

RIIGIKANTSELEI

Estonia's Action Plan in Participating in the Open Government Partnership 2014-2016

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1. Introduction

Open Government Partnership (OGP) is an international initiative started in 2011 for promoting good governance all over the world using the opportunities offered by the development of technology. Open Government means a fair and transparent execution of power in dialogue with citizens.

At present, 64 countries have joined OGP. The countries joining OGP accept the responsibility to follow the principles of open government and to develop, in cooperation with the third sector, a specific action plan, the development and implementation of which will be monitored both nationally and internationally within the framework of OGP.

Estonia joined Open Government Partnership in 2012¹. For Estonia, the main goal when joining the Open Government Partnership was to direct the enhanced attention of the governments, as well as that of the whole of society to the quality of governance, to learn from the experience of other countries and to share Estonia's experience with other countries participating in the partnership. Estonia has followed the principles of openness and transparency by the creation of a corresponding legal framework and a wide usage of modern technical solutions in public administration. The first Action Plan (for the years 2012-2014) focused on developing public services and improving the ethics of public officials.

The Government that took office in March 2014 has stressed the need to increase the openness of governance in Estonia, giving the responsibility to coordinate OGP to the Government Office. The second period of Open Government Partnership will start for Estonia from July 1, 2014, for which this Action Plan has been created.

The OGP Action Plan for 2014-2016 entails activities of the Estonian Government in three priority areas: promoting public engagement in the process of public policymaking, transparency of budgeting and development of public services. The priority areas were selected on the basis of suggestions by the third sector OGP round table² and in the process of joint meetings of the Government and partners³, taking into account the evaluation as to the fulfilment of the previous Action Plan (evaluation by Independent Reporting Mechanism (IRM))⁴ as well as the four core values of the Open Government Declaration⁵. An important factor in choosing the priority areas was the consideration that focused activities should be continued in the previously chosen areas, where there is still a lot to be achieved. This also means that in areas where significant outputs have been delivered or progress is well on track, the relevance of continuing them was discussed thoroughly at the joint meetings. At the same time it had to be acknowledged that the impact of the 2012-2014 Action Plan was hard to evaluate, as many of the activities lacked milestones or performance indicators for impact assessment. 2014-2016 Action Plan at this point also lacks performance indicators, which will be developed jointly with responsible parties for specific actions by the end of 2014 (see more on implementation of the Action Plan in Chapter 5).

¹Estonia has been found to comply with the minimum requirements of OGP. The minimum requirements for joining OGP can be found on the homepage <http://www.opengovpartnership.org/eligibility>

² Third sector OGP network (henceforth also called the OGP round table): <http://avatudvalitsemine.ee/vorgustik/>
³(April 17 and April 30, 2014)

⁴ IRM's evaluation: <http://valitsus.ee/et/riigikantselei/avatud-valitsemise-partnerlus/tegevuskava-2012-2014>

⁵ Values of the OGP Declaration: <http://www.opengovpartnership.org/about/open-government-declaration>

In comparison with the previous Action Plan 2012-2014, focus has shifted from the ethics of public officials to a better engagement of citizens and transparency of budgeting mainly because more important activities, like the enactment of the new anti-corruption law, the approval of the anti-corruption strategy by the Government, the starting of the Council of Ethics of Officials and an electronic database of declarations of economic interests, have created a solid framework for a focused development of the area of ethics of public officials. There are no new large-scale anti-corruption activities planned in the OGP Action Plan, although the prevention of corruption is supported by activities directed towards the increasing of transparency of finances of the state as well as of local governments, such as improvement of the trackability of expenditure and increasing the ability of citizens to understand public finances. The development of e-services will be continued, with a dual focus: helping the developers of public services to interlink services better and to improve them in cooperation with citizens. These focuses increase the responsibility of the public services providers and the transparency of service processes. We will also continue the promotion of cooperation between public authorities and non-government agents, which will help improve the openness of public policymaking processes. Although opportunities of engagement and access to information are improving, and so is the process of making decision processes more understandable for the third sector and citizens, participants in the preparation meetings of the Action Plan find that these areas still have potential for improvement. Activities for improving the culture of engagement have also been planned in the Civic Society Development Plan being compiled in parallel, though the latter focuses more on increasing the capabilities of third sector organizations and raising the level of internal democracy.

