



GovComms Institute

GOVCOMMS INSTITUTE – OPEN GOV WEEK

The **GovComms Institute** (GCI) – a Canberra-based hub for government communicators around the world, is hosting a panel discussion for the Open Government Partnership’s (OGP) Open Government Week (OGW) event. The panel will comprise of local and international experts across government and the private sector, responding to the question:

“What are the best ways for the Australian Government to approach ‘co-design’ to enable greater citizen participation in decision making?”

Event Date & Time: 19th May 2021 (4:00 pm to 6:00 pm AEST)

Event URL: <https://hopin.com/events/co-design-and-citizen-participation-in-australia>

The event will be delivered virtually via *Hopin*, wherein registrants can dial-in from remote locations to listen and participate in a live Question & Answer segment.

WHAT IS THE OPEN GOVERNMENT PARTNERSHIP (OGP) AND HOW IS IT RELEVANT TO AUSTRALIA?

Australia is a member of the OGP, which is a multilateral initiative that aims to secure concrete commitments from governments to promote transparency, empower citizens, fight corruption and harness new technologies to strengthen governance.

Since becoming a member of the OGP in 2015, Australia has released two National Action Plans, with a total of 23 commitments. A third National Action Plan is now complete and has been submitted to government for final consideration.

National Action Plans are jointly developed by government and civil society and are the primary mechanism for OGP members to help make their governments more transparent, accountable, and publicly engaged.

WHAT IS THE OPEN GOVERNMENT WEEK (OGW) AND HOW IS GCI’S EVENT RELEVANT TO AUSTRALIA?

The OGW is an initiative bringing together open government stakeholders from around the world to share ideas around citizen participation in government. It [is designed for anyone who believes citizens should play a role in shaping the policies that affect their lives](#). OGP-member countries, including Australia, will be hosting events across the week-long initiative.

The purpose of GCI’s OGW event is:

- to host an engaging dialogue amongst subject matter experts which results in **useable insights for the Australian Government**.
- to **raise awareness amongst the international OGP community** about Australia’s commitment towards citizen participation.



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WHAT IS THE GOVCOMMS INSTITUTE?

The GovComms Institute is a place for government communicators from all over the world to discuss their common purpose, common challenges and common opportunities.

In 2020, the GovComms Institute launched the inaugural GovComms Festival, a 24-hour global conference about the future of government communication. The mission of the Festival was to explore the critical lessons in government communication that needed to be learnt after 2020 and the COVID-19 pandemic.

The festival was part of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation's (OECD) Government After Shock program. The Festival hosted over 170 speakers who produced over 100 hours of content about government communication.