



# Midterm Self-Assessment Report



## Open Government National Action Plan 2015-2017

Republic of Panama  
September 2016





## 1. Introduction and Background

The commitments in the second National Action Plan 2015-2017 addressed the four principles of the Open Government Partnership, focusing mostly on the principles of transparency, public accountability and civic participation. This Action Plan is the result of an open and participatory process between twenty (21) public institutions and eighteen (18) representatives chosen by more than forty (40) civil society organizations. The methodology used was thematic working groups, which helped identify commitments that respond to public concerns, demonstrating the obligation of the government of the Republic of Panama with the Open Government Partnership (OGP), of which fifteen were proposed by the civil society and five by the government.

Within this second Action Plan were included ambitious commitments that have allowed us to strengthen public policies of the national government to raise our standards on transparency, citizen participation, accountability and access to information. They are commitments that generate changes in regulations, standards and promote better dialogue and participation between civil society, citizens and government, aligned with the principles of the Partnership.

Here are the numbers of commitments that contribute to the strengthening of the four principles of the Alliance in our country:

Principles of the Open Government Partnership	Commitment
Transparency	17
Civic Participation	8
Public Accountability	9
Technology and Innovation for Openness and Accountability	4

Referring to the challenges of the Partnership, commitments of this Action Plan cater mostly to the challenge of increasing public integrity, in order to strengthen transparency in our government. Here are the numbers of commitments that serve the five challenges of the Alliance in our country:



Challenges of the Partnership for	Commitment
Improving Public Services	2
Increasing Public Integrity	13
More effective management of public resources	4
Creating safer communities	2
Increased Corporate Responsibility	3

## 2. The process of the National Action Plan 2015-2017 Open Government

### A. Consultation during the development of National Action Plan:

#### 1. Dissemination of the consultation process:

For the preparation of National Action Plan 2015-2017, the National Authority of Transparency and Access to Information invited on January 26, 2015 twenty (21) public institutions and 27 January 2015 to twelve (12) members of the civil society (NGOs, private sector, universities and media) to participate in meetings where two (2) members of the Alliance for Open Government (OGP) were present, who explained them about the same and obligations of our country in it.

In the same line, the ANTAI invited to the consultation process and preparation of the second Action Plan, and asked the civil society the appointment of five (5) to ten (10) representatives, who together with ANTAI, would develop the second Action Plan and the realization of thematic tables issues was established as a working methodology in fourteen (14): Environment, Law Enforcement and Public Security, Justice, Right to Information, Document Management, Accountability, Public Services, Contracting Public, Budget, Financial Disclosure and Conflict of Interest, Elections, Citizen Participation, Open Data / Open Data and Administrative Career, referred to in the Work Programmed drafting the second Action Plan.<sup>1</sup>

Additionally, through the media, social networks and our website, we invited citizens to participate in the second Action Plan 2015-2017 of the Republic of Panama.<sup>2</sup>

Since April 17, 2015, the Work Program and Timetable for the preparation of the second Action Plan and Guide for the Action Plan was published on the website of ANTAI<sup>3</sup>, which was delivered to the participating public institutions the development and representatives of civil society.

<sup>1</sup> See Annex 1.

<sup>2</sup> See webpage ANTAI:  
<http://www.antai.gob.pa/la-segunda-oportunidad-para-la-alianza-gobiernos-abiertos/>

<sup>3</sup> See webpage ANTAI:  
<http://www.antai.gob.pa/plan-de-accion-2015-2017-gobierno-abierto/>



## *2. Advance notification:*

The ANTAI held a meeting with two non-governmental organizations, responsible for the coordination of civil society in the consultation process, in which the steps in this process, was to place in the work program and timetable for the development of the second Action Plan, and they were given the template to complete the proposed commitments by civil society, which should be focused on fourteen (14) selected topics.

We proceeded with the preparation and publication<sup>4</sup> of the Work Program and Timetable for drafting the Second Action Plan on the website of the ANTAI, and also were given the same participating public institutions in the development and representatives of society civil.

The two (2) NGOs coordinators gathered for April 21, 2015, more than forty (40) civil society groups, which met and discussed fourteen (14) subjects. They established and developed nineteen (19) proposal commitments to be incorporated into the second Action Plan. At the same time, they chose eighteen (18) representatives, who participated in the workshops together with the relevant public institutions and the ANTAI.<sup>5</sup>

Following this, April 27, 2015 the representatives chosen by civil society delivered nineteen (19) proposed commitments to the National Authority of Transparency and Access to Information (ANTA), which were discussed and verified that they met the values OGP: transparency, accountability, citizen participation, as well as technology and innovation to increase three (3) values mentioned above, resulting in eighteen (18) proposals to be submitted to the relevant public institutions.<sup>6</sup>

Therefore, on April 28, 2015, ANTAI gave twenty-one (21) public institutions proposals for commitments made by civil society, for the institutions to determine the viability, establish responsible persons and deadlines for compliance.

In the event that a proposal was not feasible, the public institution had to clearly state the reasons and present a counterproposal.<sup>7</sup>

Five (5) working groups were conducted from 11 to 15 of May 2015, in which public institutions determined the viability of the proposed commitments. As a result of these five (5) thematic working groups, ten (10) of the eighteen (18) proposed commitments between public institutions and representatives of civil society was agreed.

On May 25, 2015 another worktable was held to discuss the eight (8) pending proposals commitments for consensus. It was possible to reach a consensus on four (4) of the eight

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<sup>4</sup> See webpage ANTAI:  
<http://www.antai.gob.pa/la-segunda-oportunidad-para-la-alianza-gobiernos-abiertos/>

<sup>5</sup> See webpage ANTAI:  
<http://www.antai.gob.pa/la-segunda-oportunidad-para-la-alianza-gobiernos-abiertos/>

<sup>6</sup> See webpage ANTAI:  
<http://www.antai.gob.pa/sociedad-civil-entrega-propuestas-para-gobierno-abierto/>

<sup>7</sup> See webpage ANTAI:  
<http://www.antai.gob.pa/antai-presenta-a-instituciones-del-gobierno-las-propuestas-de-los-grupos-organizados-de-la-sociedad-civil-para-gobierno-abierto/>



(8) proposals of pending commitments and representatives of civil society suggested to include new public institutions for one (1) of the pending commitments for consensus.

One last worktable was held on June 8, 2015, in which the pending commitment was agreed. In total, agreements were reached in fifteen (15) commitments submitted by the civil society.

The National Authority of Transparency and Access to Information (ANTAI) incorporated five (5) additional commitments which were endorsed by the representatives of civil society, as part of their responsibility for increasing transparency and accountability by the government<sup>8</sup>, with a total of twenty (20) commitments.

### ***3. Awareness:***

The ANTAI held two (2) awareness meetings, on 26 January 2015 with twenty-one (21) public institutions and on January 27, 2015 with twelve (12) members of civil society (NGOs, private sector, universities and media) in which two (2) members of the Open Government Partnership (OGP) also participated and explained the obligations of our country in it.

Additionally, through the media, social networks and our website, we invited citizens to participate in the second Action Plan 2015-2017 of the Republic of Panama.<sup>9</sup>

### ***4. Diversity Channels:***

These liaisons participated along with representatives of civil society in various thematic working groups of public consultation to the stage of preparing the Second National Action Plan, in which the proposed commitments submitted by the parties were discussed and determined together the final version of the same.

### ***5. Plurality:***

Promoting citizen participation was extensive, including the sectors of non-governmental organizations, private, academia and the media. These sectors asked to develop proposals for commitments in fourteen (14) subjects to be discussed later with the relevant public institutions. In addition to the proposed commitments drafted by the civil society, the government presented five (5) proposals, which were discussed with the eighteen (18) Non-governmental organizations chosen for the process to develop the National Action Plan.

### ***6. Documentation and feedback:***

The public consultation for the period of elaboration of the National Action Plan 2015-2017 was through attendance in workshops and not online, since this promotes and ensures greater citizen participation.

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<sup>8</sup> See commitment No. 16 al No. 20.

<sup>9</sup> See webpage ANTAI:

<http://www.antai.gob.pa/la-segunda-oportunidad-para-la-alianza-gobiernos-abiertos/>



### ***B. Public Consultation:***

Four (4) public consultations were made on 30, August 31, 1 and 2 September 2016, in which representatives of civil society who prepared each commitment were invited, members of civil society of the Evaluation Commission of OGP, other members of civil society and public institutions responsible for implementing the commitments.

Meeting	Date	Schedule	Civil society groups	Commitments to be evaluated	Name of Participants
#1	Tuesday August 30	8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	1	1-3	Group 1; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Members of the Evaluation Commission;</li> <li>Other guests of civil society;</li> <li>Public institutions responsible.</li> </ul>
#2	Wednesday August 31	8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.	2 y 3	4-10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Group 2</li> <li>Group No. 3</li> <li>Members of the Evaluation Commission;</li> <li>Public institutions responsible.</li> </ul>
#3	Thursday, September 1	8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.	4 y 5	11-15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Group No. 4</li> <li>Group No. 5</li> <li>Members of the Evaluation Commission;</li> <li>Public institutions responsible.</li> </ul>
#4	Friday, September 2	8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.	NGOs of the Evaluation Commission	16-20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Members of the Evaluation Commission;</li> <li>Public institutions responsible.</li> </ul>

The purpose of these consultations was to evaluate the degree of compliance to the date of each commitment that makes up the Second National Action Plan 2015-2017 Open Government.

It began with the presentation of the progress made by public institutions responsible for implementing commitments, to be discussed with representatives of civil society present; the challenges were presented in which public institutions had in this first year of implementation and ended with the evaluation of the level of compliance with the date of each commitment.

