OPEN GOVERNMENT PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVE

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SECOND NATIONAL ACTION PLAN OF LATVIA

01.07.2015  – 30.06.2017

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2016

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# Introduction

When joining the international initiative OPEN GOVERNMENT PARTNERSHIP (OGP)[[1]](#footnote-1), Latvia's goal is to promote clearly identifiable administrative, legal and public change through shaping and strengthening a people-friendly, effective, open and fair public administration. Latvia is currently one of 70 countries participating in this initiative. Latvia joined the OGP in 2011.

The role and influence of civil society have considerably increased in decision-making on the issues vital for the development of Latvia. At the same time, this influence cannot yet be regarded as sufficient or satisfying all stakeholders. The mission of public administration institutions at various levels is to improve their tools for day-to-day cooperation with civil society and organisations representing it. The involvement of civil society in decision-making processes and legislative initiatives is one of the ways to reduce the gap between power and society and is an essential instrument for building an inclusive society in the country as a whole. The link between the society and power can be ensured both by facilitating its participation in governance processes, including by providing technical possibilities enabling that, and by an increased control in the fields that involve the risk of decreasing or disregarding the role of society in public administration, for instance, corruption.

Therefore, the first National Action Plan of Latvia that was approved on 10 April 2012 included four priority areas: 1) Improving the quality of public service provision; 2) Involvement of society and non-governmental organizations (hereinafter – NGOs) in decision-making; 3) Restricting corruption; and 4) Open data.

The choice of areas in the First National Action Plan of Latvia was determined by their relation to the OGP goals, as well as the need to include specific descriptions of the actions planned.

The implementation of the actions planned and achievement of the objectives is closely linked to the National Development Plan for 2014–2020, the Government Action Plan, the Guidelines for the Corruption Prevention and Combating 2015-2020, the Information Society Development Guidelines for 2014-2020, the National Identity, Civil Society and Integration Policy Guidelines for 2012–2018, and other policy planning documents, which are relevant for the OGP objectives.

The Information Society Development Guidelines for 2014-2020 establish the objective: while upholding the principle to provide everyone with the opportunity to use ICT opportunities, develop the knowledge-based economy and improve the overall quality of life by contributing to efficiency of public administration, national competitiveness and the creation of jobs. To achieve the objective, the measures are planned in the following areas: ICT education and e-skills; widely available Internet access; a modern and efficient public administration; e-services and digital content to the public; cross-border cooperation in the digital single market; ICT research and innovation; trust and security.

The Guidelines for the Prevention and Combating of Corruption for 2014–2020 establish the objectives: while upholding the principle of good governance and effective management of human resources, to ensure a trustworthy functioning of any institution or organisation, and establish a single framework for cooperation between the government and public that promotes active countering of corruption and raise awareness of the significance of integrity in public administration. To achieve the objectives of the corruption prevention and combating policy, the following sub-objectives have been set: 1) Ensure human resource management policy in public administration that would exclude motivation for corruptive actions; 2) Establish a permanently functioning internal control system that would eliminate as much as possible the pre-conditions for corruption in the public or private sector; 3) Reduce tolerance for corruption among the public; 4) Ensure inevitability of punishment for offences involving abuse of office, unlawful use of entrusted power; 5) Restrict the power of money in politics.

# 2. Implementation of the first National Action Plan of Latvia

Within the framework of the four areas specified in the First National Action Plan of Latvia, 17 measures were identified, which are targeted at concrete improvements towards people-friendly, effective, open and fair public administration in Latvia.

