COUNTRY

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| Romania |

TITLE OF COMMITMENT

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| *Open contracting in Romania* |

DESCRIPTION

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| The Electronic System for Public Acquisitions enables Romanian public institutions to procure goods and services through a web-based front end. Enhancing the public procurement procedure was part of Romania’s previous commitments to the Open Government Partnership.  As a result of the consultation process undertaken with civil society representatives that took place this year, the Government agreed to push the agenda forward on the road to increased transparency and improved accountability.  Specifically, in the following year Romania commits to publishing online all public contracts that exceed a total amount out of taxpayers’ money. The value of this amount will be up for debate within public institutions and civil society. Also, the same procedure will apply to additional clauses introduced in contracts after they have been signed.  This commitment shall be implemented initially by updating the legislation on public procurement. While national FOIA regulations exempt “information that may harm the financial interests of Romania” from public disclosure, we believe that opening up contracts within the parameters previously mentioned will further create competition among businesses and encourage more companies to participate and get involved in providing services in order for public institutions country-wide to obtain the maximum results by utilising the minimum amount of resources. |