



Republic of Macedonia
Ministry of Information Society and Administration



Open Government Partnership National Action Plan 2018-2020

Skopje, July 2018

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ACRONIMS

CPRFAPI	Comission for Protection of the Right to Free Access to Public Information
CRRM	Central Registrar of RM
CSOs	Civil Society Organizations
EARM	Employment Agency of the Republic of Macedonia
ESE	Association for Emanciaption, Solidarity and Equality of Women in Macedonia
ESPP	Electronic System for Public Procurement
EU	European Union
FOSM	Foundation Open Society – Macedonia
IDSCS	Institute for Democracy Societas Civilis
IRM	Independent Reporting Mechanism
LFAPI	Law on Free Access to Public Information
LFLA	Law on Free Legal Assistance
LSGUs	Local Self-Government Units
ZELS	Association of the units of local self-government of the Republic of Macedonia
MCIC	Macedonian Center for International Cooperation
MISA	Ministry of Information Society and Administration
MPs	Members of Parliament
NAP	National Action Plan
NGOs	Non-governmenatal Organizations
OGP	Open Government Partnership
RIC	Roma Information Center
RM	Republic of Macedonia
RNS	Registry Number of the Subject
SCPC	State Commision for Prevention of Corruption
SWC	Social Work Centres
UNDP	United Nations Development Program

INTRODUCTION

Republic of Macedonia has continually worked on improving the efficiency in the operation of public institutions, increasing the transparency and public access to information, fight against corruption and achieving high quality public services to citizens and businesses by utilizing technology and innovation powers.

By accessing the global voluntarily initiative for Open Government Partnership, the Government of the Republic of Macedonia committed and confirmed its commitment to continually improve its work based on open, transparent, accountable and efficient government institutions, that communicate and collaborate with the civil society. The commitments in respect of transparent government activities, as well as inclusion of civil and private sector, are high priorities in the Government programs. The civil sector has enormous creative energy that should be used more actively in the public sector by improving and fostering the culture of inclusion and respect to citizens' rights in the policy creating and decision making processes, adoption of laws and public access to information. More importantly, Open Government Partnership has a strong impact on innovations, development and competitiveness.

Over the past years, the Government of the Republic of Macedonia has aimed at promoting government transparency, greater citizen participation and inclusion in the decision making process, introducing higher integrity standards and greater public access to technology for all citizens of the Republic of Macedonia. With the fourth Open Government Partnership National Action Plan 2018-2020, the Government of the Republic of Macedonia continues its commitment for active work on the priorities related to access to information, integrity and good governance, fiscal transparency, open data and transparency at local level.

GOVERNMENT EFFORTS FOR OPEN PARTNERSHIP

Republic of Macedonia has joined the global Open Government Partnership Initiative in 2011. In accordance with all countries' responsibilities joining this initiative, up until now, the Government of RM has adopted three Action Plans in 2012, 2014 and 2016, for the respective two years' periods.

In June 2017, based on the results obtained at the early parliamentary elections held on December 11th 2016, a new Government of the Republic of Macedonia was formed, which included package reform activities in the Work Program 2017-2020¹ and Plan 3-6-9² that are unequivocally aimed at transparency, responsibility and accountability and reflect the commitment to fully implement the open government concept in accordance with the Open Government Partnership Initiative.

Over the past year, results stipulated in the third Open Government Partnership National Action Plan 2016-2018 were achieved, but also results not covered by the Action Plan, aimed at enabling a

¹ <http://vlada.mk/programa>

² <http://vlada.mk/plan-3-6-9>

democratic media environment, active transparency and accessibility, and their complementarity is a kind of proof for the government's unequivocal efforts to promote transparency, accountability and responsibility.

Hence, apart from the strategic documents' implementation, interactive web portals were improved to facilitate the consultation process, and thus providing greater transparency and an opportunity to create forums for exchanging views and opinions. This approach always produces good results and better quality legislation, hence the high priority was the improvement of the mechanisms that enable advancement of the consultation process and the cooperation with the civil sector. A functional Council for dialogue and cooperation between the Government and the civil society has been established, the minimum deadline for consultation with stakeholders was extended from 10 to a minimum of 20 days in the process of drafting laws, and regular publication of daily lines and minutes from government sessions is also provided. A Directory of CSOs has been introduced and mechanisms for systemic consultation between Government and CSOs have been established.

Republic of Macedonia has a legislation that guarantees access to information, and institutions publish a wide range of information on their web portals, not excluding openness to citizens and companies. The Commission for Protection of the Right to Free Access to Public Information continuously promotes the electronic submission of requests for access to public information. A practice for publishing 21³ documents on acts, documents, reports, rulebooks of ministries and bodies within the ministries, other state administration bodies, public enterprises, agencies, funds and other institutions has been established. Free services are provided by the Central Registry of the Republic of Macedonia and the Agency for Real Estate Cadastre of the Republic of Macedonia for investigative journalism requirements.

There was initiation of open data and enabling mechanisms for prioritizing open data in accordance with the citizens and companies' requirements. An Open Data Strategy was adopted and a new Open Data Portal is being created that will introduce open data standards and licenses. An analysis was conducted in four institutions⁴ and there was a preparation of a detailed overview of the data sets held by the institutions, ie data sets institutions should have at their disposal in accordance with their legal obligations. Based on the experience by pilot institutions, a methodology has been developed with guidelines for independent analysis and implementation of the same in all other institutions in the Republic of Macedonia.

There was also an introduction of legal regulation for protection of persons reporting suspicions of unlawful and unacceptable actions, thus ensuring systematic institutional protection of whistleblowers. There was preparation of a Manual for Protection of Whistleblowers⁵, conduction of trainings on new methods for protection of whistleblowers, collaborators of justice and persons with hidden identity for monitoring and gathering information or data, attended by judges, public prosecutors, police officers and financial police officers and a campaign for raising public awareness of the citizens of the Republic of Macedonia⁶.

In view of the efficient public resource management, special attention was paid to increasing transparency and accountability of institutions regarding public money spending, by publishing budget

³ <http://www.mio.gov.mk/?q=node/4492> и <http://vlada.mk/node/13607>

⁴ MLSP, MoF, MoJ and MES

⁵ https://www.dksk.mk/fileadmin/user_upload/5_Prirachnik_za_zashtita_na_ukazhuvachi.pdf

⁶ By putting billboards in three locations in Skopje, putting a banner on an internet portal, printing a logo with a message "Reporting without consequences" on posters, leaflets, whistles, publications in printed media and inserting leaflets in a daily newspaper where citizens were informed regarding legal and institutional mechanisms for protected whistleblowing

documents in an open format, there was a publication of Civil Budget for Amending Budget for 2017 and "Citizen Budget" for the Budget for 2018⁷, there is an introduction of an obligation for budget users and public enterprises to publish all public procurement contracts and annexes on the Electronic system for public procurement (ESPP), and there was also a development of publicly available open data platform in the part of public procurement⁸. There is also public availability of reports on municipal budget execution on a quarterly basis; quartal report on the implementation of the general government budget; improvement of the semi-annual report on the execution of the Budget of the Republic of Macedonia; all outstanding and unpaid liabilities with a cut-off date May 31st; published data on the distribution of citizens' income; organization of a public debate on the budget before it entered into a government procedure and introduction of a legal obligation for all budget users and public enterprises to publish their final accounts on their websites.

As part of the Government commitments for greater digital transparency, there was an introduction of Accountability Tool for senior officers' expenditures⁹, where overview and comparison can be done on the expenses of the President of the Government of the Republic of Macedonia, the Vice Presidents, the Ministers, the Ministers without portfolio, the deputy ministers, the Secretary General of the Government and the State Secretaries of the ministries, directors and deputy directors of public enterprises, the independent state administration bodies, the legal entities with public authorizations, joint-stock companies in state ownership and the bodies within the Ministries.

Local transparency is appropriately addressed in the Action plan through commitments aimed at improving the enabling environment at local level. These commitments encourage the participation of citizens in decision-making, improve the quality of services within the competence of the local self-government by including citizens in problem solving processes, facilitates access to information and services, and enables greater social inclusion of people with disability at local level. Standards for e-transparency in local self-government units have been identified - which determine the information to be published on local self-governments' websites, as well as the data sets that need to be published as open data, as well as guidelines for open data in local self-government units - providing instructions on how open data should be published by local self-governments. A control e-board has been introduced, which is a software solution that will download the most important financial data for the operation of municipalities¹⁰. There was development of a model for public inclusion in the creation of local policies through protocols and checklists, preparation of video material for informing persons with disabilities through a sign language on the manner and procedure for free access to public information¹¹.

In order to improve the social services for citizens in Macedonia according to their requirements, there was a full implementation of the achievements that are a prerequisite for creating a favorable legal environment for social agreements, improvement of the national legislation and policies for developing mechanisms for social agreements in the area of social protection in Republic of Macedonia. Proposals for improvement of the legal framework for social protection in the Republic of Macedonia have been prepared in accordance with the relevant international standards and regulations, and there was a development of a draft document on public policies for social services and a document on legal issues related to the implementation of the model of social agreements in Macedonia.

The third Open Government Partnership National Action Plan 2016-2018 laid down a commitment for the Republic of Macedonia, and the country implemented the commitments for free

⁷ <https://www.finance.gov.mk/mk/node/6810>

⁸ <https://www.e-nabavki.gov.mk/opendata-announcements.aspx#/home>

⁹ <http://vlada.mk/otchetnost-troshoci>

¹⁰ <http://indikatori.opstinskisoveti.mk>

¹¹ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w966YNoFHPI>

access to data on climate change that contributed to greater public awareness of climate change, including the guidelines from the strategic documents on climate change in sectoral policies, transparent and comprehensive analysis of capacity for mitigation and adaptation in order to implement more effective climate action. This commitment has been recognized as a commitment of particular importance in building public support for climate initiatives¹².

These achievements represent a base for upgrading the commitments and achievements for the period 2018-2020 grouped into the following priority areas: access to information, integrity and good governance, fiscal transparency, open data, transparency at local level, access to justice and climate change through a smaller but measurable, realistic and predictable achievements.

DEVELOPMENT OF OPEN GOVERNMENT PARTNERSHIP NATIONAL ACTION PLAN 2018-2020

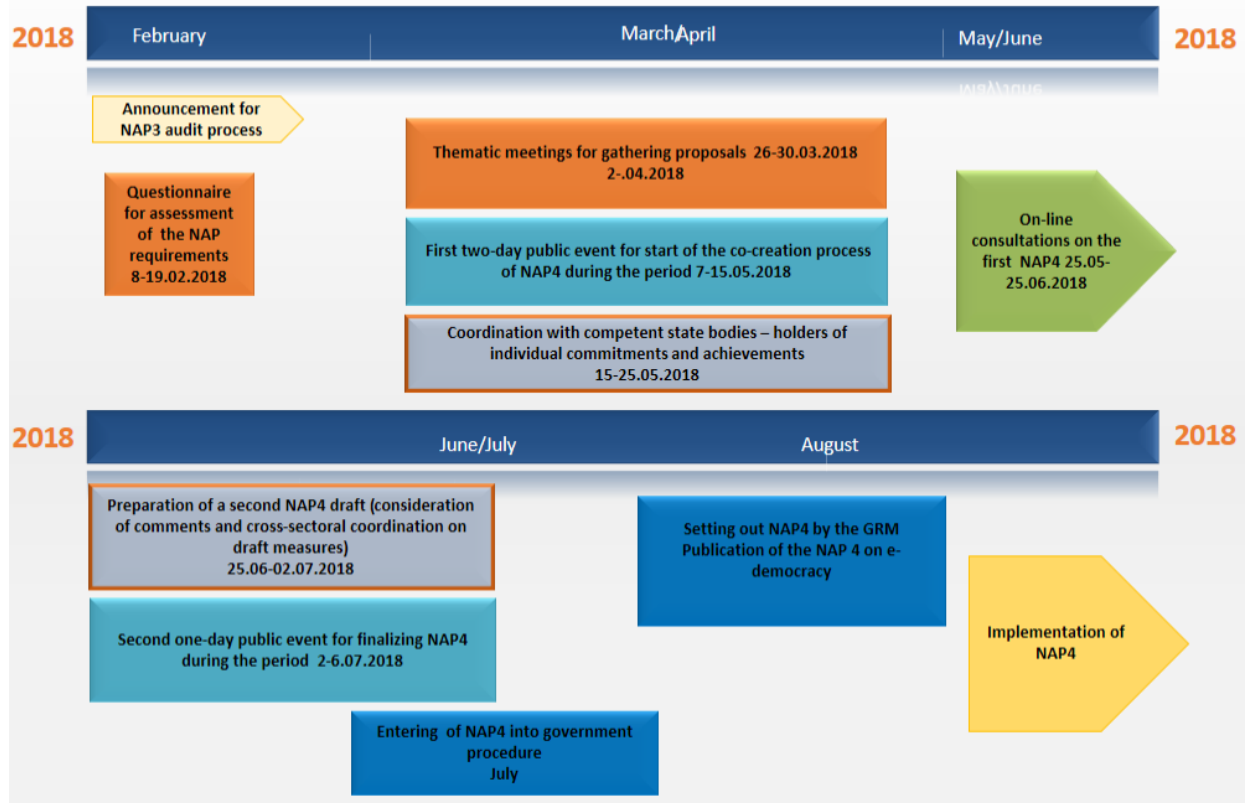
Experiences from previous action plans and recommendations by the independent reporting mechanism were the main guidelines in organizing and implementing the process of preparation and development of the commitments in this action plan addressing current social challenges. The Open Government Partnership National Action Plan 2018-2020 includes a wide range of activities that the Government will undertake over the next two years in order to strengthen, deepen and expand the efforts for promoting government's transparency, improving the effectiveness of institutional mechanisms for access to information, fiscal transparency, data management and keeping registers in state and public institutions, as well as increasing standards of integrity and greater access to technology for all citizens of the Republic of Macedonia.

