General (DGEC), Environment, Planning and Housing Regional Directorate (DREAL), Département Regional Planning Directorate (DDT), Regional Directorates for the Economy, Employment, Labour and Solidarity (DREETS), French Agency for Ecological Transition (Ademe), Centre for Studies and Expertise on Risks, the Environment, Mobility and Urban Planning (Cerema), French Biodiversity Agency (OFB), Météo France, the water board, etc.</li> <li>• Local and regional authorities: Regional council, <i>département</i> council, public intercommunal cooperation establishment (EPCI), local mayors' association, energy or mobility authorities if they are different, regional biodiversity monitoring centres (ORB), etc.</li> <li>• Members of parliament and local elected representatives</li> <li>• Industry and/or business representatives in key sectors, such as manufacturing, energy, construction, transport and agriculture</li> <li>• Research and higher education organisations and think-tanks</li> <li>• NGOs operating in environmental and regional cohesion sectors (FNE, LPO, WWF, The Shift Project, etc.)</li> <li>• Funds: Bpifrance, Banque des territoires, Caisse des dépôts, etc.</li> </ul>

## Milestones

### Regional COPs

- *November 2023*: Launch and initial assessment
- *Spring 2024*: Debate
- *Summer 2024*: Drafting of roadmaps

### Workshop

- *Spring – Summer 2023*: Design
- *November 2023 – January 2024*: Testing and adaptation
- *February 2024*: Rollout

### Coaching

- *January – October 2023*: Design and V1
- *December – June 2024*: Closed testing
- *Summer 2024*: Nationwide rollout

## COMMITMENT 11

### CREATE A DIGITAL CULTURE

#### What is the issue that the commitment will address?

Digital technology and data are controversial issues at the moment because people do not fully understand what they cover and lack information and awareness. There are also problems with tracking and using data, and how it is made available to the community, i.e. civil society. These problems are partly due to the fact that each sector – healthcare, environment, transport, digital technology, etc. – has their own way of dealing with the issues, or the focus is on a particular aspect of digital technology, i.e. open data, digital inclusion, etc. When citizens are involved, there is often an emphasis on the digital divide or digital inclusion.

#### What is the commitment?

**Title: Strengthen participation, government–civil society dialogue and information to create a digital/AI culture**

#### How will the commitment contribute to solving the public problem?

To address the situation, the Health Data Hub aims to work collaboratively with local and regional authorities and civil society organisations to design and promote a shared digital culture. This initiative builds on the Health Data Hub's actions during the third National Action Plan, in particular the consensus-based meeting with France Assos Santé which was designed to collect citizen feedback on raising society's awareness of sharing health data.

By launching a digital awareness campaign for large sectors of the population, the aim is to reduce existing tensions in digital technology and health data.

#### Why is this commitment relevant to OGP values?

The commitment helps to boost participation because it includes citizens and will encourage citizen-led projects for citizens. It also contributes to transparency by promoting open data and open source.

#### What are the expected impacts?

The expected impacts include:

- Increasing citizens' knowledge of digital technology and health data, and building their trust in government-led initiatives.
- Increasing citizen participation in government-led initiatives. On a national level, this could translate into the number of interactions on a citizen's digital health record, a project led by the Ministerial eHealth Delegation.
- Increasing the number of digital and data projects led by local and regional authorities in line with citizens' expectations.

Lead institution(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Health Data Hub</li> </ul>
Stakeholders to involve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Open Data France</li> <li>• National Agency for Regional Cohesion</li> <li>• French Digital Council</li> </ul>
Milestones	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Set up a patient information portal on health data to make it easier for users to exercise their privacy rights</li> <li>• Run an awareness campaign aimed at the general public and patient organisations about the reuse of health data for research</li> </ul>

## COMMITMENT 12

### COMBAT DISINFORMATION

#### What is the issue that the commitment will address?

The Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs has built up its experience in data and fighting disinformation which it should consider sharing more effectively with our citizens.

#### What is the commitment?

Title: **Share our experience in data and combating disinformation with our citizens**

Description: Our citizens are located all over the world and legislation differs from country to country, especially privacy laws. When legislation is not robust enough to protect our citizens' privacy, citizens have to learn how to protect their data, e.g. managing personal information, spotting disinformation, information manipulation during elections, etc.

