

Independent Reporting Mechanism (IRM): Greece End-of-Term Report 2016-2018

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Table of Contents

Table of Contents	1
Overview: Greece	2
About the Assessment	5
Commitment Implementation	7
Theme I: Regulatory Reform	11
Theme II: Public Service Delivery	15
Theme III: Managerial recruitment	23
Theme IV: Open Public Administration Studies	30
Theme V: Commitments on Culture	32
Theme VI: Commitments on Maritime Affairs	35
Theme VII: Commitments on Economy	40
Theme VIII: Commitments on Education	45
Theme IX: Commitments on Justice	50
Standalone commitment: Geo-Data	54
Theme X: Commitments for Open Local Administration	57
Theme XI: Commitments from Civil Society	67
Theme XII. Parliamentary openness	74
Methodological Note	78



Overview: Greece

Independent Reporting Mechanism (IRM) End-of-Term Report (2016-2018)

Greece's third national action plan included commitments from several ministries, civil society organizations, subnational governments and the parliament. However, most commitments saw limited levels of completion and a multi-stakeholder forum did not become operational. The next action plan could benefit from focusing on fewer, more well-designed commitments as well as a stronger collaboration between the government and civil society organizations.

The Open Government Partnership (OGP) is a voluntary international initiative that aims to secure commitments from governments to their citizenry to promote transparency, empower citizens, fight corruption, and harness new technologies to strengthen governance. The Independent Reporting Mechanism (IRM) carries out a review of the activities of each OGP-participating country. This report summarizes the results of the period July 2016 to June 2018 and includes some relevant developments up to November 2018.

The Ministry of Administrative Reconstruction (MAR), formerly the Ministry of Interior and Administrative Reconstruction, is the leading institution for the development and implementation of Greece's OGP action plan. Within this Ministry, the Department of Transparency, Open Government and Innovation (established in 2014) has the statutory responsibility for open government policies at the administrative level. Two civil society organizations (CSOs) — Open Knowledge Foundation Greece and Open Technologies Alliance/Greek Free Software Society — were directly involved in the action plan development and contributed their own commitments (30, 31, 32 and 33) with an aim to implement them on their own.¹ Completion rates for these commitments are higher than the ones directly implemented by the government.

Despite civil society and government efforts at the start of the action plan cycle, a multi-stakeholder forum has not materialized. A new attempt to form one is currently under way (October 2018). Greek CSOs have prepared an open letter to the Minister of Administrative Reconstruction to initiate the forum.

The government published a self-assessment report at the beginning of December 2018.²

Table 1: At a Glance

	Mid-term	End of term
Number of Commitments	34	
Level of Completion		
Completed	2	9
Substantial	9	5
Limited	15	17
Not Started	8	3
Number of Commitments with...		
Clear Relevance to OGP Values	32	32
Transformative Potential Impact	2	2
Substantial or Complete Implementation	11	14
All Three (★)	0	1
Did It Open government?		
Major	6	
Outstanding	0	
Moving Forward		
Number of Commitments Carried Over to Next Action Plan	Unclear	

According to MAR, the government intended to present a new action plan but needed more time to prepare their co-creation process.³ By the end of 2018, the Greek government had not submitted a new action plan. In most cases, it remains unclear if unfinished commitments will be carried forward in the next action plan. In cases where departments expressed their willingness to continue working on particular commitments, this is reflected in the individual commitment analysis.

¹ OGP, “Independent Reporting Mechanism (IRM) Progress Report 2016–2018: Greece”,

<https://www.opengovpartnership.org/documents/greece-mid-term-report-2016-2018-public-comment>

² Regarding commitment implementation, the self-assessment report followed the project management tool ASANA which is updated by the responsible public agencies.

³ IRM researcher meeting with representatives from the Ministry of Administrative Reconstruction and the OGP Support Unit at the OGP Global Summit in Tbilisi, July 2018.

Consultation with Civil Society during Implementation

Countries participating in OGP follow a process for consultation during development and implementation of their action plan.

MAR organized consultation events and informational meetings during the first year of implementation — from October 2016 to June 2017. However, during the second year of implementation there were no consultation meetings, except for one workshop entitled “Open Governance as a Strategic Choice. From design to implementation” organized by the Ministry of Administrative Reform on September 2017, which did not include discussions on government commitments and implementation.

Greece’s former national representative for OGP, Mr. Vernardakis, had created an inter-ministerial working group to oversee and coordinate implementation. However, due to a government reshuffle that took place during the start of the implementation period this working group has remained inactive.¹ Successive transitions within the Ministry and the increased emphasis on Greece’s effort to exit its economic adjustment program meant that the working group has never convened.² Dr. Nikos Michalopoulos, the Open Government department Director of the Ministry expressed, in June 2018, that openness initiatives such as those supported by the national action plan ceased to be a priority for the Ministry’s new leadership.³

Although there is no permanent multi-stakeholder forum to ensure commitment implementation, Ms Nancy Routzouni, the government point of contact, considers that the working group still plays a monitoring role. The government provided two CSOs (Open Technologies Alliances (GFOSS) and Open Knowledge Greece) with access to an internal project management tool (ASANA) used by most of the implementing agencies to report on commitment progress. After a request by Open Technologies Alliance, this access was extended to other relevant CSOs. However, according to Open Technologies Alliance and OK Greece, CSOs have never used the commenting feature. The government followed up with the different agencies so that they would provide information on the status of the implementation of commitments.⁴ However, some of the commitments were not consistently updated by the relevant government agencies and were automatically labeled as “not started” or “completed” by the ASANA tool without necessarily matching their level of implementation.⁵

The Executive Director of Vouliwatch, a non-profit organization working on parliamentary issues in Greece, considered the lack of a functioning multi-stakeholder forum as a major shortcoming for effective monitoring of the action plan implementation.⁶ They also expressed that the inactivity of the inter-ministerial working group was due to a lack of political will.⁷ To reignite discussions and stimulate a dialogue for the fourth Greek action plan, the three leading CSOs drafted an open letter to the Minister of Administrative Reconstruction in July 2018. According to the Open Wise team, the letter was sent in January 2019 and was signed by 11 CSOs.

Table 2: Consultation during Implementation

Regular Multistakeholder Forum	Midterm	End of Term
1. Did a forum exist?	No	No
2. Did it meet regularly?	No	No

Table 3: Level of Public Influence during Implementation

The IRM has adapted the International Association for Public Participation (IAP2) “Spectrum of Participation” to apply to OGP.⁸ This spectrum shows the potential level of public influence on the contents of the action plan. In the spirit of OGP, most countries should aspire for “collaborative.”

Level of Public Influence during Implementation of Action Plan		Midterm	End of Term
Empower	The government handed decision-making power to members of the public.		
Collaborate	There was iterative dialogue AND the public helped set the agenda.		
Involve	The government gave feedback on how public inputs were considered.		
Consult	The public could give inputs.	✓	
Inform	The government provided the public with information on the action plan.		✓
No Consultation	No consultation		

¹ Due to a government reshuffle on 18 August 2018 the Ministry is now under the leadership of Mrs. Mariliza Xenogiannakopoulou. Mr. Vernardakis has a new position in the Ministry of State.

² Nancy Routzouni, national point of contact, telephone interview with IRM researcher, 17 October 2018.

³ Nikos Michalopoulos, General Secretary for Open Government, Ministry of Administrative Reconstruction, interview with IRM researcher, 23 June 2018.

⁴ The point of contact provided the IRM researcher with evidence (two letters sent on September 2018) to support this statement.

⁵ Despina Mitropoulou, CEO of Open Technologies Alliance and Haralampos Bratsas, CEO of OK Greece, IRM researcher interview, 20 January 2018.

⁶ Stefanos Loukopoulos, Vouliwatch General Director, interview with IRM researcher, Athens, 9 October 2018.

⁷ Stefanos Loukopoulos, Vouliwatch General Director, interview with IRM researcher, Athens, 9 October 2018.

⁸ IAP2's Public Participation Framework,

http://c.ymcdn.com/sites/www.iap2.org/resource/resmgr/foundations_course/IAP2_P2_Spectrum_FINAL.pdf

About the Assessment

The indicators and method used in the IRM research can be found in the IRM Procedures Manual.¹

One measure, the “starred commitment” (★), deserves further explanation due to its particular interest to readers and usefulness for encouraging a race to the top among OGP-participating countries. Starred commitments are considered exemplary OGP commitments. To receive a star, a commitment must meet several criteria:

- Starred commitments will have “medium” or “high” specificity. A commitment must lay out clearly defined activities and steps to make a judgment about its potential impact.
- The commitment’s language should make clear its relevance to opening government. Specifically, it must relate to at least one of the OGP values of Access to Information, Civic Participation, or Public Accountability.
- The commitment would have a “transformative” potential impact if completely implemented.²
- The government must make significant progress on this commitment during the action plan implementation period, receiving an assessment of “substantial” or “complete” implementation.

Starred commitments can lose their starred status if their completion falls short of substantial or full completion at the end of the action plan implementation period.

In the midterm report, the Greek action plan contained no starred commitments. At the end of term, based on the changes in the level of completion, Greece's action plan contained **one** starred commitment:

- Commitment 15: Public Property Open Data

Finally, the tables in this section present an excerpt of the wealth of data the IRM collects during its reporting process. For the full dataset for Greece, see the OGP Explorer at www.opengovpartnership.org/explorer.

About “Did It Open Government?”

To capture changes in government practice, the IRM introduced a new variable “Did It Open Government?” in end-of-term reports. This variable attempts to move beyond measuring outputs and deliverables to looking at how the government practice has changed as a result of the commitment's implementation.

As written, some OGP commitments are vague and/or not clearly relevant to OGP values but achieve significant policy reforms. In other cases, commitments as written appear relevant and ambitious, but fail to open government as implemented. The “Did It Open Government” variable attempts to capture these subtleties.

The “Did It Open Government?” variable assesses changes in government practice using the following spectrum:

- **Worsened:** Government openness worsens as a result of the commitment.
- **Did not change:** No changes in government practice.
- **Marginal:** Some change, but minor in terms of its effect on level of openness.
- **Major:** A step forward for government openness in the relevant policy area but remains limited in scope or scale.
- **Outstanding:** A reform that has transformed “business as usual” in the relevant policy area by opening government.

To assess this variable, researchers establish the status quo at the outset of the action plan. They then assess outcomes *as implemented* for changes in government openness.

Readers should keep in mind limitations. IRM end-of-term reports are prepared only a few months after the implementation cycle is completed. The variable focuses on outcomes that can be observed in government openness practices at the end of the two-year implementation period. The report and the variable do not intend to assess impact because of the complex methodological implications and the time frame of the report

¹ IRM Procedures Manual, <http://www.opengovpartnership.org/about/about-irm>

² The International Experts Panel changed this criterion in 2015. For more information, visit <http://www.opengovpartnership.org/node/5919>

Commitment Implementation

General Overview of Commitments

As part of OGP, countries are required to make commitments in a two-year action plan. The tables below summarize the completion level at the end of term and progress on the “Did It Open Government?” metric. For commitments that were complete at the midterm, the report will provide a summary of the progress report findings but focus on analysis of the ‘Did It Open Government?’ variable. For further details on these commitments, please see the IRM progress report for Greece (2016-2018).

The current action plan, focused on 10 broad policy areas: public administration reforms and open data for: culture, maritime affairs, economy, education, justice, the environment, and parliament. Also, for the first time the action plan included regional and local administration commitments as well as commitments implemented by civil society.

Themes

Due to the number of commitments IRM researchers clustered them to keep the report readable in line with the themes of the third action plan submitted by the Greek government.

The original action plan "Theme 1 public administration reforms" is broken down into the following themes:

Theme 1: Regulatory Reform

- Commitment 1 Framework Law on open participation in government
- Commitment 6 Improvement of open deliberation law

Theme 2: Public Service Delivery

- Commitment 2 Participation in the assessment of the public sector
- Commitment 3 Publish organizational charts
- Commitment 4 Accountability in dispute settlement between citizens and the public sector
- Commitment 5 Standardize public service provision and procedures and publish a guide

Theme 3: Selecting Officials

- Commitment 7 National Register of Line Managers (Register)
- Commitment 8 Implement assessments of employees, services and control methods
- Commitment 9 Implement a System for Selecting Managers

Standalone Commitment

- Commitment 10: Digital repository for public administration studies

The remaining 24 commitments were clustered according to the themes already provided in the action plan.

Table 4: Assessment of Progress by Commitment

Commitment Overview	Specificity	OGP Value Relevance	Potential Impact	Completion	Midterm	Did It Open Government?
					End of Term	

	None	Low	Medium	High	Access to Information	Civic Participation	Public Accountability	Technology & Innovation for Transparency & Accountability	None	Minor	Moderate	Transformative	Not Started	Limited	Substantial	Completed	Worsened	Did Not Change	Marginal	Major	Outstanding
1. Framework Law on open participation in government				✓	✓	✓					✓			✓				✓			
2. Participation in the assessment of the public sector				✓	✓	✓		✓		✓				✓				✓			
3. Publish organizational charts				✓	✓					✓				✓					✓		
4. Accountability in dispute settlement between citizens and the public sector				✓			✓				✓			✓				✓			
5. Standardize public service provision and procedures and publish a guide				✓	✓	✓					✓		✓		✓				✓		
6. Improvement of open deliberation law				✓		✓					✓			✓				✓			
7. National Register of Line Managers (Register)			✓		Unclear						✓				✓				✓		
8. Implement assessments of employees, services and control methods			✓		✓	✓						✓		✓				✓			
9. Implement a System for Selecting Managers			✓		✓						✓				✓				✓		
10. Digital repository for public administration studies		✓			✓					✓			✓					✓			
11. Provision of Open Cultural Data		✓			✓					✓				✓				✓			
12. Geospatial Maritime Data			✓		✓						✓				✓	✓			✓		
13. Ship/Company			✓		✓					✓				✓				✓			

and Seafarer Registers																					
14. Marine and Maritime Activity			✓		✓						✓			✓					✓		
15. Public Property Open Data			✓		✓							✓			✓					✓	
16. EU-Financed Project KPIs			✓		✓									✓		✓			✓		
17. Exam database upgrade			✓		✓										✓		✓		✓		
18. Protocol Digitization			✓		Unclear							✓							✓		
19. Open data for youth		✓			✓						✓				✓				✓		
20. Open Education			✓		✓										✓				✓		
21. Provision of open data for Justice		✓			✓			✓									✓			✓	
22. Enhanced statistical data of justice open to the public		✓			✓							✓				✓			✓		
23. Open provision of Geo-data		✓			✓			✓				✓				✓			✓		
24. Open-Participatory Budget (Western Macedonia)			✓		✓	✓						✓			✓					✓	
25. Regional Council Platform (Western Macedonia)			✓		✓	✓		✓						✓		✓			✓		
26. Open - Participatory Budget (Central Greece)			✓		✓	✓		✓							✓		✓			✓	
27. Capture and Evaluation Platform for Regional Technical Projects (Central Greece)				✓	✓							✓									✓
28. City Dashboard (Thessaloniki)				✓	✓											✓				✓	
29. Online Consultation Platform (Thessaloniki)				✓	✓	✓											✓		✓		

30. Open Data Index for cities and local administrations				✓	✓			✓		✓				✓				✓	
31. Linked, Open and Participatory Budgets				✓	✓			✓		✓				✓				✓	
32. School of data for public servants			✓		✓				✓				✓					✓	
33. The collaborative wikification of public services procedures			✓		✓			✓					✓					✓	
34. Openness and accessibility of the Hellenic Parliament for citizens		✓			✓				✓			✓		✓			✓		

Theme I: Regulatory Reform

Commitment 1. Framework law on Open & Participative Governance

Commitment Text:

Drafting and submission of a bill to Parliament for an Open and Participative Governance in view of a comprehensive regulation of the relevant issues and the promotion of the respective policies.

Responsible Institution(s): Ministry of the Interior and Administrative Reform- division of Administrative Reconstruction & e-Government, Alternate Minister for Reform, Deputy Secretary General

Supporting Institution(s): None

Start Date: July 2016

End Date: March 2018

Commitment 6. Improving of the Open Deliberation procedure

Enhancement of the bill deliberation procedure in all levels (institutional, legal, operational, technical).

Responsible Institution(s): Ministry of Interior& Administrative Reform – Sector of Administrative Reform & E-Government – for the regulatory framework; National School of Public Administration and Local Government.

Start Date: July 2016

End Date: December 2017

Editorial Note: Commitment text has been abridged by the IRM. To see the full action plan, please refer to https://www.opengovpartnership.org/sites/default/files/GREEK_NAP3-OGP-ENG_0.pdf

Commitment Overview	Specificity				OGP Value Relevance (as written)				Potential Impact				Completion		Midterm	Did It Open Government?					
	None	Low	Medium	High	Access to Information	Civic Participation	Public Accountability	Technology & Innovation for Transparency & Accountability	None	Minor	Moderate	Transformative	Not Started	Limited	Substantial	Completed	Worsened	Did Not Change	Marginal	Major	Outstanding
1. Framework law on Open & Participative Governance				✓	✓	✓					✓			✓				✓			
6.Improving of the Open Deliberation Procedure				✓		✓					✓			✓				✓			

Commitment Aim:

1. Framework law on Open & Participative Governance

This commitment aimed to address a recurring theme regarding the coordination of open government policies in Greece by putting forward a binding legal mandate. At the time this

commitment was adopted, the government relied on a small team within the Ministry of Administrative Reform that in most cases reported directly to the Minister.¹ The government sought to improve the ownership of the action plan formulation and implementation by creating a new law that would encompass OGP commitment proposals by different government departments and civil society. The government also aimed to cover the day-to-day management of OGP processes, commitment implementation overview and production of self-assessment reports.² A permanent multi-stakeholder forum that would facilitate a regular dialogue process and submission of comments and opinions was also considered a priority to be included in the legal text.³

The law would cover:

- Open meeting rules at the subnational level;
- Establishment of advisory, multi-stakeholder working groups at each agency;
- Establishment of an inter-ministerial working group on governance; and
- Digital transparency on personnel and administrative actions.

6. Improving of the Open Deliberation Procedure

This commitment aimed to improve the legal, technical and operational aspects for online consultations between ministries and citizens on draft bills. It would try to achieve this by amending the relevant legal framework on good legislative practices.⁴ At the time of the adoption of this commitment, although the existing legal framework promoted transparency and public consultation via certain processes (e.g. providing for specific stages and timeframes), it did not set specific means to address deviations from the procedure itself.

This commitment would provide guidance on how deliberation stakeholders are defined; training of government officers involved in the deliberation process; and guidelines on how public consultations should be conducted, including outlining standards for a “reasoned response” to public inputs during policy making.

Status

Commitment 1. Framework law on Open & Participative Governance

Midterm: Limited

According to the action plan timeline the law should have been passed in March 2017. By the end of the mid-term assessment period, the law preparation committee had been created and had held two discussions on the content of the law. During the midterm assessment the government had not yet presented the new law in parliament for voting and thus the commitment was behind schedule. According to the Ministry of Administrative Reconstruction (MAR) OGP team,⁵ there was insufficient inter-ministerial coordination to finalize the draft. Some ministries could not identify how to introduce the collaborative model into their operations. The MAR shared a first version of the drafted law document with the IRM researchers. However, the online public consultation and the parliamentary discussion on the draft law were still pending. For more information, please see the 2016-2018 midterm report on the Greek action plan.⁶

End of term: Limited

Based on the IRM researchers’ monitoring of the parliamentary website section on new legislation⁷ no draft legal act for open government was introduced. Additionally, no draft text has been made available on the online consultations website.⁸ According to IRM interviews carried out in June 2018 with the General Director of MAR⁹, the framework law has ceased being a priority for the Ministry due to limited human resources.¹⁰ Some of the work completed by the inter-ministerial team on the preparation of a legal text on open government is available online after the IRM researchers requested this.¹¹ According to the national point of contact for OGP, the update of the decision on

the design and drafting of legislation for the promotion of Open and Participatory Governance policies is still pending because most of the involved ministries have not yet formed the required internal open government working groups.¹² For these reasons the IRM researchers consider that although some progress had been made by the end-of-term period, the completion level remained limited.

Commitment 6. Improving of the Open Deliberation Procedure

Midterm: Limited

During the midterm evaluation there was no indication that the government would put forward a plan to revise the legal framework concerning public participation in drafting laws (Law 4048/2012). The National Center for Public Administration continued to provide technical support, user training and operational coordination to public employees from all ministries involved in online public consultations.¹³ For more information, please see the 2016-2018 midterm IRM report on the Greek action plan.¹⁴

End of term: Limited

The National Center for Public Administration continues to use the pre-existing deliberation methodology. Open deliberation on draft laws takes place regularly in the opengov.gr platform. The IRM researchers reviewed recent deliberations and observed that a new mechanism to report the consultation results to participants is not yet available.¹⁵ Transparency International Greece also indicated the lack of an online feature that provides feedback to participants regarding the consultation results.¹⁶ There is no evidence on the parliamentary legislation website¹⁷ that MAR has moved forward with its plans to amend the regulatory framework needed to improve the process. Since there is no further government action planned to improve the open deliberation procedure the implementation of this commitment remained limited.

Did It Open Government?

Commitment 1. Framework law on Open & Participative Governance

Access to Information: Did Not Change

Civic Participation: Did Not Change

Since the implementation of this commitment was limited and there was no change in the legal framework, it has not resulted in any changes in government practice on access to information and citizen participation.

Commitment 6. Improving of the Open Deliberation Procedure

Civic Participation: Did Not Change

Since the implementation of this commitment was limited and there was no change—neither in the legal framework nor in the consultation guidelines—it has not resulted in any change of government practice on civic participation.

Carried Forward?

MAR representatives¹⁸ indicated that these commitments will not be carried forward into the next action plan. Although MAR representatives and the national point of contact had indicated to IRM researchers that a new action plan would be developed¹⁹, the Greek government had not released a concrete timeline at the time of writing this report. The IRM researchers recommend the government to publish the draft work carried out on the framework law on open government, to specify the necessary legal amendments and assign a timeframe for online, in person and parliamentary consultation.²⁰

¹ Nancy Routzouni, national point of contact, IRM researcher interview, 7 August 2017.

² Ibid.

³ Despina Mitropoulou, General Director of Open Technologies Alliance (GFOSS), telephone interview with IRM researcher, 5 May 2017.