The OGP Independent Reporting Mechanism *[[2]](#footnote-2)* on the implementation[[3]](#footnote-3) of the First National Action Plan of Latvia established that Latvia has fully implemented five measures, while others remain at various stages of completion. The five implemented measures are as follows:

1. The assessment of NGO participation in the study entitled "Assessment of Mechanisms for the Involvement of Non-governmental Organisations in the Cabinet of Ministers' Decision-making Process and Formulation of Proposals for the Improvement of those Mechanisms", which provided information on the desired directions for the improvement of civil society involvement in public administration, including participation in the drafting of planning documents and legislative acts at as early stage as possible.
2. The online broadcasting of the Cabinet of Ministers' and the Saeima's sessions to ensure that the general public has a possibility to directly follow most of the politicians’ professional activities.
3. Work has been launched to ensure a broad coverage of public internet access points across Latvia (during the first stage of the project, it is planned to set up at least 165 access points by 2015, while the second stage is to be implemented by 2018. It is envisaged to establish a total of 500 connection points in various locations in Latvia);
4. The assessment of public services has been carried out for the introduction of ‘a one-stop shop’ thus developing e-services and reducing the administrative burden;
5. The provision of e-services at the National Land Service was improved, which considerably reduced the administrative burden on residents who handle real estate related matters. The Electronic Declaration System of the State Revenues Service has also been upgraded.

In the reporting period, following the report by the OGP Independent Reporting Mechanism, the following measures have also been completed. On 6 March 2014, the Saeima adopted “Trade Union Law” that came into force on 1 November 2014.

A number of commitments included in the First National Action Plan are being pursued in the Second National Action Plan, for example, single customer service centres of state and local governments are actively being established (The commitment of the First Action Plan "Improvement of the Public Service Quality").

# 3. Progress of development and implementation of the Second National Action Plan of Latvia

The Second National Action Plan of Latvia includes the commitments by which Latvia is willing to support the achievement of the aforementioned objectives of open governance partnership.

Recommendations from civil society organisations played a considerable role in identifying issues and main objectives to be addressed by the Second National Action Plan of Latvia. The discussion on them was held at a meeting of 14 July 2014 with the participation of representatives from six different public administration and nine civil society organisations.

A mid-term self-assessmentreport on the implementation of the Second National Action Plan of Latvia needs to be developed by October 2016 under the guidance of public institutions. At the same time, the Independent Reporting Mechanism prepares a progress report. Based on these assessments and further debates, in the first half of 2017, the public institutions in cooperation with the civil society organizations have to draft and by the end of June adopt the Third National Action Plan of Latvia.

