RIIGIKANTSELEI

ESTONIA'S OPEN GOVERNMENT PARTNERSHIP ACTION PLAN FOR 2016–2018

Tallinn, 2016

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1. INTRODUCTION

Open Government Partnership (OGP[1]) is an international initiative to promote openness, transparency and citizen-centredness, as well as the use of new technologies to increase openness in governance. The objective of Estonia's participation in the partnership has been to focus greater attention on the part of the government as well as of the people on the quality of governance; to learn from the experiences of other nations and share Estonia's experiences with other countries in the partnership. In less than four years this initiative has grown to 69 participating countries, accompanied by hundreds of civil society organisations. The OGP countries already include one-third of the world population, and over 2,000 reform proposals have been submitted within the framework of the initiative[2].

In developing public governance, Estonia has adhered to the principles of openness and transparency in developing its legal framework and adopting new technological solutions in public administration. In line with the other Nordic countries, Estonia's goal is to employ the principles of openness, transparency and inclusiveness throughout its policy-making process. A lot of partnership also takes place alongside the Open Government Partnership framework. For that reason, the OGP Action Plan inevitably reflects only a portion of the existing initiatives geared towards increasing openness.

As of this year, the circle of participants in the open government partnership has remarkably expanded. At the beginning of 2016, the Government Office invited the Parliament and local government representatives to also join in the OGP initiative to enable all parties to work together to advance the open government partnership principles and reinforce openness in the exercise of public authority. The representatives of the Parliament and the local governments are now participating in the work of an OGP Coordinating Council. The implementation of the Partnership Action Plan is being coordinated by a collaboration forum bringing together different parties – the OGP Coordinating Council – whose task is also to make open partnership-related decisions (e.g. concerning Action Plan activities), as well as to comprehensively reflect the Estonian objectives for taking part in OGP and activities.

The role of the OGP Coordinating Council in the Action Plan compilation process was significantly enlarged. The Secretary of State, who convened the council, expanded the mandate of the OGP Coordinating Council, , by stepping up the role of the council from supervising the implementation of the 2014-2016 agenda to heading up the compilation process for the 2016-2018 Action Plan, and rendering substantive decisions concerning the new Plan. Thereby, the earlier broad-based discussions amongst the various parties are institutionalised into a working format that meets regularly. Here the circle of participants is further broadened to include non-governmental partners and government representatives, as well as parliamentary and local government representatives.

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[1] Open Government Partnership (OGP), http://www.opengovpartnership.org/
[2] Open Government Partnership: Four Year Strategy 2015-2018. http://www.opengovpartnership.org/ sites/default/files/attachments/OGP%204-year%20Strategy%20FINAL%20ONLINE.pdf

In Estonia we consider the OGP objectives as complementary to one another, and therefore, the point of departure in drawing up the Action Plan was the parallel advancement of both the basic principles[3] of the declaration and its key challenges[4]. Based on a decision by the OGP Coordinating Council embracing various parties, the OGP 2016-2018 Action Plan focuses on two priorities: citizen-centred public services, and open and inclusive policy-making. However, this does not mean attention will not be paid to the other OGP key challenges, but rather for clear focus, it was decided to concentrate on certain areas, based on evaluating to which activities we could contribute the most under the OGP framework. The broader implementation of the open government principles is also supported via several other activities in parallel to the OGP Action Plan which are not directly reflected in the OGP Action Plan. Measures directed towards the prevention of corruption are addressed separately through the Anti-Corruption Strategy[5]. The aims of the strategy are to promote awareness of corruption, to increase transparency of decisions and operations, to develop the investigative capabilities of the investigation institutions and prevent security-endangering corruption.

Development of public services

The government has set the goal of bringing about governance reform, in which the broader objective is to make the governance of the nation simpler, more open, innovative and flexible. The advancement of public services is one of the chief targets for governance reform in order for better public services to be accessible throughout Estonia; that the interaction between the business community and citizenry with the government be simplified; that government agencies become more open; and that work flows within the government be more effective and more affordable for the state. This is not an agenda directed at any specific minister or ministry, but the thinking how the government services will increasingly be based on the needs of the citizenry and the business community, would save their time and money, and decrease the administrative burden in interacting with the government. At the same time, every minister and public servant must seek for opportunities to execute their work even more efficiently so that taxpayers' money may be spent more effectively.

The challenge remains, how the services could be made more citizen-centered, the existing solutions better integrated and develop further, the data cross-used, and the use of resources streamlined. The Action Plan incorporates two large-scale initiatives: the e-Tax and Customs Board developmet – electronic services of the Tax and Customs Board (the far-reaching expansion of all e-service development processes); and the Zero Bureaucracy initiative (the analysis of the rationality of the burden being created by different norms and regulations, and their streamlining). Within the OGP framework attention is drawn to the process in which the citizen can participate in the shaping and development of the service so that it may be offered in a smarter and more citizen-friendly way, while

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[3] Core values of the OGP declaration: improve the accessibility of information concerning the activity of the Government, support civil society participation, implement highest standards to professional honesty in the administration, increase access to new technologies to increase openness and accountability.

[4] The activities and aims of the countries participatin in the open government partnership are structured around five key challenges: (1) developing public services – measures are related to the broad spectrum of services for citizens, promote making the public sector more efficient or innovation of the private sector; (2) promoting public ethics – measures are related to corruption and public ethics, access to information and promote the freedom of media and the civic society; (3) more efficient use of public resources – measures deal with budgets, public procurement, natural resoures and foreign aid; (4) creating more secure communities – measures are related to public safety, security sector, readiness for disasters and crises and issues of environmental hazards; (5) increasing the responsibiity of companies – measures are intended to increase the responsibility of companies in various fields, e.g. the environment, anti-corruption measures, consumer protection, community engagement.

[5] Estonian Anti-Corruption Strategy, http://www.korruptsioon.ee/et/korruptsioonivastane-tegevus-eestis/korruptsioonivastane-strateegia-2013-2020

further improving the quality of the service, and reducing unnecessary burden for the citizen (be they private individuals or members of the business commuity).

Openness of policy-making and engagement of parties

In the advancement of inclusive policy-making, the focus of the government is on e-democracy and the further development of inclusivity, as well as the prevention of a digital divide. The government further focuses on the promotion of possibilities for participating in policy-making based on the principles of open governance and the introduction of contemporary technological solutions, that support transparent management and governance at national and local levels. The objective is to create inclusivity in policy making at an earlier stage. The objectives of the current developments in the Information System of Draft Acts (EIS) are to expand the opportunities for stakeholders and the public to participate in the early-stage of the policy-making process, making information publicly available when a government agency begins the compilation of a draft act. At the same time, it is necessary to strengthen practices of inclusion. To do this, it is necessary to root the use of the initiation phase in EIS, create participation sections on ministries´ websites and their practice, and strengthen the capacities for inclusion as well as participation. Essentially, these constitute continued activities from the previous Action Plan.