⁴ “Improving the production rules of the legislative work and, consequently, the quality of the legislation produced”, Law 4048/2012 (in Greek), <http://www.minadmin.gov.gr/?p=1803>

⁵ Nancy Routzouni, national point of contact, response to IRM researcher questionnaire, 26 September 2018.

⁶ OGP, “Independent Reporting Mechanism (IRM) Progress Report 2016–2018: Greece”, <https://www.opengovpartnership.org/documents/greece-mid-term-report-2016-2018-public-comment>

⁷ Hellenic Parliament – Submitted Draft Bills website (in Greek), <https://www.hellenicparliament.gr/Nomothetiko-Ergo/Katatethenta-Nomosxedia>

⁸ Open Government Consultations website (in Greek),

<http://www.opengov.gr/home/category/consultations>

⁹ Nikos Michalopoulos, General Secretary for Open Government, Ministry of Administrative Reconstruction, IRM researcher interview, 23 June 2018.

¹⁰ Ibid.

¹¹ Greek government deliberation website (in Greek),

<http://www.opengov.gr/home/category/consultations> IRM researchers were observing the workings of the law drafting committee

¹² Nancy Routzouni, national point of contact, response to IRM researcher questionnaire, September 2018.

¹³ Dimitris Tsimaras, National Center for Public Administration, interview with IRM researcher, Athens, September 2017.

¹⁴ OGP, “Independent Reporting Mechanism (IRM) Progress Report 2016–2018: Greece”,

<https://www.opengovpartnership.org/documents/greece-mid-term-report-2016-2018-public-comment>

¹⁵ Opengov.gr consultation platform, examples of recent consultations can be viewed (in Greek),

: <http://www.opengov.gr/yyka/?p=2749> and <http://www.opengov.gr/minenv/?p=9523>

¹⁶ Dr. D. Rigopoulos, Associate at Transparency International Greece, interview with IRM researcher, Athens, 21 November 2017.

¹⁷ Hellenic Parliament – Submitted Draft Bills (in Greek),

<https://www.hellenicparliament.gr/Nomothetiko-Ergo/Katatethenta-Nomosxedia>

¹⁸ Ibid.

¹⁹ Ibid.

²⁰ OGP, “Independent Reporting Mechanism (IRM) Progress Report 2016–2018: Greece”,

<https://www.opengovpartnership.org/documents/greece-mid-term-report-2016-2018-public-comment>

Theme II: Public Service Delivery

Commitment 2. Participation in the Assessment of the Public Sector – e-goal setting tool & monitoring of the government's work

Until now the involvement of citizens in the assessment of services received by the State does not have an institutional nature and is almost non-existent in the functioning of the services/agencies while it is not taken into account when establishing policies on the functioning of the public sector.

- *By virtue of law 4369/2016 the citizens shall be able, through questionnaires and the submission of proposals, to participate in the shaping of the results of the assessment, while at the same time they shall be able to monitor its detailed and visualized results through the e-goal setting tool.*
- *Each service/entity and in particular those with a strong interaction with citizens shall make available questionnaires and forms for the submission of proposals, while these shall be also available in electronic form on the website of each service/entity.*
- *Both the results and the preparation of the goal setting through the e-goal electronic platform shall be public and citizens shall be constantly aware of the functioning of services, while being able to formulate proposals.*
- *This project already implemented through the new NSRF 2014-2020 will be launched as a pilot for the Ministry of the Interior and Administrative Reconstruction and the Ministry of Health, and will be extended to the whole of the public sector.*
- *Monitoring of the work of the government. All government bodies should provide open data on their activity, and to draw up reports to be published online.*

Responsible Institution(s): Ministry of the Interior and Administrative Reform – Department of Administrative Reconstruction & e-Government; Management Authority of the Operational Program “Reform of the Public Sector” Alternate Minister for Reform, Deputy Secretary General.

Start Date: July 2016

End Date: March 2017

Commitment 3. Publish organizational charts

The Greek State will make publicly accessible every organizational chart of all services and entities of the Greek State, through their publication on the website of the relevant services/entities down to the level of department. The publication shall be made based on common standards and shall include details of electronic and phone communication as well as a brief description of competencies and tasks.

(Ministry of the Interior and Administrative Reform – division of Administrative Reconstruction & e-Government, Alternate Minister for Reform, Deputy Secretary General July 2016 – December 2017)

Commitment 4. Accountability in dispute settlement between citizens and the public sector

Through procedures of institutional dialogue the social actors and the citizens are able to resolve or even anticipate problems in their transaction with the services of the public sector.

- *Hearing Committee of Social Actors and Citizens, article 24 of law 4369/2016.*
 - *Institutional Mediation – (binding or optional) before the recourse to administrative courts.*
 - *The creation of the Hearing Committee per Service or per Entity, as provided for in article 24 of law 4369/2016 consolidates confidence in relations between the citizen and the State, contributes to the smoother operation of the public sector and prevents any disagreements and maladministration.*

- *The citizens may submit improvement proposals, particularly for Services with which they come in direct and daily contact. -Furthermore, if the procedure of the Hearing Committee does not allow the resolution of the existing problems and disputes, then, before the recourse to administrative courts and the creation of additional burden of judicial affairs for disputes between citizens and the State, there will be a procedure of Institutional Mediation.*
- *In this procedure, each citizen shall be able, following a reasoned request and possibly with the presence of an attorney, to enter in mediation with the public sector (with the participation of a representative from the Legal Council of State) for the resolution of the existing dispute.*
- *The establishment of the Hearing Committee and of the Institutional Mediation in each organizational chart ensures their rational operation and their institutional consolidation beyond the legislative provisions for their creation.*

Milestones: 4.1 Ministerial Decisions on the procedures of the hearing committee. 4.2 Legislative regulation on institutional mediation. 4.3 Establishment and operation of institutional mediation. 4.4 Establishment and Operation of the Hearing Committees.

(Ministry of the Interior and Administrative Reform – division of Administrative Reconstruction & e-Government, Alternate Minister for Reform, Deputy Secretary General July 2016 – December 2017)

Responsible Institution(s): Ministry of the Interior and Administrative Reform – Department of Administrative Reconstruction & e-Government; Management Authority of the Operational Program “Reform of the Public Sector” Alternate Minister for Reform, Deputy Secretary General.

Start Date: July 2016

End Date: December 2017

Commitment 5. Standardize public service provision and procedures and publish a guide

- *Each Service/Entity of the Public Sector shall publish on its website the Guide for the Provision of Services and for Procedures, in accordance with its competencies. The Guide shall describe in detail which are the services and actions it may provide as well as the necessary procedure, so that all the steps required for the provision of a service may be known in advance.*
- *In addition, a data base of standard procedures shall be created regarding the provision of identical or similar services by the Public Sector. The data base of standard procedures as well as all the Guides (apart from the website of the relevant Service/entity) shall be published in the web site of the Ministry of Interior and Administrative Reconstruction.*
- *Citizens shall have the possibility to submit comments on the improvement of operation and the provision of services.*

Milestones: 5.1 Enactment of regulatory framework. 5.2 Publication of Guidelines in each service and entity. 5.3 Data base of standardization procedures.

Responsible Institution(s): Ministry of the Interior and Administrative Reform – Department of Administrative Reconstruction & e- Government; Management Authority of the Operational Program “Reform of the Public Sector” Alternate Minister for Reform, Deputy Secretary General.

Start Date: July 2016

End Date: June 2017

Editorial Note: Commitment text has been abridged by the IRM. To see the full action plan, please refer to https://www.opengovpartnership.org/sites/default/files/GREEK_NAP3-OGP-ENG_0.pdf.

Commitment Overview	Specificity				OGP Value Relevance (as written)				Potential Impact				Completion		Midterm	Did It Open Government?					
	None	Low	Medium	High	Access to Information	Civic Participation	Public Accountability	Technology & Innovation for Transparency & Accountability	None	Minor	Moderate	Transformative	Not Started	Limited	End of Term	Completed	Worsened	Did Not Change	Marginal	Major	Outstanding
2. Participation in the assessment of the public sector				✓	✓	✓		✓		✓				✓				✓			
3. Publish organizational charts				✓	✓					✓				✓					✓		
4. Accountability in dispute settlement between citizens and the public sector				✓			✓				✓			✓				✓			
5. Standardize public service provision and procedures and publish a guide				✓	✓	✓					✓		✓		✓				✓		

Commitment Aim:

Commitments 2, 3 and 4 aimed to improve public service delivery to regain citizens' trust. At the time of drafting these commitments the Greek government had to reorganize its administrative structures and rationalize public administration processes in the context of the third Memorandum.¹ This cluster of commitments reflects government efforts to insert elements of transparency, participation and accountability into ongoing policy initiatives concerning public sector evaluation, public services delivery, disputes settlement and organizational charts. More specifically:

- **Commitment 2** would create systems for performance feedback through questionnaires and public input into performance in each agency.
- **Commitment 3** would publish organizational charts of each agency so that the public can access standardized information.
- **Commitment 4** creates a framework for bringing, settling, and reporting disputes on public services in each agency (pursuant to Law 4369). This commitment introduces two new institutional mechanisms for mediation.
- **Commitment 5** creates a uniform catalog of services that allows interoperability across services. This commitment expands access to information and participation by standardizing the information and providing an opportunity for citizens to provide feedback.

Status

Commitment 2. Participation in the assessment of the public sector – e-goal setting tool and monitoring of the government’s work

Midterm: Limited

The e-goal setting system that would enable monitoring and evaluation of government and administrative proceedings was still pending during midterm evaluation. At that time, the Ministry of Administrative Reconstruction (MAR) had not indicated a course of action regarding the necessary regulatory amendments that would define the tools and processes with which citizens could have their say in public sector evaluation. The lack of specific public-facing elements and the fact that the government designed the evaluation questionnaires without citizens’ input raised concerns among CSOs.²

End of term: Limited

There is no publicly available evidence to suggest any further progress in the implementation of this commitment. MAR has not announced any plans on how to include public participation elements into the evaluation of the public sector. According to the OGP point of contact, the existing evaluation process³ is mandated by the current regulatory framework without any provision for allowing public feedback.⁴

An initial version of the e-goal setting system was put into operation on 10 May 2018 and was completed on 20 July 2018.⁵ The e-goal system aimed to enable the evaluators from the Administrative/Personnel Directorates to complete the evaluation forms electronically. All the evaluation data is stored in the e-goal setting system. The next stage concerns validating and finalizing the evaluation reports.⁶ The above actions do not introduce the public feedback mechanisms that were originally included in the action plan and therefore implementation remained limited.

Commitment 3. Publish organizational charts

Midterm: Limited

The publication of organizational charts for public sector entities was envisaged as a means to increase transparency, monitor performance, redesign public agencies and reallocate human resources within the public sector. Implementation of this commitment remained limited during midterm evaluation. A common standard that would allow the publication of charts in a unified manner was missing.⁷ In order to fulfill this commitment the government was expecting delivery of a web-based system by an external private vendor by late August 2018.⁸ The Open Technologies Alliance proposed an amendment to articles 6 and 8 of the Law 4369/2016 that prescribes a more detailed and timely process to create and publish the organograms.⁹ Also Dr. Dionysis Rigopoulos, an Inspector of Public Administration, argued that the creation of the digital organograms could be linked with the Transparency Program *Diavgeia* so that decisions that require public expenses cannot be implemented unless the agency has not fully produced its organizational chart.¹⁰ For more information, please see the 2016-2018 midterm IRM report on the Greek action planP.¹¹

End of term: Limited

The implementation of this commitment remained limited at the end-of-term report. According to the former Minister of Administrative Reconstruction, Mrs. Olga Gerovasili, despite the fact that the process to publish organizational charts had been ongoing for months, only 9 out of 1730 state agencies had published their charts by January 2018.¹² Mrs. Gerovasili expressed that the cause for the delay was the need to reinsert employees new positions’ into the new organizational charts.¹³

The Minister also claimed that agencies were expected to speed up the publishing of their charts during 2018.

On 17 May 2018, MAR issued guidelines for all public agencies to upload their digital organizational charts and job profiles into the application.¹⁴ Evidence accessed by the IRM researchers on the public sector census website¹⁵ indicated that the rate at which agencies published their organizational charts had indeed increased. However, at the time of writing this report, only 390 out of 1730 agencies had uploaded their charts.¹⁶ According to an expert on information architecture, the web-based platform for organizational charts is a positive development compared with the unstructured data that was available prior to this commitment.¹⁷ However, Dr. Dionysis Rigopoulos, inspector of public administration, considers that the published data is incomplete and far from providing a clear real-time picture of the structure and staff of all public sector agencies.¹⁸ For the above reasons, IRM researchers consider that since the organizational charts of the majority of the public sector agencies have not been published and data is still incomplete, the level of completion of this commitment remains limited.

Commitment 4. Accountability in dispute settlement between citizens and the public sector

Midterm: Limited

The commitment aimed to create an efficient mechanism to support disputes between citizens and public sector entities. The implementation of this commitment had stalled at midterm. Although the government hosted an event to solicit feedback on how to enact regulations regarding dispute settlement¹⁹, no further implementation actions were carried forward. For example, the issuance of the ministerial decision that will specify the process that the hearing committee, mandated by Law 4369/2016, shall operate was still pending.

For more information, please see the 2016-2018 midterm IRM report on the Greek action plan.²⁰

End of Term: Limited

In January 2018 the government brought into effect two legal amendments mandating the process for dispute settlement between private individuals.²¹ However, the law explicitly mentions that it does not affect dispute settlements where the public sector, local administration or state-owned agencies are the litigants. The national point of contact mentioned that there are no programmed actions to implement this commitment.²² It remains unclear to IRM researchers if the government will amend Law 4512/2018 to include dispute settlement among citizens and state agencies as was the case in the original commitment, or if this commitment has been withdrawn. According to Dr. Lilian Mitrou, associate professor at the University of the Aegean, the dispute settlement mechanism of this commitment could be included under the competencies of the Greek Ombudsman,²³ which mediates between public administration and citizens in order to help citizens exercise their rights effectively.²⁴ Dr. Mitrou, an expert on e-Gov and the Diavgeia legal framework, also expressed that the implementation of this commitment as it is currently worded with the hearing committees will undermine the role of the Ombudsman.²⁵ Overall, since the implementation of this commitment has not seen any substantial progress since midterm evaluation, completion has remained limited.

Commitment 5. Standardize public service provision and procedures and publish a guide

Midterm: Not Started

The implementation of this commitment had not started at midterm evaluation. This commitment aimed to provide the backbone that would enable informational and technical interoperability of public services across the Greek public administration. There were no government actions to suggest

the publication of the regulatory framework that will standardize the catalog of public services. The government OGP management team indicated that the already existing government service portal²⁶ lists all the services currently offered by the Citizen Service Centers. However, as CSOs argue, the services listed on this portal had been available since 2013.²⁷ To fulfill this commitment, MAR could develop a standardized catalog with public services and include a mechanism for citizens to submit their input. For more information, please see the 2016-2018 midterm IRM report on the Greek action plan.²⁸

End of Term: Substantial

The cataloging of the processes of public services in the “diadikasies.gr” website shows substantial implementation of this commitment. According to the government point of contact, by July 2018 more than 1,500 services provided by the public sector (e.g. birth and marriage certificates, drivers’ licenses, residency permits etc.) had been cataloged via an application that has more than 300 registered users.²⁹ In September 2018, this number rose to 2,186.³⁰ Each record contains the official title of the service, a brief description of the service, all relevant legislation governing the service, a table with the required paper and/or electronic forms, a table with step-by-step procedures followed in providing the service, any co-responsible administrative units and the registries updated upon provision of the service.³¹

This cataloging of MAR follows the work carried out by the CSO Open Technologies Alliance, which had a similar commitment³² in this action plan for the wikification of public services and was responsible for the development and maintenance of the platform and the training of public servants. The software used (MediaWiki) for supporting this initiative allowed comments and discussion on page content by default for registered members. Although this feature is intended to facilitate user discussion, comments are not yet monitored or taken into account by the government.³³ It is unclear if the government will promote the use of this feature to allow citizens to comment on specific services.

Did It Open Government?

Commitment 2. Participation in the assessment of the public sector – e-goal setting tool and monitoring of the government’s work

Access to Information: Did Not Change

Civic Participation: Did Not Change

The e-goal setting system was meant to enable public monitoring and evaluation of government and administrative proceedings. However, the commitment has been implemented only as an internal public administration procedure and there are no signs that any participatory mechanism or public-facing elements have been added to the e-goal setting system. Therefore, there has been no change in government practice either for access to information or civic participation.

Commitment 3. Publish organizational charts

Access to Information: Marginal

The publication of organizational charts for public sector entities was meant to increase transparency of staffing and allow standardization of information on the structures of public agencies. Currently, the majority of public agencies still need to publish their organizational charts, civil servant jobs and position descriptions. At the time of writing this report, the website that hosts this information presented organizational charts for 399 public agencies.³⁴ According to an expert in information architecture, the availability of this information is important for citizens, especially compared to what was available in the period before the implementation of this commitment.³⁵ Provided that a tool to

export data in machine-readable formats will become available, Mr Kranidiotis suggests that citizens and human resource departments within and outside the public sector could use the data to extract meaningful information about the operation of agencies to suggest improvements.³⁶ For these reasons, the change in government practice could be considered marginal.

Commitment 4. Accountability in dispute settlement between citizens and the public sector

Public Accountability: Did Not Change

The implementation of this commitment was limited and there has been no change in government practice.

Commitment 5. Standardize public service provision and procedures and publish a guide

Access to Information: Marginal Civic Participation: Did Not Change

In order to improve the implementation of this commitment the Ministry of Administrative Reform utilized funds from the EU Structural Reform Support Service technical assistance program³⁷ run by Expertise France and partnered with Open Technologies Alliance (GFOSS). On this platform, public sector employees self-document in a structured way the services they provide in the course of their normal duties, as well as the procedures followed to complete the delivery of each service.³⁸ Up to September 2018, 2,186 public services were cataloged on the website.³⁹

According to Dr. Ioanna Kostarella, an Assistant Professor in Journalism, Research and New Media, the information in diadikasies.gr helps citizens become acquainted with the step-by-step process of service delivery and thus increases trust in public institutions.⁴⁰ The IRM researchers consider that the volume of information available in diadikasies.gr represents a marginal step forward in government practice. Moreover, as far as civic participation is concerned, the introduction of an actual feedback mechanism for citizens that is monitored by government still remains pending without changing government practice for civic participation.

Carried Forward?

According to the government point of contact for OGP, the publication of organizational charts will continue.⁴¹ Similarly, Open Technologies Alliance⁴² indicated to the IRM researchers that there is some willingness on behalf of MAR to continue implementing the recording of public sector procedures and practices, as well as making them available on diadikasies.gr. However, the continuation of this commitment in the framework of OGP remains uncertain, since a new action plan has not been submitted by the Greek government. A renewed commitment on publishing organizational charts could include information stating how the charts are updated and exported, as well as including analytics tools to facilitate the use of the data by other applications allowing comparisons across agencies.⁴³

¹ Greece: The third memorandum's plans for public administration, <https://www.eurofound.europa.eu/el/publications/article/2016/greece-the-third-memorandums-plans-for-public-administration>

² OGP, "Independent Reporting Mechanism (IRM) Progress Report 2016–2018: Greece", <https://www.opengovpartnership.org/documents/greece-mid-term-report-2016-2018-public-comment>

³ Nancy Routzouni, national point of contact, response to IRM researcher questionnaire, September 2018.

⁴ Frequently Asked Questions on public sector goal setting practices (in Greek), <http://www.minadmin.gov.gr/?p=30531>

⁵ Nancy Routzouni point of contact, written response to IRM questionnaire, September 2018.

⁶ Ibid.

⁷ Ministry of Finance organizational chart (in Greek), <http://www.minfin.gr/web/guest/organogramma-olou-tou-ypoi>

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- ⁸ OGP, “Independent Reporting Mechanism (IRM) Progress Report 2016–2018: Greece”, <https://www.opengovpartnership.org/documents/greece-mid-term-report-2016-2018-public-comment>
- ⁹ The proposed amendment (in Greek), <https://goo.gl/k4V5wk>
- ¹⁰ Dr. Dionysis Rigopoulos. Inspector of Public Administration, “The gap in the foundations of administrative reform” (in Greek), <http://www.capital.gr/me-apopsi/3245219/to-keno-sta-themelia-tis-dioikitikis-metarruthmisis>
- ¹¹ OGP, “Independent Reporting Mechanism (IRM) Progress Report 2016–2018: Greece”, <https://www.opengovpartnership.org/documents/greece-mid-term-report-2016-2018-public-comment>
- ¹² Aftodioikisi, “Public Sector: Only 9 out of 1730 agencies submitted organizational chart”, <https://www.aftodioikisi.gr/ipourgeia/dimosio-molis-9-stous-1-730-foris-katethesan-psifiako-organogramma-lista/>
- ¹³ Ibid
- ¹⁴ The guidelines (in Greek), http://apografi.gov.gr/images/esk/law/EGKYKLIOS_17_05_2018.pdf
- ¹⁵ Greek public sector employee census website (in Greek), <http://apografi.gov.gr>
- ¹⁶ The latest version of published organizational charts (in Greek), <https://hr.apografi.gov.gr/organizations/browse?0>
- ¹⁷ Panagiotis Kranidiotis, Information Architect, e-government professional, telephone interview with IRM researcher, September 2018.
- ¹⁸ Dr. Dionysis Rigopoulos. Inspector of Public Administration, interview with IRM researchers, Athens, 21 October 2018.
- ¹⁹ Impact Hub Athens, Advocating with the Citizen - Discussion Event,” (in Greek), <https://goo.gl/NuzwuV>
- ²⁰ OGP, “Independent Reporting Mechanism (IRM) Progress Report 2016–2018: Greece”, <https://www.opengovpartnership.org/documents/greece-mid-term-report-2016-2018-public-comment>
- ²¹ Lawspot, “New framework for dispute settlement law” (in Greek), <https://www.lawspot.gr/nomika-nea/neo-plaisio-gia-ti-diamesolavisi-nomos-4512-2018>
- ²² Nancy Routzouni, national point of contact, response to IRM researcher questionnaire, September 2018.
- ²³ Dr. Lilian Mitrou, Associate Professor at the University of the Aegean-Greece (Department of Information and Communication Systems Engineering), interview with IRM researcher, Athens, 4 November 2018.
- ²⁴ The Greek Ombudsman, <https://www.synigoros.gr/?i=stp.en.rolemission>
- ²⁵ Lilian Mitrou, Associate Professor at the University of the Aegean-Greece (Department of Information and Communication Systems Engineering), interview with IRM researcher, Athens, 4 November 2018.
- ²⁶ Greek government main e-service portal, <http://ermis.gov.gr>
- ²⁷ OGP, “Independent Reporting Mechanism (IRM) Progress Report 2016–2018: Greece”, <https://www.opengovpartnership.org/documents/greece-mid-term-report-2016-2018-public-comment>
- ²⁸ OGP, “Independent Reporting Mechanism (IRM) Progress Report 2016–2018: Greece”, <https://www.opengovpartnership.org/documents/greece-mid-term-report-2016-2018-public-comment>
- ²⁹ Nancy Routzouni, national point of contact response to IRM researcher questionnaire, September 2018.
- ³⁰ The website for diadikasies.gr public service description portal (Greek version), <https://goo.gl/TD7TIP>
- ³¹ The website for diadikasies.gr public service description portal (English version), https://en.diadikasies.gr/Main_Page
- ³² See Commitment 33.
- ³³ The website for diadikasies.gr public service description portal (Greek version), <https://goo.gl/TD7TIP>
- ³⁴ Despina Mitropoulou, General Director of Open Technologies Alliance (GFOSS), telephone interview with IRM researcher, November 2018.
- ³⁵ Greek Public Sector Bodies Organizational Charts Repository (in Greek), <https://hr.apografi.gov.gr/organizations/browse?0>
- ³⁶ Panagiotis Kranidiotis, Information Architect, e-government professional, telephone interview with IRM researcher, September 2018.
- ³⁷ Ibid.
- ³⁸ EU Structural Reform Support Service (Plans and Reports section), https://ec.europa.eu/info/departments/structural-reform-support-service_en#department_plans
- ³⁹ The English version of the diadikasies.gr public service description portal, https://en.diadikasies.gr/Main_Page
- ⁴⁰ The Greek version of the diadikasies.gr public service description portal, <https://goo.gl/TD7TIP>
- ⁴¹ Dr. Ioanna Kostarella, Assistant Professor of Journalism, Research and New Media at the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, interview with IRM researchers, 20 October 2018.
- ⁴² Nancy Routzouni, national point of contact, response to IRM researcher questionnaire, September 2018.
- ⁴³ Despina Mitropoulou, General Director of Open Technologies Alliance (GFOSS), telephone interview with IRM researcher, September 2018.
- ⁴⁴ Panagiotis Kranidiotis, Information Architect, e-government professional, telephone interview with IRM researcher, September 2018.

