# OPEN GOVERNMENT PARTNERSHIP

# ROMANIA NATIONAL ACTION PLAN

# 2016 –2018

# Contents

# Introduction

Accession to the Open Government Partnership in 2011 provided the Government of Romania with the support to create an auxiliary mechanism that would allow it to become more open, accountable and efficient.

OGP membership and the three national action plans drafted from 2012 to 2016 resulted in an increase of efforts to promote transparency and the fight against corruption, to encourage civic participation and the use of new technologies in administration, actions that were also included in national strategies.

In 2012, the OGP process in Romania was linked with the 2012-2015 National Anti-corruption Strategy and, in the following years, was correlated to other important objectives such as increasing the transparency of public administration – the 2014-2020 Strategy for strengthening public administration, ensuring the free access to national legislation, increasing transparency and efficiency in public spending or ensuring open access in education and research.

These lines of action were reflected in the commitments included in the national plans and were a result of consultation and collaboration between central public administration and civil society.

The drafting of the 2016-2018 National Action Plan was based on the lessons learned from the implementation of the previous NAP, the recommendations from the IRM 2015 progress report and Romania's commitment to promote the principles of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The work of the OGP Coordination Unit[1] from the Chancellery of the Prime-Minister, the Department for Online Services and Design, that is in charge since 2013 with coordinating and monitoring the OGP National Action Plan, was strengthened by the support received from non-governmental organisations, especially the NGOs that form the Coalition for Open Data[2].

Since the beginning of the mandate of the current government (November 2015), the Ministry for Public Consultation and Civic Dialogue (MCPDC)[3] became in charge, at national level, with promoting transparency and open government. In this role, the MCDPC initiated a series of actions, complementary to those of the Chancellery of the Prime-Minister, detailed in the next chapters. Besides efforts to maximise OGP related results, the Ministry will monitor the government agencies' activities in this field and will develop and release regular progress reports.

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[1] http://ogp.gov.ro/
[2] http://datedeschise.fundatia.ro/
[3] http://www.dialogcivic.gov.ro

# Open Government Efforts to Date

Open government represents an essential trait of any democratic state and an important component in the modernisation of public administration. Romania's accession to the Open Government Partnership in 2011 was a part of its commitment to develop and implement the required policies for opening the government further by promoting governmental transparency, encouraging civic participation, using new technologies in administration and fighting corruption.

These objectives were reflected in the first set of commitments of the Romanian Government, approved by the Memorandum on the National Action Plan (July 2012-June 2014) and materialized in a series of measures aimed at opening and sharing public data and encouraging dialogue between the public administration and the civil society.

A positive signal given by the Government in autumn 2015 was the creation of the Ministry for Public Consultation and Civic Dialogue (MCPDC) – a structure that, along with the Chancellery of the Prime-Minister, will coordinate the implementation of the national commitments included in the OGP National Action Plan.

MCPDC's attributions include: the increase of access to information and transparency in public administration, public consultation of the non-governmental sector and promotion of civil society participation to the decision-making process.

In this respect, from November 2015 to April 2016, the ministry has developed the standardization of the way public interest information is published, thus leading to an increase from an average of 46% to over 85% of the degree of compliance of central and local public institutions (ministries, prefectures, county councils and municipalities of major cities) to the standard of public interest information publishing.

At the proposal of the Ministry, the Government approved a Memorandum on improving transparency and standardizing public interest information. As a result, over 500 public institutions have been monitored by the ministry's staff and the process is on-going.

In addition, on the subject of increased transparency of central administration, the ministry has implemented three measures aimed at greater transparency of Government meetings:

- the publishing, for the first time, of memorandums approved by the Government;

- publishing the agenda of government meetings and of the proposals that received institutional approval, at least 24 hours before the meeting;

- publishing a summary of the results of the government meetings, following every meeting starting 27 April 2016.

The results of open government efforts can also be seen in the events that took place in March 2016. In the context of the Open Data Day, the Chancellery of the Prime-Minister, in collaboration with representatives of the civil society, embassies and private sector, organised a series of events[1] dedicated to open government in the week 5-11 March.

The 35 panellists and partners in the event were members of the central and local public administration, representatives of international organisations (OGP Support Unit, OGP Independent Reporting Mechanism, OGP Points of Contact from Greece, Bulgaria and Moldova), embassies (UK, USA and the Netherlands), NGOs and private sector. Around 450 people took part in the 10 sessions over the 6 days of the event focusing on increasing transparency and efficiency in the public administration through opening data and information. Discussions were centred on themes such as: open contracting, open data from the health system, open data and smart cities, open journalism, commitments for the new NAP, open parliament, open justice, open education and information accessibility.

The OGP Conference held on 9 March was dedicated to identifying priorities in the Government's OGP process, from the assessment of the 2014-2016 NAP implementation to the proposal of new commitments. The IRM researcher summarized and commented on the conclusions of the progress report that was still under public consultation at the time. The civil society representatives officially presented and published the proposals for new commitments to be included in the 2016-2018 National Action Plan. They included actions in the fields of education, culture, health, justice, economy, energy, natural resources, access to information, fiscal transparency, subnational open governments, open parliament and open data.

Another important aspect that has to be mentioned is the application by two Romanian cities (Timișoara and Cluj) to join the Subnational Pilot Program initiated by the Open Government Partnership. Although neither was chosen to participate in this first phase, the intention and the common objectives of stakeholders from those communities (public administration, private sector and civil society, academia) are valued and promoted as good practices at national level.

As part of the peer learning and support efforts, in April 2016, Romania shared its acquired experience during a regional meeting organised in Bucharest in collaboration with the US Embassy. The agenda of the meeting was focused on the OGP process and the participants were representatives of the governments, civil society and embassies from Bulgaria, Macedonia and Slovakia.

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[1] http://ogp.gov.ro/open-gov-week/

## NAP development process

The drafting of the 2016-2018 National Action Plan was based on the proposals received from the public administration institutions and from the civil society, and was made in accordance with the OGP recommended timeline. The calendar was published on the ogp.gov.ro website in January 2016[1] and was agreed upon with the representatives of civil society during the first public debate held on the subject of the new NAP (28 January 2016). The timeline clearly stated the consultation dates and periods as well as the important milestones for the next 6 months until the publishing of the final version of the 2016-2018 NAP.

On 15 February, 2016, the online public consultation for the new NAP was launched on the ogp.gov.ro website. The consultation was open for two months, until 15 April 2016, as it was announced since January.

In this first phase of the consultations, the OGP team and partners laid the basis for the new plan: commitment proposals from the public institutions and from stakeholder meetings were added to the proposals already received from the civil society.

Public communications mentioned that the drafting of the plan would take into consideration the IRM Progress Report conclusions, as well as the commitment of the OGP member states to promote the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development principles. The start of the public debate in January was accompanied by a presentation of the UN 2030 Agenda: the Sustainable Development Goals[2].

Anyone was able to send commitment proposals relevant to the principles of the Open Government Partnership: to promote a more open, accountable and efficient government through increased transparency and fight against corruption, encourage public participation and the use of the new technologies in administration.

From January till March 2016, a public consultation was organised by the civil society, led by the Centre for Public Innovation. The first phase of the consultation was for raising ideas for the new plan, while the second phase saw most of these ideas being developed into full commitments, along with other partners from the civil society. Almost 200 people were involved in the process, both citizens and representatives of informal groups or non-governmental organisations. The input varied from a simple vote to rank the proposals to drafting the initial form of the commitments (according to the OGP model). The editors of the commitments were: the Centre for Public Innovation, the Centre for Independent Journalism, Funky Citizens, the Romanian Academic Society, Alex Lungu, Smart City and

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[1] http://ogp.gov.ro/planul-national/calendar-2016/
[2] http://ogp.gov.ro/club-ogp/incepem-al-3-lea-an-de-dezbateri-la-club-ogp/

Median Research. The final draft included 28 commitments, out of which 21 were fully developed, while 7 remained in concept form. The proposals were grouped under 13 domains.