No separate activities are planned in the OGP Action Plan for local governments. There is still a lot to be achieved at the level of central government and a focused approach facilitates setting of realistic goals. Where possible, activities will also be introduced to local governments in cooperation of the responsible ministries and the Ministry of the Interior, so that the local governments would also have a better understanding of the principles and methods of open government.

As an initiative meant specifically for local governments, the e-Governance Academy of Estonia is carrying out a two-year cooperation project with the aim of introducing the values of open government to local governments. The cooperation project presents a good opportunity to learn how to design similar projects, so that the experience accumulated at the local level may turn out to be sustainably usable.

2. The Efforts So Far in the Field of Open Government in Estonia

In the Action Plan of Estonia's first participation term in OGP, in 2012-2014, there were four areas under the priorities of the ethics of public officials and the development of public services that we wanted to achieve results in: 1) development of public e-services; 2) opening data possessed by the state for public access; 3) openness and predictability of public policymaking and 4) avoiding conflict of interests and corruption. Activities of the first and fourth area have been executed fully, activities of the second and third in part. Activities arising from the Programme of the Government of the Republic for the period of 2011-2015 were incorporated

in the OGP Action Plan, as well as those from state development programs that were being implemented.

Although the Action Plan was discussed with the OGP round table consisting of third sector organizations, a certain dissonance could be detected between the representatives of government and those of the third sector regarding the principles of selection of activities and the later possibility to comment on the Action Plan. In general, the lesson of the first period of OGP was that the OGP process needs strong leadership and a good forum for cooperation, which was also stressed by the independent evaluation report⁶. Accordingly, the preparation of the Action Plan for the new period has been based on a new basis, better complying with open government.

In the OGP Self-Assessment Report of autumn, 2013⁷, we stated that a constantly expressed social demand towards officials as well as the political elite, helping to galvanise the attention to the open governance issues in relation to other matters, is needed for creating a culture of greater open governance. At the same time, it is important that the demand should find expression in a readiness on the part of non-governmental agents to cooperate and contribute, as this is the only natural way to make their voice better heard or to delegate from government out rights of decision-making in the public policymaking.

3. The Process of Drawing Up the Action Plan

The Government that took office in March 2014 gave responsibility for the Open Government Partnership to the Government Office. Preparations for the scheduling of the drawing up process of the new Action Plan⁸ started in April 2014, along with consultations and meetings with ministries and non-government partners, including members of the third sector OGP round table who participate in open government issues or are interested in them. Consultations for drawing up the Action Plan were largely based on the suggestions made by the OGP network in March 2014, as well as the suggestions of the international standardized assessment report, IRM.

On the initiative of the Secretary of State, Head of the Government Office, three meetings were held for drawing up the project of scheduling the Action Plan with Secretary Generals and officials of ministries related to open government, representatives of the OGP round table and representative organizations of the third sector⁹. At the first meeting (April 17, 2014) it was

⁶ IRM's evaluation: <http://valitsus.ee/et/riigikantselei/avatud-valitsemise-partnerlus/tegevuskava-2012-2014>

⁷ Self-assessment of the Government on fulfilling the OGP Action Plan for 2012-2014:

<http://valitsus.ee/et/riigikantselei/avatud-valitsemise-partnerlus/tegevuskava-2012-2014>

⁸ Schedule of drawing up the OGP Action Plan for 2014-2016:

http://test.riigikantselei.ee/sites/default/files/elfinder/article_files/avp_tegevusprogrammi_koostamise_kava_17.04.2014.pdf

⁹ Organizations participating in the drawing up of the Action Plan: Ministry of Finance, Ministry of the Interior, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government Office, OGP round table of third sector organizations (whose leader is also a representative of the e-Governance Academy), Network of Estonian Non-profit Organizations, Estonian Cooperation Assembly,

decided that three areas should be focused on in the course of preparing the draft of the Action Plan – promotion of public engagement in the public policymaking process, increasing transparency of budgeting and development of public services. The choice was based on the suggestions of the OGP round table, while lessons from drawing up the Action Plan last time were also taken into account. More specifically, it was decided not to take the five key subject areas of OGP as the basis for choosing the priority areas, as these would have influenced the selection too much, and at the same time hindered it (for example, promotion of citizens' participation is not present among the five key subject areas). It was rather the four values of OGP that were concentrated on when choosing the priorities, as well as the analysis of the priority areas of the last Action Plan.