Civil society made valuable contributions, expressed their concerns and made suggestions of some instruments that can be used in order to comply with the commitments in this first



year of implementation that have not been culminated, and have been incorporated into the compliance templates commitments detailed in section 4 of this report.

In addition to these four (4) consultation meetings for 23 to 26 September 2016, the midterm draft self-assessment report was published on the website of the ANTAI in order to get feedback from more people from civil society, and was sent to members of the Evaluation Commission of OGP, consisting of three (3) public institutions and three (3) NGOs, responsible for assessing compliance with the Action Plan. Received comments from Fundación Generación Sin Límite, which were taken into account for this report.

### **3. Recommendations IRM.**

Among the findings of the First Progress Report of Panama on National Action Plan 2013-2015, carried out by the NGO Alianza Ciudadana Pro Justicia, the Action Plan did not include the participation of civil society and the commitments were defined without specific or measurable milestones.

These findings were used to improve the design process of the Second National Plan of Action 2015-2017, through the extensive call by the National Authority of Transparency and Access to Information (ANTAI) in the consultation stage, of various Panama sectors, academia, media, private sector and civil society organizations. In the designing of the plan was attended by eighteen (18) representatives of civil society, who were selected by more than forty NGOs who drafted the commitments that make up this plan, which are of great social impact and they are specific and measurable.

Some of the recommendations made by the IRM for the Second Action Plan, is that we must have a mechanism for participation and define more specific initiatives with the support of public institutions and civil society; include other topics of high importance to the country, such as financing of political parties; and resume the recommendations on citizen participation, transparency and access to information issued by the National Coalition for Development.

These recommendations were taken into account in this Action Plan, since it has a mechanism for citizen participation which can be confirmed in the commitment No. 20; It has defined specific initiatives and is supported by twenty-one (21) public institutions and eighteen representatives of civil society who are part of this plan; and the issue of financing of political parties on the commitment No. 4 was incorporated.

Other recommendations of the IRM were taken into account in the preparation of the Second Plan such as important points of the minimum agenda for transparency in public administration:

1. To approve electoral reform in a stricter way of public and private financing of election campaigns and to establish for political parties and independent candidates to make public the list of donors.



2. Reforming public procurement provisions to reduce discretionary direct contracting.
3. Reform Law No. 59 of 1999 on the declaration of assets to which such statements are made public and the Comptroller General of the Republic to audit the statements.
4. Install special mailboxes and other means guaranteeing confidentiality for citizens to report acts of corruption.
5. To approve the Judicial Career Law and the Court of integrity and transparency in the judiciary.
6. Submit the selection process of the Comptroller General's Office and Attorney General's Office to public scrutiny.

Among the above recommendations was included in this Plan, No. 3, found in the commitment No. 9 of this plan. Some commitments related to the recommendations No. 1, 2 and 6.

#### 4. Implementation of the commitments of the National Action Plan.

The 2015-2017 National Action Plan consists of 20 commitments, which sixteen (16) commitments have started in this first year of implementation, three (3) of them marking a 100% compliance, seven (7) with a substantial advances and six (6) with limited progress.

Below is a table summarizing the progress and results of all the commitments of the Action Plan in the first year:

Commitment	Advances and results	Level of Completion
Commitment No. 1 – Development and publication of the process procedures in the public institutions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Evaluation of procedures of the public institutions (9 responsible).</li> <li>• Flow diagrams were developed in triptychs and booklets (6 charge).</li> <li>• The flow charts were published in pamphlets and booklets (3 responsible).</li> </ul>	29.98%
2 - Preparation and publication of accountability report on the degree of progress regarding the work plan and budget execution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No progress has been made, since the implementation of the commitment has not started.</li> </ul>	0%
3 - Standardization in digital formats.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• They have been created, published and disseminated standard formats.</li> <li>• Trained public institutions.</li> <li>• Public policies have been promoted.</li> </ul>	50%
4 - Detailed publication of the use of resources of public funds for political parties and independent candidates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Public financing section was modified on the website of the Electoral Tribunal to facilitate the search for it.</li> <li>• The new transparency system was developed, soon to be implemented.</li> </ul>	66.66%
5 - Create mechanisms that do not allow the allocation and misuse of government funds by public servants.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The commission was created.</li> <li>• A meeting of the commission was held to identify loopholes in which public institutions presented their actions.</li> <li>• Proposals to the National Decentralization Secretariat for the regulation of the</li> </ul>	75%





	decentralization law were presented.	
6 - Develop a study on the rules of public procurement law, to identify gaps and ensure transparency.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Links with relevant public institutions were established for working groups with representatives of civil society.</li> </ul>	33.33%
7 - Review Article 81 of the Rules of Procedure of the National Assembly.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No progress has been made, since the implementation of the commitment has not started.</li> </ul>	0%
8 - "National Strategic Plan" to enforce the policies, procedures and technical tools of human resources in the public sector that would allow to apply and implement the provisions of Law No. 9 of June 20, 1994.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Update of the institutional occupational classes manuals was performed.</li> <li>It has been applied in the public sector the instrument for evaluating performance of public servants.</li> <li>It has been identified training needs and training of public servants</li> <li>The integration of social welfare programs, incentives and occupational health were coordinated.</li> </ul>	25%
9 - Develop a proposed amendment to Law No. 59 of 29 December 1999 on the declarations of assets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work tables composed of representatives of public institutions and civil society to develop the proposed reform law were made.</li> <li>The bill was sent to the Ministry of the Presidency for further discussion in the Legislature</li> </ul>	100%
10 - Develop a proposal to reform the provisions of conflict of interest.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The bill 58 of August 5, 2014 which regulates the conflict of interest in public service and comments was made, which was sent to the Legislature.</li> <li>Working groups composed of representatives of public institutions and civil society for the preparation of the proposal to reform the Code of Ethics were conducted.</li> </ul>	75%
11 - Develop proposal to establish participatory mechanisms of election: Judges, prosecutors, magistrates and Administrative prosecutors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No progress has been made, since the implementation of the commitment has not started.</li> </ul>	0%
12 - Disclosure of training programs and development of mechanisms for measuring the level of effectiveness and implementation of such programs in the National Police	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Annual training programs with justification, police numbers and procedures were published on the website of the National Police.</li> </ul>	40%
13 - Create consultative councils involving civil society to strengthen citizen security programs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Public safety programs were published on the website of the National Police, which were publicized and promoted through the media.</li> </ul>	50%
14 - Implementation of Law 44 of August 5, 2002 that creates Watershed Committees.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>15 drainage basins committees were created.</li> </ul>	100%
15 - Dissemination of training education programs and their content and establish a mechanism for measuring implementation of these programs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Training programs for teachers and their descriptions were published on the website, as well as the method of teacher evaluation and statistics results by region.</li> </ul>	75%
16 - Extend the monitoring mechanisms and monitoring of cases reported to the Citizen Service Center (311).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The entities have spread the existence of 311 on their websites, social networks and institutionally.</li> <li>The responsible public institution published the statistics of cases received.</li> <li>The method of measuring effectiveness in responses was established and given follow-up care cases, contacting the citizen and online</li> </ul>	100%
17 - Develop a study aimed at establishing the signage and nomenclature of Panama City.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No progress has been made, since the implementation of the commitment has not started.</li> </ul>	0%
18 - Implementation of the electronic platform of access to information at the government level: Infórmate Panama.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The platform was developed.</li> <li>The release to the public and dissemination and training on the use of the system was conducted.</li> </ul>	50%
19 - Develop and publish the database of the required public servants to submit the declaration of assets before the CGR officials.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The database was developed.</li> </ul>	50%
20 - Create a permanent dialogue mechanism for the implementation of commitments.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The commission was created and meetings were held.</li> <li>A Memorandum of Understanding between Antai and AIG was developed.</li> </ul>	50%



For more details of the main results achieved in each commitment in this first year of implementation of the Action Plan, we present below a brief description:

Topic				
Document Management				
Commitment No. 1 – Development and publication of the process procedures in the public institutions.				
Beginning and completion of the commitment	July 2015 – June 2017			
Lead implementing agency	1) National Assembly 2) Authority of Protection of Consumers and Defense of the Competition, 3) National Authority of Land Administration (ANATI), 4) National Authority of Public Services (ASEP), 5) Supreme Court of Justice (CSJ), 6) National Institute of Pipelines and Sewers (IDAAN), 7) Ministry of Economy and Finances (MEF), 8) Ministry of Health (MINSa), 9) Ministry of Labor (MITRADEL), 10) Municipality of Panama			
Name of responsible person from implementing agency	1) Astrid Alvarez / Elias Medina, 2) Clarisa Raquel Araúz Quintero, 3) Yessica Guzmán B., 4) Andrea E. Caballini / Patricia Lewis <sup>10</sup> , 5) Yoselin Vos Castro / Cristina Quiel / Manuel José Calvo, 6) Homero Sealy Zapateiro, 7) Clifford Green N., 8) Tabané Díaz <sup>11</sup> , 9) Elvira Gudiño Moreno, 10) Lizveika Lezcano / Carmen Cotes			
Title, Department	1) National Director for the Promotion of Citizen Participation / Advisor, 2) Advisor of Superior Office, 3) Lawyer, 4) Secretary of the Direction / Administrative assistant, 5) Technical Secretariat of Modernization and Institutional Development / Unit of Access to Justice and Gender / Deputy Secretary General, 6) Transparency Coordinator, 7) Advisor of the General Secretariat, 8) Assistant in the directorate of Finance, 9) General Secretariat Advisor, 10) Director of Citizen Attention / Director of Internal Services			
Email	1) aialvarez@asamblea.gob.pa / emedina@asamblea.gob.pa, 2) carauz@acodeco.gob.pa, 3) yguzman@anati.gob.pa, 4) <a href="mailto:acaballini@asep.gob.pa">acaballini@asep.gob.pa</a> / <a href="mailto:plewis@asep.gob.pa">plewis@asep.gob.pa</a> 5) <a href="mailto:y.vos@organojudicial.gob.pa">y.vos@organojudicial.gob.pa</a> / <a href="mailto:cristina.quiel@organojudicial.gob.pa">cristina.quiel@organojudicial.gob.pa</a> / <a href="mailto:manuel.calvo@organojudicial.gob.pa">manuel.calvo@organojudicial.gob.pa</a> , 6) <a href="mailto:hsealy@idaan.gob.pa">hsealy@idaan.gob.pa</a> , 7) <a href="mailto:cgreen@mef.gob.pa">cgreen@mef.gob.pa</a> , 8) <a href="mailto:taadiaz@minsa.gob.pa">taadiaz@minsa.gob.pa</a> , 9) <a href="mailto:egudino@mitradel.gob.pa">egudino@mitradel.gob.pa</a> , 10) <a href="mailto:lizveika.lezcano@municipio-pma.gob.pa">lizveika.lezcano@municipio-pma.gob.pa</a> / <a href="mailto:carmen.cotes@municipio-pma.gob.pa">carmen.cotes@municipio-pma.gob.pa</a>			
Phone	1) 512-8052, 2) 510-1358, 3) 524-0539, 4) 508-4691 / 508-4567, 5) 212-7468 / 212-7494 / 212-7341, 6) 504-1348, 7) 504-3049, 8) 512-9101 / 9102, 9) 504-0116 / 0117 / 0120, 10) 506-9700			
Other actors involved	Government	National Authority for Transparency and Access to Information (ANTAI)		
	CSOs, private sector, working groups and multilaterals	Margarita Chow, Nelly Valdívieso (Fundación Generación Sin Límite), Osvaldo Jordán, Carlos Gasnell Acuña (Fundación para el Desarrollo de la Libertad Ciudadana – TI)		
Status quo or problem/issue to be addressed	Lack of knowledge of the process procedures with their requirements and time limits established.			
Main Objective	Inform citizens the formalities of all process procedures established inside the public institutions, with their requirements and dates.			
Brief description of Commitment	Publication of the process procedures of one department through flowchart in leaflets and triptychs (both in Braille), in the Website and videos in signs language.			
Relevance	Transparency and access to information values will be strengthened by making available to citizens the information concerning the process procedures.			
Ambition	A more transparent government, where the process procedures are updated detailing the requirements of each one and the established times, accessible to the public, including people with disabilities.			
Verifiable and measurable milestones to fulfill the commitment	Not started	Limited	Substantial	Completed
		x		
Description of Results	<p>1) National Assembly conducted assessment to select their procedures and developed its process flow diagram.</p> <p>2) ACODECO: assessment was performed by the procedures of their processes to be selected, prepared their flowcharts of the procedures chosen, in brochures and booklets, published their brochures and elaborated booklets, published their flowcharts on the website, developed their triptychs and booklets in Braille and sign language video clips, and published their video clips in sign language on its website.</p> <p>3) ANATI: Performed evaluation of the procedures to select their processes, and developed their flowcharts of the procedures chosen in brochures and booklets.</p>			

<sup>10</sup> The person responsible was changed at the request of the National Authority of Public Services (ASEP), and was duly notified to the representatives of civil society of the Evaluation Commission of OGP.

<sup>11</sup> The person responsible was changed at the request of the Ministry of Health (MINSa), and was duly notified to the representatives of civil society of the Evaluation Commission of OGP.



	<p>4) ASEP: Evaluation was performed of their procedures of their processes to be selected, prepared their flowcharts of the procedures chosen in brochures and booklets, published their brochures and elaborated booklets, published their flowcharts on the website, and developed their brochures and booklets in Braille.</p> <p>5) CSJ: Evaluation was performed of their procedures to select their processes, and developed their flowcharts of the procedures chosen in brochures and booklets.</p> <p>6) IDAAN: Evaluation was performed of their procedures to select their processes.</p> <p>7) MEF conducted evaluation procedures to select their processes, and developed their flowcharts of the procedures chosen in brochures and booklets.</p> <p>8) MINSA: They have not carried out any activity.</p> <p>9) MITRADEL: Evaluation was performed of their procedures to be selected, prepared their flowcharts of the procedures chosen in brochures and booklets, published their brochures and elaborate booklets, published their flowcharts on the website, and developed their brochures and booklets in Braille.</p> <p>10) Municipality of Panama: Evaluation was performed on their procedures to select their processes.</p> <p>There is evidence that citizens used the commitment in the following institutions: ACODECO, ASEO, MEF and MITRADEL.</p>
Date of Conclusion	June 2017
Next Steps	<p>It will be sent to all those responsible an explanatory note of how to develop or improve flowcharts in their respective institutions.</p> <p>They will be invited to implement this initiative in the procedures most requested by citizens in their institution, which were not selected for this commitment.</p>
Additional Information	Among the challenges found during implementation was the lack of a single format for the development of flowcharts.

Topic		
Right to Information / Accountability		
Commitment No. 2 – Development and publication of accountability reports about the degree of progress about the work plan and budget execution.		
Beginning and completion of the commitment	July 2015 – June 2017	
Lead implementing agency	1) National Assembly (AN), 2) Supreme Court of Justice (CSJ), 3) Ministry of the Presidency	
Name of responsible person from implementing agency	1) Roque Maldonado / Marianela Quinzada, 2) Alina Vergara Chérigo / Greycy Jaen / José Manuel Calvo, 3) Javier Marquinez	
Title, Department	1) Director General of Administration and Finance / Chief of Department of Budget, 2) Director of Legal / Presidency Coordinator / Deputy Secretary-General, 3) Adviser to the Minister	
Email	1)rmaldonado@asamblea.gob.pa/mquinzada@asamblea.gob.pa, 2)alina.vergaras@organojudicial.gob.pa/greycy.jaen@organojudicial.gob.pa / manuel.calvo@organojudicial.gob.pa / 3)jamarquinez@presidencia.gob.pa	
Phone	1) 512-8179 / 512-8062, 2) 212-7345 / 212-7370 / 212-7341, 3) 527-9569	
Other actors involved	Government	National Authority of Transparency and Access to Information (ANTAI)
	CSOs, private sector, working groups and multilaterals	Margarita Chow, Nelly Valdivieso (Fundación Generación Sin Límite), Osvaldo Jordán, Lcdo. Carlos Gasnell Acuña (Fundación para el Desarrollo de la Libertad Ciudadana – TI), Karla Pinder (Alianza Ciudadana Pro Justicia)
Status quo or problem/issue to be addressed	Not all institutions publish reports regularly from management, including the use of budgetary resources, which can cause irregularities, additionally produce doubts among citizens about the proper use of state resources. Some institutions published in the Transparency section of its Web pages the basics of budget execution, but not all publish the progress of its detailed budget, its programs and projects in relation to its Annual Operating Plan.	
Main Objective	To inform the public, the management of each public institution, including the degree of progress with respect to its Work Plan and use of resources (budget execution of programs and investment projects).	
Brief description of Commitment	A minimum of a half-yearly publication of a report of accountability, detailing the degree of progress regarding the work plan and resource utilization.	
Relevance	Strengthens directly the values of accountability and transparency, allowing the State to have an open data execution.	



Ambition	Public institutions to be accountable through semiannual reports and to commit to the process of transparency and access to information			
Verifiable and measurable milestones to fulfill the commitment	Not started	Limited	Substantial	Completed
	x			
Description of Results	Civil society established the parameters that information will be published and how, independently, outside the framework of Open Government Partnership. They held a contest of Open Budget, inviting more than fifteen public institutions, which gave them these parameters.			
Date of Conclusion	Junio 2017			
Next Steps	Hold a worktable with those responsible for the commitment and Evaluation Commission of OGP to give them the parameters of the information that will be published and how, previously established by the civil society.			
Additional Information				
The challenge found in this commitment was to work with civil society in the development of the commitment, since they were developed independently				

Topic				
Open Government Data				
Commitment No. 3 – Standardization in digital formats.				
Beginning and completion of the commitment	March 2011 – June 2017			
Lead implementing agency	National Authority for Governmental Innovation (AIG)			
Name of responsible person from implementing agency	Carlos Iván Díaz Díaz			
Title, Department	Director of Open Government			
Email	cdiaz@innovacion.gob.pa			
Phone	520-7400 / 520-7450			
Other actors involved	Government			
	CSOs, private sector, working groups and multilaterals			
	Margarita Chow, Nelly Valdivieso (Fundación Generación Sin Límite), Osvaldo Jordán.			
Status quo or problem/issue to be addressed	All the digital information it is in different formats and have different requirements of software, causing accessibility problems.			
Main Objective	Standardize digital formats of the governmental information, guaranteeing the accessibility in all the operative systems used.			
Brief description of Commitment	Create standards in digital formats of the public information that allows the accessibility to all the computer systems.			
Relevance	Strengthen the values of technology and innovation to increase transparency and access to information.			
Ambition	That digital content about the information of public institutions will be available in accessible formats to all types of operative systems.			
Verifiable and measurable milestones to fulfill the commitment	Not started	Limited	Substantial	Completed
	x			
Description of Results	The National Authority for Government Innovation has created, published and disseminated standards, through the Implementation Guide to public institutions to store reports and public documents.  It has begun training with fifteen (15) pilot public institutions in the standards used to store information, and promoted public policies to which types of formats has to be used to stored as it is defined in government data. AIG is developing a training plan in this topic to other public institutions			
Date of Conclusion	June 2017			
Next Steps	New standards and policies will be created; existing standards need to be updated and will continue training to public institutions.			
Additional Information				