Theme III: Managerial recruitment

Commitment 7. National Register of Line Managers of the Public Administration

Application of a modern and innovative system for the selection of line managers regarding posts of high responsibility lying at the top of the administrative hierarchy, both in the public and the wider public sector. The Register aims at depoliticizing the public administration, establishing objective and merit-based methods for the selection of these managers from the public administration and the private sector, as necessary conditions for the smooth operation of the public administration and the widening of its reliability towards the society and the citizens.

Responsible Institution(s): Ministry of the Interior and Administrative Reconstruction; Ministries and other entities of the public administration, National Centre for Public Administration and Local Government, Supreme Council for Personnel Selection, Government Council for Reform of the Public Administration, public law entities and local government agencies, Cabinet of Ministers, Ministry of Finance

Start Date: July 2016

End Date: June 2018

Commitment 8. Implementation of the assessment of employees and services and control methods

Implementation of an objective and merit-based assessment system that places emphasis on inclusiveness, accountability and social dialogue and aims to link the assessment of employees, the assessment of the functioning of public services and the achievement of objectives both at individual level and service level.

Responsible Institution(s): Ministry of the Interior and Administrative Reconstruction; Ministries and other entities of the public administration, National Centre for Public Administration and Local Government

Start Date: July 2016

End Date: June 2017

Commitment 9. Implementation of a System for the Selection of Managers

Application of a modern innovative system for the selection of Heads of organizational units, which calls for the utilization of human resources of the public administration depending on their qualifications and skills, with a view to increase efficiency in the functioning of the public administration and the satisfaction of citizens. Furthermore, the publication of vacancy notices for the posts of Heads of the organizational units shall contribute to the consolidation of citizens' trust in public administration.

Ministry of the Interior and Administrative Reconstruction Ministries and other entities of the public administration, the employees of which fall in the scope of the Code of Civil Servants and the Code of Regulations on the status of municipal and communal employees.

Responsible Institution(s): National Centre for Public Administration and Local Government; National Centre for Public Administration and Local Government Supreme Council for Personnel Selection (ASEP)

Start Date: July 2016

End Date: June 2018

Editorial Note: The action plan text has been abridged by the IRM. For the complete version, please see https://www.opengovpartnership.org/sites/default/files/GREEK_NAP3-OGP-ENG_0.pdf

Commitment Overview	Specificity	OGP Value Relevance (as written)	Potential Impact	Completion	Midterm	Did It Open Government?
					End of Term	

	None	Low	Medium	High	Access to Information	Civic Participation	Public Accountability	Technology & Innovation for Transparency & Accountability	None	Minor	Moderate	Transformative	Not Started	Limited	Substantial	Completed	Worsened	Did Not Change	Marginal	Major	Outstanding
7. National Register of Line Managers of the Public Administration			✓		Unclear						✓				✓				✓		
8. Assessment of employees and services			✓		✓	✓						✓		✓				✓			
9 Selection system			✓		✓						✓				✓				✓		

Commitment Aim:

Pursuant to Law 4369/16 this set of commitments aimed to depoliticize the Greek public administration and free it from practices of favoritism and clientelism.¹ To achieve the goal of depoliticizing public administration the government set out to standardize the selection processes for public managers and establish meritocratic assessment of public employees. More specifically:

- **Commitment 7** aims to establish a national register of line managers for the public administration in which all candidates must register before submitting their applications for a managerial call.
- **Commitment 8** aims to establish a meritocratic system for assessing public employees and services. Mechanisms such as a hearing committee and the public observatory add participatory elements to the assessment process already mandated by Law 4369/2016.
- **Commitment 9** aims to improve the process of selecting managers across the public administration and heads of organizational units within all public agencies. Vacancies of new positions will be posted. However, the commitment aims remain limited in scope because the application process is open only to people who already work for the public administration.

Status

Commitment 7. National register of line managers of the public administration

Midterm: Substantial

This commitment has been substantially completed during the midpoint of the action plan cycle. The website of the national registry of line managers was available with guidance on how prospective candidates fill application forms.² Also, the Special Administrative Selection Board (ESDP) was established with the mandate to select candidates. However, the selection of sectoral and special secretaries was pending, and public administration officials³ expected it to occur by the end of December 2017. According to an expert representing Transparency International Greece, the more transparent the registry is the more it will be able to repair the current, broken selection system.⁴

Although the original commitment text did not include a public-facing element, interested parties such as citizens and civil society do have the ability to openly access and search some of the national registry data. For more information, please see the 2016-2018 midterm IRM report on the Greek action plan.⁵

End of term: Substantial

The commitment showed incremental progress since the midterm assessment. More than 7,000 candidates submitted applications to the national registry website for the 69 posts of secretaries-general in the government ministries.⁶ According to the point of contact, 115 candidates fulfill the criteria.⁷ The ESDP has already convened, defined the selection procedure and was expected to start releasing selection results after 15 June 2018. However, at the time of writing this report, the final selection was still pending. The main opposition party in Greece, New Democracy, expressed serious concerns that the selection process was arranged to favor specific candidates that had close ties to the government and that no meritocratic selection was taking place.⁸ At a meeting with the Minister of Administrative Reconstruction, Greece's lenders requested a study carried out by Expertise France to examine the announcements for the disputed positions so that notices that were found to be problematic would be canceled. As a result, 22 posts were to be re-announced.⁹

Commitment 8. Implementation of the assessment of employees and services and control methods

Midterm: Limited

The implementation of this commitment was limited during midterm evaluation. The government fulfilled only some introductory steps, such as the definition of the content of the assessment forms by a ministerial decision.¹⁰ However, milestones such as the assessment goals, the hearing committee and the public administration observatory were pending. Civil servants were strongly opposed to their planned assessment by organizing general strikes that caused further delays in the process. For more information, please see the 2016-2018 midterm IRM report on the Greek action plan.¹¹

End of term: Limited

The government implemented some technical prerequisites for the electronic assessment of employees and conducted the following actions: a) in early May 2018 the government amended Law 4369/2016 and included changes that mandated the electronic evaluation of civil servants through a dedicated platform which is part of the Greek Public Register of Human Resources;¹² b) The Ministry of Administrative Reconstruction (MAR) issued guidelines in a video explaining how the electronic platform works;¹³ c) a decision from the Minister of Administrative Reconstruction specified the period and the individual phases of the evaluation; d) the Ministerial Decision also defined the form and content of the anonymous evaluation questionnaire, which should be completed by employees, in accordance with the provisions of Law 4369/2016;¹⁴ e) the system for the electronic submission of the assessment content was put into operation on 10 May 2018;¹⁵ and f) the evaluators completed the evaluation report forms by 20 July 2018. The next stage in validating and finalizing evaluation reports is expected to be completed by October 2018.¹⁶

The above actions are procedural steps and technical prerequisites for the electronic assessment of employees. However, a participatory element in which citizens and CSOs could play a role in the evaluation process is still missing and thus the implementation level of this commitment remains limited. An expert in open governance law¹⁷ considered that the steps undertaken in the implementation of this commitment improved the assessment of public sector employees. However, according to his assessment, public sector employees are still reticent in accepting a stricter internal evaluation framework¹⁸ and therefore allowing stakeholders outside the civil service to participate in the assessment would face significant pushback.¹⁹

Commitment 9. Implementation of a system for the selection of managers

Midterm: Substantial

The implementation of this commitment was substantial during the midterm review period. The government completed the necessary procedural requirements of the selection process such as the forms specifications, selection criteria, interview guidelines and calls of interest's publication.²⁰ Also the government amended legislation to allow individuals from the private sector to apply for heads of general directories in public agencies²¹ without specific selection criteria. The selection of the heads of general directories had been moved to September 2017, instead of April 2017 as it was originally expected. For more information, please see the 2016-2018 midterm IRM report on the Greek action plan.²²

End of term: Substantial

The first 12 General Secretaries for Ministries were selected via the new system in December 2017. A political dispute emerged from the selection process. Two Members of Parliament from the opposition political party "Potami" questioned the objectivity of the selection criteria by claiming that the Higher Council for Personnel Selection (ASEP) process had been circumvented. They requested that MAR should make the minutes from candidates interviews public.²³ The government responded to the above allegations through the then Minister of Administrative Reconstruction, Ms Olga Gerovasili, who defended the selection process.²⁴ As far as the request to make public the minutes from candidates' interviews is concerned, the Minister stated that this is beyond the government's responsibility and this decision can only be made by ASEP.²⁵ It has to be noted that ASEP is a constitutionally mandated independent authority that is "the institutional guardian of the principles of transparency, publicity, objectivity and meritocracy in the civil personnel selection".²⁶

The selection process continued throughout 2018 and expanded to cover lower managerial positions. In March 2018, MAR issued guidelines requesting that the Human Resource departments of public agencies start publishing calls of interest for lower managerial positions.²⁷ The supplemental memorandum between Greece and its lenders, updated in May 2018, mentions that the entire process to appoint general secretaries, as well as directors, should be completed by October 2018.²⁸

At the time of writing this report the government point of contact for OGP stated that the managerial positions of the Administrative and Sectoral Secretaries of all Ministries have been made public and the procedure for submitting applications has also been completed.²⁹ However, final selection is still pending.³⁰

Did It Open Government?

Commitment 7. National register of line managers of the public administration

Access to Information: Marginal

Although this commitment had no direct relevance to OGP values, its implementation resulted in an incremental improvement in opening government as far as accessing information regarding the selection of public managers is concerned. Prior to this commitment the registering process was opaque. Currently, an online national register of managers is publicly available on the webpage of the Supreme Council for Civil Personnel Selection (ASEP).³¹ The registry is updated at least once a month and openly provides access to information such as names, department, years of serving in managerial positions and university degree titles for every member of the register.³² For this reason it can be considered that this commitment has had a marginal effect in changing government practice on access to information.

Commitment 8. Implementation of the assessment of employees and services and control methods

Access to Information: Did Not Change

Civic Participation: Did Not Change

The evaluation of public employees is a crucial policy demanded by Greece's creditors and the Greek government to move towards a more effective distribution of human resources across agencies.³³ With this commitment, the government attempted to introduce elements of transparency and public participation in the assessment of employees. The assessment was in practice implemented as an internal public administration process. As such it remained closed for public scrutiny even though some CSOs, like Transparency International Greece, had expressed interest in opening up the questionnaires and contributing to reviewing the selection criteria and assessment methods.³⁴ While the government has made the evaluation forms public,³⁵ currently there is no indication about whether aggregate data concerning the content of the completed evaluation forms will be made public in an open anonymized format. For these reasons, this commitment has not changed government practice.

Commitment 9: Implementation of a system for the selection of managers

Access to Information: Marginal

The system for the selection of managers in the Greek public sector has long been linked to clientelism and favoritism.³⁶ With this commitment, the government wanted to establish a transparent and meritocratic system for the selection of managers. An important step forward in relation to transparency is the fact that all calls are currently published in the Transparency Portal *Diavgeia* (Clarity) as a result of this commitment. A published call, for example, includes detailed information such as the title of the position, the required qualifications and working experience, who can apply, the phases of the selection process, and accepted ways to prove qualifications.³⁷ Moreover, the body responsible for monitoring the selection process (ASEP) is a constitutionally established independent agency. Although the involvement of ASEP guarantees a certain level of transparency and meritocracy in the selection process, this commitment only had a marginal impact in changing government practice, as no information about the justification of the appointments, beyond calls and the results of the final selection, had been published online.

Transparency International Greece suggested that candidates' certificates, as well as the media files of interview recordings, could be open to the public, so that everyone could monitor them.³⁸ ASEP only publishes tables showing the results of the selection with a list ranking the candidates and the results in cases of objections.³⁹ According to Dr Lilian Mitrou, associate professor at the University of the Aegean and an expert in e-government, open public access to the candidates' certificates and interview recordings is not legitimate but it could be allowed for people who can prove a direct legitimate interest.⁴⁰ Dr Mitrou suggests that an expansion of the audit mechanism, by sending certificates and interview recordings to the parliament, would help increase public trust in the selection system.⁴¹ At the time of writing this report, the final selection was still pending and the government was given a deadline extension until March 2019.⁴²

Carried Forward?

MAR staff did not indicate that these commitments would be carried forward into the next action plan, since commitments 7 through 9 were initially actions agreed with Greece's lenders as part of the effort to depoliticize the public sector.⁴³ It is possible that these will continue to be implemented outside the scope of a new action plan.

¹ Kathimerini, "The Clientalistic State brought the Memorandums" (in Greek), <http://www.kathimerini.gr/871010/article/epikairotha/politikh/to-pelateiako-kratos-efere-ta-mnhmonia>

² ASEP - National Registry for Public Sector Managers (in Greek), <https://goo.gl/e2iSfq>

- ³ MAR written response to IRM researchers' questions (in Greek), 23 September 2017, <https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B2uhxfYzE1dgWXQyQUIDSmxDYjZxM3JsRTVzUkduWWNaZlc0/view>
- ⁴ Response from Transparency International Greece to IRM researchers' questions, 20 November 2017.
- ⁵ OGP, "Independent Reporting Mechanism (IRM) Progress Report 2016–2018: Greece", <https://www.opengovpartnership.org/documents/greece-mid-term-report-2016-2018-public-comment>
- ⁶ E-Dimosio, "7000 applications for 60 General Secretary positions" (in Greek), <https://www.e-dimosio.gr/dimosio/136718/7-000-etisis-gia-69-thesis-genikon-grammateon/>
- ⁷ Nancy Routzouni, national point of contact, response to IRM researcher questionnaire, September 2018.
- ⁸ Kathimerini, "Tight Framework for the selection of General Secretaries is requested by the Troika", <http://www.kathimerini.gr/966173/article/oikonomia/ellhnikh-oikonomia/sfixto-plaisio-gia-thn-epilogh-twn-genikwn-grammatewn-sto-dimosio-8etei-h-troika>
- ⁹ Aftodioikisi, "Bad practices in selecting General Secretaries", Local Administration News (in Greek), <https://www.aftodioikisi.gr/ipourgeia/paradochi-gerovasil-kakes-praktikes-stin-epilogi-genikon-grammateon-xana-ypopsifia-periferiarchis/>
- ¹⁰ The ministerial decision (in Greek), http://www.minadmin.gov.gr/wp-content/uploads/20170928_egyklis.pdf
- ¹¹ OGP, "Independent Reporting Mechanism (IRM) Progress Report 2016–2018: Greece", <https://www.opengovpartnership.org/documents/greece-mid-term-report-2016-2018-public-comment>
- ¹² Amendment of provisions of Law 4369/2016 on the electronic evaluation of personnel, MAR website (in Greek), <http://www.minadmin.gov.gr/?p=28935>
- ¹³ A presentation of the Electronic Assessment Platform (in Greek), https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=6&v=miCGBFFtL0
- ¹⁴ Evaluation Process for Civil Servants, Greek Government website (in Greek), <https://government.gov.gr/diadikasia-axiologisis-ton-dimosion-ipallilon/>
- ¹⁵ Registering data from evaluators, submitting the report to the evaluators and registering evaluators for the rating period of 2017, MAR website (in Greek), <http://www.minadmin.gov.gr/?p=29725>
- ¹⁶ Nancy Routzouni, national point of contact, response to IRM researcher questionnaire, September 2018.
- ¹⁷ Panoraia Spiliopoulou, Open Governance Law Expert, interview with IRM researchers, October 2018.
- ¹⁸ National Union of Public Sector Workers (ADEDY) "Evaluation. Strike-Abstention. Actions by ADEDY" (in Greek), <http://adedy.gr/ajiologisiapergiapoxidraseis/>
- ¹⁹ Panoraia Spiliopoulou, Open Governance Law Expert, interview with IRM researchers, October 2018.
- ²⁰ Aftodioikisi, "Unlock the selection of general managers - What you need to know" (in Greek), <http://www.aftodioikisi.gr/dimosio/plisiazoun-oi-kriseis-ola-osa-thelete-na-xerete-gia-tin-epilogiproistamenon-sto-dimosio/>
- ²¹ Liberal, "Meritocracy in selecting public sector managers" (in Greek), <http://m.liberal.gr/#!/app/article/182819/homepage>; The amendment (in Greek), <http://www.hellenicparliament.gr/UserFiles/bbb19498-1ec8-431f-82e6-023bb91713a9/10512729.pdf>
- ²² OGP, "Independent Reporting Mechanism (IRM) Progress Report 2016–2018: Greece", <https://www.opengovpartnership.org/documents/greece-mid-term-report-2016-2018-public-comment>
- ²³ Capital, "Potami: They are sidestepping ASEP for selecting public sector directors", <http://www.capital.gr/politiki/3271838/potami-parakamptoun-ta-kritiria-tou-asep-stin-epilogi-dieuthnton-sto-dimosio>
- ²⁴ Aftodioikisi, "Bad practices in selecting General Secretaries", <https://www.aftodioikisi.gr/ipourgeia/paradochi-gerovasil-kakes-praktikes-stin-epilogi-genikon-grammateon-xana-ypopsifia-periferiarchis/>
- ²⁵ Hellenic Parliament, answer to parliamentary question submitted by Giorgos Mavrotas (MP) and Grigoris Psarianos (MP) on the selection process of the first 12 General Secretaries (in Greek), <https://www.hellenicparliament.gr/UserFiles/67715b2c-ec81-4f0c-ad6a-476a34d732bd/10618754.pdf>
- ²⁶ ASEP function and operation (in Greek),: <https://goo.gl/e8q476>
- ²⁷ Aftodioikisi, "The selection of public sector managers starts" (in Greek), <https://www.aftodioikisi.gr/ipourgeia/ypda-xekina-diadikasia-epilogis-diefthynton-sto-dimosio-egkyklios/>
- ²⁸ Aftodioikisi, "Agreement with Institutions: Completion of the appointment procedure for secretaries until October" (in Greek), <https://www.aftodioikisi.gr/ipourgeia/symfonia-me-thesmous-eos-oktovrio-i-oloklirosi-diadikasias-gia-genikous-grammatis/>
- ²⁹ Nancy Routzouni, national point of contact, response to IRM researcher questionnaire, September 2018.
- ³⁰ Capital, "Bomb" in the budget from new recruits and salary increases in the state, three-month extension for the "depolicitization" of the State" (in Greek), <http://www.capital.gr/oikonomia/3324387/-bomba-ston-proupologismo-apo-tis-nees-proslipseis-kai-auxiseis-misthon-sto-dimosio>
- ³¹ The Supreme Council for Civil Personnel Selection (ASEP), <https://www.asep.gr>
- ³² The updated lists of the national register for public managers, http://www.asep.gr/webcenter/faces/oracle/webcenter/page/scopedMD/s3eab32ab_c911_478a_8f8b_0ef74565e04d/Page802.jspx?_adf.ctrl-state=7as5b05vb_42&wc.contextURL=%2Fspaces%2Fasep&_afLoop=2316797420458554#
- ³³ Kathimerini, "Gov't bid to accelerate civil servant assessment scheme" (English version), <http://www.ekathimerini.com/220873/article/ekathimerini/news/govt-bid-to-accelerate-civil-servant-assessment-scheme>
- ³⁴ Dr D. Rigopoulos, Transparency International Greece, interview with IRM researcher, Athens, 21 November 2017.
- ³⁵ The employee evaluation forms (in Greek), http://apografi.gov.gr/evaluation/eval_entypa.html
- ³⁶ Analysis of Afonso, Alexandre, Sotirios Zartaloudis, and Yannis Papadopoulos, "How party linkages shape austerity politics: clientelism and fiscal adjustment in Greece and Portugal during the eurozone crisis." *Journal of European Public Policy* 22.3 (2015): 315-334.
- ³⁷ An example of a published call (in Greek), <https://goo.gl/aXjBN>

³⁸ Dr. Dionysis Rigopoulos, Transparency International Greece, interview with IRM researchers, Athens, 21 November 2017.

