

**MINISTRY OF INTERIOR OF THE SLOVAK REPUBLIC**

Office of the Plenipotentiary of the Government  
for the Development of the Civil Society

***Assessment Report***

***on the Implementation of the Open Government Partnership***

***National Action Plan 2015***

**Bratislava 2016**

## Introduction

In September 2011, The Slovak Republic (hereinafter referred to as “SR”) joined the Open Government Partnership (“OGP”), one of the fastest growing international initiatives in the world, which now is now comprised of 65 member countries. By joining OGP, Slovakia demonstrated its ability and willingness to tackle issues like transparency, participation, and open public administration. The Office of the Plenipotentiary of the Government for the Development of the Civil Society (“OPGDCS”) was designated as the umbrella institution for this initiative in the Slovak Republic.

Goals of open government are fulfilled through commitments in the OGP National Action Plans. This is done with the help of a wide range of public organizations, academia, NGOs and independent experts who are involved in the process of dialogue and participate in the creation of these commitments.

The first Open Government Partnership National Action Plan 2012-2013 was approved by the Government Resolution No. 50 of February 22, 2012. The second Open Government Partnership National Action Plan 2015 (“OGP NAP 2015”) was approved by the Government Resolution No. 59 of February 11, 2015.

OPGDCS coordinated the creation of the Draft Assessment Report on the Implementation of the OGP NAP 2015 in January-March 2016. The evaluation process was based on participatory principles<sup>1</sup>. The report was created on the basis of several sources:

- Assessment reports of those responsible for carrying out the commitments in the public administration,
- The work of working groups for individual chapters,
- Public consultation on this report.

This Draft Assessment Report on the Implementation of the OGP NAP 2015 assesses the state of implementation of commitments in the individual sections - open information, open education and research, government open to dialogue and open justice.

The objective of this report is to not only evaluate the implementation of the commitments but also to learn from the experience during the implementation of the current

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<sup>1</sup> More information available (in Slovak) at [http://www.minv.sk/?ros\\_ogp\\_tvorba\\_2016-19&sprava=pripravujeme-akcny-plan-iniciativy-pre-otvorene-vladnutie-na-roky-2016-2019](http://www.minv.sk/?ros_ogp_tvorba_2016-19&sprava=pripravujeme-akcny-plan-iniciativy-pre-otvorene-vladnutie-na-roky-2016-2019), [http://www.minv.sk/?ros\\_ogp\\_hodnotenie\\_2015&sprava=verejna-diskusia-hodnotiaca-sprava-k-implementacii-akcneho-planu-iniciativy-pre-otvorene-vladnutie-na-rok-2015](http://www.minv.sk/?ros_ogp_hodnotenie_2015&sprava=verejna-diskusia-hodnotiaca-sprava-k-implementacii-akcneho-planu-iniciativy-pre-otvorene-vladnutie-na-rok-2015)

National Action Plan. The results of the assessment also affect the preparation of the Open Government Partnership National Action Plan 2016-2019.

This assessment of the implementation of OGP NAP 2015 will be later complemented by a second report written by OGP Independent Reporting Mechanism's independent experts.

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## Open Information

OGP NAP 2015 built upon the OGP National Action Plan 2012 – 2013, in which *Open Information* was one of the main chapters. The commitments in the chapter *Open Information* address the issue of publishing data of public administration as open data, as well as the web application for analyzing the financial flows in the EU Structural Funds, EEA Financial Mechanism, Norwegian Financial Mechanism, Swiss Financial Mechanism and other ministry grant schemes.

The introduction and launch of open data portal <http://data.gov.sk/> in Slovakia is among the greatest successes that have been achieved within the OGP National Action Plan 2012 - 2013. The commitments in OGP NAP 2015 in this chapter included:

- Developing an updated list of all datasets of organizations listed as responsible, including budgetary and contributory organizations under their authority, together with a plan of their gradual publication at the Open Data Portal,
- Publishing datasets,
- Conducting a survey of public demand for the most requested datasets in order to prioritize publishing of those datasets,
- Developing a strategy for publication and use of open data of public administration and submitting it to the government for approval.

One of the successes of the OGP NAP 2015 implementation has been **the increase of the number of published datasets at the open data portal** from 205 to 884<sup>2</sup>. The Statistical Office of the Slovak Republic is the leader in open data publishing, with 586 datasets published. These include e.g. selected 2011 census results, key economic and social-economic indicators, and others. The Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport increased the number of published datasets from 5 to 24. Other ministries and organizations show only a marginal increase in published datasets at the open data portal. The city of Prešov is an example of good practice for local governments: it published 18 datasets at the open data portal and they have been selected based on public demand.

Another commitment was to *carry out a survey of most frequently requested data sets and share the results with the ministers and other heads of public administration bodies*. Based on the evaluation of public demand for the most requested datasets, preferentially publish relevant datasets at the Open Data Portal.

11 datasets have been identified based on **the evaluation of a survey of most frequently requested data sets**. The following were perceived by stakeholders as highest

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<sup>2</sup> Evaluation of commitments as of March 8, 2016.

priority: data from the land register, election results, census data, business register, register of addresses, trade register, as well as data about traffic accidents and crime, public transportation schedules, postal codes, and environmental data (current state and pollution). OPGDCS shared the results with all relevant public administration bodies and called on them to publish the data at [data.gov.sk](http://data.gov.sk). The National Agency for Network and Electronic Services (“NANES”) conducted negotiations with the affected parties about the possibility to publish the datasets and they were offered technical and expert assistance to publish the most requested datasets. NANES in cooperation with the Ministry of Interior published the data from the Register of Addresses in the form of datasets. Other published datasets include the election results, census data, and postal codes. On December 29, 2015, NANES and Geodesy, Cartography and Cadastre Authority signed an agreement about publishing data from the land register as open data. This agreement has been made available in the registry of contracts. Negotiations about publishing other datasets on the list are still ongoing.

A positive step in terms of coordination of fragmented open data initiatives is the development of the **Strategy and Action Plan of Publication and Use of Open Data of Public Administration** (the “Strategy”) by the Government Office and NANES, respectively. The strategy was developed in December 2015 and was available for public commenting in January 2016 on the initiative of the Plenipotentiary of the Government for the Development of the Civil Society. NANES asked the Prime Minister to extend the deadline for the submission of the strategy for government approval.

During the implementation period of OGP NAP 2015, **technology infrastructure for open data publication has been improved**. As part of the e-Democracy and Open Government project, which was implemented by the Office of the Government / NANES, new **Module Open Data** has been launched at the Central Government Portal, forming the central infrastructure for open data publication that public institutions can use. The improved version of [data.gov.sk](http://data.gov.sk) offers new functionality, leading to the improvement of the interaction between the data providers and data users, e.g. the ability to make a request to make data available for reuse according to the Freedom of Information Act, suggestion to publish data at the open data portal, suggestion to update data published at the open data portal, request to register an application that uses open data from the portal, etc.

The OGP NAP 2012-2013 included the commitment to launch the **portal on the use of public resources**, so-called **Module Subsidy Schemes** (“MSS”). OGP NAP 2015 built upon the commitment to publish data through the MSS, carry out a campaign to promote MSS and evaluate its functioning. In September 2015, OPGDCS organized a series of 8 workshops in all regional capitals, where one of the agenda items was the presentation of MSS. The events were attended by 350 representatives of NGOs, as well as representatives of local government and state administration. The purpose of the creation of MSS was explained, along with its current use cases, planned functionality and its benefits for transparency in the allocation of public resources. A working group composed of representatives of public administration and the civil society evaluated the initial functionality of MSS from the perspective of user friendliness, quality and structure of published data and available features, and will propose recommendations for improvement in the upcoming OGP National Action Plan.

## Topic: Open Information

### Commitment No. 1

Develop an updated list of all datasets of organizations listed as responsible, including budgetary and contributory organizations under their authority, together with a plan of their gradual publication at the Open Data Portal.

Deadline: April 30, 2015		Ongoing commitment		
Lead agencies / responsible persons		Ministers, Chair of the Geodesy, Cartography and Cadastre Authority, President of the Statistical Office, Chair of the Office for Public Procurement		
Contact persons from lead agencies				
Organization				
E-mail				
Telephone				
Other actors	Government	Departments of Ministry of Transport, Construction and Regional Development, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Economy, Ministry of Culture, Ministry of Defense, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport, Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs, Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family, Geodesy, Cartography and Cadastre Authority, Office for Public Procurement, Ministry of Environment, Statistical Office, Ministry of Health		
	Civil society, private sector, working groups			
Issues to be addressed		Public administration entities have been collecting a huge amount of public information / datasets. The public and even the government actors themselves often do not know what data is being collected in their area of interest. Therefore, it is necessary to map all datasets, create a list of them and plan the procedure for their publication at the open data portal (data.gov.sk). The publication shall not include data subject to personal data protection or excluded by other legislation.		
Main objective		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create a data inventory together with a publication schedule.</li> <li>• Increase transparency of the public administration bodies (citizens and other entities can see what data is being collected).</li> </ul>		
Brief description of commitment		This commitment builds on OGP National Action Plan 2012 – 2013, which resulted in the creation of a list of 525 datasets of public administration bodies, which included publication schedule at the open data portal. The commitment in the new National Action Plan has been expanded to include budgetary and contributory organizations under the authority or responsible organizations.		
Relevance / Ambition		This commitment has a positive effect on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improving transparency,</li> <li>• Increasing efficiency (publication of data inventory can expose data not only to the general public but also to the public administration organizations; also, some countries abroad have seen decrease in FOIA requests as a result),</li> <li>• Innovation in public administration (development of applications based on datasets published at data.gov.sk).</li> </ul>		
Level of completion		Not started	Limited	Substantial
			√	

Description of the results	<p>In the process of fulfilling the commitment, OPGDCS was publishing all useful information at the GitHub platform<sup>3</sup>. Answers to frequently asked questions were also published in a similarly transparent and pro-active manner. OPGDCS informed the responsible persons about the possibility to use information at GitHub.</p> <p>OPGDCS offered consultations to those responsible: in-person, over the phone and via e-mail, so they could carry out this commitment successfully.</p> <p>As of April 30, 2015, the following organizations published their list of datasets at data.gov.sk, along with the plan of their publication:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ministry of Transport, Construction and Regional Development</li> <li>• Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport</li> <li>• Ministry of Culture</li> <li>• Ministry of Interior</li> <li>• Ministry of Environment</li> <li>• Statistical Office</li> </ul> <p>Ministry of Finance published data from the Central Metainformation System (MetaIS), which contains the list of IT services across the public administration. From this information it is possible to infer what data is being processed in those systems.</p> <p>Ministry of Economy sent the list of datasets in a letter but didn't publish it electronically at data.gov.sk.</p> <p>Ministry of Health published the list of their datasets on its website<sup>4</sup>.</p> <p>The purpose of data.gov.sk is to be a central catalog of data of public administration (regardless of where the data is physically hosted) – we consider this commitment to be partially completed.</p> <p>The list of datasets wasn't published at data.gov.sk by the following organizations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development</li> <li>• Ministry of Finance</li> <li>• Ministry of Justice</li> <li>• Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs</li> <li>• Ministry of Defense</li> <li>• Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family</li> <li>• Geodesy, Cartography and Cadastre Authority</li> <li>• Office for Public Procurement</li> <li>• Government Office</li> </ul>
Implementation date	April 30, 2015
Next steps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Publish the missing datasets together with the publication plans at data.gov.sk according to the determined schedule. – To carry out this commitment, instructions are available at GitHub<sup>5</sup>, or it's possible to obtain methodology from NANES.</li> <li>• Ensure ongoing, regular updates of the list of all datasets, as well as monitoring whether the publication schedule is being observed.</li> <li>• For data contained in automatic Meta information systems, coordinate with data.gov.sk operator to automatically link data sources.</li> </ul>

<sup>3</sup> <https://github.com/otvorenavlada/akcnyplan2015/tree/master/uloha-01>

<sup>4</sup> Ministry of Health completed the commitment on time. An up-to-date list of datasets of the Ministry of Health is available at the Ministry of Health website. Datasets published at <http://www.health.gov.sk/?data-health-gov-sk.aspx> need to be catalogued at the open data portal data.gov.sk.

<sup>5</sup> Instructions / guidance can be found here: <https://github.com/otvorenavlada/akcnyplan2015/tree/master/uloha-01>



## Topic: Open Information

### Commitment No. 2

Publish datasets on the Open Data Portal according to the planned schedule.