At local level the objective is to strengthen local governments and expand participatory democracy within the framework of administrative reform, which offers a unique opportunity to implement OGP principles in new local government units. The Action Plan will also support the implementation of open governance principles at local level within the framework of the local government reform. Associations of local municipalities support the implementation of open governance principles at local level and are ready to invest in the introduction and promotion of open governance principles in already functioning cooperation formats and networks, including at the Expert Committee for the Administrative Reform, at amalgamation negotiations, and among their own members.

The representatives of the parliament as the second new party in the partnership have expressed their willingness to develop open lawmaking processes within the partnership framework. Lobbying rules and principles for special interest group representation will be devised for *Riigikogu* members.

The goal of the government is to increase the effectiveness and transparency of public spending. One of the most important initiatives is to increase the transparency of the state budget, thus supporting the progressive transition to activity-based budgeting, and strengthening substantive reporting on the fulfillment of action programmes. These are large-scale processes, and discussions concerning increasing the transparency of the state budget are also planned within the OGP Coordinating Council. The Action Plan addresses the inclusion of the community in the local-level budgeting process, and so far, experience with this has been positive. The plan also extends to increasing transparency in the use of state financial resources to fund NGOs.

With reference to the expansion of the skills and knowledge necessary to make use of the potentials of the information society and e-state in the context of present-day open governance, the Action Plan draws attention to the need for the explication of participatory democracy in the education system, and for the achievement of the digital competencies necessary in the information society. Digital competency has been integrated into national curricula as part of broader competencies since 2014.

Also the model for digital competencies has been developed. In curriculas, the digital competencies are well reflected. . It is important to continuously strengthen its implementation in all areas of the curriculum and teaching methods. To this end, the curricula for all subjects will be critically reviewed, and competitions and other events will be organised (in collaboration with Information Technology Foundation for Education, the Innove Foundation). Descriptions of the learning process have already been upgraded (materials supporting teachers in implementing the curriculum). It is important that the digital competence clearly a component of the broader whole, being integrated into other general competencies and the use of digital technology is not seen as an end in itself, but rather as a means for guiding a student's development and enhancing learning.

2. PREVIOUS ACTIVITIES RELATED TO OPEN GOVERNMENT

The priorities have been the same while compiling the previous and the new action plan and herefore, the specifications related to addressing challenges and action trajectories have also been similar. The OGP 2014-2016 Action Plan focused on three priority areas: the openness of the policy-making process, the transparency of the state budget and the financial management, and the citizen-centred public services.

Within the framework of the priority axis on the citizen-inclusive and open policy-making process, the Action Plan put forth three commitments: 1) improve the availability of information needed to participate; 2) improve the participation options in the policy-making process; 3) increase the capability of governmental authorities and non-governmental partners to cooperate, participate and engage interest groups. Of the twelve activities projected to fulfil these commitments, seven have been accomplished and five are being implemented (this includes two ongoing projects to be included in the next action plan). An interactive visualisation of the process of policy cycle (on the net) has been created to give a better overview of the policy-making process. With the development of EIS, the initial phase has been created, and also the possibility to add summaries of public consultations into the draft dossier and give other necessary notifications; an integrated functionality has been embedded into the eesti.ee environment, providing a common form allowing for the any kind of letter or enquiry to be put forward to any state authority; an amendment was approved safeguarding that any changes concerning taxation in any law must foresee at least six months period between the adoption and the enactment of the amendments; an web-based co-creation tool rahvaalgatus.ee has been created; projects supporting inclusivity and improving the capabilities for participation on the part of social partners and civil society associations have been funded.

The priority axis on state budget transparency and financial management states in the commitment that the spending of public funds will be transparent and easily comprehended. Of the four activities projected to fulfill this objective, two have been launched and two have been delayed since their implementation required much more work than anticipated. The accounting information on government spending with the level of detail required by the chart of accounts from units belonging to the government sector is to be made public. Guidelines and examples have been developed for local

governments to facilitate drawing up a brief overview of their budget, which would be easy for the citizens to understand. The result for the first year was that approximately 20% of the local governments did draw up this simple overview of their budget. Including third sector organizations that have received funding from the state budget in the public finances application, as well as publicizing private sector and third sector transaction partners of local authorities and interfacing this information with the business registry to show persons related to these transactions, have been deferred.

The citizen-driven public services priority axis stated two commitments: 1) raise the quality of public service development and provision, 2) use opend data more extensively . Of the seven activities designed to meet these commitments, four have been completely accomplished, two are in the process of being realised, and concerning one the projected work will not be executed in its planned form since financing could not be found. Four test projects drawn up under the guidelines for amenity e-services have been launched. Approximately 300 public services have been uniformly described in a machine-readable format and information about the services has been consolidated and centrally released. The issuance of non-resident digital IDs has begun, and the work on will be continued on developing futher the services. The creation of an interactive web-based toolbox for developing public services was abandoned since the necessary funding could not be found. The open-data portal opendata.riik.ee has been created, tested and launched. Calls for proposals for opening the data as well as for implementing link data test projects have been carried out. Initiatives to promote the re-use of open data have also been conducted.

In summary: of the 23 activities projected to fulfil all the commitments, 13 have been completely implemented and 7 are in the process of implementation, while the launch of 2 has been postponed and 1 has been abandoned altogether in its present form.

A certain time pressure in regard to the launch of these activities arose from the fact that quite a few activities mandated by the Action Plan were stated in relatively undefined wording. Following the adoption of the Action Plan, the focus was primarily set on the more precise elaboration of the actions planned within its framework so that, in line with the descriptions of problems and the specified activity trajectories, collaboration with partners could be agreed upon based on a common understanding concerning the next steps to be taken in order to fulfil the commitments. As a result, it was not possible to begin the implementation of activities immediately following the adoption of the Action Plan and thus, the timeframe for implementing several of the activities rendered short. It was only on June 2, 2015 that the Coordinating Council approved the outlining of the final 8 activities from the total of 23 (1/3), i.e. those activities that were to be specifically undertaken for the fulfillment of the commitments. This was a year after the adoption of the Action Plan (when half of the implementation period had already passed).

The 2016-2018 OGP Action Plan continues with inclusive policy making and the citizen-centred public services priority trajectories (the first of which also includes activities directed towards increasing transparency in the use of public funds). There are three follow-up activities planned, which involve more work than initially projected (disclosure of data concerning the funding of NGOs, developments related to inclusivity), and were initially planned to be implemented during a longer period (supporting the capabilites for inclusivity in government agencies and the participation of non-governmental partners).

