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# OPEN GOVERNMENT PARTNERSHIP GEORGIA

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Action Plan Implementation Final Report 2016-2017



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## Introduction

The Action Plan 2016-2017 of Open Government Georgia (hereinafter, Action Plan) was developed by the Secretariat of the Open Government Georgia (Analytical Department of the Ministry of Justice of Georgia) in close partnership with civil and business sectors and international organizations, in the framework of the Open Government Georgia Forum (hereinafter, Forum). At the initial stage the Secretariat set up partnership with the Forum member public agencies and non-governmental and international organizations. The latter submitted to the Secretariat their proposals and ideas on the future commitments, which in their opinion should have become the part of the future Action Plan. In addition, the Secretariat held individual meetings with those agencies which had not been involved in the activities of the Open Government Georgia before. As a result the Secretariat received a long list of commitments from the old and potential members of the Forum.

Non-governmental and international organizations also submitted to the Secretariat their recommendations. Most of their ideas were reflected in the plan in the form of commitments. The USAID project Good Governance Initiative Georgia (GGI) was actively participating and supporting the Secretariat through the consultation process. After the consultations the project submitted its recommendations to the Secretariat, which later were reflected in the Action Plan. The Action Plan was approved by the Government of Georgia by Resolution #539 of December 9 2016.

The third Action Plan of the Open Government Georgia encompasses **24 commitments of 24 responsible agencies**, which are in compliance with OGP principles – transparency, accountability, citizen participation, technologies and innovations for transparency and accountability.

The commitments envisaged by the Action Plan meet all **five challenges of the OGP**: improving public services, increasing public integrity, more effectively managing public resources, creating safer communities and improving corporate responsibility.

## Open Government Georgia Forum

The Open Government Georgia Forum represents a permanent mechanism for the national coordination. The goals, activities regulations and other procedural issues are outlined in the guidelines<sup>1</sup>, which were developed by the Secretariat of OGG together with the Forum members. The composition of the Forum gradually increases so that to ensure better representation of the responsible agencies and local and international organizations. 17 new members joined the Forum in order to develop the third Action Plan.

The Forum is headed by co-chairpersons of whom one represents the Georgian Government, and another – non-governmental organizations. The NGOs jointly present their nominee to the Forum who is elected by the Forum. The functions of the Forum are to support preparation of the Action Plan, plan and hold public consultations, monitor and facilitate the Action Plan implementation, increase the public awareness about the Open Government Partnership. With the new model the Forum fully responds to the recommendations of the Independent Reporting Mechanism (IRM) of the Open Government Georgia.

Three Forum meetings were dedicated to the development of the third Action Plan, including one expanded Round Table Meeting also individual meetings and thorough consultations between the Secretariat, responsible agencies and civil society. The final draft of the Action Plan was discussed on June 24 2016 at the expanded meeting of the Forum.

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<sup>1</sup> The Forum Guidelines are available [here](#).

## Public Consultations

The OGP regulations state that the Action Plan has to be developed through consultations with the wide public. In compliance with the Guidelines<sup>2</sup> developed by OGP, on the basis of the NGO recommendations and by their direct involvement, the Forum has developed a plan of public consultations to be conducted in the entire Georgia; the plan contained detailed information about the goal of the meeting, the framework, NGO and government sector representatives responsible for the meetings.

Supported by the USAID Centers of Civic Engagement and Community Centers of Public Service Development Agency, the public consultations were held in 15 cities throughout Georgia. Around 800 stakeholders participated in 19 meetings held throughout the country. The representatives of the municipalities, mass-media, NGOs and political parties, also students, professors and pedagogues and other interested citizens took part in the public consultations. The local media also made its contribution to the public consultations by participating in the meetings and disseminating information about the possibilities of citizens' involvement in the process of public consultations and Action Plan development process.

**Several commitments in the Action Plan came as a result of the public consultations.** Among them are the municipalities' commitments about their involvement in the budgeting process, transparency of processes in the municipalities and adaptation of Houses of Justice for disabled people.

## International Surveys and Indices

Due to the fundamental reforms carried out to ensure open governance, Georgia today is distinguished with one of the lowest indicators of corruption among the European countries. This success has been noted by many international surveys and ratings.

**Table 1:** Assessment of Georgia's progress by international surveys

#	Survey name	Source	Rating
1	Open Government Index, 2015	World Justice Project	0.61 points from maximum 1 point - First place in East European and Central Asian region; - 29-th position among 102 countries worldwide. <sup>3</sup>
2	Voice and Accountability, the Worldwide Governance Indicators, 2014	World bank	- The indicator of Georgia equals to 55.7%; - In 1996-2014 Georgia demonstrated the best indicator of improvement compared to neighboring countries (with 19.7% increase indicator) in regard to voice and accountability. <sup>4</sup>
3	Government Effectiveness, Worldwide Governance Indicators, 2014	World Bank	- The indicator of Georgia equals to 71.6%: • One of the defining factors of the government effectiveness is public service accessibility, which is provided by Public Service Halls and Public Centers of the Ministry of Justice;  Since 1996 Georgia demonstrated 43.9% increase of progress in regard to government effectiveness, according to which Georgia occupies the first position worldwide. <sup>5</sup>

<sup>2</sup> Find OGP Guideline Rules at [Guidance for National OGP Dialogue](#).

<sup>3</sup> [Open Government Index](#) 2015 §. World Justice Project

<sup>4</sup> Worldwide Governance Indicators, 2014, World Bank.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid.

4	Rule of Law, Worldwide Governance Indicators, 2014	World Bank	- The indicator of Georgia equals to 64.4% Since 1996 Georgia demonstrated 56.3% increase of progress in regard to rule of law, as a result Georgia occupies the second position worldwide. <sup>6</sup>
5	Control of Corruption, Worldwide Governance Indicators, 2014	World Bank	- The indicator of Georgia equals to 75.5%: Since 1996 Georgia demonstrated 70.6% increase of progress in regard to fight against corruption. <sup>7</sup>
6	Open Budget Index, 2015	International Budget Partnership	- 16-th position among 100 countries with 66 points. <sup>8</sup> According to which the Georgian Government provides citizens with essentially sufficient amount of information about the budget.
7	Rule of Law Index, 2015	World Justice Project	- First place in East European and Central Asian region; - 34-th position among 113 countries worldwide. <sup>9</sup>

### Eligibility Criteria of the Open Government Partnership

In compliance with OGP eligibility criteria, the Georgian indicator equals to 15 points out of the maximum 16 points.<sup>10</sup>

**Table 2:** Assessment of Georgia According to OGP Eligibility Criteria

OGP Eligibility Criteria	Information	Score
Budget Transparency	4	4
Information Accessibility	Legislation	4
Property Declarations	Legal regulation for publicity of property declarations	4
	Accessibility of property declarations	
Civil Liberties	5.59	3
Total score for Georgia	15	
Maximum score	16	

### Action Plan Implementation Monitoring and Evaluation

After the second National Action Plan of the Open Government Georgia was approved, the Secretariat developed Action Plan implementation monitoring and evaluation methodology taking into consideration OGP regulations and guiding principles.

The goal of the monitoring and evaluation methodology is to assess commitments implementation envisaged by the Action Plan, as well as the outcomes obtained as a result of fulfillment of commitments.

**Table 3:** Monitoring and Evaluation Methodology

Monitoring	
<b>Mechanism</b>	Filling out the monitoring table and submission to the Secretariat, comments from the civil society and assessment by the Secretariat

<sup>6</sup> Ibid.

<sup>7</sup> See reference N4.

<sup>8</sup> [Open Budget Index](#) 2015, International Budget Transparency.

<sup>9</sup> [Rule of Law Index](#) 2015. World Justice Project.

<sup>10</sup> Open Government Partnership. Eligibility Criteria.

<b>Main stages</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Responsible agencies fill out the monitoring table</li> <li>- The Secretariat processes the information submitted by the responsible agencies and passes it to the Forum member non-governmental organizations</li> <li>- The NGOs prepare comments and submit them to the Secretariat</li> <li>- The Secretariat processes the monitoring outcomes and presents them at the Forum meeting</li> </ul>	
<b>Frequency</b>	Once every 6 months	
<b>Self-Assessment</b>		
<b>Self-assessment sources</b>	Reports drafted by the responsible agencies	
	Georgia's indicators according to OGP eligibility criteria	
	Review of the international rating surveys	
	Reports prepared by local NGOs	
	Key informant interviews	
<b>Mechanism</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Responsible agencies submit to the Secretariat written report on the plan implementation.</li> <li>- The Secretariat holds meetings with 24 responsible agencies.</li> <li>- The draft reports are sent to the Forum for comments.</li> <li>- The draft report is discussed at the Forum meeting (Round Table meeting).</li> <li>- The Secretariat finalizes the report and presents it to the Anti-Corruption Council and OGP Secretariat.</li> </ul>	
<b>Main stages</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The Secretariat drafts self-assessment reports and submits them to the Forum.</li> <li>- Comments are received from the Forum.</li> <li>- The report is published to receive public comments.</li> <li>- The Secretariat processes the report and submits to the OGP Secretariat.</li> </ul>	
<b>Frequency</b>	Twice during the Action Plan implementation period, once a year.	
<b>Monitoring and Evaluation Criteria</b>		
<b>Rating</b>	Fully implemented	All milestones of the commitment were fully implemented.
	Largely implemented	More than half of the milestones of the commitment was fully implemented and only a small part still remains unfulfilled.
	Partially implemented	Less than half of the commitment was implemented, most of it remains unfulfilled.
	Unimplemented	None of the milestones of the commitment was implemented.
<b>Status</b>	Implementation process not started	
	Implementation process is under way	
	Implementation process is suspended	
	Implementation process is completed	

## Implementation of the Action Plan Commitment

The Final Report (Report) of the Action Plan Implementation evaluates commitments implementation **as of June 2018** envisaged by the plan that was prepared by the Government of Georgia together with the civil society.

The Report was drafted by the Secretariat based on the information received from the responsible agencies and the discussions held in the framework of the Forum with the involvement of the society. The working draft of the report was submitted to the Forum for comments the document was also published for public comments.<sup>11</sup>

### Challenge I: Improving Public Services

<sup>11</sup> The report was published for comments - <http://justice.gov.ge/Ministry/Index/1504>.

