



Official Communication from the Open Government Partnership Support Unit

30 April 2014

Dear Ms. Goda Aleksaite – Stabingienė,

We welcome Lithuania's participation in the Open Government Partnership, which now has 64 countries working on national commitments to advance transparency, empower citizens, fight corruption and utilize technology to improve governance.

As you are aware the OGP's Independent Reporting Mechanism publishes regular progress reports on each participating country. The OGP Articles of Governance state:

"Should the IRM process find that a participating government repeatedly (for two consecutive action plan cycles) acts contrary to OGP process or its Action Plan commitments (addenda B and C), and fails to adequately address issues raised by the IRM, the SC may upon recommendation of the Criteria and Standards (C/S) sub-committee review the participation of said government in OGP."

On recommendation of the Criteria and Standards subcommittee of OGP, this letter is to inform you that the 2014 IRM report found Lithuania to be acting contrary to OGP process in its last National Action plan cycle.

As you are aware the IRM was unable to produce a report on Lithuania for a number of reasons. First, a considerable number of attempts were made during the report research period by both the Support Unit and the IRM team to make contact with a government representative without success. Second, no self-assessment report was submitted on the National Action Plan. Third, other independent attempts to verify activities related to the National Action Plan found little evidence that OGP commitments were being implemented. The IRM therefore concluded there was not sufficient activity related to OGP to produce a report. In order to avoid a future review by the Criteria and Standards Subcommittee, we recommend that Lithuania publishes its new National Action Plan before the 1st July 2014 deadline, establishes regular contact with OGP staff, implements the commitments in the National Action Plan over the following two-years, and publishes all future self-assessment reports on time.

The OGP Support Unit and Steering Committee stand ready to support Lithuania with all appropriate technical knowledge, peer exchange opportunities and guidance.

We thank you for your continued participation in the Open Government Partnership. We look forward to shortly receiving your second National Action Plan, for which the deadline to begin implementation on is 1st July 2014. Please do not hesitate to contact the OGP Support Unit if you require any assistance in the finalization of your Action Plan.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Linda Frey".

Linda Frey
Executive Director, OGP Support Unit