The document was submitted to the Government, presented during the Open Government Week public debate and published online on the website of the Centre for Public Innovation[1]. The document was also published by the OGP coordination team on the ogp.gov.ro website[2] and was further sent by official letter to the line institutions. The OGP team has also organised a number of meetings with the institutions and stakeholders involved to discuss and draft official responses regarding the proposals and the new plan.

Following consultations with the public institutions, the proposals drafted by the civil society were accepted entirely or partially by the agencies as commitments to be implemented in partnership with the NGOs. There was no institutional commitment on proposals related to natural resources, state companies and energy.

The draft National Action Plan, that includes commitments developed from proposals of both civil society and public institutions, was published on the ogp.gov.ro website on 28 April 2016 and, according to the calendar, the Chancellery of the Prime-Minister organised the following public debates and consultations:

- 28 April – 31 May: online public consultation;
- 17 and 19 May: 4 thematic public debates on Culture and Education, Budgetary Transparency and Open Contracting, Access to information and Participation, Open Data / Technology and Innovation;
- 10 June: public debate on the commitments proposed by the Ministry of Justice.

For the final version of the Plan the following public debates and consultations were organised:

- 17 – 27 June: online public consultation;
- 23 June: public debate.

Starting from the proposal made by civil society regarding the coordination of OGP in Romania, the Chancellery of the Prime-Minister and the Ministry for Public Consultation and Civic Dialogue will initiate a public consultation process for the creation of an institutionalized mechanism for coordination and dialogue. According to the proposals, this should materialize in an OGP Coordination Committee and will work on the principle of continuous cooperation between Government and civil society in all its actions: co-creation of the national action plan, implementation, monitoring and evaluation. The Committee will be composed of an equal number of representatives of public

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[1] http://www.inovarepublica.ro/propuneriogp2016/#more-381
[2] http://ogp.gov.ro/planul-national/pna-2016-2018/consultare-publica-pna-2016-2018-etapa-i/

institutions and civil society and will be in charge with the monitoring and evaluation of NAP implementation.

The documents on which the debates and consultations were based were published on the ogp.gov.ro in a timely manner.


## Commitments

The plan includes continued actions on previous commitments such as open contracting, open data, access to information of public interest, but also includes measures in new domains such as anti-corruption, education, culture, subnational or open parliament.

The commitments are structured on the following main topics:

- Access to information
- Civic Participation
- Subnational
- Anti-corruption
- Culture
- Education
- Open Contracting
- Open Data

and reflect the principles of the sustainable development goals of *Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions, Quality Education, Innovation and infrastructure, Climate Action, No Poverty, Good Health and Well-Being, Sustainable Cities and Communities*.

In drafting the commitments, the IRM recommendations were taken into consideration:

1. Give the next OGP national action plan a higher normative force, approving it by governmental decision.

The new Steering Committee will analyse the need and opportunity of this recommendation.

2. Increase accountability and institutional capacity within the OGP process in order to extend the implementation both on a national and on a local level

In the first phase, a series of pilot projects will be implemented locally (Subnational). These will be the starting point and will help gather experience for the development of a larger scale program aimed at increasing the number of local OGP contact points, as well as training of public servants and public awareness raising.

3. Make OGP/SNA (National Anti-corruption Strategy) actions more prominent and extend institutional responsibility by raising the number of responsible persons designated within institutions

Within the pilot project described above, the OGP coordination team from the Chancellery of the Prime-Minister will work in collaboration with the SNA team from the Ministry of Regional Development and Public Administration that undertook similar actions through the 2012-2015 SNA campaign with local authorities, as well as with the team from the MCPDC.

4. Improve the role of public consultations

Starting 2015, the Ministry for Public Consultation and Civic Dialogue was assigned attributions in this field and has developed a Guide on transparency and efficiency in the public consultation process, including the standardization of the public consultation procedure. The guidebook will be disseminated to all 3200 territorial and administrative divisions (municipalities). To increase the administrative capacity of central institutions for public consultation, the ministry has organised 7 debates on topics of interest for the civil society with ministries such as: the Ministry of National Education, the Ministry of Regional Development and Public Administration, the Ministry of Environment or the Ministry of Communications and Information Society. In its 5 months of activity, the Ministry for Public Consultation and Civic Dialogue has made 9 visits to local authorities to promote open government at the subnational level and collaboration with the associative, non-governmental sector.

The Government dedicated a section of this Plan to the public consultation process - Improving citizen access to the decision-making process.

5. Increase public awareness on the OGP action plan in Romania

This objective is inherently linked to all OGP activities and, from the experience gained so far, it proved to depend on the number and degree of involvement of stakeholders. Unfortunately, efforts undertaken so far did not produce satisfactory results at the local level, where strategies and campaigns must be specifically designed to target regional/local issues.

# Access to Information

| 1. Improving the legal framework and practices regarding access to public interest information | | |
|---|---|---|
| Start and End Date:   2016 - 2018 | | New commitment |
| Lead implementing agency | | Ministry for Public Consultation and Civic Dialogue (MCPDC) |
| Name of responsible person from implementing agency | | Luca Ciubotaru |
| Title, Department | | Advisor to the Minister |
| Email | | Luca.ciubotaru@gov.ro |
| Phone | | +40741975076 |
| Other Actors Involved | Government Ministries, Department/Agency | Chancellery of the Prime-Minister (CPM)<br><br>Ministry of Regional Development and Public Administration (MDRAP) |
| | CSOs, private sector, multilaterals, working | Associative entities from the public administration, such as the Association of Romanian Municipalities, Association of Romanian Towns, Association of Romanian Communes, Association of Romanian Prefects<br><br>Asociația pentru Tranziție Urbană<br><br>Asociatia de Cooperare Transfrontalieră Euroregiunea Dunărea de Jos<br><br>Calup |

| | | Asociația pentru Dezvoltarea Priorităților Locale Timiș |
| --- | --- | --- |
| | | Alianța Națională a Organizațiilor Studențești din România |
| | | Asociatia Pro Democratia |
| | | Asociația Salvați Bucureștiul |
| Status quo or problem addressed by the commitment | | Although started in 2001, the implementation of Law no.544/2001 on access to public interest information is still marked by a significant number of dysfunctionalities.<br><br>The analyses made by MCPDC and other government structures before it, as well as those of non-governmental organisations, revealed the need to standardize the format in which all compulsory information is displayed. The research also revealed the necessity to integrate the expectations of civil society on this issue – this involves publishing by default datasets considered public information and mentioned in legislation complementary to the provisions of Law 544/2001.<br><br>One month after Government approval of the Memorandum titled: Improving transparency and standardization of the way in which public interest information is displayed, initiated by the MCPDC in collaboration with the Chancellery of the Prime-Minister in March 2016, the first assessment of over 350 local and central public institutions showed that ministries implemented over 78% of the Memorandum's provisions. |
| Main objective | | Increase transparency in the public sector by publishing extensive public interest information;<br><br>Improve the institutional capacity to effectively implement the law on access to public interest information. |
| Brief description of commitment | | MCPDC will continue to develop the standards included in the Memorandum and will monitor their implementation. Concurrently, the Ministry will harmonize practices in the |

| | field of access to public information, for both the legal framework and its implementation.<br><br>The standards will be developed following interaction with the public authorities and the nongovernmental sector, drawing from the experience gained in practice.<br><br>Actions to improve the professionalism of those involved in managing public interest information will also be taken. |
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| OPG challenge addressed by the commitment | Improve public sector integrity<br><br>Efficient management of public resources<br><br>Improving public services |
| Relevance | The commitment contributes to the uniformization of practices in publishing public interest information and to the development of a proactive communication culture in public authorities. Access to information of public interest, as an important sequence of the organizational practice that materialises the implementation of the principle of transparency in the public system, is an essential component of the open government process. |
| Ambition | Creation of a minimal standard, for both citizens and public authorities, regarding the way public information is displayed.<br><br>Reduce the number of access to information requests for information that is already available on the websites of public institutions.<br><br>Improve the process of informing citizens and ensure better information management in public institutions. |

| Milestone  - Activity with a verifiable deliverable and completion date | Start Date: | End Date: |
|---|---|---|
| 1. Monitor the implementation of the Memorandum's provisions in all institutions of the executive (over 1800 institutions) | | Aug 2016 |