## Commitment 1: Adapting the Public Service Hall to the Needs of the People with Disabilities

<b>Brief description of the commitment</b>		<p>In November 2015, the Public Service Hall (PSH) was addressed by a citizen with disabilities via “Voice of the Consumer”. The author of the letter described the problems faced by people with disabilities at the Public Service Hall. The Public Service Hall reacted to the suggestion of the author and formulated it as the above commitment of the Action Plan.</p> <p>The goal of the commitment is to have the Public Service Hall infrastructure meet the standards necessary for people with disabilities to move around and receive the services offered by the Public Service Hall. In terms of the commitment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- a special navigation system was built in the service space of Tbilisi Public Service Hall for the blind and visually impaired people;</li> <li>- The employees of the PSH in Tbilisi, Batumi and Kutaisi were trained.</li> </ul>				
<b>Lead agency</b>		LEPL – Public Service Hall, the Ministry of Justice of Georgia				
<b>Partners</b>	Public agency					
	Civil/Private sector	UNDP; Embassy of Poland; Coalition for Independent Life; NGO Mariani				
<b>Compliance with OGP challenges</b>		Improving public services				
<b>Main goal</b>		Ensuring that people with disabilities move around the PSH without any impediments and receive service independently				
<b>Indicator</b>		Environment and services in the PSHs of all three cities are fully adapted to the needs of people with disabilities.				
<b>Achieved results</b>		<p>Frontline staff of PSH of Tbilisi (400 employees), Batumi (52 employees) and Kutaisi (47 employees) were trained to communicate with people with disabilities. The following works were performed at Tbilisi PSH: tactile paving was put in the inner and outer space of PSH; a tactile map (navigation map) was placed at the entrance; directional Braille signs were installed on the inner and outer perimeters; in addition, room numbers and room names Braille signs were put on the doors of each room; signs were placed on the stairs and glasses, too, a printer with Braille font was placed to read the documents issued by Public Registry. In order to make the receipt of online information by the blind and visually impaired people easier, audio, visual contrast and increase of text size functions were added to the PSH webpage.</p> <p>Projects to adapt Kutaisi and Batumi PSH to the needs of people with disabilities were elaborated.</p>				
<b>Implementation evaluation</b>			Fully implemented	Largely implemented	Partially implemented	Unimplemented
		Commitment assessment		x		
<b>End date</b>		October, 2019				
<b>Future plans</b>		To adapt Batumi and Kutaisi branches of PSH to the needs of the blind and people with disabilities				

## Commitment 2: Introduction of Unified Healthcare System Information Portal

<b>Brief Description of the Commitment</b>	<p>In order to raise awareness of the population and ensure transparency of the healthcare sphere, the Ministry of Health, Labor and Social Affairs of Georgia (hereinafter, Ministry of Health) will develop the information portal within the frame of unified healthcare information system (E-Health).</p>
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		Comprehensive and reliable information about the State Healthcare Programs, medical service, service providers (their professional qualification, etc.), medical equipment, blood bank, number of beds, beneficiaries, medical personnel and their place of work will be provided to the population through the Portal. Using the Portal, citizens will be able to check the status of their medical insurance and find out what kind of services they are eligible for within the frames of healthcare programs. Furthermore, the latest information on the ongoing reforms in the field of healthcare and monitoring results will be uploaded to the Portal.				
<b>Lead agency</b>		The Ministry of Health, Labor and Social Affairs of Georgia				
<b>Partners</b>	Public agency	LEPL – L. Sakvarelidze National Center for Disease Control and Public Health; LEPL – Social Service Agency				
	Civil/Private sector	World Health Organization				
<b>Compliance with OGP challenges</b>		Improving public services				
<b>Main goal</b>		Increasing integrity in public sector				
<b>Indicator</b>		Information portal in the framework of the unified healthcare system (E-Health) is operational and comprises modules: of medical facilities; medical staff, state healthcare programs; The share of the information portal users increased by 50%. The household survey published in 2017 demonstrated that the public awareness on the processes undergoing in the healthcare system increased by 20%.				
<b>Achieved results</b>		<p>The task to implement the commitment was assigned to the Working Group established in accordance with the decree N01-275/O of the Minister of Health, Labor and Social Affairs of Georgia. In order to develop the Portal, public consultations with different agencies under the Ministry, representatives of international and non-governmental organizations, professional and patients' associations started in November 2016.</p> <p>At this stage the evaluation of the current situation finished and an analytical document was developed. In September 2017, the concept of the information portal and ToR were prepared.</p> <p>Before the development of the information Portal, the existing channels for information and service delivery were improved. Presently, citizens can access personified services of social affairs through MY.GOV.GE citizens Portal. The works for tuning and piloting the electronic medical notes module is ongoing. Citizens can also check the status of their medical insurance at <a href="http://www.ssa.gov.ge">www.ssa.gov.ge</a> and find out what type of medical service they are eligible to within the frames of state healthcare programs. The webpage of the Ministry - <a href="http://www.moh.gov.ge">www.moh.gov.ge</a> - is updated on a daily basis uploading the information on healthcare reforms.</p> <p>In December 2017, the work on software for the information portal was launched. In February-March of the current year information was prepared and uploaded on the information portal. The portal started functioning in April and after registration any person can find personified information.</p> <p><i>Note: Work on the commitment finished in April 2018.</i></p>				
<b>Implementation evaluation</b>			Fully implemented	Largely implemented	Partially implemented	Unimplemented
		Commitment evaluation	x			
<b>End date</b>		April, 2018				
<b>Future plans</b>		Administering information portal and information updating.				



### Commitment 3: Introduction of Electronic Licensing System in the Field of Natural Resources Application

<b>Brief description of the commitment</b>	Through this commitment, the National Environment Agency will issue licenses and render other paid services entirely electronically. The new electronic system will allow for documents pertaining to the licensing field to be available electronically. As a result, the agency will be able to sort and form electronic statistical database of collected information. The system will ensure prompt, high-quality delivery of the processed information. Furthermore, the customer will have a simplified access to any public information (statistics, online map of resources, guidebook, etc.) available in the licensing field and the licensees will be able to contact and share information with one another.
<b>Lead agency</b>	LEPL- National Environment Agency, the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources Protection of Georgia  In December 2017, in compliance with the amendments made to the Law of Georgia on the Structure, Authority and Rules of Operation of the Government of Georgia, in regard to the functions and authorities of the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources Protection of Georgia in the direction of management of natural resources and mineral products were transferred to the Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development as to the implementations of the given function, for its implementation LEPL – National Agency of Mines was established at the Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development. Consequently, as of today the organization is LEPL – National Agency of Mines.
<b>Partners</b>	Public agency Civil/Private sector
<b>Compliance with OGP challenges</b>	Improvement of public services
<b>Main goal</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- To improve services</li> <li>- To simplify the relations between the government and the citizens</li> <li>- To avoid risks of corruption</li> <li>- To optimize human resource application</li> <li>- To ensure more transparency during the service delivery</li> </ul>
<b>Indicator</b>	At the end of 2017, the electronic system of licensing and other paid services were introduced in the National Environment Agency.
<b>Achieved results</b>	<p>The works under the first stage of the commitment have been accomplished: general description of the business process for licensing was finished, particularly, the types of consumers and forms, business processes of the plans for statistical forms and their assimilation have been identified. Space and respective interface designs, such as administrative space interface, staff and client interfaces have been developed.</p> <p>While working on the implementation of the first stage of the Program, several significant aspects were identified. If these aspects are taken into consideration, it will make the Program more flexible and multifunctional. Hence, LEPL National Environment Agency held intensive consultations with respective agencies and identified two key challenges in this direction: 1. Since the Government is planning to conclude a large contract for the purpose of reforming the field of mines, it was considered reasonable to make the Program fully responsive to the reform requirements envisaging enhancement of the electronic module for resource management purposes. 2. Through consultations with the Environment Monitoring Department, it was also considered reasonable to integrate the functions related to the process of issuing licenses by the Environment Monitoring Department into the Program as this is the agency responsible for controlling observance of the Law on Environment Protection by different bodies, as well as the process of issuing permits and licenses. Presently, intensive negotiations are underway to allow the Environment Monitoring Department to perform integrated functions electronically.</p>

	<p>The electronic program of the licensing process is operational. As of today, there already exists a webpage <i>nam.rs.ge</i> embedded in the webpage of the Revenue Service, where an aspirant for a license could register his/her application on announcement of the auction for mining purposes without leaving his/her office; he/she can also present to the agency all the processes connected with licensing electronically, including exploitation plan and statistical forms. Through this site the applicant can also receive an SMS about any news. The given electronic site is a permanently updated base and the source of information for the body issuing licenses, which contains complete information about subjects and companies owning the licenses, the location of the licensing territory (region, settlement), name of the resource, amount, the term of the license, initial auction bid and measurement unit. And the customer, by means of his/her unique code can control the information on his/her application from any point. This portal was put into operation on February 20 2018.</p>				
<b>Evaluation of implementation</b>		Fully implemented	Largely implemented	Partially implemented	Unimplemented
	Commitment assessment	x			
<b>End date</b>	December, 2019				
<b>Future plans</b>	Due to the challenges identified during the working process, the timeframe of all stages of implementing the commitment will be extended for some period to make the work performed comply fully with the new requirements of the Program.				

#### Commitment 4: Creation of Spatial (Geographic) Data Web-portal for the Energy Sector

<b>Brief description of the commitment</b>	<p>In the framework of the given commitment, the Ministry of Energy will create publicly accessible electronic space with periodically updated information about spatial data. The portal will enable stakeholders (both in the country and abroad) to remotely obtain information about the location of the energy objects and their characteristics. This will facilitate investors to assess expediency of the desired project implementation at the initial, as well as at any other stage of its implementation.</p>				
<b>Lead agency</b>	Proceeding from the structural changes of the government, the Ministry of Energy of Georgia joined the Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development.				
<b>Partners</b>	Public agency				
	Civil/Private sector				
<b>Compliance with OGP challenges</b>	Improving public services; better management of public resources				
<b>Main goal</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- To develop geo-information systems;</li> <li>- To simplify the process of obtaining information concerning the location of the energy objects and their characteristics for the stakeholders;</li> <li>- To supporting efficient implementation of new and ongoing projects.</li> </ul>				
<b>Indicator</b>	Web-portal containing spatial (geographic) data from the energy sector has been created				
<b>Achieved results</b>	<p>Initial component of the commitment implementation is training of the specialists for the work required for the Ministry of Energy to develop publicly accessible electronic platform. Namely, there is a need for human resources that will be able to collect and compartmentalize the information (geographic data) created by different parties in the energy sector, and put it into intercompliance. With this in mind, the Ministry trained geo-information specialists and the Ministry staff using various teaching methods.</p>				

	The commitment can be considered as partially implemented, since the collection and uploading of the given information were conducted on the webpage of the Ministry of Energy of Georgia. Proceeding from the changes of the government structure, the Ministry of Energy of Georgia joined the Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development. The information is accessible for the stakeholders, though not via portal.				
<b>Evaluation of implementation</b>		Fully implemented	Largely implemented	Partially implemented	Unimplemented
	Commitment assessment			x	
<b>End date</b>	December, 2017				
<b>Future plans</b>					

<b>Commitment 5: Creation of Innovations Ecosystem</b>					
<b>Brief description of the commitment</b>		<p>Innovation and Technology Agency is planning to develop the existing innovation infrastructure (Techno park) in the capital and create innovation infrastructure in the regions of Georgia.</p> <p>The development of innovation infrastructure envisages: 1. development of innovation infrastructure currently available in the capital; 2. establishment of regional innovation hubs in the cities; 3. establishment of innovation centers (innovation centers will be established on the basis of the available infrastructure (libraries, educational institutions) in close cooperation and with active participation of the municipalities in the countryside; 4. increase access to internet in the regions. To measure the results, beneficiary filing system will be developed.</p>			
<b>Lead agency</b>		LEPL – Innovation and Technology Agency, the Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development			
<b>Partners</b>	Public agency	Advisory body of the Government of Georgia – Research and Innovation Council			
	Civil/Private sector	World Bank			
<b>Compliance with OGP challenges</b>					
<b>Main goal</b>		Support to individuals and entrepreneurs in innovative activities; establishment of innovation companies; development of innovation awareness in the country, increase the level of knowledge among the public and formation of the knowledge-based economy.			
<b>Indicator</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- By the end of 2017, 13 innovation centers and 2 techno-parks were created</li> <li>- 2000 beneficiaries were trained</li> <li>- The Innovation centers had around 5 000 visitors</li> <li>- The internet accessibility increased to 2500 beneficiaries</li> </ul>			
<b>Achieved results</b>		<p>The works to select strategically important regions where innovation centers and innovation hubs will open are underway.</p> <p>Around 60 entrepreneurs took the training course “How to create a website” in Baghdadi. ICT trainings were held in the following regions: Samegrelo, Samtskhe-Javakheti, Kakheti, Shida Kartli, Kvemo Kartli, Mtskheta-Mtianeti, where about 1000 beneficiaries took the training. Furthermore, as of June 2018, a Techno Park is opened and is functioning in Zugdidi and Innovation Centers in Kharagauli, Chopoti and Baghdadi. In the period from January to June, including, 2018, the Techno Park in Zugdidi and Innovation Centers in Baghdadi, Chopoti and Kharagauli had in total 4058 visitors.</p>			

Evaluation of implementation		Fully implemented	Largely implemented	Partially implemented	Unimplemented
	Commitment assessment			x	
End date	December, 2018				
Future plans	Out of 12 buildings allocated by local municipalities only 4 are constructively stable. Therefore, innovation centers are planned to be opened in Akhmeta and Telavi.				