# 4. Ten commitments of the Second National Action Plan of Latvia

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Promote access to the public administration data in form of open data | | | |
| Lead institution | Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development | | |
| Description of the current situation or problem to be addressed by this commitment | Data and information held by public administration institutions is a resource that offers unexplored economic and social potential. The value of data increases when making them available for the use in creating new commercial products and services, in science and research, the analysis of public processes that will have a positive impact, in terms of GDP growth and tax yield, not only on national economy but also directly on the budget revenues, a part of which can be used for sustaining and funding of further development, creating the opportunity to increasingly turn the potential of national data in economic potential. | | |
| Main objective | The Information Society Development Guidelines for 2014-2020 (hereinafter – the Guidelines) foresee a range of measures to promote proactive publishing of the public administration data and facilitate their use for creating new solutions.  With a view to support and facilitate the transfer of public data for re-use, the Guidelines support:   * Development of technical solutions for preparing and publishing data in a publicly accessible, transparent, harmonised and automatically processable form, where possible, while ensuring the protection of personal data; * Establishment of the common ICT infrastructure required for making the data in national registers available for re-use; * Creation of a unified, centralised data catalogue, where data structures and interfaces have to described following a harmonised model and available in a centralised catalogue; * Solution for centralised data distribution, envisaging also decentralised solutions, where expedient. * Activities required to ensure the functionality of data sources with the aim to re-use and convert into a reusable format the data held in those sources, including anonymization measures; * Alongside the solutions, the necessary policies should be developed and legal framework implemented:   + for the implementation into national law of Directive 2003/98/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on the re-use of public sector information, incl. implementation of charging and licencing provisions, e.g. in the area of geospatial information the requirements are set for licensing;   + for changing the model of financing of the public administration institutions, in order to promote the re-use and shared use of data held by the state, thereby reducing, as much as possible, direct dependency of the core activities of an institution on revenues gained from transmitting the information for re-use; * Measures, which encourage the use of open data for new and innovative product development (applications, competitions for solutions, educational seminars and workshops). * The data held by the state should be legally and technologically accessible for shared use and re-use under the aspects of personal data protection and restricted access, as well as conditions of re-use. * Infrastructure measures to be supported: * Shared solutions for the processing, publishing and previewing of the open data; * Creating open data applications (incl. dataset aggregation and integration). | | |
| **OGP objectives** | **Transparency** | **Accountability** | **Public participation** |
| X |  | X |
| *Milestones* | Amendments to the law "On Information Openness" by opting for open data as the preferred form of publishing the information | | **2015** |
| Development of an open data portal | | **2014 - second half of 2017** |
| Verifiable and measurable milestones to fulfil the commitment | In 2017, the assessment of re-use of the public sector information will amount to ~380 points | | |
|  | **From the first plan/new commitment** | **Starting date** | **Closing date** |
| Had already been launched | 2014 | 2020 |
| Single portal for the drafting and harmonisation of draft legislative acts and public participation in producing the draft legislative acts | | | |
| Lead institution | **State Chancellery** | | |
| Other parties involved | **Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development**  **State Regional Development Agency**  **Portal “ManaBalss.lv”** | | |
| Description of the current situation or problem to be addressed by this commitment | The decision-making process is complicated, and often hardly transparent and not easily accessible for the public. This places limitations on public engagement. Fragmented and heterogeneous process of drafting, harmonisation, approval and control of draft legislative acts, large amount of unautomated actions. | | |