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| 2. Identify the conflicts existing in the current legal framework related to access to information and harmonize the legislation (changing of norms, regulations, decisions) | | Oct 2016 |
| 3. Develop standards regarding the quality of information provided to citizens and disseminate them, as well as the changes occurred in the legal framework, to central and local public authorities | Aug 2016 | Dec 2016 |
| 4. Improve transparency in communication between citizens requesting information and public authorities by developing a platform on the model of AskTheEU | Aug 2016 | Dec 2016 |
| 5. Training sessions for the staff in charge with implementing Law 544/2001 on access to public interest information | Jan 2017 | Aug 2017 |
| 6. Create maps of good practices in displaying public interest information | Aug 2017 | Dec 2017 |
| 7. Initiate a national competition for good practices, in order to advance progress in this field, with awards consisting in assistance in the implementation of the new measures. | Aug 2017 | June 2018 |

## 2. Centralized publishing of public interest information on the single gateway transparenta.gov.ro

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| Start and End Date: 2016 - 2017 | | Ongoing commitment |
| Lead implementing agency | | Chancellery of the Prime-Minister |
| Name of responsible person from implementing agency | | Radu Puchiu |
| Title, Department | | State Secretary |
| Email | | radu.puchiu@gov.ro |
| Phone | | +40213143400/1018 |
| Other Actors Involved | Government Ministries, Department/Agency | Ministry for Public Consultation and Civic Dialogue (MCPDC)<br><br>Ministry for Regional Development and Public Administration (MDRAP) |
| | CSOs, private sector, multilaterals, working | NGOs with relevant experience and work in this field |
| Status quo or problem addressed by the commitment | | Although most of the information subject to compulsory disclosure may be accessed on the websites of public institutions, there are major drawbacks. Most institutions agree that the formats of public information documents are not clearly defined. In addition, there is a lack of clear internal procedures to identify what types of information qualify for default publishing. The different approaches of ministries in publishing these documents results in displaying different information, in incompatible formats, that cannot be easily exported to the single gateway.<br><br>This commitment was first included in the 2014-2016 NAP, however, due to the lack of a clear legal framework and of |

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| | uniform procedures within public institutions, it was not completed. |
| Main objective | Facilitate the public's access to information of public interest by collecting and publishing it on a single government gateway. |
| Brief description of commitment | To facilitate the access of citizens and assist public institutions, an online platform will be developed for the centralisation of information that is subject to Law no.544/2001 on the free access to public interest information.<br><br>Following the standardization process and the harmonization of legislation, the pre-requisites for centralized publishing will be achieved.<br><br>The MCPDC will provide methodological assistance based on its activity and experience, while the Chancellery of the Prime-Minister will develop the platform.<br><br>The commitment will result in the implementation of a tool to manage the flow and to improve communication of public interest information. |
| OPG challenge addressed by the commitment | Improving public sector integrity |
| Relevance | Publishing information of public interest on a single government portal will facilitate citizens' access to information. In addition, the project will contribute to the reduction of costs and efforts required to obtain information and will increase accountability in public institutions. |
| Ambition | Publishing on a single government portal: transparenta.gov.ro all information that is subject to compulsory disclosure according to Law no. 544/2001 on the access to public interest information. The portal should also contribute to the reduction of reporting costs and simplify |

| | existing procedures, as uploaded information can be accessed by other institutions as well. |
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| Milestone    Activity with a verifiable deliverable and completion date | Start Date: | End Date: |
|---|---|---|
| Establish the platform's functionalities | | Aug 2016 |
| Development of the portal transparenta.gov.ro | Aug 2016 | Nov 2016 |
| Pilot testing on a representative sample of central and local public institutions and authorities | Oct 2016 | Dec 2016 |
| Drafting and publishing a Guide on the use of the portal | Jan 2017 | Feb 2017 |
| Attract a significant number of central and local authorities to publish on the platform | Feb 2017 | June 2017 |

| 3. Promoting Open Parliament principles | |
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| Start and End Date<br><br>2016 –2018 | New commitment |
| Lead implementing agency | Ministry for Public Consultation and Civic Dialogue (MCPDC) |
| Name of responsible person from implementing agency | Mihai Lisețchi |
| Title, Department | State Secretary |
| Email | mihai.lisetchi@gov.ro |
| Phone | +40799010211 |
| Other Actors Involved | Government Ministries, Department/Agency | Department for Liaison with the Parliament<br><br>Chancellery of the Prime-Minister |
| | CSOs, private sector, multilaterals, working | Fundația Median Research Centre<br><br>National Democratic Institute – Romania<br><br>Asociatia Institutul pentru Politici Publice (IPP)<br><br>Asociatia Smart City – ASC |
| Status quo or problem addressed by the commitment | Although it is considered the fundamental institution of democracy, in Romania, less than one in five citizens trust the Parliament. This lack of trust stems from the absence of public information on the activity of the Parliament. In the absence of Parliamentary transparency, positive efforts remain unappreciated, and the failure to fulfil the role and attributions of representation cannot be punished. | |

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| Main objective | Increase the transparency of public information and citizens' trust in public institutions |
| Brief description of commitment | The government will encourage dialogue between citizens and representatives of the civil society and representatives of the Senate and Chamber of Deputies, in order to adopt policies that ensure the proactive dissemination of information related to the functioning and activity of the institution, including regulations on the format in which the information is made available. |
| OPG challenge addressed by the commitment | Increase public sector integrity |
| Relevance | Access to information; Accountability; Civic Participation |
| Ambition | Adoption by the Parliament of the Open Parliament principles |

| Milestone -  Activity with a verifiable deliverable and completion date | Start Date: | End Date: |
|---|---|---|
| Organisation of at least 3 public debates on the Open Parliament subject with all interested stakeholders | Sept 2016 | June 2018 |
| Drafting and proposal of an agreement between Government and Parliament, similar to the "Better Regulation Agenda", existing in the European Union between the European Commission and European Parliament, a document focusing on transparency in the decision-making process and public consultation. | Nov | July 2017 |

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| 4. Improved management of the applications submitted for granting citizenship | | |
|---|---|---|
| Start and End Date 2016 - 2017 | | New commitment |
| Lead implementing agency | | Ministry of Justice (MJ) – National Citizenship Agency (ANC) |
| Name of responsible person from implementing agency | | Gelu-Mugurel Dascălu, Sabin Andrei-Mihai IT and Communication Department |
| Email | | Mugurel.dascalu@just.ro Andrei.sabin@just.ro |
| Phone | | +4021.201.93.99 |
| Other Actors Involved | Government Ministries, Department/Agency | Ministry of Internal Affairs (MAI) – Police General Inspectorate (IGPR) and Immigration General Inspectorate (IGI) Ministry for Foreign Affairs (MAE) – diplomatic missions |
| | CSOs, private sector, multilaterals, working | Centre for Public Innovation |
| Status quo or problem addressed by the commitment | | Citizenship applicants face numerous issues in the citizenship granting process. One of the biggest problems is the limited possibilities to track the evolution of the citizenship application file. This is often caused by the fact that applicants do not know the file registration number, especially those submitting the application at diplomatic missions or consular posts abroad, where the applicant receives a registration number different from the one the file eventually gets at the Agency. On the other hand, there |

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| | are no available resources within the Agency to manage an efficient communication system with the applicants. |
| Main objective | Increase transparency and institutional efficiency |
| Brief description of commitment | The commitment regards the development of a computerised system that will give applicants access to information about the status of their application file, as well as the dates set for the oath of loyalty.<br><br>The information system ROCRIS, dedicated to the Romanian criminal records and launched in 2013, will be used by the ANC to check the situation of the applicants.<br><br>In addition, statistics regarding the number of accepted citizenship applicants will be uploaded on the open data portal data.gov.ro. |
| OPG challenge addressed by the commitment | Improve public services;<br><br>Increase public sector integrity |
| Relevance | Access to information;<br><br>Technology and innovation |
| Ambition | Develop a computerised system for better management of the files of citizenship applicants.<br><br>Publication of open data. |

| Milestone  Activity with a verifiable deliverable and completion date | Start Date: | End Date: |
|---|---|---|
| Consultations between the government institutions involved (ANC, IGPR, IGI, MAE) and NGOs to understand and assess the needs of public servants working on this matter and the needs of citizenship applicants | | Sept 2016 |
| Online programming for the submission of files at each regional office and at the central office in Bucharest | | 2016 |

