Summary of France’s 2021-2023 National Action Plan

DECEMBER 2021

Open Government Partnership
Statement from President Macron
Open Government Partnership Global Summit, 15 December 2021

“The action of these companies, these organisations, these citizen initiatives has created a sort of augmented public service at the intersection of two sources of goodwill: from the government, whose core activity it is, and from our citizens, who have so much to contribute”.
Foreword by Amélie de Montchalin
Minister for Government Transformation and the Civil Service

Although we hardly needed reminding, the COVID-19 pandemic has emphasised the extent to which the values of open government, namely transparency, participation and cooperation, are vital for our democracy. Open health data has played a major part in bolstering confidence in the public authorities’ handling of the pandemic. I welcome the fact that it has also spurred a large number of civil society initiatives that have been instrumental in managing the crisis. Looking beyond the pandemic, there are other major challenges that government action must now be able to address, the most important being the green and digital transitions, and increasing trust in the democratic process; I am adamant that this can only be achieved with the close involvement of citizens.

Over the last four years, under President Macron’s leadership, the administration has been striving for more open, more inclusive and more participative government. France is now the European leader for open data. There have been significant innovations for greater citizen participation in government decision-making. These include the Great National Debate, the Citizens’ Climate Convention and, just recently, the Conference on the Future of Europe.

But we need to move even further forward, and it was with this in mind that I started work on France’s third Action Plan as part of the Open Government Partnership (OGP). The Plan was drawn up in conjunction with civil society and contains six major imperatives for the period 2021-2023. Firstly, three cross-cutting priorities: citizen participation, inclusion and government transparency. Next three topic-based priorities: the environment, the response to the COVID-19 pandemic and international affairs.

I am especially determined to heighten cooperation between the government and citizen-led initiatives serving the public interest in many areas of our fellow citizens’ daily lives such as inclusion, education and the environment. French citizens, in particular younger members of society, are increasingly looking to get involved with causes they care about. We need to harness this energy and support the emergence of these initiatives, which make a telling contribution to the public service. This is why I am setting up an accelerator for these projects (citoyens.transformation.gouv.fr).

I am relying on you to help us shape tomorrow’s public service together.
Contents

Introduction

Three cross-cutting objectives:

1. **Involve** citizens in drawing up public policies
   - Innovate in government action through citizen-led initiatives
   - Support citizen participation in all regions
   - Foster civic engagement by young people

2. **Bolster the transparency** of government action
   - Use data to further government action
   - Ensure transparent outcomes for government action

3. **Develop a more inclusive** digital society
   - Make it easier for people to access basic services
   - Improve digital inclusion across all regions

Three topic-based objectives:

4. **Speed up the green transition**
   - Engage citizens in developing environmental policy
   - Open up and collect more environmental data to improve public awareness

5. **Respond to the COVID-19 crisis**
   - Involve civil society in healthcare policy
   - Improve public information and transparency in healthcare
   - Ensure the transparency of France Relance initiatives for the economic recovery

6. **Promote open values across Europe and around the world**
   - Engage the public through the Conference on the Future of Europe
   - Expand the digital commons across Europe
   - Strengthen the values of transparency to promote the open government model

Acknowledgements

Appendices
Introduction

The Open Government Partnership (OGP) is an international initiative with members from 78 countries and 76 local governments which draw up two-year action plans to promote transparency, participation and collaboration with civil society. France joined the OGP in 2014.

By drawing on its two previous action plans published in 2015 and 2017, France has become a trailblazer for open government at international level, spearheading issues such as digital governance, open data and algorithms, and looking into new ways for civil servants, the tech community and citizens to cooperate.

During his speech at the OGP Leaders’ Summit on the fringes of the UN General Assembly in September 2020, President Macron reiterated France’s commitment to the OGP and explained the country’s goals for this Action Plan: “We have now to design a better version of democracy – more open, more inclusive, with citizens at the centre”.

In this respect, the commitments in the 2021–2023 Action Plan follow on from the two previous plans with significant focus on digital technology to promote transparency, participation and assessment of government action, while also examining fresh projects such as digital inclusion, the justice system, the regions and civic engagement, which are more aligned with citizens’ concerns. This new Action Plan is cross-cutting, with each commitment having interministerial scope. This means that commitments have been reduced to only six with an eye to improving clarity and ensuring better consistency.

The commitments were decided upon together with civil society. The broad scope of the consultation process is reflected by the fact that the 2021–2023 Action Plan involved new stakeholders which are vital for the process. These include the French Supreme Court of Appeal, the French Supreme Administrative Court, the French Data Protection Authority, the French Audiovisual Board and the French Digital Council. The opinions of citizens expressed during the consultations are being taken into account; the lists of grievances compiled during the Great National Debate will be made available within a tailored scientific environment following requests from civil society. The importance that was placed on citizen participation and engagement enabled more than 20 measures of direct relevance for citizens to be decided on. This involved consultations of citizens and setting up citizens’ workshops and committees.

The 2021–2023 Action Plan is also strongly influenced by current events, as it drew on the community of public interest innovators whose work has gained prominence during the COVID-19 pandemic. With its proactive open government data policy, the
government witnessed the appearance of initiatives from civil society stakeholders that contributed to management of the health crisis. The Action Plan recognises this new type of participation and, more importantly, provides support for it through the government’s introduction of an accelerator for citizens’ initiatives.

**Action plan drafting process**

Amélie de Montchalin, Minister for Government Transformation and the Civil Service, kick-started the co-development of the third Action Plan on 13 February 2021 with the aim of recasting the process by involving new players and new spheres of government action as part of discussions designed to be as collaborative as possible.