| Main objective | The project is aimed at facilitating and improving the public participation in the public administration processes by strengthening and expanding the possibilities for the use of e-participation tools.  To this end, there are plans to develop by 2019 a joint portal for drafting of draft legislative acts and policy planning documents and consultation process (hereinafter – TAP). The portal is expected to enhance the transparency of the processes of document drafting and decision-making, as well as to make it easier for the general public to quickly obtain timely and transparent information on the legislation and development planning documents being drafted, and engage and participate in the drafting. The decision-making process will be visible and accessible as a whole, from the idea to the moment of making the final decision.  The citizens will have the opportunity to submit proposals on the regulatory framework or administrative practice to be elaborated through the e-service "Public Discussion of Draft Legislative Acts".  Launched in 2011 the portal ManaBalss.lv is an important platform for citizen engagement and citizen initiatives. It is aimed at encouraging the public participation in better law-making using this portal as an e-participation tool. Every citizen of Latvia at the age of 16 can initiate and sign initiatives in the portal ManaBalss.lv, incl. the ones that focus on improving the regulatory framework. Within the framework of ManaBalss.lv, every initiative signed by at least 10 000 citizens and that complies the legal criteria of the Saeima is submitted to the Saeima. | | |
| **OGP objectives** | **Transparency** | **Accountability** | **Public participation** |
| X |  | X |
| *Milestones* | TAP draft competition is closed | | 2016 |
|  | TAP development launched | | 2017 |
| Verifiable and measurable milestones to fulfil the commitment | * Use of a common platform "Single Portal for the Drafting Legal Acts and Consultation Process" (public administration institutions, NGOs, incl. organizations of government social and cooperation partners) * Use of e-service “Public Discussion of the Draft Legislative Acts" * Substantive data sets available for re-use and shared use | | |
|  | **From the first plan/new commitment** | **Starting date** | **Closing date** |
|  | Has already been launched | November 2013 | 2019 |
| Uniform platform for the websites of the public institutions and information | | | |
| Lead institution | **State Chancellery**  **Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development** | | |
| Other parties involved | Other public administration institutions (ministries and subordinate institutions)  General public | | |
| Description of the current situation or problem to be addressed by this commitment | Many public institutions have functionally and technically outdated websites, which not always meet the requirements of modern technologies, can ensure customer-oriented services, and are not user-friendly. There are different content management platforms, and it is not possible to share the best practices. A study established that only 16 out of 115 public authorities' websites have been recognised as good by users. It has been admitted that the websites have low functionality and non-transparent structures. | | |
| Main objective | The development of modern, user-friendly websites that are tailored to societal needs has to be encouraged.  This will be achieved by developing a uniform, at the government level centralised website management platform. The reform will be conducive to achieving the following aims:   * The quality and security requirements for the public institution websites in the country are set in a centralised manner. * Customer-targeted service, high-quality communication channel that facilitates public participation will be provided. The websites will be based on modern technological solutions. They will be user- friendly and of straightforward design. * A considerable financial benefit ensured, as possibilities are precluded for creating new websites or investing into those on the grounds of subjective decisions. Public administration will not have to overspend due to the same functionalities being developed on repeated occasions. * More effective planning of the development of public institution websites (homepages). | | |
| **OGP objectives** | **Transparency** | **Accountability** | **Public participation** |
| X | X | X |
| *Milestones* | Inclusion of the project in the approved list of projects that can be co-financed by the European Regional Development Fund | | 2015 |
| Verifiable and measurable indicators | Uniform standards for websites of public authorities | | |
|  | **From the first plan/new commitment** | **Starting date** | **Closing date** |
|  | Has already been launched | 2013 | On continuous basis |
| Open, fair and professional selection of candidates for the positions of board and council members of companies owned by a public person | | | |
| Lead institution | **Cross-sectoral Coordination Centre** | | |
| Other parties involved | All shareholders of a public person | | |
| Description of the current situation or problem to be addressed by this commitment | Different practices in procedures for the selection of candidates for the posts of the board and council members of a capital company; the process is often not transparent, which casts doubt on whether the most suitable candidates are being approved. | | |
| Main objective | It is essential to establish a transparent procedure for the nomination of candidates for the posts of board and council members on the basis of professional competence criteria (education, experience, knowledge of the field, finance, management, etc.), where a candidate's political affiliation is not a decisive factor. | | |
| **OGP objectives** | **Transparency** | **Accountability** | **Public participation** |
| X | X |  |
| *Milestones* | State-owned enterprises governance coordination body created and operational | | 2015 - 2016 |
|  | New rules for nomination of candidates for boards and councils of state-owned enterprises approved | | 2015 |
| Verifiable and measurable indicators | All public entities, shareholders in state-owned enterprises invariably follow the new rules for selecting board and council candidates. | | |