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| Use of the ROCRIS information system, dedicated to the criminal records, to check the status of the applicants | | Oct 2016 |
| Implementation of the application "Stadiu dosar" (File Status), that will inform the applicants on the status of their file, the phases and the periods allowed for solving the submissions. | Nov 2016 | Feb 2017 |
| Development, within the technical specifications of the online platform, of a module that will allow the collection, anonymisation and upload of data to the open data portal. | Jan 2017 | Dec 2017 |

# Civic Participation

| 5. Standardization of transparency practices in the decision-making procedures | | |
|---|---|---|
| Start and End Date<br><br>2016 - 2017 | New commitment | |
| Lead implementing agency | Ministry for Public Consultation and Civic Dialogue (MCPDC) | |
| Name of responsible person from implementing agency | Mihai Lisețchi | |
| Title, Department | State Secretary | |
| Email | mihai.lisetchi@gov.ro | |
| Phone | +40799010211 | |
| Other Actors Involved | Government Ministries, Department/Agency | Ministry of Regional Development and Public Administration<br><br>Ministry of Justice |
| | CSOs, private sector, multilaterals, working | Academia de Advocacy<br><br>Asociația Împreună pentru Dezvoltarea Comunității – AIDC<br><br>CMPP - Centrul pentru Monitorizarea Politicilor Publice<br><br>Federația Organizațiilor Neguvernamentale pentru Servicii Sociale – FONSS<br><br>Fundația pentru Dezvoltarea Sociatății Civile<br><br>Romanian Youth Movement for Democracy<br><br><br>Associations of public servants |

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| Status quo or problem addressed by the commitment | Transparency of the decision-making process in public administration is regulated by Law no.52/2006, one of the most modern laws in the field. However, the act is not put to the best use for the potential to implement democratic, participatory, sustainable, efficient and representative decision-making processes. As current practices still reveal lacks in the activity of public authorities to ensure a representative / participatory decision-making process, following an extensive research on the implementation of legal provisions, the Ministry has developed a Guide for the experts in the public system that, through their work, create a link between citizens and government. In this respect, MCPDC has set up an inter-ministerial working group with representatives of central authorities. Its sessions led to the conclusion that an amendment of the law is not needed. However, it is necessary that: - there is a uniform interpretation of the law in public consultation processes; - the practice should be extended to the good practices recommendations. |
| Main objective | Public integrity; Legislative and normative coherence; Accountability of public authorities |
| Brief description of commitment | MCPDC will first identify all the deficiencies existing in the implementation of Law no.52/2003, drafting instruments to standardize practices in this field and increase the importance of civil society engagement in the decision-making process. |
| OPG challenge addressed by the commitment | Increase public sector integrity Efficient management of public resources |
| Relevance | The commitment is directly related to the civic participation of citizens to the decision-making process. |

| Ambition | Setting standards for the organisation of the public consultation process and for the organisation of public debates. The creation of an organisational culture of civil society consultations. | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Milestone      Activity with a verifiable deliverable and completion date | | Start Date: | End Date: |
| Identify deficiencies in public consultation processes at public authorities level | | | Dec 2016 |
| Drafting support documents for the standardization of practices in the implementation of legislation on the public consultation process | | | Dec 2016 |
| Organise training sessions, based on the support documents, with the public servants in charge with the public consultation process | | Jan 2017 | Aug 2017 |
| Provide technical assistance to central institutions in public consultation practices | | Aug 2017 | June 2018 |

| 6. Centralised publication of legislative projects on the single gateway consultare.gov.ro | |
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| Start and End Date<br><br>2016 - 2017 | New commitment |
| Lead implementing agency | Chancellery of the Prime-Minister |
| Name of responsible person from implementing agency | Radu Puchiu |
| Title, Department | State Secretary |
| Email | radu.puchiu@gov.ro |
| Phone | +40213143400/1018 |

| Other Actors Involved | Government Ministries, Department/Agency | Ministry for Public Consultation and Civic Dialogue (MCPDC) |
|---|---|---|
| | CSOs, private sector, multilaterals, working | NGOs with relevant experience and work in this field |

| Status quo or problem addressed by the commitment | Assessment of the implementation of Law no.52/2003 on transparency of the decision-making process revealed shortcomings in the working practices, and generally, in the activity of public authorities in ensuring a participative / representative decision-making process.<br><br>Some of the problems identified in public debates and national and international assessments are the lack of uniformization, insufficient communication to the public on initiated consultations and lack of standardization in obtaining citizen feedback.<br><br>As such, the development of a single government gateway for citizens to find all legislation on debate, is highly necessary. |
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| Main objective | Increasing the transparency of the decision-making process by streamlining access to the legislative projects on debate. |
| Brief description of commitment | By developing the online platform consultare.gov.ro, legislative projects of public institutions will be collected on a single gateway, according to the phases of the process: public consultation, institutional opinion, approval and publication of the official form.<br><br>Such a gateway would allow citizens to send comments directly to the ministry or agency that is in charge with a particular public consultation.<br><br>The portal will also be used for consultation on other matters of public interest and, depending on the result of this process, new legislative documents may be initiated. |
| OPG challenge addressed by the commitment | Increase public integrity<br><br>More effectively managing public resources<br><br>Improving Public Services |
| Relevance | This commitment will contribute to increased public integrity by improving citizen participation in the decision-making process. Publishing on a single gateway facilitates access to information and allows the institutions to hold public consultations in all phases of the drafting and adoption of public policies.<br><br>In implementing this commitment, new technologies will be used to improve opportunities of information dissemination, public participation and collaboration. |
| Ambition | Publishing on a single government portal: consultare.gov.ro all legislative projects that are subject to Law no. 52/2003 on the transparency of the decision-making process in public administration. |

| | The portal will allow citizens to send feedback to the ministry or agency that is monitoring the public consultation. |
|---|---|

| Milestone   Activity with a verifiable deliverable and completion date | Start Date: | End Date: |
|---|---|---|
| Establish the platform's functionalities with the methodological assistance of the MCPDC and based on interactions with public authorities and NGOs | | Sept 2016 |
| Development of the portal consultare.gov.ro<br><br>- needs analysis and development of technical specifications;<br><br>- development, configuration and implementation phase | | April 2017 |
| Launch of the platform and public promotion actions | Apr 2017 | Apr 2017 |
| Pilot testing on a representative sample of central and local public institutions and authorities | April 2017 | Aug 2017 |
| Drafting and publishing a User Guide for the portal | April 2017 | Aug 2017 |
| Development of a mobile app for the consultation process in central administration | Aug 2017 | June 2018 |

| 7. Citizens Budgets | |
|---|---|
| Commitment Start and End Date 2016 - 2018 | New commitment |
| Lead implementing agency | Ministry of Public Finance |
| Name of responsible person from implementing agency | Bogdan Grunevici |
| Title, Department | Head of Office, Department for communication, public relations, mass-media and transparency |
| Email | Bogdan.grunevici@mfinante.gov.ro |
| Phone | +40740224649 |

| Other Actors Involved | Government Ministries, Department/Agency | Chancellery of the Prime-Minister (CPM) Ministry of Regional Development and Public Administration (MDRAP) Ministry for Public Consultations and Civic Dialogue (MCPDC) |
|---|---|---|
| | CSOs, private sector, multilaterals, working | Funky Citizens Centre for Public Innovation |
| Status quo or problem addressed by the commitment | | Public budgets are drafted based on the economic and functional structure of public administration and are used as such in the accounting system of public institutions. The budget is presented to the public in this same format. Even when the draft budget is published in a timely manner for public debate, the format of the document is complicated, even for citizens with high education but not trained in this particular field. This issue is a major hindrance for relevant citizen engagement in budgetary allocation decisions. |