³⁹ For results tables see for instance (compressed results files from ASEP), <https://goo.gl/k8tBHq>

⁴⁰ Lilian Mitrou, Associate Professor at the University of the Aegean-Greece (Department of Information and Communication Systems Engineering), interview with IRM researcher, Athens, 4 November 2018.

⁴¹ Ibid.

⁴² For more information (in Greek), <http://www.capital.gr/oikonomia/3324387/-bomba-ston-proupologismo-apo-tis-nees-proslipseis-kai-auxiseis-misthon-sto-dimosio>

⁴³ Aftodioikisi, "Memorandum-Public Sector: What does it provide for evaluation, mobility, selection of executives, allowances, contract staff" (in Greek), <https://www.aftodioikisi.gr/dimosio/mnimonio-dimosio-ti-provlepei-gia-axiologisi-kinitikotita-epilogi-stelexon-epidomata-simvasiouxous/>

Theme IV: Open Public Administration Studies

Commitment 10. Digital repository of Public Administration Studies

Procedure simplification with the ability of unique submission in Transparency platform and announcement only of the NNP and the necessary elements by the submitted evidence for the adequate registration and documentation at the digital repository of the National School of Public Administration and Local Government. Utilization of the gathered elements.

Responsible Institution(s): Ministry of Interior & Administrative Reform & National Centre for Public Administration and Local Government

Supporting Institution(s): none

Start Date: July 2016

End Date: December 2017

Editorial Note: The action plan text has been abridged by the IRM. For the full version, please see https://www.opengovpartnership.org/sites/default/files/GREEK_NAP3-OGP-ENG_0.pdf

Commitment Overview	Specificity				OGP Value Relevance (as written)				Potential Impact				Completion		Midterm End of Term		Did It Open Government?				
	None	Low	Medium	High	Access to Information	Civic Participation	Public Accountability	Technology & Innovation for Transparency & Accountability	None	Minor	Moderate	Transformative	Not Started	Limited	Substantial	Completed	Worsened	Did Not Change	Marginal	Major	Outstanding
10. Digital repository of public administration studies		✓			✓					✓			✓					✓			

Commitment Aim:

This commitment aimed to provide citizens with access to studies and reports that were funded using public money. According to the current regulatory framework these studies were to be uploaded to the Depository for State Treasury Studies. Because only a small percentage of studies is currently published, this commitment aspires to enforce a legal mandate to employ the Diavgeia Transparency Portal as the single point for submitting studies.¹ However, the commitment language is vague and thus the potential impact remained unclear.

Status

Midterm: Not Started

At the midterm evaluation there was no evidence to indicate the progress status of this commitment. It was unclear which areas the regulatory amendment should improve. Additionally, the government self-assessment report made no mention of this commitment.

End of Term: Not Started

According to the PoC there has been no progress in implementing this commitment.²

Did It Open Government?

Access to information: Did Not Change

Since commitment implementation has not yet started there has been no change in government practice.

Carried forward?

There is no indication that this commitment will be carried forward. The government could specify the content of the regulatory intervention. A representative from Open Technologies Alliance (GFOSS) noted that it would be useful for researchers and civil society alike to develop a specific methodology to ensure that all research and studies paid for by the government are available in the system. These documents could also make use of the Creative Commons license, allowing them to be reused. The government could make the uploading of publicly funded studies and research on the Diavgeia Transparency Portal a prerequisite for completing payment for the study.³

¹ OGP, “Independent Reporting Mechanism (IRM) Progress Report 2016–2018: Greece”, <https://www.opengovpartnership.org/documents/greece-mid-term-report-2016-2018-public-comment>

² Nancy Routzouni, national point of contact, response to IRM researcher questionnaire, September 2018.

³ OGP, “Independent Reporting Mechanism (IRM) Progress Report 2016–2018: Greece”, <https://www.opengovpartnership.org/documents/greece-mid-term-report-2016-2018-public-comment>

Theme V: Commitments on Culture

Commitment 11. Provision of Open Cultural Data

According to Law 4305/2014 “Open provision of Public Sector Data etc.” cultural information should be open. For the moment there are no established procedures regarding publishing relevant information due to the establishment of new regulatory acts concerning cultural information (Law 3028/2002). The Ministry of Culture and Sports, as well as supervised public bodies, own an important amount of cultural data which can be available for re-use by citizens, academic institutes and enterprises in order to contribute to the development of the national cultural product. Provide open linked data and more specifically: the largest part of the cultural mobile monuments of the country, the largest part of the geospatial data about the location, type, description and operation of archaeological places and cultural organizations.

Milestones: 11.1. Completion of the National Digital Archaeological Cadastral Registry which will make possible the publication of the cultural data, 11.2 Implementation of interoperability services for the re-usability of cultural data from third party bodies, academic institutions and individuals.

(Ministry of Culture and Sports in cooperation with the General Secretariat of Culture and the regulated entities of the Ministry of Culture and Sports; July 2016 – mid 2018)

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Commitment Overview	Specificity				OGP Value Relevance (as written)				Potential Impact				Completion		Midterm End of Term		Did It Open Government?				
	None	Low	Medium	High	Access to Information	Civic Participation	Public Accountability	Technology & Innovation for Transparency & Accountability	None	Minor	Moderate	Transformative	Not Started	Limited	Substantial	Completed	Worsened	Did Not Change	Marginal	Major	Outstanding
11. Provision of Open Cultural Data		✓			✓				✓					✓				✓			

Commitment Aim:

This commitment aimed to release information regarding cultural patrimony. Prior to this commitment the Ministry of Culture issued the ministerial decision¹ which categorized the types of datasets that should be released under the provisions of Law 4305/2014 that mandates the open by default policy.² However, the commitment had low specificity because it does not mention specific datasets. Its focus is in providing open, linked data to cultural monuments and geospatial data on archaeological sites and cultural organizations. According to the commitment text, the creation of a National Monuments Registry and common standards for data utilization were prerequisites for implementation.

Status

Midterm: Limited

The commitment had limited progress during midterm. The signing of the contract to develop the National Digital Archaeological Cadastral Registry was expected by July 2017 but did not materialize. An exact list with specific cultural patrimony datasets to be released via a new platform did not become available. In addition, the IRM researchers were unable to find cultural patrimony datasets in the central open data government portal, data.gov.gr.³ For more information, please see the 2016-2018 midterm IRM report on the Greek action plan.⁴

End of term: Limited

Through the National Strategic Reference Frameworks 2007-13 and 2014-2020, the Ministry of Culture is implementing a project entitled "Enrichment of Digital Collections of Mobile Monuments of the Ministry of Culture and Sport and Development of an Information System of the National Monument Archives". According to the administrator responsible for reporting on commitment implementation, 243,000 previously unmarked mobile monuments have been documented. Also, according to the same administrator 340,000 additional monuments have been digitized and integrated into the digital registry.⁵ Another portal is planned to host all the digitized material displaying reader friendly texts and virtual exhibitions.

Both the registry IT system and the portal are still in an early development phase. In the context of the EU funded project "Archaeological Cadastre" under the program "Competitiveness Entrepreneurship and Innovation 2014-2020", the Integrated Information System of the Archaeological Cadastre and the "GAIA" Portal has been completed.⁶

However, the information that has been digitized is currently accessible only internally by the Ministry of Culture and Sport.⁷ This subproject's completion date was 3 October 2018 but may be extended for another month as a relevant request has been made by the contractor. The delay in releasing the Archaeological Cadastre received media coverage in a newspaper report stating that sources within the Ministry of Culture attribute it to disagreements that emerged between the companies responsible for developing different subprojects of the main project.⁸ There is not enough progress in making cultural patrimony information publicly available to justify an update in the implementation status of this commitment. Therefore, the level of completion remains limited.

Did It Open Government?

Access to Information: Did Not Change

This commitment aimed to increase available information on cultural patrimony. Since no actual data has been released there is no observable change in practice.

Carried Forward?

The government has not released a new action plan and thus it remains unclear whether this commitment or any relevant development will be included. According to the representative of Open Technologies Alliance, given the fact that implementation is dependent on public procurement of IT projects, the Ministry of Culture could consider a more collaborative approach that opens up the development phase. A first step would be to provide a public-facing element where citizens and civil society could monitor the progress of IT systems and platforms and provide feedback. Beyond soliciting technical feedback, the Ministry could even crowdsource the documentation process.⁹

¹ The ministerial decision (in Greek),

https://www.culture.gr/DocLib/APOFASI_SYNOLON_DEDOMENON_YPOA_300616_AA_ADA_signed.pdf

² Amendments to the ministerial decision, <https://www.culture.gr/el/service/SitePages/view.aspx?ilD=2714>

³ Ministry of Culture and Sport datasets at the data.gov.gr repository (in Greek), <http://www.data.gov.gr/organization/yppoa>

⁴ OGP, "Independent Reporting Mechanism (IRM) Progress Report 2016–2018: Greece",

<https://www.opengovpartnership.org/documents/greece-mid-term-report-2016-2018-public-comment>

⁵ Information retrieved from the internal OGP Greece project management tool, September 2018.

⁶ Ibid.

⁷ Ibid.

⁸ To Vima, “The disappearance of the Archaeological Cadastre” (in Greek), https://www.tovima.gr/printed_post/yppo-eksafanisi-lfto-arxaiologiko-ktimatologio/

⁹ Despina Mitropoulou, General Director of Open Technologies Alliance (GFOSS), interview with IRM researcher, August 2018.

Theme VI: Commitments on Maritime Affairs

Commitment 12: Geospatial Maritime Data

The commitment is regarding disposal of geographical information for maritime area planning and design concerning the maritime sector. The main restrictions for the availability of these data sets in open form are the technical implementations and the readiness of the engaged authorities. The data sets that will be provided in open and editable form through the central portal data.gov.gr, our websites (www.hcg.gr, www.yna.gov.gr) and also the geographical information platform, mainly include per sector:

- Borders for fishing activity, Borders for fishing activity per Port Authority,
- General Port Regulations and Special Port Regulations.

The goal is the distribution of the aforementioned data sets as open data through the central portal data.gov.gr, our websites (www.hcg.gr, www.yna.gov.gr) and also the relative geographical information platform.

Responsible Institution(s): Ministry of Maritime Affairs and Insular Policy

Supporting Institution(s): none

Start Date: July 2016

End Date: June 2017

Commitment 13: Ship/Company and Seafarer Registers

The commitment is regarding disposal of open data sets for the maritime sector. The main restrictions for the availability of these data sets in open form are the technical implementation and the readiness of the engaged Authorities. The data sets that will be provided in open and editable form through the central portal data.gov.gr and our websites (www.hcg.gr, www.yna.gov.gr), mainly include per sector:

- Ship/Company Register: Total number of ships that are subjected to the Article 13 of the Law 2687/53, Total number of foreign maritime companies that maintain licensed offices installed in Greece, according to Article 25 of the Law 27/75, Total number of registered maritime companies that are subjected to the Law 959/79;
- Fishing Fleet Data: Names of fishing vessels, Categories of fishing vessels per Port Authority;
- Seafarer Register: Total number of active seafarers.

The goal is to distribute the aforementioned data sets as open data through the central portal data.gov.gr and our websites (www.hcg.gr, www.yna.gov.gr).

Responsible Institution(s): Ministry of Maritime Affairs and Insular Policy

Supporting Institution(s): none

Start Date: July 2016

End Date: December 2017

Commitment 14: Marine and Maritime Activity

The commitment is regarding disposal of open data sets for the maritime sector. The main restrictions for the disposal of these data sets in open form are the technical implementation and the readiness of the engaged Authorities. The data sets that will be provided in open and editable form through the central portal data.gov.gr and our websites (www.hcg.gr, www.yna.gov.gr), mainly include per sector:

- Ship Inspection: Certificates on certain ship categories, Categories of seaworthiness certificates;

- *Statistical Data for Ridership, Statistical data for transported passengers and vehicles; Statistical Data for Passenger Complaints;*
- *Licenses – Certificates: Statistical data for licenses and certificates concerning the Port Police*
- *Analysis of Pollution Incidents, Statistical data for sea pollution incidents and how they were confronted;*
- *Data for Fishing Activity: Data for fines on fishing offenses (total amount of money, days of license removal etc.), Number of fishing licenses issued per category; Statistical Data for Incidents managed by the Operations Center or the Search and Rescue Center.*

Responsible Institution(s): Ministry of Maritime Affairs and Insular Policy

Supporting Institution(s): none

Start Date: July 2016

End Date: December 2017

Editorial Note: The action plan text has been abridged by IRM. For full version, please see https://www.opengovpartnership.org/sites/default/files/GREEK_NAP3-OGP-ENG_0.pdf

Commitment Overview	Specificity				OGP Value Relevance (as written)				Potential Impact				Completion		Midterm End of Term		Did It Open Government?				
	None	Low	Medium	High	Access to Information	Civic Participation	Public Accountability	Technology & Innovation for Transparency & Accountability	None	Minor	Moderate	Transformative	Not Started	Limited	Substantial	Completed	Worsened	Did Not Change	Marginal	Major	Outstanding
12. Geospatial Maritime data			✓		✓						✓				✓				✓		
13. Ship/company and seafarer registers			✓		✓					✓				✓				✓			
14. Marine and maritime activity			✓		✓						✓			✓				✓			

Commitment Aim:

This set of commitments aimed at providing access to open datasets on maritime issues. Such issues concern marine activities, port regulations, registered companies and ships, active ridership and pollution. Prior to this commitment this data was not available in the central data.gov.gr open data portal.¹ Maritime data contains valuable information for environmental protection and may boost economic development. More specifically:

- Commitment 12 is about geospatial maritime data and aims to promote spatial planning by providing data that will help citizens make sense of rules and regulations about various maritime activities, such as areas where fishing is permitted or prohibited.

- Commitment 13 is about ship/company and seafarer registers and aims to increase transparency in maritime affairs by providing citizens with access to a ship/company registry.
- Commitment 14 is about marine and maritime activity and aims to provide datasets on fishing activity and environmental protection.

Status

Commitment 12. Geospatial maritime data

Midterm: Substantial

This commitment aimed at providing datasets covering borders for fishing activity per port authority as well as general port regulations and special port regulations. At midterm, the commitment had been substantially completed, with government having published the datasets on borders for fishing activity per port authority. The commitment would be fully implemented with the release of general port regulations and special port regulations. For more information, please see the 2016-2018 midterm IRM report on the Greek action plan.²

End of term: Complete

The Ministry of Maritime Affairs published the general port regulations on its official website and thus fulfilled the implementation of the commitment.³ According to officials from the Ministry of Maritime affairs, the regulations will be also published on the central open data platform data.gov.gr.⁴

Commitments 13 & 14. Ship/company and seafarer registers/ Marine and maritime activity

Midterm: Limited

The implementation of commitments 13 and 14 was limited at the midterm because the publication of the datasets listed in the action plan was still pending. According to officials from the Ministry of Maritime Affairs, some initial work had been done and the publication of the datasets was expected by June 2018. For more information, please see the 2016-2018 midterm IRM report on the Greek action plan.⁵

End of term: Limited

No further progress has been made since the midterm assessment. No datasets were published in the central data.gov.gr portal or elsewhere.⁶ Officials from the Ministry of Maritime Affairs explained that the release of the datasets depended on IT systems that were currently under development.⁷ Thus, the initial timeline for releasing the datasets has been moved beyond the action plan cycle towards the end of 2018. The table below summarizes the available datasets during the period (2017-2018):

Table: Availability of maritime datasets in 2017-2018⁸

Commitment	Dataset	Disposition
12. Geospatial Maritime Data	Borders for fishing activity (per port authority)	Available ⁹
	General Port Regulations and Special Port Regulations	Not available
	Total number of ships	Not available
	Total number of foreign maritime companies that maintain licensed offices installed in Greece	Not available

13. Ship/Company and Seafarer Registers	Total number of registered maritime companies	Not available
	Names of fishing vessels	Not available
	Categories of fishing vessels per Port Authority	Not available
	Total number of active seafarers	Not available
14. Marine and Maritime Activity	Ship Inspection: Certificates on certain ship categories, Categories of seaworthiness certificates; Statistical Data for Ridership, Statistical data for transported passengers and vehicles; and Statistical Data for Passenger Complaints	Not available
	Licenses – Certificates: Statistical data for licenses and certificates concerning the Port Police Analysis of Pollution Incidents, Statistical data for sea pollution incidents and how they were confronted	Not available

Did It Open Government?

Commitment 12. Geospatial maritime data Access to Information: Marginal

This commitment attempted to address the problem of a lack of openly available geospatial data in maritime affairs. Much of the geospatial maritime data exists within the Ministry but has not been published in open data format, which would allow re-use of these key datasets. Under this commitment, the Ministry published datasets that define the borders within which fishing is permitted and prohibited for some port authorities. Also, the government started to systematically publish port regulations. Nikolas Leontopoulos, an investigative journalist, expressed that there is a small change in government practice especially as far as administrative culture on releasing data is concerned.¹⁰ According to Mr. Leontopoulos, this change is a result of international peer pressure from EU institutions, country lenders and OGP.¹¹

Commitments 13 & 14. Ship/company and seafarer registers/ Marine and maritime activity

Access to Information: Did Not Change

Commitments 13 and 14 aimed at releasing specific datasets regarding ship company registers and fishing activity in the hope that their availability would have a positive impact in managing maritime affairs information and decision making, as well as environment protection. However, due to delays in the development of IT systems the release of all datasets under these commitments is still pending and thus there is no change in government practice.

Carried Forward?

There has been no indication from the Ministry of Maritime Affairs¹² that the commitments will continue in some form. The IRM researchers suggested in the midterm report that data opened by the Ministry could also cover more high-value areas. This would include employment records (distinguishing between ferryboats, Greek-owned Greek flag, and Greek-owned foreign flagged) and ownership records (flag and ship registers, company register), similar to the more comprehensive maritime data lists maintained by Cyprus.¹³ The government could also move towards data harmonization with broader European standardized formats, such as the Dutch-led Automatic Identification System which allows the tracking of ships, their emissions, navigation lanes, and economic activity.

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- ¹ Ministry of Maritime and Insular Affairs datasets at the data.gov.gr repository (in Greek), <http://www.data.gov.gr/organization/yen>
- ² OGP, “Independent Reporting Mechanism (IRM) Progress Report 2016–2018: Greece”, <https://www.opengovpartnership.org/documents/greece-mid-term-report-2016-2018-public-comment>
- ³ General Port Regulations, Ministry of Maritime Affairs, <https://www.yen.gr/dla-genikoi-kanonismoi-limenon>
- ⁴ Lieutenant Commander Ioannis Margaronis, telephone interview with IRM researcher, July 2018.
- ⁵ OGP, “Independent Reporting Mechanism (IRM) Progress Report 2016–2018: Greece”, <https://www.opengovpartnership.org/documents/greece-mid-term-report-2016-2018-public-comment>
- ⁶ Ministry of Maritime and Insular Affairs datasets at the data.gov.gr repository (in Greek), <http://www.data.gov.gr/organization/yen>
- ⁷ Lieutenant Commander Ioannis Margaronis, telephone interview with IRM researcher, July 2018.
- ⁸ OGP, “Independent Reporting Mechanism (IRM) Progress Report 2016–2018: Greece”, <https://www.opengovpartnership.org/documents/greece-mid-term-report-2016-2018-public-comment>
- ⁹ Borders for fishing activity dataset, <http://www.hcg.gr/node/15267>, <https://www.yen.gr/geochorika-dedomena-nautilias> and <http://data.gov.gr/dataset/apagoreymenes-perioxes-alieias>
- ¹⁰ Nikolas Leontopoulos, investigative journalist with Investigate Europe, interview with IRM researchers, Athens, October 2018.
- ¹¹ Ibid.
- ¹² Lieutenant Commander Ioannis Margaronis, telephone interview with IRM researcher, July 2018.
- ¹³ Cyprus National Open Data Portal Maritime data, archived website version via the Wayback Machine, <https://goo.gl/FcrKCZ>

Theme VII: Commitments on Economy

☛Commitments 15. Public Property Open Data

An e-service regarding the registration & detailed information of public property is under construction. The main objective is to avoid encroachment & unregulated exploitation of public property. An e-auction platform for permitted leasing of seashore sites is also scheduled. Free access to data regarding public property concerning:

- Seashore (Registry and ID Database of defined seashore line, beach, riparian and previously defined seashores, related legislation, geospatial data and open e-auctions);
- Public Welfare Property (Public Welfare Property Registry Database - calls for competitions etc.);
- Expropriations (Registry and ID database, expropriations declaration or withdrawal, related legislation);
- Property Value Determination through specific platform;
- Housing Public services (open calls for competitions, office modulation, technical specifications files, administrative decisions);
- Construction and Maintenance of public building property (e.g. data regarding competitions for building constructions).

Responsible Institution(s): General Secretariat of Public Property; General Secretariat of Informational Systems & Management Support of Ministry of Finance

Start Date: July 2016

End Date: December 2017

Commitments 16. KPI's [Key Performance Indicators] for the implementation of Public and EU Financed Projects

The aim of this commitment is to provide, on a specific website, necessary information about the project management of all projects financed by the National Strategic Reference Framework (NSRF) and the PIP based on specific indicators as defined in the Operational Programs and in cooperation with Greek Statistic Authority (ELSTAT). The key elements of this commitment related to the implementation details of the projects, geospatial mapping with presentation of project metadata, connection to indicators for monitoring the impact of projects in society and feedback collection from citizens about the projects.

Responsible Institution(s): Ministry of Economy, Development and Tourism; Public Secretariat of Public Investments and NSRF

Start Date: July 2016

End Date: December 2018

Editorial Note: The action plan text has been abridged by the IRM. For the full version, please see https://www.opengovpartnership.org/sites/default/files/GREEK_NAP3-OGP-ENG_0.pdf

Commitment Overview	Specificity	OGP Value Relevance (as written)	Potential Impact	Completion	Midterm	Did It Open Government?
					End of Term	

	None	Low	Medium	High	Access to Information	Civic Participation	Public Accountability	Technology & Innovation for Transparency & Accountability	None	Minor	Moderate	Transformative	Not Started	Limited	Substantial	Completed	Worsened	Did Not Change	Marginal	Major	Outstanding
✚ 15. Public property open data			✓		✓							✓		✓						✓	
16. EU financed project KPIs			✓		✓						✓		✓						✓		

Editorial note: Commitment 15 is clearly relevant to OGP values as written, has transformative potential impact, and is substantially or completely implemented and therefore qualifies as a starred commitment.

