Open Government Partnership April, May 2022 Workshops		
Ideas into Commitments Questions		
Group Name: :	**Questions to aid discussion of potential commitments**	**Write here**
Proposal Description *Describe the issue / problem to solve and the change or outcomes intended to be achieved*	• What problem/challenge does the proposal try to solve? • What opportunities does the proposal create? • How does the proposal advance open government objectives?	
Te Tiriti *Consider the possible Treaty implications*	• What are the Treaty/Māori interests?[1] • Will the proposal enhance Māori wellbeing or build Māori capability or capacity?	
The Stakeholders *Describe the stakeholders*	• Who/which organisations, agencies, entities and communities have an interest in the work and/or will be affected by the proposal?	
Benefits and beneficiaries *Describe the benefits and beneficiaries of the proposal*	• Are the benefits significant, sustainable, equitable and accessible? • Are the benefits readily visible to the public and to Ministers? • How will the benefits improve New Zealanders' wellbeing?	
Implementation *Describe who will implement the proposal and how it aligns with the entity's function*	• Who is willing and able to implement, or support, the proposal -are resources/ funds available? • Does a government entity have a mandate to do this work? • What will implementation look like?	
Measures *Describe the measures and why they are robust*	• What are the measures of progress? • Can we identify and apply clear and meaningful measures of progress and success?	
Classification *Describe the classification*	• How would we classify the proposal in terms of size, stretch and impact? • Is the work foundational, strategic or builds on past commitments?	

Updated Criteria/full Questions for Ideas into Commitments

	Questions to aid initial workshop discussion	Post-workshop enquiry for development/refinement	Technical/independent reviewer check points
Proposal Description *Describe the issue or the problem the proposal is trying to solve and the elements of the proposal.* *What change or outcomes are we trying to achieve*	• What problem or challenge does the proposal try solve? • What opportunities does the proposal create? • Does the proposal advance open government objectives ie create greater transparency, increase civic participation and/ or use of new technologies to make government more open, effective, and accountable and to what extent?	• What do we know about the surrounding circumstances ie the economic, social, technical, cultural and other forces causing or perpetuating the problem? • How transformative is the proposal? How significant and enduring are the impacts likely to be for New Zealand and New Zealanders? eg would the proposal involve a major reform or change of practice by government? • How does the proposal differ from previous efforts to address the issue? - are we taking a strengths-based approach to the issue/problem? • How does the proposal demonstrate that we have looked at the issue from the perspective of legal values such as natural justice, due process, fairness and equity? • Are there certain conditions or requirements that must be met, or obstacles navigated, in order for the proposal to be successful? • What are risks, issues and/or opportunities associated with the proposal and its implementation – could there be any unexpected or negative outcomes? • Is the timing right for proceeding now?	• Commitments have clarity, ambition and strong design. • Data and evidence confirms that the issue is real and that it is within the government's mandate to address the issue. • The proposal clearly articulates the challenge/the problem and applies sound analytical skills in defining the problem and correctly identifying the root causes. • Outcomes are clearly defined and there is a clear connection between output and outcomes. • High quality intervention logic is used. • Consideration has been given to the right evaluation mechanisms for the particular proposal at the proposal formulation and design stage. • A good commitment design is one that clearly describes the: 1. Problem: Describe the economic, social, political, or environmental problem rather than describing an administrative issue or tool (e.g., 'misallocation of welfare funds' is more helpful than 'lacking a website'). 2. Status quo: What is the status quo of the policy issue at the beginning of an action plan (e.g., "26% of judicial corruption complaints are not processed currently") 3. Change: Rather than stating intermediary outputs, what is the targeted behavior change that is expected from the commitment's implementation? E.g., "doubling response rates to information requests" is a stronger goal than "publishing a protocol for response." • To be a "starred" commitment, the commitment's design should be verifiable, relevant to OGP values, and have transformative potential impact as assessed in the design report. The commitment's implementation must be assessed by IRM implementation report as substantial or complete.