3. ACTION PLAN DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

The operative leadership role in the compilation of the Action Plan is assumed by the OGP Coordinating Council, representing the different stakeholders and functioning as the cooperation forum. The forum's mandate was expanded based on the decision of the Coordinating Council to transform its role from the supervisor of the implementation of the 2014-2016 Action Plan into the role of the compiler of the new Action Plan, rendering the substantive decisions concerning the plan. **The circle of parties participating in the Open Government Partnership was expanded through extending an invitation to Parliament and local government representatives to join the initiative, and who now also participate in the work of the Coordinating Council.** The OGP Action Plan is compiled in keeping with **agreements arrived at in the OGP Coordinating Council** relating to the basic principles concerning the compilation of the Plan, its timeframe as well as the substantive decisions rendered concerning the content of the Action Plan.

Preparations for the draft of the Action Plan began in December of 2015. On December 8, the Government Office made a proposal to the Coordinating Council that it be the effective head of the compilation process for the new Action Plan. First of all, it was agreed that the Action Plan would be compiled by the OGP Coordinating Council, which would render substantive decisions concerning priorities as well as relating to activities to be incorporated into the Action Plan. For this, the Secretary of State expanded the mandate of the council, transforming it from supervisor of the development process to compiler of the new Plan, with the authority to make decisions concerning the new Plan. Secondly, the Coordinating Council agreed on **the basic principles and timetable** of the Plan (i.e. when which decisions shall be made). It was decided during the compilation of the Action Plan that it would be based on the premise of being more focused (incorporate fewer, but more ambitious activities into the Plan) and on the principle of partnership (every participant must take on some responsibilities for the Plan). Thirdly, the timeframe for the compilation of the Action Plan and its stages of unfoldment was also agreed upon through a decision of the Coordinating Council. The description of the whole Action Plan development process as well as supplementary materials, i.e. all of the Coordinating Council's protocols and decisions, were published on the Government Office OGP website.

Subsequently, the stakeholders were asked for **proposals** as to what the **priorities** for the new Action Plan should be. All the parties were asked to present their proposals concerning priorities to the OGP Coordinating Council. Following deliberation on the proposals, the Coordinating Council decided which of these to incorporate into the Action Plan. The Network of Estonian Nonprofit Organizations (NENO) organised a web-based call for ideas for mapping out problems and proposals for priority trajectories, upon which the OGP roundtable then deliberated and together decided upon which proposals to embrace in the new Action Plan. The Government Office arranged meetings and discussions with representatives of government agencies to bring together the government's proposals. On March 1, the Coordinating Council decided upon the priority trajectories for the Action Plan.

In line with a decision by the Coordinating Council, the Government Office gathered the proposals from the **open call for ideas,** which closed April 15, concerning what should be accomplished within the framework of the priority trajectories, and which specific actions to undertake. The call for ideas was

open to everyone who wished to put forth their proposals and was organised as a web-based project. The public was informed of the call for ideas directly on the front page of the Government Office website and via social media. In addition, all partners in OGP were asked to inform their members and target groups that the call for ideas was taking place. All the proposals received from the open call for ideas were forwarded to the Coordinating Council members for evaluation and for consideration as to which activities to incorporate into the Action Plan and how each party would be willing, on their part, to contribute to the achievement of the objectives. The proposals received were published on the Government Office´s OGP webpage. The gathering of proposals for the Action Plan and the proposals received were also broadcast by the media.

On April 27, the Coordinating Council gathered to discuss and decide which **proposals to include in the Action Plan**. The Coordinating Council then made the choices as to which activities to include in the Plan and which to leave out; which to designate as proposals for further consultation by the parties on whether the OGP framework would be the best to contribute to their attainment; and which specific actions the parties were prepared to implement within the Action Plan framework. Supplementary consultation took place until May 13.

The completed Action Plan draft was forwarded to all of the members of the Coordinating Council on May 24 for perusal, and discussions on the Action Plan draft were held in the Coordinating Council on June 1, where it was decided to send the Plan for public consultation and to official consultation round. From June 6 until June 18, The Action Plan was on public consultation on the participation-web osale.ee and on the official consultation round. The Action Plan was adopted on the Government session on June 30.

International Open Government Partnership materials guided the compilation of this current Action Plan. The Government Office served as the coordinator of activities connected with the Partnership, while the Ministry for Foreign Affairs represents Estonia in the international relations.

4. FURTHER ACTION PLAN

In the third implementation period the Estonian action plan focuses on two priority axes when implementing the principles of open government partnership – **developing citizen-centred public services** and an **open and inclusive policy-making process.**

Citizen-centred public services

The aim of the citizen-centred public services priority axis is to develop public services in a citizen-centred manner. On the one hand, this will make the communication of citizens with the state more simple, transparent, less burdensome, while on the other hand, it will increase the efficiency of the public sector. When increasing citizen-centeredness it is important for public services to be offered in a smart and more convenient manner for the citizen, thus further increasing the quality of services and

reducing the unnecessary burden on the citizen (whether an individual or an entrepreneur). This is also related to increasing the efficiency and transparency of the use of resources by the state. The information should be better understandable and simple; the cross-use of existing data should be more extensive for simplifying the offering of services as well as for reducing the burden; and integral solutions should be the focus when offering services.

Citizen-centeredness also involves the design process of the service – involving citizens in designing and developing the services so that the services correspond to the needs and expectations of citizens in the best possible way. in the OGP Action Plan, attention is also paid to the process of citizen participation in the design and further development of the services when increasing the quality of the service, to the involvement mechanisms and the extent of participation. Therefore, the more citizen-centred the design of public services is, the more it enables the creation of better quality policy decisions and the offering of better services in the future.

The action plan commits to increasing citizen-centeredness in service design and offering. Two activities are scheduled in the Action Plan to fulfil the commitment.

I priority area: Citizen-centred public services	Commitment 1: Increase the participation of users in designing and developing public services	Activities: 1.1. e-Tax and Customs Board 2020 1.2. Reducing bureaucracy and simplifying the state

COMMITMENT 1: INCREASE THE PARTICIPATION OF USERS IN DESIGNING AND DEVELOPING PUBLIC SERVICES

1.1 e-Tax and Customs Board 2020		
Commencement and end dates		*Activities have been commenced. The new e-TCB will be ready in 2020*
Responsible body		*Tax and Customs Board*
Involved partners	*Participating authorities*	*All ministries*
	Non-governmental	*Employers' Confederation, Chamber of Commerce and Industry, entreprises*
*Description of the **current situation** or problem resolved with the commitment*		*The current self-service environment of the Tax and Customs Board (hereinafter the TCB) the "E-Tax/E-Customs" was created approximately 16 years ago. By now it has become technologically and functionally out-dated, which in turn is a hindrance for realising the new, necessary functions and modern solutions (e.g. smart solutions, language options, machine-to-machine interfaces). The TCB is currently unable to achieve the sub-aim "Smarter governance" of the information society development plan 2020 (e.g. satisfaction with the quality of public services, settlement with e-invoices between the public and private sectors etc.), as the technical platform of the e-Tax/E-Customs does not enable this.*
*Main **aim***		*The TCB's new self-service environment is being developed with the aim of making the submission of data to the state and the payment of claims in public law simple, comprehensive, central and contactless for the taxpayer*