Consultations in and outside the government have been in the center of attention during the drafting procedure of this Action plan, including extensive consultations with ministries and other state administrative bodies, as well as consultation with the general public and civil society organizations.

In February 2018, there was an announcement of a [Notice](#) on the website of the Ministry of information society and administration, regarding the process initiation for preparation of the fourth Open Government Partnership National Action Plan 2018-2020 along with the Timeframe for preparation of the Open Government Partnership Action Plan 2018- 2020, thus formally starting the process of co-creation of the Fourth Open Government Partnership National Action Plan 2018-2020.

Table1. Timeframe for drafting 2018-2020 Open government partnership action plan

¹²file:///C:/Users/gordana.dimitrovska/AppData/Local/Microsoft/Windows/INetCache/Content.Outlook/ZJCM206K/OGP-climate-stories_macedonia_MK%20(00000002).pdf



In compliance with the timeframe for drafting Open Government Partnership Action Plan 2108-2020, the process of co - creation was divided into interconnected stages undertaking the following actions:

- ✓ In February 2018, CSOs were invited to fill out a Questionnaire on Requirements Assessment for drafting the new Open Government Partnership National Action Plan 2018-2020. The questionnaire was intended to determine the requirements for the preparation of the new Open Government Partnership National Action Plan 2018-2020 (NAP 4), ie to examine the knowledge of CSOs with the global initiative Open Government Partnership, to determine the interest for participation in the preparation process of the new OGP AP 2018-2020, to gather initial recommendations for the consultation process, as well as proposals for measures that could potentially be included in the action plan. The survey results are published on the following [link](#).
- ✓ In March 2018, there was an open dialogue with the civil sector. Four thematic meetings were held in which 104 representatives from the governmental and civil sector in Macedonia took active participation and discussed the challenges related to transparency and accountability, freedom of information, open data, effective public services and good governance at local level. The meetings identified project ideas that promote greater citizen inclusion in policy making processes, systematic monitoring and evaluation of government policies, proactivity, freedom and access to information, open data and transparency of institutions, protection of personal data, prevention of corruption, building systems of integrity, management of conflicts of interest, gender equality, environmental protection/air pollution. Based on the proposed ideas, the

participants submitted 18 concrete proposal commitments to the Ministry of Information Society and Administration.

- ✓ The first public event - Conference "Open Government Partnership Dialogue with Civil Society Organizations on National Action Plan 2018-2020" was held on May 08 - 09, 2018. The Conference promoted the Open Government Partnership Initiative, gave detailed information on the Open Government Partnership Action Plan 2016-2018 progress, a representative of the Independent Reporting Mechanism presented the Independent Reporting Mechanism (IRM) as one of the key manners interested parties can monitor the progress and impact of governments participation in Open Government Partnership Initiative and create space for discussion and co-creation of draft measures for the fourth Action plan. During the conference, three working groups, which were facilitated by representatives of non-governmental organizations, analyzed, discussed and prioritized the proposals made to the Ministry of Information Society and Administration and allowed discussion of additional efforts for the next priority topics concerning the fourth action plan: transparency, accountability and accessibility, prevention of corruption and promoting good governance, access to public services and good governance at local level. The conference was attended by 98 representatives of state institutions and civil society organizations working in areas relevant to Open Government Partnership, as well as diplomatic representatives. The conclusion that resulted from the working groups is that, additionally, there should be a coordination and harmonization in the further procedure, and the same should be organized at separate working meetings between the representatives of the governmental institutions and the civil sector proposers of the commitments.
- ✓ Consultative meetings were held during the period from 10 to 29 May 2018, with civil society organizations at local level¹³, presenting information on implementation progress of the NAP3 2016-2018, the new process of drafting the NAP 4 and the timeframe, as well as conducting discussion on proposal commitments for the new action plan.
- ✓ The process of defining the draft measures for the first draft of the Open Government Partnership Action Plan 2018-2020 was conducted during the period from 10 to 29 May 2018. At the same time, there were thematic working meetings, where representatives of government institutions and civil society organizations that submitted their proposals on the thematic meetings and the first public event during the work focused on prioritizing and defining the draft measures in accordance with the criteria of the independent reporting mechanism. At this stage, 8 commitments were defined in 5 priority themes¹⁴.
- ✓ During May - June 2018, the interested parties had the opportunity to submit their comments and remarks on the first published Action Plan Draft. Notification of the consultation process is available on the following [link](#). During the one-month open on-line consultative process, 3 new draft measures were submitted.
- ✓ The Second Public Event "Open Government Partnership - Dialogue with Civil Society Organizations on the National Action Plan 2018-2020" was held on On July 9th 2018, where the draft Action Plan for Open Government Partnership (2018-2020) developed in cooperation with civil society organizations (CSOs) was presented, and a discussion was held between CSOs and

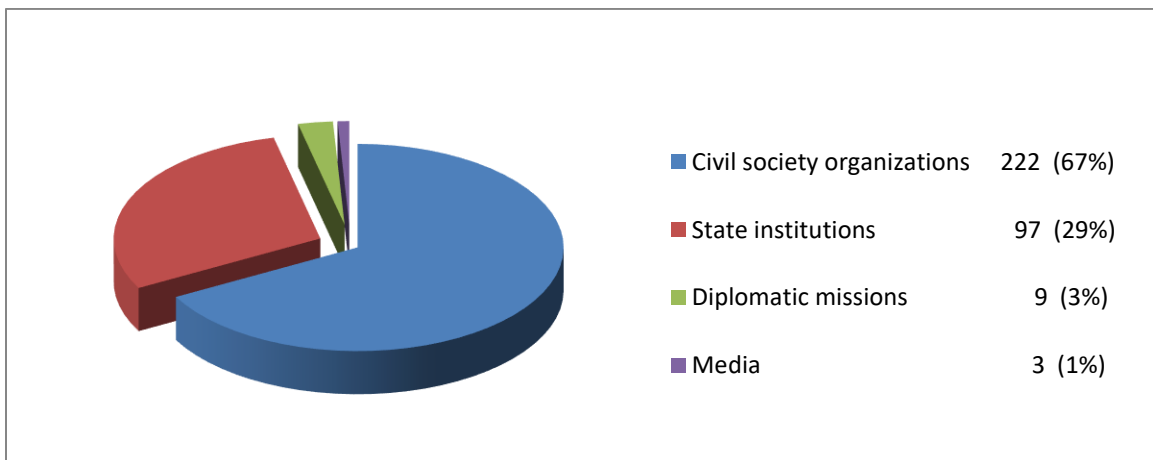
¹³ 10.05.2018 Bitola, 15.05.2018 Gostivar and 29.05.2018 Shtip

¹⁴ access to information, integrity and good governance, fiscal transparency, open data and transparency at local level

government institutions on the commitments that were proposed and elaborated during the open dialogue with civil society organizations on the first two-day public event, the commitments resulting from the one-month consultation process and proposals that were presented at the event. Also, special attention was paid to the Agenda for Sustainable Development until 2030 and its relation to OGP. The event was attended by more than 70 representatives from state institutions and civil society organizations working in areas relevant to Open Government Partnership.

- ✓ During the period June -July 2018, ad hoc working meetings were held in order to elaborate and align the positions on the proposed measures by the proposers and the competent implementing institutions. During this period, 3 commitments were defined in three priority areas: "Access to Justice, Fiscal Transparency, and Transparency at Local Level".

Table2. Participants on consultation events for co - creation of draft- commitments for the action plan



Within the commitments of the Republic of Macedonia to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals as well as the acceptance of the "Joint Declaration on Open Government for the Implementation of the Agenda for Sustainable Development by 2030", during the preparation of this Action Plan, the Government of the Republic of Macedonia continued with the good practice of linking the commitments of the draft Action Plan with the objectives set out in the Agenda for Sustainable Development by 2030, especially with the objective 16 "Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions, 3 "Good Health and Well-Being", 11 "Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable", 13 "Climate Action" and target 17 "Partnership for objectives."

NAP4 makes more specific identification of the links between Open Government Partnership Agenda and 5 development objectives and 8 targets:

- objective 3 „Good Health and Well-Being“,

- ✓ Target 3.8: Achieve universal health coverage (UHC), including financial risk protection, access to quality essential health care services, and access to safe, effective, quality and affordable essential medicines and vaccines for all
- objective 11: „Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable“
 - ✓ Target 11.6: By 2030, reduce the per capita environmental impact of cities, by paying particular attention to air quality, municipal and other waste management
- objective 13 „Climate action“
 - ✓ Target 13.3: Improve education, awareness raising and human and institutional capacity on climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction, and early warning
- objective 16 „Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions“,
 - ✓ Target 16.3 promote the rule of law at national and international level, and ensure equal access to justice for all
 - ✓ Target 16.5: substantially reduce corruption and bribery in all its forms
 - ✓ Target 16.6: develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels
 - ✓ Target 16.10: ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements
- objective 17 “Partnership for objectives“
 - ✓ Target 17.1: strengthen domestic resource mobilization, including through international support to developing countries to improve domestic capacity for tax and other revenue collection

OPEN PARLIAMENT

One of the recommendations of the Independent Reporting Mechanism in 2016 referred to the inclusion of parliament in this initiative in order to encourage public confidence in the institution, but due to early parliamentary elections that took place that year, the parliament decided not to participate in the initiative.

After the formation of the new parliamentary majority, the Assembly also defined its strategic goals: Functional Parliamentary Democracy, Open Parliament, Parliamentary Diplomacy, Secure Parliament and Modern and Efficient Services and Parliamentary Service. As part of the objective for Open Parliament, the Assembly decided to join the Open Government Partnership.

Having regards to the independence of the Assembly’s operation as a separate authority in the Republic of Macedonia, the work of identifying commitments for Open Parliament took place simultaneously with the activities for determining new commitments in the fourth Open Government Partnership National Action Plan 2018-2020, in compliance with the same time frame January-July 2018:

- ✓ On November 28th 2017, the President of the Assembly of the Republic of Macedonia established a working group for openness of the legislative authority and preparation of an Action Plan for Openness of the Assembly within the framework of the OGP. The working group consisted of 33 members, 11 MPs from all parliamentary political parties of the majority and opposition, 9 members of the service within the Assembly of the Republic of Macedonia, the national coordinator for OGP from MISA and 12 members of CSOs. Three members of the working group of the Assembly were appointed for Coordinators of the Action Plan with this decision.

- ✓ In November 2017, the working group for preparation of the Action plan held 3 meetings, where participants presented the ideas for improving the transparency of the Assembly.
- ✓ On May 10th 2018, the first Action Plan Draft of the Assembly of the Republic of Macedonia for the purposes of the Open Government Partnership, was presented to the members of the group, prepared by the coordinators of the plan preparation service based on the conducted discussions from the previous meetings.
- ✓ On May 28th 2018, as part of the consultation and co-creation process of the Action plan of the Assembly, a conference "Open Parliament-Open Government Partnership" was held. The conference presented the commitments developed by the working group, and the present CSOs had the opportunity to contribute to improving these commitments and their ideas for new commitments.
- ✓ In July 2018, the final version of the Assembly's Action Plan for OGP was sent to MISA. The Action Plan of the Assembly defines five commitments in three priority areas: accountability, access to information and the participation of citizens.

The first draft for an Open government partnership National Action Plan 2018-2020 was drafted through the wide consultative process, intercepting the experiences and challenges of the previous open government partnership action plans, the recommendations of the independent reporting mechanism, creative proposals from stakeholders and the direct involvement of 331 representatives from the government and civil sector, which defines the first commitments in seven priority areas: access to information, integrity and good governance, fiscal transparency, open data, transparency at local level, access to justice and climate changes.