At the second meeting (April 30, 2014) the suggestions received previously were reviewed as well as initiatives and activities proposed under the priorities in the course of consultations with the ministries, and were found suitable to submit to a public consultation as a draft action plan.

From May 9 to May 27, the draft Action Plan was on public consultation in the e-participation portal osale.ee via the Information System for Draft Legal Acts (e-Consultation). In the course of the public consultation, the Government Office collected feedback from the general public and interested parties about the relevance of the commitments and activities, as well as modification proposals for activities, and encouraged non-government partners to initiate or execute activities in cooperation with the public sector.

During the public discussion, the Government Office also informed other parties of the priorities and commitments of the next activity period (e.g. national local government associations, other non-governmental associations, professional associations), those which were interested in open government issues, but did not participate in drawing up the Action Plan. The informing was carried out via newsletters sent to members of the organizations, mail and meetings. At the same time, the Government Office prepared an event in which the Prime Minister participated to introduce the new OGP Action Plan (June 6, 2014)¹⁰, the aim of which was to help bring OGP more to the attention of the general public.

The third meeting (May 28, 2014) was held immediately after the public consultation ended, and decisions about principal changes and amendments in the Action Plan were taken at that meeting, the stage-by-stage implementation of the Action Plan was agreed (see Chapter 5) as well as the state coordination mechanism of OGP and the submission of the Rahvakogu (People's Assembly) project for the international OGP prize. Summaries of all meetings are available on the homepage for the drawing up of the OGP Action Plan¹¹.

The Government Office sent the improved version of the Action Plan, which took into account the submitted proposals and comments, to all makers of proposals and participants in the meetings by e-mail for review. The Government Office also published the second version of the Action Plan and a summary table of received comments, along with notes on taking a proposal

representative of the PRAXIS Center for Policy Studies, Estonian Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Estonian Trade Union Confederation and Estonian Employers Confederation.

¹⁰ Press release of the promotion event of the OGP Action Plan: <http://valitsus.ee/et/uudised/peaminister-roivas-avatud-poliitika-uus-normaalsus> and capturing of the event on video: <http://meediaveeb.valitsus.ee/show.php?path=/2014/pressikonverents-ek-2014-06-06-rnd13602.f4v>

¹¹ Drawing up of the OGP Action Plan for 2014-2016: <http://riigikantselei.ee/et/avatud-valitsemise-partnerlus>

into account or reasons for rejecting it, on the osale.ee webpage¹². On June 4, 2014, the Government Office presented the Action Plan to the Government of the Republic for approval, which it did on June 12. The aim was to publish the Action Plan in English by June 15 at the latest on the international OGP homepage opengovpartnership.org. Implementation of the Action Plan will start on July 1st.

After the Plan's approval by the Government, the Government Office plans to ask participants of the process for feedback. This is needed for receiving feedback and proposals for drawing up the action plan, and to learn from these for the future. Furthermore, a good mutual understanding is an important prerequisite of future open government-related cooperation between government authorities and partners.

Chapter 6 describes plans on how Estonia's participation in OGP should be coordinated at the state level with Secretary Generals of ministries and representatives of non-governmental organisations.

¹² <https://www.osale.ee/konsultatsioonid/index.php?page=consults&id=261>

4. Planned Activities: 3 Priorities and 6 Commitments

As shown in the figure, the second Action Plan of Estonia for participation in OPG focuses on three priority areas that will help increase the transparency of public governance, accountability and inclusive decision making. Each priority area has been broken down into commitments that will be achieved through specific activities.