	(residents, non-residents incl. e-residents), while supporting the development of real-time economy solutions. *While the current e-services have been developed in an official-centred manner, the new self-service environment must correspond to the needs and expectations of very different users – the accountant, director of a large enterprise, small entrepreneur, citizen, or e-resident. It is important to support an innovative business environment and give the entrepreneur the confidence that the tax administrator is the first point of help with taxation issues. The new e-services must enable compliance with tax obligations as simply as possible and at a minimum cost to the entrepreneur as well as the state.* *To support the competitiveness of the Estonian business environment, the services of the new e-Tax Board must be multilingual and mobile, i.e. the applications are developed as a responsive design. All of the TCB's e-services will be of a similar appearance and user logic, which simplifies the use of different services for the taxpayer.*

Short description of the **commitment** *(max 140 characters)*	*The following will be done:*
	
	    1) **administration of taxpayer's data.**
	When managing persons' data, the e-services of public authorities must enable persons to change their contact details from one place (e.g. if a person changes their telephone number in the eesti.ee environment then that information is immediately also sent to the other authorities and the person does not have to renew their contacts in various environments). The switch to a complete online data exchange between source registers (commercial register, population register) and the opportunity to administer persons' data through the self-service channel without the official's intervention helps minimise the client's administrative burden when making register entries and ensures correct and reliable client data for the operation of e-services.
	
	    2) **administration of taxes.**
	When developing the new services of the e-Tax Board, the composition of the data necessary for compliance with the tax obligation is analysed, terminating the collection of unnecessary/duplicate information. Considering the technological possibilities of the modern day, hereinafter the data necessary for taxation will be used as the basis, not the requirements of traditional declarations. The aim is to make the submission of the taxation source data and payment of the tax obligation simpler and more convenient for the taxpayer.
	
	    3) **administration of claims.**
	The aim is to enable the taxpayers to use the main methods of payment accepted by Eesti Pank when paying claims in public law, and if necessary, to be ready to begin using other modern payment solutions (e.g. Paypal, Transferwise, e-money, virtual money etc.), which facilitate compliance with tax obligations in Estonia for non-residents. When paying taxes, the state must enable the e-invoice solution, which helps reduce the administrative cost of individuals when complying with the tax obligations.
	
	    4) **single submission of data to the state and reuse.**
	By changing the ideology of tax collection, the monitoring activity of tax collection changes as well. The aim is not to annoy the honest taxpayer when possible. The more precise risk analysis taking place online must bring only those taxpayers whose tax risks are high on to the monitoring

	officials' desks. *The taxpayer shall have the opportunity to monitor the course of the tax, debt or permit proceedings related to him or her in the e-TCB. The proceedings must be substantially carried out in the e-environment, using modern communications channels to the maximum extent (e.g. Skype, mobile telephone), to reduce the administrative cost of parties to the proceedings when communicating with the tax administrator.* *Thereafter, taxpayers (incl. as an employer) shall have the option of generating reports on the basis of the data in the tax administrator's possession. This will be in their interest for comparing the indicators of their company with other entrepreneurs, as well as for sharing their data with business partners or the bank. The opportunity to compare their data on a rolling basis with other entrepreneurs of their sector of the economy, incl. competitors, increases the transparency of the business environment, improves tax compliance and gives an entrepreneur important basic information for necessary financial decision making.* *Part of the tax data must be available anonymously as open data in order to serve those who wish to be able to create new services.*
OGP key field for doing which a commitment is made	*Services. Reporting*
Relevance *(describe briefly how the commitment aids the development of OGP values, which are: 1) access to information; 2) public responsibility; 3) citizen participation; 4) innovation and technology for the promotion of openness and responsibility*	1) *The extent and cost-effectiveness of the public services offered in the e-environment will be increased on the basis of the actual needs and the general interests of the state and broader aims as a whole when providing the service, not just the key areas currently set for the TCB in the statute.* 2) *National and transnational cooperation will be initiated in the field of services related to tax and customs topics, while harmonising the quality of offering public services using ICT in a smart manner.* 3) *All interest groups will be involved in the creation of the service from the user's viewpoint. For this reason, most attention will focus on enabling the user to resolve all issues related to the service of more than one authority as a result of the single use of one service.* 4) *The competitiveness of the Estonian business environment will be supported, changing the e-TCB services and the work processes supporting them to multilingual and mobile services, creating new applications as a responsive design, which is directly necessary to ensure a good investment environment in Estonia.*
Ambition *(Describe briefly the planned results and whether the performance of the commitment will aid making the parliament/government more open, or help to improve the parliament/government apparatus through greater openness)*	1) ***Support for enterprise*** *(taxation will be made internationally attractive for large companies, advice on the basis of the entrepreneur's needs will be offered, the tax savviness of young people will be increased).* 2) ***Modern e-services*** *(declarations will be replaced by data-based information exchange; payment solutions for the payment of claims in public law will be developed; an opportunity for forwarding data necessary for taxation from various service providers will be created; entrepreneurs are ensured an overview of the tax environment and the entrepreneur's position in it).* 3) ***The entrepreneur has confidence that his or her tax and customs matters are in order and an equal and competitive environment operates;*** *(the entrepreneur's special character will be considered and solutions will be offered when complying with tax obligations;*

the tax morale will be influenced by giving the person the opportunity to share their data).		
Milestone/stage (Activity with a recognisable result and end date)	Commencement of activity	End date
1.Technical analyses of the IT systems' platforms of the Tax and Customs Board (TCB) are carried out to build the new system - A visual of e-services is created in cooperation with end users to enable them to avail of the TCB self-service environment and its services as conveniently and simply as possible in the future.	01.2016	06.2016
2.User needs are analysed in cooperation with the consumer, asking for input from various associations and entrepreneurs in the course of direct meetings and as a result of the recommendation index method - Test environments and a product environment are created for the new developments being created - New non-functional requirements for the systems are developed in cooperation with IT.	07.2016	12.2016
3.The following is created as central components: administration of persons, administration of users, new payment methods, central administration of claims - The completed prototypes will be given to end users for testing. The feedback received will be taken into account in a further development activity.	01.2017	12.2017
4. Data-based taxation will be switched to; the submission of declarations will be minimised. For this, the respective legislation will be amended, and entrepreneurs that are end users of the service will be engaged though active communication.	01.2018	12.2018
5. A new platform (freeware) and a new architecture of the TCB information systems will be implemented.	01.2018	06.2018

	1.2 Reducing bureaucracy and a simpler state – the zero bureaucracy project	
Commencement and end dates		01.06.2015 – 30.04.2018
Responsible body		The Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communication
Engaged partners	Participating authorities	Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of the Environment, Ministry of Social Affairs
	Non-governmental	Eesti Pank, Health Insurance Fund, Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Employers' Confederation, Service Industry Association
Description of the current situation or problem resolved through the commitment		Reduction in unnecessary bureaucracy for companies when communicating with the state to enable companies to focus on their principal activity instead of spending time and resources on communicating with the state.
Main aim		The aim of the government is to reduce the bureaucracy arising for citizens and companies when communicating with the state. For this, over 250 proposals have already been gathered from interest groups and companies, and their applicability has been analysed. The analysis showed that it is possible to implement in part or in full a total of 164 proposals. The proposals will be implemented gradually by 2019.