Te Tiriti	• What are the Treaty/Māori interests in the issue?[2]
	• Does the proposal:
	  ○ enhance Māori wellbeing?
	  ○ build Māori capability or capacity?
		• Have Māori had a role in design? If so, who? If not, should they?
		• Does the proposal allow for the Māori exercise of rangatiratanga while recognising the right of the Crown to govern? Can/should the proposal, or parts of it, be led by Māori? What options/mechanisms are available to enable rangatiratanga?
		• Is there any aspect of this issue that Māori consider to be a taonga? if so, what effect does that have on the proposal?
		• Are there any unintended impacts on Māori?	

The Stakeholders	• Who/which organisations, agencies, entities and communities have an interest in the work and/or will be affected by the proposal?		

Benefits and beneficiaries of proposal	• Are the benefits significant, sustainable, equitable and accessible?
	• Are the benefits readily visible to the public and to Ministers?
	• How will the benefits improve New Zealanders' wellbeing?
		• Do the benefits include greater public engagement through applying the TPK framework?
		• How equitable and accessible are the benefits?
		   o Will the proposal affect different ethnic groups differently?
		   o Will the proposal affect different Māori groups differently?
		• Who will be the (greatest) beneficiaries of the process and the outcomes?
		• Would the public and Ministers recognise the priority of the beneficiaries' needs and the importance of meeting those needs.?	

Implementation and its results	• Who is willing and able to implement, or support, the proposal -are resources/ funds available?
	• Does a government entity have a mandate to do this work?
	• What will implementation look like?
		• Is there is a responsible person/s in a responsible agency/entity who has the necessary funds/resources available, to lead, plan, implement, monitor and report back on the proposed commitment?
		• If funding is required outside agency baselines, can a budget bid be made?
		• What are the barriers to implementation?
		   o Are there similar initiatives being implemented in/ outside govt/NZ that we can learn from?
		   o Can we anticipate challenges through, for example, strategic foresight, horizon scanning and discussion about alternative options, including with civil society?
		• Which civil society or other parties can we collaborate with in implementing the commitment? - what are the incentives for other entities to support the proposal?
		• What kind of governance arrangements would work well for implementation?
		• Can we incorporate reflective practice /learn by doing – reflect and adapt, as work progresses?
			• The commitment is fully implemented within the NAP term
			• The political, economic, social and environmental benefits outweigh the costs of implementation
			• The implementation work is sufficiently resourced and supported by government
			• There will be evidence that government practice, in areas relevant to OGP values, has changed as a result of the commitment's implementation

Measures	• What are the measures for progress in implementation?
	• Can we articulate clear and meaningful measures of the results of implementation?
		• Are the progress measures SMART and fit for purpose?
		• Do we have control over the progress measures ie not dependent on an actor or event outside our control?
		• Are the results of implementation of the commitment able to be objectively verified, are they clearly relevant to OGP areas, can the potential impact be assessed and has the implementation been completed?
		• Do the results of implementing the commitment "open up government" in any areas relevant to OGP values within the term of NAP implementation?
			• the right evaluation mechanisms are used for the particular proposal
			• The IRM can positively assess the key indicators of:
			   o **Verifiability**: ie As written in the commitment, the objectives stated and actions proposed have sufficient clarity and specificity for their completion to be objectively verified through a subsequent assessment process
			   o **Relevance**: Based on a close reading of the commitment text, the guiding questions to determine the relevance are:

		• *Consider potential measures and proxies – eg the Living Standards Framework -*	▪ Access to information: Will the government disclose more information or improve the quality of the information disclosed to the public? ▪ Civic participation: Will the government create or improve opportunities or capabilities for the public to inform or influence decisions or policies? ▪ Public accountability: Will the government create or improve public facing opportunities to hold officials answerable for their actions? o **Potential impact** of the commitment, if completed as written, assessed on the basis of. the text from the action plan to: ▪ Identify the social, economic, political, or environmental problem; ▪ Establish the status quo at the outset of the action plan; and ▪ Assess the degree to which the commitment, if implemented, would impact performance and tackle the problem. o **Completion** assesses the commitment's implementation and progress at the end of the action plan cycle. o **Did It Open Government**?: attempts to move beyond measuring outputs and deliverables to looking at how government practice, in areas relevant to OGP values, has changed as a result of the commitment's implementation.
Classification	• How would we classify the proposal in terms of size, stretch and impact? • Is the work foundational, strategic, transformative and/or builds on past commitments?	• Does the proposal create transformative, innovative commitments? • Does the proposal build on or progress the work of past commitments?	