Having in mind the independence of the Assembly's work as a separate authority in the Republic of Macedonia, this Action plan contains a separate section for Open Parliament, which defines five commitments in three priority areas: accountability, access to information and participation of citizens.

The work of the open government is an ongoing commitment and this Action plan covers some of the possible but ambitious efforts to promote transparency and accountability of the Government. This document promotes openness and a possibility of further expansion and deepening of the afore identified priorities in close cooperation with all stakeholders in the field of Open Government Partnership.

1. ACCESS TO INFORMATION	
1.1 Proactive publication, promotion of electronic access and increased awareness of citizens on their rights to free access to public information	
Start and end date of the commitment: August 2018 – August 2020	
Lead implementing agency	The Commission for Protection of the Right to Free Access to Public Information – CPRFAPI
Description of commitment	
Status quo or problem addressed by the commitment	The Law on Free Access to Public Information has been applied as of 2006, but its implementation has been made difficult despite the efforts for its consistent application. The access to information provided through the

	<p>LFAPI is primarily and dominantly used by non-governmental organizations and journalists. Citizens' awareness of the existence of the right to free access to public information is still very low. The administration's silence remains a serious problem that limits the exercise of this universal human right. The very fact that the basic information that the holders are obligated to publish publicly and are listed in the LFAPI should be requested through a procedure for their obtaining, points to the inaccessibility of this information in an easy and simple way, and speaks of the old manners of operation of the institutions. Also, it is very rare practice to regularly publish the information already provided (in response to requests). In addition, the institutions do not use the benefits for themselves by proactively publishing public information (the opportunity to be more responsible in the work, to implement and promote the principles of good governance and integrity, and to better manage the information they hold), which will lead to trust among citizens in the institutions for their responsibility and transparency. Pursuant to Article 15 of the Law on Free Access to Public Information, the applicant has the right to submit the request for access to public information in electronic form. This manner of submitting requests in practice is rarely applied.</p>
<p>Main objective</p>	<p>Easy, fast and simple access to information that is important for the life and work of citizens via:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Proactive publication of information by the holders of information on their websites - Establishment of a functional platform for enabling electronic access to public information and - Improving the level of awareness among citizens regarding the right to free access to public information, as well as increasing the number of citizens who will exercise this right
<p>Brief description of the commitment</p>	<p>Public information holders should publish proactively and regularly on their websites all the information that is indicated in the LFAPI as well as the information they have already provided after a request for an access, while those holders who do not have their own websites should perform this procedure on the websites of the institution under whose jurisdiction they work. The Commission for Protection of the Right to Free Access to Public Information in cooperation with the Association for Emancipation, Solidarity and Equality of Women (ESE) will develop and conduct on-site campaign in order to inform citizens regarding their rights for free access to public information. The process for submitting requests for free access to public information and response upon the requests will be facilitated by establishing a functional platform for enabling electronic access to public information. Through this online system (platform), will provide every interested citizen to submit to the holders of information a request for public information, that will easily be found on the platform. The advantage of the platform is that all the information given is publicly published and are accessible to anyone, which means that once the information is given by the holder, this platform will reduce the scope of operation in the institution in case when another applicant is interested for the same information.</p>
<p>OGP challenge addressed by the commitment</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Public service improvement - Public integrity increasement

	- More efficient public resource management	
Additional information	Connection to the Global Sustainable Development Goals - Objective 16 "Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions", Target 16.10: Ensure access to information and protection of fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements. The measures under this commitment contribute to the promotion of access to public information via more efficient implementation of laws and better information of citizens.	
Milestone	Start date	End date
1.1.1 Pro-active publication of public information by information holders on their websites - Preparation of an indicative list of public information that the institutions should proactively make available on their websites (or on the websites of the institutions under whose jurisdiction they operate) - Compulsory publication of all public information by the information holders on their websites (or on the websites of the institutions under whose jurisdiction they operate) - Monitoring the fulfillment of the obligations by institutions through the so-called Index of Active Transparency prepared by the Center for Civil Communications	09.2018	01.2019
	01.2019	In continuity
	01.2019	09.2020
1.1.2 Improving the electronic access to public information - Development of a methodology for improving the existing electronic website (platform) for electronic access to public information - Established electronic system for access to information and taken over by information holders for its application - Development of a manual with trainings for information holders, as well as promotion of the platform for its application by the citizens, which will simplify the access to information	08.2018	12.2018
	12.2018	08.2019
	12.2018	08.2019
1.1.3 Increasing the citizens' awareness about their rights for free access to public information and increased exercise of that right by the citizens - Developing a campaign implementation plan (identifying municipalities and settlements where the campaign will be implemented, developing content that will be presented to citizens and a format for public presentation, establishing cooperation with local civil society organizations in the identified municipalities; mechanisms for measuring the impact of the campaign) - Conducting a campaign and measuring the effects of the campaign	09.2018	12.2019
	01.2020	06.2021
Contact information		
Name of responsible person from implementing agency	Oliver Serafimovski, Coordinator Cveta Trajkovska, Deputy Coordinator Indzi Xhodja, Deputy Coordinator	

Title, Department		Junior Associate, Unit for cooperation with information holders and public information Secretary General of the Secretariat for Commission Junior Associate, Unit for appeal procedure, legal and general affairs
Phone and e-mail		oliverserafimovski@komspi.mk , 071/229-214 cveta@komspi.mk, 071/232-857 inxhihoxha@komspi.mk, 071/229-289
Other actors involved	State administration bodies, Independent state administration bodies	The Commission for protection of the right to free access to public information
	Non-government sector, business subjects, trade unions, economic chambers, associations and foundations	Center for Civil Communications, German Filkov, gfilkov@ccc.org.mk Association for Women Emancipation, Solidarity and Equality (ESE) Darko Antikj, dantik@esem.org.mk and Open Society Foundation – Macedonia Danche Danilovska, dance.danilovska@fosm.mk

1.2 Basic data for registered entities in the Central Register of the Republic of Macedonia should become publicly available and free of charge on the website of CRRM	
Start and end date of the commitment: August 2018 – August 2019	
Lead implementing agency	Government of the Republic of Macedonia Central Register of RM
Description of commitment	
Status quo or problem addressed by the commitment	<p>All data from the entered registrations of entities in the Trade Register and the register of other legal entities are publicly available on the website of the Central Register (CRRM) and they can be used exclusively for personal and non-commercial purposes (Law on CRRM Article 57). CRRM's website provides access to a small number of basic data (Personal ID number of the subject, name, status, size and additional information) on registered entities in the Republic of Macedonia, and they can be obtained by entering the RNS (Registry number of the subject) or with Auxiliary search criterion for part of the subject's name.</p> <p>With the Government's decision of 2017 for investigative journalism purposes, all data from the registries is available free of charge.</p> <p>All data for the entities are public and available to any interested party including the citizens, but in accordance with Article 18a of the Law on Central Register- For the performed services within the scope of its work, which is determined by this or any other law, which are referring to the entry, input, processing, connection, classification, selection, storage, storage and usage of data in the Central Register, as well as the distribution of data to the interested users, the Central Registry charges an appropriate fee which shall be determined by the Tariff of the Central Registry, adopted</p>

	<p>by the Board of Directors of the Central Register, to which the Government of the Republic of Macedonia shall give its consent.</p> <p>In this way, the CRRM is defined as an institution that is financed from its own revenues.</p> <p>Such established principles of operation are taken and used from same type of institutions in the world, which are not uncommon. This is the case with AJPES from Slovenia, APR from Serbia, Union Camere from Italy, Grejfe - France, Union de registradores - Spain, Bronnaysund - Norway, Bolaksverket - Sweden and others.</p> <p>The Central Registry is set up and established according to the Norwegian model with consultants from the World Bank and continuously aims at applying the best practices in the domain of registers and to meet citizens needs and their initiatives, but in the past few years, CRRM has been engaged with larger capital investments and was unable to fully devote to the development and improvement of all its services, and to approximate some of them to the citizens. In this regard, it has lagged behind in the implementation of the new world trends (opening data) and EU directives under this domain.</p>
<p>Main objective</p>	<p>Following the example of other countries, the goal is to make public and free of charge part of the data on the entities that are subject to registration in the Trade Register and the register of other legal entities, but to have in mind the indications by the Directorate for Personal Data Protection concerning the volume of their public issuance and their application, since the Trade Register and the register of other legal entities are kept in the CRRM are registered as collections of personal data and special technical and organizational measures are applied for them.</p> <p>OGP commitment for equal access to basic data for registered entities-companies is a fundamental principle not only of the market economy but also of an informed, public and functional democracy and is fully supported by the CRRM. The strategy adopted by the CRRM - Strategy for transformation into a service organization and establishment of a single point of contact for the business community, is in line with OGP's commitments, which will mean more free and open access to basic data affecting the society, as well as the opportunity to use that data, analyze and combine it with other data. As the World Bank points out in this context, "the lack of data on legal entities is a key enabler of corruption, organized crime and money laundering. Ultimately, corporate responsibility and integrity are not possible without public, free and open access to basic data on legal entities".</p>
<p>Brief description of the commitment</p>	<p>The following basic data for the entities: RNS (Registry number of the subject) name, address, legal form (organizational form), date of establishment, size, status (active/ inactive/ in the process of establishing/deletion), additional information (in bankruptcy/ liquidation) and activity (code and description) registered in the Central Register of the Republic of Macedonia should be publicly available on the institution's website. The data can be obtained by entering the RNS or by using an auxiliary search criterion for part of the subject' name.</p> <p>According to the 5th EU Directive Beneficial Ownership, data on owners of the entities will be publicly available with the adoption of the new Law on Prevention of Money Laundering and Financing of Terrorism, which</p>

	<p>envisages a new register of end owners (physican entitites). According to the current plans, the register should be operational within 12 months after the adoption of the Law and the bylaws, that is, in the second half of 2019. The Ministry of Finance and the Financial Intelligence Directorate will be the responsible authorities for the Law.</p> <p>Free accessibility to basic data (referred to in the description of the commitment) for 100% of the registered entities in CRRM, starting from June 30th 2019, will contribute to improvement of transparency, accountability and responsibility of the government and will improve the life and work of the citizens.</p>		
OGP challenge addressed by the commitment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increasing public integrity - Increasing corporative accountability 		
Additional information	<p>Refference to Global Sustainable Development Goals - Objective 16 "Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions", Target 16.10: Ensure access to information and protection of fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements. The measures under this commitment contribute to promotion of access to public information via more efficient implementation of laws and better information of citizens.</p>		
Milestone		Start date	End date
1.2.1 Setting up a commitment for CRRM for enabling free, open and free of charge, basic data for registered entities (RNS, name, address, legal form (organizational form), date of establishment, size, status (active/inactive/ in the process of establishing/deleted), additional information (in bankruptcy/liquidation) and activity (code and description).		09.2018	01.2019
1.2.2 Development of a software solution integrated and accessible through the CRRM website for enabling a search for 100% of the registered entities, according to the RNS or part of the entity's name, which will result in access to basic data for the requested entity: (RNS, title, address, legal form (organizational form), date of establishment, size, status (active/inactive/in the process of establishing/deleted), additional information (in bankruptcy/liquidation) and activity (code and description).		01.2019	08.2019
Contact information			
Name of responsible person from implementing agency		Vladimir Naumovski	
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Other actors involved	State administration bodies, Independent state administration bodies	Government of RM Central Register of RM	

	Non-government sector, business subjects, trade unions, economic chambers, associations and foundations	Center for Civil Communications, German Filkov, gfilkov@ccc.org.mk
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1.3 Mapping homeless and socially endangered families and individuals	
Start and end date of the commitment: August 2018 – August 2020	
Lead implementing agency	Ministry of Labor and Social Policy
Description of commitment	
Status quo or problem addressed by the commitment	Lack of official data on the individuals and families with social problems and socially excluded individuals/families, with special attention on homeless people, in view of their number at national and local level, as well as identifying their needs for social help and community support.
Main objective	Coordination of the activities for identifying and supporting poor and materially endangered families and individuals at risk of social exclusion, with a focus on homeless on the territory of the Republic of Macedonia.
Brief description of the commitment	Establishing mechanisms for coordination of activities for supporting poor and materially endangered families and individuals at risk of social exclusion, with a focus on homeless people on the territory of the Republic of Macedonia, thus providing the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - establishing records of persons and families, - mapping the needs in the area of social protection, - the available and necessary resources for assistance and support to endangered citizens / families, to reduce the situation in view of poverty, - coordinating activities between the Social Work Centres (SWC), the municipal administration, the business community, the associate Kindness, and other stakeholders for the purpose of recording the individuals, providing appropriate services regarding the provision of food, clothes, financial assistance and accommodation of homeless, and the remaining support of socially endangered families and individuals, - exchange of data and information on undertaken activities.
OGP challenge addressed by the commitment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Establishing and improving services for vulnerable citizens - More efficient public resource management - Creating safer communities