- In line with OGP standards, a special website was set up to centralise information and provide details of the action plan drafting process. The website hosted an open agenda allowing anyone to obtain information on the events being organised, a participatory blog for civil society to express its opinions and a form for contacting the open government team. These communication initiatives were supplemented by social media activity including video streams of events.
- As the 2021–2023 Action Plan was being drawn up, more than 15 virtual workshops were held under the impetus of either the government or civil society. These workshops involved a broad and expert community that addressed issues such as digital inclusion, legal decisions and citizen participation in the regions.
- Two Open d’État forums were held on 27 May and 17 June, hosting six and four workshops respectively for almost 100 participants, with COVID-19 measures in place. At each workshop, half the participants were government representatives and the other half came from civil society. These meetings allowed for close ties to be forged between researchers, journalists, activists and civil servants, and there were noteworthy discussions with Démocratie ouverte, Transparency International, Bayes Impact, the Center for Research and Interdisciplinarity, the Economic, Social and Environmental Council (CESE), Ma Dada, Open Law and Jogl. As participation in these forums was open-ended, the topics had been made public beforehand. Following the two events, the results of the work were posted online at https://gouvernement-ouvert.transformation.gouv.fr.
- In addition to involving civil society, throughout the action plan drafting process the government received input from twice-monthly webinars featuring high-level experts to disseminate open government culture. Almost 700 people took part in these six “open mics”.
- Lastly, a COVID hackathon with more than 250 participants was held on 23 and 24 April. A civil society initiative arranged with support from the Ministry for Government Transformation and the Civil Service and the Ministry for Health and

---

1 https://hackathon-covid.fr
Solidarity, it saw 15 projects presented. Over the two days, government mentors specialising in public health and digital technology (designers, data analysts, etc.) were available to answer participants’ questions. The Ministry for Health and Solidarity followed up on the projects and granted funding for the initiatives that emerged from the hackathon. These included a project called “Too Expected to Go” to prevent the loss of vaccine doses. This was the first time that a hackathon has led to the initiation of such a large project receiving government support at this level.

Details of the actions set out in this summary can be found on the National Action Plan monitoring page at modernisation.gouv.fr.
1. Involve citizens in drawing up public policies
Involve citizens in drawing up public policies

Issues
Surfing on momentum from the Great National Debate and the Citizens’ Climate Convention, the last four years have witnessed a determination to actively involve citizens in designing and steering public policies. With an eye to bolstering these practices, the purpose of this commitment is to build on the engineering and skills required for citizen participation in government. which will be supported by the Interministerial Centre for Citizen Participation. Similarly, the Territoires d’engagement programme will extend this momentum to the whole of France. In addition, awareness-raising in schools is planned to encourage the youngest citizens to become involved in civic life. Lastly, the increasing commitment of French citizens to citizen-led public interest initiatives, which has been vital during the COVID-19 pandemic, will be supported by a new accelerator for such initiatives (citoyens.transformation.gouv.fr).

Aims
➔ Innovate in government action through citizen-led initiatives
➔ Support citizen participation in all regions
➔ Foster civic engagement by young people

Lead institutions
Ministry for Government Transformation and the Civil Service
Ministry for Regional Cohesion and Relations with Local Authorities
Ministry reporting to the Prime Minister, with responsibility for Relations with Parliament and Citizen Participation
Ministry for Primary and Secondary Education, Youth Affairs and Sport
Ministry for Labour, Employment and Integration

Roadmap

Innovate in government action through citizen-led initiatives

Increase citizen participation within government by introducing a set of interministerial services for civil servants and decision makers. A platform compiling all the citizen participation actions initiated by government departments will be set up to
allow interested citizens to be kept informed, particularly about the way in which their suggestions are handled following a consultation.

**Implementation:**
Ministry reporting to the Prime Minister, with responsibility for Relations with Parliament and Citizen Participation
Interministerial Directorate for Government Transformation

Foster the emergence of citizen-led public interest initiatives using a new accelerator ([citoyens.transformation.gouv.fr](http://citoyens.transformation.gouv.fr)) to strengthen and boost cooperation between government departments and these initiatives. During the COVID-19 crisis, a large number of citizen-led projects have made a telling contribution to the public interest (digital services for contact tracing, local mutual aid networks, appointment-making resources, etc.), but this goes beyond the pandemic. For instance, there are many social and solidarity economy initiatives that supplement what is available from public services in numerous fields such as integration, inclusion, training and local development. A support system for these initiatives will be introduced to better coordinate the essential work they do with the work of government departments.

**Implementation:**
Ministry for Government Transformation and the Civil Service
Interministerial Directorate for Digital Technology
Interministerial Directorate for Government Transformation

Involve citizens and civil society to improve the public services of the justice system and to better understand its workings. Reviews of discussions between the Ministry of Justice and users will be stepped up through consultations with citizens as part of the *Etats généraux de la justice* conferences and the unveiling of an innovation lab.

**Implementation:**
Ministry of Justice

Draw on feedback from citizens to continually improve public services by mainstreaming the *Services Publics +* scheme, which lets French citizens share their experiences with public services using the *Je donne mon avis* (Give your opinion) tool or submit suggestions for streamlining or improvements.
Get citizens more involved in the work of the Government Audit Office in three ways: the right for citizens to request the inclusion of subjects in the Office’s work programme, a new audit component based on citizen contributions for assessing the quality of public service rendered, and the creation of a platform for collecting reports from citizen whistleblowers.

Establish resources for expanding the open government strategy in government departments to ensure permanent dialogue with civil society and citizens. A transparent and collaborative dashboard for monitoring the rollout of the Action Plan will be available.

Involve citizens in discussions on the system for recognition of prior learning and experience by setting up an online consultation supplemented by one or more surveys to test out the relevance of the planned solutions and conditions for implementation.