Deadline: December 31, 2015		Ongoing commitment		
Lead agencies / responsible persons		Ministers, Chair of the Geodesy, Cartography and Cadastre Authority, President of the Statistical Office, Chair of the Office for Public Procurement		
Contact persons from lead agencies				
Organization				
E-mail				
Telephone				
Other actors	Government	Departments of Ministry of Transport, Construction and Regional Development, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Economy, Ministry of Culture, Ministry of Defense, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport, Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs, Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family, Geodesy, Cartography and Cadastre Authority, Office for Public Procurement, Ministry of Environment, Statistical Office, Ministry of Health		
	Civil society, private sector, working groups			
Issues to be addressed		<p>Public administration entities have been collecting a huge amount of public information/datasets. As information technology improves, there is a growing pressure on public administration bodies to publish data in formats that allow their reuse for purposes other than which they were collected for.</p> <p>Public administration bodies share their data in various places and in various ways, e.g. through their website, through the Central Register of Contracts, or via responses to FOIA requests. To improve efficiency, it is necessary to centralize records about all data in one place. Data covered by personal data protection and other relevant legislation, is excluded.</p>		
Main objective		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase the number of published datasets at data.gov.sk.</li> <li>• Promote the re-use of published data for different purposes.</li> </ul>		
Brief description of commitment		Publish datasets at the open data portal according to the publication plan. This means keeping a current metadata record at data.gov.sk, while data may physically remain posted at the organization's website or elsewhere.		
Relevance / Ambition		<p>This commitment has positive influence on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increasing transparency of public administration,</li> <li>• Increasing efficiency (published data can be used by the public, as well as public administration itself; some countries abroad have seen decrease in FOIA requests as a result of pro-active publishing of data),</li> <li>• Support for innovation in public administration (development of applications based on datasets published at data.gov.sk).</li> </ul>		
Level of completion		Not started	Limited	Substantial
			✓	
Description of the results		<p>As of March 8, 2016, data.gov.sk contained 884 datasets. Compared to the situation during the evaluation of the previous OGP National Action Plan 2012 – 2013, there are 669 more datasets, which represents a significant increase.</p> <p>With 586 published datasets, the Statistical Office is the absolute leader among the public administration bodies. Other organizations</p>		

with significant growth in published datasets include NANES, Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport, and the Ministry of Interior.

Creation of data, data processing and data collection is the main responsibility of the Statistical Office, so it has naturally access to a lot of data, but the lagging of the other organizations is disproportionately high.

City of Prešov is an example of good practice. It pro-actively published 18 datasets as part of the Transparent self-government initiative.

The following table compares the state of dataset publishing at data.gov.sk during the implementation of OGP National Action Plan 2012 – 2013 versus OGP National Action Plan 2015:

Organization	OGP NAP 2012-2013	OGP NAP 2015	Data catalogue (list of datasets) at data.gov.sk?	Growth
Statistical Office	9	586	√	577
NANES	0	23	X	23
Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport	5	24	√	19
City of Prešov	0	18	-	18
Ministry of Interior	24	40	√	16
Ministry of Finance	11	22	X	11
Ministry of Health <sup>6</sup>	9	18	X	9
Government Office	7	11	X	4
Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	65	68	X	3
Ministry of Justice	5	8	X	3
Ministry of Transport, Construction and Regional Development	8	10	√	2
Ministry of Economy	7	8	x	1
Ministry of Culture	10	11	√	1
Ministry of Defense	3	4	x	1
Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family	5	5	x	0
Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs	14	14	x	0

<sup>6</sup> Ministry of Health completed the commitment on time. An up-to-date list of datasets of the Ministry of Health is available at the Ministry of Health website. Datasets published at <http://www.health.gov.sk/?data-health-gov-sk.aspx> need to be catalogued at the open data portal data.gov.sk.

	Geodesy, Cartography and Cadastre Authority	2	2	x	0
	Ministry of Environment	9	9	√	0
	National Council	1	0	-	-1
	Office for Public Procurement	7	7	x	0
	Other	3	1	-	-2
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>204</b>	<b>889</b>		<b>685</b>
<p>During the implementation of the OGP National Action Plan 2015, public administration bodies were able to publish datasets at <a href="http://data.gov.sk">data.gov.sk</a> in cooperation with NANES.</p> <p>OPGDCS carried out a number of activities in order to encourage the publication of datasets, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Personal, telephone, and e-mail consultations with the responsible persons, including advice on prioritization, legal issues, etc.,</li> <li>• Negotiations with several public organizations (e.g. National Library, Ministry of Culture) about the possibility to use open source software for cataloging and publishing data. Software Open Data Node, created during the COMSODE project (where the Ministry of Interior and OPGDCS participated), enables cataloging of datasets and export to open formats,</li> <li>• Publishing instructions and how-tos on GitHub<sup>7</sup>, including frequently asked questions of the responsible persons.</li> </ul> <p>Ministries also received an offer to have their data published with the help of NANES, which has suitable technology infrastructure.</p> <p>OPGDCS consulted the quality of published datasets with the civil society (NGOs, IT community). Some observations include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• creative Commons Attribution Share-Alike license that is currently being used for the majority of datasets (778) is not optimal for commercial use of data;</li> <li>• insufficient quality of datasets was caused by inadequate compliance with the Decree of the Ministry of Finance no. 55/2014 Coll. on Standards for Public Administration Information Systems, section Standards for Publishing Data in the Electronic Environment;</li> <li>• some of the datasets are not regularly updated;</li> <li>• metadata description is inconsistent.</li> </ul> <p>Published datasets are still unattractive for commercial use.</p>					
Implementation date	December 31, 2015				
Next steps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify the factors that had a negative impact on the publication of data within the implementation period of OGP NAP 2015 and call on those who did not fulfill the role insufficiently, to remedy the situation.</li> <li>• Keep publishing data at <a href="http://data.gov.sk">data.gov.sk</a> which are not subject to personal data protection or other legal exclusions.</li> <li>• Monitor compliance with the Decree of the Ministry of Finance no. 55/2014 Coll. on Standards for Public Administration Information Systems, section Standards for Publishing Data in the Electronic Environment.</li> <li>• Use licenses which are suitable for commercial re-use of data.</li> </ul>				

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Standardize metadata, licenses and formats.</li> </ul>
Additional information	<p>The national project E-Democracy and Open Government, which was implemented by the Government Office, and therefore the organization NANES, contained Module Open Data as part of the Central Government Portal and resulted in the creation of quality central infrastructure for open data publication by the public administration entities. The improved version of <a href="https://data.gov.sk">data.gov.sk</a> now offers new functionality, leading to the improvement of the interaction between the data providers and data users, for example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The ability to make a request to make data available for reuse according to the Freedom of Information Act,</li> <li>• Suggestion to publish data at the open data portal,</li> <li>• Suggestion to update data published at the open data portal,</li> <li>• Request to register an application that uses open data from the portal.</li> </ul>

## Topic: Open Information

Commitment No. 3 Carry out a survey of most frequently requested data sets and share the results with the ministers and other heads of public administration bodies.				
Deadline: March 31, 2015		New commitment		
Lead agencies / responsible persons		Plenipotentiary of the Government for the Development of the Civil Society		
Contact persons from lead agencies		Iveta Ferčíková		
Organization		Office of the Plenipotentiary of the Government for the Development of the Civil Society		
E-mail		<a href="mailto:iveta.fercikova@minv.sk">iveta.fercikova@minv.sk</a>		
Telephone		+421 2 509 44 985		
Other actors	Government	NANES		
	Civil society, private sector, working groups	Consulted entities		
Issues to be addressed		Unavailability of key data in the form of open data has hampered commercial use of data for a long time, and therefore limits economic growth and innovation. It is necessary to identify key data and initiate a dialogue about their publication.		
Main objective		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Compile a list of priority datasets, which are considered by the civil society (NGOs, academia, businesses, and others) as most relevant for their use.</li> <li>• Implement participatory elements in decision making about the publication of datasets.</li> </ul>		
Brief description of commitment		Public administration entities have been collecting a large amount of data. In accordance with the principle “what is not secret is public” it is desirable to publish all the data that is not subject to legal restrictions (e.g. personal data protection etc.). It is also necessary to listen to and respond to public demand for specific data and ensure their priority publication.		
Relevance / Ambition		This commitment has positive effect on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participation,</li> <li>• Innovation in public administration environment.</li> </ul>		
Level of completion		Not started	Limited	Substantial
				Completed
Description of the results		<p>In February and March 2015, OPGDCS in cooperation with NANES carried out a public consultation on open data. Data was collected through Google Forms and the consultation was advertised through a number of channels:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Website of OPGDCS, Website of OGP Slovakia, GitHub and other related websites;</li> <li>• mailing list;</li> <li>• social networks;</li> <li>• personal contact with civil society representatives;</li> <li>• participation in IT events, etc.</li> </ul> <p>There were 48 responses from Slovakia and 3 from abroad. This consultation was the primary source to determine the priority datasets.</p> <p>Other sources included feedback received by OPGDCS in recent time, whether formally (through letters and e-mails) or less formally (in personal meetings or over the phone), as well as previous feedback (evaluation of the previous OGP National Action Plan etc.).</p> <p>Another source for setting priorities was the requirements of international benchmarks and indexes, especially OECD, OKFN</p>		

	<p>Index or Open Data Barometer.</p> <p>When prioritizing the list of top priority datasets, OPGDCS also took into account what kind of applications built on data there are at home and what applications are popular abroad. It is appropriate to prioritize data which will find use.</p> <p>The consultation showed that the most frequently datasets include data from the land register, election results, census data, business register, register of addresses, trade register, as well as data about traffic accidents and crime, public transportation schedules, postal codes, and environmental data (current state of the environment and pollution).</p> <p>On March 30, 2015, in letter USVOS-KUS-2015/000125, OPGDCS informed all relevant public administration bodies about the results of the consultation and called on them to publish the data.</p>
Implementation date	March 30, 2015
Next steps	Apply the methodology of the survey of the most requested datasets at least once a year, and in collaboration with other stakeholders ensure priority publication of the most requested datasets.

## Topic: Open Information

### Commitment No. 4

Based on the evaluation of public demand for the most requested datasets, preferentially publish relevant datasets at the Open Data Portal.

Deadline: June 30, 2015		New commitment				
Lead agencies responsible persons		Ministers, Chair of the Geodesy, Cartography and Cadastre Authority, President of the Statistical Office, Chair of the Office for Public Procurement				
Contact persons from lead agencies		Iveta Ferčíková (OPGDCS) Silvia Horváthová (NANES)				
Organization						
E-mail		<a href="mailto:iveta.fercikova@minv.sk">iveta.fercikova@minv.sk</a> <a href="mailto:silvia.horvathova@nases.gov.sk">silvia.horvathova@nases.gov.sk</a>				
Telephone		+421 2 509 44 985 (Iveta Ferčíková) +421 917 691 312 (Silvia Horváthová)				
Other actors	Government	Departments of Ministry of Transport, Construction and Regional Development, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Economy, Ministry of Culture, Ministry of Defense, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport, Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs, Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family, Geodesy, Cartography and Cadastre Authority, Office for Public Procurement, Ministry of Environment, Statistical Office, Ministry of Health, NANES				
	Civil society, private sector, working groups					
Issues to be addressed		Unavailability of key data in the form of open data has hampered commercial use of data for a long time, and therefore limits economic growth and innovation. It is necessary to identify key data and publish it as open data.				
Main objective		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Publish datasets identified by the civil society as highest priority.</li><li>• Support reuse of datasets for various purposes.</li></ul>				
Brief description of commitment		Based on the evaluation of public demand for the most requested datasets, preferentially publish relevant datasets at the Open Data Portal with the goal to support reuse of datasets for commercial as well as non-commercial purposes.				
Relevance / Ambition		This commitment has a positive effect on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Transparency,</li><li>• Support of reuse of data for new purposes.</li></ul>				
Level of completion		Not started	Limited	Substantial	Completed	
			√			
Description of the results		OPGDCS reached out to all the affected parties with a request to preferentially publish those datasets identified as highest priority. NANES led negotiations with the agencies concerned.				
		We designate this commitment as “partially completed” because data.gov.sk currently only contains some of the priority datasets while others are still subject to negotiations. The commitment is still ongoing for the affected parties – they are still requested to publish the priority datasets as open data.				
		No.	Dataset name	Subject	Status	Note
		1	Election results	Statistical Office	√	
		2	Census data	Statistical Office	√	
		3	Postal codes	Ministry of Transport, Construction	√	

			and Regional Development		
	4	Register of addresses	Ministry of Interior	√	Published at data.gov.sk with a delay (on February 2, 2016).
	5	Trade register	Ministry of Interior	x	
	6	Traffic accidents	Ministry of Interior	x	
	7	Crime data	Ministry of Interior	√	It is necessary to increase the quality of published data and ensure updates.
	8	Public transportation schedules	Ministry of Transport, Construction and Regional Development	x	Negotiations about railroad transportation data are ongoing with the relevant parties with the goal of their speedy publication.
	9	Environmental data (current state of the environment and pollution)	Ministry of Environment	x	Data will be published after access renewal to the new version of data.gov.sk.
	10	Land register	Geodesy, Cartography and Cadastre Authority	x	On December 29, 2015, NANES and Geodesy, Cartography and Cadastre Authority signed an agreement about publishing data from the land registry as open data. This agreement has been published in the Central Register of Contracts.
	11	Business register	Ministry of Justice	x	Dataset under this name published at data.gov.sk is not available in the open data format.
Implementation date		June 30, 2015			
Next steps		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Publish all top priority datasets at data.gov.sk in an open format.</li> <li>• Ensure cooperation when specifying the extent and the level of detail of the identified priority datasets.</li> <li>• Ensure completeness and updates for the priority datasets.</li> </ul>			



## Topic: Open Information

Commitment No. 5

Develop a strategy for publication and use of open data of public administration and submit it to the Government.