|  | **From the first plan/new commitment** | **Starting date** | **Closing date** |
|  | New commitment | January 2015 | Mid 2017 |
| Introduce more effective supervision mechanisms of control over the activities of the officials responsible for handling public resources | | | |
| Lead institution | **Corruption Prevention and Combating Bureau,**  **Ministry of Finance** | | |
| Description of the current situation or problem to be addressed by this commitment | The compliance of actions of public officials with state or local government property and funds, and transactions carried out by public institutions should be assessed in order to detect mismanagement, abuse of office, abuse of authority for personal unearned gain or for that of other persons. To monitor the prevention of the conflict of interest in the actions of public officials and compliance with prohibitions and additional restrictions set out in regulatory enactments in regard to public officials. | | |
| Main objective | To counter corruption by force of law and public support, in order to ensure that public power is used with integrity in the interest of the state and community. To monitor the prevention of the conflict of interest in the actions of public officials and compliance with prohibitions and additional restrictions set out in legislations in regard to public officials. Where violations of the Law “On the Prevention of the Conflict of Interest in the Actions of Public Officials” are detected, to prosecute public officials administratively – hold administrative hearings, enforce liability for violations in the area of corruption prevention, seek damages from public officials according to the procedure established by law in respect of loss resulting from their actions.  To achieve these objectives, specific tasks have been set in the "Corruption Prevention and Combating Guidelines for 2015-2020" (hereinafter - the Guidelines) approved by the Order of the Cabinet of Ministers of 16 July 2017:  • Consider a possibility for enabling public access online to information on all contracts signed by public authorities on the supply of goods and services, and other deals, if any, and develop recommendations for ensuring such measures (deadline for implementation in the Guidelines: 31.12.2020);  • Consider a possibility of introducing more effective supervision or enforcement mechanisms to control the activities of public officials responsible for handling public resources, incl. to determine administrative liability for misuse (wasteful spending) of public property and funds by public officials (deadline for implementation in the Guidelines: 31.12.2017);   * Analyse risks of misuse of funds, as well as risks of corruption in the below-threshold public procurement and purchases not covered by external legislation and provide recommendations for risk reduction (deadline for implementation in the Guidelines: 31.12.2016);   Other measures:   * Assess legislative acts on criminalizing corruption and, in accordance with the problems identified in practices of the application of the law, to produce draft legislation seeking a more effective application of liability provisions regarding unlawful actions with public funds and property. * Improvement of the mechanism for the prevention of the conflict of interest. | | |
| **OGP objectives** | **Transparency** | **Accountability** | **Public participation** |
| x | x |  |
| *Milestones* | Amendments to the law to more effectively impose liability for unlawful actions with public or local government's funds and property. | | December 2015 |
|  | **From the first plan/new commitment** | **Starting date** | **Closing date** |
|  | New commitment | 2015 | 2020 |
| Establish a sustainable model of financing NGOs | | | |
| Lead institution | **Ministry of Culture** | | |
| Other parties involved | Society Integration Fund, ministries | | |
| Description of the current situation or problem to be addressed by this commitment | According to the Enterprise Register data, 14,704 non-governmental organisations were registered in Latvia as of August 2011. However, a comparatively small part of the country's population is members of those organisations, and a downward trend has been observed. A large part of NGOs are working in the areas of sports, culture and recreation (39%), while a considerably lower percentage are active in human rights protection, corruption combating, addressing ecological problems, and similar sectors. There is a tendency for non-governmental organisations to be linguistically separated – Latvian and Russian-speaking. Latvia's NGOs remain financially and administratively weak, are far more often being set up in Rīga than in other regions of the country, and have a low number of members. Moreover, only a small part of organisations are financially sustainable. Nevertheless, under the socio-economic crisis, it was NGOs that provided services in the social sector and in the field of interest education, where the public administration budget was limited. At the same time, civil society organisations are not involved in public policy making to their full capacity, which undermines trust in public administration. | | |
| Main objective | To improve the legal and financial framework for increasing the institutional capacity of associations, quality participation of NGOs in decision making by strengthening them as social partners, as well as to promote the delegation of public functions, where appropriate and possible, to associations and foundations, especially in matters of civic education. | | |
| **OGP objectives** | **Transparency** | **Accountability** | **Public participation** |
