



Report Title:	Report - Release of OGP IRM Draft Results Report on New Zealand's Fourth Action Plan for Public Consultation		
Report No:	MoSR 2025-0576		
Date:	25 June 2025		
To:	Hon Judith Collins KC, Minister for the Public Service		
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Encl:	Appendix 1: Draft IRM Results Report	Priority:	Low
Security Level:	UNCLASSIFIED		

Purpose of Report

1. On 27 June 2025, the Open Government Partnership (OGP) will release its draft Independent Reporting Mechanism (IRM) Results Report on New Zealand's Fourth National Action Plan (NAP4). Following a two-week period for public feedback, the Results Report will be finalised and published on the OGP website expected to be in July/August 2025.
2. The Commission and selected civil society stakeholders were provided with an embargoed copy of the draft Results Report on 24 June 2025. This report provides you with an overview of the draft Results Report's high-level findings and observations.

Recommendations

3. It is recommended that you:
 - a. **Note** the draft IRM Results Report for NAP4 will be published on 27 June for two weeks of public consultation
 - b. **Note** that, following public consultation and finalisation, the draft report will be published on OGP's website
 - c. **Note** that publication of the draft report and of the final IRM Results Report for NAP4 may attract media interest

Hon Judith Collins KC
Minister for the Public Service

INSERT SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

Background

4. OGP appoints an IRM to assess countries' action plan implementation, results and compliance with OGP rules. The Results Report includes information from government agencies, civil society members and other publicly available sources.
5. An earlier draft of the Results Report was shared with the Commission and civil society stakeholders in May 2025 for initial feedback and correction of any factual errors. The Commission's feedback resulted in some changes being made.
6. A copy of the draft Results Report is annexed as Appendix 1. The draft Results Report assesses three of the eight NAP4 commitments as being substantially or fully completed, four having limited completion, while one commitment did not start. This differs from the earlier self-assessment report published in early June which records four commitments to have been substantially or fully completed.
7. The draft Results Report acknowledges the impact of changing government priorities and cuts to spending as part of the government's fiscal savings programme on NAP4 progress. The IRM assessor makes three key observations for future success:
 - a. Implementation relies on Ministerial buy-in and cross-party support;
 - b. Adequate resourcing is key to commitment progress;
 - c. The OGP process depends on rebuilding government and civil society organisations trust.
8. Observations, of changing government priorities and fiscal constraints, are also noted as having impacted NAP4 progress in the self-assessment report.

Compliance with OGP rules

9. All aspects of country members' Action Plans are governed by OGP rules, set and updated by OGP's Steering Committee. The IRM found New Zealand's implementation did not meet OGP's participation and co-creation standards in two respects:
 - a. During 2024, in-person reporting meetings on NAP4 progress were not held;
 - b. Non-renewal of the expiring External Advisory Group (EAP) in June 2023 meant that New Zealand "remained without an OGP space for dialogue" for the remainder of the implementation period (to December 2024).
10. However, the IRM notes that "due to a grace period" the breaches do not affect New Zealand's OGP status.

Media Interest

11. The release of the self-assessment report attracted public criticism, one civil society stakeholder labelling NAP4 as 'timid and unambitious' and the self-assessment report as 'complacent and insulting'.

12. The release of the draft report is expected to attract some media interest. As this is an OGP-led public consultation process, you may wish to refer any media requests for comment to OGP in the first instance, or to the Commission.

Next Steps

13. OGP advises that the draft report will be published for public consultation on 27 June 2025 for a two-week period. Shortly after this, the report will be finalised and published on the OGP website.