| Main objective | Initiate the use of Citizens Budgets as a compulsory mechanism of fiscal budgetary transparency in the adoption of public budgets. |
|---|---|
| Brief description of commitment | The commitment aims to promote Citizens' Budgets – public budgets presented in a manner that is understandable to the public, in both central and local administration, to ensure fiscal and budgetary transparency. |
| OPG challenge addressed by the commitment | Effectively managing public resources; Improving public services |
| Relevance | The commitment is introducing an efficient tool to facilitate citizen engagement in one of the most important decision-making processes: the adoption of public budgets. |
| Ambition | The intended result is a major change in the public budgets adoption mechanism. |

| Milestone   Activity with a verifiable deliverable and completion date | Start Date: | End Date: |
|---|---|---|
| Draft a model for the Citizens Budget based on the 2016 national budget | | Oct 2016 |
| Gather citizens and civil society feedback on the proposed Citizens Budget model and develop a Guide for drafting CBs | Oct 2016 | June 2017 |
| Pilot CB in at least 15 municipalities (varied types) | Oct 2016 | April 2017 |
| Drafting and presenting the CB for the 2018 national budget | June 2017 | Oct 2017 |
| Public awareness actions to promote the CB | Oct 2017 | Dec 2017 |
| Drafting and adoption of norms introducing CB for all public authorities | June 2017 | Dec 2017 |
| Develop, start and implement a training / assistance program for public authorities regarding CB | June 2017 | June 2018 |

| 8. Improve youth consultation and public participation | |
|---|---|
| Start and End Date<br><br>2016 - 2017 | New commitment |
| Lead implementing agency | Ministry of Youth and Sport (MTS) |
| Name of responsible person from implementing agency | Marcel Sabadoș |
| Title, Department | Head of Office, Department for youth strategies and cooperation |
| Email | Marcel.sabados@mts.ro |
| Phone | +40213076462 |

| Other Actors Involved | Government Ministries, Department/Agency | Ministry for Public Consultations and Civic Dialogue (MCPDC) |
|---|---|---|
| | CSOs, private sector, multilaterals, working | Consiliul Tineretului din România<br><br>Asociația Impact Bistrița<br><br>Asociația Tinerilor Bucureșteni<br><br>Asociația Altium<br><br>Asociația Viitorul Tinerilor |

| Status quo or problem addressed by the commitment | Currently, young people face numerous problems, especially at local level:<br><br>- lack of local/ regional mechanisms to ensure a structured dialogue between youth and public authorities;<br><br>- lack of promotion of a structured dialogue at national / regional / local level; |
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| | - lack of specificity in implementation of youth related public policies. |
| Main objective | Achieve an open decision-making process in developing youth public policies at national level |
| Brief description of commitment | The commitment aims to implement a series of actions that will strengthen collaboration between public authorities, young people and organisations working with youth, to produce specifically targeted action plans, through dialogue and use of new technologies.<br><br>The implemented actions and tools will lead to development of skills in both young people and public servants working in this field, contributing to an open, diverse, intercultural and connected society. |
| OPG challenge addressed by the commitment | Effectively managing public resources;<br><br>Improving public services |
| Relevance | Civic participation |
| Ambition | Initiate structured dialogue for drafting and monitoring the implementation of youth related public policies, at local and county level;<br><br>Setting up and operation of consultative councils for youth issues: 41 operating by the county councils, 41 operating by municipality councils, 1 operating by the General Council of the Bucharest municipality;<br><br>Selection of at least 1000 benficiaries of MTS youth projects, on objective criteria and transparent methodologies, using online apps. |

| Milestone   Activity with a verifiable deliverable and completion date | Start Date: | End Date: |
|---|---|---|
| Hold public consultations initiated by the National Working Group and youth workers | | Nov 2016 |

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|---|---|---|
| Setting up 83 local consultative councils for young people | Jan 2017 | Dec 2017 |
| Selection of at least 1000 benficiaries of MTS youth projects, on objective criteria and transparent methodologies, using online apps. | | Oct 2016 |

# Subnational

| 9. Subnational open government | |
|---|---|
| Start and End Date<br><br>2016 - 2018 | New commitment |
| Lead implementing agency | Ministry of Regional Development and Public Administration (MDRAP) |
| Name of responsible person from implementing agency | Andreea Grigore |
| Title, Department | Head of Office, Ethics, Integrity and Good Governance Department |
| Email | andreea.grigore@mdrap.ro |
| Phone | +40372111461 |
| Other Actors Involved | Government Ministries, Department/Agency | Chancellery of the Prime-Minister (CPM)<br><br>Ministry for Public Consultation and Civic Dialogue (MCPDC)<br><br>County Councils |
| | CSOs, private sector, multilaterals, working | Open Data Coalition<br><br>Smart City and other NGOs with relevant experience |
| Status quo or problem addressed by the commitment | At the level of local public authorities, knowledge of the open government principles is low. There are several initiatives and good practices, but these are not replicated, due to the lack of information and communications on this topic. |

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|---|---|
| Main objective | Increase citizen engagement in the decision-making process of local authorities and increase the involvement of local authorities in the OGP process. |
| Brief description of commitment | A set of recommendations regarding open local government will be drafted based on the OGP principles, and a pilot program modelled on the OGP Subnational Pilot will be initiated for 8 local governments. |
| OPG challenge addressed by the commitment | Improving public services; Increasing Public Integrity; More Effectively Managing Public Resources |
| Relevance | Civic Participation; Accountability; Access to public information |
| Ambition | Increase the number of local authorities that are committed to implement measures related to OGP principles; Increase the number of social actors that participate in the decision-making process. |

| Milestone   Activity with a verifiable deliverable and completion date | Start Date: | End Date: |
|---|---|---|
| Co-creation of set of recommendations on OGP principles for local public administration | Sept 2016 | Oct 2016 |
| Dissemination of information regarding these recommendations to local authorities | Nov 2016 | June 2018 |
| Organise regional information sessions with public authorities, NGOs, academia and other stakeholders to promote the OGP subnational principles (8 sessions) | March 2017 | June 2017 |

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|---|---|---|
| Based on the model of the OGP Subnational Program process, launch an application session followed by the selection of 8 local public authorities that will be assisted in the development and implementation of local action plans | Aug 2017 | Sept 2017 |
| Implementation of local action plans developed by the local governments, with the support of NGOs and the OGP Coordination Unit: <br> - hold local public debates and consultations; <br> - identify local specific problems and priorities with the participation of all stakeholders; <br> - set up local mixed action teams to draft and propose projects / solutions and implement them. | Oct 2017 | Apr 2018 |
| Select and award the best practices in OGP Subnational | May 2018 | May 2018 |
| Based on gained experience, develop an OGP action plan for local authorities for 2018-2020 | May 2018 | June 2018 |
| Analysis of the opportunity and necessity, as well as identification of funding sources, for: <br> - the development of a set of standardized, open-source tools to facilitate the online presence of local public authorities (website based on the provisions of the Memorandum on transparency; user interface allowing the update of the page even without having technical expertise; widgets that automatically retrieve particular information from centralised databases; instruments for participatory democracy. <br> - the development of a cloud service, managed by the MDRAP, including maintenance, that will host free of charge the local public authorities' websites that use the standardised solution | Nov 2016 | April 2017 |

# Anti-corruption Measures

| 10. Promoting transparency in the decision-making process by setting up a Transparency Register (RUTI) | |
|---|---|
| Start and End Date<br><br>2016 - 2017 | New commitment |
| Lead implementing agency | Ministry for Public Consultation and Civic Dialogue (MCPDC) |
| Name of responsible person from implementing agency | Luca Ciubotaru |
| Title, Department | Advisor to the Minister |
| Email | Luca.ciubotaru@gov.ro |
| Phone | 0741975076 |

| Other Actors Involved | Government Ministries, Department/Agency | Ministry of Justice<br><br>Chancellery of the Prime-Minister |
|---|---|---|
| | CSOs, private sector, multilaterals, working | Private sector partners and NGOs that will join the process following public consultations |

| Status quo or problem addressed by the commitment | Presently, there is not sufficient transparency in the interactions between public institutions and interested parties from the private sector that promote their interests in relation to various legislative initiatives. Equally, the central public administration has limited resources to proactively identify interested parties from the private sector with which to maintain transparent communications and consultations in the various phases of initiating and developing public policies initiatives. |
|---|---|
| Main objective | Ensure transparency and integrity in the decision-making process |