Topic	
Elections	
Commitment No. 4 - Detailed publication about the use of the public financing sources for political parties and independent candidates.	
Beginning and completion of the commitment	July 2015 – October 2016
Lead implementing agency	Electoral Tribune
Name of responsible person from implementing agency	Berta Chang / Joany Jaén G.
Title, Department	National Director / Deputy National Director of Finance



Email	berta@tribunal-electoral.gob.pa / jjaen@tribunal-electoral.gob.pa			
Phone	507-8704 / 8703			
Other actors involved	Government	National Authority of Transparency and Access to Information (ANTAI)		
	CSOs, private sector, working groups and multilaterals	Ricardo Herrera (Fundación Generación Sin Límite), Annette Planells (MOVIN), Ileana Molo (Organización Afropanameña Soy)		
Status quo or problem/issue to be addressed	Lack of detailed information about the way to use public sources assigned to political parties and independent candidates.			
Main Objective	Publish on a detailed way the use of funds from the public financing assigned to political parties and independent candidates.			
Brief description of Commitment	Established a mechanism of publication in a detailed way which reflects the use of the public financing to political parties and independent candidates, six (6) months after the end of the electoral process. <sup>12</sup>			
Relevance	Allows reflecting the use of public funds in a detailed way on the work of political parties and independent candidates, strengthening transparency and accountability values.			
Ambition	The publication in a detailed way the information about public sources assigned to political parties and independent candidates.			
Verifiable and measurable milestones to fulfill the commitment	Not started	Limited	Substantial	Completed
				x
Description of Results	<p>Search link for public funding for political parties and independents within the website of the Electoral Tribunal was provided. Currently this information is on their homepage. During public consultations to assess compliance action plan average, civil society organizations were able to observe this link and agreed to it.</p> <p>Work is in the final development of the system of transparency, which is about to be implemented. A meeting was held at the Electoral Tribunal, in which civil society organizations were able to observe and make suggestions on it was held.</p>			
Date of Conclusion	October 2016			
Next Steps	<p>Launch of public consultation portal.</p> <p>Unify all decrees and amendments to a single decree, which will depend on the electoral reforms being discussed in September 2016 at the National Assembly.</p>			
<b>Additional Information</b>				
The challenge of this commitment is that it coincides with a process of electoral reforms, so we need to incorporate engagement within the framework of the same.				

Topic		
Budget		
Commitment No. 5 – Create mechanism that do not allow improper assignation and use of the State funds from public servants.		
Beginning and completion of the commitment	July 2015 – December 2016	
Lead implementing agency	1) General Comptroller of the Republic (CGR), 2) Ministry of Economy and Finances (MEF), 3) National Secretariat of Decentralization <sup>13</sup>	
Name of responsible person from implementing agency	1) Luis Palma, 2) Clifford Green N. / Hector Rivera <sup>14</sup> , 3) Narciso Machuca	
Title, Department	1) Lawyer, 2) Advisor to the Secretary General / Central Analyst of Budget, 3) Deputy Secretary General	
Email	1) luispa@contraloria.gob.pa, 2) cgreen@mef.gob.pa / hrivera@mef.gob.pa, 3) nmachuca@descentralizacion.gob.pa / machuca_g@hotmail.com	
Phone	1) 510-4280, 2) 504-3049 / 506-7517, 3) 520-0037 / 520-0040	
Other actors involved	Government	National Authority of Transparency and Access to Information (ANTAI)
	CSOs, private	Ricardo Herrera (Fundación Generación Sin Límite), Annette Planells (MOVIN), Ileana Molo

<sup>12</sup> Modified in the brief description of the commitment period to the publication of "no later than six (6) ended the electoral period" to "six (6) months after the end of the electoral process", by request of the Electoral Tribunal, duly endorsed by the representatives of civil society who drafted this commitment.

<sup>13</sup> The Secretariat / Ministry responsible for "National Directorate of Local Government Ministry of Government" was changed to "National Decentralization Secretariat", due to the entry into force of Law 37 of June 29, 2009, which decentralizes Public Administration and provides that the National Directorate of Local government is part of the National Decentralization Authority, under the Presidency of the Republic. At the same time the name of the responsible person and the data was changed, and was duly notified to the representatives of civil society of the Evaluation Commission of OGP and others responsible for implementing this commitment.

<sup>14</sup> At the request of the Ministry of Economy and Finance (MEF) a responsible person with his information has been added and was duly notified to the representatives of civil society of the Evaluation Commission of OGP.



	sector, working groups and multilaterals	(Organización Afropanameña Soy), Carlos Gasnell Acuña (Fundación para el Desarrollo de la Libertad Ciudadana – TI), Karla Pinder (Alianza Ciudadana Pro Justicia)		
Status quo or problem/issue to be addressed		Clientelism and corruption, reflected in the public funds management by not enabled public servants and to no accountability about the use of those funds.		
Main Objective		Detect the legal gaps that allow non enabled public servants to management State funds.		
Brief description of Commitment		Create mechanisms that not allow the assignation and use of the State funds by public servants and generate preview controls.		
Relevance		Creating these mechanisms will strengthen the values of transparency and citizen participation.		
Ambition		Eliminate the mechanisms that allow non enabled public servants to manage public funds.		
Verifiable and measurable milestones to fulfill the commitment	Not started	Limited	Substantial	Completed
		x		
Description of Results		The commission was appointed and a meeting was held to identify loopholes. At this meeting the Ministry of Economy and Finance, the Office of the Comptroller General of Colombia and the National Decentralization Secretariat presented the actions taken to address certain loopholes detected in certain laws.		
		In addition a proposal to be submitted to the National Decentralization Secretariat to be taken into account in the regulation of the decentralization law was drafted.		
Date of Conclusion		Diciembre 2016		
Next Steps		Meetings with the commission to develop a proposal and submit it to the Ministry of Economy and Finance to be incorporated in the law that dictates the budget for fiscal year 2018.		
Additional Information				

Topic				
Public Procurement				
Commitment No. 6 – Elaborate a study about the normative of the public procurement law, to detect deficiencies and ensure transparency.				
Beginning and completion of the commitment	July 2016 – December 2016			
Lead implementing agency	General Direction of Public Procurement (DGCP)			
Name of responsible person from implementing agency	Manuel González <sup>15</sup>			
Title, Department	Lawyer			
Email	mgonzalez@dgcp.gob.pa			
Phone	515-1519			
Other actors involved	Government	National Authority of Transparency and Access to Information (ANTAI)		
	CSOs, private sector, working groups and multilaterals	Ricardo Herrera (Fundación Generación Sin Límite), Annette Planells (MOVIN), Ileana Molo (Organización Afropanameña Soy), Carlos Gasnell Acuña (Fundación para el Desarrollo de la Libertad Ciudadana – TI), Karla Pinder (Alianza Ciudadana Pro Justicia)		
Status quo or problem/issue to be addressed	Gaps, risks and procedures which allow corruption in the process of public procurement.			
Main Objective	Ensure the correct management of public sources with transparency, equity and efficiency.			
Brief description of Commitment	Identification on behalf of the Executive Branch on the mechanisms that allow the corruption on the normative of public procurements.			
Relevance	Making an inventory of the mechanism that allow corruption, allows to make an analysis of the risk that institutions are dealing with and to adopt administrative measures to confront them and propose the normative changes required to decrease that risk. This impact directly in strengthening the values of transparency, accountability and citizen participation.			
Ambition	Development an official document, issued by the government, which identifies the risks of corruption the institutions are dealing with on different states of public procurement, that will serve as a base to take administrative and normative measures to confront the risks. Include groups of civil society and public institutions.			
Verifiable and measurable milestones to fulfill the commitment	Not started	Limited	Substantial	Completed
		x		
Description of Results	Links to relevant public institutions for the preparation of the study to the new rules of procurement were established.			
Date of Conclusion	December 2016			

<sup>15</sup> The person responsible was modified at the request of the Directorate General of Public Procurement (DGCP), and was duly notified to the representatives of civil society who drafted this commitment and Evaluation Commission comprising the OGP.



Next Steps	Conduct workshops for the preparation of a study to the new rules of public procurement, once it is sanctioned. Additional recommendations for the regulation of these regulations be drafted.
<b>Información adicional</b>	
The challenge in implementing this commitment is a bill that makes significant changes to the current regulations of public procurement was presented.	
No. 1 milestone and dates were changed so that the study can be conducted on reforms to the public procurement law presented in 2016, as the same with No. 2 milestone and dates. Both amendments were duly endorsed by the representatives of civil society who drafted this commitment and Evaluation Commission comprising the OGP.	