Additional information		Reference to the Global Sustainable Development Goals - Objective 16 "Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions", Target 16.10: Ensure access to information and protection of fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements. The measures of this commitment contribute to promotion of access to public information through more efficient implementation of laws and better information of citizens.	
Milestone		Start date	End date
1.3.1 Social mapping of poor and materially endangered families and individuals at risk of social exclusion with focus on the homeless on the territory of the Republic of Macedonia and establishing a database based on mapping		09.2018	01.2020
1.3.2 Signing a memorandum of cooperation between stakeholders and implementation of Trainings for social space mapping Representatives from Social Work Centres, Municipalities, NGOs		09.2018	01.2020
1.3.3 Mapping the available resources for providing services to vulnerable groups in the local community		01.2020	09.2020
1.3.4 Coordination of activities between local social work authorities, municipalities, NGOs, in order to detect the target group needs and appropriate direction and provision of necessary services for poor and materially unsecured families and individuals at risk of social exclusion with a focus on the homeless at the territory of the Republic of Macedonia		01.2020	09.2020
1.3.5 Test period for implementation, monitoring of activities and ongoing removal of eventual anomalies Periodical data update in databases (every 6 months)		09.2020	Permanent
1.3.6 Regular database update in relation to detected needs and provided services The period of periodic data update in the databases should be reduced to 3 months / then to 1 month		09.2021	Permanent
Contact information			
Name of responsible person from implementing agency		Sofija Spasovska	
Title, Department		Deputy head of sector for social protection and social policy	
Phone and e-mail		SSpasovska@mtsp.gov.mk , + 389 75 306 027	
Other actors involved	State administration bodies, Independent state administration bodies	Ministry of Labor and Social Policy State Statistical Office of RM	

	Non-government sector, business subjects, trade unions, economic chambers, associations and foundations	ZG Ljubeznost Contact: Toni Stankovski E-маил: stankovski.toni@yahoo.com
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2. INTEGRITY AND GOOD GOVERNANCE	
2.1 An advanced mechanism for monitoring the property status of the elected and appointed officials	
Start and end date of the commitment: September 2018 – August 2020	
Lead implementing agency	State Commission for Prevention of Corruption
Description of commitment	
Status quo or problem addressed by the commitment	<p>One of the ways to reduce the illegal wealth of the elected and appointed persons as a result of their function is a functional mechanism that will monitor these conditions. In Macedonia, this system is relatively inefficient, primarily due to technical reasons, which leaves room for arbitrary operations of the competent institutions. The SCPC monitors the sources of the property of state officials during their terms of service in a limited manner. At the same time, the SCPC does not have complete insight whether all elected and appointed persons have submitted asset declarations because the register of appointed and elected persons has not yet met its function for which the same was established.</p> <p>Namely, apart from the institutions, the citizens are denied the opportunity to have full insight into who are the elected and appointed persons in the state, and what is the property state and how it changes as a result of the public function.</p>
Main objective	Establishing a functional system that will simplify the checking of the property status of the elected and appointed persons and will provide the citizens with adequate insight into it.
Brief description of the commitment	<p>Based on the analysis of the anti-corruption legislation, and by virtue of the already existing information of the SCPC, but also of the civil society, an audit will be conducted in order to upgrade the functionality of the registry. This will be a basis for qualitative overview of the filled-in data of the Register under SCPC's competence. In the meantime, the SCPC will put into effect the connection between the electronic registration of asset declarations, the publication of the same and the register. In addition, the SCPC will create a legal basis for redefining the content and the manner of submitting the asset declaration with the amendments to the Law on prevention of corruption. SCPC, along with other competent institutions such as Public Revenue Office, Employment Agency of RM, Cadastre, Central Register of RM, Securities and Exchange Commission, Ministry of Interior, will put into operation the interoperability system as one of the tools for systematic monitoring of property during the performance of the function.</p>

OGP challenge addressed by the commitment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Public services improvement - Increasing the public integrity - More effective public resource management 	
Additional information	Reference to the Global Sustainable Development Goals, reference to Goal 16, "Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions", Target 16.5: Significant reduction of all forms of corruption and bribery. The measures of this commitment contribute to prevention and fight against corruption and the protection of public interest by increasing the accountability and responsibility of the elected and appointed officers towards the citizens.	
Milestone		Start date
End date		
2.1.1 Revision of the asset declaration's content	09.2018	12.2018
2.1.2 Analysis of the functional failures of the Register of elected and appointed persons	09.2018	12.2018
2.1.3 Completing the registry according to the analysis	01.2019	06.2019
2.1.4 Putting into operation the electronic filing of the revised asset declaration	01.2019	06.2019
2.1.5 Establishing a system for continuous publication of asset declarations, including background data in an open and computer readable format	01.2019	06.2019
Contact information		
Name of responsible person from implementing agency	M.A. Nikolina Tarchugovska – Miloshevksa Adem Chuchulj	
Title, Department	Sector for Programs, Analytics, International Cooperation and Administrative Affairs Secretariat for SCPC	
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Other actors involved	State administration bodies, Independent state administration bodies	State commission for prevention of corruption
	Non-government sector, business subjects, trade unions, economic chambers, associations and foundations	Misha Popovikj, IDSCS, misha@idscs.org M.A. Snezhana Kamilovska Trpovska, MCIC skt@mcms.mk and other civil society organizations

2.2 Collaboration with the civil sector for anti-corruption assessment of legislation	
Start and end date of the commitment: September 2018 – August 2020	
Lead implementing agency	State Commission for Preventing Corruption
Description of commitment	
Status quo or problem addressed by the commitment	<p>Unjustified discretionary authorizations, gaps in laws and uncertainties are potential risks of corruption. They allow exploitation of the meaning of the law and abuse of the rules due to exercising private interests.</p> <p>The anti-corruption assessment of the legislation, as an extremely important preventive anticorruption mechanism, aims to provide revision of the form and content of legal regulations that are in drafting procedures or are already adopted, as well as detection and prevention of risks regarding the possibility of corruption and conflict of interest which could occur during the implementation of the laws. In September 2015, the SCPC has adopted the Methodology for Anti-Corruption assessment of legislation that promotes the implementation of the SCPC's competence for giving opinions on draft laws, set out in the Law on Prevention of Corruption and the Law on Prevention of Conflicts of Interest. In February 2016, the Government of the Republic of Macedonia has adopted the Rules of Procedure for amending the Rules of Procedure of the Government of the Republic of Macedonia ("Official Gazette of the Republic of Macedonia" No. 41/16), which introduced an opportunity for anticorruption verification of legislation by providing an opinion from SCPC. The amendment stipulates that the ministries and other state administration bodies, the materials that they submit to the Government for review, determination, or adoption, must be submitted to the SCPC for opinion (all draft laws that are subject to regulatory impact assessment). Within this authorization, the SCPC conducts an in-depth analysis of the legislation on the grounds of established methodology, i.e. conducts anti-corruption assessment and provides special reports on the assessment made, which are published on the website of the SCPC.</p>
Main objective	Realization of collaboration with the civil sector in the process of anticorruption assessment of the legislation
Brief description of the commitment	<p>SCPC and civil society organizations will develop a mechanism for collaboration in the consultative processes during the law adoption, as well as in the process of selection and prioritization of the laws that have already been adopted, and will be subject to anti-corruption assessment of the legislation. In accordance with the Anti-Corruption Legislation Methodology, the SCPC will select and prioritize laws that will be subject to assessment on the grounds of common criteria or separate cases. Separate cases relate to findings reporting and indications by civil society, concerning the risks of possible corruption and conflict of interests in certain legal provisions or in a particular legal area, information on a draft-law that has been exposed to strong lobbying by interest groups, etc.</p> <p>CSOs and their networks should be proactive and more active at this stage - by participating in working groups, then at the level of consultations,</p>

		when they can send comments on behalf of the groups they represent, but also by providing indications to the SCPC and giving recommendations legislation amendments.
	OGP challenge addressed by the commitment	Undertaking activities that will continually point out the importance of civil society organizations and the public's inclusion in the process of adopting and amending the laws, emphasizing the benefits of such an approach, and indicating out the positive effects of the laws that were adopted through a transparent process in which recommendations and proposals by CSO's have been accepted. In addition to anti-corruption assessment of legislation which is in a process of adoption, it is extremely important to give due attention to the already adopted rules. Cooperation with the non-governmental sector, i.e. the development of a consultation mechanism, will help the selection and focus process that will be revised, based on the civil sector assessments regarding risk legislative areas. Recommendations given by the civil sector will be incorporated in the regulatory amendments.
	Additional information	Refference to the Global Sustainable Development Goals, refference to Goal 16, Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions, Target 16.5: Significant reduction in all forms of corruption and bribery. The measures under this commitment contribute to prevention and fight against corruption and protection of public interest.
Milestone		Start date
End date		
2.2.1 Established consultation mechanisam during the law adoption and prioritizing the laws that will be subject to anticorruption assessment of legislation		09.2018
		08.2020
Contact information		
Name of responsible person from implementing agency		M.A. Nikolina Tarchugovska – Miloshevska Adem Chuchulj
Title, Department		Secretariat of the SCPC Sector for prevention of corruption and conflict of interest
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Other actors involved	State administration bodies, Independent state administration bodies	State commission for preventing corruption
	Non-government sector, business subjects, trade unions, economic chambers,	Misha Popovikj, IDSCS, misha@idscs.org M.A. Snezhana Kamilovska Trpovska, Macedonian Center for International Cooperation skt@mcms.mk and othrer civil society organizations

	associations and foundations	
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3. FISCAL TRANSPARENCY	
3.1 Open treasury	
Start and end date of the commitment: August 2018 – August 2020	
Lead implementing agency	Ministry of Finance
Description of commitment	
Status quo or problem addressed by the commitment	There is no publicly available base in Macedonia or an Open Treasury, where review and analysis of the budget revenues and expenditures of the budget users can be performed on a regular basis. The absence of such an open base for the current budget execution by a budget user often raises the public's doubt about the real spending of budget funds by budget users. This problem leads to the need to open the treasury for the general public.
Main objective	Publicly available data base for Budget execution of the budget of the Republic of Macedonia and the budgets of the of local self-government units, which would be included in the projects in the second phase along with the healthcare institutions.
Brief description of the commitment	<p>In order to increase transparency and achieve greater approximation of the information regarding RM's budget expenditure to the citizens and all interested parties, and at the same time to use the data for analytical, scientific and research purposes, the Ministry of Finance decided to open the data to the public. This commitment will allow the the Ministry of Finance in cooperation with the International Republican Institute¹⁵ to implement the concept of "Open Treasury" or "Open Funds" as part of the transparency for RM's Budget expenditure.</p> <p>The data that should be presented through the "Open Treasury" system will be extracted from the existing financial information system, by enabling the data exchange at a database level between the new solution and the existing state IT system. The application will offer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - data search after a certain time interval, period and after a certain date, by name/natural or legal entity or budget user, - the data will be published in a machine readable format in accordance with the Law on public sector data application, - organizing the transaction/payer data, recipient, expenditure unit, payment order, group of taxpayers (for example, cultural and university institutions), a group of recipients (natural or legal entities) above or below a certain value, - data search by time of publication, allowing the user to determine the time range in searches, - advance definition of user options, for example, transactions only to legal entities, only to physical entities, etc., or transactions over a certain amount of money, expenses, etc.,