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| Brief description of commitment | Improve the transparency of the public decision-making process by disclosing interactions between high public officials and interested parties from the private sector that promote their interests in relation to various legislative initiatives.<br><br>RUTI is a register of interest representatives from the private sector that willingly provide data about the entity they represent. The RUTI also includes information about the registrants' interactions with decision-makers from the public sector.<br><br>In this respect, dignitaries, high-level public servants and general directors of state companies will also publish on this platform information about their meetings with groups from the private sector, the subject of the meeting and brief conclusions.<br><br>This aspect is a continuation of MCPDC's efforts to publish the agendas of high-level officials from the central government, a requirement that was included in the Memorandum for on improving transparency and standardizing public interest information. The register will managed by the MCPDC, in partnership with the MJ and CPM. |
| OPG challenge addressed by the commitment | Increasing public integrity |
| Relevance | Access to information and accountability by improving transparency in the decision-making process |
| Ambition | Ensuring transparency in the decision-making process |

| Milestone   Activity with a verifiable deliverable and completion date | Start Date: | End Date: |
|---|---|---|
| Develop the concept of the Transparency Register (RUTI) | | Aug 2016 |
| Development of the ruti.gov.ro platform | | Aug 2016 |

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| Public consultation with the civil society and private sector on the proposed mechanism | | Aug 2016 |
| Launch and testing of the platform | Sept 2016 | Jan 2017 |
| Assessment of the results | Jan 2017 | Feb 2017 |

| 11. Access to performance indicators monitored in the implementation of the National Anti-corruption Strategy (SNA) | |
|---|---|
| Start and End Date<br><br>2016 - 2018 | New commitment |
| Lead implementing agency | Ministry of Justice (MJ) |
| Name of responsible person from implementing agency | Andrei Furdui |
| Title, Department | Deputy Head of Office, Crime Prevention Department |
| Email | sna@just.ro |
| Phone | +40372041060 |

| Other Actors Involved | Government Ministries, Department/Agency | |
|---|---|---|
| | CSOs, private sector, multilaterals, working | Open Data Coalition |

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| Status quo or problem addressed by the commitment | From 2012 to 2015 the Technical Secretariat of the National Anti-corruption Strategy monitored the implementation of anti-corruption preventive measures and the evaluation indicators.<br><br>Until 2020, approximately 4000 central and local public institutions will have to make a mandatory self-assessment of the anti-corruption preventive measures and answer 122 indicators, resulting in 488.000 open data sets. In this respect, the SNA platform will be developed to facilitate centralization of data, uploaded by public institutions, in an open format. The institutions will include subordinate agencies, state-owned companies, municipalities, county councils, hospitals etc. and the resulted data will be made available to the public. |
| Main objective | Institutional transparency |

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| Brief description of commitment | Ensuring access to information regarding the implementation of anti-corruption preventive measures and the SNA indicators. |
| OPG challenge addressed by the commitment | Increasing public integrity |
| Relevance | Access to information |
| Ambition | Development of the SNA platform that will centralise open data provided by public authorities and institutions, from the central and local level, regarding the monitoring indicators for the implementation of anti-corruption preventive measures.<br><br>Uploading the collected data on the open data portal data.gov.ro. |

| Milestone   Activity with a verifiable deliverable and completion date | Start Date: | End Date: |
|---|---|---|
| Develop the new SNA platform to ensure the centralised collection of open data | Jan 2017 | Dec 2017 |
| Develop a guide for the upload of data | Sept 2016 | Dec 2016 |
| Publish data in an open format on sna.just.ro and data.gov.ro | Jan 2017 | Dec 2017 |
| Develop IT applications to facilitate the implementation of the SNA | Sept 2017 | Dec 2017 |
| Revision of the monitoring indicators (once every 2 years), in collaboration with civil society | June 2018 | Dec 2018 |

| 12. Improve transparency in the management of seized assets | |
|---|---|
| Start and End Date<br><br>2016 - 2017 | New commitment |
| Lead implementing agency | Ministry of Justice (MJ) through the National Agency for the Management of Seized Assets (ANABI) |
| Name of responsible person from implementing agency | Cornel-Virgiliu Călinescu |
| Title, Department | National Agency for the Management of Seized Assets |
| Email | Cornel.calinescu@just.ro |
| Phone | +40372041060 |
| Other Actors Involved — Government Ministries, Department/Agency | National Agency for Fiscal Administration |
| Other Actors Involved — CSOs, private sector, multilaterals, working | |
| Status quo or problem addressed by the commitment | According to art. 40 of Law no.318/2015 for the setting up and operation of the National Agency for the Management of Seized Assets, (1) ANABI publishes in an open format and on a quarterly basis data and public interest information generated from the national integrated information system for recording proceeds of crime. (2) Until the information system is operating, the Agency publishes, on a quarterly basis, data and public interest information regarding its activities.<br><br>In addition, to ensure transparency in the process of reuse of immovable property, according to art.31, (3) "the Agency publishes on its website updated information about each immovable property seized from criminal proceedings, including its legal situation, position, |

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| | photographs, the date when it became private state property, as well as other relevant data" . |
| Main objective | Institutional transparency |
| Brief description of commitment | ANABI will develop a platform that will ensure access to information regarding the management of proceeds of crime |
| OPG challenge addressed by the commitment | Increasing public integrity<br><br>More Effectively Managing Public Resources |
| Relevance | Access to information |
| Ambition | Ensuring access to information by publishing open data regarding seized immovable assets and their social reuse and public interest information about the Agency's work.<br><br>Uploading the data on the open data portal data.gov.ro. |

| Milestone   Activity with a verifiable deliverable and completion date | Start Date: | End Date: |
|---|---|---|
| Develop the ANABI website, including publishing open data and public interest information. | | Sept 2016 |
| Develop the national integrated system for the registration of proceeds of crime. | | June 2017 |

| 13. Annual mandatory training of civil servants on integrity matters | |
|---|---|
| Start and End Date<br><br>2016 - 2018 | New commitment |
| Lead implementing agency | Ministry of Justice (MJ) |
| Name of responsible person from implementing agency | Andrei Furdui |
| Title, Department | Deputy Head of Office, Crime Prevention Department |
| Email | sna@just.ro |
| Phone | +40372041060 |

| Other Actors Involved | Government Ministries, Department/Agency | Ministry for Regional Development and Public Administration (MDRAP) – The National Agency of Civil Servants<br><br>National Institute of Magistracy<br><br>Al. I. Cuza Police Academy<br><br>University of Bucharest – Faculty of Philosophy |
|---|---|---|
| | CSOs, private sector, multilaterals, working | Professional training agencies |
| Status quo or problem addressed by the commitment | | Implementation of the National Anti-corruption Strategy (SNA) 2012-2015 revealed that the level of anti-corruption knowledge among public servants is low. Therefore, one of the objective of the 2016-2020 SNA is to hold online training modules for management and executive staff from central and local public institutions and authorities, as well as from their subordinate or coordinate agencies. |

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| Main objective | Improve the level of anti-corruption knowledge among public servants |
| Brief description of commitment | The Ministry of Justice will provide the e-learning platform and will develop the supporting materials for the online training courses on integrity. These interactive modules will improve the knowledge the users already have and will provide new information on the topics of ethics and integrity. Participants will take a test upon finishing the courses. |
| OPG challenge addressed by the commitment | Increasing public integrity |
| Relevance | Accountability |
| Ambition | Ensuring access to personnel from central and local public institutions and authorities to online training. Provide anti-corruption education courses for a significant number of staff from central and local public institutions and authorities. |

| Milestone   Activity with a verifiable deliverable and completion date | Start Date: | End Date: |
|---|---|---|
| Develop partnerships with institutions competent in professional training | Sept 2016 | Nov 2016 |
| Develop the training program | Dec 2016 | Jan 2017 |
| Develop guidance for the public servants that will take the mandatory courses | Feb 2017 | Mar 2017 |
| Develop the courses | Feb 2017 | Apr 2017 |
| Ensure participation of at least 50% of central and local public institutions and authorities' staff to online training provided through this platform. | May 2017 | June 2018 |