Topic				
The issue relates to the areas or general issues that the commitment will attend, such as Education, Health, Access to Justice, Corporate Social Responsibility, Open Data, etc.				
Commitment No. 7 - Revision of Article 81 of the Rules of Procedure of the National Assembly				
Beginning and completion of the commitment	August 2015 – September 2016			
Lead implementing agency	National Assembly (AN)			
Name of responsible person from implementing agency	Carlos Delgado			
Title, Department	Economic Advisor			
Email	cdelgado@asamblea.gob.pa			
Phone	504-2078			
Other actors involved	Government	National Authority of Transparency and Access to Information (ANTA)		
	CSOs, private sector, working groups and multilaterals	Ricardo Herrera (Fundación Generación Sin Límite), Annette Planells (MOVIN), Ileana Molo (Organización Afropanameña Soy), Carlos Gasnell Acuña (Fundación para el Desarrollo de la Libertad Ciudadana – TI), Karla Pinder (Alianza Ciudadana Pro Justicia)		
Status quo or problem/issue to be addressed	In the Budget Commission of the National Assembly is discussing the assignation of State budget and regarding priorities. Nevertheless, this discussion has a reserved character, which denotes lack of transparency on the discussions of this Committee.			
Main Objective	Consider expanding the channels of participation within the Budget Commission of the National Assembly.			
Brief description of Commitment	Revision of Article 81 of the Rules of Procedure of the National Assembly.			
Relevance	With the revision of this article, it is intended that the meetings are open to public, contributing to the values of transparency, citizen participation and accountability.			
Ambition	Those meetings of the Budget Commission of the National Assembly are public.			
Verifiable and measurable milestones to fulfill the commitment	Not started	Limited	Substantial	Completed
	x			
Description of Results				
Date of Conclusion	September 2016			
Next Steps	A note will be sent to the National Assembly to request an appointment with the President Legislator and the Chairman of the Budget Committee to explain about the Alliance and the importance of this commitment.			
<b>Additional Information</b>				
The challenge in the implementation is that during the development and acceptance of this commitment, the leading board was changed starting the implementation of the Action Plan and again changed to meet the first year of implementation, which has interfered with the development.				

Topic	
Civil Service	
Commitment No. 8 - " National Strategic Plan " to enforce the policies, procedures and technical tools of human resources in the public sector that will apply and implement the provisions of Law No. 9 of June 20, 1994.	
Beginning and completion of the commitment	July 2015 – June 2017
Lead implementing agency	Directorate General of Civil Service (DIGECA)
Name of responsible person from implementing agency	Pending for designation <sup>16</sup>

<sup>16</sup> The person responsible for the commitment was changed and pending designation at the request of the Directorate General of Civil Service (DIGECA), and duly notified to the representatives of civil society that is part of the Evaluation Commission of OGP.



Title, Department										
Email										
Phone										
Other actors involved	Government	National Authority of Transparency and Access to Information (ANTAI)								
	CSOs, private sector, working groups and multilaterals	José Espinosa, Lcda. Kathia Díaz (Comisión de Justicia y Paz), Jacob Carrera (Alianza Ciudadana Pro Justicia), Carlos Gasnell Acuña (Fundación para el Desarrollo de la Libertad Ciudadana – TI), Karla Pinder (Alianza Ciudadana Pro Justicia)								
Status quo or problem/issue to be addressed		The Administrative Career Law cannot be implemented effectively in the present; since the amendment of the Administrative Career Law is required.								
Main Objective		Advise and oversee public authorities in the implementation and the correct application of the strategic plan.								
Brief description of Commitment		Develop and implement a "National Strategic Plan" to fulfill the provisions stated in the single text of Law No. 9 of 1994.								
Relevance		The commitment will perform regarding the application of the procedures and technical tools of human resources, based on the rules established by the Administrative Career Law. It will contribute to the transparency value.								
Ambition		Effective implementation of the National Strategic Plan, and so subsequently the effective implementation of the Administrative Career Law and transparency in law enforcement.								
Verifiable and measurable milestones to fulfill the commitment		<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Not started</td> <td>Limited</td> <td>Substantial</td> <td>Completed</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>x</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	Not started	Limited	Substantial	Completed		x		
Not started	Limited	Substantial	Completed							
	x									
Description of Results		The Directorate General of Civil Service submitted a report on the number of training conducted between the months of January to July 2016 and the number of participants. Additional presented the 2016 operating plan which contains the activities, progress degree, resources, review and its results on occupational updates manuals and elaborate them in certain institutions; the implementation of performance assessment instrument and performance of public servants; identifying training needs and training of public servants; and coordination of social welfare programs, incentives and occupational health in institutions.								
Date of Conclusion		June 2017								
Next Steps		Will request the sending of the Report of training plan prepared based on the identification of needs for the milestone up to date information.								
Información adicional										
It remains to achieve the implementation of milestones 2, 3, 4 and 5. Will be asked to send updated manuals from July 2015 to date, and new manuals developed for institutions that did not have this; Reports of the instrument for performance evaluation and performance of public servants, including public institutions which has been applied the instrument and the date; call report, detailing which participated in the implementation of the 28 actions of HR; and report showing coordinations made, which indicate the participating institutions, corresponding to the above milestones information.										

Topic		
Declaration of Assets		
Commitment No. 9 - Develop a proposed amendment to Law No. 59 of December 29, 1999 on the declarations of assets.		
Beginning and completion of the commitment	February – December 2015	
Lead implementing agency	National Authority for Transparency and Access to Information (ANTAI)	
Name of responsible person from implementing agency	Cecilia López	
Title, Department	Legal Advisor	
Email	clopez@antai.gob.pa	
Phone	527-9270	
Other actors involved	Government	National Assembly (AN), National Authority of Transparency and Access to Information (ANTAI), Supreme Court of Justice (CSJ), Comptroller General of the Republic (CGR), General Directorate of Public Procurement (DGCP), the Attorney General's Office, Ministry of Economy and Finance (MEF), Ministry of Government (MINGOB), Ministry of the Presidency, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Health (MINSA), Ministry of Security, Office of Administration, Attorney General's Office, Court of Auditors, Electoral Court, University of Panama
	CSOs, private sector, working groups and multilaterals	José Espinosa (FENASEP), Kathia Díaz (Comisión de Justicia y Paz), Jacob Carrera (Alianza Ciudadana Pro Justicia), Carlos Gasnell (Fundación para el Desarrollo de la Libertad Ciudadana – TI), (Alianza Ciudadana Pro Justicia), Virginia De Abajo-Marqués (Oficina de las Naciones Unidas contra las Drogas y el Delito)
Status quo or problem/issue to be addressed		Not all the public servants with access to public resources have the legal requirement to declare on their assets. Furthermore, the system has no control mechanisms of the declarations submitted.
Main Objective		Extend the obligation to report to other public servants, who indirectly manage interests and public funds. Perform audits to the declarations of assets and require periodic updates during the management of public servants.
Brief description of Commitment		Broaden the scope of application of the requirement of declaration of assets and establish a regular inspection (audits) to all obliged to declare.
Relevance		The elaboration of this proposal through work tables will contribute to the strengthening of





	transparency, accountability and citizen participation values.			
Ambition	Results of the periodic inspection (audits) included in the accountability of the Comptroller General of the Republic.			
Verifiable and measurable milestones to fulfill the commitment	Not started	Limited	Substantial	Completed x
Description of Results	Tables composed of representatives of public institutions and civil society to develop the proposed law reform work was carried out, and the bill was sent to the Ministry of the Presidency for further discussion in the Legislature			
Date of Conclusion	December 2015			
Next Steps	Presentation of the bill before the Cabinet for approval in order to present it in the Legislature			
Información adicional				
It remains to obtain the approval of the bill to the Cabinet Council for presentation to the Legislature.				

Topic				
Conflict of Interests				
Commitment No. 10 - Draft a proposal to amend the rules of conflict of interests.				
Beginning and completion of the commitment	July 2015 – August 2016 <sup>17</sup>			
Lead implementing agency	National Authority for Transparency and Access to Information (ANTAI)			
Name of responsible person from implementing agency	María Tejedor <sup>18</sup>			
Title, Department	Chief, Legal Office			
Email	mtejedor@antai.gob.pa			
Phone	527-9270			
Other actors involved	Government			
	CSOs, private sector, working groups and multilaterals			
Status quo or problem/issue to be addressed	The figure of conflict of interests is regulated by Executive Decree No. 246 of December 15, 2004 "which is issued by the Uniform Code of Ethics for public servants who work in the central government entities", although the conducts are not clearly described, nor, the process for sanction.			
Main Objective	Review the rules of conflict of interests to expand and improve.			
Brief description of Commitment	Review all existing regulations in Panama on conflicts of interests.			
Relevance	The regulation of conflict of interests will avoid discretion and will contribute to strengthening the value of transparency.			
Ambition	Have an effective law that regulates the conflict of interests.			
Verifiable and measurable milestones to fulfill the commitment	Not started	Limited	Substantial	Completed x
Description of Results	The bill 58 of August 5, 2014 which regulates the conflict of interest in public service and comments were made, which were sent to the Legislature revised.  Additionally, work tables were conducted and moderated by the Office of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, which were composed by public institutions and representatives of civil society in the elaboration of the proposal to reform the Code of Ethics, with the participation of an expert on the subject of ethics from the Dominican Republic.			
Date of Conclusion	October 2015			
Next Steps	Complete the development of the proposed reform of the Code of Ethics to be submitted to the Ministry of the Presidency and subsequent discussion in the Legislature			
Additional Information				
It remains to achieve Cabinet approval of the bill that dictates the Code of Ethics for all public servants and their presentation in the Legislature				

Topic	
Justice	
Commitment No.11 - Develop a proposal to establish participatory mechanisms of choice: Magistrates, Prosecutors, Administrative	

<sup>17</sup> The final date of the milestone No. 3 of "October 2015" was modified to "December 2015" by "December 2015" to "April 2016" of "April 2016 to July 2016" and "July 2016 to August 2016", as the final date of the milestone No. 4 of "October 2015" to "December 2015" by "December 2015" to "April 2016" of "April 2016" to "July 2016" and "July 2016" to "August 2016", both at the request of those responsible for implementing the commitment, and was duly notified to the representatives of civil society of the Evaluation Commission of OGP.