OGP Action Plan 2014-2016 Priority Areas And Commitments

Open Public Policy Making Process That Includes Citizens	<ul style="list-style-type: none">To Improve the Accessibility of Information Needed for ParticipationTo Improve Opportunities for Participation in the Public Policy Making ProcessTo Increase the Ability of Government Institutions And Non-Governmental Partners to Cooperate, Engage Stakeholders And Participate
Transparent State Budget And Financial Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none">To Increase the Transparency And Understandability of Public Funds
Citizen-Centred Public Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none">To Increase the Quality of Development And Provision of Public ServicesTo Use Open Data Widely

1ST PRIORITY: Open Public Policy Making Process That Includes Citizens

Under this priority, we have collected initiatives and activities the aim of which is to improve citizen inclusion in public policy making process and to make the work of the Government more transparent and open. The Commitments have been sequenced, such that the first one concerns improvement of accessibility of information about opportunities for participation and thus creating better premises for participation; the second one concerns cooperation processes and the fostering of a culture of participation in public policymaking and drafting of legislation; and the last commitment concerns improvement of the capabilities and skills of government institutions as well as those of third sector organizations.

COMMITMENT 1: TO IMPROVE THE ACCESSIBILITY OF INFORMATION NEEDED FOR PARTICIPATION

The problem to be addressed: Good information technology solutions have been created for participation (e-Consultation system, the e-participation portal), but they are underused. It points at one of two things: either the awareness and informedness of non-governmental partners and citizens of the opportunities for participation is insufficient, or the channels of e-participation are not sufficiently user friendly. The matter is complicated by the fact that the public policymaking process (incl. legislation) is difficult to perceive – where does it start, what is the procedure like, who makes the decisions, when can one voice their opinion? Information about the proceedings concerning individual drafts is not easily accessible, as it lies in the Programme of the Government, in work plans of ministries, in the Information System for Draft Legal Acts, or in the e-participation portal. The practices of government institutions in engaging stakeholders and the general public vary, as the Good Practices of Public Engagement is not implemented in a uniform manner.

Aim of the Commitment: To improve the accessibility of information about Government plans, which would facilitate better participation, by linking e-channels to solve the according deficiencies which will be carefully assessed prior to action, and guided by the principle of user-friendliness. People must be able to observe their opportunities for participation in various proceedings and thus to participate in more stages of proceedings.

Which OGP principle is promoted: transparency, responsibility, inclusive decision making

New or ongoing Commitment: New

No.	Activity carried out for fulfilling the Commitment	Responsible institution	Cooperation partners	Implementation time
1.1	Providing a better overview of the process of public policy making and legislation, explaining and visualizing it, describing the participation	Government Office	Ministry of Justice	July - December 2014

	opportunities			
1.2	Enhancing the user-friendliness of e-participation channels, integrating them where possible, informing potential users of the opportunities provided by e-participation channels	Government Office	Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications, e-Governance Academy, Praxis and other third sector organizations	January 2015 - June 2016
1.3	Providing content for the participation section of the new Government website, standardization of participation-related information of ministries and its presentation	Government Office	All ministries	July - October 2014
1.4	Developing a unified form for the submission of memoranda, explanation requests and information requests of the citizens to public authorities through the eesti.ee portal	Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications	State Information System Authority (eesti.ee) Data Protection Inspectorate (owner of the form to be created), public sector institutions (users of the form), citizens and entrepreneurs (testers of the form)	July 2014 - January 2016

COMMITMENT 2: TO IMPROVE OPPORTUNITIES FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE PUBLIC POLICYMAKING PROCESS

The problem to be addressed: It has become customary to ask stakeholders for feedback concerning important decisions in a rather formal manner and too late in the process. This has given rise to a situation where it is practically the draft piece of legislation that is consulted on with the general public and stakeholders. Additionally, inclusion is too often seen as an aim in itself and it has become a formality to be taken care of in a late stage in the policymaking process. There is too little engagement in the early stage to find a generally better solution to an issue or to work out policy alternatives. Feedback given to participants in the form of consultation tables of explanatory letters is not explanatory enough and therefore is not satisfactory.