We could protect our citizens in this sense and provide them with access to the experience gained by the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs. The Ministry could make its expertise available to the general public, producing materials that are easily understandable and sharing real-life experiences.

#### How will the commitment contribute to solving the public problem?

The commitment aims to help our citizens to develop skills to identify disinformation and manage their personal information.

The idea is to design an awareness campaign and a communications plan with different types of content (best practice, videos, warnings, etc.).

Citizens will be given tips on how to check that the information they read, share and use online is reliable, safe and relevant. Tips include checking sources, investigating whether the information is credible, protecting personal information and understanding the risks associated with disinformation and cybercrime.

#### Why is this commitment relevant to OGP values?

Legislators and regulators are trying to minimise damage from misuse of data on citizens' everyday lives. While we should all be made more aware of what they do, citizens could be better informed of the particular risks associated with data (personal information or other data).

This commitment helps to:

- Improve our citizens' data culture, at individual level
- Tackle information manipulation and help everyone to spot disinformation, at the level of society

## What are the expected impacts?

The commitment aims to have an impact on the following issues:

- Share the expertise gained by the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs with the general public
- Reduce the impact of instances of information manipulation
- Contribute to democratic stability

### Lead institution(s)

- Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs – Digital Department

### Stakeholders to involve

- Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs – Communications Department
- Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs – Policy Departments
- Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs – Ambassador for Digital Affairs
- Researchers and experts in information manipulation
- Digital platforms
- Information networks (e.g. AEFÉ, Alliances Françaises, etc.).

### Milestones

- *H1 2024*: Design an awareness campaign
- *H2 2024*: Design a communications plan with different types of content (best practice, videos, warnings, etc.)
- *H2 2024*: Start publications and debates with researchers and experts in information manipulation

## COMMITMENT 13

### BAROMETER OF PUBLIC ACTION

#### What is the issue that the commitment will address?

The French government has been committed to implementing priority policies nationwide since 2017. A new method to monitor government action has been introduced to ensure that each priority policy has a real impact on French people's lives.

The twin goal is to make the government consistently accountable for its work and increase French people's trust in public policy.

#### What is the commitment?

**Title: Continue to ensure transparency around the outcomes of the government's roadmap for all French people, right down to the grassroots, with the Public Policy Outcomes Barometer**

**Description:** Coordinated by the Ministry for Government Transformation and the Civil Service, with the support of the DITP and the Government Information Department, the Public Policy Outcomes Barometer lets everyone monitor the exact progress of the government's priority actions at *département*, regional and national level.

#### How will the commitment contribute to solving the public problem?

The Public Policy Outcomes Barometer was started in 2021 and can be accessed online from [gouvernement.fr](http://gouvernement.fr). It aims to provide French citizens with more transparency around public policy outcomes at regional and national level.

- Each of the government's priority policies is detailed at *département*, regional and/or national level. The Barometer outlines around 100 indicators, more than 80 of which include local data.
- For each indicator, the Barometer gives a baseline at the start of a policy, the current figure and a target for 2027, where relevant. Targets are set at *département* level, at the grassroots, depending on the individual characteristics of each region.

In May 2023, new goals were set for the Barometer with three major upgrades:

- More accessible, with clear explanations about the reforms and public policies for which outcomes are provided
- More service-oriented: For each project, users are redirected to government or *préfecture* websites so they can get more information and access measures
- A strong regional focus: Outcomes are detailed at grassroots level to monitor the progress of reforms in each region. In November 2023, the *préfectures* ran an information campaign called *#Cequichangepourmoi* with the Government Information Department to promote each region's progress.

## Examples of Barometer visuals:



## Why is this commitment relevant to OGP values?

The Public Policy Outcomes Barometer is a tangible achievement of one of the French President's major commitments – transparency of the outcomes of government action – and is unprecedented under the Fifth Republic. It also illustrates the government's determination to improve citizens' daily lives in every region, fast-track reforms and assess government action more effectively, by monitoring outcomes and data.

For each indicator, an open-source CSV file is available on the data.gouv.fr website.

## What are the expected impacts?

The Public Policy Outcomes Barometer helps to better inform citizens and explain how government action works to ultimately increase citizens' trust in government.