<sup>18</sup> The responsible person was modified at the request of the National Authority of Transparency and Access to Information (Antai), and was duly notified to the representatives of civil society who drafted this commitment and Evaluation Commission comprising the OGP.



Magistrates and Prosecutors.									
Beginning and completion of the commitment									
Lead implementing agency	1) National Authority of Transparency and Access to Information (ANTAI), 2) Ministry of the Presidency								
Name of responsible person from implementing agency	1) Aída I. Martínez Mórtola, 2) Javier Marquínez								
Title, Department	1) Legal Advisor, 2) Advisor of the Minister								
Email	1) amartinez@antai.gob.pa, 2) jamarquinez@presidencia.gob.pa								
Phone	527-9270, 2) 527-9569								
Other actors involved	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Government</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>CSOs, private sector, working groups and multilaterals</td> <td>Geneva Aguilar de Ladrón de Guevara (Fundación Vida y Familia), Magister Aric Pimentel Jaén (MOVIN), Daniel Barría Yorins</td> </tr> </table>	Government		CSOs, private sector, working groups and multilaterals	Geneva Aguilar de Ladrón de Guevara (Fundación Vida y Familia), Magister Aric Pimentel Jaén (MOVIN), Daniel Barría Yorins				
Government									
CSOs, private sector, working groups and multilaterals	Geneva Aguilar de Ladrón de Guevara (Fundación Vida y Familia), Magister Aric Pimentel Jaén (MOVIN), Daniel Barría Yorins								
Status quo or problem/issue to be addressed	Currently the selections of certain high-profile public servant comply with the Constitution and the law, however are discretionary in nature with a minimum required skills and competencies needed to fill these positions and citizen participation is excluded when taking decisions.								
Main Objective	Regulate selections made by the Executive Branch, so that a potential selection process of public scrutiny is established and these options are among the candidates with the approval of the Panamanian society for future choice.								
Brief description of Commitment	Develop and implement self-regulatory mechanisms in the appointment of senior officials.								
Relevance	Enable a more participatory mechanism for the selection of these public servants, to guarantee the appointment of the most able, which will help to strengthen the values of transparency and citizen participation.								
Ambition	Self-regulation by the Executive Branch regarding the constitutional content, which allows a participatory process in the designation of senior officials.								
Verifiable and measurable milestones to fulfill the commitment	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Not started</td> <td>Limited</td> <td>Substantial</td> <td>Completed</td> </tr> <tr> <td>x</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	Not started	Limited	Substantial	Completed	x			
Not started	Limited	Substantial	Completed						
x									
Description of Results	Civil society gathered to develop proposals on the mechanism of election independently, outside the framework of the Alliance for Open Government. They were asked to send these proposals for review and be discussed in working groups composed of civil society and government.								
Date of Conclusion	November 2015								
Next Steps	Hold workshops with civil society and the government to prepare a final proposal, which will be sent to the Ministry of the Presidency.								
Additional Information									
It remains to suggest the Ministry of the Presidency accept the proposal to raise it into law and submitted to the Legislature.									

Topic					
Police Force					
Commitment No. 12 - Disclosure of training programs and developing mechanisms to measure the level of effectiveness and implementation of such programs in the National Police.					
Beginning and completion of the commitment	July 2015 – December 2015				
Lead implementing agency	National Police				
Name of responsible person from implementing agency	Mayor Leandro Ortiz Sánchez				
Title, Department	10450 Mayor				
Email	inspectoriageneral@policia.gob.pa / observatorioig@gmail.com				
Phone	511-9152				
Other actors involved	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Government</td> <td>National Authority of Transparency and Access to Information (ANTAI)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>CSOs, private sector, working groups and multilaterals</td> <td>Geneva Aguilar de Ladrón de Guevara (Fundación Vida y Familia), Magister Aric Pimentel Jaén (MOVIN), Daniel Barría Yorins</td> </tr> </table>	Government	National Authority of Transparency and Access to Information (ANTAI)	CSOs, private sector, working groups and multilaterals	Geneva Aguilar de Ladrón de Guevara (Fundación Vida y Familia), Magister Aric Pimentel Jaén (MOVIN), Daniel Barría Yorins
Government	National Authority of Transparency and Access to Information (ANTAI)				
CSOs, private sector, working groups and multilaterals	Geneva Aguilar de Ladrón de Guevara (Fundación Vida y Familia), Magister Aric Pimentel Jaén (MOVIN), Daniel Barría Yorins				
Status quo or problem/issue to be addressed	The lack of knowledge of the public about the academic programs of the National Police.				
Main Objective	Use the Department of Communication and Project of the institution to promote educational programs and the Directorate of Teaching to assess the effectiveness thereof.				
Brief description of Commitment	Promote educational programs and scientific methods for measuring results.				
Relevance	To be of public knowledge regarding academic programs and their effectiveness by scientific methods, citizens can provide knowledge and improvement to our training and expertise for the benefit of the community, contributing to the values of transparency and accountability.				
Ambition	Alliances and agreements with public and private educational institutions, organizations at national and international level, to be up to date in terms of public safety.				



Verifiable and measurable milestones to fulfill the commitment	Not started	Limited	Substantial	Completed
		x		
Description of Results	<p>Developed training programs at the institution, as well as the police procedures were published on the website of the National Police.</p> <p>In the public consultation meetings the National Police, progress and results achieved in the implementation of this commitment were presented.</p>			
Date of Conclusion	December 2015			
Next Steps	<p>The National Police should establish the method of effective implementation of the training and the method to be used for disclosure thereof.</p> <p>Additionally, they must publish the statistics on disciplinary results brought by the Disciplinary Board Superior in their Website.</p>			
Additional Information				

Topic	
Public Safety	
Commitment No. 13 - Create advisory councils involving civil society to strengthen public safety programs.	
Beginning and completion of the commitment	July 2015 – June 2017
Lead implementing agency	National Police
Name of responsible person from implementing agency	Mayor Leandro Ortiz Sánchez
Title, Department	10450 Mayor
Email	inspectoriageneral@policia.gob.pa / observatorioig@gmail.com
Phone	511-9152
Other actors involved	Government
	CSOs, private sector, working groups and multilaterals
	National Authority of Transparency and Access to Information (ANTA)
	Geneva Aguilar de Ladrón de Guevara (Fundación Vida y Familia), Aric Pimentel Jaén (MOVIN), Daniel Barría Yorins
Status quo or problem/issue to be addressed	The lack of coordination between the National Police and citizens in public safety programs of the National Police.
Main Objective	Strengthen citizen participation in public safety programs of the National Police.
Brief description of Commitment	Create a consultative council integrated by the National Police, public safety programs and representatives of civil society, where it is strengthened and new citizen security programs are created.
Relevance	Have greater participation of citizens in public safety programs and their possible solutions will contribute to strengthen the values of citizen participation and transparency.
Ambition	Improve public safety through the creation and strengthening programs.
Verifiable and measurable milestones to fulfill the commitment	Not started
	Limited
	Substantial
	Completed
	x
Description of Results	<p>The National Police published on its website public safety programs, which were publicized and promoted through the media.</p> <p>In the public consultation meetings the National Police, progress and results achieved in the implementation of this commitment were presented to civil society.</p>
Date of Conclusion	June 2017
Next Steps	Hold a meeting with representatives of civil society that elaborated this commitment and explain to the National Police the objective of milestone 3.
Additional Information	

Topic	
Environment	
Commitment No. 14 - Implementation of the Law 44 of August 5, 2002, which established the Watershed Committees.	
Beginning and completion of the commitment	2014 – June 2017
Lead implementing agency	Ministry of Environment
Name of responsible person from implementing agency	Noel Trejos
Title, Department	Director of Integrated Watershed Management
Email	natrejos@miambiente.gob.pa
Phone	500-0866



Other actors involved	Government	National Authority of Transparency and Access to Information (ANTAI)			
	CSOs, private sector, working groups and multilaterals	Virginia de Alvarado (FUMPROI), Iveth Valdés (MELEDIS), Maria Soledad Porcel (CIAM)			
Status quo or problem/issue to be addressed		Lack of citizen participation in decisions affecting the supply, quantity and quality of water.			
Main Objective		Implement the law 44 of August 5, 2002, which established the Watershed Committees.			
Brief description of Commitment		Appoint twenty-five (25) Watershed Committees.			
Relevance		Greater citizen participation in the issue of water supply allows greater effectiveness of conservation plans and more effective results in the medium and long term.			
Ambition		Watershed Committees active and running, with the direct involvement of various actors citizens.			
Verifiable and measurable milestones to fulfill the commitment		Not started	Limited	Substantial	Completed
					x
Description of Results		15 drainage basins committees were created, which are duly documented through resolutions. Calls for the creation of committees were made through resolution, as well as the formation of the committee. Both resolutions were published in the Official Gazette			
Date of Conclusion		June 2017			
Next Steps		Send note to the Ministry of Environment requesting the resolutions that called for the appointment of a committee of hydrographic features be sent to the National Authority of Transparency and Access to Information, so that it can be shared with organizations of civil society. Additionally will request that these resolutions be published on its website, for more advertising.			
Additional Information					
It remains to ensure that the environment ministry give more publicity to calls for the creation of committees drainage basins.					