### Commitment 6: Electronic Portal for Registration and Disposal of State Property – Customer Module

<b>Brief description of the commitment</b>	<p>Under the Action Plan, the Property Agency is liable to create an electronic portal for registration and disposal of state property – customer module. Creation of the customer module serves not only to introduction of electronic services, but also to carrying out the processes more transparently.</p> <p>The customer module will enable the stakeholders to obtain information about the state property, the objects under privatization, and auction announcements. This will increase competition and simplify the identification of the property and services (privatization/lease) the customers are interested in.</p>				
<b>Lead agency</b>	LEPL-National Agency of State Property, the Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development				
<b>Partners</b>	Public agency				
	Civil/Private sector				
<b>Compliance with OGP challenges</b>	Improving public services				
<b>Main goal</b>	Accumulation of the information about the state property, announced auctions and privatization objects in one space via the State Property electronic portal to improve the customers' experience.				
<b>Indicator</b>	The state property registration and disposal electronic portal is launched and operational in real space				
<b>Achieved results</b>	<p>In order to implement the commitment, a working group was formed in the Agency that defined the concept and main characteristics of the consumer module. Based on this, a business task was developed for the consumer module that gives detailed information about the processes related to the module's functioning.</p> <p>Technically, the works for the development of the pilot version of the customer module will be launched after the introduction of the modules for privatization and monitoring of contractual liabilities under the State Property Management System (SPMS).</p> <p>In cooperation with the National Agency of Public Registry, the state property privatization module has been developed and is in the process of introduction; the works on the development of the module for monitoring contractual liabilities is underway.</p> <p>As of today, the pilot version of the module for the Privatization and Monitoring Service of the State Property Management System is ready. At the moment the process has been suspended and running of the software in real mode is not possible. Resumption of technical works on the consumer module depends on putting SPMS into operation in real mode.</p>				
<b>Evaluation of implementation</b>		Fully implemented	Largely implemented	Partially implemented	Unimplemented

	Commitment assessment				x	
<b>End date</b>	Not indicated					
<b>Future plans</b>	Launching technical works for the development of consumer module.					

## Challenge II: Increasing Public integrity

Commitment 7: Development of the Freedom of Information Law		
<b>Brief description of the commitment</b>	<p>In the framework of the second Action Plan of OGG, the Government of Georgia launched even more ambitious project – elaboration of a special Law on Freedom of Information. To carry out wide-scale consultations, a special working group comprising the representatives from the Ministry of Justice and NGOs, as well as independent experts was created. The working group carried out substantial work: (1) thematic working groups were established to identify key problematic issues; (2) the first draft with potential amendments was prepared and submitted to the Anti-Corruption Council for review; (3) the meetings with the focus groups (judges, journalists, persons responsible for information disclosure) were held; (4) the draft law prepared by the working group was presented to the Ministry of Justice; (5) the draft law underwent primary international expertise.</p> <p>The Ministry of Justice will reach the agreement on the draft law with all the governmental agencies in the framework of the given plan. After the given draft law is reviewed article by article, the Ministry of Justice, in the framework of the Anti-Corruption Council, will conduct one more round of consultations with stakeholder public and non-governmental institutions to finalize the text of the draft law. Afterwards the draft law will be submitted to the Government of Georgia and the Parliament.</p>	
<b>Lead agency</b>	Ministry of Justice of Georgia; Anti-Corruption Council	
<b>Partners</b>	Public agency	Parliament of Georgia
	Civil /Private sector	Open Society Foundation – Georgia; Institute for Development of Freedom of Information (IDFI)
<b>Compliance with OGP challenges</b>	Increasing integrity in public sector	
<b>Main goal</b>	Increasing public integrity	
<b>Indicator</b>	The draft law is submitted to the Parliament of Georgia	
<b>Achieved results</b>	The process of elaboration of the new Law on Freedom of Information was launched in the framework of the Open Government Georgia’s Action Plan of 2014-2015. <sup>12</sup> A special working group comprising the representatives from the Ministry of Justice and NGOs, as well as independent experts was created. The working group carried out an important work: (1) thematic working groups were established to identify key problematic issues; (2) the first draft with potential amendments was prepared and submitted to the Anti-Corruption Council for review; (3) the meetings with the focus groups (judges, journalists, persons responsible for information disclosure) were held; (4) the draft law prepared by the working group was presented to the Ministry of Justice; (5) the draft law underwent primary international expertise.	

<sup>12</sup> OGP Georgia: 2014-2015 Action Plan Self-Assessment [Report](#), p.

	<p>To review the draft law article by article, large-scale meetings with public institutions were arranged throughout the year of 2018. The representatives of the Ministry of Justice met the central office staff of all the ministries to familiarize them with the draft and to work jointly on the improvement of the draft law.</p> <p>Currently, in order to finalize the law the inter-agency consultations are underway. At this stage, the draft law is finalized. The document will be submitted to the Government and the Parliament of Georgia in the nearest future.</p>				
<b>Evaluation of implementation</b>		Fully implemented	Largely implemented	Partially implemented	Unimplemented
	Commitment assessment		x		
<b>End date</b>	December, 2019				
<b>Future plans</b>	The draft law will be submitted to the Government and the Parliament of Georgia in the nearest future.				

### Commitment 8: Development of a Monitoring and Assessment System of the Government Policy and Legislative Acts

<b>Brief description of the commitment</b>	<p>In cooperation with the Ministry of Justice the Administration of the Government of Georgia will develop a unified framework for monitoring and assessment of the government policy planning documents and legislative acts. By means of the system, on the basis of ex-ante and ex-post assessment, it will be possible to identify challenges regarding the implementation of the commitments taken by the Government in a timely manner and make relevant decisions that will make the policy management process more efficient.</p>				
<b>Lead agency</b>	Administration of the Government of Georgia				
<b>Partners</b>	Public agency	Ministry of Justice of Georgia			
	Civil/Private sector				
<b>Compliance with OGP challenges</b>	Increasing Integrity in Public Sector				
<b>Main goal</b>	Assessment and efficient management of the government policy implementation				
<b>Indicator</b>	The monitoring and assessment system of the government policy is developed and introduced.				
<b>Achieved results</b>	<p>(1) In 2016, the Administration of the Government of Georgia with assistance of the SIGMA experts developed a framework document on monitoring, reporting and evaluation systems of the Government activities. Related regulations were adopted in December of the same year (Decree N628 of the Government of Georgia). The document was developed with the participation of partner state agencies and support of donor organizations.</p> <p>(2) In the framework of the EU-funded project “Legislative Impact Assessment, Drafting and Representation”, a working group consisting of representatives from the Ministry of Justice, the Administration of the Government of Georgia, and the Ministry of Corrections was created. At this stage, with assistance of the project experts, the working group is elaborating the first pilot report on Regulatory Impact Assessment on the amendments to the Criminal Procedure Code of Georgia that will be finished at the end of the current year.</p>				

		Fully implemented	Largely implemented	Partially implemented	Unimplemented
<b>Evaluation of implementation</b>					
	Commitment Assessment		x		
<b>End date</b>	September, 2019				
<b>Future plans</b>	<p>Together with the partner agencies (UNDP, IDFI and Data Exchange Agency) the Administration of the Government of Georgia will develop and introduce a new electronic system (SDG Tracker), the aim of which will be implementation of monitoring of UN Sustainable Development Goals efficiently and transparently. By means of the mentioned system any interested party will be able to look for information on the progress achieved in compliance with the concrete goals online.</p> <p>SDG Tracker ensures accumulation of the most updated information about the activities implemented by public agencies countrywide regarding the achievement of the SDG goals and its accessibility for citizens.</p> <p>An electronic system for policy planning and monitoring will be created that will make interagency cooperation, planning of the activities and evaluation of implementation efficient and flexible. The system will contain all policy documents connected with governmental priorities. The system will make the monitoring more efficient and simplify the accountability process. The main objective of the creation of the electronic system is to assist result-oriented governance and strategic planning in the public governance. Currently the concept for the system has been developed and discussed in the working group. The system will start functioning by the end of 2019.</p>				

### Commitment 9: Introduction of the Public Officials' Asset Declarations Monitoring System

<b>Brief description of the commitment</b>	In compliance with the Law of Georgia on Conflict of Interest and Corruption in Public Service starting from 2017, the Civil Service Bureau (CSB) conducts monitoring of the asset declarations of public officials. Monitoring will be conducted annually by an independent committee based on obvious and objective criteria, also for the declarations randomly selected by the electronic system.	
<b>Lead agency</b>	LEPL – Public Service Bureau	
<b>Partners</b>	Public agency	Government of Georgia; Anticorruption Council; LEPL – Data Exchange Agency
	Civil/Private sector	
<b>Compliance with OGP challenges</b>	Increasing Integrity in Public Sector	
<b>Main goal</b>	Increasing accountability and transparency of public officials (preventing corruptive offences)	
<b>Indicator</b>	Government Decree on “Instructions for Public Officials’ Asset Declarations Monitoring System” is approved; the system is functioning	
<b>Achieved results</b>	<p>In December 2016, the LEPL Data Exchange Agency finalized an electronic system for monitoring asset declarations of public officials and submitted it to the bureau for administrating. The system provides access to various information protected in the electronic databases of the state institutions in real time and enables a person to carry out monitoring to compare the data in the State Database with the information given in the declaration.</p> <p>The unified declaration system integrates electronic databases of the following LEPLs: Public Service Development Agency, National Agency of Public Registry, Notary Chamber, Service</p>	

	<p>Agency, Revenue Service, and Public Procurement Agency by means of which, within one's competence the information on the official and his/her family members is identified.</p> <p>In order to fully introduce the system for monitoring asset declarations of public officials, the GoG by its Decree N81 of February 14, 2017 approved the Instructions of Monitoring Asset Declarations of Public Officials. In 2016, the Declaration Monitoring Department was created on the basis of the amendment made by the Civil Service Bureau. In February 2017, with random selection principle and by using the Unified Electronic System, this Department selected declarations for monitoring in 2017, which comprises 5% of the total number of completed declarations. Namely, the asset declarations of 283 public officials have been selected and their monitoring has been launched. Monitoring is carried out stage by stage, from March to November 2017.</p>				
<b>Evaluation of implementation</b>		Fully implemented	Largely implemented	Partially implemented	Unimplemented
	Commitment assessment	x			
<b>End date</b>	December, 2017				
<b>Future plans</b>	On April 25, 2017, the Head of the CSB issued Decree N200/SA approving the 2017-2020 Action Plan for Conducting Monitoring of Asset Declarations. The Decree comprises the activities to be conducted until the end of 2017.				