Deadline: Original date: May 31, 2015 The deadline has been postponed		New commitment		
Lead agencies / responsible persons		Head of the Government Office		
Contact persons from lead agencies		Silvia Horváthová		
Organization		National Agency for Network and Electronic Services ("NANES")		
E-mail		<a href="mailto:silvia.horvathova@nases.gov.sk">silvia.horvathova@nases.gov.sk</a>		
Telephone				
Other actors	Government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strategy draft was sent to the following organizations (prior to the public comment period): Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Transport, Construction and Regional Development, Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family, Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs, Ministry of Economy, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Culture, Ministry of Defense, Government Office, National Council, OPGDCS.</li> </ul>		
	Civil society, private sector, working groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Actors in the participatory process: participants of the Open Data Strategy workshop, open data community, Utopia civic organization, other civil society organizations which provided feedback to the Strategy.</li> </ul>		
Issues to be addressed		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lack of a public institution directly responsible for open data agenda in Slovakia.</li> <li>Fragmented activities of public organizations working with open data at high level (OPGDCS, Ministry of Finance, Government Office, etc.).</li> <li>Inconsistent approach to open data publication.</li> <li>No central coordination by the public administration.</li> <li>Problematic reuse of open data for commercial purposes.</li> <li>Lack of awareness and education on the issue of open data.</li> <li>And others.</li> </ul>		
Main objective		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Systematic solutions to existing problems in the Slovak open data agenda.</li> <li>Ensuring the coordination of public institutions.</li> <li>Identification of necessary measures and ensuring open data publication.</li> <li>Removal of barriers to the systematic publication and use of Open Data.</li> </ul>		
Brief description of commitment		Develop a strategy for publication and use of open data of public administration and submit it to the Government, in order to systematically approach open data in Slovakia and support publication and reuse of open data.		
Relevance / Ambition		<p>This commitment has a positive effect on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increasing the effectiveness of the actions of public administration bodies with regards to their mutual coordination,</li> <li>Creation of legislative and methodological support, as well as technology infrastructure.</li> </ul>		
Level of completion		Not started	Limited	Substantial
				✓

Description of the results	<p>Strategy for publication and use of open data of public administration (hereinafter referred to as “Strategy”) was not completed before the deadline in the Resolution of the Slovak Government no. 59/2015. NANES asked the Prime Minister of the Slovak Republic to postpone the deadline to February 29, 2016.</p> <p>The Strategy was developed in December 2015 and sent to the government departments (i.e., ministries, Government Office, National Council) for information. Only two institutions sent back their comments.</p> <p>On January 22, 2016, at the initiative of the Office of the Plenipotentiary of the Government for the Development of the Civil Society, a public consultation on the Strategy was started. The Strategy was presented at the following events where representatives of the public administration, civil society, and IT community were present:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Workshop on the Strategy for publication and use of open data of public administration (organized by NANES on January 28, 2016),</li> <li>• Open Data Meetup #5 (organized by Utopia civic organization on January 28, 2016)</li> </ul> <p>Both events created space for discussion, formulation of suggestions and collecting feedback.</p> <p>After processing the suggestions from the public debate the Strategy will be made available for public commenting and then submitted to the government before the end of February 2016.</p> <p>As of the day of writing this report (March 8, 2016) we consider this commitment to be “partially completed” because this Strategy still needs to be submitted for public comment and then to the government with a new deadline.</p>
Implementation date	NANES asked the Prime Minister Robert Fico to extend the deadline for the submission of the Strategy to the government.
Next steps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduce the Strategy to the legislative process.</li> </ul>

## Topic: Open Information

### Commitment No. 6

Within the scope of available information, publish data on the use of European Structural and Investment Funds, the EEA Financial Mechanism, Norwegian Financial Mechanism, Swiss Financial Mechanism and other ministry grant schemes for year 2015 and make it available through a web application and on the Open Data Portal. Government departments that do not have technology resources to input the data on subsidies will provide it after the creation of the web interface in the forthcoming application.

Deadline: December 31, 2015		Ongoing commitment		
Lead agencies / responsible persons		Ministers, Head of the Government Office		
Contact persons from lead agencies				
Organization		Departments of ministries and the Government Office. Because there are a number of operational programs and grant schemes, it is not possible to identify only one person per organization responsible for carrying out the commitment.		
E-mail				
Telephone				
Other actors	Government	Office of the Plenipotentiary of the Government for the Development of the Civil Society		
	Civil society, private sector, working groups	Government Office / NANES (project)		
Issues to be addressed		A new web application has been created ("Module Subsidy Schemes" or "MSS") with tools for analyzing data about public grants / subsidies. When the commitment to publish data was formulated, it was not possible to clearly define the breadth and depth of published data, so the commitment was to "to publish data" without defining a unified structure and depth of data. Because of the diversity of the systems used by individual ministries in order to manage their grant schemes, several pathways to publish their data have been defined.		
Main objective		The main goal was to publish maximum available amount of data about public grants and enable the public to run analyses and statistics based on this data.		
Brief description of commitment		The ministries were tasked with publishing information about their grantees using the MSS application in the depth and structure they have available.		
Relevance / Ambition		The MSS application gains value through data publication and it can be used as an excellent analytical tool which facilitates the creation of analyses and statistics based on the data about public grants that have been provided. At the same time there is a simpler and better public oversight over the allocation of public resources, as well as prevention of possible double financing of expenditures / projects.		
Level of completion		Not started	Limited	Substantial
				Completed
				√
Description of the results		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>OPGDCS helped with contacting those responsible for carrying out the commitments at the ministries and conveyed information about how to fulfill the commitment.</li> <li>In its offices, OPGDCS organized training on MSS usage for public employees.</li> <li>Ministries submitted their data for publication before December 31, 2015. This data was in various formats, structure, quality, etc., so the project team frequently had to resort to manual data cleaning and conversion to machine readable formats.</li> <li>Data about EU Structural Funds could be obtained by the project team directly from the ITMS system.</li> </ul>		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The commitment has been designated as “fully completed” (available data was loaded in the system and published) although more data cleaning is still ongoing.</li> </ul>
Implementation date	December 31, 2015
Next steps	The next step will be the formulation of a commitment to continually update data in MSS at least in the structure proposed by the working group working on Commitment No. 8.

## Topic: Open Information

### Commitment No. 7

Carry out a public campaign to promote the web application for the European Structural and Investment Funds, the EEA Financial Mechanism, Norwegian Financial Mechanism, Swiss Financial Mechanism and the ministry grant schemes.

Deadline: December 31, 2015		New commitment			
Lead agencies / responsible persons		Plenipotentiary of the Government for the Development of the Civil Society			
Contact persons from lead agencies		Ing. Milan Andrejkovič			
Organization		Office of the Plenipotentiary of the Government for the Development of the Civil Society			
E-mail		<a href="mailto:milan.andrejkovic2@minv.sk">milan.andrejkovic2@minv.sk</a>			
Telephone		+421 2 509 44 982			
Other actors	Government				
	Civil society, private sector, working groups				
Issues to be addressed		A new web application has been created ("Module Subsidy Schemes" or "MSS") with tools for analyzing data about public grants / subsidies. It is necessary to inform the public about the application, in order to ensure its use.			
Main objective		The main objective is to create public awareness, which will enable better public scrutiny of the flow of public money, enable the creation of statistics and analyses, and, when in doubt, report the results for further investigation.			
Brief description of commitment		The objective for OPGDCS was to create a campaign for disseminating information about the emerging Module Subsidy Schemes.			
Relevance / Ambition		By increasing public awareness about the existence of an analytical tool that enables the creation of analyses and statistics using the published data about public grants, simpler and more effective oversight over the allocation of public funds is enabled, including the prevention of possible double financing of expenditures / projects.			
Level of completion		Not started	Limited	Substantial	Completed
					✓
Description of the results		In Autumn 2015, OPGDCS organized a series of 8 workshops in regional capitals around Slovakia, which were attended by approximately 350 participants from NGOs, civil society, as well as public administration. One of the topics of these workshops was the presentation of MSS – its benefits, functionality and the possibilities it enables. OPGDCS prepared a specialized section on its website where it published information about MSS <sup>8</sup> . OPGDCS prepared text about MSS to be published at the Central Government Portal <a href="http://www.slovensko.sk">www.slovensko.sk</a> <sup>9</sup> .			
Implementation date		December 31, 2015			
Next steps		The next steps are closely tied to Commitment No. 8: evaluation of MSS. They require involvement of the participants of all stakeholder groups – civil society, public administration, IT community, MSS project manager, solution providers...			
Additional information					

<sup>8</sup> More information here: [http://www.minv.sk/?ros\\_mds](http://www.minv.sk/?ros_mds)

<sup>9</sup> More information here: <https://www.slovensko.sk/sk/modul-dotacnych-schem/> <https://data.gov.sk/dotacie>

After a more detailed definition of MSS functionality and quality of published data it will be necessary to continue the dissemination of information about the existing MSS in a way that will lead to its use not only by the civil society, but also the media, as a source of relevant data.

## Topic: Open Information

### Commitment No. 8

Conduct an evaluation of the functioning of the web application for the European Structural and Investment Funds, the EEA Financial Mechanism, Norwegian Financial Mechanism, Swiss Financial Mechanism and other ministry grant schemes.

Deadline: February 29, 2016		New commitment		
Lead agencies / responsible persons		Plenipotentiary of the Government for the Development of the Civil Society in cooperation with Head of the Government Office and Deputy Prime Minister for Investments		
Contact persons from lead agencies		Ing. Milan Andrejkovič		
Organization		Office of the Plenipotentiary of the Government for the Development of the Civil Society		
E-mail		<a href="mailto:milan.andrejko2@minv.sk">milan.andrejko2@minv.sk</a>		
Telephone		+421 2 509 44 982		
Other actors	Government	Government Office / NANES / Central Coordination Authority, Ministry of Finance		
	Civil society, private sector, working groups	Slovensko.digital, Fair-Play Alliance, INESS,		
Issues to be addressed		A new web application has been created ("Module Subsidy Schemes" or "MSS") with tools for analyzing data about public grants/subsidies. When the commitment to publish data in this application was made, it was not possible to clearly formulate the structure and depth of published data. It is therefore necessary to evaluate the functionality of the entire application and set minimal standards for publishing data about the public grants.		
Main objective		The main objective is to assess the operation of MSS (user experience, available functionality) and the published data (data quality, structure, depth, open data...) through a working group in such a way that it will be possible to set a minimal standard for data quality in the future.		
Brief description of commitment		The role of OPGDCS was to evaluate (in cooperation with stakeholder groups) how individual ministries took the task of publishing data on the use of public funds.		
Relevance / Ambition		Increasing quality of published data makes the MSS application more valuable. The application itself can be used as an excellent analytical tool which facilitates the creation of analyses and statistics using the data about public grants that have been provided. At the same time there is a simpler and more effective public oversight over the allocation of public resources, as well as prevention of possible double financing of expenditures / projects.		
Level of completion		Not started	Limited	Substantial
			√	Completed
Description of the results		After the launch of MSS, OPGDCS created a working group consisting of all stakeholder groups in order to evaluate MSS and the published data. The first meeting of the working group took place on February 12, 2016. It partially discussed the issues of quality of MSS as well as published data and agreed to take on tasks which need to be completed before the next working group meeting.		
Implementation date		February 29, 2016		
Next steps		At the end of February, a second working group meeting is planned in order to collect the opinions, bug reports, recommendations, etc. This should be followed by the formulation of recommendations for commitments for the next OGP National Action Plan. <i>This Assessment Report will be updated after the fact with the current</i>		

	<i>status.</i>
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# Open Education and Research

Slovak OGP NAP 2015 included a new topic of *Open Education*. It was building on the previous open data activities in order to open the theme of free access to educational resources and research results, financed or co-financed from public funds in Slovakia.