Topic Education					
Commitment No. 15 - Disclosure of training programs for trainers and their content and the establishment of a mechanism for measuring implementation of these programs					
Beginning and completion of the commitment		July 2015 – June 2017			
Lead implementing agency		Ministry of Education (MEDUCA)			
Name of responsible person from implementing agency		Tania de Gordon			
Title, Department		National Director for Improvement			
Email		tania.gordon@meduca.gob.pa			
Phone		517-0441			
Other actors involved	Government	National Authority of Transparency and Access to Information (ANTAI)			
	CSOs, private sector, working groups and multilaterals	Virginia de Alvarado (FUMPROI), Iveth Valdés (MELEDIS), Maria Soledad Porcel (CIAM)			
Status quo or problem/issue to be addressed		Public does not know of the existence and content of training programs for teaching staff of the Ministry of Education.			
Main Objective		Promote and disseminate the training program and teacher training, as well the course descriptions and implement mechanisms to measure achievements.			
Brief description of Commitment		Disclosure of teacher education programs and their descriptions, as well as the establishment of mechanisms to measure the execution of these programs.			
Relevance		Disclose the training program and teacher training and their descriptions, which allow greater transparency of public administration on the issue, so that citizens can get involved and participate. This contributes to the transparency, accountability and citizen participation values.			
Ambition		Training programs and training for teachers, with a measurement mechanism, implementation and accomplishments.			
Verifiable and measurable milestones to fulfill the commitment		Not started	Limited	Substantial	Completed
				x	
Description of Results		The Ministry of Education published training programs for teachers and their descriptions, as well as the method of teacher evaluation and performance statistics by region on the website			
Date of Conclusion		June 2017			
Next Steps		Send a note to the Ministry of Education to consult if civil society can participate in training programs and teacher training, in order to provide suggestions and proposals.			
Additional Information					

Topic					
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Accountability				
Commitment No. 16 - Extend the mechanisms of monitoring and tracking of cases reported to the Centers for Citizen Attention (311).				
Beginning and completion of the commitment		April 2015 – June 2017		
Lead implementing agency		National Authority for Government Innovation (AIG)		
Name of responsible person from implementing agency		Edgar Tejada		
Title, Department		Director of the Center for Citizen Attention		
Email		etejada@innovacion.gob.pa		
Phone		520-7400		
Other actors involved	Government	National Authority of Transparency and Access to Information (ANTAI)		
	CSOs, private sector, working groups and multilaterals			
Status quo or problem/issue to be addressed		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The citizen is not always informed of the actions taken by entities.</li> <li>- Entities sometimes delay the process to deal with cases reported</li> <li>- There is a need of more mechanisms for citizens to see the progress of their cases.</li> </ul>		
Main Objective		Improve mechanisms for monitoring and tracking of cases reported to the Center for Citizen Attention (311).		
Brief description of Commitment		Extend the mechanisms of monitoring and tracking of cases reported to the Center for Citizen Attention (311) through technological tools and management processes.		
Relevance		By expanding the mechanisms of monitoring and tracking of cases reported to the Centers for Citizen Attention (311), it contributes to the values of accountability, transparency and technology and innovation to increase the 2 previous values.		
Ambition		Citizens receive a satisfactory response from the entities within the deadline set for each service they provide.		
Verifiable and measurable milestones to fulfill the commitment		Not started	Limited	Substantial
				x
Description of Results		<p>The National Authority for Government Innovation participated in a public consultation meeting in which it was explained the progress and results achieved in the implementation of this commitment being these:</p> <p>Public institutions have spread the existence of 311 in their Web, social networking sites and institutionally, and published statistics received case management.</p> <p>Further, the AIG established the method of measuring effectiveness in responses, and has given follow-up care cases, contacting the citizen and online.</p>		
Date of Conclusion		June 2017		
Next Steps		Invite more public institutions to join the 311 in order to strengthen government transparency.		
Additional Information				

Topic				
Access to Information				
Commitment No. 17 - Conduct a study aimed to establish the nomenclature and street signs in Panama City.				
Beginning and completion of the commitment				
Lead implementing agency		Municipality of Panama		
Name of responsible person from implementing agency		Manuel Trutte		
Puesto		Director of Urban Planning		
Email		manuel.trute@municipio-pma.gob.pa		
Phone		506-9869		
Other actors involved	Government	National Authority of Transparency and Access to Information (ANTAI)		
	CSOs, private sector, working groups and multilaterals	Director of Works and Construction, two representatives of civic clubs, a representative of the National Geographic Institute Tommy Guardia, a representative of the Panamanian Society of Engineers and Architects and a member of the Municipal Council. (Municipal Agreement No. 5 of January 15, 1991).		
Status quo or problem/issue to be addressed		Low or lack of information regarding the name and location of the streets or avenues.		
Main Objective		Have a plan for urban planning of Panama City, to keep in order the urban planning information of the municipality.		
Brief description of Commitment		Elaborate a plan to establish the naming and street signals in the City of Panama.		
Relevance		Conducting this study, there will be a specific benefit in the proactive publication of information of Panama City, which will contribute to strengthening the transparency value.		
Ambition		1. Plan and database of Panama District, 2. Estimated number of signs to locate, 3. Proposed design of the signs, 4. System nomenclature pilot implementation, 5. Budget for project implementation, 6. Design of the structure of the unit nomenclature, 7. Disclosure campaign		



	of the new naming system between public institutions, private sector and public sector in general.			
Verifiable and measurable milestones to fulfill the commitment	Not started	Limited	Substantial	Completed
	x			
Description of Results	The Municipality of Panama held a public tender for the purchase of the service of a company to conduct a study for the establishment of signage and nomenclature of Panama City, which was declared void because no one participated.  Not having a company to engage in the study, it has not been implemented			
Date of Conclusion	December 2016			
Next Steps	A note will be sent to the Municipality of Panama, asking to inform us if they will have a new public act, in order to follow up and have greater publicity to it.			
Additional Information				
It remains to achieve the beginning of the implementation of this commitment in full.				

Topic				
Access to Information				
Commitment No. 18 - Implementation of the electronic platform for access to information at the government level: "Informate Panama".				
Beginning and completion of the commitment	June 2014 – June 2017			
Lead implementing agency	National Authority of Transparency and Access to Information (ANTAI)			
Name of responsible person from implementing agency	Elio Chi <sup>19</sup>			
Title, Department	Director of Access to Information – in charge			
Email	echi@antai.gob.pa			
Phone	527-9270			
Other actors involved	Government	Autoridad Nacional para la Innovación Gubernamental (AIG)		
	CSOs, private sector, working groups and multilaterals	My Society (United Kingdom), British Embassy in Panama		
Status quo or problem/issue to be addressed	When public institutions receive a request for access to information, sometimes they do not answer or if they do is outside the period established by law, due to the lack of internal procedures which are not aimed to facilitate access to information to the public.			
Main Objective	The electronic platform of access to information will improve the processing and monitoring by official information an application for access to information according to law 6 of January 22, 2002 (Law of Transparency), and also facilitate citizens the existing process to request information to public institutions through the systematization and technology.			
Brief description of Commitment	Implementing the electronic platform of access to information to process and keep a better record and track requests for access to public information.			
Relevance	The implementation of this platform will strengthen the value of technology and innovation to increase transparency.			
Ambition	That requests for information made to public institutions are processed in a timely and effective monitoring is given.			
Verifiable and measurable milestones to fulfill the commitment	Not started	Limited	Substantial	Completed
	x			
Description of Results	The National Authority of Transparency and Access to Information (Antai) helped develop the platform with the company My Society; performed the launch of the platform to civil society organizations and the media, in which citizens were trained on the use of the platform. In addition, the Antai trained ninety-six (96) information officers and their alternates on the use of the platform			
Date of Conclusion	June 2017			
Next Steps	a contract with the company My Society for administration and maintenance of the platform for a year will be held, to implement it.  Additional training on system use and dissemination activities will be conducted.			
Additional Information				
Among the actions to be achieved in the second year of implementation, will be the hosting platform on servers of the National Authority for Government Innovation (AIG).				

Topic				
Access to Information and Asset Declaration				
Commitment No. 19 – Develop and publish a database of the public servants required to file declaration of assets to the CGR.				

<sup>19</sup> The responsible person was modified at the request of the National Authority of Transparency and Access to Information (Antai), and was duly notified to the representatives of civil society who drafted this commitment and Evaluation Commission comprising the OGP.



Beginning and completion of the commitment		July 2015 – April 2016			
Lead implementing agency		General Comptroller of the Republic (CGR)			
Name of responsible person from implementing agency		Maribel M. Batista Ruíz			
Title, Department		Secretary II			
Email		mabatista@contraloria.gob.pa			
Phone		510-4283 / 510-4282			
Other actors involved	Government	National Authority of Transparency and Access to Information (ANTAI)			
	CSOs, private sector, working groups and multilaterals				
Status quo or problem/issue to be addressed		By law 59 of December 23, 1999 some public servants are required to file a declaration of assets, but its publication is not mandatory; for this reason citizens are not able to see if the public servants that must declare under Article 1 of the previously mentioned law have done it, and in case that they haven't, if they were given a penalty.			
Main Objective		To publish in detail and update a database of the public servants required to submit a declaration of assets to the CGR, that includes the full name of the public servant, position, institution, if they presented it and if not, if the public servant was penalized.			
Brief description of Commitment		Preparation and publication of the database of all public servants required by law to file declaration of assets.			
Relevance		It allows showing in detail how many public servants have file the declaration of assets, all who have not and those who have been penalized for violating this obligation. This will strengthen the values of transparency and accountability.			
Ambition		To elaborate and publish a detailed and updated database of public servants required to file a declaration of assets.			
Verifiable and measurable milestones to fulfill the commitment		Not started	Limited	Substantial	Completed
			x		
Description of Results		The Office of the Comptroller General developed the database of the ones required to submit the declaration of assets established in the Constitution, in a first phase.			
Date of Conclusion		April 2016			
Next Steps		In a second phase it will be incorporated the ones required to submit the declaration of assets established in the Tax Code officials.  The ANTAI will prepare a note for the Office of the Comptroller General of Colombia requesting the data base.			
Additional Information					
It should publish the database on the website of the Office of the Comptroller General of Colombia.					

