

From: Cameron Shorter [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, 9 December 2018 8:50 AM
To: OGP
Subject: Re: Comment on Australia's End of Term Self-Assessment Draft Report

I replied on the website (twice), but I haven't seen my respond acknowledged, or seen my response appear on the website. (I'm assuming it is moderated).

Could you please check the formatting of the lists came out ok. I've copied text below:

--

It is great that Australia is working through OGP goals, but I wish you'd acknowledge the difficulties in achieving the goals so that we can focus on real solutions. I'll pick on just one report item:

- * OGP Commitment 5.2: Enhance public participation in government decision making.
- * OGP Assessed Progress: Substantial.
- * My Assessment: Tick the box participation has been achieved, but effective public participation is hard and there is more to be done.

Along with a number of technologist and open source community members, we responded to the OGP's last call for comment with a detailed set of practical recommendations [1]? We are yet to hear if our report was understood, or considered. To be fair, our recommendations are detailed, are contrary to current government practices, and would be difficult to investigate and address. But the potential to become as effective as open communities is huge and worth investigating.

Before claiming "substantial progress" in public participation, please assign someone with sufficient technical capability to understand our report, and sufficient mandate to initiate improvements.

Reiterating our prior recommendations [1]:

- * Acknowledge that the indicators for success are more than just "value for money" and "mitigation of risk".
- * Measure and prioritise:
 - * "Effectiveness of collaboration",
 - * "Sustainability in the face of rapid innovation", and
 - * "Resilience to monopolistic behaviours".
- * Develop an "Open Government Maturity Model" which describes open government goals and the processes required to achieve them.
- * Measure effectiveness at realising open government goals.
- * Arm decision makers with accessible, evidence based research into what works, so they can trust, select and defend collaborative strategies which are often counter-intuitive within traditional hierarchically managed organisations.
- * Use, extend, or create open technologies, in that order:
 1. Use existing open material if it exists;
 2. Otherwise extend and give back;
 3. As a last resort, create your own system.
- * Embrace modular architectures backed by open standards.
- * Prioritise initiatives which can attract and sustain participation from multiple contributors and organisations.
- * Promote collaboration between all levels of government, and between nations.
- * Invest in the communities of the projects you depend upon. Ensure there is funding to maintain a core team. Reduce barriers to entry in order to attract a wide contributor base. Develop indicators for reporting

on the success of these investment strategies.

* Consider strategies to flatten government’s spending cycles, especially for community based projects.

* Prioritise agile, iterative development methodologies over “big bang”, “whole of government” purchases.

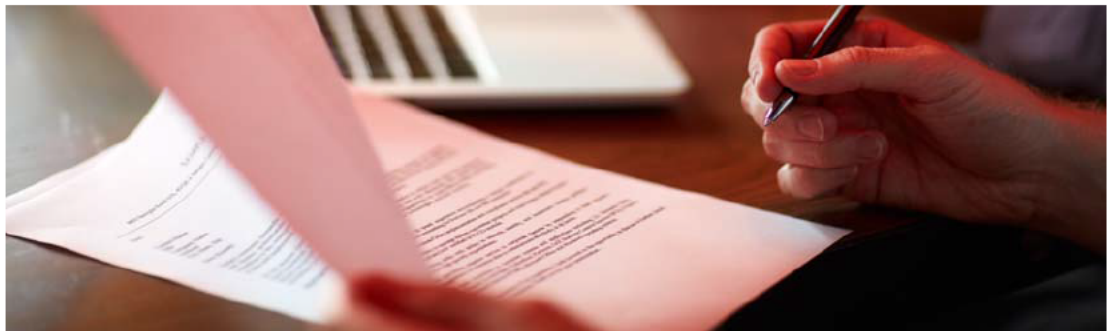
[1] <http://cameronshorter.blogspot.com/2018/03/what-could-open-government-learn-from.html>

On 5/12/18 5:49 pm, Open Government Partnership Australia wrote:

[View this email in your browser](#)



Have your say by Monday 17 December: Australia's draft End of Term Self- Assessment Report



Australia’s first draft [End of Term Self-Assessment Report](#) reflects on the progress made in implementing the commitments contained in the National Action Plan 2016-18.

Australia has taken great strides to improve transparency, accountability and

public engagement over the course of this National Action Plan cycle, with the majority of the Plan's commitments either on track or now completed.

Australia's first National Action Plan has been successful in setting up Australia for ongoing engagement with the Open Government Partnership and the next National Action Plan 2018-20.

The draft Report is now open for a two-week public consultation period, closing on Monday 17 December 2018.

If you would like to provide feedback on the draft Report, please leave a comment on the [OGP website](#) or send your comments through to: OGP@pmc.gov.au.

Copyright © 2018 The Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, All rights reserved.

You are receiving this email because we thought you would be interested in the Open Government Partnership or you opted in at the OGP Australia website at <http://ogpau.pmc.gov.au/>. You can unsubscribe at any time using the link at the bottom of this email.

Our mailing address is:

The Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet
1 National Circuit
Barton, ACT 2600
Australia

[Add us to your address book](#)

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).



--

Cameron Shorter
Technology Demystifier
Open Technologies and Geospatial Consultant