Over three years, provide support for local authorities that adopt a cooperation strategy with citizens. The Territoires d’engagement programme offers funding for training, change management and flagship cooperation projects that promote citizen participation in the region. The 2021–2024 goal is to have between 10 and 20 local authorities take part in the programme every year, and each authority could receive up to €100,000 per year for the three years.
Foster civic engagement by young people

Step up civic engagement by young people by giving them the opportunity to take part in civic life. “Universal” national service, civic service and the civic reserve enable a civic engagement pathway for all to be mapped out from the earliest age. As well as being venues for engagement, schools are also places for learning about citizenship with the introduction of éco-délégués (class representatives responsible for sustainable development issues), certification for institutions adopting a sustainable development approach, and a system for fighting bullying in schools.

Implementation:
Ministry for Primary and Secondary Education, Youth Affairs and Sport
Directorate for Youth Affairs, Popular Education and Non-Profit Organisations

Expand school-related citizen participation schemes throughout France and help citizens to monitor the action plans drawn up following the Grenelle de l’Éducation citizens’ consultation. Open government values will be disseminated to all primary and secondary education administrative departments via the 16 Academy Labs, design thinking workshops and hackathons.

Implementation:
Ministry for Primary and Secondary Education, Youth Affairs and Sport

Encourage all stakeholders to contribute to school-building projects by stating their expectations, wishes and ideas.

Implementation:
Ministry for Primary and Secondary Education, Youth Affairs and Sport

Together with volunteering local authorities, trial the setting up of service areas involving multiple stakeholders and covering education, training and youth affairs at upper and lower secondary schools. A call for expressions of interest with credits of €6m
will be launched as part of the “Promoting educational innovation country-wide” component of the Investments for the Future Programme.

**Implementation:**
Ministry for Primary and Secondary Education, Youth Affairs and Sport
2. Bolster the transparency of government action
Bolster the transparency of government action

Issues
Informing citizens about public policy strategy, opening government data and heightening the transparency of government results all help instil confidence in government action and the democratic process. Using the *baromètre des résultats de l’action publique* (government action results register), the government lets everyone follow the rollout of priority reforms, for each region and in total transparency. The idea is to encourage citizens to monitor public policies by, for instance, strengthening data policy.

Aims

➔ Use data to further government action
➔ Ensure transparent outcomes for government action

Lead institutions
Ministry for Primary and Secondary Education, Youth Affairs and Sport
Ministry for the Economy, Finance and the Recovery
Ministry of the Interior
Ministry for Regional Cohesion and Relations with Local Authorities
Ministry of Justice
Ministry for Higher Education, Research and Innovation
Ministry for Government Transformation and the Civil Service
French Supreme Court of Appeal
French Supreme Administrative Court
Government Audit Office
French Data Protection Authority
High Authority for Transparency in Public Life
Administrative Documents Access Commission

Roadmap

Use data to further government action

Make public procurement more transparent by regularly publishing around 40 pieces of procurement data compared to 23 at present. A national platform will be set
up to facilitate public access to data alongside the development of explanatory tools and the involvement of government buyers. Pilot projects will be conducted to trial data-driven procurement policy and monitoring of environmental and social impact data (e.g. Maximilien public interest group in the Greater Paris Region).

**Implementation:**
Ministry for the Economy, Finance and the Recovery
Brittany Region

**Foster the transparency of government action using research** and by tasking financing agencies with building and disseminating datasets regarding calls for projects and research and higher education institutions.

**Implementation:**
Ministry for Higher Education, Research and Innovation

**Support the availability of legal decisions** for case law data re-users. Events such as topic-based workshops, open data progress reviews and hackathons will be held to promote use of such data.

**Implementation:**
Ministry of Justice
French Supreme Court of Appeal
French Supreme Administrative Court

**Use open-source software and the digital commons to boost the appeal of the government as an employer for digital talent, support the opening of public source code with the code.gouv.fr platform and draw up an inventory of public algorithms.** “Blue Hat” workshops on government open-source software, which will be open to the general public and all civil servants, will be organised, highlighting these departments’ actions with regard to this kind of software. The code.gouv.fr platform will be set up to identify source codes published by government departments.

**Implementation:**
Ministry for Government Transformation and the Civil Service
Interministerial Directorate for Digital Technology
Step up discussions with civil society on personal data protection issues so as to help make this individual right a collective subject. Through this commitment, the French Data Protection Authority is looking to support and spur the creation and development of “data intermediaries” by bringing together civil society stakeholders, non-profit organisations, unions and associations of citizens. A series of brainstorming and collaboration workshops will be held up to the first half of 2022.

**Implementation:**
French Data Protection Authority

Facilitate access to administrative documents by training the people in charge of access to them (a role known as “PRADA” in French) and by expanding open data culture within government departments. The Administrative Documents Access Commission (CADA) will improve coordination of the PRADA network and training modules for civil servants will be introduced.

**Implementation:**
Ministry for Government Transformation and the Civil Service
Interministerial Directorate for Digital Technology
Administrative Documents Access Commission

Improve civil society’s access to local authorities’ public data. 90% of local authorities subject to open data obligations have not yet taken measures to make their data public. The National Agency for Regional Cohesion (ANCT) will help them set up open data procedures and decide how to publish their data.

**Implementation:**
Ministry for Regional Cohesion and Relations with Local Authorities
National Agency for Regional Cohesion

Improve digital resources and open data in primary and secondary education by drawing on an open data and open source action plan. Regular events will be held to facilitate working with raw open data. Open data correspondents will facilitate access to data and provide advice for civil servants.

**Implementation:**
Ministry for Primary and Secondary Education, Youth Affairs and Sport

**Heighten the opening, circulation and use of data in the research and innovation field** by setting up “Recherche Data Gouv”, a national research data platform. Data from the lists of grievances complied during the Great National Debate will be made available to researchers in compliance with the conditions for protecting the personal data they contain.

**Implementation:**
Ministry for Higher Education, Research and Innovation

**Encourage use of scientific expertise when drawing up public policies and increase government departments’ openness to research** by using the expertise of young researchers and the mobility of experienced researchers within these departments. The purpose of this commitment is also to drive departments to open their data and working practices to researchers in the spirit of transparency, accountability and continuous improvement.