¹⁵ The project is currently in a phase of signing an Agreement for implementation.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - an option to disable the publication of certain transactions or to modify them prior to publication, such as covering the name and surname with "Unknown Person (UP)" or excluding all or some of the transactions of certain budget users that are considered and classified as confidential. Such exclusions can be made from the Unique Registry Number (URN) according to the budget program, type of account, account of the recipient and expenditure items, - graphical visualization of the searched data with automatic update, - the realization is expected to create a database with current data for RM's budget execution in the first phase and the budgets of the local self-government units in the second phase. <p>In addition to serving as a tool that enables categorization of data from transaction databases, this solution will allow the data to be set according to the specifications for budget user's spending in different format and from other databases, where aggregated data will display Comparison of the approved budget and the budget executed at user level, in different time periods, but always limited by separate fiscal year (from 01.01.YY to 31.12.YY). Various comparative reviews will also be generated, for example, the largest spenders (at fiscal year level) or the expenditures of a particular budget user or group of users, per item, per period, etc.</p>	
OGP challenge addressed by the commitment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increasing the public integrity - More effective public resource management 	
Additional information	<p>Link to Goal 17, "Partnership for Objectives" Target 17.1: Strengthen domestic resource mobilization, including through international support to developing countries to improve domestic capacity for tax and other revenue collection and Goal 16, "Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions" Target 16.6: Develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels.</p> <p>This commitment contributes to improving the transparency and accountability of public finance management institutions through greater transparency and accountability in public resource management.</p>	
Milestone	Start date	End date
3.1.1 Analysis and creation of database with current data for the execution of the Budget of the Republic of Macedonia and its update on 15 days	Ongoing	6.2019
3.1.2 Analysis and creation of database with current data for the execution of the Budget of the local self-government units and its update on 15 days	6.2019	6.2020
3.1.3 Preparation and initiation of the "Open Treasury" Web application	10.2018	6.2019
Contact information		
Name of responsible person from implementing agency	Branko Dimchevski – Treasury Sector Maria Kitanska – IT Sector Goran Mojanoski – Sector for Financial system (co-ordinator of the working group in the Ministry of Finance for OGP)	
Title, Department	Treasury Sector and IT Sector	

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Other actors involved	State administration bodies, Independent state administration bodies	/
	Non-government sector, business subjects, trade unions, economic chambers, associations and foundations	International Republican Institute Address: 11 October 8-2 /3 The City of SKOPJE iri_mk@t-home.mk

3.2 Possibility for publishing basic information on public procurements on institutions' websites (contracting authorities in public procurement)	
Start and end date of the commitment: August 2018 – August 2020	
Lead implementing agency	Ministry of Finance
Description of commitment	
Status quo or problem addressed by the commitment	<p>The basic data on public procurements implemented by institutions in the country are currently available only on the Electronic System for Public Procurement (ESPP), which is a platform for the actual implementation of procurement, where state institutions are the main stakeholders (as contracting authorities) and companies (as economic operators). The ESPP, and thus the basic data on citizens' money spending through public procurements, remain difficult to access for the wider mass of citizens and other interested parties, since the basic function of ESPP is not transparency and informing the citizens, but implementation of tenders. In this way, citizens, unlike other countries, do not have a quick, simple, easy and understandable insight into the way public money is spent. In a survey conducted by the Center for Civil Communications in 2017, 94% of 400 respondents across the country said they do not have enough information about the way institutions spend public money through tenders. The dominant part of the respondents (98%) answered that the information they now have about these spending is received through the institutions' websites and the media. Hence, it is necessary for institutions to publish more information regarding these spending on their websites, such as places where citizens are most often looking for and expecting to receive this information.</p> <p>The fast, easy, simple and understandable availability of this information for citizens will enable accountability of the institutions, increase their responsibility in public spending, and enable citizens to understand how and for what their money is spent and influence on the use of public funds for their needs.</p>
Main objective	The aim is for citizens to have quick, easy, simple and understandable access to information regarding the way institutions spend money through

	public procurement (about 1 billion euros per year), so that institutions will publish this information on their websites, which, in turn, are the first point that citizens access when they want to be informed about a specific institution. This will contribute to greater accountability and responsibility of the institutions when spending public money, greater information for the citizens and more efficient use of public funds.	
Brief description of the commitment	<p>The Public Procurement Bureau should recommend to all contracting authorities in the country that conduct public procurement pursuant to the Law on Public Procurement and who are registered on the ESPP, to publish them on their websites (or if they do not have their own website – on the website of the institution under whose jurisdiction it operates) the following, basic data on public procurements (independently or as a link to the already published ESPP documents), as follows: annual public procurement plan with amendments and supplements, public procurement calls, notifications for concluded contact on public procurement, notifications for realized public procurement contracts and concluded public procurement contracts.</p> <p>More precisely, these are already existing documents that are published on ESPP, which, in turn, is primarily a portal for actual implementation of public procurements, and whose users are the contracting authorities and the companies, i.e. the economic operators. By publication of these documents on their websites, they ensure greater transparency, and therefore accountability and responsibility of the institutions that spend public money and easier insight into that spending for those whose money are spend, that is, the citizens.</p> <p>Hence, the commitment envisages simple publication of these documents on the institution's websites as a link that will lead to the already published documents on the ESPP, thus the entire publication procedure will be quick, short and simple and will not require more specific computer skills.</p> <p>Availability of 100% of the basic public procurement data of the institutions on their websites (or on the websites of the institutions under whose jurisdiction they operate) from January 1st 2019 onwards, which will contribute to increasing the integrity and more efficient use of public goods.</p>	
OGP challenge addressed by the commitment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increasing public integrity - More efficient public resource management 	
Additional information	<p>Relation to Goal 17, "Partnership for Objectives" Target 17.1: Increase mobilization (collection) of domestic resources, especially through international support for developing countries to improve the domestic capacity for collecting taxes and other income and Goal 16, "Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions" Target 16.6: Develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels.</p> <p>This commitment contributes to improving institutions' transparency and accountability in public finance management through greater transparency and accountability in the management of public money.</p>	
Milestone	Start date	End date
3.2.1 Increasing the number of institutions using the possibility of automatic downloading of the data from the ESPP in order to	09.2018	Continuous

publish the annual public procurement plans (and their amendments), the public procurement notices, the contract notice and the concluded contracts, on their websites, continuously, as these documents are published on the ESPP.			
3.2.2 Increasing the number of institutions that use the possibility of automatic download of the data from the ESPP in order to publish the notice for the realized agreement on their websites, continuously, as the notice is published on the ESPP.		01.2019	Continuous
Contact information			
Name of responsible person from implementing agency		Aleksandar Argirovski	
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Phone and e-mail		02 3255 – 692, aleksandara@bjn.gov.mk	
Other actors involved	State administration bodies, Independent state administration bodies	Public Procurement Bureau Ministry of Finance Contracting authorities registered on ESPP	
	Non-government sector, business subjects, trade unions, economic chambers, associations and foundations	Center for civil communications German Filkov, gfilkov@ccc.org.mk	

3.3. Promoting transparency in the implementation of health programs and establishing a costs impact assessment mechanism from these programs on end-users through citizens' inclusion	
Start and end date of the commitment: August 2018 – August 2020	
Lead implementing agency	Ministry of health
Description of commitment	
Status quo or problem addressed by the commitment	Establishing continuity in the publication of publicly available information on funds' spending from the budget of the Ministry of Health for implementation of individual preventive and curative health care programs. Lack of a mechanism / methodology for measuring the citizens' impact on the costs incurred through the implementation of the activities foreseen in the preventive and curative programs of the Ministry of Health. Hence, the planning of future activities and the allocation of the budget funds for these activities are not based on the real needs of the citizens.

<p>Main objective</p>	<p>The Ministry of Health will continuously publish the narrative-financial reports for the implementation of individual preventive and curative health care programs. Ministry of Health will develop, adopt and pilot a mechanism/methodology for impact measurement on citizens of the costs incurred by the preventive health care program: "Program for population protection from HIV/AIDS in the Republic of Macedonia".</p>
<p>Brief description of the commitment</p>	<p>The Ministry of Health, in cooperation with the Association for Emancipation, Solidarity and Equality of Women (ESE), has prepared a standardized form of annual narrative financial reports for each of the preventive and curative budget programs for 2017 and is published on the Ministry's website. In the next period, the initiative for publishing annual reports for the implementation of program activities for each of the preventive and curative health protection programs will be continued. The established template report will mean unifying the narrative reporting parameters at a level of an institution, and it will cover data on what the institution has done and achieved with the costs incurred in the current year according to the objectives, the results and the activities foreseen by the program. It will also provide financial reporting and will cover data on how much funds are planned and spent at a level of activity and per budget program executor. These reports will be published by the institution on their websites during the first half of the current year for the previous year. The Ministry of Health will select at least one preventive or curative budget program in cooperation with the Association for Emancipation, Solidarity and Equality of Women (ESE), mechanisms / methodologies will be developed for impact measurement of costs on end users. Such a developed mechanism/methodology will be piloted on the identified pilot budget program (implementation of the assessment process and communication with end users will be carried out in cooperation by the ESE Association). To this end, the Association for Emancipation, Solidarity and Equality of Women (ESE) will develop and conduct a one-day training for presentation of the steps for assessing the impact of budget expenditures on public services' end users. Additionally, this process will enable identification of the actual needs and priorities of the end users, which will further assist the institution in the planning process for future activities. Upon completion of the piloting period, the institution will include the results of the conducted assessment process in the budget planning and activities for the selected pilot program for 2021.</p>
<p>OGP challenge addressed by the commitment</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Public service improvement - More efficient public resources management
<p>Additional information</p>	<p>Reference to Goal 16 "Peace, justice and strong institutions" Target 16.6: Develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels and Goal 3 "Good health and well-being" Target 3.8: To achieve universal health care including protection from financial risk, access to quality necessary health services and access to reliable, effective and quality as well as affordable basic drugs and vaccines for all.</p>

	The measures under this commitment contribute to the transparency and accountability of the utilization of funds and the delivery of services intended for preventive and curative health programs.		
Milestone		Start date	End date
3.3.1 Prepared and publicly available narrative-financial report for program and budget reporting for each of the curative and preventive programs from the budget of the Ministry of Health		09.2018	08.2020
3.3.2 Introduced methodology for impact measurement of costs on end-users for the preventive budget program: "Program for population protection of HIV/AIDS in the Republic of Macedonia". -Prepared Report with recommendations for the programs' planning for the next budget year.		01.2019	12.2019
Contact information			
Name of responsible person from implementing agency		M.A. Biljana Babushkovska	
Title, Department		Head of internal audit unit	
Phone and e-mail		biljana.babushkovska@zdravstvo.gov.mk phone: 02 3112 500 loc.114	
Other actors involved	State administration bodies, Independent state administration bodies	/	
	Non-government sector, business subjects, trade unions, economic chambers, associations and foundations	Association for Emancipation, Solidarity and Equality of Women (ESE) Darko Antikj, dantik@esem.org.mk	

3.4 Promoting transparency in the implementation of employment programs and establishing a mechanism for impact assessment of costs from these programs on end-users through citizens' incusion	
Start and end date of the commitment : August 2018 – August 2020	
Lead implementing agency	Employment Agency of RM

Description of commitment	
Status quo or problem addressed by the commitment	<p>There is a need to provide easier public availability of information on the funds' spending from the budget of the Employment Agency of the Republic of Macedonia for the purpose of implementing the Operational Plan for active employment programs and measures and services on the labor market.</p> <p>Insufficient number of mechanisms/methodologies for measuring the impact on citizens from the costs incurred by implementing the activities foreseen in the Operational Plan for active employment programs and measures and services on the labor market and strengthening the Employment Agency of the Republic of Macedonia. Hence, the planning of future activities and the allocation of budget funds for the same are not entirely based on the real citizens' needs.</p>
Main objective	<p>The Employment Agency of the Republic of Macedonia will develop, adopt and continuously publish narrative -financial reports on the implementation of the active programs and measures from the Operational Plan for active employment programs and measures and services on the labor market.</p> <p>This commitment will provide efficiency promotion in public resources application in the area of implementation of active employment programs and measures.</p>
Brief description of the commitment	<p>The Employment Agency of the Republic of Macedonia, in cooperation with the Association for Emancipation, Solidarity and Equality of Women (ESE), will prepare a standardized form of annual narrative-financial reports for each of the active employment measures of the Operational Plan for active employment programs and measures and services on the labor market. The format of the report will mean unification of the narrative reporting parameters at institutional level, containing data on what the institution has done and achieved with the costs incurred in the current year according to the objectives, results and activities foreseen by the program. It will also provide financial reporting and will contain data on how much funds are planned and spent at the level of activity and per budget program executor. These reports will be published by the institution on its website during the second quarter of the current year for the previous year.</p> <p>The Employment Agency of the Republic of Macedonia will select at least one active employment measure from the Operational Plan for Active Employment Programs and Measures and Labor Market Services, and for which there will be development of mechanisms/methodologies to measure the impact of costs on the end users in the implementation period of this Action Plan, in cooperation with ESE. This developed mechanism/methodology will be piloted on the identified pilot budget program/active employment measure (implementation of the assessment process and communication with the end users will be carried out in cooperation with ESE Association). To that end, ESE will develop and conduct a one-day training to present the steps for assessing the impact of budget expenditures on end-users of public services. Additionally, this process will enable identification of the actual needs and priorities of the end users, which will further assist the institution in the planning process for future activities. Upon completion of the piloting period, the institution will include the results of the conducted assessment process in the budget planning and the activities</p>

	for the pilot program/active employment measure for 2021, adopt the developed methodology and apply it to other active programs and employment measures.		
OGP challenge addressed by the commitment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Public services improvement - More efficient public resources management 		
Additional information	Reference to Goal 16 "Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions" Target 16.6: Develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels. The measures of this commitment contribute for the transparency and accountability of the implementation of active employment programs and measures.		
Milestone		Start date	End date
3.4.1 Prepared and publicly available narrative-financial report for program and budget reporting for each of the active employment measures from the Operational Employment Plan of the Employment Agency of the Republic of Macedonia.		10.2018	08.2020
3.4.2 Introduced methodology for measuring the impact of costs on end users for minimum one active employment measure from the operational employment plan and prepared Report with recommendations for the planning of programs/measures for the next budget year		01.2019	12.2019
Contact information			
Name of responsible person from implementing agency		Bojana Simonovikj	
Title, Department		Associate for public relations in EARM	
Phone and e-mail		Bojana.Simonovic@avrm.gov.mk Phone number:070 398 237	
Other actors involved	State administration bodies, Independent state administration bodies	/	
	Non-government sector, business subjects, trade unions, economic chambers, associations and foundations	Association for Emancipation, Solidarity and Equality of Women (ESE) Darko Antik, dantik@esem.org.mk	