Short description of the **commitment** *(max. 140 characters)*	*To ensure the implementation of proposals for a reduction in bureaucracy made by business organisations and to develop and implement a mechanism for a constant reduction in the burden arising for entrepreneurs when communicating with the state and when dealing with the requirements of legislation, and bureaucracy within the public sector.* *Originally, proposals were gathered from entrepreneurs for a reduction in bureaucracy, but the opportunity to make proposals is constantly open to everyone. To simplify this, a web-based opportunity will also be created for the constant submission of proposals for a reduction in bureaucracy. Furthermore, regular collections of proposals and analyses of options for their implementation will be organised in cooperation with entrepreneurs.* *The representatives of non-governmental partners and government authorities are also involved in the work of the task force responsible for implementing the proposals. The Ministries have analysed the proposals submitted so far and have decided together with the representatives of entrepreneurs which proposals can be implemented in full and which in part. Each Ministry shall prepare a more precise plan for a reduction in bureaucracy.* *Proposals which presume greater changes than a reduction in bureaucracy are reviewed separately. Meetings at ministerial and business organisational levels shall be organised to discuss the implementation of these proposals and deal with further reduction in bureaucracy (e.g. field-based special requirements).*
OGP **key field** *for doing which a commitment is made*	*Development of public services (client-centredness, increasing the efficiency of the public sector), more efficient use of public resources*
Relevance *(describe briefly how the commitment aids the development of OGP values, which are: 1) access to information; 2) public responsibility; 3) citizen participation; 4) innovation and technology for the promotion of openness and responsibility*	*The initiative will improve access to public information and will enable the use of innovative and technological solutions to improve transparency and efficiency in the public sector and the quality of public services. The process itself has contributed to an increase in active citizenship because business organisations and companies have made proposals for a reduction in bureaucracy. The role of the state apparatus is the implementation of these proposals.*
Ambition *(Describe briefly the planned results and whether the performance of the commitment will aid making the parliament/government more open, or help to improve the parliament/government apparatus through greater openness)*	*The initiative will make the Estonian business environment more simple and attractive and will simplify communication with the state both for citizens and companies. With greater use of digital options, the public sector will become more open, and transparency will increase. The reporting burden will be reduced notably, and hindrances will be removed from implementing the principle of the single asking-submitting of data and documents.*

Milestone/stage	*Commencement of activity*	*End date*
1. Gathering proposals from business organisations and companies for a reduction in bureaucracy	*June 2015*	*October 2015*

2. Analysis of proposals by government authorities	November 2015	January 2016
3. Making decisions about the implementation of the proposals for a reduction in bureaucracy	February 2016	March 2016
4. Developing organisation-based plans (projects) for implementing proposals to reduce bureaucracy	April 2016	April 2017
5. Coordinating the development of the applications of IT developments	April 2016	September 2017
6. Developing and launching the monitor for reducing bureaucracy	May 2016	June 2017
7. Interim report to the Government on the status of implementing the proposals for reducing bureaucracy	January 2017	March 2017
8. Agreeing on the priorities for a reduction in special requirements arising from activity licences, and launching the reduction	May 2016	March 2018
9. Final report to the Government on the results of implementing the proposals	January 2018	April 2018

Open and inclusive policy-making process

The aim of the priority axis of the open and inclusive policy-making process is to assert the culture of policy-making through open and inclusive decision-making processes, which is characterised by transparency of governance and greater trust between public authorities and citizens. The principles of open policy-making and legislative drafting have not been integrated into decision-making processes to the full extent so far. Non-governmental organisations complain that they learn about the decision being prepared too late for meaningful participation, or that the engagement remains formal and superficial. In the case of a desire to participate, it is often not known when and how to submit proposals. The impact of various interest groups on legislative drafting is unclear, and at times it seems unequal, which in turn amplifies the prejudices of the bias of politicians when making decisions.

The administrative reform currently underway is a substantial change in Estonia. The results foreseen in the reform include the new administrative division, distribution of duties and financing. Through the OGP Action Plan, attention is also paid to how public authority will be exercised at local government level. The other noticeable change is the lowering of the voting age to 16 years of age in the local government elections, which adds a large target group. In the OGP Action Plan, attention is paid to defining participatory democracy in school education and obtaining the necessary digital competences for coping in the information society.

The Action Plan presents three commitments and eight activities to achieve the commitments.

II priority area: **Open and inclusive policy-making process**	Commitment 2: Increase engagement and transparency in policymaking	Activities: 2.1. Implementation of the principles of open governance at local level as a result of the administrative reform 2.2. More engaging policy-making at central government level 2.3. More open and transparent law-making 2.4. Increase in the engagement capacity of state authorities and participation capacity of non-governmental organisations in policy-making
	Commitment 3: Increase the transparency of the use of public funds and engagement in the budget process	3.1. Intensify participatory budgeting at local level 3.2. Increasing the transparency of the funding of non-governmental organizations
	Commitment 4: Development of social and ICT know-how, taking into account the opportunities of the information society and e-state	4.1. Defining participatory democracy and development of digital competence in school education

COMMITMENT 2: INCREASE ENGAGEMENT AND TRANSPARENCY IN POLICY-MAKING

2.1 Implementation of the principles of open governance at local level as a result of the administrative reform		
Commencement and end dates		*01.01.2017 – 30.06.2018*
Responsible body		*Ministry of Finance*
Engaged partners	*Participating authorities*	*Ministry of the Interior, local governments*
	Non-governmental	*e-Governance Academy, NENO, non-governmental organisations valuing participatory democracy*
*Description of the **current situation** or problem resolved with the commitment*		*There is a systematic opportunity in the course of the administrative reform to develop the governance culture at local level, which can be aided by supporting the new principles and instruments of open governance when preparing and implementing the reform.* *The period of the OGP new Action Plan coincides with the preparation and implementation of the administrative reform, which provides a good opportunity to use the existing experience of implementing open government partnership as a method at local level as part of this experience.*