The idea is to:

- Measure the progress of government action in each area of French people's daily lives and highlight the outcomes
- Enable citizens and users to gain a deeper understanding of what the government does: The Barometer provides detailed content in a readily accessible language
- Encourage citizens to engage with the data and increase their participation in democracy

Lead institution(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Interministerial Directorate of Public Transformation (DITP) with the Government Information Department (SIG)</li> </ul>
Stakeholders to involve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ministries in charge of priority policies (data producers)</li> <li>• <i>Préfectures</i> (regional component of the Barometer and regional information campaigns)</li> </ul>
Milestones	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>May 2023</i>: Release of V2 of the Barometer</li> <li>• <i>From December 2023</i>: Kick-off of the <i>Ce qui change pour moi</i> regional campaign</li> </ul>

## COMMITMENT 14

### AGORA

#### What is the issue that the commitment will address?

Agora is a democratic innovation and a world first designed to promote citizen participation in government in order to increase voter turnout rates and improve levels of trust in democracy.

The app is another of the initiatives launched since 2017 by the French President and the government, like the Great National Debate, aiming to promote mass citizen participation and let citizens have a say in the decisions that affect them.

#### What is the commitment?

**Title: Develop mass citizen consultation on major public policy challenges using the Agora app**

**Description:** New features are being developed in the Agora app for a broader range of citizen consultations.

Several projects are under way or planned:

- Hold Agora user workshops in Q1 2024 to define the app's development strategy based on citizen feedback
- Develop additional features in 2024 to encourage citizen debate
- Host consultations for other national institutions, e.g. CESE
- Consider ways of making the Agora app available to decentralised government departments for regional consultations on specific local issues

#### How will the commitment contribute to solving the public problem?

The Agora app was evaluated by a panel of citizens, who decided it would be relevant to develop a feature to let people participate in government consultations.

Under this commitment, the app would provide access to citizen consultations from other organisations, e.g. *préfectures* and CESE.

#### Why is this commitment relevant to OGP values?

Mass citizen consultations allow users to participate directly in government work, providing their opinion on concrete policy proposals (participation). Participation is also more representative of the population if as many citizens as possible get involved. The government will release a review of the consultations (transparency) and related policy recommendations (accountability).

### What are the expected impacts?

- Empower citizens and accelerate citizen participation at the level of citizens, government policymakers and government departments. The longer-term goal is for citizen participation to become “automatic” in government decision-making and government action.
- Reduce citizens’ distrust in government policymakers
- Better address citizens’ concerns in government policy proposals

### Lead institution(s)

- Ministry for Democratic Renewal (MRD)
- Interministerial Directorate of Public Transformation (DITP)

### Stakeholders to involve

- Interministerial Directorate for Digital Affairs (DINUM)
- Ministries
- *Préfectures*
- CESE

### Milestones

- *September – December 2023*: Launch of Agora app
- *January – March 2024*: Specifications and mock-ups of new features
- *March 2024 – December 2024*: Development and rollout

## COMMITMENT 15

### DIGITAL COMMONS

#### What is the issue that the commitment will address?

Cooperation between government departments and the open-source digital commons is a powerful lever for developing public-interest digital technology and resilient, sovereign digital services, which contribute to the transparency of government action.

**Establishing long-term partnerships** between the government and open-source digital commons project developers in data commons and open-source software involves the following:

- **For government organisations: Find out which open-source software they need to migrate to first**, then identify ten programs from the catalogue of government-approved open-source software (<https://code.gouv.fr/sill>) and develop services to support the successful migration to open-source software.
- **For digital commons project developers from civil society: Provide a better interface between open-source digital commons and public policy.** It can be hard to access government resources and know which government department can help. Gaining recognition or receiving support from government services or civil servants can be essential for reaching a wider audience. There are several civil society stakeholders active in the field of public-interest digital technology. These include digital commons project developers, who work on, and sometimes advocate for, open-source digital products, databases and content, which are designed and maintained by communities of contributors on a national, or even global, scale. This is why it is important to increase cooperation between the government and citizen-led digital commons for the public interest with the support of the Citizen Initiatives Accelerator (AIC).

#### What is the commitment?

**Title: Establish long-term partnerships between the government and open-source digital commons project developers**

Description:

- **Sub-commitment 1:** Identify ten key open-source programs that are listed in the catalogue of government-approved open-source software (SILL) and design migration support services.