Commitment Aim:

This set of commitments on economy aimed to revise public property management by opening up public data and providing an e-auction platform to lease coastal property locations. Prior to this commitment the leasing of coastal areas was under the authority of municipalities and the economic results were limited.¹ The function of the e-auction platform purports to raise public revenues stemming from public lands leasing. Commitment 16 aims to publish uniform, detailed data on the implementation of public and EU-financed projects and involve the public in assessing their social and economic impact. Commitment 15 sets out to provide the public with specific data, such as:

- Registry and ID Database of defined seashore line
- Public Welfare Property
- Construction and Maintenance of public building property
- Public Property Value Determination

Status

Commitment 15. Public property open data

Midterm: Limited

This commitment had limited implementation during 2016 - 2017. The Ministry of Finance put in place a team of public sector employees dedicated to moving the commitment forward. Some pilot e-auctions took place in June 2017 for a limited number of coasts. According to the Ministry of Finance OGP management team, 50 more coastal areas were expected to go through the new e-auction platform by the end of 2017 and 100 more throughout 2018.² Moreover, the listed datasets were expected to be published during 2018 depending on releasing a decision that defines guidelines for their classification. Early results showed a reduction in the administrative burden of public services and the minimization of public agencies' physical contact with citizens.³

End of term: Complete

The Ministry of Finance fully completed this commitment and continued to lease coastal areas via the e-auction platform throughout 2017 and 2018.⁴ For those interested in participating in the auction the Ministry issued guidelines,⁵ the programmed auctions⁶ and a map showing the coastal areas in which e-auctions took place.⁷ According to the Ministry project management team, 61 auctions took place by the end of 2017. This number exceeds the initial estimate of 50 auctions that took place during the midterm progress assessment. In 2018 a total of 179 auctions have been completed and this number also greatly exceeds the initial estimate of 100. Overall, auctions were conducted in 18 of the 43 prefectures that have coastal areas. According to employees from the General Secretary for Public property,⁸ the difference between starting and closing prices of online auctions was approximately €650,000.

The Ministry of Finance released most of the listed commitment datasets. An aggregate list of the datasets is publicly available.⁹ Specifically the Ministry of Finance published datasets for the registry of designated coastal areas, the public property and welfare registry and the registry of expropriations. The release of the dataset concerning public property value determination is still pending. However, the Ministry of Finance advanced the release of additional relevant datasets that were not officially included in the action plan, such as datasets concerning the concession of coastal areas use for port works,¹⁰ the legislation for public welfare property,¹¹ and an online index for public welfare property that contains a series of information about the institutions that possess and manage public property.¹²

Commitment 16. KPIs for the implementation of public and EU-financed projects

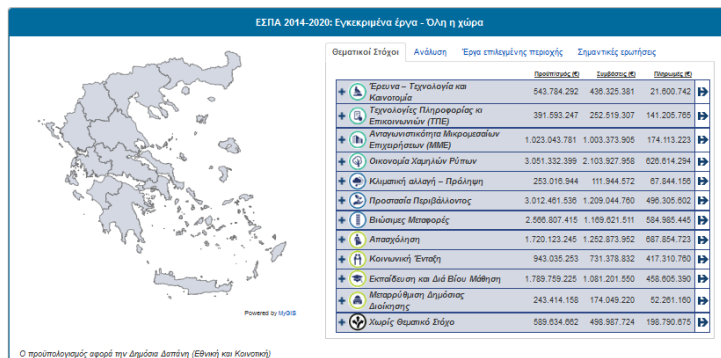
Midterm: Not Started

The Ministry of Economy, Development, and Tourism began some preparatory actions that would enable implementation. Such actions included the insertion of publicly-funded project descriptions in the IT system. The release of the actual data was expected by the end of 2018. The implementation of this commitment therefore had not effectively started at the midterm review point.

End of term: Limited

This commitment showed some but insufficient progress following midterm evaluation. A new website that displays information about the National Strategic Framework data is currently under development at anaptyxi2020.ops.gr. This website provides citizens with aggregate data (see Figure 1) on the total budget, contracts and payments for EU-funded projects in 11 thematic areas¹³ and the total amounts of approved projects per Region. On the project grants webpage, citizens can search the performance of individual projects either by keywords or geographic and thematic areas. As far as implementation of KPIs per individual projects is concerned, only output KPIs are currently available.¹⁴ A page dedicated to open data is under construction but at the time of writing no datasets could be retrieved.¹⁵ The commitment will be fully implemented when social impact KPIs are inserted into the IT system and when a participatory element is available for citizens to interact with the website by submitting their comments and evaluations. A screenshot of the anaptyxi2020.ops.gr website is available below (see Figure 1: National Strategic Framework Data Dashboard).

Figure 1 - National Strategic Framework Data Dashboard



Τι είναι το ANAPITYEH.gov.gr

Το ANAPITYEH.gov.gr είναι ο επίσημος διαδικτυακός τόπος του Υπουργείου Οικονομίας και Ανάπτυξης που παρέχει αναλυτική πληροφόρηση για την παροχή υλοποίησης των έργων του Εθνικού Στρατηγικού Πλαισίου Αναφοράς (ΕΣΠΑ 2007-2013) και του Εθνικού Συμφώνου για το Πλαίσιο Ανάπτυξης (ΕΣΠΑ 2014-2020).

Περισσότερα

Αναζήτηση Προγραμμάτων - Προσκλητήριων από espa.gr

Κείμενο αναζήτησης

Επιλέξτε είδος ενίσχυσης

Επιλέξτε ειδικό κοινό

Επιλέξτε τομέα ενδιαφέροντος

Επιλέξτε πρόγραμμα

Αναζήτηση

Χρήσιμοι σύνδεσμοι

ANAPITYEH.gov.gr

Τα έργα του ΕΣΠΑ 2007-2013

ΕΣΠΑ 2014-2020

Επένδυση στην Καινοτομία



Did It Open Government?

Commitment 15. Public property open data

Access to Information: Major

To ensure fair public property management for all citizens, the Ministry of Finance launched a central e-auction platform through which small and medium-sized businesses can directly rent coastal areas in a transparent manner.¹⁶ In terms of modernizing administrative practices, the results of this pilot e-auction application represents a major step forward as with the release of a series of coast relevant datasets the government managed to provide interactive maps that facilitate locating available coasts.¹⁷ The once-opaque leasing process has become transparent and thus accessible to more small and medium-sized businesses that wish to start tourism operations. Since the launch of this application, the process of interaction with public officials, and the significant time once required to complete the leasing process, has been simplified. The old (non-electronic and offline) auctioning method is still in use in parallel with the e-auction system, however, the Project Management at the General Secretariat of Information Systems informed the IRM researchers that there is a draft ministerial decision to propose that all coastline leasing auctions that the Ministry of Finance is responsible for should take place electronically.

Commitment 16. KPIs for the implementation of public and EU-financed projects

Access to Information: Marginal

This commitment meant to increase transparency of large-scale projects funded by the state and EU budgets by publishing performance KPIs. These performance KPIs would enable citizens to make informed judgments about the social impact of the projects. This information was either scattered or inaccessible before development of the commitment. While the published indicators may help citizens compile an overall picture for the implementation of public and EU-funded projects, the performance KPIs that would enable a powerful monitoring are still missing. According to the General Director of Vouliwatch, the implementation of this commitment adds little value in providing

citizens with aggregate information and tools to make sense of the progress of publicly-funded projects and contribute their assessments.¹⁸ According to the evidence provided, this commitment has only marginally changed government practice.

Carried Forward?

A new action plan has not yet been initiated and thus it remains unclear whether these commitments will be carried forward. A modified version of commitment 16 with emphasis on regularly publishing performance KPIs data and visualizations would be valuable. Moreover, in the context of co-creating commitments with civil society, the Ministry of Economy could cooperate with Open Knowledge Greece, who produced a similar project called Red Flags that algorithmically processes EU-funded projects data with the aim of proactively monitoring performance.

¹ What is changing in leasing coastal areas (in Greek) <https://money-tourism.gr/ti-allazi-stin-misthosi-tou-egialou/>

² Ministry of Finance, OGP project management team (Dimitris Kapopoulos, Ms Mourtzinou, Ms Chrysopoulou), interview with IRM researchers, 21 July 2017.

³ Ibid.

⁴ In.gr news, “More online auctions are coming” (in Greek), <http://www.in.gr/2018/05/11/economy/oikonomikes-eidiseis/erxontai-alles-130-dimoprasies-gia-ti-xrisi-aigialou-kai-paralion/>

⁵ The guidelines for participants (in Greek), <https://goo.gl/hyvuc7>

⁶ A list with scheduled auctions (in Greek), <https://goo.gl/ySXk6K>

⁷ The map, <https://www.minfin.gr/web/g.g.-demosias-periousias/chartes-demopratooumenon-aigialon>

⁸ Ministry of Finance OGP project management team (Dimitris Kapopoulos, Ms Mourtzinou, Ms Chrysopoulou), interview with IRM researchers, 2 September 2018.

⁹ Dataset (in Greek), <http://data.gov.gr/dataset?q=FENIKH+ΓΡΑΜΜΑΤΕΙΑ+ΔΗΜΟΣΙΑΣ+ΠΕΡΙΟΥΣΙΑΣ>

¹⁰ Dataset (in Greek), <http://data.gov.gr/dataset/paraxwrhsh-xrhshs-aigialoy-kai-paralias-gia-kataskeyh-limenikwn-ergwn>

¹¹ Dataset (in Greek), <http://data.gov.gr/dataset/nomothesia-nomologia-koinwfwelwn-perioysiwn-kai-sxolazoyswn-klhronomiwn>

¹² Dataset (in Greek), <http://data.gov.gr/dataset/https-www.l-gsis-gr-gspp-dhpe-faces-fakelos-jspk>

¹³ The 11 thematic areas include: Research and Innovation, Information and Communication, Competitiveness, Eco - Economy, Climate Change, Environment, Sustainable Transport, Employment, Social Inclusion, Education.

¹⁴ Christos Bouras, Associate at the Agency for NSRF Coordination, interview with IRM researcher, Athens, August 2018.

¹⁵ National Strategic Framework Data, <http://anaptyxi2020.ops.gr/en-us/ODHelp>

¹⁶ Coastal Areas Auction, Ministry of Finance (in Greek), <https://www.minfin.gr/web/g.g.-demosias-periousias/aigialos>

¹⁷ Coastal areas boundaries datasets, (in Greek), <http://www.data.gov.gr/dataset/ka8orismenos-aigialos>

¹⁸ Stefanos Loukopoulos, Vouliwatch General Director, telephone interview with IRM researcher, October 2018.

Theme VIII: Commitments on Education

Commitment 17: Data and Statistics for Greek National Exams

Provision for friendly and handy interface that will allow citizens to access the information. Statistical information will be extended to as many years as possible. All the above will be integrated, with the use of modern electronic forms and the introduction of an electronic searching mechanism. This way, value-added data of high demand that are not currently available to the public, will become open and accessible to all citizens.

Commitment 18: Protocol Digitization

The Ministry aims to digitizing entirely the aforementioned service, so as citizens to be able to submit their application electronically. Moreover, Citizens will be also able to be informed electronically about the final result of their request, through electronic channels such as SMS or email, thus making the overall process more accessible and easier.

Commitment 19: Informative Actions on open data for young people in Secondary and higher Education

As part of the effort of the Ministry of Education, Research and Religious Affairs to inform young people about the usability of open data, respective actions/projects can be organized in Secondary and Higher Education. The interventions proposed through actions/projects aim at making citizens aware of the open data and their reusability benefits, focusing mainly on young people, using as information channel Schools and Universities.

Commitment 20: Open Education

Within the context of the effort of the Ministry of Education, Research and Religious Affairs for open education, respective actions/projects are proposed: Create an inventory of available digital educational resources, so as to track down which of these could be provided with Creative Commons license; Create a platform, via which the educational resources in question will be available to the wide public to deploy. This platform will merge underlying systems; Suggest a new procurement process for school manuscripts and other educational resources at all levels of education, which will allow the publication of educational resources with Creative Commons License; Organize actions to inform students and teachers in all levels of education in open education issues.

Responsible institution: Ministry of Education, Research and Religious Affairs

Supporting institution(s): None

Start date: July 2016

End date: December 2017

Editorial Note: All three commitments in this cluster have the same implementing agency and the same start and end dates. The action plan text has been abridged by the IRM. For the full version, please see https://www.opengovpartnership.org/sites/default/files/GREEK_NAP3-OGP-ENG_0.pdf

Commitment Overview	Specificity	OGP Value Relevance (as written)	Potential Impact	Completion	Midterm	Did It Open Government?
					End of Term	

	None	Low	Medium	High	Access to Information	Civic Participation	Public Accountability	Technology & Innovation for Transparency & Accountability	None	Minor	Moderate	Transformative	Not Started	Limited	Substantial	Completed	Worsened	Did Not Change	Marginal	Major	Outstanding
17. Exam database upgrade			✓		✓						✓			✓				✓			
18. Protocol Digitization			✓		Unclear						✓					✓			✓		
19. Open data for youth		✓			✓					✓			✓					✓			
20. Open Education			✓		✓						✓		✓					✓			

Commitment Aim:

The commitments for education outlined in the third national action plan aim to provide educational information in a more accessible way. This includes the release of data for national exams and public institution resources, the digitalization of logging correspondence among public institutions and the establishment of open educational resources.

Commitment 17. Data and Statistics for Greek National Exams

Every year, young students and their families, as well as public and private educators, need to access various statistical information about the Panhellenic examinations. The Ministry of Education conducts these examinations to explain acceptance processes to Greek higher education institutions. The commitment aims to improve the historic records of examination data as well as making it easier for public access.

Commitment 18. Protocol Digitization

This commitment aims to improve the response of the Ministry of Education to incoming requests and applications, mainly from ministry employees and teachers. As a solution, the Ministry of Education proposes to fully digitize the relevant service for logging correspondence between the ministry and other entities. It also proposes to provide automated SMS and email updates for all incoming requests.

Commitment 19. Informative Actions on open data for young people in Secondary and higher Education

The open data agenda is a novel one for Greek society. Knowledge about open data is currently restricted to individual experts within the open government community. Such knowledge has not been diffused to the wider population, especially young people. The Ministry of Education committed to closing this gap by using its existing human network in public schools and in higher education institutions. This commitment aims to spread knowledge regarding the value, the benefits, and the uses of open data to pupils in high school as well as young students in higher education.

Commitment 20. Open Education

This commitment reflects a first attempt from the Ministry of Education to approach the issue of open education in Greece. Currently, the education community can hardly access educational resources and content produced with public money. Therefore, this commitment aims to produce a list of all digitally available educational resources on a new web-based platform. Also, the Ministry of Education will seek legal assistance to allow open licensing in the procurement of new educational content via Creative Commons.

Status

Commitment 17. Data and Statistics for Greek National Exams

Midterm: Limited

The goal of this commitment was to improve historic records of past exam data and make them easier to access. Teachers would have access to exam materials and good practices, while students and parents could be more informed on the popularity of certain courses.

End of term: Limited

The website offering exam topics¹ is not accessible online. Some statistical information on school exam performance was released in July 2018 but was limited and available only as a link within a press release on the Ministry's website.² Despite repeated efforts³ by the IRM researchers, the Ministry did not respond to any enquiries regarding commitment implementation. The same stands for all commitments in the third action plan by the Ministry of Education, Research and Religious Affairs.

Did It Open Government?

Commitment 17. Data and Statistics for Greek National Exams

Access to Information: Did Not Change

The commitment has not changed government practice as the website offering exam topics is not available online and there is not enough evidence to justify whether the limited statistical information released by the Ministry was useful to the education community.

Commitment 18. Protocol Digitization

Midterm: Complete

The Ministry of Education lacked a comprehensive digital system to track incoming and outgoing mail and requests by citizens and other government departments. By the midterm evaluation the Ministry had completed the digitization of the registry dealing with such mail and requests. Citizens can use mydocs.minedu.gov.gr to electronically submit and track any requests or issues they have concerning the Ministry of Education.⁴

End of term: Complete

No new actions apart from the ones stated in the midterm report could be discerned at the end-of-term assessment. Also, no usage statistics or user feedback relating to the existing platform were made publicly available by the Ministry of Education.⁵

Did It Open Government?

Commitment 18. Protocol Digitization

Civic participation: Marginal

Although this commitment had no direct relevance to OGP values, its implementation resulted in a marginal improvement with respect to civic participation. In the past, citizens faced considerable difficulties in accessing information on their applications or other requests to the Ministry.⁶ Despite initial problems in the operation of the system,⁷ the platform now provides a more efficient way to communicate with the Ministry. Open Technologies Alliance (GFOSS)⁸ suggests that, as a future step forward, the Ministry could openly provide statistical information on the system's use that would allow for the redesign and streamlining of the most popular requests, utilizing the experience gathered by the *diadikasies.gr* initiative.⁹

Commitment 19. Informative Actions on open data for young people in Secondary and higher Education

Midterm: Not Started

The Ministry of Education aimed to close what it perceived as a gap in open data education and awareness. It would use its existing human network in public schools and in higher education institutions to inform students in high school and higher education about the value, benefits and uses of open data. However, the commitment text did not mention specific informational actions or a concrete timeframe. No actions had been taken towards the stated goal by the midterm evaluation.

End of term: Not Started

No actions have taken place in implementing the commitment following the midterm evaluation. Open Technologies Alliance (GFOSS) were also not aware of any steps taken by the Ministry of Education to complete the commitment.¹⁰

Did It Open Government?

Commitment 19. Informative Actions on open data for young people in Secondary and higher Education

Access to Information: Did Not Change

The commitment did not start and, thus, there was no change in practice in providing students with awareness on open data practices and policies.

Commitment 20. Open Education

Midterm: Not Started

The Ministry aimed to create an inventory of available digital educational resources and examine which of these could be provided for reuse using the appropriate licenses (for example, Creative Commons). The Ministry of Education already maintains existing repositories for educational content provided by teachers that license all the content with Creative Commons licenses.¹¹ This commitment tried to expand this considerably by changing the procurement process for education materials¹² to allow for open availability of manuscripts and other educational resources for all levels of education.

There was no evidence to indicate that this commitment had started by the midterm review. Open Technologies Alliance (GFOSS) noted that the commitment was withdrawn by the Ministry of Education.¹³ For more details see the Independent Reporting Mechanism (IRM) Progress Report 2016–2018: Greece.¹⁴

End of term: Not Started

There is no evidence that the implementation of this commitment started following the midterm review. Dr. George Papanikolaou, a member of the Greek chapter of the P2P Foundation pointed out¹⁵ that a new Open Educational Resource (OER) repository has been created as part of an EU-funded project, carried out by Greek Universities and University Libraries, the "Kallipos" Repository.¹⁶ Although this initiative is a relevant step forward in opening data in the education field, it is unrelated to the implementation of this commitment and therefore has no impact on the completion level.

Did It Open Government?

Commitment 20. Open Education

Access to Information: Did Not Change

The commitment did not start and as a result had no influence in changing the status quo.

Carried Forward?

The next action plan is not available at the time of writing this report. Part of the mandate of the Ministry of Education, namely the life-long development of skills, has now been transferred to the Ministry of Administrative Reconstruction, under the same directorate that is responsible for Open Government.¹⁷ If the government were to prioritize open education, the IRM researchers suggest bringing together and building on the experiences from the Ministry of Education and the EU-funded project, to co-create a new commitment.

¹ Archive of university entry exams, <http://www.minedu.gov.gr/anazitisi-archive/anazitisi-thematon-panelliniwn-eksetaseon> (accessed in September 2018).

² Exam performance data for Greek schools, Ministry of Education (in Greek), <https://www.minedu.gov.gr/news/35674-29-06-18-anakoinosi-statistikon-stoixeion-gia-tis-vathmologikes-epidoseis-gel-kai-epal-2019>

³ IRM researcher emails to the Ministry of Education General Secretary, 13 September 2018, with a follow-up on 21 September 2018 and a telephone call to the office of the General Secretary, 25 September 2018.

⁴ Online application management service for citizens website, Ministry of Education, Research and Religious Affairs (in Greek), <https://mydocs.minedu.gov.gr/>

⁵ Ibid.

⁶ Diakologitika, "Ministry of Education: The electronic applications for technical schools begin" (in Greek), <https://www.dikaiologitika.gr/eidhseis/paideia/160905/ypourgeio-paideias-ksekinoy-n-oi-ilektronikes-diloseis-protimisis-sta-epal>

⁷ Stefanos Cherouvis, Senior Researcher at the private school Ellinogermaniki Agogi for Greece, in "Independent Reporting Mechanism (IRM) Progress Report 2016–2018: Greece", Open Government Partnership, <https://www.opengovpartnership.org/documents/greece-mid-term-report-2016-2018-public-comment>

⁸ Despina Mitropoulou, General Director of Open Technologies Alliance (GFOSS), telephone interview with IRM researcher, 12 September 2018.

⁹ See commitment 33.

¹⁰ Despina Mitropoulou, General Director of Open Technologies Alliance (GFOSS), telephone interview with IRM researcher, 12 September 2018.

¹¹ Fotodendro, National Educational Content repository (in Greek), <http://photodentro.edu.gr/aggregator/>

¹² Law 3966/2011 – Institutional Framework of the Model Experimental Schools, Establishment of the Institute for Educational Policy, Organization of the Institute of Computer Technology and Publications "DIOFANTOS" and Other Provisions (in Greek), https://www.kodiko.gr/nomologia/document_navigation/125088/nomos-3966-2011

¹³ Dr. Prodromos Tsiavos, Member of the Board of Open Technologies Alliance (GFOSS), interview with IRM researchers, Athens, 13 October 2018.

¹⁴ OGP, "Independent Reporting Mechanism (IRM) Progress Report 2016–2018: Greece", <https://www.opengovpartnership.org/documents/greece-mid-term-report-2016-2018-public-comment>

¹⁵ Dr. Giorgos Papanikolaou, Lecturer at Harokopio University of Athens, Fellow at P2P Foundation Greece, telephone interview with IRM researchers, 9 September 2018.