	The project "Open Government Partnership in Local Authorities" implemented on the initiative of the E-Governance Academy and sharing the experience obtained as part of the test projects in 2017-2018 will help the involved local governments to plan the joint development of the newly formed local government in an open and inclusive manner.
	Local governments that have participated in the project so far consider the initiative necessary and support its continuation, especially considering the ongoing merger preparations and the need to develop the new administrative culture of the merged local government. In a situation where the local governments have the will and need to develop an inclusive culture, such instruments are an important support.
*Main **aim***	*The principles of open governance are deemed important in the course of the administrative reform, which has been previously agreed on with the participation of local governments.* *The tools and principles for open governance developed so far will be used and further developed when preparing for the merger and following the merging of local governments.*
*Short description of the **commitment** (max 140 characters)*	*As part of the activities **the merging local governments will be advised and supported when implementing the principles of open governance following the merger,** also in preparing joint development before the merger takes place (by more advanced local governments), incl. in the field of applying various activities and e-solutions promoting open governance. A suitable time for implementing the project would be from the beginning of 2017. By then, the voluntarily merged local governments will have submitted their applications to join and will have made the relevant legal preparations. Furthermore, they will have had the time and opportunity until the elections in October to deal with implementing the principles of management and inclusion and open government partnership in the merged parish.* *The selected local governments include about 8-10 local governments, which are sufficient to achieve an impact, but to enable a personal approach for the participating local governments, setting goals and evaluating their achievements will be necessary. The activities are directly related to the priority of the OGP Action Plan, which increases the engagement of citizens and openness in the policy-making process.* *The implementation of activities is planned through the open application round of the Ministry of Finance. Project applicants can be an umbrella organisation of local governments and or non-profit associations together with the e-Governance Academy.*
OGP key field for doing which a commitment is made	*Pursuant to the core values of the OGP declaration, the activities are related to improving access to information concerning the activity of the government (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) and supporting the participation of the civil society (PARTICIPATION) and solving problems with development of public services (SERVICES) – by being related to the cooperation of local governments with communities and citizens' associations in managing local life and developing citizens' services by making them more efficient in merged local governments.*
Relevance (describe briefly how the	*Test projects for implementing the principles of open governance at local level are directly related to improving access to public information and*

commitment aids the development of OGP values, which are: 1) access to information; 2) public responsibility; 3) citizen participation; 4) innovation and technology for the promotion of openness and responsibility	*increasing civic participation.[6]*
Ambition *(Describe briefly the planned results and whether the performance of the commitment will aid making the parliament/government more open, or help to improve the parliament/government apparatus through greater openness)*	*The test projects have been aimed directly at increasing the participation of citizens in the newly merged local authorities. Insofar as new structures, practices and behavioural habits are developed following the merger, a significant impact of the test projects on the increase in the quality and citizen-friendliness of public administration post-merging can be expected. This begins at the time of the implementation of changes and the selection of new means of management of local life and organisation of services together with the respective expert information and direction by the developers of the "Principles of Open Government".*

Milestone*/stage*	*Commencement of activity*	*End date*
Preparing the measures, submitting applications, evaluation and selection	*01.06.2016*	*1.01.2017*
Implementing test projects	*1.01.2017*	*30.12.2018*

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2.2 More inclusive policy-making on a central government level		
Commencement and end dates	*01.07.2016 – 31.06.2018*	
Responsible body	*Government Office*	
Engaged partners	*Participating authorities*	*Ministries*
	Non-governmental	*Non-government organisations, social partners*
*Description of the **current situation** or problem resolved through the commitment*	*Inclusion into policy-making should take place in an earlier phase to enable a more comprehensive discussion. Estonia's problem is not the scarcity of technical solutions but rather their excessiveness; therefore, from the citizen's perspective, additional value is created by the association of different information and channels, while clarity and comprehension are increased by the similar manner of presentation of the information.*	
*Main **aim***	*Creating better abilities for participating in the earlier stage of policy-making. Standardising the engagement-related information of the government website and ministries and its manner of presentation. Introducing the practice of the initiation stage of EIS in ministries.*	
*Short description of the **commitment** (max 140 characters)*	*The aim of the activity is to improve the availability of information about the government's plans, which would enable earlier participation in policy-making.* *The full picture of engagement offered on the government website increases the comprehensibility of the policy-making process and offers a direct link*	

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[6] See more information http://www.ega.ee/et/project/avatud-valitsemise-partnerlus-kohalikes-omavalitsustes/

	to the engagement websites of ministries, where the interested parties can contribute to policy-making. The engagement sections ensure that it is not duplicating information. Instead, it offers the opportunity of the same function to move from the aggregate information of all ministries on the government website to more detailed information in the engagement section of a specific ministry. This section has more detailed information about the respective field and engagement activities in the areas of responsibility of the ministry. Introducing the practice of the initiation stage so that people are able to receive information for earlier participation in policy-making.
OGP key field for doing which a commitment is made	The activity contributes towards developing services, and more efficient use of resources
Relevance (describe briefly how the commitment aids the development of OGP values, which are: 1) access to information; 2) public responsibility; 3) citizen participation; 4) innovation and technology for the promotion of openness and responsibility	It increases access to information, offering it on more unified grounds, thereby increasing comprehensibility and the association of the information of various information channels. It supports civic participation, offering more easily comprehensible information about the government's activity and supports engagement in an earlier phase.
Ambition (Describe briefly the planned results and whether the performance of the commitment will aid making the parliament/government more open, or help to improve the parliament/government apparatus through greater openness)	By supporting opportunities for engagement in an earlier phase a contribution is made to increasing the transparency of policy-making

Milestone/stage	Commencement of activity	End date
Development of the engagement sections of ministries and introduction of practice	01.07.2016	30.06.2018
Introducing the practice of use of the initiation stage created for supporting earlier engagement as an Information System of Draft Acts (EIS) development	01.07.2016	30.06.2018

2.3 More open and transparent law-making	
Commencement and end dates	01.07.2016 – 30.06.2018
Responsible body	Riigikogu
Engaged partners	Transparency International Estonia, Open Government Partnership Roundtable, parties related to representing interests

*Description of the **current situation** or problem resolved through the commitment*	*Lobbying is a normal part of democratic decision-making processes, but concealed lobbying reduces democracy. Even though lobbying is not regulated by laws in Estonia, the studies carried out clearly refer to a need for rules. The public as well as decision-makers should have a clearer understanding of who submitted the amendment proposals or who is behind an expert opinion. Clear lobbying rules, i.e. representing interest groups must be set out.* *Amendments to the Riigikogu Rules of Procedure and Internal Rules Act (13.04.2016, RT I, 03.05.2016, 2) have been passed, with which the minutes of the sittings of committees are made significantly more substantial and open. In addition, interest groups in the matter concerned that were engaged in the preparation of the draft and that wish to participate in the draft discussion are invited to engage in the draft discussion. It is important to check that these amendments are taken into account.*
*Main **aim***	*Supplementing and implementing the citizen-centred and open law-making process*
*Short description of the **commitment** (max 140 characters)*	*Developing lobbying rules and principles of representation of interests for members of the Riigikogu for increasing the openness of law-making, **creation of the respective self-regulation mechanism** as a code of good practice. Implementing open law-making and strengthening engagement practice.* *Monitoring the minutes of the committees' sittings (§ 39) and the part of the participation of interest groups (§ 36) on compliance with the Riigikogu Rules of Procedure and Internal Rules Act.*
OGP key field for doing which a commitment is made	*The commitment is directed at promoting public ethics, is related to corruption and public ethics, access to information and promotes the freedom of civil society.*
***Relevance** (describe briefly how the commitment aids the development of OGP values, which are: 1) access to information; 2) public responsibility; 3) civic participation; 4) innovation and technology for the promotion of openness and responsibility*	*An open law-making process, where suitable measures for avoiding the risks of concealed lobbying are clearly recognised and developed, increases the transparency of the exercising authority; it enables a more balanced policy-making and increases public responsibility. The creation of a self-regulation mechanism enables open representation of interests on the basis of clear rules and thereby increasing the citizens' trust in the political process and its results.*
***Ambition** (Describe briefly the planned results and whether the performance of the commitment will aid making the parliament more open, or help to improve the parliament through greater openness)*	*Performance of the commitment will aid the parliament in becoming more open by way of increasing the transparency of the entire legislative process. The creation of an efficient self-regulation mechanism will also help to improve the parliament through greater openness, improving the traceability and comprehensibility of the law-making process and thereby also increasing trust in the legislator.*