Aim of the Commitment: Promotion of a more open policymaking process, more specifically the legislative process, so that public engagement would take place earlier than in the stage of asking for an opinion about a prepared legislation draft, so that government institutions would develop a wish and a habit of finding possible solutions to problems together with stakeholders and the general public (instead of consulting on already prepared decisions).

Which OGP principle is promoted: inclusive decision making, accountability, transparency

New or ongoing Commitment: Partly ongoing, new

No.	Activity carried out for fulfilling the Commitment	Responsible institution	Cooperation partners	Implementation time
2.1	Making information about the proceedings and participation opportunities accessible in an early stage of the policymaking process	Government Office	Ministry of Justice, Ministry of the Interior	October 2014 - December 2015
2.2	Promoting of initiatives that would enable discussion about principal policy choices in an early stage of the policymaking process	Government Office	Ministry of Justice, Ministry of the Interior	March 2015 - June 2016
2.3	It is recommended that important budgeting and taxation policy decisions be made in spring, together with the Budget Strategy	Ministry of Finance		July 2014 - June 2016
2.4	Introducing to government institutions various possibilities and methods of feedback in order to achieve better results in policymaking, their implementation	Government Office	Ministry of Justice, Ministry of the Interior	December 2014 - June 2016
2.5	Providing content for participation projects financed by European Union structural funds and implementation of these projects in cooperation with third sector organizations	Government Office, Ministry of the Interior (issues related to strategic partnership)	Ministry of Justice, third sector organizations	June 2014 - June 2016
2.6	Creating a non-governmental web-based discussion environment to give citizens an opportunity to initiate, compile and then submit, digitally signed, collective memoranda to state and local authorities	Estonian Cooperation Assembly	interested ministries, Government Office	December 2014 - February 2014

COMMITMENT 3: TO INCREASE THE ABILITY OF GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS AND NON-GOVERNMENTAL PARTNERS TO COOPERATE, ENGAGE STAKEHOLDERS AND PARTICIPATE

The problem to be addressed: There has been a significant positive development in recent years in the abilities of the parties of participation to cooperate in solving problems as well as the abilities to include stakeholders and the general public on the one hand and to participate in public policy making on the other. However, by developing the awareness and abilities (incl. ability for analysis) of the participants, it is possible to establish an even more constructive and efficient cooperation context where both sides would have a good understanding of the opportunities and needs of the other party, and thus have realistic expectations for the cooperation process and its expected results.

Aim of the Commitment: To improve the abilities of government institutions and non-governmental partners to participate in public policy making process.

Which OGP principle is promoted: inclusive decision making, accountability

New or ongoing Commitment: New, partly ongoing

No.	Activity carried out for fulfilling the Commitment	Responsible institution	Cooperation partners	Implementation time
3.1	Creating guidelines for making participation methods and best practices more readily available for those who carry out processes, in accordance with policymaking situations (e.g. an interactive website with examples and methods)	Government Office	Ministry of the Interior, other ministries	October 2014 - June 2016
3.2	Increasing the ability of social partners and other third sector organizations to better analyze public policies and to include their member organizations in the formation of positions regarding public policies	Government Office		October 2014 - June 2016

2ND PRIORITY: Transparent State Budget and Financial Management

Under this priority there are activities which aim at making public finances more transparent. This priority concerns making Government financial data public in an aggregated form and understandable to citizens.

COMMITMENT 4: TO INCREASE THE TRANSPARENCY AND UNDERSTANDABILITY OF PUBLIC FUNDS

The problem to be addressed: The general public has an overview of the accounting data of units under central government only through financial statements, which does not enable access to detailed information or analysis.

The accounting data submitted to the state by local authorities and exposed publicly does not show which companies, NGOs or foundations outside of the government sector have been their transaction partners. Therefore, important information from the point of view of transparency is presently not published. Also, there is no overview of third sector organizations that have received support from the state budget.

There is no coherent information of transactions made by local authorities and the beneficiaries of these transactions.

Aim of the Commitment:

- 1) To make public expenditure more transparent and to facilitate the use of open data for the general public as well as the public sector;
- 2) To prevent corruption by increasing public control over transaction partners of local authorities and persons related to these transactions.