4. OPEN DATA	
4.1. Cataloging data sets in state institutions	
Start and end date of the commitment: September 2018 – September 2020	
Lead implementing agency	Ministry of Information Society and Administration
Description of commitment	
Status quo or problem addressed by the commitment	<p>Institutions have no information on which open-source databases are available.</p> <p>Different institutions have different data sets format (eg financial data). When publishing these data by the institutions, it is difficult to analyze the data due to the different structure of the data sets.</p> <p>At the moment, awareness of open data, as well as the benefits resulting from this is at a very low level among institutions, citizens, the business community, the non-governmental sector, as well as all other stakeholders in the process of opening and re-utilizing open data. It is necessary to increase awareness of open data among all stakeholders in the process.</p>
Main objective	<p>Cataloging data in minimum 10 institutions. Publishing catalogs with data sets on the Open Data Portal. Publishing minimum 2 data sets from each institution for which a catalog of data sets has been made.</p> <p>Preparation of a data set proposal-structure in which institutions would publish the data.</p> <p>Better understanding of the open data concept by all stakeholders in the process, as well as increasing their awareness regarding the benefits resulting from open data.</p>
Brief description of the commitment	<p>In order to be able to open data in the institutions and to prioritize the opening of data sets, it is necessary to create a catalog of data sets in each institution that holds the data sets and that are open.</p> <p>Analysis of 1-2 same data sets of two or more institutions, consideration of the possibilities for their unification and submission of a proposal structure of the data set in which the institutions would publish these data.</p> <p>Increasing awareness of institutions, citizens, business community, non-governmental sector, as well as all other stakeholders in the process of opening and reutilizing the open data, as well as the benefits that the citizens and small and medium enterprises can have from the data opening.</p> <p>Better visibility in the prioritization and opening of data sets, as well as possibility for analysis and comparison of same data sets from different institutions as well as greater awareness of open data:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Citizens require institutions to open data - Small, medium enterprises and universities create applications with open data that are used by citizens.
OGP challenge addressed by the commitment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Public services improvement - Increasing public integrity

Additional information	<p>Reference to activities in the Open Data Strategy Action Plan. It requires involvement and close cooperation by the institutions whose data sets will be classified.</p> <p>Reference to Global Sustainable Development Goals, related to Goal 16 "Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions", Target 16.10: To provide access to information and protection of fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements</p> <p>The measures of this commitment contribute to improving the access, application and monitoring of trends in relation to information and public data.</p>		
Milestone		Start date	End date
4.1.1. Cataloging and publishing catalogs with data sets on the open data portal from at least 10 institutions		09.2018	09.2020
4.1.2. Opening of at least 2 data sets per institution, for which data set cataloging has been made		09.2018	09.2020
4.1.3. Structure standardization of same data sets, based on analysis on 1-2 same data sets from different institutions		09.2018	09.2020
4.1.4. Structure proposal for publishing the data set and publication of standardized data sets from institutions which are part of the analysis.		09.2018	09.2020
4.1.5 Organizing workshops and presentations involving the state administration authorities, non-governmental sector, universities, small and medium enterprises (minimum 5 workshops)		09.2018	09.2020
4.1.6 Organizing hackatones		09.2018	09.2020
Contact information			
Name of responsible person from implementing agency		Filip Manevski Nadica Josifovski	
Title, Department		State Advisor for Information Systems and Technologies State Advisor for Information Systems and Technologies	
Phone and e-mail		+389(0)2 320-0870 +389(0)2 320-0878 Filip.manevski@mioa.gov.mk Nadica.Josifovski@mioa.gov.mk	
Other actors involved	State administration bodies, Independent state administration bodies	Institutions whose data sets will be catalogued	

	Non-government sector, business subjects, trade unions, economic chambers, associations and foundations	Martin Todevski, Center for change management, martin.todevski@cup.org.mk Misha Popovikj, IDSCS, misha@idscs.org
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4.2. Regional initiatives for cooperation in the field of open data		
Start and end date of the commitment: September 2018 – September 2020		
Lead implementing agency	Ministry of Information Society and Administration	
Description of commitment		
Status quo or problem addressed by the commitment	Open data portals in the region (WB6 countries) are different. Not all portals have implemented the option for entering metadata for open data. Different countries use a different data set of metadata.	
Main objective	Preparation of a draft structure of metadata standards with at least one country in the region.	
Brief description of the commitment	Macedonia has already developed a metadata standard that will be implemented in the new Open Data Portal. This standard would be a starting point for the development of metadata standards at regional level.	
OGP challenge addressed by the commitment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Public services improvement - Increasing public integrity 	
Additional information	<p>It requires involvement and close cooperation by institutions responsible for open data in the countries in the region.</p> <p>Reference to Global Sustainable Development Goals, related to Goal 16 "Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions", Target 16.10: To provide access to information and protection of fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements</p> <p>The measures under this commitment contribute to the promotion of the access, utilization and monitoring of trends in relation to public information and data</p>	
Milestone	Start date	End date
4.2.1. Establishing a working group for open data in the region	09.2018	09.2020
4.2.2. Analysis of macedonian metadata standards by the working group	09.2018	09.2020
4.2.3. Preparation of draft metadata standards at regional level	09.2018	09.2020
Contact information		

Name of responsible person from implementing agency		Filip Manevski Nadica Josifovski
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Other actors involved	State administration bodies, Independent state administration bodies	Institutions responsible for open data from WB6
	Non-government sector, business subjects, trade unions, economic chambers, associations and foundations	Martin Todevski, Center for change management, martin.todevski@cup.org.mk Misha Popovikj, IDSCS, misha@idscs.org

5. TRANSPARENCY AT LOCAL LEVEL	
5.1 Establishing new tools for financial transparency improvement and accountability of LSGUs and social inclusion	
Start and end date of the commitment: August 2018 – August 2020	
Lead implementing agency	Ministry of Local Self-Government
Description of commitment	
Status quo or problem addressed by the commitment	There is a need to provide institutional and easier access to information regarding the local-self government operation, especially in the part regarding public finances execution, as well as encouraging inclusive approach in the decision making processes.
Main objective	Ensuring conditions for greater financial transparency of the local self-government and access to information for all citizens, aimed at increasing the level of inclusion of persons with disabilities.
Brief description of the commitment	Establishing electronic boards in the municipalities as a very accessible way of informing the members of the councils and the general public regarding the key financial data from the operation of the municipality and the public services, by automatic download of the quarterly reports on budget execution drafted by the municipal administration and their accessibility to council members and the general public through the control boards. The data are published in

	<p>a manner that is understandable for council members who are not financial experts, as well as for the citizens. The goal is to provide the council members to perform the control function more responsibly as well as to make decisions based on information in close cooperation and in consultation with the citizens. Implementation of projects that will stimulate the inclusive approach in decision making. Also, adjusting the municipalities' WEB pages to the needs and requirements of persons with disabilities, in order to provide access to information and greater inclusion of these persons in the decision-making processes.</p>		
OGP challenge addressed by the commitment	<p>Innovative access and tools for easier access to information, as well as information processing in a manner that is accessible and understandable for all citizens. Proactive members of councils and citizens, more open local government. Greater social inclusion of persons with disabilities at local level.</p>		
Additional information	<p>Reference to Global Sustainable Development Goals - Objective 16 "Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions", Target 16.6: Develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels. The measures under this commitment contribute to promoting transparency and accountability in the public finances management at local level</p>		
Milestone		Start date	End date
5.1.1 Setting up electronic information boards with data on financial operations on the websites of the municipalities Cair, Veles, Ohrid, Strumica, Sveti Nikole and Valandovo		Ongoing	12.2018
5.1.2 Implementation of an additional tool (one in each 24 municipalities) for introducing management innovations.		06.2018	12.2020
5.1.3 Supporting the implementation of projects in a total of 24 municipalities in cooperation with citizens and CSOs		01.2019	12.2020
5.1.4 Setting up electronic information boards with data on the financial operation on the websites of the new 18 municipalities		06.2019	06.2020
5.1.5 Preparation of a Guideline and adaptation of the municipalities' WEB pages from the East Planning Region for persons with disabilities		08.2018	12.2018
5.1.6 Trainings for access to information, for persons with disabilities		10.2018	12.2018
5.1.7 Campaign for the right to equal access to information and services for all citizens at local level		01.2019	04.2019
Contact information			
Name of responsible person from implementing agency	Eli Chakar, coordinator		
Title, Department	State Advisor		

Phone and e-mail		elicakar@gmail.com , 071 226 415
Other actors involved	State administration bodies, Independent state administration bodies	Ministry of Finance Local self-government units
	Non-government sector, business subjects, trade unions, economic chambers, associations and foundations	UNDP Ilmiasan Dauti – Project Manager Martin Nikolic – Research Assistant ilmiasan.dauti@undp.org martin.nikolic@undp.org Association for promotion and development of inclusive society INKLUZIVA e-mail: inkluziva@gmail.com Blagica Dimitrovska – coordinator Tel: 076 279 663, 076 279 662

5.2 Public service improvement by institutional cooperation between LSGUs and CSOs	
Start and end date of the commitment: August 2018 – December 2019	
Lead implementing agency	Ministry of Local Self-Government
Description of commitment	
Status quo or problem addressed by the commitment	In most of the municipalities, there are no institutionalized mechanisms and tools for cooperation between local self-government units (LSGUs) and civil society organizations (CSOs). This results in insufficiently developed cooperation, especially in the areas for which CSOs have particular interest in – service provision under municipal competence by CSOs.
Main objective	Establishing mechanisms for cooperation between LSGUs and CSOs, especially in the area of service provision, which will ensure greater financial sustainability of CSOs.
Brief description of the commitment	Developing a mechanism and tools for transparent allocation of funds from municipal budgets for financing CSO projects, designing grant schemes, strengthening the capacities of LSGUs and CSOs for execution and use of funds, process monitoring.
OGP challenge addressed by the commitment	Enabling transparent distribution of budget funds for CSOs, improving the financial sustainability of CSOs, providing more quality and cost-effective services to citizens in an innovative manner.
Additional information	Reference to Global Sustainable Development Goals - Objective 16 "Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions", Target 16.6: Develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels.