**Implementation:**
Ministry for Government Transformation and the Civil Service
Ministry for Higher Education, Research and Innovation
Interministerial Directorate for Government Transformation

**Ensure transparent outcomes for government action**

**Open up more of the Government Audit Office’s work and disseminate it to our fellow citizens** with all work becoming available by 2025. The Office will hold feedback meetings with citizens to present its work, introduce a monitoring register for each of its divisions and adjust the way in which reports are produced to bring them into the public arena by, for instance, setting an eight-month audit timeline target and trialling a fast-track “flash audit” procedure.

**Implementation:**
Government Audit Office
Increase transparency surrounding lobbying to provide citizens with better information on how legislation is drafted. Every six months, an analysis of data declared by representatives of interests will be published. A consultation will be conducted to record the expectations of citizens and civil society in this respect. There will also be improved access to data in the repository of representatives of interests to facilitate its use, and a hackathon will be organised.

Implementation:
High Authority for Transparency in Public Life

Encourage the French public to monitor the results of government action by testing the co-creation of a baromètre des résultats de l’action publique (government action results register) with citizens. At the same time, a website feature will be introduced to allow people to contact the government, for example to submit a data access request, ask for more information about a result, make a comment or relate an experience. Lastly, the register’s open source code will make it part of the digital commons, so it can be used by other government departments.

Implementation:
Ministry for Government Transformation and the Civil Service
Interministerial Directorate for Government Transformation

Step up the Government Audit Office’s contribution to public policy assessment by quadrupling the resources earmarked for assessment within financial courts by 2025 and by extending assessment responsibilities to local government audit offices starting this year.

Implementation:
Government Audit Office

Forge ties between science and society by earmarking 1% of the National Research Agency’s budget for this purpose.

Implementation:
Ministry for Higher Education, Research and Innovation
National Research Agency
3. Develop a more inclusive digital society
Develop a more inclusive digital society

**Issues**
Finding information, making a doctor’s appointment, accessing public services, interacting with government departments: digital technology has become an essential part of how we participate in society as citizens. As such, it needs to be open and accessible to everyone. In 2019, 73% of French citizens reported having seen misinformation on social media, and 17% are affected by the digital divide. To address these issues, the government wants to promote the development of a more inclusive digital society.

**Aims**
- Make it easier for people to access basic services
- Improve digital inclusion across all regions

**Lead institutions**
- Ministry of the Interior
- French Supreme Administrative Court
- National Agency for Regional Cohesion
- French Audiovisual Board
- Government Communication and Information Department
- French Digital Council

**Roadmap**

**Make it easier for people to access basic services**

Make basic online administrative procedures accessible to people with disabilities, by making 80% of France’s 250 most frequently used procedures accessible by the end of 2022. Government departments will receive support for the transition from the France Relance recovery plan, among other sources.

**Implementation:**
Ministry for Government Transformation and the Civil Service
Maintain and update non-digital alternatives for basic administrative procedures, by making France Services local one-stop shops available across the country and offering free telephone contact services.

**Implementation:**
Ministry for Regional Cohesion and Relations with Local Authorities
Ministry for Government Transformation and the Civil Service

**Improve access to administrative courts** through the Télérecours citoyens system. Work to improve accessibility and user experience will be undertaken to ensure that people having to appear in court can more easily communicate and understand the steps in the proceedings throughout the course of their case. A user feedback forum will also be set up to help identify obstacles and find solutions.

**Implementation:**
French Supreme Administrative Court

**Create and launch the Government Design System** in collaboration with users. The system, co-developed with a broad community of users, helps create better quality government websites, with efficient, recognisable and user-friendly interfaces that follow digital accessibility guidelines. The tool was designed with the inclusion of disabled people in mind. The Government Design System aims to cover all official government websites.

**Implementation:**
Government Communication and Information Department

**Enhance digital inclusion in all regions**

**Support open public innovation across the country with innovation labs.** Funding and support mechanisms have been introduced to improve existing regional innovation labs and create new ones in regions currently without any. The goal of these labs is to develop shared projects between devolved central government departments, local and regional authorities, and users, in order to transcend administrative boundaries to produce better public services for French citizens. Citizen participation and government transparency are central to the concerns and the approach taken by these labs.
**Implementation:**
Ministry for Government Transformation and the Civil Service
Interministerial Directorate for Government Transformation

**Foster France-wide public debate on the role of digital technology in society.**
Beginning in the autumn of 2021, the French Digital Council is organising workshops open to the public across France to encourage debate, gather feedback and share the opinions of people from all backgrounds, not just those in tech. In each region in mainland France (and in overseas France, conditions permitting), the Council will hold a series of meetings and debates with local residents and digital ecosystems.

**Implementation:**
French Digital Council

**Make digital literacy support available countrywide** by hiring, training and deploying 4,000 digital advisors through France Services. Under the France Relance recovery plan, the government will also provide funding to design and roll out mobile setups to be used to offer digital literacy support services in local areas such as town halls, libraries, social centres, France Services one-stop shops, third places, etc. Additionally, the online public service Aidants Connect will be expanded to make the administrative procedures that caregivers (particularly social workers) perform on behalf of others secure.

**Implementation:**
Ministry for Government Transformation and the Civil Service
National Agency for Regional Cohesion
4. Speed up the green transition
Speed up the green transition

**Issues**
Increased citizen engagement with environmental issues is fundamentally changing the approach to developing environmental public policy, as evidenced by the 2020 Citizens’ Climate Convention, which was a democratic innovation led by the French government. The strategy for ensuring open environmental data will be strongly enhanced to give citizens the tools they need to get involved and to encourage consumption and behaviour changes in support of the green transition.