Which OGP principle is promoted: transparency, accountability

New or ongoing Commitment: New

No.	Activity carried out for fulfilling the Commitment	Responsible institution	Cooperation partners	Implementation time
4.1	Including the accounting data of central government, persons in public law and as many other units of the public sector as possible in the designated public finances web-based application ¹³ , with a level of detail as required in the chart of accounts.	Ministry of Finance		September 2014 – December 2015
4.2	Publicizing private sector and third sector transaction partners of local authorities and interfacing this information with the business registry to show persons related to these transactions	Ministry of Finance		January - July 2016
4.3	Including third sector organizations that have received funding from the state budget in the public finances application	Ministry of Finance		September 2015 - June 2016

¹³ See the current version of the applicaton here:
<http://www.riigipilv.ee/QvAJAXZfc/opendoc.htm?document=LEO.qvw&host=local&anonymous=true>

4.4	Compiling the guidelines for local authorities for providing a concise overview of the local budget understandable to a citizen, in a manner similar to the State Budget Strategy and the state budget	Ministry of Finance		November - March 2015
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3RD PRIORITY: Citizen-centred public services

The priority focuses on designing public services in accordance with the principles of co-creation, with the aim of making the services more citizen-friendly and making data available in the format of open data. Open data facilitates the speeding up of co-creation processes.

COMMITMENT 5: TO INCREASE THE QUALITY OF DEVELOPMENT AND PROVISION OF PUBLIC SERVICES

The problem to be addressed:

Public services have been designed in a very official-centred and public administration-centred manner. Non-governmental partners are only asked for feedback, the aim has not been on designing together and co-creation, which could improve the services and change the circle of decision makers. Comfort and quality of services are important for users, not the title of the agency or the level of government providing them.

Designers of public services lack a toolbox that would give them quick, interactive and suitably tailored information about the design and management of public services. There are some handbooks ([Green Paper for Providing Public Services](#), [Handbook of Public Sector Business Processes](#), [Handbook for Designing User Friendly e-Services](#)) and documents describing more general state directions (e.g. [Interoperability Framework](#), [Information Society Strategy](#)). These materials must be made easily usable for the developers of public services as well as other participants in the co-creation process in a manner that would, in accordance with the maturity level of a specific service, give participants access to the most suitable tools and best practices of development of comparable public services.

The state lacks a concise and continuously updated overview of where and which services state and local authorities are providing, what their maturity level is or what information and service channels are being used for rendering these services. Without an overview, it is also hard to recognize and develop inter-institutional services and initiate cooperation (from the [Green Paper on Organizing Public Services](#), p 11), which means, for the end user, unrealized potential to receive services in a simpler and more user-friendly manner.

Aim of the Commitment: To increase the user-friendliness of public services by shifting the focus from the official to the consumer of the service.

The activity supports [Information Society Strategy](#) subchapter “Smarter Governance”, activity 1 subsection c, activity 4 subsection d, as well as activity 4 subsections a and b.

Which OGP principle is promoted: accountability, inclusive decision making

New or ongoing Commitment: New

No.	Activity carried out for fulfilling the Commitment	Responsible institution	Cooperation partners	Implementation time
5.1	An interactive web-based toolbox for developing public services will be created where service developers from the public, private and NGO sector can obtain guidelines, methods, handbooks and best practices for developing new services or for redesigning existing services.	Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications	State Information Systems Authority (RIHA), Ministry of Finance (public procurement registry), other government institutions	September 2014 – September 2016
5.2	To create an overview of public services where all public services would be described in a unified, machine and human readable form, and where citizens can find information on what quality level service is promised to them	Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications	State Information System Authority (RIHA), Ministry of Finance (public procurement registry)	July 2014 - December 2015
5.3	Pilot projects will be carried out with selected public services being designed in accordance with the guidelines of designing user-friendly e-services	Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications	Other state institutions	June 2016
5.4	Start of issuing digital ID documents to non-residents, thus improving the opportunities of non-residents to use e-services and participate in affairs of the society as well as business	Ministry of Internal Affairs		December 2014 - June 2016

COMMITMENT 6: TO USE OPEN DATA WIDELY

The problem to be addressed: Today, public data is largely available in digital form and can be viewed as invaluable raw material for creating new knowledge, innovations and services. For programs to be able to use data with maximum efficiency, data has to be presented in a machine readable form, very clear rules have to be established for recycling of data, interoperability of information systems and services guaranteed and an infrastructure that supports recycling created.