#### Commitment 10: Establishing Unified Regulations to Publish Court Decisions

<b>Brief description of the commitment</b>	Establishing unified regulations to publish court decisions aims at improving transparency, accountability and efficiency of the court system. This commitment intends to increase trust between a citizen and the court and also to improve access to information. Based on the unified regulations elaborated, the court decisions will be published on the court webpage.				
<b>Lead agency</b>	Supreme Court of Georgia				
<b>Partners</b>	Public agency	Common Courts, High Council of Justice of Georgia			
	Civil/Private sector				
<b>Compliance with OGP challenges</b>	Increasing Integrity in Public Sector				
<b>Main goal</b>	Improve accountability and transparency of the court system, also taking into account high public interest, improve information accessibility; publicity of the court decisions will be ensured by observing international and national standards of the personal data protection				
<b>Indicator</b>	The unified regulations of the court decision publication in the form of anonymization of personal data has been introduced				
<b>Achieved results</b>	In the framework of the third wave of the court reform, by the Decree of the Chair of the Supreme Court of Georgia a working group was formed to develop a unified standard for identification of rules for accessing common courts' decisions made, main directions and principles. The working group has developed recommendations and relevant project. The project was submitted to the High Council of Justice, which approved the document in September, 2016. After the approval of the rules, common courts commenced the introduction of the unified regulations for the publication of decisions and improvement of the webpage - info.court.ge- representing a unified registry of court decisions.				
<b>Evaluation of implementation</b>		Fully implemented	Largely implemented	Partially implemented	Unimplemented



	Commitment Assessment		x		
<b>End date</b>	December, 2019				
<b>Future plans</b>	<p>Within the framework of the EU-funded project - "Support to the Judiciary", a concept for creation and introduction of a new webpage of Tbilisi City Court was developed and is being implemented. A database of court decisions was developed for Tbilisi City Court in compliance with the international standards. Similar webpages will be updated within the common courts system. Currently shaded decisions are uploaded on <a href="http://info.court.ge">info.court.ge</a>; however, the given site does not function fast and smoothly enough. The site is used by 1500-2000 customers daily.</p> <p>In compliance with the decision prepared by the IT group, it is essential to create a unified search system of courts of all three instances that will make it possible to find all the shaded verdicts, final documents, public notifications and the sessions scheduled at the court.</p> <p>In the spring of 2018, at the joint initiative of the four donors (European Council, EU, PROLOG, GIZ) ICT Business Council was selected for conducting IT monitoring. Particularly, the company is establishing diagnosis on functioning of electronic workflow and relevant technical problems; assesses the resources (human and material, including network infrastructure) available in the court; identifies the existing challenges that hinders introduction of high quality electronic distribution of cases; ensures publicity of the court decisions before the program of electronic workflow is fully operational or without putting it into operation.</p>				

### Commitment 11: Development of Transparency and Integrity Strategy and the Action Plan in the Field of Regional Development and Infrastructure

<b>Brief description of the commitment</b>	The aim of the commitment is to develop transparency and integrity strategy and the Action Plan for the Ministry of Regional Development and Infrastructure. The Strategy will outline transparency and integrity standards for the Ministry of Regional Development and Infrastructure and other agencies under its system and management. Furthermore, the Action Plan will be developed for the purpose of introduction of the standards that will be reflected in the document and, eventually, will facilitate to the improvement of the quality of accountability and effectiveness of the Ministry.				
<b>Lead agency</b>	The Ministry of Regional Development and Infrastructure				
<b>Partners</b>	Public agency				
	Civil/Private sector	Institute for Development of Freedom of Information (IDFI) USAID Project - Good Governance Initiative (GGI) in Georgia			
<b>Compliance with OGP challenges</b>	Increasing Integrity in Public Sector; Better Management of Public Resources.				
<b>Main goal</b>	Improving transparency and integrity in the Ministry and its entities				
<b>Indicator</b>	The transparency and integrity strategy and Action Plan are elaborated and approved by the Order of the Minister of Infrastructure.				
<b>Achieved results</b>	The 2017-2020 the Strategy for Improvement of Transparency and Integrity of the Ministry of Regional Development and Infrastructure and Action Plan 2017-2018 for the implementation of the strategy were approved by the Decree №69/o of April 26, 2017 of the Minister. The above documents were developed through close cooperation with IDFI and funded by the USAID. The main goal of the strategy is to improve the system of transparency, accountability and integrity within the Ministry and other agencies under its system and management, increase public trust towards the Ministry activities and enhance corruption				

	preventive mechanisms. The key tasks for achieving the goals stated in the strategy were identified as follows: (1) increase of transparency and citizen participation; (2) improve the mechanisms of ethics and integrity; (3) improve Human Resources Management System; and (4) advance the system of planning, monitoring and internal financial control.				
<b>Evaluation of implementation</b>		Fully implemented	Largely implemented	Partially implemented	Unimplemented
	Commitment assessment	x			
<b>End date</b>	April, 2017				
<b>Future plans</b>	Presently, the measures envisaged by the Action Plan are being implemented.				

### Commitment 12: Improvement of the Database of the Convicted and Transfer of the Penitentiary Department entirely onto Electronic Workflow Management

<b>Brief description of the commitment</b>	<p>The Ministry of Corrections and Probation of Georgia will improve the existing or develop a new database for convicts. At the time when the commitment was assumed, the existing database could not guarantee sorting out and processing of the data at an appropriate level. The database is not comprehensive and its proper filtration is impossible.</p> <p>The updated database will ensure full shift of custodial facilities and Penitentiary Department to digital workflow management. At the same time, better processing and analysis of statistic data and better protection of personal data will be possible. Introduction of the updated database will be carried out stage by stage.</p>				
<b>Lead agency</b>	As a result of the structural changes in the Government of Georgia carried out in July 2018, the Correction and Probation Ministry was transferred into Special Penitentiary Service – a state sub-agency under the subordination of the Ministry of Justice of Georgia.				
<b>Partners</b>	Public agency				
	Civil/Private sector	The EU Technical Assistance Project			
<b>Compliance with OGP challenges</b>	Increasing Integrity in Public Sector				
<b>Main goal</b>	Supporting the classification process according to the risk of the convicted in the penitentiary system, as a result of thorough processing of information; implementation of relevant rehabilitation-re-socialization programs; expediting the workflow management and public information delivery; supporting efficient, productive and economic disposal of the budget resources.				
<b>Indicator</b>	Updated database and electronic system are functional				
<b>Achieved results</b>	<p>In June 2017, in the framework of the EU technical assistance project, the information databases of the Ministry of Corrections and Probation were studied. As a result, recommendations for improvement of electronic systems have been developed. Based on the recommendations, in September 2017, as a result of the joint work of the experts of the Ministry and the EU project the Action Plan for creating a unified electronic system was elaborated. Additionally, a permanent council was formed to oversee the process of improvement of the information databases, as well as creation of new ones.</p> <p>By direct involvement of the EU project experts, in November 2017, the detailed description of the convicts' trajectory in the system was launched. Based on the latter, technical requirements for the program were prepared.</p> <p>During the first six months of 2018, in the framework of EU technical assistance project, the business analysts and the experts developed timebox for technical tasks to achieve the goals.</p>				

	Furthermore, as a result of the governmental changes in July, the Ministry of Corrections and Probation came under the subordination of the Ministry of Justice, in the form of state sub-agency organization under the name “Special Penitentiary Service”. On the basis of the changes it was decided that the mentioned bases will be headed and the activities will be technically implemented by the LEPL “Smart Logic” of the Ministry of Justice, concurrently a developer will be selected and employed by the financial assistance from the EU technical assistance program. Other required activities will be carried out and the process will be directly led by the developers of LEPL “Smart Logic”.				
<b>Evaluation of implementation</b>		Fully implemented	Largely implemented	Partially implemented	Unimplemented
	Commitment assessment			x	
<b>End date</b>	May, 2019				
<b>Future plans</b>	Improvement of the existing information databases; Completion of the creation of a new unified database reflecting the medical and other needs of the convicts along with appropriate rehabilitation plans. Periodic testing of the new system to ensure timely elimination of shortcomings is planned.				

### Commitment 13: Publishing Phone Tapping Data Broken down by Crime Nature and Geographic Distribution

<b>Brief description of the commitment</b>	By the recommendation of the Forum member NGOs, in the framework of the second Action Plan of the Open Government Georgia, the Supreme Court of Georgia started to proactively publish phone tapping statistics. Due to this fact, Georgia entered a small group of countries where such data is publicly disclosed. Independent Reporting Mechanism (IRM) of OGP marked this commitment as a ‘starred’ commitment of the second Action Plan. According to the commitment, data will be published according to the differentiation of crime and geographic area in order to obtain more detail information.				
<b>Lead agency</b>	Supreme Court of Georgia				
<b>Partners</b>	Public agency				
	Civil/Private sector				
<b>Compliance with OGP challenges</b>	Increasing Integrity in Public Sector				
<b>Main goal</b>	Disclosure of the closed data; provision of maximum transparency of the judiciary				
<b>Indicator</b>	Statistical data is published on the webpage				
<b>Achieved results</b>	In order to implement the commitment, the statistic reporting forms were developed, and improved. Afterwards, city/district courts began to introduce reporting forms, as well as to receive cumulative reports.  With the help of the performed work, the 2016 data on the reviewed motions for telephone tapping was published by crime qualification and types of courts on the Supreme Court webpage.				
<b>Evaluation of implementation</b>		Fully implemented	Largely implemented	Partially implemented	Unimplemented
	Commitment assessment	x			
<b>End date</b>	December, 2017				

<b>Future plans</b>	Information is updated quarterly and published under the OGP logo in the news block of the Supreme Court webpage.
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### Challenge III: More Effectively Managing Public Resources

<b>Commitment 14: Increasing Citizen Participation in Supervision of Public Finances (Public Audit)</b>	
<b>Brief description of the commitment</b>	<p>In cooperation with the representatives of the civil sector, the State Audit Office plans to enhance citizen participation in the supervision process of public finances (Public Audit).</p> <p>At the initial stage a strategy will be drafted. The strategy will have mechanisms to ensure constructive citizen participation in the complete audit cycle, including the monitoring stage of recommendation implementation.</p> <p>In addition, by means of an innovative ICT web-platform mechanism, citizens will receive complete information about the state budget, public finance management, audit findings, given recommendations and the status of their implementation.</p> <p>The web-platform will form a channel for bilateral communication between the State Audit Office and citizens. On the one hand, citizens will become familiar with the information provided by the Audit Office; on the other hand, they will be able to notify the Office about a concrete malefaction, as well as the drawbacks of government services identified by them. Furthermore, citizens will be able to submit proposals based on professional surveys on the improvement of the identified shortcomings. The information received from a citizen will be analyzed and in case of it expediency will be taken into consideration in the drafting and implementation process of the audit plan.</p>
<b>Lead agency</b>	State Audit Office
<b>Partners</b>	Public agency
	Civil/Private sector
<b>Compliance with OGP challenges</b>	Increasing Integrity in Public Sector; Improving Public Services; Better Management of Public Resources.
<b>Main goal</b>	Improving transparency and accountability by citizen participation in the process of public audit; which will promote efficient, productive and economic disposal of budget resources
<b>Indicator</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The citizen participation strategy document in the public audit process is approved;</li> <li>- Web-platform is used at least by 50 unique visitors per month;</li> <li>- At least 12 citizen proposals are submitted on conducting an audit per year;</li> <li>- At least 3 citizen proposals are taken into consideration in the audit plan per year.</li> </ul>

## Achieved results

During the process of implementation of the commitment, the State Audit office actively cooperated with the civil society. More than one meeting/consultation was held. For example, in 2016 the State Audit Office organized a two-day seminar where the main directions, challenges and recommendations of the strategy for citizen participation in audit were discussed. In addition, the State Audit office staff received feedback from the civil sector representatives on further development of the analytical web-platform - Budget Monitor.