**Aims**
- Engage citizens in developing environmental policy
- Open up and collect more environmental data to improve public awareness

**Lead institutions**
- Ministry for the Ecological Transition
- Ministry for Maritime Affairs
- Electronic Communications, Postal and Print Media Distribution Regulatory Authority (ARCEP)

**Roadmap**

**Engage citizens in developing environmental policy**

Following on from the Citizens’ Climate Convention, citizens will be involved in the development phase of the future French Energy and Climate Strategy (SFEC), which includes the National Low-Carbon Strategy (SNBC), the National Plan for Adaptation to Climate Change (PNACC) and the Multiannual Energy Plan (PPE). A public consultation will involve citizens in every step of the project, from identifying major strategy issues in 2022 through to 2024.

**Implementation:**
- Ministry for the Ecological Transition
- Directorate General for Energy and Climate
Strengthen citizen engagement in France’s marine and coastal policy. Dialogue has been initiated with citizens via a public consultation on seafront strategy documents. There is also an opportunity for transparent monitoring of how seafront strategies are implemented by opening up 2022 data.

**Implementation:**
Ministry for Maritime Affairs

**Co-develop the third National Strategy for Biodiversity** for 2021–2030 in the very regions where local authorities and project sponsors are acting.

**Implementation:**
Ministry for the Ecological Transition
Directorate General for Planning, Housing and Nature

Develop the One Health Initiative to prevent and better treat illnesses and diseases associated with environmental contaminants. As part of an ongoing dialogue, as much information as possible will be made available on environmental impacts for health and the integrity of ecosystems, with a special focus on dissemination to the human and animal health spheres.

**Implementation:**
Ministry for the Ecological Transition
Office of the Commissioner General for Sustainable Development

Open up and collect more environmental data to improve public awareness

**Develop environmental labelling.** Continue to develop the methods, data and tools necessary to introduce environmental labelling. A trial will be conducted with the government’s digital services incubator with the objective of opening up and adding to the data needed to make environmental labelling on products clearer, so that citizens and companies can make changes to reduce their environmental footprint.

**Implementation:**
Ministry for the Ecological Transition
Office of the Commissioner General for Sustainable Development
Improve access to spatial planning information via the Géoportail de l’urbanisme, an online portal where spatial planning information is published. The objective is to make it easier for urban planners to access the data they need to speed up the pre-construction phase of projects.

**Implementation:**
Ministry for the Ecological Transition
Directorate General for Planning, Housing and Nature

Contribute to the development of a data-driven regulation to better understand the issues surrounding the environmental footprint of digital technology and improve publicly available information. The ARCEP will set up a register to better evaluate the environmental footprint of digital services, terminals and networks and encourage discussions about environmental data, in support of civil society initiatives.

**Implementation:**
Electronic Communications, Postal and Print Media Distribution Regulatory Authority (ARCEP)
5. Respond to the COVID-19 crisis
Respond to the COVID-19 crisis

Issues
The pandemic response has highlighted the many valuable collaborative partnerships between government and civil society. This commitment aims to keep these synergies going and strengthen collaborative initiatives between citizens, healthcare stakeholders and innovators, by releasing open data and educating the public about health issues, among other initiatives. This engagement also aims to ensure that data on the pandemic response remains transparent, particularly as concerns the France Relance recovery plan.

Aims
➔ Involve civil society in healthcare policy
➔ Improve public information and transparency in healthcare
➔ Ensure the transparency of France Relance initiatives for the economic recovery

Lead institutions
Ministry for Primary and Secondary Education, Youth Affairs and Sport
Ministry for the Economy, Finance and the Recovery
Ministry of the Interior
Ministry for Solidarity and Health
Ministry for Higher Education, Research and Innovation

Roadmap

Involve civil society in healthcare policy

Make it easier for health tech entrepreneurs to access public services. To encourage healthcare innovation, the Ministry for Solidarity and Health will launch G_NIUS, a national portal for e-health innovation targeting entrepreneurs.

Implementation:
Ministry for Solidarity and Health
Ministerial eHealth Delegation
Ensure long-term citizen participation on e-health issues by setting up an open committee including citizens and representatives from patient associations. The committee will meet annually to produce opinions and recommendations on issues relating to the expansion of technology in the healthcare sector.

**Implementation:**
Ministry for Solidarity and Health
Ministerial eHealth Delegation

Promote cooperation between citizens interested in e-health issues and civil servants via an ambassador programme, which recruits volunteers willing to help digitally excluded individuals learn to use e-health services, namely Mon Espace Santé (an online public service providing an account for managing personal health records). Once trained, ambassadors will contribute to increased use of Mon Espace Santé and help users gain digital literacy in areas such as data security and confidentiality of their healthcare information.

**Implementation:**
Ministry for Solidarity and Health
Ministerial eHealth Delegation

Launch a citizen feedback initiative on healthcare data management issues, taking various forms such as surveys, interviews, focus groups and consultation workshops. Results will be routinely made public, for example on the Health Data Hub website.

**Implementation:**
Ministry for Solidarity and Health
Health Data Hub

Ensure a carefully selected and high-quality offering of e-health services for the general public. In January 2022, the Mon Espace Santé portal will be launched, offering a range of online services for the general public. Services chosen for inclusion are subject to specific and strict criteria: ethics, closing the digital divide, protection of personal information, technical standards (interoperability), security requirements.
Implementation:
Ministry for Solidarity and Health
Ministerial eHealth Delegation

Promote and expand open data in healthcare through “data challenges” in partnership with medical stakeholders. Data challenges are competitions, open to the public, where participants try to solve problems in the medical field through data analysis. At the end of the competition, prizes are awarded to the best projects, offering an incentive to motivate people working on solving healthcare issues. Among other benefits, these innovative events encourage cross-disciplinary collaborations between AI and medicine.