	The measures under this commitment contribute to promoting transparency and accountability in the public finances management at local level	
Milestone	Start date	End date
5.2.1 Preparation of a methodology and tools for financing CSOs from the municipal budgets and for process monitoring of execution of funds.	08.2018	12.2018
5.2.2 Developing the capacities of the local administration and CSOs in municipalities (Kumanovo, Strumica, Gostivar, Kavadarci and Resen) for transparent financing, monitoring and implementation of municipal projects with CSOs.	08.2018	12.2018
5.2.3 Providing social services by civil society organizations in the municipalities of Kumanovo, Strumica, Gostivar, Kavadarci and Resen	01.2019	12.2019
Contact information		
Name of responsible person from implementing agency	Eli Chakar, coordinator	
Title, Department	State Advisor	
Phone and e-mail	elicakar@gmail.com , 071 226 415	
Other actors involved	State administration bodies, Independent state administration bodies	Ministry of local self-government
	Non-government sector, business subjects, trade unions, economic chambers, associations and foundations	UNDP, LSGUs

5.3 An inclusive decision making manner to encourage local and regional development	
Start and end date of the commitment: August 2018 – December 2020	
Lead implementing agency	Ministry of Local-Self-Government
Description of commitment	
Status quo or problem addressed by the commitment	Unequal development has led to great differences in the quality of life in different parts of the country, specifically between municipalities, as well as between rural and urban areas. The

	<p>balanced and sustainable development of the country based on the polycentric development model aims to reduce the differences within the regions and between regions, to increase the quality of citizens's lives and to increase competitiveness among the planning regions by supporting innovation. These goals can not be implemented without provision of synergies between the public, business and civil sector. The development planning through the prioritizing questioning questions requires creation of networking and direct involvement of citizens in decision-making processes.</p>
Main objective	<p>The main objective is to enable participatory community development and good local governance by applying a structured citizen participation tool - a forum approach. The forum approach aims to enable citizens an active participation in decision-making processes in their municipalities, and the administration to develop participatory, accountable and credible local governance.</p>
Brief description of the commitment	<p>The following will be conducted in each of the eight planning regions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Held 4 forum sessions and at least one meeting per working group between the sessions; - Representative presentation of institutions and citizens (minimum 40 participants) at forum sessions; - Well-structured quality discussions, with much of the time dedicated for expert support, project ideas and recommendations; - Conducted promotional activities in the regions; - Established informal and formal partnerships between interested groups; - Developed a number of project ideas; - Given recommendations to institutions and the same recommendations taken into account; - Implemented sustainable projects with visible socio-economic impact on the community.
OGP challenge addressed by the commitment	<p>An innovative approach for including all relevant stakeholders and citizens in decision-making processes that have a direct impact on local and regional development. In addition to the main objective – civil society participation, the program strengthens the principles of good governance that are important for the democratization of the state as a whole. Gender equality is one of the biggest challenges in the decentralization process, which means that the program envisages participation of at least 40% women at each forum session. At the same time, the demand for equal participation of the non-majority ethnic communities in Macedonia goes hand in hand with the objective of reflecting the local context and increasing inter-ethnic dialogue.</p>
Additional information	<p>Reference to Global Sustainable Development Goals - Objective 16 "Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions", Target 16.6: Develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels.</p>

	The measures under this commitment contribute to promoting transparency and accountability in public finances management at local level		
Milestone		Start date	End date
5.3.1 Selection of moderators, representatives civil sector representatives. The moderators will be selected by the Planning Regions Development Centers, by an external consultant's support, from the list of forum moderators in ZELS. -Training for the Planning Regions Development Centers for conducting forum sessions. -Selection of key local partners. The moderators, along with the Planning Regions Development Centers, will be responsible for recruitment of forum participants. The operation group is responsible for inviting participants to the forum, in accordance with the project proposal and their knowledge of the region, using various tools		Ongoing	09.2018
5.3.2 Organizing 4 forum sessions in each planning region. By utilizing the forum access, the forum will start detecting the key problems and solutions, preparation of project proposals and selection of projects that will be proposed before the Councils of the planning regions for their funding.		09.2018	03.2019
5.3.3 Implementation of the chosen projects		03.2019	12.2020
Contact information			
Name of responsible person from implementing agency		Eli Chakar, coordinator	
Title, Department		State Advisor	
Phone and e-mail		elicakar@gmail.com , 071 226 415	
Other actors involved	State administration bodies, Independent state administration bodies	Development Centers for the planning regions in Veles, Kumanovo, Strumica, Struga, Bitola, Shtip, Tetovo and Skopje.	
	Non-government sector, business subjects, trade unions, economic chambers, associations and foundations	Swiss Agency for Cooperation and Development SDC Maria Karaeva-project coordinator karaevamarija@gmail.com	

5.4 To resilient Skopje via data availability	
Start and end date of the commitment: August 2018 –August 2020	
Lead implementing agency	City of Skopje

Description of commitment		
Status quo or problem addressed by the commitment	<p>Cities are vulnerable due to the high concentration of population and constructed facilities in a smaller area. But cities are highly dependent on their infrastructure: the transport system, the communication systems, the distribution of water and energy, the drainage systems and the waste collection systems. The concentration of people and goods in cities and their dependence on these infrastructural systems make the cities vulnerable.</p> <p>The City of Skopje is inhabited by 1/3 of the population in the Republic of Macedonia, and the population inflow from the region and wider creates very large daily migrations. This causes problems in the operation of the city as a system, the new population needs are difficult to meet, and the functioning is complicated. The city is limited in its resources and is making great efforts to deal with numerous problems, which confirmed the calculated environmental footprint, which is extremely unfavorable.</p> <p>Bearing in mind that the success of policies and measures that are created at the local level depends among other things on the availability of on-field collected primary data that allow to see the actual situation, over the past years the City of Skopje supported the preparation of a series of studies that helped identify the main causes and problems, as well as the possibilities for an action. As a result of that, the City of Skopje has large databases that are not always used adequately/sufficiently.</p> <p>Resilient Skopje is a challenge for joint action, which will pave the way with measures and actions during the following years, in order to build capacity for urban resilience and improve the quality of life of its citizens.</p>	
Main objective	Providing conditions for greater transparency of data at local level.	
Brief description of the commitment	Citizen's inclusion in the creation process of solutions for Resilient Skopje	
OGP challenge addressed by the commitment	Improved access to databases of the City of Skopje and including of the citizens in the creation process of solutions for resilience	
Additional information	Reference to Objective 11: „Cities and human settlements to be inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable“, Target 11.6: by 2030, reduce the per capita environmental impact of cities, including by paying particular attention to air quality, municipal and other waste management.	
Milestone	Start date	End date

5.4.1 Providing free access to a series of data in different sectors that the City of Skopje and its public enterprises have: transport, energy, water, erosion, greenery, climate change, etc.		09.2018	8.2020
5.4.2 Active inclusion of the citizens in the creation of at least two solutions/public services that will increase the resilience of the City of Skopje		09.2018	8.2020
5.4.3 Organizing a hackathon that, based on open databases, will enable citizens to create solutions for a sustainable and resilient City of Skopje		01.2019	12.2019
Contact information			
Name of responsible person from implementing agency		Cvetanka Ikonomova Martinovska Liljana Onchevska	
Title, Department		Head of Environment Sector Assistant Head of Sector for Environmental and Nature Protection	
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Other actors involved	State administration bodies, Independent state administration bodies	/	
	Non-government sector, business subjects, trade unions, economic chambers, associations and foundations	Center for Innovation of the City of Skopje - Skopje Lab skopjelab@skopje.gov.mk	

6. ACCESS TO JUSTICE	
6.1 Access to justice development	
Start and end date of the commitment: August 2018 – August 2020	
Lead implementing agency	Ministry of Justice of RM
Description of commitment	
Status quo or problem addressed by the commitment	The right to access to justice is one of the fundamental human rights. The exercise of this right is connected and depends on the availability of legal services for all citizens, regardless of their material and social position. Access to justice for all citizens depends on the efficiency and quality of the free legal aid system, as the only form recognized

	<p>by the Ministry of Justice, while for some of the poor and marginalized groups of citizens it depends on informal forms of legal assistance (legal aid, judicial representation and paralegal assistance) provided by civil society organizations.</p> <p>The results of the survey on legal needs of the citizens of the Republic of Macedonia indicate that every second citizen of the Republic of Macedonia is facing a legal problem. The problem is the fact that many citizens do not recognize whether the problem is legal and do not know where to turn to.</p> <p>Research on the legal needs of certain marginalized groups (Roma, drug users, and sex workers) indicate that these citizens, due to marginalization and stigmatization, are additionally disabled in recognizing and resolving the legal problems they face.</p> <p>The lack of trust in institutions, insufficient information and ignorance and the unfavorable social and economic situation are the most common problems due to which the citizens coming from poor and marginalized communities have difficulty in accessing justice.</p>
Main objective	Effective access to quality, efficient and complementary community-based legal services.
Brief description of the commitment	<p>Once the Law on Free Legal Assistance enters into force, the Ministry of Justice, together with FOSM, will conduct a National Survey of Citizens' Legal Needs in order to develop a plan or strategy for legal strengthening in accordance with previously obtained findings. The plan, or strategy, will be prepared by the ministry in cooperation with CSOs and Free legal aid providers, paralegal assistance and other legal services models. The Ministry of Justice, in partnership with CSOs will finance and maintain the existing databases and the website www.pravnozajakni.mk which contains information on all forms of legal assistance and equal access to justice for all citizens. Furthermore, in collaboration with CSOs, the Ministry will develop a methodology for assessing the capacities and quality of the provided free legal aid by the regional departments, as well as a methodology for monitoring the implementation of the Law on Free Legal Assistance, as well as conducting a campaign aimed at raising awareness among citizens regarding the right to free legal assistance.</p>
OGP challenge addressed by the commitment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Public services improvement - Increasing public integrity - More efficient public resources management - Creating safer communities
Additional information	<p>Reference to Global Sustainable Development Goals - Objective 16 "Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions", Target 16.3 Promote the rule of law at the national and international level and ensure equal access to justice for all.</p> <p>The measures of this commitment directly contribute to the promotion of the rule of law at international, national and local levels, as well as approximation of legal services to citizens in order to ensure equal access to justice.</p>

Milestone		Start date	End date
6.1.1. Adopting a Law on Free Legal Assistance		Started	10.2018
6.1.2. Conducting national research on the citizens' legal needs		After the LFLA enters into force	05.2019
6.1.3. Preparation of a National Plan (strategy) for legal strengthening		05.2019	09.2019
6.1.4. Monitoring the implementation of the Law through methodology development and preparation of an analysis for assessment of the Units' capacities		01.2019	Continuous
6.1.5. Participation in cross-sectoral policymaking for legal strengthening with other concerned ministries, institutions and local governments at national and local level		10.2018	10.2020
6.1.6. Prepared report on provided legal assistance for each year separately		01.2018	12.2020
6.1.7. Conducting a campaign for legal strengthening of citizens		06.2018	07.2018
6.1.8. Organizing sessions for legal strengthening of citizens		01.2019	12.2019
6.1.9. Support for maintenance of existing databases and the website www.pravnozakni.mk which contains information on all forms of legal assistance and equal access to justice for all citizens.		01.2020	Continuous
Contact information			
Name of responsible person from implementing agency		Irina Dimitrovska Mikeska	
Title, Department		Sector for free legal assistance and political system	
Phone and e-mail		071/22-45-01 iridimitrovska@mjustice.gov.mk	
Other actors involved	State administration bodies, Independent state administration bodies	Regional units of the Ministry of Justice, municipalities	
	Non-government sector, business subjects, trade unions, economic chambers, associations and foundations	Network for legal strengthening, consisted of 19 civil society organizations (CSOs), coordinated by the Foundation Open Society - Macedonia (FOSM) Ivona Stalevska, FOSM ivona.stalevska@fosm.mk Hristina Vasilevska Dimchevska, FOSM hristina.vasilevska@fosm.mk	

6.2. Improving access to justice for marginalized groups of citizens	
Start and end date of the commitment: August 2018 – August 2020	
Lead implementing agency	Ministry of Labor and Social Policy of RM
Description of commitment	
Status quo or problem addressed by the commitment	<p>The right to access to justice is one of the fundamental human rights. The exercise of this right is connected and depends on the availability of legal services for all citizens, regardless of their material and social position. Access to justice for all citizens depends on the efficiency and quality of the free legal aid system, as the only form recognized by the Ministry of Justice, while for some of the poor and marginalized groups of citizens it depends on informal forms of legal assistance (legal aid, judicial representation and paralegal assistance) provided by civil society organizations.</p> <p>The survey findings on the legal needs of the citizens of the Republic of Macedonia indicate that every second citizen of the Republic of Macedonia is facing a legal problem. The problem is the fact that many citizens do not know whether the problem is legal where to turn.</p> <p>Research on legal needs of certain marginalized groups (Roma, drug users, and sex workers) indicate that these citizens, due to marginalization and stigmatization, are additionally disabled in recognizing and resolving the legal problems they face.</p> <p>Lack of trust in institutions, insufficient information, ignorance and unfavorable social and economic situation are the most common problems that prevent the citizens from the poor and marginalized communities to have access to justice.</p>
Main objective	Reducing the unsatisfied legal needs of the poor and marginalized groups of citizens
Brief description of the commitment	<p>Four Centers for access to justice will be established within the municipalities of Tetovo, Suto Orizari, Delchevo and Prilep at the beginning of 2019, which will provide legal aid to all citizens who are facing a legal problem. These centers will be managed by CSOs, and supported by the municipalities and the Ministry of Labor and Social Policy.</p> <p>The Ministry of Labor and Social Policy, in cooperation with FOSM will provide continuous trainings for employees of the Roma Information Centers.</p> <p>FOSM will provide training for the employees in the Ministry of Labor and Social Policy in order to strengthen the capacities of the employees for the concept of legal strengthening and its correlation to OGP.</p> <p>The commitment is expected to provide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Established centers for access to justice in 4 municipalities that will enable citizens easier access to legal and paralegal services and easier exercise and protection of rights - Building the capacities and skills of the employees in the Roma Information Centers through 3 trainings for paralegals