- Within the frames of the Project on citizen participation in audit process, a foreign expert developed a working version of the strategy on citizen participation. The Strategy is tailored to the Georgian context and includes issues such as:

- Role, importance and impact of citizen participation in managing public resources;
- Strategy development methodology;
- Analysis of political, social and economic environment of Georgia;
- Role, mandate and key strategic directions of the State Audit Office of Georgia;
- Role of the Parliament in the process of oversight;
- Importance of civil sector and media in increasing citizen participation;
- Key goals and objectives of citizen participation;
- Citizen participation Action Plan;
- Resources needed to enhance citizen participation;

- The strategy developed by a foreign expert was submitted to the State Audit Office and consultative working group on citizen participation for their comments, remarks and recommendations. The feedback was reflected in the Strategy Document approved by the Auditor General in July 2017.

- The representatives of the civil sector, namely consultative working group on citizen participation greatly contributed to the development of the Budget Monitor – an analytical web-platform. Working group members attended the presentations on Budget Monitor several times and presented their positions on the general concept and specific modules of the web-platform. The concept of the web-platform means provision of updated information to citizens on the state budget, public finances, audit findings, recommendations and the status of their implementation.

The State Audit Office formed an analytical web-platform – the Budget Monitor, the concept of which is to provide the citizens with updatable information about the State budget, public finance management, and audit findings, given recommendations and about the status of their implementation. Furthermore, all this information is provided by easily understandable visual aids and charts. In the form of the Budget Monitor a bilateral communication mechanism between citizens and State Audit Office was created, by means of which any stakeholder will be able to inform the Office about specific minor transgressions and deficiencies in public services identified by him/her.

- Presentation of Budget Monitor was held in the Parliament in March, 2017 and it was officially put into operation.

- From January to August 2018, 25 presentations of Budget Monitor were held for different stakeholders. Namely, Budget Monitor was presented to:

- the members of the Parliament of Georgia;
- the staff of the Parliament of Georgia
- the representatives of municipalities;
- the representatives of media and civil sector;
- students;
- international community at different meetings and conferences.

- For the purpose of popularization of Budget Monitor, an informational video clip about the web-platform that briefs all main pages of the Budget Monitor with all the information was prepared. The video clip was placed in social network and is accessible for any interested person.
- As to the applications of the Budget monitor, during the year of 2017 the platform was visited by 6.374 units of customers, as of August 2018 the number of the unique customers in total comprised 15 thousand visitors. On average the web-platform is used by 400 unique visitors per month.
- It should be noted that during the formation of the annual Audit Plan, the inquiries of the citizens and other stakeholders were taken into consideration. Out of the 45 inquiries (o/w inquiries in 2017 equaled to 29) received in 2017-2018 9 inquiries were envisaged in the Audit Activities Plan of 2017, and 11 – in the Audit Activities Plan of 2018.
- Taking into consideration that Budget Monitor was put into operation with a two-month delay, the number of presentations on the web -platform as of June accounts for 87% of the planned one.

In 2017 the Budget Monitor received UN World Summit Award of digital innovations, the award of Global Initiative of Fiscal Transparency (GIFT) and the IT innovations award (GITI) of Georgia ICT Business Council

Evaluation of implementation		Fully implemented	Largely implemented	Partially implemented	Unimplemented
	Commitment assessment		x		

**End date**

**Future plans**

In order to increase citizen participation and platform efficiency, the State Audit Service aims at introduction of the feedback mechanism for the inquiries and messages received from the citizens. This way it is possible to track the response status of the inquiries and messages (including, anonymous) received from the citizens. To ensure cooperation the State Audit Service also plans to prepare the audit results on the inquiries presented in the easily for the society perception form.

**Commitment 15: Electronic Innovations for More Transparency and Efficiency of Public Procurement**

**Brief description of the commitment**

**Component 1** - Accumulation of tender data in one space. This will make data on procurement objects, tender types, number of bidders, potential and contractual values of a tender, winning bidders, number of disqualified bidders, etc. easily accessible. (Annual data will be uploaded in a machine-readable format (CSV, JSON, and XML)).

**Component 2** - The aggregated information of the annual plans of the public procurement. The planned changes in the electronic module will allow the customer to obtain detailed information on the annual procurement of each procuring organization, and consolidate information on the planned public procurement by region and price. As a result, the representatives of the business sector will have a unique opportunity to obtain information on scheduled procurement, its price and location (region) by one or more entities among 4469 procuring organizations registered in the eProcurement system by using a CPV code.

**Component 3** - Creation of electronic catalogue on the procurement objects and economic operators (e-Market); it will (1) objectively reflect current market prices; (2) accumulate prices of various products by economic operator; (3) reflect information on potential economic operators both countrywide and regionwide; etc.

<b>Lead agency</b>	LEPL – Public Procurement Agency
<b>Partners</b>	Public agency
	Civil/Private sector
<b>Compliance with OGP challenges</b>	Improving Public services
<b>Main goal</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- To ensure more flexibility of the public procurement process for customers including procurement organizations and business sector representatives;</li> <li>- To promote business and increase competitiveness in public procurement process;</li> <li>- To increase participation of citizens and civil organizations in the monitoring of budget spending both at central and local levels.</li> </ul>
<b>Indicator</b>	<p>To increase the number of customers of e-Procurement;</p> <p>To increase quantitative indicator of using e-Plan module by business organizations; to put eMarket into operation within e-Procurement system and increase the number of its customers.</p>
<b>Achieved results</b>	<p><b>Component I/II:</b> The State Procurement Agency (SPA) is planning to launch the information on aggregated data on tenders and on annual plans of public procurement by introducing the Open Contracting Data Standard (OCDS) format. IT Department of the SPA, together with the Analytical Department and other divisions, is currently conducting intensive methodological, research and program-technical works to introduce principles of openness of data and OCDS format. In this process, the agency is supported by international expert group from the World Bank. Together with them, the Agency prepared a gradual plan for transfer, aggregation and publication of the data stored in the Georgian eProcurement system into OCDS standard. In 2017, SPA developed STATS.SPA.GE, the goal of which is to provide the stakeholders with delivery of various statistical information. The information on the portal is updated quarterly, which aims at informing the customers of the system and other stakeholders about the activities conducted through unified electronic system of public procurement (the number of announced tenders, average participation, total value of the announced tenders, the number of the registered procurement organizations and registered providers, etc.).</p> <p>The WB special mission visited SPA in February 2017 within OCDS Project. Leading experts from SPA, along with the Ministry of Justice of Georgia and the Ministry of Finance of Georgia became acquainted with the results of the research conducted by WB and attended a working meetings on modern ways of introduction and putting into action open data formats.</p> <p>On July 17-19 of the current year, the fifth OGP Global Summit was held in Tbilisi. A special session was devoted to the State Procurement Agency. Together with the representatives of EBRD and OCP, the State Procurement Agency presented the report on implementation of the commitments in the framework of the OGP Action Plan 2018 to the forum participants.</p> <p>It is worthwhile to mention that, according to OCDS there are 4 (3 basic and 1 additional) levels to publish open data: (1) basic; (2) intermediate; (3) advanced; (4) additional. State Procurement Agency aims at introducing level 3 standards.</p> <p><b>Component III:</b> The State Procurement Agency created e-catalogue on procurement objects and suppliers (e-Market) in order to enable more efficient preparatory work for tenders and facilitate market research process for procurement organizations. E-Catalogue will reflect information on the procurement object, suppliers, procurement categories (CPV Codes), country of manufacture, types/models, technical specifications, prices and conditions of delivery. E-Catalogue<sup>13</sup> is embedded into the official webpage of the State Procurement Agency.</p>

<sup>13</sup> Available at <http://emarket.spa.ge/>.

	E-Market has special search fields, which enable customers to select the desired list of products, mark it and compare the specifications of each of them. Thus, it simplifies market research for the procurement organizations and enables them to make the right choice. Today, the list of products registered in e-catalogue comprises 6,000 entries. It is worth mentioning that e-catalogue on procurement objects and suppliers is constantly updated. The information on additional procurement objects and suppliers will be added to the e-catalogue subsequently.				
<b>Evaluation of implementation</b>		Fully implemented	Largely implemented	Partially implemented	Unimplemented
	Commitment assessment	x			
<b>End date</b>	December, 2017				
<b>Future plans</b>					

## Challenge IV: Creating Safe Environment

Commitment 16: Adoption of the Environmental Assessment Code	
<b>Brief description of the commitment</b>	This commitment implies adoption of the Environmental Assessment Code that will envisage the requirements of the Convention on “Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-Making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters” (hereafter, Aarhus Convention) in regard to the environmental protection issues and will ensure public participation in the decision-making process in relation with the impact on the environment.
<b>Lead agency</b>	Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources Protection
<b>Partners</b>	Public agency
	Civil/Private sector
<b>Compliance with OGP challenges</b>	Creating Safe Environment; Better Management of Public Resources
<b>Main goal</b>	<p>To inform the society and involve them in the decision-making process in compliance with the Aarhus Convention requirements;</p> <p>To bring the activities having significant impact on the environment under the regulation, to reduce the risks of negative impact on the environment;</p> <p>To define anticipated environmental protection risks at the initial stage of activity planning, to reduce investor’s costs and financial risks;</p> <p>To take into account environmental interests while making spatial and economic planning (strategic planning) of the country; to realize the principles for the green economy;</p> <p>To inform and involve the society in decision-making process in compliance with the requirements of Aarhus Convention.</p>
<b>Indicator</b>	The Environmental Assessment Code is adopted; in compliance with the changes envisaged by the reform, current staff has been trained and new staff - hired



<b>Achieved results</b>	<p>On June 1, 2017 the Parliament of Georgia adopted the Environmental Assessment Code that fully complies with the EU environment impact assessment and strategic environmental assessment directives, as well as with the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in Transboundary Context (Espoo Convention), its document on strategic environmental assessment and the Aarhus Convention on the accessibility of environment related information, citizen participation in decision-making processes and access to justice. The key commitments envisaged by the Code will come into force from January 1, 2018.</p> <p>Proceeding from the Code significant novelties include: introduction of an instrument for strategic environmental assessment, increase of the list of activities subject to environmental impact assessment, their division by environmental impact risks and degree of impact, and citizen participation at every stage of decision-making. In addition, the guidelines on environmental impact assessment and strategic environmental assessment were developed.</p> <p>The draft law was developed within the frames of the EaP GREEN Project with the EU financial support and technical assistance of the UN Economic Commission of Europe. The working meetings funded by the EU were held with the representatives of the public agencies and consultants that will have to work in the conditions of new regulations. During the meetings the key principles of the draft law and procedures were discussed in detail. A number of public discussions with the participation of NGOs and other stakeholders were also held.</p>				
<b>Evaluation of implementation</b>		Fully implemented	Largely implemented	Partially implemented	Unimplemented
	Commitment assessment	x			
<b>End date</b>	August, 2017				
<b>Future plans</b>					