***Milestone**/stage*	*Commencement of activity*	*End date*
1. Supplementing the handbook of the member of the Riigikogu "Good practice of the member of the Riigikogu"	*01.2016*	*02.2017*
2. Developing the lobbying rules /	*04.2016*	*12.2016*

good practice of representation of interests of a member of the Riigikogu (engaging interest groups) and adding rules to the handbook of the member of the Riigikogu			
3. Implementation of the engagement practice and open law-making process according to the new wording of the Riigikogu Rules of Procedure and Internal Rules Act	05.2016		03.2019

2.4 Increase of the engagement capacity of state authorities and participation capacity of non-governmental organisations in policy-making		
Commencement and end dates	01.07.2016 – 31.06.2018	
Responsible body	Government Office	
Engaged partners	Participating authorities	Ministries
	Non-governmental	Non-governmental organisations
Description of the **current situation** or problem resolved through the commitment	Good practice of engagement has been developed to support engagement; the importance of transparency and predictability of law-making is emphasised by the Rules for Good Legislative Practice and Legislative Drafting. Engagement practice varies and it needs strengthening to ensure that policy-making is more transparent and that the interests of various parties are taken into account in a balanced manner.	
Main **aim**	The aim of the activity is to improve the quality of policy-making by way of the fact that **engagement has become systematic because the necessary conditions have been created for it**; non-governmental organisations have improved capacity to participate in this process. For this, engagement projects are undertaken that will assist in the achievement of this aim.	
Short description of the **commitment** (max 140 characters)	Improve the quality of policy-making by supporting the increase in the engagement capacity of state authorities and participation capacity of non-governmental partners in policy-making. The testing of new engagement-related solutions, the development of the state's engagement policy, and the development of the capacity of non-governmental organisations to participate in policy-making are supported.	
OGP key field for doing which a commitment is made	Access to information, civic participation.	
Relevance (describe briefly how the commitment aids the development of OGP values, which are: 1) access to information; 2) public responsibility; 3) civic participation; 4) innovation and technology for the promotion of	Engagement becoming a part of systematic policy-making increases the quality of policy-making and civic participation	

openness and responsibility	
Ambition *(Describe briefly the planned results and whether the performance of the commitment will aid making the government more open, or help to improve the government apparatus through greater openness)*	*The increase in engagement and participation capacity enables various parties to participate as well as to engage more efficiently, which in turn contributes to a more transparent and balanced policy-making.*

Milestone/stage	*Commencement of activity*	*End date*
Planning and implementing projects	*01.07.2016*	*30.06.2018*

COMMITMENT 3: INCREASE THE TRANSPARENCY OF THE USE OF PUBLIC FUNDS

3.1 Intensify participatory budgeting on a local level		
Commencement and end dates	*01.09.2016–31.03.2018*	
Responsible body	*Ministry of Finance*	
Engaged partners	*Participating authorities*	
	Non-governmental	*Association of Estonian Cities, Association of Municipalities of Estonia, local government units implementing open budgeting*
*Description of the **current situation** or problem resolved with the commitment*	*Larger local governments are created as a result of the administrative reform. However, in order to prevent a decline in citizens' engagement with it, the opportunities for engaging citizens in making budget decisions would require analysis.*	
*Main **aim***	*Increase the coherence of the society and support **finding better solutions for the community by way of inclusive budgeting**.*	
*Short description of the **commitment** (max 140 characters)*	*To introduce the inclusive budget more broadly the aim will be to analyse the various current examples of inclusive budgeting and the possible necessary amendments in the legal order and to prepare instructions and raise awareness in local governments.*	
*OGP **key field** for doing which a commitment is made*	*Resource use*	
Relevance (describe briefly how the commitment aids the development of OGP values, which are: 1) access to information; 2) public responsibility; 3) civic participation; 4) innovation and technology for the promotion of openness and responsibility	*The commitment significantly supports an increase in civic participation in the development of the local government's budget decisions. Open budgeting increases access to the budget process and information related to it and also supports public responsibility. The current technological capacities can be used for open budgeting (e.g. electronic voting).*	
Ambition *(Describe briefly the planned results*	*The commitment raises awareness of the local government of the wishes and needs of citizens and creates an opportunity for open discussion*	

and whether the performance of the commitment will aid making the government more open, or help to improve the government apparatus through greater openness)	between various interest groups.	
Milestone/stage	*Commencement of activity*	*End date*
1. Collecting examples implemented in local governments	01.09.2016	31.12.2016
2. Analysis of theoretical literature	01.01.2017	31.07.2017
3. Analysis of legislation	01.01.2017	31.07.2017
4. Preparation of instructions	01.09.2017	31.12.2017
5. Introducing inclusive budgeting to local governments	01.01.2018	31.03.2018

3.2 Increasing the transparency of the funding of non-governmental organisations		
Commencement and end dates	01.07.2016−30.06.2018	
Responsible body	Ministry of the Interior (analysis activities) Ministry of Finance (disclosing financing data)	
Engaged partners	*Participating authorities*	Ministry of Finance / Ministry of the Interior, National Foundation of Civil Society
	Non-governmental	Network of Estonian Nonprofit Organizations
*Description of the **current situation** or problem resolved through the commitment*	The shadow report of NENO on the financing of non-governmental organisations highlighted that the financing practices are more transparent and organised than before the adoption of the instruction material. However, a systematic change in compliance with financing principles has not been achieved. There is no precise and continuous overview of the funds directed towards non-governmental organisations from the state budget and their volumes.	
*Main **aim***	To make the use of public funds more transparent and help decision-makers/donors better direct resources in a balanced and efficient manner. To bring the practices of financing non-governmental organisations into compliance with the instruction materials of financing non-governmental organisations from the state budget and principles of good financing. To make the use of public funds more transparent and make the contribution of non-governmental organisations into the developments of fields more efficient. To disclose the data of financing non-governmental organisations.	
*Short description of the **commitment** (max 140 characters)*	In order to increase the transparency of financing non-governmental organisations, it is necessary, on the one hand, to harmonise the financing practice, and on the other hand, to disclose the data describing financing. In order to harmonise the practice of financing non-governmental organisations, a knowledge-based analysis methodology shall be prepared for evaluating compliance with the principles of financing and the first analysis shall be carried out. (Ministry of the Interior is responsible) In order to disclose financing data, making inquiries from the central financial accounting software in respect of funds allocated to non-	