Identifying ten key open-source programs and designing migration support services should involve SILL correspondents and the community of government information system project managers (DPSI). These two communities can be tapped through the Open-Source Software Task Force led by the Support, Advice and Expertise Department at the Interministerial Directorate for Digital Affairs. The services should include solutions to annoyances identified by government departments in relation to migration and provide methods that government agencies can easily implement themselves.

**Sub-commitment 2:** Increase cooperation between the government and citizen-led digital commons for the public interest with the support of the Citizen Initiatives Accelerator (AIC). The AIC commitment has been in place since 2022, providing a dedicated space within the government where government departments and the digital commons can collaborate on a long-term basis. We are supporting the development of concrete use cases in the government, with government departments that use the digital commons.

#### How will the commitment contribute to solving the public problem?

**Sub-commitment 1:** Collectively identifying ten key open-source programs will meet a number of needs and designing migration support services will help to prioritise what works and what does not work in the migration to open-source solutions. There is also the option to repeat the initiative so all government departments can successfully make the transition in the longer term.

**Sub-commitment 2:** The AIC works with a portfolio of citizen-led digital commons selected through a call for projects. For at least 12 months, the AIC will be trialling different ways to cooperate and work collaboratively on concrete use cases with them and partner government departments. The team provides customised 360° support for projects in its portfolio, involving resources internally (coaching by team members) and externally (partnerships with experts, funding). There are several types of support:

- **Consolidate the project**  
The AIC brings skills and the beta.gouv method in order to structure projects, e.g. legal skills, funding, impact assessments, facilitation.
- **Establish long-term partnerships**  
Insight into government departments. The AIC helps to build and maintain government contacts for faster project rollout.
- **Provide expertise**  
The AIC provides technical support for projects on rollout strategy, team organisation, working methods, product updates (development, UX), communications, user support, etc.

### Why is this commitment relevant to OGP values?

These two commitments are in line with the values of transparency in government, open source and co-creation between government and civil society of citizen-led initiatives.

### What are the expected impacts?

**Sub-commitment 1:** More stringent compliance with Article 16 of the Digital Republic Act.

**Sub-commitment 2:**

- Impact 1: Improve government–civil society cooperation
- Impact 2: Make government innovation more effective, more resilient and more transparent
- Impact 3: Improve decentralisation of government action by providing solutions to decentralised departments, operators and agencies
- Impact 4: Improve user service with concrete changes to their daily lives

Lead institution(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Open-Source Software Task Force, Interministerial Directorate for Digital Affairs (DINUM)</li></ul>
Stakeholders to involve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Projects in the AIC portfolio (Pyronear, uMap, Primtux, Open Food Facts)</li><li>• Ministries, local and regional authorities and operators affected by use cases</li><li>• French Digital Council</li><li>• Société des Communs</li><li>• Coop des Communs</li><li>• Data for Good</li><li>• Bayes Impact</li></ul>
Milestones	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>March 2024:</i> DINUM approval and support expanded to new digital commons. Transfer of digital commons support methods to other government stakeholders for a wider impact.</li></ul>

## COMMITMENT 16

### PUBLIC DATA MONITORING CENTRE

#### What is the issue that the commitment will address?

Article 14 of the 2016 Digital Republic Act provides for reference data to be made available as a public service by the government in order to facilitate reuse of data.

Coordinated by Etalab, the Public Reference Data Service (SPDR) aims to make available datasets of common reference data used to name or identify products, services, countries or people. To date, nine datasets have been classified as "reference data". Each dataset contains national or global data. Their "pivot" identifiers are used to cross-reference many other datasets. The goals are exhaustivity, availability and frequency of updates.

#### What is the commitment?

Title: **Establish a Public Data Monitoring Centre**

#### How will the commitment contribute to solving the public problem?

The Public Data Monitoring Centre will release regular status reports on the datasets in order to further increase their use and promote the transparency of public data. It will focus on content quality, in particular exhaustivity, frequency of updates, compliance with formats and specifications, and availability of download services and APIs. The Centre will help to promote the work of government departments involved in improving data quality.

The Centre will also identify datasets that comply with criteria under L321-4 and implement a procedure to improve the quality of reference data, in accordance with the provisions of R321-8 of the Code Governing Relations Between Government Departments and the Public (CRPA).

This commitment will help to promote use of the datasets by being transparent about the principle of "data you can count on".

#### Why is this commitment relevant to OGP values?

The commitment is in line with the value of transparency in government.

