

Suggested OGP commitment (Michael Macaulay)

Commitment

To develop an Inclusion Strategy for NZ by 2018

Vision and Impact

Inclusion, broadly defined, is at the forefront of the UNDP Sustainable Development Goals. It is also the uniting element among a number of different social and community policy strands: housing; education; family and child policy; Maori and Pasifika relations.

Context

Inclusion is already being discussed by a substantial number of agencies across the public, private and voluntary sectors. By focusing on inclusion, there has been a determined move to look at numerous social issues holistically to identify how and where they intersect and also how more collaborative solutions can be found to tackle them.

Means

The foundations for an NZ Inclusion strategy have already been laid. A major public event was held in July 2015 that generated a substantial amount of data, which was backed by a governance group comprising government agencies, CSOs and private sector companies. This group (or a version of it) will in the first instance make sense of the data and then work with other groups (for example, Treasury's Living Standards Framework group) in order to draft up a strategy. This will then go out to public consultation through the networks already available to the governance group.

Possible Supporting CSOs

Truthfully there are hundreds - Huie; Community Networks Aotearoa; Child Poverty Action Group – the list of possible participants is huge.

Grand Challenges

GC1, GC3, GC4

Commitment

To map community governance projects throughout New Zealand and enshrine OGP in local government.

Vision and Impact

Anecdotally there is a substantial body of evidence to suggest that local and community groups are already engaging in OGP-style activities. Currently it is almost impossible, however, to state with any confidence how these have arisen and what impacts they have had.

This commitment, therefore, is not only to try and uncover this evidence but to develop notable practice for policy transfer across different communities. It enables members of local communities to engage directly in the creation and implementation of solutions.

Context

OGP's most recent evolution has been towards the local, although in a sense it has always been reliant on subsidiarity to allow CSOs to participate more fully. This commitment will allow local authorities to engage directly with OGP, and hopefully later down the line it will also empower them to conduct local-OGP commitments.

Means

Each local authority will have a designated OGP person to act as a key link between the mapping exercise and the community groups that will be consulted.

Possible Supporting CSOs

LGNZ; SOLGM; IGPS; various community groups

Grand Challenges

GC1, GC2; GC3, GC4

Commitment

To increase the levels of learning and teaching on civics in New Zealand schools.

Vision and Impact

This commitment will impact upon every young person in New Zealand and will give them the grounding for understanding NZ's political and social roots, as well as its current democratic practices.

Context

Civics is already on the NZ national curriculum but the extent to which it is taught remains unclear. There are online resources that are already available but these do not seem to be well utilized. It is important, therefore, to develop materials that can and will be used consistently across education system. It will necessitate, of course, a discussion about what should be included, as well as pedagogical discussions around how best to teach the material that is developed.

Possible Supporting CSOs

Various

Grand Challenges

GC1, GC2

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