The experience of other countries and international initiatives shows that benefits and success in the field of open data can be achieved as a result of decisive government action and leadership. For organizing coordinated activities, Estonia needs an open data strategy and policy. Estonia has taken first steps in this direction, and at present, one of the more topical challenges is presented by a clause in the Public Information Act stating that by January 1, 2015, free access to open data of data collections has to be guaranteed and the data published in a machine readable form.

Aim of the Commitment: To encourage innovation through a wider use of open data, to speed up co-creation processes, to boost economy and increase transparency of the public sector.

Which OGP principle is promoted: accountability, transparency

New or ongoing Commitment: ongoing

No.	Activity carried out for fulfilling the Commitment	Responsible institution	Cooperation partners	Implementation time
6.1	Transforming of open data portal opendata.riik.ee from pilot use to so-called real use, with a guarantee for basic level organizational support.	Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications	Association of Information Technology and Telecommunications, open data community, data owners in the public sector	July - November 2014
6.2	Organizing of public competitions for opening data, incl. implementation of pilot projects of link data.	Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications	Association of Information Technology and Telecommunications, open data community, data owners in the public sector	July 2014 - July 2016
6.3	Organizing of events facilitating the recycling of open data (hackathons, trainings etc)	Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications	Association of Information Technology and Telecommunications, open data community, data owners in the public sector	July 2014 - July 2016

5. Implementing the Action Plan

Implementation of the Action Plan will start on July 1st, 2014. Several activities of the Action Plan have been formulated rather generally, therefore they will be specified for a common understanding by the end of 2014. The person or institution responsible for each activity will bring concerned parties together in order to specify the background of the proposed activity, its goal, scope, relation to other activities, related milestones and performance indicators. The financial sources for executing the activity will also be specified. A 1-2 page summary will be drawn up for each activity and presented to the coordinating body of OGP (see Chapter 6) for approval, and then published for the general public online. The Government Office will guide the persons responsible for activities.

As the assessment of IRM indicates, it may turn out during the implementation period that some of the planned activities can be abandoned, that some should be reformulated and that some activities need to be added. A stage-by-stage implementation of activities will facilitate a flexible approach to achieving the goals, making adjustments to activities according to the results of the co-creation process if necessary.

The Government Office will continue compiling the annual report of the Action Plan. The stage-by-stage implementation of the Action Plan will help the Government Office gather feedback from the agents responsible for the activities and from non-governmental partners. This is needed for a wide assessment of the implementation of the Action Plan and for feedback on how well we have done. The stage-by-stage approach will also facilitate planning the activities of the second year of the Action Plan and adjust the initially planned activities as necessary.

6. State Coordination Mechanism of the Open Government Partnership

The Secretary of State will form a coordinating body of OGP for monitoring the implementation of the Action Plan and for taking decisions related to Open Government Partnership. The coordinating body of OGP will continue in a form similar to the meetings organised for drawing up the Action Plan, and it will consist of representatives of government institutions and non-governmental partners who deal with issues related to open government daily. The future coordinating body will consist of up to 13 members, 6 of them representing the Government (Secretary Generals of the ministries related to OGP) and up to 7 representing non-governmental partners. The selection of partner organizations will be handled by the OGP round table.

The responsibilities of the coordinating body include monitoring the implementation of the Action Plan, taking substantial decisions (e.g. if an activity of the Action Plan has to be changed), giving suggestions to parties related to the activities, and a wide discussion of the goals and activities of Estonia's participation in OGP. The coordinating body of OGP will meet

approximately once per quarter. The Government Office will publish summaries of the meetings of the coordinating body on its website.

Members of the coordinating body will be renewed when the implementation period of the Action Plan ends. This means that the membership of the body to be formed this year will be reviewed in 2016, when priority areas for the new Action Plan will be chosen.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs will continue to represent Estonia at the international fora.