#### What are the expected impacts?

Greater compliance with Article L321-4 et seq. of the Code Governing Relations Between Government Departments and the Public (CRPA) from the Digital Republic Act.

Establishing the Public Data Monitoring Centre will enable:

- Government departments to identify areas for improvement for better quality data
- Users to access the data more effectively and reuse it

Lead institution(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Etalab, Interministerial Directorate for Digital Affairs (DINUM)</li> </ul>
Stakeholders to involve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Data.gouv.fr, DINUM, AMDAC network</li> </ul>
Milestones	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>March 2024</i>: DINUM approval</li> </ul>

## COMMITMENT 17

### ECOSPHERES PROJECT

#### What is the issue that the commitment will address?

There is still room to improve access to data on the green transition and data discoverability for public policymakers, researchers and citizens.

Data is highly scattered within the Ministry; there are over 130 information systems sharing data across more than 50 platforms and over 130 organisations that own the data. A study that received 130 responses has listed 156 problems related to using one data platform. These cover six main areas: data quality, discoverability, familiarity, use value, reproducibility and governance.

Thematic environmental data platforms have grown in number since the 2016 Digital Republic Act.

#### What is the commitment?

**Title: Develop projects to make available centralised open government data portals, especially for the green transition**

#### How will the commitment contribute to solving the public problem?

Government actors are stepping up their efforts in data openness in order to respond to users' problems and encourage data reuse.

The Ecosphères project, for example, aims to reference data for each region to support the Ministry for the Ecological and Energy Transition and Regional Cohesion in response to the France Nation Verte programme.

This portal does not host the data directly, but "harvests" metadata from open-source environmental databases operated by decentralised government departments, e.g. the Département Regional Planning Directorate (DDT) and the Environment, Planning and Housing Regional Directorate (DREAL), government agencies and operators.

The portal harvests data from all the catalogues of regional and national datasets. Entry to the portal is by theme (water, biodiversity, waste, etc.) or use case (from those initially identified by Ecosphère(s): drafting a regional climate, air and energy plan or a prevention plan for natural flood risk, calculating a carbon footprint, producing a biodiversity status report or monitoring the energy-efficient renovation of buildings).

The portal complies with the DCAT Application profile for data portals in Europe (DCAT-AP) and is now associated with the data.gouv.fr national platform.

It will provide a self-diagnosis service to check the quality of a dataset, including the qualification of data from indicators based on metadata (obsolescence, interoperability, discoverability, etc.) and identification of datasets with metadata that needs to be completed, updated or consolidated.

The aim of the portal is to improve access to and discoverability of data for the green and energy transitions.

Organisations such as the National Institute for Geographical and Forestry Information (IN) and Météo France also play a key role in this process designed to promote the reuse of data which will be crucial for a successful green transition. To encourage innovation, in 2024 Météo France will open up access to all its public data relating to observations, forecasts, the climate and outlooks.

#### Why is this commitment relevant to OGP values?

This commitment is related to data openness and sharing and describing public policy in readily understandable terms. Access to information about the environment is enshrined in Article 7 of the 2004 Charter for the Environment, which states that everyone has the right to have access to information pertaining to the environment in the possession of public bodies and to participate in the public decision-taking process.

#### What are the expected impacts?

- Smoother drafting and monitoring of regional action plans for France Nation Verte
- New value-added services

#### Lead institution(s)

- Ministry for the Ecological Transition and Regional Cohesion (MTECT)
- General Commission for Sustainable Development (CGDD)
- Ecolab

#### Stakeholders to involve

- Interministerial Directorate for Digital Technology (DINUM)
- Regional data platforms
- Open Data France organisation
- Météo France
- National Institute for Geographical and Forestry Information (IGN)

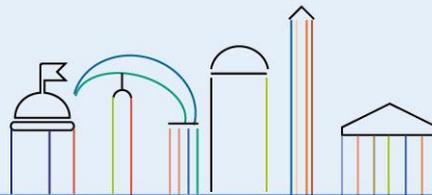
#### Milestones

- *September 2023*: Implementation on data.gouv.fr
- *2024*: Platform goes live, governance framework defined



**MINISTÈRE  
CHARGÉ DU RENOUVEAU  
DÉMOCRATIQUE,  
PORTE-PAROLAT  
DU GOUVERNEMENT**

*Liberté  
Égalité  
Fraternité*



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