Because this was a new topic, we focused primarily on finding out the current status quo. After mapping the existing electronically available educational resources, the Ministry of Education, Science and Sport (“Ministry”) reached the conclusion that there are no existing electronic education resources that can be published under the open license “Creative Commons Attribution”. The Ministry also concluded that none of the existing repositories can be used as a central repository for open educational resources in its existing state.

Realizing that there are existing barriers to publishing educational resources under an open license, the Ministry designed a new public procurement process, which is currently being tested on the first two textbooks. In carrying out this commitment, however, the Ministry of Education did not choose the open license “Creative Commons Attribution” (CC-BY) but license only for non-commercial use (CC-BY-NC), which does not support the idea of open education resources. Also, the department failed to propose measures and their implementation to undertake awareness-raising of teachers and other educational employees on open educational resources.

Similarly, in the second sub-area – Open Access to research results – it was initially important to map out the existing repositories for storing the outputs of science and research. The Ministry of Education currently operates the Central Registry of Publication Output and Central Registry of Artistic Activity, and also the portal Knowledge Planet (“Planéta vedomostí”). The Slovak Centre of Scientific and Technical Information (SCSTI) as a national reference point for Open Access policy, however, has the ambition to continue toward building a new repository for the outputs of science and research at the national level.

In identifying the obstacles to the full deployment of open access to research results the Ministry of Education reached the conclusion that from the point of view of copyright or the current setup of grant schemes in research there are no obstacles to the implementation of open access to the results of research.

Furthermore, an analysis has been carried out that identified the individual measures and possible obstacles to the implementation of free publication of selected types of publication outputs. It will be used as the starting material for the adoption of specific measures.

The commitment related to the definition of mechanism for voluntary publication of data related to scientific publications as open data has been deferred to June 30, 2016. OPGDCS used various events to inform the Slovak educational and research institutions about the advantages of open access and it cooperated with other countries on the creation of their own strategies for open access to the research results.

In general it can be concluded that the topic of open educational resources and open access to research results found a positive response in the education sector and will continue in the coming years.

## Topic: Open Education

### Commitment No. 9

Map existing digitally available educational resources at the Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport and its directly managed organizations and identify those that can be released under the Creative Commons Attribution open license.

Deadline: June 30, 2015		New commitment		
Lead agencies / responsible persons		Minister of Education, Science, Research and Sport		
Contact persons from lead agencies		Ing. Marián Galan		
Organization		Regional Education Division (Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport)		
E-mail				
Telephone				
Other actors	Government	Information Technology Division at the Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport, Legislative Department at the Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport, organizational units of the Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport, directly managed organizations of the Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport, Office of the Plenipotentiary of the Government for the Development of the Civil Society		
	Civil society, private sector, working groups			
Issues to be addressed		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensuring availability of publicly financed educational resources in an open format.</li> </ul>		
Main objective		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Publishing educational resources in an open format.</li> </ul>		
Brief description of commitment		The purpose of this commitment is to map the current situation of electronically available educational resources at the Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport in order to find out which educational resources can now be published.		
Relevance / Ambition		The ambition of the commitment is to ensure the publication of the educational resources in an open format.		
Level of completion		Not started	Limited	Substantial
				Completed
Description of the results		<p>The Regional Education Division (Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport), based on the data from individual organizational units of the ministry and its directly managed organizations mapped the existing electronically available educational resources (available at <a href="http://www.minv.sk/?ros_ovz">http://www.minv.sk/?ros_ovz</a>).</p> <p>The result is that based on the existing contractual relationships between the Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport and its partners there are no electronic educational resources that the Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport can publish under the open license "Creative Commons Attribution".</p>		
Implementation date		June 30, 2015		
Next steps		This mapping demonstrated the need to change the contractual relationships between the Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport and its partners, so that the electronically available educational resources can be published under the open license "Creative Commons Attribution".		

## Topic: Open Education

### Commitment No. 10

Map existing repositories at the Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport and its directly managed organizations. Define what characteristics should be satisfied by the central repository for storing open educational resources. Determine which of the existing repositories can be used for publishing open educational resources, including estimated necessary adjustments and anticipated financial impacts.

Deadline: June 30, 2015		New commitment			
Lead agencies / responsible persons		Minister of Education, Science, Research and Sport			
Contact persons from lead agencies		Martin Janáček			
Organization		Information Technology Division (Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport)			
E-mail					
Telephone					
Other actors	Government				
	Civil society, private sector, working groups				
Issues to be addressed		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To ensure the availability of educational resources and the results of research financed from public sources in an open format.</li> </ul>			
Main objective		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Publish educational resources in an open format.</li> </ul>			
Brief description of commitment		The objective is to map the existing repositories, define the characteristics to be met by the central repository for storing open educational resources and verify whether the existing repositories of Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport satisfy these properties.			
Relevance / Ambition		The ambition is to create the conditions for the publication of open educational resources.			
Level of completion		Not started	Limited	Substantial	Completed
					√
Description of the results		<p>The Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport mapped the individual repositories together with its characteristics (details available at <a href="http://www.minv.sk/?ros_ovz">http://www.minv.sk/?ros_ovz</a>).</p> <p>The outcome of the mapping is the fact that none of the existing repositories in the education sector can be presently used as a central repository for open educational resources.</p> <p>The Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport has access to the information system Knowledge Planet ("Planéta vedomostí" in Slovak), whose ambition it is to fulfill (after an extension) the role of a unified platform for digital educational content. After modification it will meet the majority of identified important requirements for the central repository for open educational resources.</p> <p>Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport has created a summary of the requirements for the central repository.</p>			
Implementation date		June 30, 2015			
Next steps		Create conditions for launching a central repository for storing open educational resources.			

## Topic: Open Education

### Commitment No. 11

In cooperation with the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Interior, Minister of Health, Minister of Culture and the Chair of the Office for Public Procurement analyze the procurement process of educational resources in primary and secondary education and identify possible barriers to their publication under “Creative Commons Attribution” open license.

Deadline: June 30, 2015		New commitment		
Lead agencies / responsible persons		Minister of Education, Science, Research and Sport		
Contact persons from lead agencies		Ing. Marián Galan		
Organization		Regional Education Division (Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport)		
E-mail				
Telephone				
Other actors	Government	Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Interior, Minister of Health, Minister of Culture, Chair of the Office for Public Procurement, Legislative Department at the Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport, Public Procurement Department at the Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport, directly managed organizations of the Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport		
	Civil society, private sector, working groups			
Issues to be addressed		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To ensure the availability of educational resources and the results of research financed from public sources in an open format.</li> </ul>		
Main objective		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Publish educational resources in an open format.</li> </ul>		
Brief description of commitment		The goal is to analyze the current process of public procurement of educational resources with the goal of their later publication in an open format.		
Relevance / Ambition		The ambition is to set the terms of public procurement, so that the Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport has an option to publish all of the educational resources it paid for in an open format.		
Level of completion		Not started	Limited	Substantial
				Completed
Description of the results		<p>The Regional Education Division in cooperation with other subjects analyzed the procurement process of educational resources in primary and secondary education from the perspective of copyright protection of authors, as well as conditions and processes of public procurement, including the identification of possible obstacles to publish the educational resources under the open license “Creative Commons Attribution”.</p> <p>On this basis, a new process for procurement of textbooks and other educational resources has been devised, which reflects the condition to publish the resources under the open license “Creative Commons Attribution”.</p>		
Implementation date		June 30, 2015		
Next steps		Ensure that each future public procurement of any educational resources in the sphere of influence of the Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport and its directly managed organizations will enable the publication of content in an open format.		

## Topic: Open Education

### Commitment No. 12

In cooperation with the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Interior, Minister of Health, Minister of Culture and the Chair of the Office for Public Procurement, propose a new procurement process for textbooks and other learning resources in primary and secondary education, which will enable the release of procured educational resources under “Creative Commons Attribution” open license.

Deadline: August 31, 2015		New commitment		
Lead agencies / responsible persons		Minister of Education, Science, Research and Sport		
Contact persons from lead agencies		Ing. Marián Galan		
Organization		Regional Education Division (Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport)		
E-mail				
Telephone				
Other actors	Government	Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Interior, Minister of Health, Minister of Culture, Chair of the Office for Public Procurement, Chair of the National Institute for Education, Chair of the State Vocational Education Institute, Legislative Department at the Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport, Public Procurement Department at the Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport		
	Civil society, private sector, working groups			
Issues to be addressed		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To ensure the availability of educational resources and the results of research financed from public sources in an open format.</li> </ul>		
Main objective		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Publish educational resources in an open format.</li> </ul>		
Brief description of commitment		The objective is to design a new process for public procurement of educational resources, so that they can be made available in an open format.		
Relevance / Ambition		The ambition is to set the terms of public procurement, so that the Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport has an option to publish all of the educational resources it paid for in an open format.		
Level of completion		Not started	Limited	Substantial
			√	
Description of the results		<p>The Regional Education Division in cooperation with other subjects developed a proposal for a new procurement process for textbooks and other educational resources.</p> <p>The publishing of procured educational resources was not chosen under the open license “Creative Commons Attribution” (CC-BY) but a license restricting commercial use (CC-BY-NC) was chosen. While the latter license enables sharing and use of educational resources, resources licensed under it are not open educational resources with unlimited use.</p> <p>A new process for procurement of textbooks and other educational resources with an unsuitable license is now being piloted by the Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport in a public bid for textbook design, followed by a direct negotiation process with the publisher.</p> <p>The result will be a contract giving the public contracting authority an exclusive license for worldwide, unlimited use of the work, for all purposes known during the signing of the contract and for the entire duration of the property rights, with the right of the contracting authority to issue a sublicense to a third party, including the right of the contracting authority to issue a license according to Section 49a of Act 618/2003 Coll. on Copyright and Rights Related to Copyright (Copyright Act), as amended.</p>		

Implementation date	August 31, 2015
Next steps	Pilot testing of new procurement procedures to verify if these are suitable and, if necessary, to work on their adjustment.

## Topic: Open Education

Commitment No. 13

Run a pilot of the procurement process, releasing procured materials under “Creative Commons Attribution” open license.

Deadline: Original date: June 30, 2015 Postponed date: January 31, 2016		New commitment		
Lead agencies / responsible persons		Minister of Education, Science, Research and Sport		
Contact persons from lead agencies		Ing. Marián Galan		
Organization		Regional Education Division (Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport)		
E-mail				
Telephone				
Other actors	Government	Legislative Department at the Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport, Public Procurement Department at the Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport		
	Civil society, private sector, working groups			
Issues to be addressed		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To ensure the availability of educational resources and the results of research financed from public sources in an open format.</li> </ul>		
Main objective		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Publish educational resources in an open format.</li> </ul>		
Brief description of commitment		The goal is to verify the proposed new process of public procurement of educational resources in practice.		
Relevance / Ambition		The ambition is to set the conditions of public procurement in a way which will enable the Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport to publish all of the educational resources it had paid for in an open format.		
Level of completion		Not started	Limited	Substantial
			√	Completed
Description of the results		<p>The Regional Education Division has prepared the foundations for the implementation of public procurement.</p> <p>On January 1, 2016 Act No. 185/2015 Coll. (Copyright Act) came into force, replacing Act No. 618/2003 on Copyright and Rights Related to Copyright (Copyright Act), as amended. The content of the license agreement and the public procurement procedure therefore need to be made aligned with the new legislation. It is desirable to link the pilot program of the new public procurement process of educational resources with their publication under the open license “Creative Commons Attribution” with the new legal regime.</p> <p>The deadline for this commitment has therefore been postponed to January 31, 2016.</p> <p>The process of procurement of educational resources with their publication under an open public license compatible with the new Copyright Act that came into force on January 1, 2016, is now in the process of pilot testing.</p> <p>The pilot testing is now ongoing as part of the existing public procurements, published in the Public Procurement Bulletin, for school subjects Introduction to Science (in Slovak: “Prvouka”) for 2nd grade of elementary schools (<a href="https://www2.uvo.gov.sk/evestnik/-/vestnik/325574">https://www2.uvo.gov.sk/evestnik/-/vestnik/325574</a>) and Geography for 1st grade of four-year high schools and 5th grade of eight-year gymnasia (<a href="https://www2.uvo.gov.sk/evestnik/-/vestnik/326364">https://www2.uvo.gov.sk/evestnik/-/vestnik/326364</a>).</p>		

	In the near future, there will be tenders for public procurement of other textbooks as well.
Implementation date	Continual process
Next steps	Verify the viability of the process of public procurement, amend if necessary, and use for procurement of future educational resources as well.