Implementation:
Ministry for Solidarity and Health
Ministerial eHealth Delegation
Health Data Hub

Promote awareness of public health and environmental issues in schools and universities, for example by publishing open data relating to pandemic management (number of closed schools/classes, number of confirmed COVID cases, number of tests conducted). Information will also be published on staff working on public health issues, with details such as the number of healthcare positions covered at département, academic and regional levels. All educational institutions will also have a committee for education on health, citizenship and the environment (CESCE).

Implementation:
Ministry for Primary and Secondary Education, Youth Affairs and Sport

Improve public information and transparency in healthcare

Improve public understanding of healthcare data. The Health Data Hub will provide educational resources to help people learn more about healthcare data issues. A collaborative strategy involving civil society will be used to reach 150,000 people in one year.
Implementation:
Ministry for Solidarity and Health
Health Data Hub

Expand the practice of using open source code in the healthcare sector and promote open science in health. The objective is to democratise access to knowledge and increase the number of contributors and users of open documentation associated with the national system of healthcare data.

Implementation:
Ministry for Solidarity and Health
Ministry for Higher Education, Research and Innovation
Health Data Hub

Use the “FR-Alert” system to reach the general public in crisis situations. The system involves partnering with telecom operators to send warnings and messages from government authorities to people in at-risk locations (natural disasters, technical incidents, public safety incidents, etc.).

Implementation:
Ministry of the Interior

Ensure the transparency of France Relance initiatives for the economic recovery

Increase the transparency of the recovery plan’s crisis response initiatives, by publishing data on its implementation and taking action to promote public access to data. This will result in the development of a national platform showing the progress made on implementation of the recovery plan, region by region. This commitment also aims to encourage data reuse, via dedicated events with the open data community in France.

Implementation:
Ministry for the Economy, Finance and the Recovery
6. Promote open values across Europe and around the world
Promote open values across Europe and around the world

**Issues**
With the Conference on the Future of Europe, an initiative advocated by President Macron since 2019, European citizens have been asked to participate and share their thoughts on the future of the European Union for the first time. The French government is also taking action to promote open diplomacy, based on increased transparency. And with its international influence, France aims to help spread the culture of open government throughout the world.

**Aims**
- Engage the public through the Conference on the Future of Europe
- Expand the digital commons across Europe
- Strengthen the values of transparency to promote the open government model

**Lead institutions**
- Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs
- Ministry for the Economy, Finance and the Recovery
- Ministry for Higher Education, Research and Innovation
- Agence française de développement (AFD)

**Roadmap**
Engage the public through the Conference on the Future of Europe

Produce France’s contribution to the Conference on the Future of Europe by fostering public engagement through citizen forums held in 18 regions across France. These forums centred around a single question: “As a French citizen, what changes would you like to see for Europe?” A nationwide summary of the results, followed by a conference hosted by the Economic, Social and Environmental Council, will be turned into a report to the French President, constituting France’s contribution to the Conference on the Future of Europe. During France’s Presidency of the Council of the
European Union, a citizen committee will monitor implementation. The completion of work at European level for the Conference on the Future of Europe, with a final report due in March 2022, will be a highlight of the French Presidency.

Implementation:
Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs

Expand the digital commons across Europe

Lead a European policy of support for the digital commons during France’s Presidency of the Council of the European Union.

Implementation:
Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs
Ambassador for Digital Affairs
Ministry for Higher Education, Research and Innovation

Develop a free and open tool to monitor changes to the terms of use of major online service providers and publish them in a transparent manner. This collaborative tool will help regulators, lawmakers and civil society keep tabs on how such terms of use evolve.

Implementation:
Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs
Ambassador for Digital Affairs

Promote a model of diplomacy that serves transparency

Expand and build on the open data policy of French diplomacy, including map data, Christchurch Call data and foreign data concerning French citizens, while also supporting the creation of data re-user communities.

Implementation:
Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs
Set up an open database of information on France’s bilateral and multilateral official development assistance, in accordance with the planning act on solidarity development and the fight against global inequality of 4 August 2021.

Implementation:
Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs
Ministry for the Economy, Finance and the Recovery

Support citizen participation via improved access to information in Africa by renewing France’s technical and financial support for the Projet d’Appui aux Gouvernements Ouverts dans les pays en développement Francophones (PAGOF, project to support open governments in French-speaking developing countries) to support the implementation of open government reforms in Tunisia, Burkina Faso, Senegal and Côte d’Ivoire. This will help spread the values of open government in participating countries in French-speaking Africa.

Implementation:
Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs
Agence française de développement
Acknowledgements

Electronic Communications, Postal and Print Media Distribution Regulatory Authority • Bayes Impact • Administrative Documents Access Commission • French Data Protection Authority • French Digital Council • French Supreme Administrative Court • Center for Research and Interdisciplinarity • French Audiovisual Board • French Supreme Court of Appeal • Government Audit Office • Covidliste • Covid Tracker • Red Cross • Décider Ensemble • Démocratie ouverte • Fabrique des santés • France Asso Santé • France Stratégie • French Impact • High Authority for Transparency in Public Life (HATVP) • Health Data Hub • Just One Giant Lab • Liberté Living Lab • Madada • Make Sense • MedNum • Mouvement Associatif • Open Law • Open Source Politics • OuiShare • Ouvre-boîte • Transparency International • Wikimédia France • 27ᵉ Région.
Appendices
Appendix 1: Participant’s booklet for Open d’Etat forum #1, “Transparency in Public Life” 
(27 May 2021 at the Government Audit Office)

What is a commitment?

In the upcoming Action Plan, the distinction will be made between commitments (small in number, highly emblematic and having a strong potential to effect change), actions (stemming from the commitments) and initiatives (more numerous, more targeted and less broad in scope; they will reflect the government’s general commitment to the principles of open government).