### Commitment 17: Introduction of a Mobile App as an Alternative Channel to Connected to “112”

<b>Brief description of the commitment</b>	<p>Existence of the mechanism enabling to identify the location is of utmost importance for the reduction of the time length for providing emergency assistance. For this purpose, introduction of a mobile application – an alternative channel to connect to “112” is expedient. Respectively, a long-term strategy was developed with one of the priority directions of creation of an alternative channel to connect to “112”.</p> <p>The biggest advantages of the Project are as follows: a) setting up a connection between the caller and 112 operator in the shortest period of time; and б) opportunity to immediately identify the location of the caller, which is vital for providing emergency assistance to a citizen.</p>				
<b>Lead agency</b>	LEPL “112” of the Ministry of Internal Affairs.				
<b>Partners</b>	Public agency				
	Civil/Private sector				
<b>Compliance with OGP challenges</b>	Creating Safe Environment; Improving Public Services				
<b>Main goal</b>	Introduction of an alternative channel for establishing connection with “112” with the help of technologies and innovations that will facilitate increase of citizen’s accessibility to the service and receipt of emergency assistance within the shortest period of time.				
<b>Indicator</b>	Mobile applications has been introduced				
<b>Achieved results</b>					

1. **Functionality envisaged by the first phase of mobile application has been developed:**
  - **Making a call from a mobile app to “112”** - covers the following three components: (1) in an emergency case identification of the location of the caller; (2) sending location data to 112 call center; and (3) making a contact with the operator of 112. It is important to mention that the customer reserves the right, to press the “end call” button at any time and/or skip the procedure for identification of the location. In case of Internet failure, the application allows sending information about the location via SMS.
  - **Silent SOS** - There are frequent cases when the caller cannot communicate with the 112 operator (e.g. kidnapping, domestic violence, etc.). In such cases, the 112 operator knows how to act in compliance with a special procedure. When pressing the Silent SOS button, the question will appear on the screen whether the caller really wants to use this functionality or not. This way the location of the caller is identified and sent to 112.
  - **Chat with the operator** – the mobile app has a “chat” functionality that enables the caller to write to 112 operator, when the caller is unable to speak. The customer is authorized to send the location coordinates. Delivered and Not Delivered statuses have been added to the application, which tells the customer whether the message was delivered to 112 operator or not.

**2. The testing phase procedure has been developed and the strategy for citizens’ engagement was defined**

The following main stages have been defined for the testing of the mobile application:

- **Alpha testing** - at this stage the performance of the main functionality of the Mobile App was tested. The 112 developers and the IT Service representatives participated in the testing.
- **Beta testing** – the information about the flaws identified as a result of Alpha testing was sent to the business analyst, who discussed them with 112 developers.
- **The strategy for the engagement of the public in the testing process**– a segment was identified, who tested the mobile app (both functionality and interface); relevant measures were scheduled and procedures for receiving and processing of the testing results were outlined.

**3. Mobile Application testing through the engagement of the public** - Target audience for the engagement in the testing process was defined. At the initial stage the students from the Faculty of Informatics and Management Systems of the Georgian Technical University were engaged in the process. As a result of continuous testing of the application, several components were identified requiring a change / improvement.

**4. Statistics**

Starting from February 1 2018, the 112 mobile app became accessible for the citizens. Since the moment (in the period from February 1 to October 10 2018) the application was officially put into action total number of downloads of the app comprises **15254**.

And the app functionalities have been used 999 times (SOS 0312, Chat -687)

Evaluation of implementation		Fully implemented	Largely implemented	Partially implemented	Unimplemented
	Commitment assessment		x		
End date	December, 2017				
Future plans	Before the application is fully operational, in parallel mode, the 112 operators and dispatchers are being trained step-by-step, so that each operator is ready to receive and evaluate				

emergency notifications adequately. At the same time, as a result of testing the application through students' participation, it has been revealed that several components require improvement. After the improvement of the application, it is important to raise awareness of the society on the fact that a new channel of 112 has been put into operation and let the society know the rules for its use. Because of that the following activities are decided to carry out:

- to arrange presentation about the new service;
- to produce and upload a video;
- to upload an image clip and video instructions and provide their promotion in social networks;
- to print and place advertising posters and banners;
- to place the hologram with application instructions in shopping malls and airports.

**Dubbing of the mobile application for the blind**

- To ensure the access to all the sources for reaching 112, it is planned to adapt the app for the blind. Namely, all the functionalities of the app will be dubbed and adapted on the target group.

**Commitment 18: Development of Local Councils for Crime Prevention**

<b>Brief description of the commitment</b>		<p>Starting from 2016, the Prosecutor's Office of Georgia launched the project "Local Council", the goal of which is to coordinate the crime prevention measures between relevant agencies and initiate new measures. Currently crime prevention is a prerogative of a number of government agencies. Enhancing coordination between them is essential to avoid implementation of duplicate prevention measures by various agencies.</p> <p>The main goal of the project is to discuss criminal situation in the region, to make decisions about preventive measures important for the region, to develop initiatives and to draw up a coordination plan for fighting crime in cooperation with other government agencies and nongovernmental organizations.</p> <p>Implementation of Local Councils was launched in a pilot regime in Adjara region. In the framework of the commitment, Local Councils will be set up in Kvemo Kartli, Samegrelo in the nearest future and later in other regions of Georgia.</p>
<b>Lead agency</b>		Prosecutor's Office of Georgia
<b>Partners</b>	Public agency	Municipality bodies; National Probation Agency; the Ministry of Internal Affairs
	Civil/Private sector	Non-governmental organizations
<b>Compliance with OGP challenges</b>		Creating Safe Environment
<b>Main goal</b>		To improve coordination of measures aiming at crime prevention and combine endeavor of the government and NGO sector available in this field; to initiate preventive measures tailored to the local needs
<b>Indicator</b>		Local Councils have been established in six regions; Local Councils conducted at least 10 meetings

<b>Achieved results</b>	Presentations on Local Council Project were held in all regions of Georgia (16 territorial units <sup>14</sup> ).				
	In 2016 Local Council meetings were held in: Batumi, Zugdidi, Ozurgeti, Akhaltsikhe, Rustavi, Marneuli, Bolnisi, Khelvachauri, Telavi, Akhalkalaki, Gurjaani, Signaghi, Gori. The functions and objectives of the Local Councils were discussed at the meetings. The surveys on domestic violence and crimes related to Article 140 of the Criminal Code of Georgia (sexual intercourse with a person under 16) conducted by Prosecutor's Office of Georgia were presented to the meeting participants. The participants discussed the reasons behind the crimes common for the region, about the enhancement of community works, and planned preventive measures.				
	In terms of the Council many preventive events were held (with ethnic minorities, among others), in which in addition to the representatives of the government bodies, the representatives of NGO sector were actively involved.				
	In 2017, 14 meetings of Local Councils were held in: Kutaisi (2 meetings), Mtskheta, Samtredia, Tbilisi (6 meetings by districts), Telavi, Rustavi, Gori, Zugdidi.				
	At the meetings in Tbilisi in participation of the government structures and NGOs the preventive measures to be implemented in regard to the drugs related crime were discussed, and at the other meetings - the preventive measures to be implemented in regard to domestic violence.				
The annual report on the activities of the Local Councils was prepared and on December 28 2017 was submitted to the Consultation Council.					
<b>Evaluation of implementation</b>		Fully implemented	Largely implemented	Partially implemented	Unimplemented
	Commitment assessment	x			
<b>End date</b>	December, 2017				
<b>Future plans</b>	Presentations on Local Councils are planned to be held in Samtredia and Tbilisi.				

### Commitment 19: Development of a Guidebook for Economic Agents

<b>Brief description of the commitment</b>	Economic agents who apply only the Law on Competition and the normative acts based on it do not have relevant information about the application of the legislation on competition. In addition, the society does not have sufficient information on the newly established Competition Agency. It is important to have communication between the controlling body and relevant business subject, so that the economic agent is informed about the commitments imposed on him/her by the Law on Competition.				
	The Competition Agency will develop guidebooks/brochures, the main topic of which will be problematic and crucial issues of the Law on Competition and key action principles of the agency. The guidebook will be distributed both in a print version and electronically to provide businesses and public with full information about the competition matters.				
<b>Lead agency</b>	LEPL-Agency for Competition				
<b>Partners</b>	Public agency				
	Civil/Private sector				

<sup>14</sup> Batumi, Zugdidi, Ozurgeti, Akhaltsikhe, Rustavi, Marneuli, Bolnisi, Dmanisi, Khelvachauri, Telavi, Akhalkalaki, Gurjaani, Kvareli, Gori Kutaisi, Mtskheta.

<b>Compliance with OGP challenges</b>	Improving Corporate Responsibility; Improving Public Services				
<b>Main goal</b>	Raising awareness of economic agents and simplifying the process of execution of the Law on Competition.				
<b>Indicator</b>	The guidebook is developed and disseminated				
<b>Achieved results</b>	<p>Works on the guidebook at the Agency was launched in December, 2016. After the initial analysis it was decided to use the judiciary practice of the executive agencies of competition of EU and the European Commission in the guidebook. The above was conditioned by the fact that Georgian Law on Competition was developed based on the EU legislation on competition and is very much similar in terms of the content. The attention was paid to three categories of actions regulated by Georgian Law on Competition – anti-competitive agreements, abuse of a dominant position and concentrations.</p> <p>Works on the guidebook text was finished in the mid-March, 2017. Afterwards the text was translated into English and sent to the expert group based in Georgia within the frames of the EU Project. The translated document was also sent to the EU Delegation in Georgia. The Experts finished the document assessment at the end of April, 2017 and positive comments were received. As a result, on May 1, 2017 the guidebook was approved by the order of the Chair of the Agency. The guidebook was uploaded on the Agency webpage<sup>15</sup> and the campaign organized by the Agency to promote the guidebook within the frames of awareness-raising activities was launched. In June, 2017 the printed version of the guidebook was published.</p> <p>After the guidebook was published in a printed version, 5 events were held that served to the dissemination of the information reflected in the guidebook and increase in public awareness regarding competition issues. At these events the business sector and other stakeholders were able to become familiar with the best international practice, the trends and challenges in the field of competition in detail described in the guidebook. In terms of the events, the attendees were able to receive complete information about the issues they were interested in in a question-answer format, which, on its part, served the aim of advocacy of competition and prevention of violations.</p> <p>In November 2017, the first International and Scholarly Conference “Competition Policy: Contemporary Trends and Challenges” was held. The representatives of the business sector were also invited to the conference. They were able to receive information about the practices of the EU countries directly from the representatives of the competition agencies of the European countries.</p>				
<b>Evaluation of implementation</b>		Fully implemented	Largely implemented	Partially implemented	Unimplemented
	Commitment assessment	x			
<b>End date</b>	December, 2017				
<b>Future plans</b>					

## Commitment 20: Development and Introduction of the Quality Control Program of Commercial Service

<b>Brief description of the commitment</b>	Georgian National Energy and Water Supply Regulatory Commission, within the frames of its Action Plan, will ensure the development and introduction of the Program for Commercial Service Quality Control.
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<sup>15</sup> Available [here](#).