## Topic: Open Education

Commitment No. 14 Propose measures and their implementation to raise awareness among teachers and other educational staff about open educational resources.				
Deadline: September 30, 2015		New commitment		
Lead agencies / responsible persons		Minister of Education, Science, Research and Sport		
Contact persons from lead agencies		Ing. Marián Galan		
Organization		Regional Education Division (Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport)		
E-mail				
Telephone				
Other actors	Government			
	Civil society, private sector, working groups			
Issues to be addressed		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Publish educational resources in an open format.</li> </ul>		
Main objective		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote the topic of open education in Slovakia.</li> </ul>		
Brief description of commitment		The goal of this commitment was to engage the teachers and other pedagogues in the issue of open education, introduce its basic philosophy, communicate the societal benefit of open education and open educational resources. Because this is a new issue, it is appropriate to conduct a targeted information campaign for education professionals.		
Relevance / Ambition		The ambition is to achieve a high enough degree of awareness among the Slovak teachers and other educational employees, so that the publication and use of open educational resources becomes a matter of course.		
Level of completion		Not started	Limited	Substantial
			√	Completed
Description of the results		<p>In order to increase the awareness of teachers and other educational employees about open educational resources, the Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport concludes that it is most appropriate to use the program of continuous education for teachers and other educational employees. Its preparation was entrusted to the Methodology and Pedagogy Centre. After the approval of the program by the Accreditation Board it will be provided to the teachers of preschools, primary and secondary schools, as well as other educational employees of regional schools.</p> <p>A course with this topic can be designed, submitted for accreditation and provided by an independent organization as well. At present no organization holds accreditation for an educational course on this topic.</p> <p>Another alternative is to design and implement other forms of dissemination for the target groups, e.g. over the internet, intranets in schools, specialized newspapers and magazines, workshops, conferences, etc.</p>		
Implementation date		Not set.		
Next steps		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Approve educational program of continuous education in order to increase the awareness of teachers and other educational employees about open educational resources and create conditions for its implementation.</li> <li>Support other activities leading to the desired result.</li> </ul>		

## Topic: Open Education

Commitment No. 15

Join multilateral activities in Europe and beyond that support the creation, improvement, sharing and re-use of open educational resources.

Deadline: November 30, 2015		New commitment		
Lead agencies / responsible persons		Minister of Education, Science, Research and Sport		
Contact persons from lead agencies		Ing. Marián Galan		
Organization		Regional Education Division (Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport)		
E-mail				
Telephone				
Other actors	Government	Directly managed organizations of the Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport		
	Civil society, private sector, working groups			
Issues to be addressed		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Publish educational resources in an open format.</li> </ul>		
Main objective		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote open education at the European and global level.</li> </ul>		
Brief description of commitment		The objective of the commitment was to participate in international efforts in open education and cooperate with other countries in supporting, improving, sharing, and reuse of open educational resources.		
Relevance / Ambition		The ambition is to promote the issue of open education at the European and global level.		
Level of completion		Not started	Limited	Substantial
				Completed
Description of the results		<p>Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport with its directly managed organizations within the scope of their competencies have joined multilateral efforts and through various projects organized in the Slovak Republic as well as abroad that support the activities of schools, teachers, pupils and students in the entire spectrum of creation and use of open educational resources.</p> <p>One of them is the project “Consumer Classroom”, a website created to foster cooperation of teachers across the European Union. It contains high quality materials and interactive tools for teaching pupils and students from 12 to 18 years of age aimed at developing practical consumer skills.</p>		
Implementation date		November 30, 2015		
Next steps		Continue international cooperation to promote the creation, improvement, sharing and reuse of open educational resources.		

## Topic: Open Education

### Commitment No. 16

Map existing repositories at the Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport and its directly managed organizations. Define what characteristics should be satisfied by a central repository for storing scientific publications (text, data). Determine which of the existing repositories can be used for storing scientific publications, including estimated necessary adjustments and anticipated financial impacts.

Deadline: June 30, 2015		New commitment		
Lead agencies / responsible persons		Minister of Education, Science, Research and Sport		
Contact persons from lead agencies		Martin Janáček		
Organization		Information Technology Division (Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport)		
E-mail				
Telephone				
Other actors	Government	Slovak Centre of Scientific and Technical Information (SCSTI)		
	Civil society, private sector, working groups			
Issues to be addressed		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To ensure the availability of educational resources and the results of research financed from public sources in an open format.</li> </ul>		
Main objective		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Publish educational resources in an open format.</li> </ul>		
Brief description of commitment		The ambition of this commitment is to define the characteristics to be met by the central repository for storing the outputs of science and research in an open format and verify whether the existing repositories of the Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport meet the requirements.		
Relevance / Ambition		The ambition of the commitment is to provide a central repository for publication of existing results of science and research in an open format.		
Level of completion		Not started	Limited	Substantial
				Completed
Description of the results		<p>The Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport ("Ministry") mapped the existing repositories along with their characteristics (results available at <a href="http://www.minv.sk/?ros_ovz">http://www.minv.sk/?ros_ovz</a>).</p> <p>The Ministry operates the Central Registry of Publication Output and Central Registry of Artistic Activity that include a comprehensive record of publication and artistic activity of universities in Slovakia. These repositories could partially fulfill the role of the repository for publishing the full text of the registered materials.</p> <p>Another available information system is the Knowledge Planet ("Planéta vedomostí"), which should fulfill the role of a unified platform for digital learning content (after its extension). As such it will meet the most important requirements for a central repository for open educational resources.</p> <p>The Slovak Centre of Scientific and Technical Information (SCSTI) as the national reference point for Open Access policy has the ambition to build a new repository for publication outputs in science and research at the national level. Methodically, it is possible to put this activity under the roof of the international project Open Aire 2020 (Horizon 2020).</p>		
Implementation date		June 30, 2015		
Next steps		Building the repository for outputs from science and research as a national project of SCSTI under the Operational Programme		

	Research and Innovation in the programming period 2014 – 2020.
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## Topic: Open Education

Commitment No. 17

Together with the affected institutions, identify possible barriers of full Open Access implementation, e.g. exclusive contracts with publishers, grant schemes, etc.

Deadline: June 30, 2015		New commitment		
Lead agencies / responsible persons		Minister of Education, Science, Research and Sport		
Contact persons from lead agencies		Peter Plavčan		
Organization		Higher Education, Science and Research Division (Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport)		
E-mail		<a href="mailto:svs@minedu.sk">svs@minedu.sk</a>		
Telephone		+421 2 59 374 369		
Other actors	Government	Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Interior, Minister of Health, Minister of Defense, Minister of Culture, Chair of the Office for Public Procurement		
	Civil society, private sector, working groups	Public and state universities, Slovak Academy of Sciences		
Issues to be addressed		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To ensure the availability of educational resources and the results of research financed from public sources in an open format.</li> </ul>		
Main objective		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Publish educational resources in an open format.</li> </ul>		
Brief description of commitment		To ensure the conditions of full deployment of open access to the results of science and research (Open Access) it is necessary to analyze if there are obstacles to implementing such commitment. There could be problems like exclusive contracts of authors with publishers, grant schemes, etc.		
Relevance / Ambition		The ambition is to identify possible obstacles and find solutions to overcome them.		
Level of completion		Not started	Limited	Substantial
				Completed
Description of the results		<p>The Higher Education, Science and Research Division ("Division") in cooperation with the relevant stakeholders reached out to the collaborators, universities, as well as the Slovak Academy of Sciences in order to identify possible barriers to full deployment of open access to the results of science and research. Based on the information it collected, the Division created a document identifying the barriers (<a href="https://www.minedu.sk/data/att/8490.pdf">https://www.minedu.sk/data/att/8490.pdf</a>).</p> <p>The analysis has shown that in terms of copyright there are no obstacles to the implementation of open access to the results of research.</p> <p>Slovak Research and Development Agency (SRDA) as the main grant agency in this area in Slovakia also did not identify any specific obstacles.</p> <p>For further progress in the implementation it is crucial, however, to provide the necessary infrastructure and its operation (i.e., the repository) and establish clear rules (e.g. for particularities of scientific research in defense, guidelines for the publication of data, and the system for evaluating quality of outputs).</p>		
Implementation date		June 30, 2015		
Next steps		Propose measures for removing the identified barriers to full deployment of open access to the results of science and research.		

## Topic: Open Education

### Commitment No. 18

In cooperation with the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Interior, Minister of Health, Minister of Defense and the Chair of the Office for Public Procurement, submit to the Government an analysis of the requirement that all publications recorded in the publications tracking system, at least categories A and B (first letter) or equivalents, shall be provided to the public in an open and free manner.

Deadline: October 31, 2015		New commitment	
Lead agencies / responsible persons		Minister of Education, Science, Research and Sport	
Contact persons from lead agencies		Peter Plavčan	
Organization		Higher Education, Science and Research Division (Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport)	
E-mail		<a href="mailto:svs@minedu.sk">svs@minedu.sk</a>	
Telephone		+421 2 59 374 369	
Other actors	Government	Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Interior, Minister of Health, Minister of Defense, Minister of Culture, Chair of the Office for Public Procurement	
	Civil society, private sector, working groups		
Issues to be addressed		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To ensure the availability of educational resources and the results of research financed from public sources in an open format.</li> </ul>	
Main objective		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Publish educational resources in an open format.</li> </ul>	
Brief description of commitment		<p>Quick and barrier-free access to the results of scientific research has the potential to transform society. Simplification of access to articles and data financed (whether fully or partially) from public funds brings benefits to all: the educational system, business entities, but also public at large.</p> <p>The European Commission in its Horizon 2020 program also promotes the philosophy of public access to activities financed with public money.</p>	
Relevance / Ambition		The ambition of this commitment is to identify the individual measures and possible barriers to the implementation of free access to selected types of publication outputs.	
Level of completion		Not started	Limited
			Substantial
			Completed
			√
Description of the results		<p>On November 11, 2015, the Government of the Slovak Republic has taken note of the material titled "Analysis of the introduction of free access to selected types of publication outputs" (details available at <a href="http://www.rokovania.sk/File.aspx/ViewDocumentHtml/Mater-Dokum-192986?prefixFile=m">http://www.rokovania.sk/File.aspx/ViewDocumentHtml/Mater-Dokum-192986?prefixFile=m</a>).</p> <p>This analysis identifies individual measures and possible obstacles to the introduction of this obligation. This analysis therefore serves as a suitable starting material for the adoption of specific measures.</p> <p>The actual implementation of the measures will require further specific steps.</p>	
Implementation date		November 11, 2015	
Next steps		Implementation of the obligation to provide free access to selected types of publication outputs financed from public resources.	

## Topic: Open Education

Commitment No. 19

Propose a mechanism for voluntary publication of data related to scientific publications as Open Data.

Deadline: October 31, 2015		New commitment		
Lead agencies / responsible persons		Minister of Education, Science, Research and Sport		
Contact persons from lead agencies		Peter Plavčan		
Organization		Higher Education, Science and Research Division (Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport)		
E-mail		<a href="mailto:svs@minedu.sk">svs@minedu.sk</a>		
Telephone		+421 2 59 374 369		
Other actors	Government	Slovak Centre of Scientific and Technical Information (SCSTI)		
	Civil society, private sector, working groups			
Issues to be addressed		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Publish educational resources in an open format.</li> </ul>		
Main objective		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote the issue of open education in Slovakia.</li> </ul>		
Brief description of commitment		When using the internet and modern technologies it is easy to share the scientific publication along with the data that was necessary for its creation. This data can be used in further research, for new re-interpretation of results, as well as verification of statistical analyses. Open Science accelerates as well as improves the quality of scientific research.		
Relevance / Ambition		Publication of partial results of science and research financed from public funds, in the form of open data, facilitates further processing of the acquired data in new research, leading to the faster and more effective research, greatly saving financial resources in the process.		
Level of completion		Not started	Limited	Substantial
		√		
Description of the results		Deadline for completing the commitment postponed to June 30, 2016.		
Implementation date		June 30, 2016		
Next steps		Complete the commitment before the new deadline.		



## Topic: Open Education

Commitment No. 20

Inform Slovak educational and research institutions how Open Access can benefit themselves, the commercial sector, NGOs and the general public.