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increased access and quality (scaling) of the legal services for poor and marginalized groups of citizens in 14 municipalities. Apart from the provision of legal services, their legal strengthening will be achieved through legal literacy activities and mobilization for undertaking independent advocacy actions. - Strengthening the capacities of the employees in the Ministry of Labor and Social Policy to ensure sustainability of the commitment. - Prepared report on the services provided by the RIC staff for each year separately
OGP challenge addressed by the commitment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Improving public services - Increasing public integrity - More efficient public resources management - Creating safer communities
Additional information	<p>Reference to the Global Sustainable Development Goals - Objective 16 "Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions", Target 16.3 Promote the rule of law at national and international level and ensure equal access to justice for all</p> <p>The measures under this commitment directly contribute to ensuring equal access to justice for all.</p> <p>This commitment is important because it will achieve achievement of the legal needs of the poor and marginalized groups of citizens. The commitment is directly related to the access to information of citizens, especially in the area of access to information on social protection rights, as well as information on the manner citizens can exercise these rights. The existing electronic databases currently maintained by civil society organizations, it will contribute to reducing data collection costs, and in this way, the commitment is associated with technology and innovation values for openness and accountability.</p>

Milestone	Start date	End date
6.2.1. Trainings for employees in 14 Roma Information Centers for providing legal/paralegal assistance (access to justice)	1.2019	Continuous
6.2.2. Establishment and maintenance of Centers for access to justice in 4 municipalities (Prilep, Delchevo, Shuto Orizari, Tetovo) for poor and marginalized groups of citizens	1.2019	Continuous
6.2.3. Trainings for the employees in the Ministry of labor and social policy	10.2018	5.2019
6.2.4. Participation in cross-sectoral policymaking for legal strengthening with other concerned ministries, institutions and local governments at national and local level	10.2018	10.2020
6.2.5. Prepared report on the services provided by the RIC staff for each year separately	1.2019	1.2020

Contact information	
Name of responsible person from implementing agency	Dushan Tomikj
Title, Department	Speciaal Advisor in the Cabinet of the Minister for labor and social policy
Phone and e-mail	DTomsic@mtsp.gov.mk
Other actors involved	State administration bodies, Independent state administration bodies
	Non-government sector, business subjects, trade unions, economic chambers, associations and foundations
Municipalities Prilep, Shuto Orizari, Tetovo and Delchevo	
A network for legal strengthening, consisting of 19 civil society organizations (CSOs), coordinated by the Foundation Open Society - Macedonia (FOSM) Ivona Stalevska, FOSM ivona.stalevska@fosm.mk Hristina Vasilevska Dimchevska, FOSM hristina.vasilevska@fosm.mk	

7. CLIMATE CHANGES	
7.1 Achieving system changes by improving the collective knowledge on climate change	
Start and end date of the commitment: August 2018 – August 2020	
Lead implementing agency	Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning
Description of commitment	
Status quo or problem addressed by the commitment	<p>There is a need to provide easier access to information obtained as a result of the country's existing climate change expertise, especially in the academic community. By knowledge and data exchange, partners from the business, academia, public and non-profit sector must be connected in order to create a network that, through the development of innovative products, services and systems, will support solutions that can lead to system changes.</p> <p>In the past 18 years, the potential for mitigation of certain measures and policies by 2035 has been modeled through wide participatory and transparent process in view of the following sectors: energy, industrial processes, agriculture, forestry and waste. Although the analyzed results are presented in the national climate change documents, so far the data behind the analyzes were not open to the public. They cover a wide spectrum, from population and economic parameters, to economic and environmental aspects. Databases should be open and used for research and improve visualization of results in order to raise the ambition of citizens and politicians for climate action</p>
Main objective	Ensuring conditions for greater climate change data transparency.
Brief description of the commitment	As a leading institution in climate change policy making, we believe that improving transparency and increasing visibility of the results

	will allow stipulation of a mix of public and private actions that will ease the greenhouse gas emissions reduction to 36% in 2030 ¹⁶ .		
OGP challenge addressed by the commitment	Inovative approach and tools for easier access to information, as well as information processing, in a manner that will be understandable to citizens.		
Additional information	Refference to Goal 13: "Climate Action", Target 13.3: Improve education, awareness and human and institutional capacity for climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reductuion and early warning.		
Milestone		Start date	End date
7.1.1 Provision of free access to the revised national greenhouse gas inventory (data series 1990-2019)		09.2018	8.2020
7.1.2 Opening and regular data update from climate change mitigation analyzes		12.2018	8.2020
7.1.3 Specific scenario development that will reflect the potential for mitigation of private sector activities		01.2019	8.2020
Contact information			
Name of responsible person from implementing agency		Teodora Obradovikj Grncharovska	
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Other actors involved	State administration bodies, Independent state administration bodies	/	
	Non-government sector, business subjects, trade unions, economic chambers, associations and foundations	Macedonian academy of sciences and arts Natasha Markovska natasa@manu.edu.mk	

ACTION PLAN OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA FOR OPEN GOVERNMENT PARTNERSHIP OBJECTIVES

- OPEN PARLIAMENT -

¹⁶ Respective national contributions to climate change, Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning

1. ACCOUNTABILITY		
1.1 Strengthening the Assembly's service so that the assembly can meet the increased responsibilities by filling vacant job positions and officials' training		
Start and end date of the commitment: January 2019 – December 2021		
Lead implementing agency	Assembly of RM	
Description of commitment		
Status quo or problem addressed by the commitment	Vacant job positions, insufficiently trained officers, systematization as a legal obstacle, the need to reorganize the work units.	
Main objective	Independent, professional and efficient assembly service and assessed officials.	
Brief description of the commitment	Preparation of new acts for internal organization and systematization of jobs, in compliance with the conducted Functional review and adoption of an Annual plan for generic and specialized training of civil servants.	
OGP challenge addressed by the commitment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increasing public integrity - Increasing corporate accountability 	
Additional information	<p>Reference to objective 16 "Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions" Target 16.6: Develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels.</p> <p>This commitment is important for improving the public responsibility of the Assembly of the Republic of Macedonia by improving the rules and mechanisms that will ensure greater accountability of the employees for the undertaken responsibilities.</p>	
Milestone	Start date	End date
1.1.1 Preparation of new acts for internal organization and job classification in accordance with the conducted Functional review	1.2019	12.2021
1.1.2 Adoption of annual plan for generic and specialized trainings of civil servants	1.2019	12.2021
Contact information		
Name of responsible person from implementing agency	Cvetanka Ivanova	
Title, Department	Secretary General of the Assembly	
Phone and e-mail	02/3112-255, sekretar@sobranie.mk	

Other actors involved	State administration bodies, Independent state administration bodies	/
	Non-government sector, business subjects, trade unions, economic chambers, associations and foundations	/

1.2 Increasing the financial transparency of the Assembly of RM			
Start and end date of the commitment: January 2019 - December 2021			
Lead implementing agency	Assembly of RM		
Description of commitment			
Status quo or problem addressed by the commitment	Need to increase the financial transparency and the budgetary autonomy of the Assembly of the Republic of Macedonia. Non-publication of the public procurement plan of the Assembly. Insufficiently detailed Assembly budget. Unavailable reports on the execution of the Assembly budget.		
Main objective	Open and transparent parliament		
Brief description of the commitment	Budget transparent legislative authority through budgetary autonomy of the Assembly, publication of the Assembly budget and reports for its execution in an easy searchable and accessible format. Details of the six-digit budget and publication of the public procurement plan of the Assembly.		
OGP challenge addressed by the commitment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increasing public integrity - More efficient public resources management 		
Additional information	<p>Reference to objective 16 "Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions" Target 16.6: Develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels.</p> <p>This commitment will contribute to improving the public accountability of the Assembly of the Republic of Macedonia by increasing its financial transparency.</p>		
Milestones		Start date	End date
1.2.1 Publication of the adopted budget of the institution and the balance sheet on the website		01.2019	12.2021
1.2.2 Adopted amendments to the Law on budgets		01.2019	12.2019
Contact information			

Name of responsible person from implementing agency		Cvetanka Ivanova
Title, Department		Secretary General of the Assembly
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Other actors involved	State administration bodies, Independent state administration bodies	Government of RM Ministry of Finance
	Non-government sector, business subjects, trade unions, economic chambers, associations and foundations	/

2. IMPROVED ICT INFRASTRUCTURE		
2.1 Better access to information		
Start and end date of the commitment: January 2019 - December 2021		
Lead implementing agency	Assembly of RM	
Description of commitment		
Status quo or problem addressed by the commitment	Insufficient sharing of content from the Assembly's operation with the public. Insufficient sharing of all relevant documents regarding the legislative process. Insufficiently published information concerning the voting of MPs in the Parliament. Unavailability of the website of the assembly for the persons with visual impairment.	
Main objective	Open Parliament	
Brief description of the commitment	Easy searchable internet page.	
OGP challenge addressed by the commitment	- Increasing public integrity	
Additional information	Reference to Objective 16 "Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions" Target 16.6: Develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels. This commitment will contribute to increasing the openness of the Parliament of the Republic of Macedonia by promoting a new technology that enables sharing of information and participation of the public in the Assembly's operation.	
Milestones		Start date
		End date

2.1.1 Increasing the percentage of promotion of Assembly's events and activities on social networks from 30 to 60%		1.2019	12.2021
2.1.2 Development of a new website of the Assembly of the Republic of Macedonia		1.2019	12.2021
Contact information			
Name of responsible person from implementing agency		Cvetanka Ivanova	
Title, Department		Secretary General of the Assembly	
Phone and e-mail		02/3112-255, sekretar@sobranie.mk	
Other actors involved	State administration bodies, Independent state administration bodies	/	
	Non-government sector, business subjects, trade unions, economic chambers, associations and foundations	/	

2.2 Fully functional Parliamentary TV channel	
Start and end date of the commitment: January 2019 - December 2021	
Lead implementing agency	Assembly of RM
Description of commitment	
Status quo or problem addressed by the commitment	Insufficiently clear ownership rights on the parliamentary channel and archival recordings between the Assembly of RM and MTV. Lack of technical equipment and digitization of the studios. Lack of staff in the Sector for Support of the Parliamentary TV Channel. Lack of educational program for the Assembly on the Parliamentary TV channel. Non-connection of the Parliamentary TV channel with the E-Parliament.
Main objective	Open Parliament
Brief description of the commitment	Reform of the Parliamentary TV channel.
OGP challenge addressed by the commitment	- Increasing public integrity

Additional information		Reference to Objective 16 "Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions" Target 16.6: Develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels. This commitment will contribute to increasing the openness of the Parliament of the Republic of Macedonia through reform and content improvement of the Parliamentary TV channel.
Milestones		Start date
2.2.1 Equiped TV studio		01.2019
2.2.2 Defined program scheme		01.2019
Contact information		
Name of responsible person from implementing agency		Cvetanka Ivanova
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Other actors involved	State administration bodies, Independent state administration bodies	/
	Non-government sector, business subjects, trade unions, economic chambers, associations and foundations	/

3. PARTICIPATION OF CITIZENS	
3.1 Improving the participation of citizens in the Assembly's legislative and supervisory process	
Start and end date of the commitment : January 2019 - December 2021	
Lead implementing institution	Assembly of RM
Description of commitment	
Status quo or problem addressed by the commitment	Lack of regulation of the mechanisms for participation of citizens in the work of the Assembly. Insufficient application of the mechanism, supervisory debates and inability for the citizens to participate on the same.
Main objective	Functional parliamentary democracy and open parliament.

Brief description of the commitment		Citizens' participation in the legislative process. Strengthening the Assembly's supervisory function and achieving the Assembly's legislative function.	
OGP challenge addressed by the commitment		- Increasing public integrity	
Additional information		Reference to Objective 16 "Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions" Target 16.6: Develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels. This commitment will contribute to increase the citizens' participation in the work of the Assembly of the Republic of Macedonia by facilitating citizens' access, reducing formal procedures and expanding the scope of activities in which citizens can get included.	
Milestones		Start date	End date
3.1.1 Increasing the percentage of working bodies that have included experts in their work up to 30%		1.2019	12.2021
3.1.2 Adopted Act regulating supervisory debates		1.2019	12.2019
3.1.3 Adopted plan for supervisory debates		1.2019	12.2019
3.1.4 Increasing the participation of citizens and civil society organizations at Working bodies' sessions up to 70%		1.2019	12.2021
Contact information			
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Other actors involved	State administration bodies, Independent state administration bodies	/	
	Non-government sector, business subjects, trade unions, economic chambers, associations and foundations	/	