¹⁶ Project Kallipos, the first comprehensive effort to introduce electronic interactive, multimedia textbooks in Higher Education (in Greek), <https://www.kallipos.gr/en/>

¹⁷ Ministry of Administrative Reform press release, "We are implementing the National Digital Skills Plan for the benefit of the citizen" (in Greek), <http://www.minadmin.gov.gr/?p=27454>

Theme IX: Commitments on Justice

Commitment 21: Provision of open data for Justice

Administrative Justice: Case-law database which includes anonymized decisions of the Administrative Courts of the country, accessible to all interested parties through the portal www.adjustice.gr. Court of Audit: Legal database of Court of Audit with anonymized content, accessible to all interested parties through the portal www.elsyn.gr. Civil and Criminal Justice: For the civil and criminal courts in appellate regions of Athens, Piraeus, Thessaloniki and Chalkida and the Supreme Court:

- Access of the citizen and of the legal professions to the information handled by these courts for their convenience during the monitoring of civil or criminal proceedings through a central portal;
- Availability of the system information among the public bodies with ex officio research for citizens' convenience and their exception from the process of issuing certifications according to the existing institutional framework;
- Issuance of certificates upon citizens' request with an automated manner and immediate response time with the minimum possible burden of court services through a central portal;
- Interoperability with bodies. In the country's Courts of First Instance, Courts of Appeal and District Courts, electronic submission/monitoring the progress of the application for receiving copies of minutes of meetings and receiving them through a central portal

Responsible institution: Justice, Transparency and Human Rights;

Supporting institution(s): None

Start date: July 2016

End date: June 2018

Commitment 22: Enhanced statistical data of justice open to the public

In 2016 the Ministry of Justice, Transparency and Human Rights set up a Working Group to redesign the templates for the judicial data on the civil and criminal procedure for the interim period from the beginning of 2016 until the complete roll out of the Integrated Civil and Criminal Court Case Management System (OSDDY-PP). The new templates have taken into account:

- a) recent legislative developments (the new Code of Civil Procedure put in effect on January 1st 2016)
- b) national and international statistical needs
- c) the needs of the Hellenic Statistical Authority (ELSTAT)
- d) the knowledge and experience on judicial procedures of the judges and administrative judicial staff who participated in the Working Group
- e) principles from the European Commission for the Efficiency of Justice (CEPEJ) of the CoE
- f) expertise from the project of Technical Assistance on "the Reform of the Greek Judicial System" coordinated by the Federal Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Austria The Department of Strategic Planning and the Evaluation of Policies of Justice of the Hellenic Ministry of Justice, Transparency and Human Rights sent out on 30-6-2016 the new statistical templates to the civil and criminal courts of the country.

Responsible institution: Justice, Transparency and Human Rights

Supporting institution(s): None

Start date: July 2016

End date: September 2016

Editorial Note: The action plan text has been abridged by the IRM. For the full version, please see https://www.opengovpartnership.org/sites/default/files/GREEK_NAP3-OGP-ENG_0.pdf

Commitment Overview	Specificity				OGP Value Relevance (as written)				Potential Impact				Completion		Midterm		Did It Open Government?				
	None	Low	Medium	High	Access to Information	Civic Participation	Public Accountability	Technology & Innovation for Transparency & Accountability	None	Minor	Moderate	Transformative	Not Started	Limited	Substantial	Completed	Worsened	Did Not Change	Marginal	Major	Outstanding
21. Provision of open data for Justice		✓			✓			✓			✓				✓				✓		
22. Enhanced statistical data of justice open to the public		✓			✓					✓				✓				✓			

Commitment Aim:

Commitment 21. Provision of open data for Justice

The Ministry of Justice, Transparency and Human Rights (MoJTHR), using National Strategic Reference Framework (NSRF) funding and additional EU technical assistance,¹ has developed several online portals where citizens and legal professionals can access civil and criminal decisions of the Supreme Court,² administrative courts,³ and can submit various judicial requests electronically.⁴ Commitments under this theme are implemented in the context of the ongoing development of integrated case management systems for administrative, civil and criminal court cases which began in 2014 (Integrated Civil and Criminal Court Case Management System OSDDY/PP⁵ and Integrated Administrative Court Case Management System; OSDDY/DD).⁶ The stated aim was to expand on these efforts by publishing information for administrative, civil court cases as well as improving the open availability of statistical judicial data.

Commitment 22. Enhanced statistical data of justice open to the public

The Ministry of Justice has been using a custom-made software application to gather statistical data from all the civil and criminal courts of the country since 2012. This is in effect a web form for collecting data, some of which is released at quarterly intervals on the Ministry's website.⁷ This commitment aimed to simplify statistical data collection and allow case load information to be collected in near real time. Once complete, the system would assist in making the statistical data accessible to citizens and members of legal professions. It would also help provide consistent, reliable data to policymakers to make sound decisions on resource allocation. The commitment remained unclear on which court data the public would have access to (e.g. full decisions, court transcripts, court efficiency information) or if this would be used to inform managerial decisions.

Status

Commitment 21. Provision of open data for Justice

Midterm: Substantial

By the middle of the action plan implementation period, the Ministry of Justice had provided access to court decisions to those citizens with specific legal interest. The Court of Audit also provided access to selected anonymized judgments of the Court. The online portal for the Administrative Courts also gave direct access to anonymized case law of the Administrative Courts.⁸ Additionally, civil court decision text and transcripts became available to parties with legal interest on a case.⁹ Although access was not comprehensive, this was the first time such decisions were made available in digital form without requiring prior explicit Ministry consent. For more information, please see the 2016-2018 midterm IRM report on the Greek action plan.¹⁰

End of term: Substantial

The Ministry of Justice continued updating the relevant portals and websites with new decisions. The anonymization procedure concerning judicial decisions was modified to be compliant with the EU GDPR directive. The Ministry states that this data is already being used by the most important stakeholders (judges, lawyers, clerks, employees, journalists, academics) and has significantly impacted transparency but no official usage statistics were released.¹¹

Did It Open Government?

Commitment 21. Provision of open data for Justice Access to Information: Marginal

Before the creation of these web portals, access to Ministry of Justice information was severely limited, being available only to stakeholders directly connected to each case or procedure. Since the implementation of this commitment, web portals have been updated with civil court decisions and transcripts. However, as information is still limited and there are no official usage statistics the changes remain marginal in terms of access to information.

Commitment 22. Enhanced statistical data of justice open to the public

Midterm: Limited

At midterm evaluation the IT systems (OSDDY/PP, OSDDY/DD) necessary for providing statistical information on court decisions were only available at specific courts in six Greek cities. OSDDY/PP system adoption, especially, was an issue among Greek judges and court clerks and the corresponding statistical information had not been made available. The Ministry, in trying to address the problem, had attempted to provide additional training for the systems.¹² Up to date, statistical information regarding case load and types of decisions, were not widely available.¹³

End of term: Limited

The Ministry continued publishing court-related statistical data on its main website via amended collection templates.¹⁴ The Ministry is still largely relying on its older methods that were already in place before the adoption of the present commitment to collect statistical information.¹⁵ No statistical data is yet publicly available through the OSDDY/PP system.¹⁶ Despite the Ministry's support efforts, problems with IT system adoption continued, with court clerks requesting a transitional period for introducing the systems, as well as more training, which hampered the ability to produce reliable statistical information directly from these systems.¹⁷

Did It Open Government?

Commitment 22. Enhanced statistical data of justice open to the public Access to Information: Did Not Change

For both commitments, access to the relevant information is tied to the completion and adoption of complex IT systems which are accompanied by significant resistance to change issues.¹⁸ Since only a few courts have implemented these systems, impact is limited and there have been no changes in opening government so far.

Carried Forward?

The Ministry of Justice gave no clear indication to the IRM researchers that there are plans to carry these commitments forward to a next action plan.¹⁹ The Ministry has entered into an agreement with the Ministry of Digital Policy, Telecommunications and Media to use NSRF funds to expand the OSDDY/DD and OSDDY/PP systems to all courts in Greece. The system will also be upgraded to become interoperable with EU systems. The existing system for court transcripts will also be upgraded to support real time publication and direct citizen access via mobile and web applications.²⁰

¹ Terms of reference for technical assistance to the Greek Ministry of Justice, Transparency and Human Rights, http://www.ministryofjustice.gr/site/Portals/0/uploaded_files/uploaded_25/1B.%20ICT_expert_applications_ToR_Sep-Oct%202017.doc

² Supreme Civil and Criminal Court of Greece, <http://www.areiospagos.gr/>

³ Council of State – Case Law Search, <https://goo.gl/oejeyh>

⁴ National Criminal Records Portal, www.ncris.gov.gr; and Piraeus Court of First Instance, www.protodikeio-peir.gr

⁵ Integrated System for Penal and Civil Case Management (OSDDY/PP), www.solon.gov.gr

⁶ Integrated System for Administrative Case Management (OSDDY/DD), <https://goo.gl/1CCQyz>

⁷ Ministry of Justice statistical datasets, <https://goo.gl/4kZv4o> and <https://goo.gl/R8bZeI>

⁸ Council of State, <http://www.adjustice.gr>

⁹ Integrated Court Transcripts System, <https://www.ospd.gr/>

¹⁰ OGP, “Independent Reporting Mechanism (IRM) Progress Report 2016–2018: Greece”,

<https://www.opengovpartnership.org/documents/greece-mid-term-report-2016-2018-public-comment>

¹¹ Maria Toulia, E-Government Department, Ministry of Justice, Transparency and Human Rights, written answers to IRM researcher interview questions, 25 September 2018.

¹² Ibid.

¹³ Court of Audit Statistics, <https://www.elsyn.gr/el/statistika-stoixeia>

¹⁴ Ministry of Justice statistical datasets, <https://goo.gl/4kZv4o> and <https://goo.gl/R8bZeI>

¹⁵ Maria Toulia, E-Government Department, Ministry of Justice, Transparency and Human Rights, written answers to IRM researcher interview questions, 25 September 2018.

¹⁶ Integrated System for Penal and Civil Case Management (OSDDY/PP) statistics (in Greek), <https://goo.gl/nCvKNA>

¹⁷ Athens Court Clerks Union communique to the Minister of Justice, “Problems with OSDDY/PP”, <https://www.sdya.gr/osddy-pp/>

¹⁸ Deligiannis, Athanasios P., and Dimosthenis Anagnostopoulos. “Towards Open Justice: ICT Acceptance in the Greek Justice System the Case of the Integrated Court Management System for Penal and Civil Procedures (OSDDY/PP).” E-Democracy and Open Government (CeDEM), 2017 Conference for. IEEE, 2017.

¹⁹ Maria Toulia, E-Government Department, Ministry of Justice, Transparency and Human Rights, written answers to IRM researcher interview questions, 25 September 2018.

²⁰ Cooperation Agreement between Ministry of Justice and Ministry of Digital Policy on the modernization of the judicial process using digital technologies, <https://goo.gl/aRNDWy>

Standalone commitment: Geo-Data

Commitment 23: Open provision of Geo-data

The Ministry of Environment and Energy, following Law 3882/2010 is responsible to centrally coordinate all involved bodies of the Greek Public Administration that manage/produce/provide geospatial data, so as those data to be provided publicly and in open format to all interested parties. To this end, the Ministry of Environment and Energy will proceed to the adjustment–amendment of the current legislation and undertake all necessary actions to gradually implement and complete this policy. The provided geospatial data will be publicized through the website of the National Geospatial Information

Infrastructure by the Ministry, the supervised entities as well as other public sector entities, following technical standards and procedures to be established. Also, the data will be posted on the Central Governmental registry data.gov.gr. Under the framework of the above-mentioned action, geospatial data of the Ministry are available at <http://maps.ypeka.gr>, covering a wide range of thematic pillars.

Responsible institution: Ministry of Environment and Energy

Supporting institution(s): None

Start date: July 2016

End date: November 2016

Editorial Note: The action plan text has been abridged by the IRM. For the full version, please see https://www.opengovpartnership.org/sites/default/files/GREEK_NAP3-OGP-ENG_0.pdf

Commitment Overview	Specificity				OGP Value Relevance (as written)				Potential Impact				Completion		Midterm		Did It Open Government?					
	23. Open provision of geo-data	None	Low	Medium	High	Access to Information	Civic Participation	Public Accountability	Technology & Innovation for Transparency & Accountability	None	Minor	Moderate	Transformative	Not Started	Limited	Substantial	Completed	Worsened	Did Not Change	Marginal	Major	Outstanding
			✓			✓			✓		✓				✓				✓			

Commitment Aim:

This commitment aimed to enhance the publishing of open geo-data in Greece. Prior to this commitment Greece had to comply with the EU directive INSPIRE that mandates the publishing of geo-data and environmental information.¹ The official EU monitoring service indicated that “the closing of the initial National Contact Point, the Hellenic Mapping and Cadastral Organization, in 2013 caused significant delays in the implementation of the Directive”.² According to the commitment text the Ministry of Environment would coordinate with all the public agencies that have geospatial information to help them release it in open formats. It included activities to release additional open geo-datasets as well as inserting changes in the legal framework of Law 3882.

However, the original commitment text was vaguely worded and thus it remained unclear which specific geospatial datasets and legal amendments to expect.

Status

Midterm: Limited

This commitment was carried over from the previous action plan. The previous commitment focused on adding specific datasets to the national geospatial information infrastructure as a way to improve compliance with the requirements of Law 3882/2010 that implemented the EU INSPIRE Directive - specifically to publish the relevant datasets on the Greek geospatial open data site.³ This commitment had limited implementation at the midterm evaluation point. The coordination of all public agencies by the Ministry of Environment to release geospatial information in open formats proved an unrealistic goal. According to officials from the Ministry of Environment,⁴ public agencies had insufficient capacity to keep up with the policy area of releasing geospatial data that has complex operational aspects, legal implications and requires significant technical capabilities.

End of term: Limited

The release of new geospatial datasets in open formats has not progressed.⁵ The head of the Department of Geospatial Information in the Ministry of Environment reports that a joint effort with the Ministry of Digital Policy to coordinate public agencies on interoperability issues and on releasing datasets in a new platform with uniform open formats is under way.⁶ In trying to improve the legal framework⁷ the Ministry of Environment has started drafting a ministerial decision to require public agencies to release their geospatial datasets on the website for urban planning⁸ (e-poleodomia.gr).

Did It Open Government?

Access to Information: Did Not Change

Prior to this commitment the only available platform for citizens to access geospatial information in open formats was geodata.gov.gr, a civil society initiative. This commitment tried to create a common policy for all public agencies and coordinate its implementation to streamline the release of open geospatial data and improve the quality. The Ministry has not fulfilled the commitment to coordinate the policy for releasing open geo-data. Therefore, there have been no changes in access to information.

Carried Forward?

As a new action plan has not yet been released, it remains unclear whether this commitment will be included. To increase the quantity and quality of openly available geospatial information across public sector agencies annually, the Ministry of Environment, in cooperation with the Ministry of Administrative Reconstruction, could put forward a plan with concrete and measurable actions. Such a plan could focus on prioritizing specific datasets in accordance with urgent and well defined social or economic problems, such as the issue of civil protection from forest fires that came up in July 2018.⁹ Also, the government could benefit by cooperating with civil society to advance open geo-data initiatives like the Hellenic Data Service and the geodata.gov.gr website. CSOs such as the Athena Research Center, Open Technologies Alliance (GFOSS), and Open Knowledge Greece could be part of a common effort to co-create a possible future commitment to address this issue.¹⁰

¹ National Infrastructure for Geodata Information, (in Greek),

http://www.inspire.okxe.gr/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=54&Itemid=68

² Eionet, Central Data Repository (in Greek),

http://cdr.eionet.europa.eu/gr/eu/inspire/monitoring/envwbbkzq/Notes_on_Monitoring_of_year_2016.docx/manage_document

³ Wayback machine archived version of geodata.gov.gr, <https://goo.gl/KnYcD7>

⁴ Vassilis Gekas, Ministry of Environment, telephone interview with IRM researchers, September 2018.

⁵ Ibid.

⁶ Ibid.

⁷ The legal framework that governs Geospatial Information in Greece (in Greek), http://www.inspire.okxe.gr/images/_3882_2010_.pdf

⁸ Vassilis Gekas, Ministry of Environment, telephone interview with IRM researchers, September 2018.

⁹ EU Open Data Portal, “Forest Fires in Attika, Greece (2018-07-24)”, <http://data.europa.eu/euodp/en/data/dataset/fce1a312-e90b-448e-9188-e962f6ac24a8>

¹⁰ Despina Mitropoulou, General Director of Open Technologies Alliance (GFOSS), telephone interview with IRM researcher, 21 October 2018.

Theme X: Commitments for Open Local Administration

Commitment 24: Open-Participatory Budget (Western Macedonia)

Commitment refers to: a) publication of Budget Execution Data in a simple and comprehensive and b) active civic participation in decision making process for the allocation of a part of the Regional Budget.

Data will be available in a raw form as well as in a table and diagrams format, including comparisons. Decision making process includes electronic polls and voting as well as consultation and deliberation meetings. Proposals will be evaluated and presented by Regional Officers to the Regional Council in order to get approval. During pilot period:

- The amount that will be allocated will be small (100,000.00 €/year).
- This amount will be increasing as the whole process matures and civic participation increases the amount will be allocated to promotional activities for the cultural/touristic product of the region.

Responsible institution: Region of Western Macedonia

Supporting institution(s): None

Start date: July 2016 End date: January 2018

Commitment 25: Regional Council Platform (Western Macedonia)

The development and Operation of the Regional Council Platform will not only gather all provided services under one site but will also expand the services provided. More specific, the platform will provide the following:

- 1) All topics and introductions will be submitted to the platform (texts, not just titles). This material will be available to everyone. The option of providing extra material (tables, appendices, presentations etc.) will be under examination in order to ensure personal data protection.
- 2) Regional Council Members, using “member rights” will be able to express their opinion in a written way submitting it to the platform. Submitted opinions can be used for the formulation of Regional Council Minutes.
- 3) Citizens will respectively be able to express their opinion by submitting comments or by voting to polls.
- 4) Taxisnet authentication can be used for citizens’ login.
- 5) There will be a capability for citizens to submit questions/topics to be discussed. These questions will be voted and in case they overcome the threshold they will be discussed to the “Citizens time”, a special Regional Meeting Session that will be held once per two months or trimester.
- 6) There will be a capability for an automatic creation of detailed minutes as well as automatic submission upload to DIAVGIA
- 7) Existing YouTube Channel will be embedded to the platform providing live broadcasting as well as video on demand (VOD)
- 8) There will be an examination of the possibility that Regional Council Sessions can take place with remote participation of Regional Council Members (submissions of opinions/proposals, voting etc.). It requires amendment of the Regional Council Modus Operandi.

Responsible institution: Region of Western Macedonia

Supporting institution(s): None

Start date: July 2016 End date: January 2018

Commitment 26: Open - Participatory Budget (Central Greece)

The commitment states:

- a) Publish in simple and understandable form the details of budget implementation (open budget) and the budget's report (commitments, receipts, payments)
- b) The active involvement of citizens in decision making for allocating a certain amount of the budget, which will be determined while setting up the budget. This amount will be available for innovative actions that citizens and stakeholders propose and will be available for consultation (online and face to face meetings) The proposals will be evaluated and presented for approval by the Regional Council upon recommendation from the regional service.

During the session of the application:

- The amount available each year for actions will be determined when the budget structure. Specific consultation time will be provided with information to citizens and the region's stakeholders according to international standards.
- The amount will increase as the process matures and the participation of citizens increase.
- The money will be directed to innovative actions for tourism / culture / social structures.

Responsible institution: Region of Central Greece

Supporting institution(s): None

Start date: July 2016 End date: December 2017

Commitment 27: Capture and Evaluation Platform for Regional Technical Projects (Central Greece)

The development and the operation of the platform of projects on a map (google maps) will enable citizens to be informed about the projects carried out by the Region. Specifically, the platform provides the following capabilities:

1. All the projects carried out and supervised by the Region will be recorded on the platform giving the possibility to represent them on a map with qualitative and quantitative data about them. (Budget, year of integration, funding source, etc.).
2. The citizens will be able to search these projects performed by the region and to learn about them.
3. Citizens will have an opportunity to express their views through comments and evaluate projects.

Responsible institution: Region of Central Greece

Supporting institution(s): None

Start date: July 2016 End date: December 2017

Commitment 28: City Dashboard (Thessaloniki)

The Municipality's City Dashboard will be an online platform that will aggregate and provide data and information regarding various organizational areas such as urban mobility, air pollution and environmental data, demographics, financial data and indexes, events, culture and tourism. The information will be provided through proper visualizations in order to be understandable and useful but also in a row data format so that it can be easily re-used. The Dashboard will present real-time information through adequate interfaces and web services but it will also exploit static forms of data. The Dashboard's data will be provided also by other sources, beyond the operational scope of the Municipality of Thessaloniki, like the Academic and Research Institutions of the city or any other organization that could contribute by providing its own data.

Responsible institution: Municipality of Thessaloniki

Supporting institution(s): None

Start date: July 2016

End date: April 2018

Commitment 29: Online Consultation Platform (Thessaloniki)

The Municipality's online consultation platform will provide the ability for automated launching and completion of a consultation's period, it will support content and comment management and it will maintain an archive with all completed consultations. Also, the users of the platform could use multiple criteria for searching and finding consultations, such as the category or the time period that a consultation took place. Moreover, the platform will generate relevant reports that will encompass comments, results and statistics for each consultation in order to be used by the Municipality's administration.

Responsible institution: Municipality of Thessaloniki

Supporting institution(s): None

Start date: July 2016

End date: February 2017

Editorial Note: The action plan text has been abridged by the IRM. For the full version, please see https://www.opengovpartnership.org/sites/default/files/GREEK_NAP3-OGP-ENG_0.pdf

Commitment Overview	Specificity				OGP Value Relevance (as written)				Potential Impact				Completion		Midterm	Did It Open Government?					
	None	Low	Medium	High	Access to Information	Civic Participation	Public Accountability	Technology & Innovation for Transparency & Accountability	None	Minor	Moderate	Transformative	Not Started	Limited	Substantial	Completed	Worsened	Did Not Change	Marginal	Major	Outstanding
24. Open participatory budget (Western Macedonia)			✓		✓	✓				✓			✓	✓					✓		
25. Regional Council Platform (Western Macedonia)			✓		✓	✓		✓			✓		✓	✓				✓			
26. Open - participatory budget (Central Greece)			✓		✓	✓		✓			✓		✓	✓					✓		
27. Capture and evaluation platform for regional technical projects (Central Greece)				✓	✓					✓						✓	✓			✓	
				✓	✓						✓				✓					✓	

The implementation of this commitment had not started during midterm. The Region of Western Macedonia had delayed the process of hiring the external vendor who would design and develop the participatory budgeting platform. According to the region's own estimates, the commitment was expected to be completed beyond the original action plan timeframe towards December 2018.