Deadline: November 30, 2015		New commitment			
Lead agencies / responsible persons		Plenipotentiary of the Government for the Development of the Civil Society			
Contact persons from lead agencies		Skarlet Ondrejčáková			
Organization		Office of the Plenipotentiary of the Government for the Development of the Civil Society			
E-mail		<a href="mailto:skarlet.ondrejcakova@minv.sk">skarlet.ondrejcakova@minv.sk</a>			
Telephone		+421 2 509 44 983			
Other actors	Government				
	Civil society, private sector, working groups				
Issues to be addressed		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Publish educational resources in an open format.</li> </ul>			
Main objective		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote the issue of open education in Slovakia.</li> </ul>			
Brief description of commitment		The goal of this commitment was to introduce the basic philosophy of open education, present the societal benefits of open education and the potential for further use of research results when they are published in an open format. Because this is a new issue, it is appropriate to conduct a targeted information campaign aimed at education and research institutions and their staff.			
Relevance / Ambition		The ambition is to achieve a high enough degree of awareness among the Slovak teachers and other educational employees, so that the publication of results of science and research in an open format becomes a matter of course.			
Level of completion		Not started	Limited	Substantial	Completed
					√
Description of the results		<p>OPGDCS informed Slovak educational and research institutions about the advantages of Open Access for themselves, as well as for the commercial sector, NGOs and the general public through participation in various conferences, workshops, work meetings and through the media:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Open Access Policy of Slovakia in the European Context 2015</b> – Current State and Perspectives, organized by: Slovak Centre of Scientific and Technical Information (representative of OPGDCS was member of the organizing committee),</li> <li><b>Open Education Kickoff Meeting</b> Organized by: Trnava University in Trnava in cooperation with Creative Commons Slovakia and OPGDCS,</li> <li><b>Meeting of the Council of the Government of the Slovak Republic for NGOs on April 9, 2015</b> – it included a discussion about the advantages of open education with the representatives of public authorities and NGOs.</li> </ul> <p>Information was also disseminated through a number of personal meetings with the employees of the Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport, representatives of NGOs, academia, research institutions (e.g. the Slovak Academy of Sciences, Slovak Centre of Scientific and Technical Information), teachers and other stakeholder groups.</p> <p>Other communication channels included the media (TREND magazine, ITlib) and the website of OPGDCS: <a href="http://www.minv.sk/?ros_ovz">www.minv.sk/?ros_ovz</a></p>			
Implementation date		November 30, 2015			
Next steps		Continue in the information campaign.			



## Topic: Open Education

Commitment No. 21

Co-operate with other countries on the creation of their own Open Access strategies and share the knowledge gained during the implementation in Slovakia.

Deadline: November 30, 2015		New commitment		
Lead agencies / responsible persons		Plenipotentiary of the Government for the Development of the Civil Society		
Contact persons from lead agencies		Skarlet Ondrejčáková		
Organization		Office of the Plenipotentiary of the Government for the Development of the Civil Society		
E-mail		<a href="mailto:skarlet.ondrejcakova@minv.sk">skarlet.ondrejcakova@minv.sk</a>		
Telephone		+421 2 509 44 983		
Other actors	Government			
	Civil society, private sector, working groups			
Issues to be addressed		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Publish educational resources in an open format.</li> </ul>		
Main objective		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote the topic of open education on the global level.</li> </ul>		
Brief description of commitment		The objective was to introduce the Slovak open education commitments and their implementation abroad, cooperate with other countries, gather inspiration from the countries which are ahead and help those who are currently only considering the implementation of open education.		
Relevance / Ambition		The ambition is to promote the issue of open education on the global level.		
Level of completion		Not started	Limited	Substantial
				Completed
Description of the results				√
		<p>An OPGDCS representative worked with other countries in creation of their strategies related to the access to the results of science and research. He participated in several professional events in order to present and share Slovak experience with the implementation of open education policies, particularly:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>“Open Education Global Conference 2015”, Canada (April 2015),</li> <li>eGovernment Conference, Estonia (May 2015) – OPGDCS presented the commitments of the Slovak Republic included in the OGP National Action Plan 2015,</li> <li>NL PRES, Belgium (June 2015),</li> <li>conference for OGP National Points of Contact, Georgia (June 2015) - OPGDCS introduced the commitments of the Slovak Republic included in the OGP National Action Plan 2015 and presented the results of their implementation,</li> <li>High Level Strategic Meeting, France (July 2015),</li> <li>presentation in the parliament in Brazil about Open Education (August 2015) and working meeting with the representatives of public administration implementing OGP National Action Plans in Brazil where OPGDCS presented the activities of the Slovak Republic in open education.</li> <li>ARede Educa Conference, Brazil (August 2015) - OPGDCS presented the experiences with implementation of the open education commitments to the teachers in Brazil,</li> <li>OGP Global Summit, Mexico (October 2015) - OPGDCS with the U.S. Department of State hosted a workshop on open education. During the workshop, experiences with the implementation of open education commitments were presented,</li> <li>OpenCon Conference, Belgium (November 2015) - OPGDCS representatives worked with the organizing committee.</li> </ul> <p>OPGDCS cooperated on the creation of a publication on open education. It is available here:  <a href="https://oerknowledgecloud.org/sites/oerknowledgecloud.org/files/214-986-">https://oerknowledgecloud.org/sites/oerknowledgecloud.org/files/214-986-</a> </p>		

	<p><a href="#">3-PB.pdf</a>.</p> <p>During 2015, OPGDCS communicated with the representatives of the civil society on an international level, including SPARC North America, SPARC Europe, Open Policy Network, Creative Commons USA, and others. All forms of mutual communication led to the exchange of experience in the area of implementation of open education policies.</p>
Implementation date	November 30, 2015
Next steps	Continue international cooperation.

## Government Open to Dialogue

Individual ministers<sup>10</sup> were assigned, as part of the chapter *Government Open to Dialogue*, asked to **identify public policies at their government department, which are suitable for participative creation** in year 2015<sup>11</sup>. Participative dialogue with civil society organization representatives about certain policies had been ongoing for several years and in 2015 it only resulted in forming an explicit commitment. The course of the participatory process is described in the Assessment Report on pages 51-56.

After the identification of public policies, OPGDCS organized **educational workshops for public administration employees** during April and May 2015 in order to increase their knowledge of participatory policy making in accordance with the material *Guidelines for the involvement of the public in the creation of public policies* (hereinafter referred to as “Guidelines”). Educational workshops were targeted at those designated by ministries as persons responsible for the creation of the identified policies. In total, workshops were attended by 34 participants.

OPGDCS then **created “Criteria for evaluating participatory processes of formation and implementation of public policies”** (hereinafter referred to as “Criteria”), which are based on the Guidelines. For each Scenario 1 – 4, simple checklists with review questions have been created in order to help let the responsible persons collect rapid feedback on the course of participatory processes, i.e. to what extent the participatory process is being undertaken in accordance with the Guidelines (the recommended material).

In January and February 2016, OPGDCS **collected qualitative and quantitative data** in order to evaluate the participative creation of public policies identified as part of the OGP NAP 2015. Data collection was conducted through a questionnaire and telephone survey. OPGDCS based on the data collected from the government departments approached more than 60 people<sup>12 13</sup> from the civil society who took part in participative processes with a request for cooperation in the evaluation of participatory processes. Furthermore, request for cooperation was also directed at the persons responsible for the creation of public policies at the divisions and departments of the respective ministries. The aim of the survey was to obtain relevant qualitative and quantitative data about the process of creation of the public policies, to map the participatory process, identify strengths and weaknesses of the process and share examples of good practice. Selected results of the survey are available in the Assessment Report on the Implementation of OGP NAP and at the OPGDCS website.

Another commitment in the OGP NAP 2012-2013 was the preparation and launch of the **Collective Electronic Petition** (CEP) as a tool for direct petitioning of the government of the Slovak Republic. OGP NAP 2015 included a commitment to promote the role of CEP to the general public. In September 2015 OPGDCS organized a series of eight workshops in all regional capitals. One of the points on the agenda was the presentation of CEP explaining the reason for its creation and conditions for its use, as well as the explanation between CEP and regular petitions. These events were attended by approx. 350 representatives of NGOs as well as public institutions. On October 22-23, 2015 OPGDCS also organized a two-day workshop with 120 participants from NGOs and public administration where CEP was also presented.

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<sup>10</sup> Except the Minister of Labour, Social Affairs and Family, Minister of Environment, and Minister of Foreign and European Affairs.

<sup>11</sup>The individual ministers have identified the following policies: Amendments to the Freedom of Information Act (Ministry of Justice), Strategy of Improving the Accessibility of Buildings and Areas with Emphasis on Persons with Disabilities, Strategy of Implementation of the new Building Act, Development of Personal and Non-Motorized (Biking and Walking) Public Transportation (Ministry of Transport, Construction and Regional Development), Strategic Framework for Healthcare 2014-2030 (Ministry of Health), Strategy for Development of Culture in the Slovak Republic 2014 – 2020 and Action Plan 2015 – 2017 (Ministry of Culture), Creation of a joint forum of entrepreneurs, consumers and the relevant state authorities (Ministry of Economy), Act on the Register of NGOs (Ministry of Interior), development of the Policy on Support for Small-scale, Young and Family Farmers (Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development), preparation of the new Defense Strategy of the Slovak Republic (Ministry of Defense), Tax Assignment of Legal Entities and Individuals (Ministry of Finance), and Program to Support Volunteering and Volunteer Centers (Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport).

<sup>12</sup>Response was very low.

## Topic: Government Open to Dialogue

Commitment No. 22

Identify at least one public policy at each government department that will be created in a participatory manner.

Deadline: March 31, 2015		Ongoing commitment		
Lead agencies / responsible persons		Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Interior, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, Minister of Economy, Minister of Transport, Construction and Regional Development, Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development, Minister of Defense, Minister of Justice, Minister of Education, Science, Research and Sport, Minister of Culture, Minister of Health in cooperation with the Plenipotentiary of the Government for the Development of the Civil Society		
Contact persons from lead agencies		Iveta Ferčíková		
Organization		Office of the Plenipotentiary of the Government for the Development of the Civil Society		
E-mail		<a href="mailto:iveta.fercikova@minv.sk">iveta.fercikova@minv.sk</a>		
Telephone		+421 2 509 44 985		
Other actors	Government			
	Civil society, private sector, working groups	Chamber of NGOs of the Council of the Government of the Slovak Republic for NGOs		
Issues to be addressed		Support of partnership and dialogue between the government departments and civil society organizations.		
Main objective		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Create a public policy in cooperation with external stakeholders.</li> </ul>		
Brief description of commitment		<p>This commitment builds on the OGP National Action Plan 2012 – 2013 which included a pilot program for participative creation of three public policies (Nature Conservation Act, Human Rights Strategy, and Social Services Act). Participative creation of these public policies was later evaluated and based on the evaluation results in the material “Guidelines for the involvement of the public in the creation of public policies” was created. The Government of the Slovak Republic took note of it in Resolution No. 645/2014.</p>		
Relevance / Ambition		<p>The result of the commitment has positive effect on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increase of participation of citizens in public policy creation.</li> <li>Increase of openness of the public institutions toward the citizens.</li> </ul>		
Level of completion		Not started	Limited	Substantial
				Completed
Description of the results		<p>OPGDSCS reached out to the Chamber of NGOs with a request to identify those public policies under the auspices of ministries which are crucial to them in terms of public involvement in their development. OPGDSCS attended informal meetings and discussions with representatives of other NGOs (e.g. The National Council of Persons with Disabilities, Via Iuris, Association for the Protection of Patients’ Rights, Spiral, etc.) to collect additional suggestions.</p> <p>OPGDSCS reached out to all the concerned ministers with the request to identify suitable policies for participative creation in cooperation with the civil society. Those ministers who had the creation of public policies identified by the civil society under their auspices were also informed about the fact and the employees working for ministry divisions and departments were given contact information of the Chamber of NGOs. The</p>		

	<p>individual ministries had their own partners in the civil society who have been involved in the creation of the public policies. Based on the communication between OPGDCS and the respective ministries, the following public policies were identified as appropriate for participatory creation during 2015:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Ministry of Justice</b> – Amendments to the Freedom of Information Act,</li> <li>• <b>Ministry of Transport, Construction and Regional Development</b> - Strategy of Improving the Accessibility of Buildings and Areas with Emphasis on Persons with Disabilities, Strategy of Implementation of the new Building Act, Development of Personal and Non-Motorized (Biking and Walking) Public Transportation,</li> <li>• <b>Ministry of Health</b> – Strategic Framework for Healthcare 2014-2030,</li> <li>• <b>Ministry of Culture</b> – Strategy for Development of Culture in the Slovak Republic 2014 – 2020 and Action Plan 2015 – 2017,</li> <li>• <b>Ministry of Economy</b> – Creation of a joint forum of entrepreneurs, consumers and the relevant state authorities,</li> <li>• <b>Ministry of Interior</b> – Act on the Register of NGOs,</li> <li>• <b>Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development</b> – development of the Policy on Support for Small-scale, Young and Family Farmers,</li> <li>• <b>Ministry of Defense</b> – preparation of the new Defense Strategy of the Slovak Republic,</li> <li>• <b>Ministry of Finance</b> – Tax Assignment of Legal Entities and Individuals,</li> <li>• <b>Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport</b> – Program to Support Volunteering and Volunteer Centers.</li> </ul> <p>Based on the evaluation of the proposals, we found that there are also other key areas where civil society representatives had been trying to initiate legislative changes for a long time:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Creation of a system for financing medical services in social services facilities (Ministry of Health in cooperation with Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family),</li> <li>• Legislation to eliminate discrimination between public and non-public providers of social services (Ministry of Health in cooperation with the Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family),</li> <li>• The concept of environmental education and awareness raising in the Slovak Republic (Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport in cooperation with the Ministry of Environment),</li> <li>• Implementation of the Program to support volunteering and volunteer centers (Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport)</li> </ul> <p>We encourage the government to consider these suggestions and, if needed, initiate systemic changes in these areas.</p>
Implementation date	March 31, 2015
Next steps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• On an annual basis, identify and publish the list of several public policies which the public authority plans to create in a participative manner along with the information, which scenario from the “Guidelines for the involvement of the public in the creation of public policies” will be applied (including an approximate</li> </ul>

	<p>time schedule for participatory activities and ways for stakeholders to get involved).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Consider the suggestions from the civil society to initiate legislative changes.</li></ul>
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## Topic: Government Open to Dialogue

Commitment No. 23

Conduct workshops focused on public involvement in the development of public policies for government employees who will be responsible for the identification and subsequent creation of public policies in a participatory manner.