# Culture

| 14. Improving access to cultural heritage | |
|---|---|
| Start and End Date<br><br>2016 - 2018 | New commitment |
| Lead implementing agency | Ministry of Culture |
| Name of responsible person from implementing agency | Cristina Cotenescu |
| Title, Department | Public Manager |
| Email | cristina.cotenescu@cultura.ro |
| Phone | +4021.224.46.62 |

| Other Actors Involved | Government Ministries, Department/Agency | Public cultural institutions under the subordination of the Ministry of Culture<br><br>Devolved departments of the Ministry of Culture<br><br>National Archives |
|---|---|---|
| | CSOs, private sector, multilaterals, working | Open Data Coalition<br><br>Inițiativa România |
| Status quo or problem addressed by the commitment | | Romania has submitted only 7,66% of the digital material that should be published on Europeana.eu, the Digital European Library, as pledged in the National Strategy for the Digital Agenda for Romania (2014). According to Romania's targets, 750.000 items should have been submitted by 2015.<br><br>Given the fact that some of the public cultural institutions have already digitised a large part of their specific cultural |

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| | resources, but did not report or communicate this fact, there is a clear need to analyse the publishing conditions for this digitised material, under the provisions of the PSI directive (implemented in national legislation through Law no. 299/2015 on the re-use of public information). |
| Main objective | Improve accessibility and re-use of cultural heritage through digitisation. |
| Brief description of commitment | The massive digitisation of cultural resources (particularly the movable heritage) that will be done within the eCultura project will focus on:<br><br>- development of a single online platform that will host a catalogue and a digital library and will be available to all cultural institutions in Romania and open to the public;<br><br>- digitisation and publishing online (until 2020) in the Digital Library of Romania and the European Digital Library (europeana.eu) of over 750.000 digital objects.<br><br>Drafting the analysis regarding the publication of public resources in an open format and under an open license, followed by the actual publication, will result in boost of the access to knowledge, creativity and innovation. |
| OPG challenge addressed by the commitment | Improving public services;<br><br>More Effectively Managing Public Resources |
| Relevance | Access to information;<br><br>Civic participation;<br><br>Technology and Innovation; |
| Ambition | Improving the visibility of the national cultural heritage;<br><br>Implementing a national shared catalogue of the collections owned by public cultural institutions, ensuring |

| | a uniform update of the indexing system and eliminating double recordings;<br><br>Identifying the collections that can be published as open works. |
|---|---|
| Milestone   Activity with a verifiable deliverable and completion date | Start Date: | End Date: |
| Development of a single online platform that will host a catalogue and a digital library and will be available to all cultural institutions in Romania and open to the public | Sept 2016 | June 2018 |
| Digitisation and publishing online (until 2020) in the Digital Library of Romania and the European Digital Library (europeana.eu) of over 750.000 digital objects. | Sept 2016 | 2020 |
| Analysis and drafting of an action plan for the development of a collaborative tool regarding the publication of cultural digitised resources of public cultural institutions as open works | Sept 2016 | Dec 2017 |

# Education

<table>
<tr><td colspan="3">15. Open data and transparency in education</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">Start and End Date<br><br>2016 - 2017</td><td>New commitment</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">Lead implementing agency</td><td>Ministry of National Education and Scientific Research</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">Name of responsible person from implementing agency</td><td>Daniel Bojte</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">Title, Department</td><td>Advisor, IT in Education Unit</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">Email</td><td>daniel.bojte@edu.gov.ro</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">Phone</td><td>+40745948285</td></tr>
<tr><td rowspan="2">Other Actors Involved</td><td>Government Ministries, Department/Agency</td><td>Subordinate agencies of the ministry (ARACIS, ARACIP, UEFISCDI, UTIE)<br><br>Schools inspectorates</td></tr>
<tr><td>CSOs, private sector, multilaterals, working</td><td>Open Educational Resources Coalition Romania</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">Status quo or problem addressed by the commitment</td><td>Educational policies and the perception of citizens about the public education system are encumbered by the lack of concrete, certified information about the system. Without relevant indicators, the debate on the educational system cannot have real substance and the sectorial policies can hardly be assessed.</td></tr>
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|  | In the past years, new computer systems that allow the generation of data have been introduced or improved in the public education system. |
|---|---|
| Main objective | Improving transparency in the public education system |
| Brief description of commitment | The objective of the commitment is the publishing in an open format of the education data and indicators owned by the MENCS and subordinate institutions |
| OPG challenge addressed by the commitment | Efficient management of public resources; Improving public services |
| Relevance | The commitment improves the access of the public to information from the education sector, increases public accountability of the decision-making authorities and makes use of new technologies. |
| Ambition | The commitment brings transparency to internal processes that are already started, but also contributes significantly to the internal coherence of policy adoption and implementation. |

| Milestone   Activity with a verifiable deliverable and completion date | Start Date: | End Date: |
|---|---|---|
| Identification of all computer systems and databases of the MENCS and subordinate institutions that are either already in use, being implemented or being prepared. |  | Oct 2016 |
| Determine, following public consultation, which are the essential datasets from the education system that are to be published on the national open data portal. | Oct 2016 | Dec 2016 |
| Establishing the internal procedures and publishing the datasets. | Jan 2017 | June 2017 |
| Regulation of an internal policy of the MENCS to establish that any new computer system to be introduced will have a compulsory component that will allow export of data to the open data portal | Jan 2017 | June 2017 |

<table>
<tr><td colspan="3" align="center">16. Virtual School Library and Open Educational Resources</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2" align="center">Start and End Date<br><br>2016 - 2017</td><td>New commitment</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2" align="center">Lead implementing agency</td><td>Ministry of National Education and Scientific Research (MENCS)</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2" align="center">Name of responsible person from implementing agency</td><td>Daniel Bojte</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2" align="center">Title, Department</td><td>Advisor, IT in Education Unit</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2" align="center">Email</td><td>daniel.bojte@edu.gov.ro</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2" align="center">Phone</td><td>+40745948285</td></tr>
<tr><td rowspan="2">Other Actors Involved</td><td>Government Ministries, Department/Agency</td><td>National Centre for Assessment and Examination<br><br>Education Sciences Institute</td></tr>
<tr><td>CSOs, private sector, multilaterals, working</td><td>Open Educational Resources Coalition Romania</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2" align="center">Status quo or problem addressed by the commitment</td><td>Open educational resources (OER) are freely accessible, openly licensed documents and media that are useful for teaching, learning, and assessing as well as for research purposes. These materials can be found in any medium, digital or otherwise, and reside in the public domain or have been released under an open license that permits no-cost access, use, adaptation and redistribution by others with no or limited restrictions.<br><br>Using OER can, at low costs, bring significant advantages to the public education system, especially in the secondary education sector: improvement of access to quality education, increasing citizens' interest in</td></tr>
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| | education, improving the quality of education through peer assessment and innovation.<br><br>Through the Law on national education no. 1/2011, Romania has created the legal framework for the use of OER: the Virtual School Library. However, the provisions of the law have not yet been implemented. |
| Main objective | Creation of the Virtual School Library and its population with open educational resources |
| Brief description of commitment | By creating the Virtual School Library and defining a national policy regarding open educational resources, the commitment aims to increase access to quality education and foster innovation.<br><br>The sources for these materials will be:<br><br>- documents produced by the MENCS and subordinate agencies, particularly curricula and textbooks that the ministry buys directly;<br><br>- resources produced in EU funded programs, regardless of the beneficiary. The financing contracts will included clauses stating that the produces resources will be published under an open license and will be uploaded on the national portal;<br><br>- new resources created by teaches and used for teaching activities, including school inspections. It is well known that teachers are permanently creating a host of teaching materials, and these materials can also be uploaded to the portal;<br><br>- resources that are already developed by teachers and are distributed to other communities. The users of these communities will be encouraged to to transfer the most valuable resources to the national portal; |