End of term: Limited

The process of hiring an external vendor had not progressed within the action plan although, as recommended in the IRM midterm report, the Region met with Open Knowledge Greece that had developed an open source participatory budgeting platform.² The Region of Western Macedonia managed to implement a small part of the original commitment using existing resources.³ Citizens may access a web page entitled Open Budget and view graphs representing aggregate data on the regional budget. Currently income and spending data are available for each of the four regional units for 2017 and the first quarter of 2018.⁴ It remains unclear whether the Region of Western Macedonia will further develop this initiative by adding more data and participatory elements. For these reasons the implementation of this commitment is limited.

Did It Open Government?

Commitment 24. Open, participatory budgeting (Western Macedonia)

Access to Information: Marginal

Civic Participation: Did Not Change

With this commitment the Region of Western Macedonia aimed to further implement the five-year strategic plan (2015) for open government and provide citizens with the opportunity to take part in local participatory budgeting projects.

Through an open government website, the region initially offered e-consultations and an idea sharing feature.⁵ The Region of Western Macedonia managed to implement a small part of the original commitment by creating a web page entitled Open Budget, which displays graphs representing aggregate data on the regional budget. Currently citizens can only view tables and graphs with aggregate data on public spending and budget implementation. Although this information was not available before this commitment, its provision represents an incremental step for improving access to information on local budget.⁶ Due to the fact that the Region of Western Macedonia has not yet introduced participatory budgeting online tools and processes to gather public input, there is no change in practice as far as civic participation is concerned.

Commitment 25. Regional Council Platform (Western Macedonia)

Midterm: Not Started

The implementation of the Regional Council Platform had not started because the Region of Central Macedonia delayed hiring an external developer.

End of term: Limited

The process of hiring an external vendor to develop the Regional Council Platform did not make progress until July 2018. Instead, the Region of Western Macedonia decided to modify the scope of the commitment and implement it by using internal resources. Currently a tool to enable e-voting for the issues discussed in the Regional Council is under development. A first version of this tool is ready, however, the e-voting functionality will only be available, at least initially, to members of the Regional Council.⁷ This means that citizens will not be able to use the service and cast their votes. According to IT staff working for the Region, it could be technically feasible to extend the e-voting

system to citizens.⁸ It remains unclear whether the Region of Western Macedonia will introduce citizen participation elements in the Regional Council Platform in the future.

Did It Open Government?

Commitment 25. Regional Council Platform (Western Macedonia)

Access to Information: Did Not Change

Civic Participation: Did Not Change

Prior to this commitment, citizens had no opportunity to attend or participate in the regional council proceedings. Through this commitment the Region of Western Macedonia aimed to provide citizens with the means to actively participate in the regional council proceeding by virtually attending its meetings and submitting questions and votes. Since the regional council platform is still under development there is no actual change in local government practice.

Commitment 26. Open, participatory budget (Central Greece)

Midterm: Limited

Although some initial open budgeting data were already available on a special regional website,⁹ the implementation of this commitment was delayed. According to officials from the Region the participatory budgeting website was under development and its launch was expected by the end of 2017.¹⁰

End of term: Limited

The Region of Central Greece has developed a first version of the participatory budget platform.¹¹ According to a consultant in the office of the Regional Governor, the website is not officially available yet because some improvements are still pending. The consultant reported that the launch of the platform was expected by late October 2018 in parallel with the voting process for next year's budget.¹² It remains unclear whether the platform will host participatory budgeting projects before the end of 2018. Thus, the implementation of this commitment is limited.

Did It Open Government?

Commitment 26. Open, participatory budget (Central Greece)

Access to Information: Marginal

Civic Participation: Did Not Change

Before this commitment there were no options available for citizens to access information and share their views on the budget of the Region of Central Greece. The Region committed to create a web-based platform for open participatory budgeting.

The Region of Central Greece released aggregate data on budget execution and public spending, but the participatory budgeting initiative is planned towards the end of 2018. The IRM researchers consider the provision of budget data a small step forward that improved access to information. However, civic participation has not changed because the participatory budgeting project is not available yet.

Commitment 27. Capture and evaluation platform for regional technical projects (Central Greece)

Midterm: Complete

The region of Central Greece launched a website presenting public projects. These are currently implemented in the format of a live Google map.¹³ This application fulfills the completion of the commitment as citizens may retrieve aggregate information on projected budget and actual spending for projects. Also, citizens may use a tool to rate project implementation based on a scale from 1 to 5 stars.¹⁴ The commitment could be further enhanced if the application interoperated with other IT systems (e.g public contracts).

End of term: Complete

There was no further progress in advancing the completion of this commitment during the end-of-term period. The IRM researchers found that at the time of writing this report, the number of published technical projects remained the same as it was in 2017.¹⁵

Did It Open Government?

Commitment 27. Capture and evaluation platform for regional technical projects (Central Greece)

Access to Information: Major

Prior to this action plan, it was difficult for citizens who wished to know about Central Greece public spending in technical projects to follow implementation information. With this commitment the Region of Central Greece provided an electronic platform where citizens can view maps and tables presenting the allocation of technical projects at the Regional level and across the three regional units of Viotia, Evia, and Evritania.¹⁶ According to Michalis Vafopoulos, a researcher with the Open Data Institute, this practice is a breakthrough that gives new capabilities for citizens to take advantage of public spending data.¹⁷

Commitment 28. City Dashboard (Municipality of Thessaloniki)

Midterm: Substantial

The city of Thessaloniki implemented this commitment at a substantial level. Citizens were able to use an open data content management system and view charts about e-government services, the utilization of photovoltaic systems¹⁸ in 50 school buildings in Thessaloniki, and the implementation of local budget.

End of term: Complete

The city of Thessaloniki fully completed this commitment. The municipality of Thessaloniki extended the initial open data dashboard and launched the Thessaloniki Risk Data Portal.¹⁹ The portal has been initiated by the Urban Resilience Initiative for Thessaloniki in collaboration with the World Bank. The website has been deployed with the technical support of the CSO Open Knowledge Greece and the firm EO Farm (PC), and is jointly managed by the GIS and e-Government departments of the municipality.²⁰ The portal features a catalog of geospatial risk data aiming to help the community of risk stakeholders improve the resilience of the city of Thessaloniki.²¹ The municipality of Thessaloniki also launched a Spatial Data Infrastructure Portal (SDI) in which citizens can search, view and download geospatial data.²² The portal implementation aligns the city of Thessaloniki with the Inspire Directive of the EU and provides a map viewing service in which citizens can select and visualize on a layered map datasets such as public transportation, cycling routes, fire stations, and electoral sectors.²³

Did It Open Government?

Commitment 28. City Dashboard (Municipality of Thessaloniki)

Access to Information: Major

The open by default policy mandated by Law 4305/2014 requires public agencies to release their datasets in open formats that are readable by humans as well as machines.²⁴ However, in many cases published data are hardly usable by citizens, either because of the low technical quality of the data or the poor presentation on the website.²⁵ To solve this problem the city of Thessaloniki, in partnership with the World Bank and the Open Knowledge Foundation, enabled its constituents to explore 123 datasets that concern the economy, education, environment, health, public services, transportation, recreation and population.

Stakeholders that are involved in managing risk can now access rainfall damages records,²⁶ air pollution records,²⁷ and forest fire records in Thessaloniki,²⁸ among other datasets. Some datasets can be viewed in OpenStreetMaps, which is an example of volunteered geographic information that is used in crises mapping projects to allow large numbers of people, including the public and crisis responders, to contribute information either remotely or from the site of the crisis.²⁹

Michalis Vafopoulos, an expert on open data, notes that this commitment has significantly changed local government practice by breaking the status of inertia evident in the past and opening new possibilities for citizens to use datasets and available information.³⁰

Commitment 29. Online consultation platform (Municipality of Thessaloniki)

Midterm: Substantial

The city of Thessaloniki implemented this commitment substantially. Both the regulatory framework of the consultation website and the web-based platform itself were available within the commitment timeframe. The commitment was due to be complete after the consultations took place. For more information, please see the 2016-2018 midterm IRM report on the Greek action plan.³¹

End of term: Complete

This commitment has been completed. The municipality of Thessaloniki launched its first electronic consultation in November 2017.³² The topic of the consultation concerned the improvement of the electronic services and the municipal website. Citizens had to answer a short questionnaire³³ to rate the provision of e-services and submit their suggestions for increasing efficiency. According to the consultation introductory text, the data and opinions that will be collected from this deliberative survey will create the framework for the qualitative improvement of both e-services and the municipal website.³⁴ The city also offers citizens the option to provide comments on the pilot operation of the municipal consultation website. This option is available only for citizens that have been registered on the platform.³⁵

Did It Open Government?

Commitment: 29. Online consultation platform (Municipality of Thessaloniki)

Access to Information: Did Not Change

Civic Participation: Did Not Change

Often there is little opportunity for citizens to engage with policymakers on local policy issues. The city of Thessaloniki tried to close this gap by providing an electronic consultation platform. Although an electronic consultation was launched in November 2017, there has been no public announcement

about who participated and expressed views. The IRM researchers contacted the Vice Mayor to request further information about the results of this commitment but received no response.³⁶ Therefore, there is not enough evidence to prove any changes in access to information and civic participation.

Carried Forward?

Because of the pending status of the new action plan it remains unclear whether local governments in Greece will be joining the co-creation process and submitting new commitments. The Region of Western Macedonia stated that it could continue its efforts to complete commitments 24 and 25 using its own human resources and technical capacity.³⁷

¹ OGP, “Independent Reporting Mechanism (IRM) Progress Report 2016–2018: Greece”,

<https://www.opengovpartnership.org/documents/greece-mid-term-report-2016-2018-public-comment>

² George Papageorgiou, IT department of the Region of Western Macedonia, telephone interview with IRM researcher, September 2018.

³ Ibid.

⁴ Region of Western Macedonia, Greece, Open Budget, <http://www.pdm.gov.gr/opengov/open-budget/>

⁵ Region of Western Macedonia, Greece, Open Government (in Greek), <http://opengov.pdm.gov.gr/>

⁶ Citizenlab, “8 Steps for effective participatory budgeting”, <https://www.citizenlab.co/blog/civic-engagement/steps-to-effective-participatory-budgeting/>

⁷ George Papageorgiou, IT department of the Region of Western Macedonia, telephone interview with IRM researcher, September 2018.

⁸ Ibid.

⁹ OGP, “Independent Reporting Mechanism (IRM) Progress Report 2016–2018: Greece”,

<https://www.opengovpartnership.org/documents/greece-mid-term-report-2016-2018-public-comment>

¹⁰ Dimitris Stamatis, consultant in the Region of Central Greece, interview with IRM researcher, September 2017.

¹¹ Region of Central Greece, Participatory Budget platform (under development) (in Greek),

<http://pbplatform.crowdapps.net/sterea/>

¹² Dimitris Stamatis, consultant in the Region of Central Greece, telephone interview with IRM researcher, September 2018.

¹³ OGP, “Independent Reporting Mechanism (IRM) Progress Report 2016–2018: Greece”,

<https://www.opengovpartnership.org/documents/greece-mid-term-report-2016-2018-public-comment>

¹⁴ Ibid.

¹⁵ Projects and Actions of the Region of Central Greece web platform (in Greek), <http://hello.crowdapps.net/perifereia-stereas-elladas/in-table/>

¹⁶ Works and Actions of the Region of Central Greece website (in Greek), <http://hello.crowdapps.net/perifereia-stereas-elladas/>

¹⁷ Michalis Vafopoulos, Software and Knowledge Engineering Laboratory, National Center for Scientific Research “Demokritos”, Founder, Open Data Institute – Athens Node, telephone interview with IRM researcher, September 2018.

¹⁸ OGP, “Independent Reporting Mechanism (IRM) Progress Report 2016–2018: Greece”,

<https://www.opengovpartnership.org/documents/greece-mid-term-report-2016-2018-public-comment>

¹⁹ Municipality of Thessaloniki, Risk Data Portal (in Greek), <https://opendata.thessaloniki.gr/el>

²⁰ More information about the Thessaloniki Risk Data Portal partners, http://riskdata.thessaloniki.gr/portal_about

²¹ Municipality of Thessaloniki, Risk Data Portal (in Greek), <https://opendata.thessaloniki.gr/el>

²² Municipality of Thessaloniki, Spatial Data Infrastructure portal, https://gis.thessaloniki.gr/sdi/intro/?lang=en_GB

²³ Municipality of Thessaloniki, Spatial Data Infrastructure data explorer, <https://gis.thessaloniki.gr/sdi/?lang=EN>

²⁴ Open Data Law 4305/2014 (in Greek), <http://www.minadmin.gov.gr/?p=11238>

²⁵ Central Repository of Greek Public Sector Data (in Greek), <http://data.gov.gr>

²⁶ Rainfall Damages, Municipality of Thessaloniki, Risk Data Portal (in Greek),

http://riskdata.thessaloniki.gr/layers/geonode:eyath_rainfall_data_1

²⁷ Air pollution records 2010 to 2013, Municipality of Thessaloniki, Risk Data Portal (in Greek),

<http://riskdata.thessaloniki.gr/documents/47>

²⁸ Forest fires in Thessaloniki, Municipality of Thessaloniki, Risk Data Portal (in Greek),

<http://riskdata.thessaloniki.gr/documents/67>

²⁹ OpenStreetMap Software for viewing maps, https://www.wikiwand.com/en/OpenStreetMap#/Software_for_viewing_maps

³⁰ Michalis Vafopoulos, Software and Knowledge Engineering Laboratory, National Center for Scientific Research “Demokritos”, Founder, Open Data Institute – Athens Node, telephone interview with IRM researcher, September 2018.

³¹ OGP, “Independent Reporting Mechanism (IRM) Progress Report 2016–2018: Greece”,

<https://www.opengovpartnership.org/documents/greece-mid-term-report-2016-2018-public-comment>

³² Municipality of Thessaloniki, Municipal Consultations webpage (in Greek), <https://goo.gl/s2izol>

³³ Municipality of Thessaloniki, Website and e-services evaluation questionnaire (in Greek), <https://goo.gl/e9QaBg>

³⁴ The introductory consultation text (in Greek), https://thessaloniki.gr/consoltation_e-services/

³⁵ Registration page of the consultation website (in Greek), <https://thessaloniki.gr/register/>

³⁶ IRM researchers' telephone call to the office and personal email of Vice Mayor Nikos Fotiou, 27 and 28 September 2018.

³⁷ George Papageorgiou, IT department of the Region of Western Macedonia, telephone interview with IRM researcher, September 2018.

Theme XI: Commitments from Civil Society

Commitment 30. Open Data Index for cities and local administrations

The commitment refers to the online publication of the annual report of the Open Data Index for cities and aims to motivate citizens, business and other stakeholders to contribute and evaluate their municipalities open data.

Key benefits of annual Open Data index for cities reports, are the comparison among the different municipalities acting as an important input on their functions; a process - report that accommodate citizens with the open data (monitoring the state of the municipality according to the dataset and how they can use or improve the results); time-based analysis with a comparison of actions that have implemented by different cities.

Milestones: 30.1 Customization of the Open Data Index Platform <http://gr-city.census.okfn.org/>. 30.2 Open Data Census 2016 –use of platform, promotion to inform citizens, hackathon of census, publishing online book with the results with ISSN (example <http://online.fliphtml5.com/qzqt/qfsh/#p=1>). 30.3 Open Data census 2017 (12/2017) –use of platform, promotion to inform citizens, hackathon of census, publishing online book with the results with ISSN (example <http://online.fliphtml5.com/qzqt/qfsh/#p=1>).

Responsible Institution(s): Open Knowledge Greece

Supporting Institution(s): none

Start Date: July 2016

End Date: December 2017

Commitment 31. Linked, Open and Participatory Budgets

Open Knowledge Greece in the context of OpenBudgets.eu -a Horizon 2020 funded projects developing together with the project partners an open ecosystem that aims to solve the problem of standardization of open spending and budget data and the problem of interoperability of the applications by developing an open technical specification for public sector budget and spending data: the Fiscal Data Package based on OpenSpending Ecosystem and the Fiscal RDF Data Model based on DataCube Vocabulary.

In OpenBudgets.eu an open participatory platform for budgets is developed that will be easy to use, flexible and capable of interpreting previously incompatible forms of budget and spending data, provide advanced capabilities such as calculations of economic indicators (KPIs), statistical analysis and data mining techniques with the appropriate visualizations. At a glance, Openbudgets.eu will offer:

- A semantic data model;
- A library of visualization tools;
- A library of data mining and comparative analysis tools;
- A feedback and citizen engagement interface.

All these features will be integrated into a comprehensive portal, deployed as a software-as-a service (SaaS). This commitment concerns the use and the adaptation of the openbudgets.eu results at national, regional and municipality level; and the structural linkage of all open budget data of Greek regions and municipalities that will be interested of using it.

Responsible Institution(s): Open Knowledge Greece

Supporting Institution(s): none

Start Date: July 2016

End Date: October 2017

Commitment 32. School of data for public servants

The goal of this commitment is to educate members of pilot selected organizations and services of the Greek government how to create open datasets, publish them to the platform Open Data CKAN of the Greek government data.gov.gr and properly license them with Open Data License.

Responsible Institution(s): Open Knowledge Greece

Supporting Institution(s): none

Start Date: July 2016

End Date: December 2017

Commitment 33. The collaborative wikification of public services procedures The commitment entails the maintenance of the platform and a series of training workshops to government officials from various public bodies in order to use wiki.ellak.gr and also from a technical aspect to implement a solution of the Core Public Service Vocabulary (CPSV <https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/asset/cpsv-ap/description>) in Greece in order to represent the Greek Public Services Catalogue in a machine-readable format. Up to now, the information is published in html pages which hampers its reuse

Responsible Institution(s): Open Technologies Alliance/GFOSS

Supporting Institution(s): none

Start Date: July 2016

End Date: June 2018

Editorial Note: The action plan text has been abridged by the IRM. For the full version, please see https://www.opengovpartnership.org/sites/default/files/GREEK_NAP3-OGP-ENG_0.pdf

Commitment Overview	Specificity				OGP Value Relevance (as written)				Potential Impact				Completion		Midterm	Did It Open Government?					
	None	Low	Medium	High	Access to Information	Civic Participation	Public Accountability	Technology & Innovation for Transparency & Accountability	None	Minor	Moderate	Transformative	Not Started	Limited	Substantial	End of Term	Worsened	Did Not Change	Marginal	Major	Outstanding
																Completed					
30. Open Data Index for cities and local administrations				✓	✓			✓			✓				✓					✓	
31. Linked, open and participatory budgets				✓	✓			✓			✓				✓					✓	
32. School of data for public servants			✓		✓					✓				✓		✓			✓		
33. The collaborative wikification of public services procedures			✓		✓			✓		✓					✓					✓	

Commitment Aim:

Commitment 30. Open Data Index for cities and local administrations

This commitment aimed to provide citizens with the information and knowledge to evaluate and use open data at the local level. The CSO Open Knowledge Greece committed to create a version of the international Open Data Index adapted to the local level. The index will help those who make use of open data to evaluate the availability and accessibility of datasets already published on the central data.gov.gr website.¹

Commitment 31. Linked, open, and participatory budgets

This commitment attempted to decrease the transparency and participation deficits in local budgeting processes. Open Knowledge Greece created a commitment with a dual aim. First, it would publish semantic descriptions of income, expenses and fiscal information for local public authorities such as regions and municipalities. Secondly, Open Knowledge would provide an open source participatory budgeting platform to be used by local public authorities who wish to open their budgeting process to public oversight and participation.²

Commitment 32. School of data for public servants

This commitment aimed to fill the knowledge gap in the field of producing open data in the public sector. Open Knowledge Greece would introduce data schools for public sector employees. These schools would aim to build technical capacity and provide participants with the necessary special knowledge and skills to create open datasets.³

Commitment 33. The collaborative wikification of public service procedures

The overall goal of this commitment was to establish standards and good practices to make the provision of public services simpler and more effective. The CSO Open Technologies Alliance (GFOSS) is expanding its system for cataloging public services, wiki.ellak.gr, by implementing the Core Public Service Vocabulary (CPSV). In addition, Open Technologies Alliance would provide training for public agencies in cataloging their services using the CPSV model.⁴

Status

Commitment 30. Open Data Index for cities and local administrations

Midterm: Substantial

The international Open Data Index is published by Open Knowledge Greece and displays an interactive list that presents how 10 Greek cities perform according to the openness of their published datasets for the year 2016. Open Knowledge Greece co-hosted a workshop with the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki aimed at informing the local community about the scores of Greek cities in the International Open Data Index. Furthermore, 13 citizens volunteered to produce the open data census 2016 for Greek cities. Finally, Open Knowledge Greece also published an in-depth analysis of the extent to which public data are open and readable by machine and humans.⁵ The commitment will be fully implemented upon evidence of executing the planned hackathons and publishing the relevant book. For more information, please see the 2016-2018 midterm IRM report on the Greek action plan.⁶

End of term: Complete

Open Knowledge Greece organized a series of actions to complete this commitment. According to the OK Greece Director, instead of the hackathons OK Greece organized a research project to uncover the ways in which Greek municipalities implement the open-by-default policy mandated by Law 4305/2015 to release datasets in open formats. The research focused on open budget data and its methodology was made public.⁷ To increase awareness on the potential of open data OK Greece organized an event entitled “Open data as an infrastructure for Innovation”.⁸ The event took place in

the context of World Open Data Day and focused on issues of open data best practices, training on open science, and practical examples from the transportation sector.⁹ OK Greece also created an online platform that documented the results of the research project in the form of an interactive map allowing citizens to explore available fiscal evidence across different municipalities in Greece.¹⁰

Did It Open Government?

Commitment 30. Open Data Index for cities and local administrations

Access to Information: Major

This commitment reflects ongoing efforts to increase the availability of information that advances knowledge and tools to evaluate open data. Prior to this commitment information about the availability, degree of openness and accessibility of open data was scattered, and citizens had to perform a lot of manual work to locate it. To fill this gap OK Greece created an adapted localized version of the international Open Data Index to help citizens, public employees and interested parties to evaluate certain aspects of open data availability and accessibility. The publishing of the platform with the interactive map provides citizens with aggregate information for open budget data availability and accessibility in Greek municipalities. With a few clicks on a map, citizens can get enough evidence to know if a municipality publishes open budget data, with access to concrete data sources, formats, etc. Compared to the status quo prior to this commitment, citizens can now monitor how their municipalities perform on issues of open budget data quality and suggest concrete changes to improve available formats, license for further use and performance indicators. However, since this commitment comes from a CSO, there is no formal mechanism to link the monitoring tools of the Open Data Index to the operational processes of the municipal departments that produce and publish open budget data.