Deadline: May 31, 2015		New commitment		
Lead agencies / responsible persons		Plenipotentiary of the Government for the Development of the Civil Society		
Contact persons from lead agencies		Iveta Ferčíková		
Organization		Office of the Plenipotentiary of the Government for the Development of the Civil Society		
E-mail		<a href="mailto:iveta.fercikova@minv.sk">iveta.fercikova@minv.sk</a>		
Telephone		+421 2 509 44 985		
Other actors	Government	Consumer Protection Department (Ministry of Economy), Division of State Care for Youth and Sport (Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport), Institute of Health Policy (Ministry of Health), Legislative Division (Ministry of Justice), Institute of Strategy (Ministry of Transport, Construction and Regional Development), Tourism Division (Ministry of Transport, Construction and Regional Development), Construction Division (Ministry of Transport, Construction and Regional Development), Division of Public Administration (Ministry of Interior), Department of Rural Development and LEADER (Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development), Department of Direct Taxation (Ministry of Finance), Section of Art and the State Language (Ministry of Culture), and other divisions and departments of ministries.		
	Civil society, private sector, working groups	PDCS (Partners for Democratic Change Slovakia)		
Issues to be addressed		There are currently no internal guidelines which the public administration employees can refer to when conducting participative processes. It is therefore necessary to familiarize the public administration employees with the material "Guidelines for the involvement of the public in the creation of public policies" and to train staff in accordance to this material.		
Main objective		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Equip the civil servants to decide about the appropriate approach to the creation of specific public policies and familiarize them about alternative ways to involve the interested public.</li> <li>• Introduce the material "Guidelines for the involvement of the public in the creation of public policies".</li> <li>• Create space for state employees to share their experiences (good / bad) and provide feedback.</li> <li>• Discuss the selected participative tools which have been used / will be used during the creation of public policies and collect feedback on the suitability of these tools.</li> </ul>		
Brief description of commitment		Facilitation of the participative process requires specific skills, knowledge and systematic approach. In order to have effective and quality dialogue, it is necessary to develop professional capacities of public administration employees in this area.		
Relevance / Ambition		The result of this commitment has a positive effect on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increasing the openness of public institutions toward the citizens,</li> <li>• Support of participation,</li> <li>• Building professional capacity in public administration.</li> </ul>		
Level of completion		Not started	Limited	Substantial
				Completed
				✓

Description of the results	<p>In April and May, 2015, OPGDCS organized educational workshops for state employees in the area of involvement of the public in the creation of public policies.</p> <p>Target group: Workshops were intended for those responsible for the creation of those policies which were identified by the ministers as part of the fulfillment of Commitment No. 22 of the OGP National Action Plan 2015. OPGDCS invited those persons to the workshops who were designated by the ministries as responsible for the creation of identified policies.</p> <p>OPGDCS organized two types of interactive workshops:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Informative workshops (3):</b> The participants learned about the basic principles of the participation of interested public in the creation of public policies and were introduced to the four levels of public involvement. Length of workshop: 4 hours</li> <li>• <b>Follow-up workshops (2):</b> The goal of the workshop was to prepare the participants to lead the participatory process, especially by understanding the four scenarios of creation of public policies and developing their ability to propose the appropriate approach to the creation of public policies. During the training, participants consulted the proposal of the process for the creation of a specific public policy with the lecturer and shared their experiences in the area of the creation of public policies. Length of workshop: 8 hours</li> </ul> <p>Lecturer: Karolína Miková, PDCS (Partners for Democratic Change Slovakia) (auth of or the material "Guidelines").</p> <p>OPGDCS reached out to all the participants to collect feedback on the workshops that have been conducted. Participants appreciated the training in this area and stated that they would use the knowledge acquired in their professional work.</p> <p>In total, 34 participants attended the workshops: 4 from the Ministry of Transport, Construction and Regional Development, 2 from the Ministry of Finance, 2 from the Ministry of Economy, 5 from the Ministry of Culture, 3 from the Ministry of Defense, 2 from the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, 3 from the Ministry of Justice, 4 from the Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport, 7 from the Ministry of Interior, 1 from the Ministry of Health.</p>
Implementation date	May 31, 2015
Next steps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure that the course on leading participative processes becomes part of a standard offer of training for public authorities.</li> <li>• Carry out further workshops focused on the exchange of experiences of public employees who have experience with leading participatory processes in the creation of public policies.</li> <li>• Promote examples of good practices on participatory creation of public policies and positively reward / appreciate this approach (of public employees and stakeholders involved).</li> </ul>



## Topic: Government Open to Dialogue

Commitment No. 24

Develop a selected public policy with the civil society and prepare the conditions for its implementation.

Deadline: December 31, 2015		Ongoing commitment			
Lead agencies / responsible persons		Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Interior, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, Minister of Economy, Minister of Transport, Construction and Regional Development, Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development, Minister of Defense, Minister of Justice, Minister of Education, Science, Research and Sport, Minister of Culture, Minister of Health in cooperation with the Plenipotentiary of the Government for the Development of the Civil Society			
Contact persons from lead agencies		Iveta Ferčíková			
Organization		Office of the Plenipotentiary of the Government for the Development of the Civil Society			
E-mail		<a href="mailto:iveta.fercikova@minv.sk">iveta.fercikova@minv.sk</a>			
Telephone		+421 2 509 44 985			
Other actors	Government	Consumer Protection Department (Ministry of Economy), Division of State Care for Youth and Sport (Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport), Institute of Health Policy (Ministry of Health), Legislative Division (Ministry of Justice), Institute of Strategy (Ministry of Transport, Construction and Regional Development), Tourism Division (Ministry of Transport, Construction and Regional Development), Construction Division (Ministry of Transport, Construction and Regional Development), Division of Public Administration (Ministry of Interior), Department of Rural Development and LEADER (Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development), Department of Direct Taxation (Ministry of Finance), Section of Art and the State Language (Ministry of Culture), and other divisions and departments of ministries.			
	Civil society, private sector, working groups				
Issues to be addressed		Public policy created without the participation of the affected stakeholders doesn't appropriately reflect the individual needs of those stakeholders.			
Main objective		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Create a public policy in a participative manner in cooperation with civil society organizations.</li></ul>			
Brief description of commitment		Based on the identification of public policies as part of Commitment No. 22, the ministry will prepare public policies in a participative manner in cooperation with the civil society.			
Relevance / Ambition		<p>This commitment has a positive effect on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Increasing openness of public administration bodies toward the citizens,</li><li>• Support of participation of citizens on the creation of public policies.</li></ul>			
Level of completion		Not started	Limited	Substantial	Completed
				✓	
Description of the results		The individual processes of creation of public policies took place as follows <sup>14</sup> : <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Ministry of Justice - Amendments to the Freedom of Information Act</b> Quality Freedom of Information Act (further referred to as</li></ul>			

<sup>14</sup> The text in this section provides brief information about the participative process that took place with an emphasis of the involvement of the civil society.

“FOIA”) is a key requirement to any participation of citizens in public administration – this was the reason for the selection of FOIA Amendment as a suitable candidate for participatory creation in 2015 by the Ministry of Justice. At the initiative of local self-government the Minister of Justice was tasked with amending the FOIA in order to solve the problems of practical application. In this context, the Ministry of Justice established an interdepartmental working group composed of the representatives from government, local self-government as well as NGOs (*Fair-Play Alliance, Via Iuris, Transparency International Slovakia*). The FOIA Amendment was submitted for interdepartmental comment on February 20, 2015 and received 757 comments, including 26 collective public comments. Ministry of Justice led intense negotiations with the commenting subjects in 2016, which were described by NGO representatives as intense and very correct. However, complex FOIA Amendment was not submitted to the government, only a transposition of the EU Directive 2013/37/EU at the end of 2015, which amends Directive 2003/98/EC.

- **Ministry of Transport, Construction and Regional Development - Strategy of Improving the Accessibility of Buildings and Areas with Emphasis on Persons with Disabilities / Strategy of Implementation of the new Building Act** (hereinafter referred to as “Strategy of Implementation”)

The creation of these strategies was initiated by the National council of citizens with disabilities in the Slovak Republic and relates to the need to adopt a unified strategy for efficient implementation of the new Building Act with an emphasis on persons with health disadvantages.

Because there are currently no plans to create a separate Strategy, the Ministry of Transport, Construction and Regional Development pledged to the stakeholders (e.g. the National council of citizens with disabilities in the Slovak Republic) participative creation of implementing regulations to the new Building Act, namely:

- Decree on general requirements for spatial arrangement and functional use of land,
- Decree laying down details on general technical requirements for the construction and on specific requirements for barrier-free use of buildings.

The creation of these decrees is planned for a later time because the new Building Act was withdrawn from the National Council.

- **Development of Personal and Non-Motorized (Biking and Walking) Public Transportation**

As part of the measure 1.1.1 of Cycling Strategy, an Interdepartmental Working Group (“IWG”) was established as of September 1, 2013. Its permanent participants are: the national cycling coordinator, eight regional cycling coordinators, three city cycling coordinators, cycling coordinator representing the civic associations, cycling coordinator for the Association of Towns and Communities of Slovakia and the cycling coordinator for the Union of Towns and Cities of Slovakia. In accordance with the statute, the IWG has been meeting once every two months since its establishment, whenever possible in a new region, in a new region, in the presence of invited representatives of the relevant local civic associations involved in the development of cycling in the region.

Also thanks to active participation of representatives of NGOs two technical documents have been created – Technical

conditions for the design of cycling infrastructure (TP07/2015) and STN 01 8028 Cycling signs. In the area of financing, there has been cooperation in the preparation of the government document “Sustainable Financial Mechanism for the Implementation of National Strategy of Development of Cycling and Mountain Biking in the Slovak Republic”, as well as preparation and setting conditions for spending EU funds for the development of cycling infrastructure. In the area of legislation, cooperation with the third sector led to three incremental changes in favor of cycling in Act No. 8/2009 Coll. Road Traffic Act. There is a significant proportion of the third sector in educational activities, especially in the preparation, implementation and evaluation of campaigns “Cycle to Work” and “Cycle to School”. Institute of Strategy cooperates with these civic associations: Ekopolis, Cycling Coalition Bratislava, Civil Cycling Initiative Banská Bystrica, Prešov Bicycle Group Kostitras, Turiec Bicycle Group JUS Martin, Civic Association Mulica and Civic Association Bercajgel Trnava.

- **Ministry of Health - Strategic Framework for Healthcare 2014-2030**

In cooperation with the Slovak Chamber of Other Health Professionals, the Ministry of Health conducted 6 roundtables between March and June 2015 as part of the Implementation Strategy – System of Integrated Healthcare Delivery: Modernization of Health Infrastructure and Improvement of Access to Quality Services in Primary and Acute Inpatient Care.

These roundtables were attended by organizations such as Association of Private Doctors, Slovak Patient, Association for the Protection of Patients’ Rights, representatives of regions (higher territorial units) and others.

The following themes were discussed at the roundtables with the stakeholders:

- The processes of providing health care, their integration and digitization,
- Centers of integrated health and social services,
- Integration of care into practice and update of the model of Centers of Integrated Healthcare (CIHC),
- Pilot project of preparation, planning and operation of CIHC,
- Institutionalization of centers – legal forms of applicants for non-repayable grants.

The Ministry of Health also led dialogue with the Association for the Protection of Patients’ Rights during the preparation of the amendment to the Act No. 362/2011 dealing with the transfer of value between the pharmaceutical industry and healthcare professionals.

- **Ministry of Economy – identified Creation of a joint forum of entrepreneurs, consumers and the relevant state authorities** as a policy suitable for participative creation. After the consultation between OPGDCS and the Consumer Protection Department at the Ministry of Economy, the **Consumer Code** became the subject of participative creation. During the development of the Code, a high degree of involvement of consumer associations is expected.