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|---|---|
| | - educational resources that resulted from the implementation of EU funded projects will be part of this library;<br><br>- starting a public consultation process regarding the acquisition of textbooks, so that the content of the textbooks is also bought and becomes the property of MENCS;<br><br>The implementation terms will be discussed and agreed within the MENCS. |
| OPG challenge addressed by the commitment | More effectively managing public resources;<br><br>Improving public services |
| Relevance | The commitment improves the quality of education through open access to educational resources that are created with public funds, increases public accountability of the decision-making authorities and makes use of new technologies. |
| Ambition | Improve student performance by facilitating access to educational resources for teachers. |

| Milestone   Activity with a verifiable deliverable and completion date | Start Date: | End Date: |
|---|---|---|
| Create the technical support for the Virtual School Library | | Sept 2016 |
| Collect, from public and private sources, and publish the initial repository for the Library | | Dec 2016 |
| Select an open licence for the Library | | Dec 2016 |
| Introduction in all operational programs funded from the EU of a contractual clause stating that any educational resource that is created will be published under an open license and uploaded to the Library | | Sept 2016 |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Regulation of the way in which educational resources will be entered in the Library, a mandatory clause for projects developed with public funds and on demand for private projects | | Dec 2016 |
| Review, following public debates, of the procedures for buying school textbooks, so that they are available to the public under an open licence | | Dec 2016 |
| Draft and adopt a national strategy for the development of the Virtual School Library and the use of OER in the public education system | Jan 2017 | Sept 2017 |

# Open Contracting

| 17. Open Contracting | |
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| Commitment Start and End Date<br><br>2016 - 2018 | Ongoing commitment |
| Lead implementing agency | National Agency for Public Procurement (ANAP)<br><br>Digital Agenda Agency (AADR) |
| Name of responsible person from implementing agency | Oana Marc, Legal Advisor,<br><br>National Agency for Public Procurement, phone: +40213118090, oana.marc@anap.gov.ro |
| Title, Department | |
| Email | Delia Popescu, President, |
| Phone | Digital Agenda Agency, phone:  +40 21 305 28 08, delia.popescu@aadr.ro |
| Other Actors Involved | Government Ministries, Department/Agency |  Chancellery of the Prime-Minister |
| | CSOs, private sector, multilaterals, working | Funky Citizens;<br><br>Open Society Foundation |
| Status quo or problem addressed by the commitment | | As public procurement represents one of the most important topics related to government transparency, the Government of Romania is in the process of implementing the Open Contracting Data Standard, as a tool to increase the transparency of public acquisitions and for the correct transposition of European directives. |

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| Main objective | Increase the transparency and efficiency of public spending |
| Brief description of commitment | The commitment is a continuation of one of the priorities of the 2014-2016 NAP and its objective is to increase the transparency and efficiency of public spending by opening data collected through the electronic procurement system in the OCD standard, as well as by engaging citizens in the process.<br><br>Data will cover planning, award, implementation, performance, and completion of public contracts.<br><br>OCDS data will be directly accessible in the eLicitatie platform, even for users unskilled in automatic data collection / processing, by applying search filters on criteria such as contracting authority, economic operator, procurement name etc. |
| OPG challenge addressed by the commitment | Increasing public integrity<br><br>More Effectively Managing Public Resources |
| | Access to information; Public Accountability;<br><br>Civic Participation; Technology and Innovation |
| Ambition | Implementation of Open Contracting principles in a pilot conducted in one or more public institutions;<br><br>Implementation of the Open Contracting Data Standard in the national public procurement system. |

| Milestone    Activity with a verifiable deliverable and completion date | Start Date: | End Date: |
|---|---|---|
| Informing and training the public procurement staff in local and central public institutions | | Dec 2016 |
| Implementation of the OCDS in the e-licitatie.ro portal (public procurement portal). Following the JSON standard, a webservice will serve API calls according to the OCDS, covering: *Buyer Information,* | | Ongoing |

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| *Tender/Initiation, Award, Contract, Implementation, Planning, Document, Budget, Item, Amendment, Classification, Contact Point, Value, Period.* | | |
| Publishing the datasets resulted from the OCDS implementation, on the data.gov.ro portal | September 2016 | Ongoing |
| Selection of one or more public institutions for the implementation of a pilot on applying the OC principles (for all phases of the contracting process) | Aug 2016 | Sept 2016 |
| Piloting the implementation of OC principles in one public institution, in collaboration with civil society, in all phases: development/planning, awarding, execution, implementation/monitoring, completion, assessment | Oct 2016 | June 2018 |

# Open Data

| 18. Increasing the quality and quantity of published open data | |
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| Commitment Start and End Date<br><br>2016 - 2018 | Ongoing commitment |
| Lead implementing agency | Chancellery of the Prime-Minister |
| Name of responsible person from implementing agency | Angela Benga, Larisa Panait |
| Title, Department | Advisors, Department for Online Services and Design |
| Email | ogp@gov.ro |
| Phone | +40213143400/1152 |
| Other Actors Involved | Government Ministries, Department/Agency | Ministries;<br><br>Local public authorities |
| | CSOs, private sector, multilaterals, working | Coalition for Open Data |
| Status quo or problem addressed by the commitment | Publishing open data from the public authorities and institutions represents one of the modern means to increase transparency and efficiency in public administration. Law 109/2007 on the re-use of public information, that was the first regulation of the open data framework in Romania, is not widely known nor implemented, and Romania's open data publishing and re-use commitments are deemed unsatisfactory by both civil society and international researchers. |

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| Main objective | The main objective of this commitment is to promote and increase transparency in public administration and improve citizen dialogue by improving the means and procedures to publish open data from the public institutions and authorities. |
| Brief description of commitment | The commitment is part of the project "Improving the quality and number of datasets published by public institutions" that will be funded through the European Social Fund 2020 and aims to:<br><br>A) improve the open data publishing methodology;<br><br>B) provide a series of training sessions and support documents for open data management for the staff in public central and local institutions;<br><br>C) improve the quality of data published on data.gov.ro;<br><br>D) Encourage the re-use of data;<br><br>E) increase the number of datasets published on data.gov.ro |
| OPG challenge addressed by the commitment | Increasing public integrity;<br><br>More effectively managing public resources |
| Relevance | Access to information; Public Accountability; Civic participation; Technology and Innovation |
| Ambition | 1. Development of an open data methodology and a public policy that would represent landmarks for the public institutions publishing open data;<br><br>2. Training for 200 persons from the local and central public administration<br><br>3. Improve the quality and number of open datasets;<br><br>4. Advance the re-use of available datasets in the benefit of both public institutions and citizens. |

| Milestone  Activity with a verifiable deliverable and completion date | Start Date: | End Date: |
|---|---|---|
| Improve the open data publishing methodology by updating and improving the 2015 Guide and assessing the framework for a public policy proposal that would ensure implementation of procedures in all public institutions, publication of datasets on a regular basis and correlation with the linked governmental strategies. | Jan 2017 | March 2017 |
| Organise 13 training session for staff in local and central public administration (200 persons) | May 2017 | July 2017 |
| Pilot the automatic publishing on the data.gov.ro portal of open data from public procurement (open contracting), tax registers and air quality (through APIs) | Sept 2016 | Apr 2017 |
| Encourage and assist public institutions in organising competitions (hackathons) using open data, to develop solutions for specific issues. At least 4 hackathons will be organised, in sectors where institutions already showed interest in promoting the re-use of data, and civil society representatives agreed on the utility of such competitions (culture, education, local government, anti-corruption, citizens budgets etc.) | Sept 2016 | June 2018 |
| Centralised publishing on the national open data portal of priority, high value datasets (budget, education, culture, health, labour, environment and others). Monitoring of regular updates of datasets that are already published. Identify and publish new datasets, in collaboration with civil society. | Ongoing | Ongoing |