Commitment 31. Linked, open, and participatory budgets

Midterm: Substantial

This commitment had been substantially implemented at the midterm evaluation. Open Knowledge Greece published a series of semantically described data about budgets regarding the European Strategic Reference Framework.¹¹ The open-source participatory budget platform has been made available online and presents a dashboard in which citizens may explore yearly budget statistics for the cities of Athens and Thessaloniki. The commitment will be considered complete when the feedback and citizen engagement interface becomes available on the platform.

End of term: Complete

Open Knowledge Greece developed a new functionality on the participatory budget platform that fulfills the citizen engagement interface therefore completing the implementation of this commitment. The website redflags.okfn.gr uses the data from the official website of the Greek Ministry for Development and Competitiveness, anaptyxi.gov.gr, that provides analytical information related to implementation processes for the projects of National Strategic Reference Framework and analyzes it to identify possible red flags.¹² However, at the time of writing this report the site was still unavailable.¹³ According to OK Greece Director, this is a temporary technical problem.¹⁴

Did It Open Government?

Commitment 31. Linked, open, and participatory budgets

Access to Information: Major

In Greece available information on budgets at the national and local level remains limited in terms of detail. This is also the case with participatory budgeting in which citizens contribute their suggestions

and may influence decision making on budget allocation about publicly-funded projects. With this commitment Open Knowledge Greece attempts to provide standardized information about budgets so that citizens can interpret budget and spending data. In implementing the commitment OK Greece provided semantically structured information about public spending in European Strategic Reference Framework projects. This information is essential for citizens and organizations who wish to make sense of public spending allocation and effectiveness. OK Greece organized an investigative journalism workshop to present the Red Flags website and test its potential uses with data journalists.¹⁵ Journalists were asked to search for red-flagged projects and see whether the data the site provides can lead them to further investigate a project and produce a potential news story. OK Greece reports that two of the journalists were able to document a story from research with Red Flags data.¹⁶ OK Greece also reports that the projects that the Ministry of Finance had ceased funding coincide with the red flagged ones. For these reasons the impact of this commitment on opening government is major. It provides an informational tool that may assist journalists and the public administration in exploring potentially problematic publicly-funded projects.

Commitment 32. School of data for public servants

Midterm: Limited

Open Knowledge Greece created many of the educational materials for the pilot courses. These were then sent to specialists for review. However, the open data schools for public employees had been postponed until December 2017 and thus the implementation of the commitment remained limited. For more information, please see the 2016-2018 midterm IRM report on the Greek action plan.¹⁷

End of term: Substantial

Open Knowledge Greece has substantially implemented this commitment. It co-organized, along with the Department of Information Technology and Telecommunications of the University of Western Macedonia and the Alexandria Innovation Zone, the first data school (seminar) in the Region of Western Macedonia.¹⁸ This first school was addressed to employees of local authorities responsible for e-Government. The school focused on issues of open data, open licenses and the appropriate formats to release open data in the central portal data.gov.gr. It also stressed the differences between the flagship Transparency program called Clarity with the open-by-default policy mandated by Law 4305/2014. Finally, the school presented examples and useful applications with an emphasis on open budgets.¹⁹

Did It Open Government?

Commitment 32. School of data for public servants

Access to Information: Marginal

This commitment attempted to contribute a solution to perceived open data literacy rates in the Greek public sector by organizing open data schools for public employees. The Open Knowledge Foundation organized the first open data school for public employees in the Region of Western Macedonia. Public sector employees who participated in the open data school evaluated the seminar by completing an e-questionnaire. Evaluation results suggest that the school increased general knowledge of open data issues such as specifics of the regulatory framework mandated by law 4305/2014,²⁰ types of machine-readable open data formats, and open and participatory budgeting. Overall, more than half of public sector employees mentioned that the school provided them with knowledge that could have practical use for their day-to-day job.²¹

Asked to review the effect the three OKF commitments had on increasing overall openness, Dr. Ioanna Kostarela, an expert on informational transparency issues, noted that these efforts contribute

mainly to the change of governmental culture and practice. Data availability means more transparency and helps convince the public of accountability and access to information.²²

Commitment 33. The collaborative wikification of public service procedures

Midterm: Substantial

This commitment was substantially implemented by the midterm evaluation. Open Technologies Alliance (GFOSS) developed the technical requirements of the commitment by extending wiki.ellak.gr with a new infrastructure that supports the Core Public Service Vocabulary model. This infrastructure has been tested via an input system that allows for the automatic adaptation of the data input into the CPSV standard. GFOSS also provided hands-on training to a number of public employees in the Ministry of Education, Research, and Religious Affairs (102), the University of Macedonia (65), the Aristotle University (91), and the organization Culture, Sport and Youth of the Municipality of Athens (8). The commitment would be considered completed upon evidence of continuing the training efforts during the first half of 2018. For more information, please see the 2016-2018 midterm IRM report on the Greek action plan.²³

End of term: Complete

The Open Technologies Alliance (GFOSS) continued to organize training seminars for the collaborative wikification of public services throughout 2018 and completed this commitment. At the time of writing this report the website wiki.ellak.gr lists 205 new public services compared to the midterm period (2,186 in September 2018 and 1,981 in September 2017).²⁴ According to the General Director of GFOSS, training activities took place in Athens (OPANDA) and Thessaloniki (University of Macedonia).²⁵

Did It Open Government?

Access to Information: Major

The provision of public services in Greece is not uniform across agencies. Often, similar agencies provide the same service following a different process. The Open Technologies Alliance (GFOSS) committed to initiate a collaborative solution and launched a wiki-based platform, wiki.ellak.gr. In it Wikipedia specialists assist public sector employees to document in an open public repository every step of the processes by which a service is being provided. Throughout the action plan duration GFOSS organized training sessions with public agencies, specialists and public sector employees. The results are available online and 2,186 services have been cataloged.²⁶

This commitment as implemented has a major effect in improving access to information. GFOSS partnered with public administration bodies and the initial wiki.ellak.gr website transformed to diadikasies.gr. On this website citizens can access knowledge about the procedures with which services are provided. Public sector agencies can find help in their efforts to standardize the delivery of their services. According to Dr. Ioanna Kostarella, diadikasies.gr is a first-class tool for recording and classifying existing government procedures. Its operation contributes decisively to the change of attitude, as the service providers feel the need to respond to their responsibilities in the described way, and citizens know in advance the analytical steps of a given process. This increases the sense of security and trust in the institutions involved in the project.²⁷

Carried Forward?

IRM researchers recommend that the next action plan focuses on commitments where government ministries take ultimate responsibility for implementing initiatives co-created with CSOs. Results achieved through the commitments carried out by OK Greece and GFOSS demonstrate the valuable contribution CSOs can make, not only in design but also implementation of important open data

initiatives. However, the long-term effect is likely to be more sustainable if government agencies have clear ownership of the initiatives and institutionalize relevant practices in their ongoing work.

Open Technologies Alliance and Open Knowledge Greece have stated²⁸ their willingness to continue to collaborate with the relevant Ministries to create commitments for increasing open data literacy in the public sector. Specific public agencies could prioritize new initiatives for the open data schools with concrete learning activities aiming to release open data for specific uses and projects.

As far as Commitment 33 is concerned, the volume of cataloged public services in the diadikasies.gr wiki-based platform provides the appropriate backbone for launching a new commitment for the simplification and redesign of specific public services delivery.²⁹

¹ OGP, “Independent Reporting Mechanism (IRM) Progress Report 2016–2018: Greece”, <https://www.opengovpartnership.org/documents/greece-mid-term-report-2016-2018-public-comment>

² Ibid.

³ Ibid.

⁴ Ibid.

⁵ Ibid.

⁶ Ibid.

⁷ Open Knowledge Greece – Open Budgets (in Greek), <https://openbudgets.gr/about?lang=el>

⁸ Open Knowledge Greece, “Workshop: Data as an innovation infrastructure: science, governance, transparency, transport - ODD 2018”, <https://okfn.gr/ημερίδα-τα-δεδομένα-ως-υποδομή-καινοτ/>

⁹ Open Knowledge Greece, “Open Data Day 2018 - Data as an innovation infrastructure: science, governance, transparency, transport” (in Greek), <https://okfn.gr/open-data-day-2018-τα-δεδομένα-ως-υποδομή-καινοτομία/>

¹⁰ Open Knowledge Greece – Open Budgets, (in Greek), <https://openbudgets.gr/indices?lang=el#>

¹¹ OGP, “Independent Reporting Mechanism (IRM) Progress Report 2016–2018: Greece”, <https://www.opengovpartnership.org/documents/greece-mid-term-report-2016-2018-public-comment>

¹² Wayback Machine archived webpage of Red Flags project, <https://web.archive.org/web/20180316144937/http://redflags.okfn.gr>

¹³ Archived version of offline Redflags project webpage, https://docs.google.com/drawings/d/1jyOp9z4kUx6GZOnSDkPgU2w0CB47Enz4g-_8IM47PxQ/edit?usp=sharing

¹⁴ Charalampos Bratsas, Director of Open Knowledge Greece, telephone interview with IRM researcher, September 2018.

¹⁵ Information on the Red Flags workshop (in Greek), <https://okfn.gr/ολοκληρώθηκε-η-πρώτη-μέρα-του-εργαστη/>

¹⁶ Charalampos Bratsas, Director of Open Knowledge Foundation Greece, telephone interview with IRM researcher, September 2018.

¹⁷ OGP, “Independent Reporting Mechanism (IRM) Progress Report 2016–2018: Greece”, <https://www.opengovpartnership.org/documents/greece-mid-term-report-2016-2018-public-comment>

¹⁸ Open Knowledge Greece, “Completion of the 1st Data School in the Region of Western Macedonia for eGovernment executives of Local Authorities” (in Greek), <https://okfn.gr/ολοκλήρωση-του-1ου-σχολείου-δεδομένων/>

¹⁹ Ibid.

²⁰ Open Data Law 4305/2014 (in Greek), <http://www.minadmin.gov.gr/?p=11238>

²¹ Open Knowledge Greece, “Evaluating the school of open data” (in Greek), <https://okfn.gr/αξιολόγηση-1ου-σχολείου-δεδομένων/>

²² Dr. Ioanna Kostarella, Assistant Professor of Journalism, Research and New Media at the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, interview with IRM researchers, 20 October 2018.

²³ OGP, “Independent Reporting Mechanism (IRM) Progress Report 2016–2018: Greece”, <https://www.opengovpartnership.org/documents/greece-mid-term-report-2016-2018-public-comment>

²⁴ New public services listed, https://el.diadikasies.gr/Αρχική_σελίδα

²⁵ Despina Mitropoulou, General Director of Open Technologies Alliance (GFOSS), telephone interview with IRM researcher, September 2018.

²⁶ Administrative Procedures Wiki – Statistics (in Greek), <https://goo.gl/xd9KV4>

²⁷ Dr. Ioanna Kostarella, Assistant Professor of Journalism, Research and New Media at the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, interview with IRM researchers, 20 October 2018.

²⁸ Despina Mitropoulou, General Director of Open Technologies Alliance (GFOSS), telephone interview with IRM researcher, September 2018, and Charalampos Bratsas, Director of Open Knowledge Foundation Greece, telephone interview with IRM researcher, September 2018.

²⁹ Ibid.

Theme XII. Parliamentary openness

34. Enhancing the openness and accessibility of the Hellenic Parliament for citizens

The institutional strengthening of the Parliament's Electronic Administration (Hellenic Parliament's Standing Orders Amendment Published in the Government Gazette No 122 A/30.6.2016), using the ICT as the "infrastructure technologies" for the communication and quality improvement of citizen services leads to a new concept and transformation of the overall Parliament operation, forming part of the completion of the digital organization of public administration.

The organizational changes create new workflows and require new skills. This is not merely the application of technology for better management, but a radical change in administration's approach and actions, also concerning higher administration's tactics in individual sectors and pursued strategic objectives for facilitating MPs in exercising their parliamentary duties, and citizens to realize the responsibility and enjoy the benefits of democracy.

Concern for electronic processing aiming for interoperability with ministries to assist the procedure for exercising parliamentary control, the strengthening of committee and plenary meetings management support tools, as well as of tools related to legislative process monitoring and draft law and law proposals content processing and the adoption of open data model to provide data related to the parliamentary activities of Parliament and its Members, will strengthen and improve citizens' awareness and understanding of parliamentary affairs.

The Parliamentary Library is the second in size and wealth Library of the Modern Greek state, after the National Library of Greece. Its collections include, besides items in print (books) exceeding 650,000, the full series of Parliament and Senate Minutes, newspapers and magazines, records, manuscripts, codes, maps and etchings, artwork and historical artifacts. It is a general library, open to the public, yet having as its main task to support MPs, their staff and all Parliamentary Services in the conduct of their parliamentary work. At the same time, it satisfies the research needs of the scientific community within and outside Greek borders, the learning and educational needs of young people, also trying to meet information and all kinds of intellectual and cultural quests of various social groups. The promotion, visibility, and accessibility of its reference list and digital materials through modern and integrated digital services based on international open standards will contribute crucially and decisively to research, as well as to raising active citizenship awareness, and to the preservation and safeguarding of a significant part of our national cultural heritage.

The establishment of a network of libraries (academic, public, school, cooperating with the National Library etc.) for decentralization and dissemination of parliamentary information, allows visiting citizens to explore and identify the information sought for.

Cooperation with state libraries and publishing houses issuing materials of specific and particular interest related to parliamentary information to systematic, to be added to the online catalog of the Library of Parliament and made public in order to have the widest possible use.

The Hellenic Parliament Foundation, through its mission to study and disseminate the principles of parliamentarism and democracy, overall aims at opening the Hellenic Parliament to society. Its actions (publications, exhibitions, educational programs, conferences / seminars) are targeted both to reaching out to a wide range of society groups, and fostering an interactive and two-way relationship with citizens through educational, cultural and educational activities. The means of communication, dissemination and participation in these activities vary, taking into account the needs of individual citizens. The decentralized nature of actions enables for a constant presence of the Hellenic Parliament throughout the country and its citizens.

The Youth Parliament, the Parliament's operation training simulation program, in which more than 10,000 students from Greece, Cyprus and Greeks abroad participate annually, encourages involvement and creative expression of young people via innovative actions, also using the Internet and social media in its work. The Youth Parliament conclusions are forwarded to the competent ministry, also constituting part of the ongoing consultation.

The organization of the central conference including topics on civil society, individual, social and political rights, deliberative and participatory democracy, direct and representative democracy, and possibly the issue of civil

disobedience, aims at triggering reflection on the lack of confidence in persons and institutions' modes of operation, under the pressing issues of our time. Particular emphasis will be given to institutional changes and representational transformations, under pressing phenomena, such as globalization and the creation of transnational formations, which set the concept of democracy on a new basis.

The systematic monitoring of the Hellenic Parliament action plan for 2016-2018 has been assigned to a committee consisting of parliamentary officials chaired by the Secretary General of the Parliament. Moreover, Committee members participate in the horizontal action coordination team for open government at a national level.

Responsible institution: Hellenic Parliament

Supporting institution(s): None

Start date: July 2016

End date: June 2017

Editorial Note: This commitment does not have an identified implementing institution. The action plan text has been abridged by the IRM. For the full version, please see https://www.opengovpartnership.org/sites/default/files/GREEK_NAP3-OGP-ENG_0.pdf

Commitment Overview	Specificity				OGP Value Relevance (as written)				Potential Impact				Completion		Midterm		Did It Open Government?				
	None	Low	Medium	High	Access to Information	Civic Participation	Public Accountability	Technology & Innovation for Transparency & Accountability	None	Minor	Moderate	Transformative	Not Started	Limited	Substantial	Completed	Worsened	Did Not Change	Marginal	Major	Outstanding
34. Openness and accessibility of the Hellenic Parliament for citizens		✓			✓				✓				✓	✓				✓			

Commitment Aim:

The main aim of this commitment was to provide open parliamentary data releases. In addition, it included an extensive list of activities and sub-activities concerning internal processes re-design and e-government tools to support parliamentary proceedings. Activities and milestones apart from the open data part of the commitment had no clear relevance to OGP values.¹

Status

Midterm: Not Started

Prior to this commitment, parliamentary openness had improved with the introduction of an online platform,² modelled on the Clarity/Diavgeia system maintained by MAR. The system made openly available a number of parliament decisions on management and administration, the preparation and implementation of its budget, procurement and staffing issues. Following this initiative, the parliament decided to participate for the first time in Greece's second OGP action plan with two commitments

on effectively engaging with different audiences by enhancing its social media policy and offering some of its digital collection online.³ Those commitments never started, since no funding was secured for their implementation.

Despite continued efforts from Vouliwatch (a Greek non-profit organization) to persuade the parliament to cooperate on opening more information,⁴ the implementation of this commitment had not started at the midterm review. The IRM researchers made several attempts to reach out to contacts at the Hellenic Parliament but received no response.⁵

End of Term: Limited

According to the information available in the OGP project management tool, the Hellenic Parliament has initiated the design and development of a system for managing internal documents that also allows digital signatures.⁶ Training for the system is also indicated as complete. The parliament also made available a catalog of all publications, exhibitions and events that they had undertaken up to November 2017. A new memorandum was signed with the National Library of Greece that allows for the exchange of views and good practices. New openly accessible educational material was uploaded on the parliament's website as part of the "Democracy and Education" initiative.⁷ Finally, according to the provided information, a new team was created within parliament to study ways to improve the presentation and availability of legislative texts.⁸

Apart from the aforementioned actions, at the time of writing this report, there is no publicly available evidence on legislative texts being made public or the enhancement of the parliament social media policy. Moreover, no evidence was available that the committee — consisting of parliamentary officials chaired by the Secretary General of the Parliament responsible for OGP action plan commitments — had deliberated on the subject.

In January 2018, Vouliwatch sent an open letter to the President of the Parliament asking about the delay in implementing this commitment, information about any planned actions and clarifications concerning the monitoring of parliamentary processes.⁹ As a follow up, Vouliwatch has made frequent attempts to receive updates from the parliament about the status of this commitment but they have all been unsuccessful.¹⁰

Did It Open Government?

Access to Information: Did Not Change

There is not enough evidence to prove that this commitment has changed parliamentary openness practices in access to information.

Carried Forward?

There is no indication from the parliament that this commitment will be carried forward in a new action plan.

¹ OGP, "Independent Reporting Mechanism (IRM) Progress Report 2016–2018: Greece", <https://www.opengovpartnership.org/documents/greece-mid-term-report-2016-2018-public-comment>

² Parliamentary Transparency (in Greek), <https://diafaneia.hellenicparliament.gr/>

³ OGP, "Independent Reporting Mechanism (IRM) Progress Report 2014–2016: Greece", <https://www.opengovpartnership.org/documents/greece-end-of-term-report-2014-2016>

⁴ Vouliwatch, "Annual Report 2017 – 2018" (in Greek), <https://vouliwatch.gr/resources/file/2018/6/13/396dbb51-8c15-4288-afe8-256beefdae1a.pdf>

⁵ OGP, "Independent Reporting Mechanism (IRM) Progress Report 2016–2018: Greece", <https://www.opengovpartnership.org/documents/greece-mid-term-report-2016-2018-public-comment>

⁶ Update retrieved by IRM researchers from the internal OGP Greece project management tool after an email received on 6 November 2018 from Alexandra Konida, Director of the Department of Informatics & Communication of the Hellenic

Parliament. The email states that further updates on commitment implementation will become available on 15 November 2018, when the Parliament will have finalized relevant data collection.

⁷ Hellenic Parliament Foundation, "Democracy & Education" (in Greek),

<http://foundation.parliament.gr/central.aspx?sld=11014441113216461453528>

⁸ Hellenic Parliament Transparency, "Set up of a Project Team to prepare a study to strengthen the support of the parliamentary process of legislating and filing bills via digital means, facilitating citizens' monitoring of parliamentary legislative process, ensuring Parliament's interoperability within the framework of the National Strategy for Codification and Reform of Greek Legislation" (in Greek), <https://diafaneia.hellenicparliament.gr/results/?ada=0%CE%97>

⁹ Vouliwatch Open Letter to the president of the Hellenic Parliament (in Greek),

<https://vouliwatch.gr/actions/article/rotame-ti-voyli-ti-ehei-ylopoiisei-apo-tis-desmeyes-tis-gia-tin-anoikti-diakyvernisi>

¹⁰ Stefanos Loukopoulos, Vouliwatch Executive Director, telephone interview with IRM researchers, Athens, 10 October 2018.

Methodological Note

The end-of-term report is based on desk research and interviews with governmental and nongovernmental stakeholders. The IRM report builds on the findings of the government's self-assessment report and the ASANA project management tool; other assessments of progress put out by civil society, the private sector, or international organizations; and the previous IRM progress report.

This report groups commitments according to the original OGP action plan and midterm report. It is based on desk-review of governmental programs; draft laws and regulations; governmental decrees; analysis of the commitments; and interviews with civil society representatives and subject matter experts. The Openwise research team also relied significantly upon information gathered during an interministerial meeting of all agencies relevant to the second OGP action plan, organized by the Greek National Contact Point on behalf of the Ministry of Interior and Administrative Reform. It also used the results of a short online questionnaire¹ sent to the Ministry of Administrative Reconstruction and a survey² (N=166) of subscribers to the Open Government newsletter published by the same Ministry.

Openwise assists business, government, and civil society organizations in redefining their mission, processes and impact with the transformative power of openness. It was founded in 2014 by a multidisciplinary team with many years of expertise in the fields of public policy, communications, open technologies, social research, multimedia content strategy, and transparency and participation.

The Open Government Partnership (OGP) aims to secure concrete commitments from governments to promote transparency, to empower citizens, to fight corruption, and to harness new technologies to strengthen governance. OGP's Independent Reporting Mechanism assesses development and implementation of national action plans to foster dialogue among stakeholders and improve accountability.



¹ The questionnaire is available in Greek at: <https://goo.gl/forms/onMGacKfeZ8Q3Zti2>

² The survey is available in Greek at: <https://goo.gl/forms/8tIWVG6YY3bIMVSr2>