Here are some criteria to help identify a potential future commitment:

- It will result in a public policy
- It is ambitious and represents a potential area of influence for France
- It exemplifies the values of open government: transparency, openness, participation, collaboration
- It is innovative, with the promise for action and as yet non-existent tools
- It concerns the priority of one or more Ministries
- It has a high-level political champion in a Minister, the Prime Minister or the President
- It is being designed and led in collaboration with one or more civil society organisations
- Its scope is long-term, extending until at least 2024
- Its results are measurable, through both external assessment and self-assessment

Moving forward, projects that do not involve collaborations with one or more civil society organisations will not be included in the Action Plan.

What does “open government” mean?

The aim of open government is to open up the machinery of government to the public. It puts back the curtain on how public policy is designed, implemented and reviewed, by inviting the public to imagine a government that operates transparently, responsibly and collaboratively for the benefit of everyone it serves.

The principle of open government is in line with the invitation’s call to undertake ambitious reforms on priority social issues. The open government movement is based on a virtuous circle where civil society is involved in designing, implementing and reviewing concrete commitments, which support the actions of those responsible for reform within government. The goal: to realise more ambitious reforms that meet the needs of citizens.

There are several forms this might take: publishing a dataset, introducing innovative ways to consult with civil society, working with users to design a new government policy or public service, or providing transparency on a programme as major and central as the recovery plan. It concerns all areas of government action.

Since joining the Open Government Partnership in 2014, France has published two action plans. The 2021–2023 Action Plan is being coordinated by the Ministry for Government Transformation and the Civil Service.


Schedule

1.45pm
Comité d’honneur, Government Audit Office
Opening remarks by the Auditor General, Pierre Moscovici

2pm
Break off into workshop rooms

4pm to 5.15pm
Assemble in the main hall with special guests
Speech by the Minister for Government Transformation and the Civil Service

Note: As a COVID-19 safety precaution, only one representative per workshop will be permitted in the main hall. The event will be livestreamed and played in each workshop room.
Workshop 1
How to show the impact of lobbying on legislation
Led by: High Authority for Transparency in Public Life (HATVP)

**Context**
The mission of the HATVP is to promote transparency in public life. One of the ways in which it does so is by publishing the declarations that are filed with it and the registry of interest representatives. For its third time participating in an open government project, with the aim of getting the public involved in its work, the HATVP is initiating a conversation about legislative footprints with Transparency France.

**Pre-workshop reading**
- The HATVP’s open government initiatives: [link]
- Transparency International’s appeal for transparency in lobbying: [link]
- Pre-report by MP Sylvain Waserman, “Pour un lobbying plus transparent et reportable”: [link]

Workshop 2
How to open up the assessment of government action to the public
Led by: Interministerial Directorate for Government Transformation (DITP)

**Context**
The Baromètre des résultats de l’action publique/government action results registry, launched in January 2021, provides an indicator of the progress made and the results achieved on the government’s top 25 priority policies. The question is: How to get citizens more involved in ensuring the transparency of results of government action?

**Pre-workshop reading**
- Baromètre des résultats de l’action publique: [link]
- Analysis of a participatory assessment exercise by France Stratégie: [link]

Organisations represented:
- Décider ensemble, MERENCE, France Stratégie, Commando UX de la Dimation

Workshop 3
How to improve transparency in public procurement
Led by: Ministry for the Economy, Finance and the Recovery

**Context**
Under the Public Procurement Code, only essential information on the awarding of contracts is required to be open. However, the 2016 Digital Republic Act requires government bodies to open up more data. What should be opened up next? How should we go about introducing more transparency in public procurement?

**Pre-workshop reading**
- Interface for navigating public procurement data (SECP), [link]
- DECP dashboard, [link]
- CILBIRS (environnement, mobilité, transports) and Territorial BCP dashboard, [link]
- Whitepaper, "L’info, la commande publique ouverte": [link]
- Open contracting data standard (OCDS): [link]

Workshop 4
How to get citizens involved in the work of the Government Audit Office
Led by: Government Audit Office

**Context**
As part of the judicialities financières 2025 strategic reform proposal proposed in June 2020, this year the Government Audit Office and local government offices wanted to begin getting citizens more involved in what they do. This workshop will focus on the project of setting up forums to present the reports and assessments of the financial courts to those most directly concerned, in an open and participatory format.

**Pre-workshop reading**
- Strategic reform proposal, [link]
- Interview with the Auditor General, Pierre Moscovici: [link]

Workshop 5
How to improve public access to public data
Led by: Ministry for Government Transformation and the Civil Service and CADA

**Context**
With the arrival of the Digital Republic Act, government departments are required to make their data public, under certain conditions. Through a discussion between civil society and institutional stakeholders, particularly concerning the difficulties associated with opening up public data, this workshop will explore what can be done to ensure better transparency and to further the open data movement.

**Pre-workshop reading**
- Report by MP Eric Bothorel to the Prime Minister on data policy: [link]
- CADA, open data guide: [link]
- Article by Alexandre Lechenet, “Comment accéder à des informations publiques en France”: [link]
- Wiki of non-profit Ouvre-Bôlle: [link]

Workshop 6
How to facilitate the publication of court rulings
Led by: Ministry of Justice, French Supreme Court of Appeal and French Supreme Administrative Court

**Context**
The 2016 Digital Republic Act introduced the principle of open data in the publication of court rulings.

- The French Supreme Court of Appeal and the French Supreme Administrative Court were chosen to implement the principle for their respective courts.

As a user of these rulings, civil society should be involved in the process.

**Pre-workshop reading**
- Order of 29 April 2021 on the publication of rulings by judicial and administrative courts, including an implementation schedule: [link]
- Cadet report to the Minister of Justice from November 2017: [link]
Appendix 2: Participant’s booklet for Open d’Etat forum #2, “Crisis and Cooperation”
(17 June 2021 at the Lieu de la Transformation publique)

What is a commitment?