|  |  | X |
|  | **From the first plan/new commitment** | **Starting date** | **Closing date** |
|  | New commitment | 07.04.2014 | 2016 |
| Verifiable and measurable indicators | The NGOs funding model has been developed and approved. | | |
| Provide a possibility for the online collection of signatures on referenda | | | |
| Lead institution | **Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development** | | |
| Other parties involved | Public administration institutions (ministries and subordinate institutions)  General public | | |
| Description of the current situation or problem to be addressed by this commitment | The inhabitants of Latvia had the opportunity to initiate referenda and amendments to legislation by collecting signatures on paper, which then would need to be witnessed by a notary in presence. To date there has been no possibility of collecting the signatures online.  Amendments to the Law on National Referenda, Legislative Initiatives and the European Citizens Initiative envisage that as of 1 January 2015 the residents will also be able to sign online the initiatives on referenda and legislation – via the portal Latvija.lv, and online systems created by private entities.  In addition to its primary purpose, an innovative and open approach has been introduced to the implementation of solutions – the principle of open interfaces. The Law and the subordinate Cabinet regulations stipulate that private entities are also able to devise solutions for the collection of signatures online. They can collect signatures online on the initiation of referenda, provided that their system complies with security and technical requirements laid down by the state, and that it has been certified by a competent authority. The state provides a cooperation platform for the submission, checking and counting of votes submitted online. | | |
| Main objective | The online collection of signatures for initiating referenda, offered as an e-service on the single state and local government portal www.latvija.lv, aims at providing the residents of Latvia with more convenient and widely accessible possibilities for taking part in the legislative and referendum initiatives, thereby making it easier for people, incl. those staying abroad, to directly participate in democratic processes in their country. | | |
| **OGP objectives** | **Transparency** | **Accountability** | **Public participation** |
| X |  | X |
| **Milestones**  **Verifiable and measurable indicators** | Cabinet of Ministers Rules No. 471 Gathering of signatures online system security and technical requirements  New e-service provided in the state portal [www.latvija.lv](http://www.latvija.lv)  Measuring the intensity of use of the new e-service |  | 2014  2015  As of 2015 |
|  | **From the first plan/new commitment**  New commitment | **Starting date**  **2014** | **Closing date**  **Mid 2017** |
| Development of the draft law on whistleblowers protection | | | |
| Lead institution | **State Chancellery** | | |
| Other parties involved | Ministry of the Interior, Ministry of Welfare, Ministry of Justice, Supreme Court, Corruption Prevention and Combating Bureau (hereinafter – KNAB), Office of the Prosecutor General, NGO "Association for transparency – Delna", Free Trade Union Confederation of Latvia (members of the working group for the development of the Whistle Blower Protection Law). | | |
| Description of the current situation or problem to be addressed by this commitment | Negative perceptions among the general public about whistleblowing. Comparatively small number of persons who are ready to report irregularities. The whistleblower protection mechanism is not efficient. | | |
| Main objective | Development of a single legal framework for whitleblowing and the protection of whistleblowers. | | |
| *Milestones* | The draft law has been announced at the State Secretaries' meeting | | December 2015 |
|  | The draft law has been submitted to the Cabinet of Ministers committee meeting. | | December 2016 |
| **OGP objectives** | **Transparency** | **Accountability** | **Public participation** |
| X | X | X |
|  | **From the first plan/new commitment** | **Starting date** | **Closing date** |
|  | New commitment | 2014 | 31 December 2016 |
| Verifiable and measurable indicators | Development of the draft and submission to the Cabinet of Ministers | | |
| Assessment of the system of financing of political parties | | | |
| Lead institution | **Corruption Prevention and Combating Bureau** | | |
| Description of the current situation or problem to be addressed by this commitment | Law on Financing Political Organisations (Parties) stipulates that political organisations may be financed by the State budget and, at the same time, lays down certain pre-conditions for receiving and using the funds. To establish whether the allocation of the State budget funds has achieved the primary objective – to reduce the impact of major donors in politics, as well as to identify which types of expenditure can be funded by the State – the functioning of the system for financing political organisations and parties needs to be evaluated, by identifying the existing drawbacks and problems, as well as proposing solutions to remedy the situation. | | |