	governmental organisations through state authorities and sending information to NENO for analysis preparation shall be continued. In addition, similar data are aggregated from intermediaries of the support, whose respective data are not on the central system. The aggregate analysis made by NENO is disclosed in the application of the public funds (Ministry of Finance is responsible)
OGP **key field** for doing which a commitment is made	Transparency of resource use
Relevance (describe briefly how the commitment aids the development of OGP values, which are: 1) access to information; 2) public responsibility; 3) civic participation; 4) innovation and technology for the promotion of openness and responsibility	All parties will have confidence that the financing of non-governmental organisations is transparent and the funds directed towards non-governmental organisations will help implement sector policies. The arranged data will enable the analysis of changes in financing practice as well as the impact of resource use.

The responsibility of both the non-governmental organisations and the public authority increases when using state budget funds. All interested parties have access to the information on recipients of money through the state budget as well as the amount and purpose. |
| **Ambition** (Describe briefly the planned results and whether the performance of the commitment will aid making the government more open, or help to improve the government apparatus through greater openness) | The commitment will help to make the use of public funds more transparent, purposeful, effective and supportive for increasing the operational capacity of non-governmental organisations.

The commitment will help to make the government apparatus more open, and will enable those allocating the funds / deciding over financing to have a better overview of the recipients of support, the amount and purpose. |

Milestone/stage	Commencement of activity	End date
Analysis activities of the financing principles of non-governmental organisations (Ministry of the Interior is responsible)		
1. Developing the methodology of the analysis of the financing principles of non-governmental organisations	01.06.2016	30.06.2017
2. The first analysis that evaluates the financing practices as well as changes in the dynamics of financing has been carried out on the basis of the methodology and the recommendations have been implemented.	01.07.2017	30.06.2018
Gathering, analysing and disclosing data describing the financing of non-governmental organisations (Ministry of Finance is responsible)		
1. Overview of funds transferred through state authorities in 2015 has been sent to NENO	01.01.2016	31.01.2016
2. NENO analyses and prepares an overview	01.02.2016	31.03.2016
3. Aggregating 2015 data through intermediaries of support and sending to NENO	01.03.2016	15.06.2016

4. NENO prepares an aggregate analysis	16.06.2016	30.09.2016
5. Introducing the analysis and disclosing it in the application of public funds	01.10.2016	31.10.2016
6. Overview of funds transferred through state authorities in 2016 has been sent to NENO	01.01.2017	31.01.2017
7. Aggregating 2016 data through intermediaries of support and sending to NENO	01.01.2017	31.01.2017
8. NENO prepares an aggregate analysis	01.02.2017	31.03.2017
9. Introducing the analysis and disclosing it in the application of public funds	01.04.2017	30.04.2017

COMMITMENT 4: DEVELOPMENT OF SOCIAL AND ICT KNOW-HOW TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE OPPORTUNITIES OF THE INFORMATION SOCIETY AND E-STATE

4.1 Defining participatory democracy and development of digital competence in school education		
Commencement and end dates		01.01.2016-31.12.2019 (activities have been commenced)
Responsible body		Ministry of Education and Research
Engaged partners	Participating authorities	Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communication, Foundation Innove, Information Technology Foundation for Education, Government Office, universities
	Non-governmental	Interested citizen initiatives, teachers, school administrators, students
Description of the **current situation** or problem resolved with the commitment		An open and engaging policy presumes the development of the social and ICT knowledge and skills of all citizens and especially the younger generation, in view of the opportunities of the information society and the e-state. To attract IT interest in the youth, both the Government of the Republic and the Estonian Association of Information Technology and Telecommunications (ITL) have launched several initiatives. At the same time, the youth's skills in using the opportunities of the e-state for exercising their civic rights and duties have received little attention so far. Several studies on the impact of users of e-services and lowering the voting age of the youth show the passiveness of Estonian youth in comparison with the young in other countries.
Main **aim**		School education supports the defining of participatory democracy in the context of modern open governance and obtaining the necessary digital competences for coping in the information society.
Short description of the **commitment** (max 140 characters)		In the development work of the subject syllabi of social subjects between 2016 and 2018 the Ministry of Education and Research shall consult with the respective interest groups, incl. civil society organisations.

	The interested parties, non-governmental organisations etc. shall submit their proposals for supplementing/renewing the learning aims and learning outcomes of the field of social subjects in accordance with the general part of the syllabus.
OGP **key field** for doing which a commitment is made	Development work of syllabi and ensuring the availability of the study resources supporting its implementation
Relevance (describe briefly how the commitment aids the development of OGP values, which are: 1) access to information; 2) public responsibility; 3) civic participation; 4) innovation and technology for the promotion of openness and responsibility	The open syllabus development will enable interest groups to raise topics and expectations necessary for the field. As such, the parties will have responsibility for and access to the information on how and on what grounds and for which aims the development of syllabi takes place. As the aim of the activity will be primarily to enable the shaping of active citizens, it will carry great value on the basis of the nature of the OGP
Ambition (Describe briefly the planned results and whether the performance of the commitment will aid making the government more open, or help to improve the government apparatus through greater openness)	The activity will help to have an even greater demand from the citizens for open governance in the future, and civic activity in the operation of Estonia as an e-state would be better.

Milestone/stage	Commencement of activity	End date
1. The subject syllabi of social subjects will be updated by 2019 and the study materials necessary for studying and teaching will be made available through the digital study resources portal e-Koolikott.	01.07.2016	31.12.2019
2. Plans of the drafts of syllabi will be ready.	01.07.2016	30.06.2018
3. According to the national syllabus, the schools must prescribe the development of their students, including digital competences, in their syllabi. Foundation Innove advises schools in developing their syllabi.	01.07.2016	30.06.2018

5. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ACTION PLAN

The coordinator for implementing the partnership Action Plan is a cooperation forum engaging various parties, the OGP Coordinating Council, whose duty is also to make decisions related to the open partnership (e.g. about the activities of the Action Plan) and the broad coverage of the aims and activities of Estonian participation in the OGP. The parties that participated in preparing the Action

Plan deemed it important and necessary to introduce the OGP more broadly. As part of the Action Plan, it is not only important to implement the activities and raise awareness but also to constantly and comprehensively highlight and explain the principles, values and aims of the partnership.

In order to analyse the implementation of the Action Plan a performance report is prepared each year and an independent (IRM) evaluation is also prepared about the performance of the Action Plan over the 2-year implementation period.