In the upcoming Action Plan, the distinction will be made between commitments (small in number, highly emblematic, and having a strong potential to effect change), actions (stemming from the commitments and initiatives (more numerous, more targeted and less broad in scope: they will reflect the government’s general commitment to the principles of open government).

Here are some criteria to help identify a potential future commitment:
- It will result in a public policy
- It is ambitious and represents a potential area of influence for France
- It exemplifies the values of open government: transparency, openness, participation, collaboration
- It is innovative, with the promise for action and as yet non-existent tools
- It concerns the viewpoint of one or more Ministries
- It has a high-level political champion in a Minister, the Prime Minister or the President
- It is being designed and led in collaboration with one or more civil society organisations
- Its scope is long-term, extending until at least 2024
- Its results are measurable, though both external assessment and self-assessment

Moving forward, projects that do not involve collaborations with one or more civil society organisations will not be included in the action plan.

What does a commitment look like?

Here is an example of a commitment from the previous action plan:

**Objective:**
Constitue un écosystème de la science ouverte à

**Actions:**
- Develop and implement a national strategy for open science with a focus on open access to research publications, ensuring that by 2026 all research publications are openly accessible.
- Establish a national agency for open science to coordinate and monitor implementation of the strategy.
- Develop and implement a national strategy for open science data, ensuring that by 2026 all scientific data are openly accessible.
- Develop and implement a national strategy for open source software, ensuring that by 2026 all open source software is openly accessible.

What does "open government" mean?

The aim of open government is to open up the machinery of government to the public. It pulls back the curtain on how public policy is designed, implemented and reviewed, by inviting the public to imagine a government that operates transparently, responsibly and collaboratively for the benefit of everyone it serves.

The principle of open government is in line with the inveslav's set to undertake ambitious reforms on priority social issues. The open government movement is based on a virtuous circle where civil society is involved in designing, implementing and reviewing concrete commitments which support the actions of those responsible for reform within government. The goal: To realise more ambitious reforms that meet the needs of citizens.

There are several forms this might take: publishing a database, introducing innovative ways to consult with civil society, working with users to design a new government policy or public service, or providing transparency on a programme as major and central as the recovery plan. It concerns all areas of government action.

Since joining the Open Government Partnership in 2014, France has published two action plans. The 2021–2023 Action Plan is being coordinated by the Ministry for Government Transformation and the Civil Service.

**Workshop 1: How to support continued collaboration post-crisis between government and healthcare innovators**

**Context**

The pandemic has revealed an ecosystem of citizens, healthcare professionals, and civil society stakeholders capable of producing simple and accessible innovations.

The most prominent of these innovations were all made possible thanks to government cooperation: access to public data, interactions with public officials, etc. As it stands, this ecosystem does not have a formal structure or leadership.

How can we make sure this kind of collaboration continues? How can we make resources available to make more innovation possible?

**Pre-workshop reading**

- Website and projects to come out of the COVID Hackathon, a civil society initiative supported by the Interministerial Directorate for Public Transformation (DITP): [https://hackathon-covid.fr](https://hackathon-covid.fr)

**Workshop 2: What lessons to learn from the crisis and how to increase citizen involvement in participatory management in healthcare**

**Context**

With the pandemic, there has been increased interest from the public in getting involved in participatory management in healthcare.

A number of initiatives were introduced during the pandemic: (citizen vaccination committee, etc.), but there is not much diversity in permanent management structures.

What types of voices should be represented in these structures? What is the right balance between expertise and participative democracy? How can we make decision-making more accessible and transparent?

**Pre-workshop reading**

- A group of 35 randomly selected citizens to follow the vaccination campaign: [www.lescas.f/recontent/collectifs-citoyen/vaccination-programme-de-la-saison-2](https://www.lescas.f/recontent/collectifs-citoyen/vaccination-programme-de-la-saison-2)
- CNS appeal for democracy in healthcare: [https://www.assosante](https://www.assosante)
- Health Information Public Service: strategies and measures for combating misinformation and "fake news": [https://jkl.fr/article/5](https://jkl.fr/article/5)

**Workshop 3: How to empower and finance civic innovators to encourage innovative experiments and collaborations**

**Context**

The collaboration seen between government and civil society during the pandemic represents just a fraction of the tremendous potential of civic innovation to come out of government and citizen cooperation.

How can we ensure a model for collaboration that will foster civic innovation and citizen engagement? What kind of support can the State provide to the civic tech community: certification, financial resources, public data? In what form and under what conditions could a "citizen-led public service" exist? In what ways could citizens become involved?

**Pre-workshop reading**

- Essay by Paul Duan, "Le service public de demain sera un citoyen": [www.legazettesdescommunes.com/servicedepublicdevenirun/citoyen](http://www.legazettesdescommunes.com/servicedepublicdevenirun/citoyen)
- Paris volunteer community: [www.paris.fr/pages/volontaires-de-paris-engage-vous-592](http://www.paris.fr/pages/volontaires-de-paris-engage-vous-592)

**Workshop 4: How to structure dialogue between government and civil society to ensure transparent and collaborative implementation of the action plan**

**Context**

Open government is a model for interaction between civil society, citizens and government. It works according to a cycle: develop an action plan, execute the plan, review the plan.

How can we guarantee openness and transparency throughout the entire cycle? What conditions are needed for commitments to be implemented transparently and collaboratively? What format can we imagine for dialogue between civil society and government without replacing existing structures? How can the culture of open government be expanded to encourage public officials and government to embrace it?

**Pre-workshop reading**

- OGP recommendations: [www.openpartnership.org/fr/conditions-for-a-secure-and-open-citizen-space](https://www.openpartnership.org/fr/conditions-for-a-secure-and-open-citizen-space)
This report was produced by the Interministerial Directorate for Government Transformation
www.modernisation.gouv.fr
gouvernement-ouvert.ditp@modernisation.gouv.fr

December 2021