Topic					
The issue relates to the areas or general issues that commitment will attend, such as Education, Health, Access to Justice, Corporate Social Responsibility, Open Data, etc.					
Commitment No. 20 - Create a Permanent Dialogue Mechanism for the implementation of the commitments.					
Beginning and completion of the commitment		July 2015 – June 2017			
Lead implementing agency		National Authority of Transparency and Access and Information (ANTAI)			
Name of responsible person from implementing agency		Antonio Lam / Aída I. Martínez Mórtoles			
Title, Department		Chief of the Office of International Technical Cooperation / Legal Advisor			
Email		alam@antai.gob.pa / amartinez@antai.gob.pa			
Phone		527-9270			
Other actors involved	Government	National Authority for Government Innovation (AIG), Ministry of the Presidency, Secretariat of Goals. <sup>20</sup>			
	CSOs, private sector, working groups and multilaterals	Eighteen (18) representatives chosen by more than forty (40) civil society organizations.			
Status quo or problem/issue to be addressed		Lack of information available to the citizens about OGP, Action Plans of the Republic of Panama and their commitments, just as the lack of monitoring on the implementation of them.			
Main Objective		The creation of a Permanent Dialogue Mechanism, based on a commission formed by public institutions and civil society representatives, and also a Panama Open Government Website with an evaluation board.			
Brief description of Commitment		Appoint a permanent commission to monitor the implementation of the commitments in the second Action Plan and create a Panama Open Government Website.			
Relevance		The implementation of this mechanism will contribute to strengthen the values of citizen			

<sup>20</sup> On October 12, 2015, the Secretariat of Goals joined the commission.



	participation, transparency, accountability and technology and innovation to increase the three (3) previous values.			
Ambition	Effective monitoring of the commitments of the second Action Plan during the two (2) years of implementation.			
Verifiable and measurable milestones to fulfill the commitment	Not started	Limited	Substantial	Completed
			x	
Description of Results	<p>An evaluation Committee of OGP was created by: Fundación Generación Sin Límites, Organización Afropanameña Soy and Movimiento Independiente (MOVIN) and three (3) public institutions: Antai, Ministry of the Presidency and Secretariat of Goals. On the 30<sup>th</sup> of June 2016, a meeting was conducted where it was determined the functions of the commission and the NGO in charge to coordinate with civil society was determined, being the Fundación Generación Sin Límites, as well as the method of assessing compliance with the commitments of the National Action Plan 2015- 2017, among other topics.</p> <p>A Memorandum of Understanding between ANTAI and AIG, for the creation of the Open Government Web page Panama was signed.</p>			
Date of Conclusion	June 2017			
Next Steps	<p>Development and launch of the Open Government Web page Panama. <sup>21</sup></p> <p>Publication of the standardization of formats for the information to be published on the website <sup>22</sup>.</p>			
Additional Information				

## 5. Learning and collaboration between countries.

The National Authority of Transparency and Access to Information (ANTAI) participated in the Second Regional Dialogue of Policy in Open Government in Latin America and the Caribbean, held from 17 to 18 June 2015 in Asuncion, Paraguay, which brought together the authorities responsible of the policies of Open Government for 17 Bank borrowing countries, multilateral agencies and international experts who exchanged knowledge, experiences and possibilities of cooperation in this area of fundamental importance to restore confidence in public institutions and contribute to new forms of governance oriented improve the delivery of public services and strengthen transparency, integrity and access to information as fundamental pillars in the relationship with citizens.

The Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) launched this dialogue to provide a forum for the exchange of knowledge and cooperation between the senior officials responsible for open government policies in the 26 borrowing member countries of the Bank.

This second meeting, sponsored by the IDB in collaboration with the Secretariat of Planning Economic and Social Development (STP) of the Government of the Republic of Paraguay, allowed participants to share experiences and knowledge about their strategies and implementation plans for open government, as well as measurement and sustainability of initiatives to improve public services, and the use of technology, access to information, the potential of open data, and fostering innovation for improved life of citizens.

The Republic of Panama spoke about the progress of innovation in Panama TIC level and platforms such as 311, to support transparency in governance and access to information,

<sup>21</sup> The final date of the milestone No. 4 of "July 2016" was changed to "January 2017" at the request of responsible for implementing the commitment and was duly notified to the representatives of civil society of the Evaluation Commission of OGP.

<sup>22</sup> The final date of the milestone No. 5 of "January 2016" to "January 2017" because there was an error since the developing of this commitment and was duly notified to the representatives of civil society of the Evaluation Commission of OGP.





where the exemplified value of TIC and promotion innovation to a) multiplying the availability and use of information; and b) to support a more efficient and transparent public service.

During the development of dialogue were discussed topics such as: Strategies for citizen-centered government, Innovation and Digital Solutions for Open Government, Open Government Implementation: I- Strategies Partnership and Participation Co-Creation of Public Value and II- Sector Experiences.

A space was provided to present strategies of open government of some countries such as Bolivia, Belize and Brazil; the value of TIC in countries such as Mexico, Panama, Jamaica, Peru, Paraguay; discussed the different strategies (hackathons and innovation labs) to foster greater inclusion and more dynamic citizen participation, exploring particularly the value of user feedback to improve public services at national and sub-national level in countries of Uruguay, Nicaragua, El Salvador, Honduras, Costa Rica; the implementation of open government policies in the various sectors were explored: extractive industries, health, education, the environment in the countries of Chile, the Dominican Republic and Paraguay.

In addition, they discussed issues of Opening Data, Life easier for Citizens, the Multilateral Support for Open Government in Latin America and the Caribbean and finally the challenges by 2016.

They sought to answer the challenges and advantages of implementing a policy of open data by the creator of Portal Open Data UK; the need for and objectives indicators of the region to measure performance and accountability of governance in their interaction with citizens in the countries of Ecuador and Paraguay; the project "Life by simplifying Citizens" was presented by the BID, project that the Republic of Panama is participating; a space for multilateral agencies would present tools to support the agenda of open government in Latin America and the Caribbean, these being the BID, the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), Latin American and Caribbean Institute was provided Economic and Social-Economic Planning Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC ILPES), the Organization of American States (OAS) and the Alliance for Open Government (OGP); and finally the activities and results that emerged from the 2014, a dialogue and reflection was made on the findings of dialogue 2015 and needs with a view to 2016 were reviewed.

The Inter-American Development Bank and the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) showed their support to work together with the Republic of Panama on issues of Open Government.

## **6. Conclusions, other initiatives and next steps.**



### ***A. Lessons learned:***

#### Development of an Action Plan

The lessons learned in the development of the Action Plan is that we must involve local governments to increase the scope of national commitments. We must also invite new sectors in the development of plans, including the private sector, youth and women, in order to promote greater citizen participation.

They must conduct surveys, online contests and other initiatives to expand the mechanisms used for public consultation. One of the challenges faced was the number of representatives of civil society who developed with the government the Action Plan. This number should be reduced, for better handling during the development stage.

Another lesson learned is that you can't miss a representative of civil society in charge of coordinating this sector, which together with the ANTAI, co-create the Action Plans.

#### Implementation of the Action Plan

Among the lessons learned we found that it is necessary to reduce the amount of commitments to better monitoring, in order to obtain full compliance of them. They should incorporate commitments that have greater social impact, with a broad scope of transparency, accountability and access to information, focusing on the pillars of the Open Government Partnership.

In the period of implementation, it requires that the monitoring compliance is complete, to urge the institutions responsible for compliance within the time frame previously stipulated in the National Action Plan, which will allow civil society to appreciate the willingness and commitment of the Government in implementing the National Action Plan.

It is also considered of great importance for greater efficiency in implementing the National Action Plan, dissemination of the Open Government Partnership and the benefits it brings to the country the implementation of the National Action Plans.

Among the challenges faced in the development of the Action Plan, was the lack of a representative of civil society at the beginning, which is responsible for coordinating this sector, to lead with the ANTAI the implementation process. Once identified this challenge, a meeting, on June 30, 2016 with the Evaluation Commission where the Foundation Generation Unlimited was held and established the NGO the responsible to coordinate civil society, who have volunteered for the effective development of the commitments.

### ***B. Other initiatives:***



As another initiative undertaken by the Republic of Panama to boost the values of the Partnership and was not part of the Action Plan, is that we have the draft for Open Government Data (DAG) Lead by ANTAI in collaboration with AIG, which seeks to promote transparency and access to information. This project is a commitment of the Government to give the citizen the opening of government data, through an open format, in order to reuse them.

Currently developing the National Portal of Open Government Data, which will have the information that is generated by the government, categorized in a friendly manner for citizens in open formats to encourage the reuse of that information, in benefit of the citizens.

The rules of public procurement was amended in order to prevent direct contracting and strengthen transparency in government purchases.

It was created on the website of the National Authority of Transparency and Access to Information a section for filing administrative complaints or complaints against corruption acts, in a confidential way.

***C. Next steps:***

Among the future plans that the Republic of Panama will develop on open government, we have the elaboration of the rules that will lead open government and Open Government Partnership in our country. These regulations establishes the guidelines to be followed by the various public institutions that shape the government.

***D. Conclusion:***

The positive impact that had the activities and results from each commitment was the integration of civil society in the co-creation and implementation of the National Action Plan 2015-2017.

The government of the Republic of Panama, in order to strengthen transparency and accountability has promoted a citizen participation actively, which is of vital importance to implement Open Government, empowering the citizens in the co-creation of policies in transparency and public access to information.