	The key challenge of the Commission is to develop and control an effective monitoring mechanism for commercial service quality. In order to do so, it is important to inform customers on their rights and responsibilities, as well as on those of enterprises. This will facilitate enhancement of accountability of enterprises, on the one hand, and unimpeded fulfillment of customers' rights, on the other hand.				
<b>Lead agency</b>	Georgian National Energy and Water Supply Regulatory Commission				
<b>Partners</b>	Public agency				
	Civil/Private sector				
<b>Compliance with OGP challenges</b>	Improving Corporate Responsibility; Better Management of Public Resources; Improvement of Public Services;				
<b>Main goal</b>	Introduction of fixed standards for commercial service, prevention of potential violations, facilitation of the introduction of new standards and criteria for commercial services in order to ensure protection of customers' rights.				
<b>Indicator</b>	Commercial Service Quality Control Program is developed and introduced.				
<b>Achieved results</b>	<p>The Commission by Resolution N13 of July 25, 2016, approved "Commercial Quality Rules of Service" (Rules). The normative act aims at improving commercial quality of services rendered to customers by the enterprise through implementation of the standards established by the Commission.</p> <p>The resolution imposed a commitment to regulatory enterprises, which is to record any information on quality of services into the electronic program created by the Commission's office. This allows the Commission to constantly monitor the process of responding to customers' complains by the regulatory enterprises. In this way the Commission exercises control over the performance of the commitments established by the Resolution. In case of non-compliance or inadequate implementation of the requirements by the company, the program automatically calculates the compensation the company is liable to pay to the customer due to non-compliance/inadequate implementation of the commitment. The Resolution also envisages putting the program into operation and setting different terms for the workload.</p> <p>On July 7, 2016 unified forms for reporting and logs were approved for water supply licensees, natural gas providers, and natural gas and electricity distribution licensees. The pilot program was introduced in January, 2017. During this period the program was fully functional, except for the function of calculation of compensation for enterprises.</p> <p>Before launching the Program the meetings had been planned and held with the enterprises representatives. They presented the needs and proposals of the enterprises that were taken into consideration during the program development.</p> <p>Starting from July 1, 2017 the Program has been functioning at its full capacity; however, the program is being improved and refined on a permanent basis.</p>				
<b>Evaluation of implementation</b>		Fully implemented	Largely implemented	Partially implemented	Unimplemented
	Commitment assessment	x			
<b>End date</b>	December, 2017				
<b>Future plans</b>	Implementation process has finished.				

## Commitment 21: Submission of Electronic Reports by Companies and Ensuring their Accessibility

<b>Brief description of the commitment</b>		<p>Submission of electronic reports by enterprises within the frames of the commitment will enable the Georgian National Energy and Water Supply Regulatory Commission to develop a comprehensive and reliable database, carry out multilateral analysis of the received information, observe the dynamics of the operations indicators, monitor the fulfillment of the licensing terms and ensure provision of systemized information to the stakeholders in the shortest period of time. Introduction of the system will also facilitate efficient use of administrative resources of companies and commission, as well as accessibility of information.</p> <p>The objective of the Commitment is to develop a special electronic platform for enterprises to submit reports in order to ensure the mobility and transparency of the process.</p>				
<b>Lead agency</b>		Georgian National Energy and Water Supply Regulatory Commission				
<b>Partners</b>	Public agency					
	Civil/Private sector					
<b>Compliance with OGP challenges</b>		Improving Corporate Responsibility				
<b>Main goal</b>		To develop for enterprises such form of report submission and system that will ensure provision of full and comprehensive information to the Commission in electronic form in order to analyze and make this information accessible to the public.				
<b>Indicator</b>		Electronic reporting program is developed by companies.				
<b>Achieved results</b>		<p>The Program was introduced in January 2017 and was functioning till February 15, 2017. During this period, the enterprises filled out reporting forms for QIV, 2016 in the test mode. The enterprises had been notified about the commitment of electronic reportability before the Program was launched.</p> <p>The final version of the Program was introduced in February, 2017. On April 1, 2017 the enterprises started to report electronically (submitting quarterly and annual reporting forms). Presently, the Program is functioning at its full capacity, however, the process of its improvement and development is ongoing.</p>				
<b>Evaluation of implementation</b>			Fully implemented	Largely implemented	Partially implemented	Unimplemented
		Commitment assessment	x			
<b>End date</b>						
<b>Future plans</b>		As a result of study of the reports submitted by the companies and the systematization of the received information the performance of regulated enterprises will be assessed, including the fulfillment of the commitments imposed by the Commission and assessment of results. The information will be processed and recommendations will be prepared to improve efficiency of enterprises. Additionally, customers will be provided with information about their rights and commitments of enterprises.				

## Municipalities

### Challenge II: Increasing Integrity in the Public Sector

#### Commitment 22: Introduction of an Electronic Petition Portal and “Zugdidi-INFO” on the Webpage of Zugdidi Municipality Council

<b>Brief description of the commitment</b>		<p>1. By means of webpage <a href="http://www.zugdidi.gov.ge">www.zugdidi.gov.ge</a> administered Zugdidi Municipality Assembly, it will be possible to submit petitions in an electronic form to the representative body of the municipality;</p> <p>2. By means of the information center “Zugdidi-INFO”, citizens will receive information about infrastructural, cultural, sports or other projects, also about healthcare and social protection programs in the form of SMS. Using the same method, population receive information about the date and agenda of the Municipality Assembly meetings.</p>				
<b>Lead agency</b>		Zugdidi Municipality Assembly				
<b>Partners</b>	Public agency	Zugdidi Municipality Town Hall and Municipality non-entrepreneurial (non-commercial) legal entities				
	Civil/Private sector					
<b>Compliance with OGP challenges</b>		Increasing Integrity in Public Sector; Better Management of Public Resources				
<b>Main goal</b>		Timely provision of information about the activities of the municipalities to the public so that to improve participation quality				
<b>Indicator</b>		The portal of electronic petitions is introduced; Zugdidi-INFO is introduced				
<b>Achieved results</b>		<p>1. By Zugdidi Municipality resolution N39, the Council approved the form of the list of petition presenters (supporters) to the council, petition form (motion about submission (review) of the petition) and registration certificate of application on the review of the petition.<sup>16</sup></p> <p>Presently submission of petitions is allowed only in a written form; however, submitted petitions are available on the webpage of the municipality council.<sup>17</sup> Currently technical preparation of the webpage to allow electronic submission of the petitions is underway.</p> <p>2. Through Information Center „Zugdidi-INFO“ citizens timely and efficiently receive information about activities of the municipality. The Project also facilitates improvement of citizen participation. During the reporting period, through Information Center - Zugdidi-INFO - citizens receive information about infrastructural, cultural, sports and other types of projects, as well as healthcare and social programs in the form of SMS. The same instrument is used to deliver information about the date and agenda of the council meetings and the public meetings arranged by the municipalities.</p>				
<b>Evaluation of implementation</b>			Fully implemented	Largely implemented	Partially implemented	Unimplemented

<sup>16</sup> Zugdidi Municipality Assembly [Resolution](#) №39; An ordinary petition [form](#).

<sup>17</sup> So far [3 petitions](#) have been submitted to the Assembly.



	Commitment assessment		x		
<b>End date</b>	December, 2018				
<b>Future plans</b>	To finish works on technical improvement of the council webpage to receive petitions electronically. Introduction of electronic petitions is planned by the end of December, 2017.				

### Commitment 23: Transparency of Ozurgeti Municipality Assembly Meetings

<b>Brief description of the commitment</b>	<p>In terms of the commitment, Ozurgeti Municipality Assembly will ensure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- live broadcast of the Assembly meetings and reporting process via municipality webpage;</li> <li>- introduction of short text messages system (SMS);</li> <li>- introduction of electronic system of sociological surveys;</li> <li>- creation of citizen participation centers and</li> <li>- live broadcast and uploading of video recordings of the Assembly meetings on the Assembly webpage</li> </ul>				
<b>Lead agency</b>	Ozurgeti Municipality Assembly				
<b>Partners</b>	Public agency				
	Civil/Private sector				
<b>Compliance with OGP challenges</b>	Increasing Integrity in Public Sector; Better Management of Public Resources				
<b>Main goal</b>	Introduction of electronic management in Ozurgeti Municipality; Enhancing the capacities of the municipalities; Raising awareness on advantages of application of innovation technologies; Enhancing the mechanism of public informing and public participation in the decision-making process.				
<b>Indicator</b>	<p>Online broadcasting of the assembly meeting on Ozurgeti webpage <a href="http://ozurgeti.mun.gov.ge/ge/live">http://ozurgeti.mun.gov.ge/ge/live</a> , see also <a href="https://livestream.com/">https://livestream.com/</a> ;</p> <p>Complete video recordings are uploaded on the official webpage <a href="http://ozurgeti.mun.gov.ge/ge/pages/view/video">http://ozurgeti.mun.gov.ge/ge/pages/view/video</a></p>				
<b>Achieved results</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Live broadcasting of Ozurgeti municipality Assembly meetings and uploading of their complete video recordings on the municipality webpage are ensured;<sup>18</sup></li> <li>- During the live broadcast citizens questions and comments are communicated through the Assembly's webpage; Comments made by citizens are also reflected in the annual report;<sup>19</sup></li> <li>- Stakeholder groups (representatives of state agencies, physical persons and representatives of NGOs) were formed and enquiry-memorandums were concluded with each member of the group on provision of information important for them;<sup>20</sup></li> <li>- The information on Assembly meetings and available services is sent to the public by email and SMS; the database of stakeholder parties is developed and the information on interesting and important issues is sent to the persons registered in the database through special software;</li> <li>- Electronic polls have been introduced to identify public priorities;<sup>21</sup></li> </ul>				

<sup>18</sup> Vide-archive available [here](#).

<sup>19</sup> Live [broadcasting](#); [Reports](#) of the Assembly Members; [Annual reports of the](#) Assembly.

<sup>20</sup> [Ennwuiry-memorandum](#) of the agreement; [Form](#) for requesting public information.

<sup>21</sup> [Form](#) of the electronic poll.