| Main objective | Main objective is to limit the power of money in politics.  To achieve the objective, the work will be undertaken in the framework of eight sub-tasks, which are included in the “Corruption Prevention and Combating Guidelines for 2015-2020" (hereinafter – the Guidelines) approved by the Order of the Cabinet of Ministers of 16 July 2015:   * Assess the functioning of the system for financing political parties and political organisations following the amendments to the Law on Financing Political Organisations (Parties) regarding the allocation of the State budget funds to political parties, and develop recommendations to ensure the functioning of parties in periods between elections, reduce the dependence of parties on large-scale donations, and promote the attraction of small-scale contributions (Deadline for the implementation of the task in the Guidelines: 31.12.2016) * Ensure the transparency of financial activities of political organisations (parties) by raising the effectiveness of the mechanisms for imposing liability for violations and imposing less severe sanctions for lesser administrative violations in the field of political party financing, incl. considering a possibility of reducing the administrative burden (Deadline for the implementation of the task in the Guidelines: 31.12.2016). * On the basis of applications received and controls carried out by the KNAB, to analyse the manifestations of covert pre-election campaigning in the previous pre-election periods and provide recommendations for legislative amendments aimed at preventing the risk of disguised campaigning (Deadline for the implementation of the task in the Guidelines: 31.12.2016). * Ensure the creation and implementation of the electronic declaration system of political parties in Latvia (Deadline for the implementation of the task in the Guidelines: 31.12.2016). * On the basis of earlier analysis on the issues of interest for parties and other election participants in the pre-election period and on the election days, the KNAB has to produce a methodological material for political parties to ensure proper interpretation and application of binding legislative acts while preparing for elections, as well as for publishing this information (Deadline for the implementation of the task in the Guidelines: 31.12.2015). * Assess the impact of lobbying on the Law on the State Budget, the construction, insolvency administration procedures, and other sectors and provide recommendations for reducing the impact of disproportionate lobbying (Deadline for the implementation of the task in the Guidelines: 31.12.2018). * Assess the legal framework related to publication of the identity of donors and set a limit to the amount of a donation, below which the information about the donor is not made public, thereby promoting the involvement of small-scale donors in funding of political organisations (Deadline for the implementation of the task in the Guidelines: 31.12.2016) | | |
| **OGP objectives** | **Transparency** | **Accountability** | **Public participation** |
| X | X | X |
|  | **From the first plan/new commitment** | **Starting date** | **Closing date** |
|  | New commitment | 2014 | Mid 2017 |
| Verifiable and measurable milestones to fulfil the commitment | * **Increased trust in the work of the Saeima and the Cabinet of Ministers**   - the number of respondents who trust the Saeima in terms of corruption is increasing (2012 – 22.7%; 2014 – 20.3%; 2015 – 21.4 %; 2020 - 50%)  - the number of respondents who trust the Cabinet of Ministers in terms of corruption is increasing (2012 – 24.7%; 2014 – 24.2%; 2015 - 29.1%; 2020 - 48%)   * **Lower number of violations in financing of political parties**   + the number of representatives of society who believe that the financial activities of political parties are transparent and their supervision is effective, is increasing (2013 - 15%; 2014 – 16.7%; 2015 – 17%; 2020 - 20%) * proportion of parties and party unions, the audits of whose annual reports and declarations of election-related revenues and expenditures reveal administrative violations, is decreasing (2012 - 30%\*; 2013 - 10%; 2014 - 28%\*; 2015 – 26 %\*; 2020 - 10%)   \* the year when the results of checks of election declarations are made public | | |
|  |
| Public Sector Code of Ethics | | | |
| Lead institution | **State Chancellery** | | |
| Other parties involved | Members of focus groups  Public Policy Center NGO “Providus” | | |
| Description of the current situation or problem to be addressed by this commitment | The public administration institutions have codes of ethics, but there is no uniform framework for ethical norms and uniform measures for the implementation of ethical norms. | | |
| Main objective | To draft the code of ethics for the public administration employees | | |
|  |  | | |
| *Milestones* | Draft code of ethics has been submitted to the State Secretaries' meeting | | February 2016 |
| **OGP objectives** | **Transparency** | **Accountability** | **Public participation** |
| X | X |  |
|  | **From the first plan/new commitment** | **Starting date** | **Closing date** |
|  | New commitment | December 2014 | December 2016 |
| Milestones | Draft Code of Ethics prepared and announced at the Meeting of the State Secretaries | | February 2016 |
| Verifiable and measurable indicators | Code of ethics has been drafted | |  |



2016

1. More information on the website: <http://www.opengovpartnership.org/>, incl. on Latvia's membership :<http://www.opengovpartnership.org/country/latvia/> [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. More information on OGP website, chapter “IRM Reports”, <http://www.opengovpartnership.org/irm/irm-reports> [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. INDEPENDENT REPORTING MECHANISM LATVIA: PROGRESS REPORT 2012-13, <http://www.opengovpartnership.org/sites/default/files/Latvia%20OGP%20IRM%20Public%20Comment%20%28Eng%29.pdf> [↑](#footnote-ref-3)