	- Municipal Centers of Public Participation were established and equipped with modern digital technology in 5 villages out of 28 administrative units of Ozurgeti Municipality. Donor assistance is needed to establish Public Centers and equip them with modern digital technology in the rest of the villages.				
<b>Evaluation of implementation</b>		Fully implemented	Largely implemented	Partially implemented	Unimplemented
	Commitment assessment		x		
<b>End date</b>	December, 2018				
<b>Future plans</b>					

<b>Commitment 24 (A): Creation of Electronic Mechanism for Local Budget Planning In Kutaisi Municipality</b>					
<b>Brief description of the commitment</b>	<p>Relevant services of Kutaisi City Hall actively work on the issues of transparency in budgetary process. By the support of USAID project Good Governance Initiative in Georgia (GGI) the work on the local level to promote budgetary processes and improve mechanisms for public participation is underway.</p> <p>Kutaisi City Hall will ensure creation of an electronic mechanism “Plan Municipality Budget” and adding it to the relevant webpages. In addition, in regard to the municipality budget, a citizen’s guidebook will be developed.</p>				
<b>Lead agency</b>	Kutaisi City Hall				
<b>Partners</b>	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Public agency</td> <td rowspan="3">USAID GGI; Forum member NGOs</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Civil/</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Private sector</td> </tr> </table>	Public agency	USAID GGI; Forum member NGOs	Civil/	Private sector
Public agency	USAID GGI; Forum member NGOs				
Civil/					
Private sector					
<b>Compliance with OGP challenges</b>	Better Management of Public Resources; Increasing Integrity in Public Sector.				
<b>Main goal</b>	Raising public awareness on budgetary issues; improving citizen participation mechanism in discussing draft budgets.				
<b>Indicator</b>	Municipal budget is developed in the form of program budget; electronic mechanism – Plan the Municipality Budget – has been developed and added to the respective webpage; budget-related citizen’s guidebook has been developed.				
<b>Achieved results</b>	<p>With the support of the GGI project of USAID, Kutaisi City Hall developed a software format for its budget. The priorities identified by local population, such as road and kindergarten rehabilitation, were envisaged in the budget. In February, 2017, a citizen’s guidebook on Kutaisi city budget was developed. The guidebook describes revenues, expenditures and public services of the city. The guidebook was printed as a brochure and distributed among different stakeholders.</p> <p>By financial support of USAID GGI and Foreign Affairs Ministry of Estonia, implemented in the frames of a grant project, by assistance of e-Governance Academy of Estonia (e-GA) and IDFI, the new webpage (<a href="http://kutaisi.gov.ge/">http://kutaisi.gov.ge/</a>) of Kutaisi City Hall and Assembly was created. The mechanisms for electronic transparency and participation, including the portal Plan the Budget, were embeded in the above webpage.</p> <p>Furthermore, starting from 2018, the electronic system of receiving proposals from the citizens - volis.kutaisi.gov.ge - was put into operation; this is an electronic platform that the city received thanks to the support of USAID GGI project. The portal is currently functioning in the test mode. The citizens can submit their proposals before September 20, 2018. As of today,</p>				

	<p>28 initiatives have been recorded. A consulting body of the City Hall, the Advisors' Council, will do the selection of this initiative. Out of the three selected proposals, the one that received the most of the votes will be financed by 2019 budget.</p> <p>Starting from 2018, the Program of Youth Initiatives was initiated by Kutaisi Municipality budget being one of the distinguishing examples of participatory budgeting. Interested young people will have an opportunity to submit their projects throughout the whole year and obtain funding for them. Total value of the program is 100000 GEL;</p>				
<b>Evaluation of implementation</b>		Fully implemented	Largely implemented	Partially implemented	Unimplemented
	Commitment assessment	x			
<b>End date</b>	June, 2018				
<b>Future plans</b>					

### Commitment 24 (B): Creation of Electronic Mechanism for Local Budget Planning in Batumi Municipality

<b>Brief description of the commitment</b>	<p>Relevant services of Batumi City Hall are actively working on the issues of budgetary process transparency. By the support of USAID project Good Governance Initiative in Georgia (GGI) the work on the local level to promote budgetary processes and improve mechanisms for public participation is underway.</p> <p>Batumi City Hall will ensure creation of an electronic mechanism "Plan Municipality Budget" and adding it to the relevant webpages. In addition, in regard to the municipality budget, a citizen's guidebook will be developed.</p>				
<b>Lead agency</b>	Batumi City Hall				
<b>Partners</b>	Public agency				
	Civil/Private sector	USAID GGI; Forum member NGOs			
<b>Compliance with OGP challenges</b>	Better Management of Public Resources; Increasing Integrity in Public Sector				
<b>Main goal</b>	Raising public awareness on budgetary issues; improving citizen participation mechanism in discussing draft budgets				
<b>Indicator</b>	Municipal budget is developed in the form of program budget; electronic mechanism – Plan the Municipality Budget – has been developed and added to a respective webpage; budget-related citizen's guidebook has been developed.				
<b>Achieved results</b>	<p>With the support of the GGI project of USAID, Batumi City Hall developed a software format for its budget. The priorities identified by local population during the public discussions were envisaged in the budget development process. In March 2018 a citizen's guidebook on budget was developed. The guidebook describes revenues, expenditures and public services of Batumi. The guidebook was printed as a brochure and distributed among different stakeholders. The electronic version of the guidebook is available on the webpage of the Municipality City Hall. To introduce the institutional mechanism of participatory budgeting relevant legal framework was developed.</p> <p>Batumi City Hall ensured creation of the electronic mechanism Plan Municipality Budget (<a href="http://idea.batumi.ge">http://idea.batumi.ge</a>); also by the support of the GGI project of USAID the rules for drawing up participatory budget (will be approved in the form of an order). In addition, a citizen's guidebook was developed in regard to the municipality budget.</p>				

Evaluation of implementation	Fully implemented	Largely implemented	Partially implemented	Unimplemented
	Commitment assessment		x	
End date	December, 2018			
Future plans	<p>By financial support of USAID GGI and Foreign Affairs Ministry of Estonia, implemented in the frames of a grant project, implemented by e-Governance Academy of Estonia (e-GA) with the local partner IDFI, the new webpage of Batumi City Hall with embedded portal Plan Municipality Budget (<a href="http://idfi-batumi.omedialab.com/ge">http://idfi-batumi.omedialab.com/ge</a>) was created. The webpage is not yet functional.</p> <p>Popularization of/ raising awareness on the system of participatory budgeting. Envisaging relevant appropriations in 2019 budget of Batumi Municipality for the implementation of the project/projects identified during the development of the participatory budget.</p>			

### Commitment 24 (C): Creation of Electronic Mechanism for Local Budget Planning in Akhaltsikhe Municipality

Brief description of the commitment	<p>Relevant services of Akhaltsikhe City Hall are actively working on the issues of budgetary process transparency. By the support of USAID project Good Governance Initiative in Georgia (GGI), the work to promote budgetary processes on the local level and improve mechanisms for public participation is underway.</p> <p>Akhalsikhe City Hall will ensure creation of an electronic mechanism “Plan Municipality Budget” and add it to the municipality webpage. Furthermore, in regard to the local budget, a citizen’s guidebook will be developed.</p>
Lead agency	Akhalsikhe City Hall
Partners	Public agency
	Civil/Private sector
Compliance with OGP challenges	Better Management of Public Resources; Increasing Integrity in Public Sector
Main goal	Raising public awareness on budgetary issues; improving citizen participation mechanism in discussing draft budgets
Indicator	Municipal budget is developed in the form of program budget; electronic mechanism – Plan Municipality Budget – has been developed and added to a respective webpage; budget-related citizen’s guidebook has been developed.
Achieved results	<p>With the support of the GGI project of USAID, Akhalsikhe City Hall developed a software format for its budget. The priorities identified by local population during the public discussions were envisaged in the budget development process. In february 2017 a citizen’s guidebook on budget was developed. The guidebook describes revenues, expenditures and public services of Akhalsikhe. The guidebook was printed as a brochure and distributed among different stakeholders.</p> <p>By financial support of USAID GGI and Foreign Affairs Ministry of Estonia, implemented in terms of a grant project, implemented by e-Governance Academy of Estonia (e-GA) with the local partner IDFI, the new webpage of Akhalsikhe City Hall and Municipality Council (<a href="https://www.akhalsikhe.gov.ge/">https://www.akhalsikhe.gov.ge/</a>) with embedded mechanisms for electronic transparency and public participation including portal Plan Municipality was created.</p> <p>Furthermore, in the framework of the above mentioned grant project, Akhalsikhe City Hall introduced Estonian model of public participation portal – VOLIS. This model helps the government of Akhatsikhe to make decisions promptly and with fewer resources.</p>

	<p>In this regard it should be noted that starting from 2018, Akhaltsikhe City Hall institutionalized the participatory budgeting system. At the end of January 2018 relevant order of Akhaltsikhe Municipality was issued, and in the period from February to May the proposals were being received from the local population via VOLIS. 78 proposals were registered at VOLIS platform of which 40 met the criteria and moved to the voting mode (<a href="https://volis.ega.ee/gvolis/osale/index/81?kid=35494">https://volis.ega.ee/gvolis/osale/index/81?kid=35494</a>). In May-September, 2018 the local population was able to vote either electronically (via VOLIS) or mechanically for the favorable proposal. As a result of voting Akhaltsikhe Municipality populations revealed the winning-project for the implementation of which Akhaltsikhe City Hall allocated 50000 GEL from 2019 budget.</p>				
<b>Evaluation of implementation</b>		Fully implemented	Largely implemented	Partially implemented	Unimplemented
	Commitment assessment	x			
<b>End date</b>	June, 2018				
<b>Future plans</b>	<p>Akhaltsikhe City Hall continues its active involvement in the process of OGP. Akhaltsikhe City Hall will be presented with new commitments in terms of the National Action Plan 2018-2019.</p>				

#### Commitment 24 (D): Developing Electronic Mechanism for Planning Budgets of Ozurgeti Municipality

<b>Brief description of the commitment</b>	<p>Relevant services of Ozurgeti Municipality Assembly are actively working on the issues of transparency in budgetary process. The work on the local level to promote budgetary processes and improve mechanisms for public participation is underway.</p> <p>Ozurgeti Municipality Assembly will ensure creation of an electronic mechanism “Plan Municipality Budget” and adding it to the relevant webpages. In addition, in regard to the municipality budget, a citizen’s guidebook will be developed.</p>	
<b>Lead agency</b>	Ozurgeti Municipality Assembly	
<b>Partners</b>	Public agency	
	Civil/Private sector	
<b>Compliance with OGP challenges</b>	Better Management of Public Resources Increasing Integrity in Public Sector	
<b>Main goal</b>	Raising public awareness on budgetary issues; improving citizen participation mechanism in discussing draft budgets	
<b>Indicator</b>	Municipal budget is developed in the form of program budget; electronic mechanism – Plan Municipality Budget – has been developed and added to a respective webpage; budget-related citizen’s guidebook has been developed.	
<b>Achieved results</b>	<p>Ozurgeti Municipality Assembly has developed software format for the city budget, which was approved by the Assembly Resolution #27 of December 23 2016.<sup>22</sup> Complete version of the program budget is uploaded on the municipality webpage.<sup>23</sup> In the process of the budget development, the priorities identified by citizens during the public consultations were envisaged in the budget. In February 2017, the citizen’s guidebook on the budget was drawn up. The guidebook describes Ozurgeti budget revenues, expenditures and public services. The</p>	

<sup>22</sup> [Resolution](#) N27 of Ozurgeti Municipality Assembly on “Approval of Ozurgeti Municipality Budget 2017.

<sup>23</sup> Ozurgeti [Municipality Budget](#).

	guidebook was published in the form of a brochure and disseminated among various stakeholder groups.				
<b>Evaluation of implementation</b>		Fully implemented	Largely implemented	Partially implemented	Unimplemented
	Commitment assessment			x	
<b>End date</b>	December, 2018				
<b>Future plans</b>					

## Summary Data



The Action Plan unites 24 commitments out of which one (commitment N24) is divided into "A","B","C" and "D". For the purposes of monitoring and assessment, these parts are discussed separately, as independent commitments. Hence, the total number of commitments accounts for 27.