June 30, 2016 is the official deadline for the submission of the Consumer Code to the government. Currently there are mostly preparatory works underway, which aim to determine the extent of legal regulation of consumer contracts in the new Civil Code, as well as the subject of the regulation, which will be the subject of the Consumer Code. The reason is the need to coordinate the

work on the new Consumer Code with concrete ideas and suggestions of the new commission for recodification of the Civil Code, which has been appointed by the Minister of Justice in November 2015. Following an agreement between the Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Economy and Ministry of Finance on fundamental issues, the Ministry of Economy plans to prepare a legislative proposal for the Consumer Code which will be consulted with the members of the Consumer Code working group which has representation of the civil society. Participative creation of the Consumer Code has not been completed and will continue during 2016.

The Consumer Policy Strategy of SR 2014-2020 contains the task for the Ministry of Economy to carry **“create a common forum according to the Section 4.5 of the Strategy”**, which is supposed to be in the form of a conference according to the respective section, as well as other professional meetings in order to enable active cooperation with consumer protection groups, entrepreneurs and affected government authorities. The individual events are to be concerned with current issues in the field of consumer rights enforcement and compliance of entrepreneurs with their responsibilities. On February 15, 2016, conference titled *“Consumer in 2016 – Alternative Approach to Consumer Disputes”* took place which aimed to explain through presentations and discussions the contemporary approach to the resolution of consumer disputes out of court to the representatives of the current as well as future subjects of alternative dispute resolution, consumer associations, interested parties from the business environment, as well as general consumer public. The conference discussed updates and contemporary issues in the area of consumer protection.

- **Ministry of Culture - Strategy for Development of Culture in the Slovak Republic 2014 – 2020 and Action Plan 2015 – 2017**

Ministry of Culture cooperates with all professional civic associations and general cultural professional public and actively involves them in the process of creation of policy, strategic and legislative materials.

Ministry of Culture in its Strategy for Development of Culture in the Slovak Republic 2014 – 2020 and Action Plan 2015 – 2017 identified the following public policies which will be created in a participative manner:

- Draft proposal of Act on Sponsorship with emphasis in multi-source financing,
- Consideration of the possibility to revise tax legislation – possibility to introduce a differentiated tax policy, especially VAT, on some of the art.

The creation of these public policies is currently being planned for year 2016 and 2017 and there are intense ongoing negotiations at the Ministry of Finance, because both of these policies depend on a variety of macroeconomic variables and on the condition of the Slovak economy.

For this reason, a revision has been made and the following legislation became the subject of participative creation in 2015:

- Copyright Act,
- Establishment of legal and social conditions for artistic creation,
- Act on the cultural and educational activities,
- Strategy for the Development of the Creative Industry in the Slovak Republic and Action Plan for the Strategy for the Development of the Creative Industry in Slovakia

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Action Plan 2015 – 2017 for the Strategy of Cultural Development in the Slovak Republic 2014 – 2020.</li> <li>- Amendments to the Law on Broadcasting and Retransmission.</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Ministry of Interior - Act on the Register of NGOs</b>  Act on the Register of NGOs was under an intense process of creation in 2015 after many years of attempts to create legislative regulation of the matter. The working group at the Section of Public Administration at the Ministry of Interior included employees of the ministry, OPGDCS and civil society representatives (civic association 1st Slovak Nonprofit Service Center). OPGDCS regularly informed the members of the Chamber of NGOs about the creation of the drafting of the law and evaluated their comments and observations. OPGDCS also organized a series of 8 workshops where the draft law was presented to wide public in order to get feedback and new ideas.  On December 10, 2015, the draft bill was presented to the Chamber of NGOs for nonprofits in order to start a public discussion on the draft law. Contributions during the public commenting on the bill were collected via e-mail and using Google Drive.  The material is due to be submitted to the government of the Slovak Republic by December 31, 2016.</li> <li>• <b>Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development - development of the Policy on Support for Small-scale, Young and Family Farmers</b>  The main objective of the concept is to promote the diversity of farm structures, increase the viability of small, young and family farms and increase as well as support their integration in the food vertical. The concept is based on the setup of the support of small and young farmers in the Rural Development Program 2014–2020. Members of the sub-working group for the preparation of sub-measures aimed at support of small and young farmers also included representatives of the civil society organizations, e.g. Association of Young Farmers of Slovakia, Slovak Agricultural and Food Chamber, the National Rural Development Network, Slovak University of Agriculture in Nitra, and the Association of landowners and agribusiness entrepreneurs in Slovakia.  Implementation of this Concept takes place gradually and the representatives of NGOs in 2015 participated in the formulation of the criteria for the call for applications for grants from the Rural Development Program 2014–2020 in sub-measure 6.1 of the Rural Development Program.</li> <li>• <b>Ministry of Finance – Assignment Mechanism of Paid Corporate Tax</b>  In May 2015, a memorandum was signed by the Ministry of Finance and NGOs about the stability and transparency of the tax financing of NGOs as a result of many years of intense dialogue about the model of assignment of tax on corporate profits. Action group, and, therefore, the representatives of platforms represented in the Council of the Government of the Slovak Republic for NGOs have pledged that the model of assignment of 2% of corporate income tax will not be modified in the coming years and will motivate corporations not only assign the taxes but also give from their own profit. NGOs in this memorandum committed to increasing transparency in the NGO sector. Representatives of the Chamber of NGOs, Mr. Filip Vagač, Mr. Marcel Zajac, Mr. Pavel Hrica and Mr. Peter Handiak participated</li> </ul>
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	<p>in the Memorandum.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport</b> – based on the consultation between OPGDCS and the Department of Youth, the <b>Concept to Support Youth Work 2016 – 2020</b> was created in a participative manner (hereinafter referred to as “Concept”) as part of fulfilling the OGP NAP 2015 commitment. Work on this material was preceded by analysis of youth work and the definition of common objectives and priorities through regional as well as national consultations. In March 2015, an expert group of 20 members was established, consisting of representatives of government authorities, local self-governments and NGOs, which prepared a draft Concept on the basis of data from three national consultations, followed by public dialogue on the draft of the Concept. There were eight regional consultations with the objective to collect suggestions regarding the material. For example, the organizations that took part in the participative creation of the Concept included: Matej Bel University in Banská Bystrica, Association of Young Entrepreneurs of Slovakia, Association of Centers for Leisure Time Activities, Youth Council of Slovakia, Association of Low-Threshold Programs for Children and Youth, Platform of Volunteer Centers and Organizations, We Want to Know More Campaign, IUVENTA (main partner in creation), Microsoft / American Chamber of Commerce, Association of Information and Counseling Centers for the Youth, Union of Towns and Cities of Slovakia. The material was approved by the Government Resolution No. 16 of January 13, 2016.</li> <li>• <b>Ministry of Defense</b> – preparation of the new <b>Defense Strategy of the Slovak Republic</b> Fulfillment of the commitment, i.e. participative creation of the public policy, has been deferred to December 31, 2016 at the request of the Minister of Defense, which was approved by the Prime Minister.</li> </ul> <p>We consider this commitment to be mostly complete since the creation of the following public policies is still ongoing or has not happened yet:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consumer Code (Ministry of Economy),</li> <li>• Strategic Framework for Healthcare 2014-2030 (Ministry of Health),</li> <li>• preparation of the new Defense Strategy of the Slovak Republic (Ministry of Defense),</li> <li>• Act on the Register of NGOs (Ministry of Interior).</li> </ul>
Implementation date	December 31, 2016
Next steps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• On an annual basis, identify several public policies which the public authority plans to create in a participative manner along with the information which scenario from the <i>“Guidelines for the involvement of the public in the creation of public policies”</i> will be applied (including an approximate time schedule for participatory activities and ways for stakeholders to get involved).</li> </ul>
Additional information	

OPGDČS in cooperation with the representatives of NGOs is preparing a national project under the Operational Program Effective Public Administration. The national project titled *“Promoting Partnership and Dialogue Between the Public Authorities, Citizens and NGOs on the National, Regional and Local Level in the Field of Participatory Public Policy-Making”* will be financed from EU structural and investment funds in the new programming period for the years 2014 - 2020.<sup>15</sup>

The aim of the national project is to strengthen cooperation and mutual dialogue between the public administration, citizens and nongovernmental nonprofit organizations in the process of creation of public policies on the national, regional and local level and propose innovative mechanisms in public administration in order to streamline the public input in the creation of public policies. Another aim of the national project is to introduce or support the principles of open government at the regional and local levels.

## Topic: Government Open to Dialogue

Commitment No. 25

Develop criteria for evaluating participatory processes of formation and implementation of public policies.

Deadline: September 30, 2015		New commitment	
Lead agencies / responsible persons		Plenipotentiary of the Government for the Development of the Civil Society	
Contact persons from lead agencies		Iveta Ferčíková	
Organization		Office of the Plenipotentiary of the Government for the Development of the Civil Society	
E-mail		<a href="mailto:iveta.fercikova@minv.sk">iveta.fercikova@minv.sk</a>	
Telephone		+421 2 509 44 985	
Other actors	Government	Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Transport, Construction and Regional Development	
	Civil society, private sector, working groups	Slovak Academy of Sciences, Utopia civic organization, Center for Philanthropy, PDCS (Partners for Democratic Change Slovakia)	
Issues to be addressed		Supporting a participative process of creation of public policies is a complex and distinct process which is hard to evaluate objectively. Evaluation of a completed participative process of creation of public policies is not yet common practice in public administration. Such evaluation is a complex endeavor in terms of time investment and resource requirements of public administration. It is therefore desirable to create simple criteria to provide feedback for the public body and the stakeholder groups involved in the process.	
Main objective		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create a simple system for evaluation of participative process of creation of public policies, which is based on the material "Guidelines for the involvement of the public in the creation of public policies".</li> <li>• Based on the definition of evaluation criteria help the public organizations focus on specific activities that will improve the dialogue.</li> </ul>	
Brief description of commitment		This commitment builds on the OGP National Action Plan 2012 – 2013 which conducted deep evaluation of three dialogues about public policies in order to identify strengths and weaknesses of the process. The Evaluation Report was negatively accepted by some of the stakeholders due to "lack of objectivity of evaluators". OPGDCS is therefore initiating the creation of its own criteria which it wants to establish in regular practice.	
Relevance / Ambition		This commitment has positive effect on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support of participation of citizens in public policymaking.</li> </ul>	
Level of completion		Not started	Limited
			Substantial
			Completed
Description of the results		OPGDCS created an informal working group to create the Criteria, which consisted of representatives of ministries, NGOs and academia. The Criteria was created in close cooperation between OPGDCS and an academic from the Slovak Academy of Sciences. The Criteria is based on "Guidelines for the involvement of the public in the creation of public policies" which was approved by the Government of the Slovak Republic and aim to simplify the selection between the scenarios of involvement of the public in public policymaking based on various internal as well as external factors. As a part of the Criteria, each scenario contains simple checklists that enable rapid feedback on the	



	<p>course of the participatory processes conducted by the public organization and reflect the extent to which the public entity followed the recommendations in the “Guidelines for the involvement of the public in the creation of public policies”. The Criteria are available online: <a href="http://www.minv.sk/?ros_ogp_spravy&amp;sprava=kriteria-na-hodnotenie-participativneho-procesu-tvorby-verejnych-politik-a-implementacie">http://www.minv.sk/?ros_ogp_spravy&amp;sprava=kriteria-na-hodnotenie-participativneho-procesu-tvorby-verejnych-politik-a-implementacie</a></p> <p>Members of the working group had an opportunity to regularly provide comments on the material on-line during the entire process of its creation.</p>
Implementation date	November 26, 2015
Next steps	Verify the Criteria in practice and initiate their regular use.

## Topic: Government Open to Dialogue

Commitment No. 26

Evaluate the creation and implementation of selected public policies carried out in a participatory manner.

Deadline: February 29, 2016		Ongoing commitment		
Lead agencies / responsible persons		Plenipotentiary of the Government for the Development of the Civil Society		
Contact persons from lead agencies		Iveta Ferčíková		
Organization		Office of the Plenipotentiary of the Government for the Development of the Civil Society		
E-mail		<a href="mailto:iveta.fercikova@minv.sk">iveta.fercikova@minv.sk</a>		
Telephone		+421 2 509 44 985		
Other actors	Government			
	Civil society, private sector, working groups			
Issues to be addressed		Supporting a participative process of creation of public policies is a complex and distinct process which is hard to evaluate objectively. Evaluation of a completed participative process of creation of public policies is not yet common practice in public administration. Such evaluation is a complex endeavor in terms of time investment and resource requirements of public administration. The improvement of the common dialogue among the stakeholder groups requires a systematic evaluation of completed participative processes in order to collect feedback.		
Main objective		Based on the evaluation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify strengths and weaknesses of completed participative processes,</li> <li>• Formulate general recommendations,</li> <li>• Determine to what extent the participative processes reflect the <i>Guidelines for the involvement of the public in the creation of public policies</i>,</li> <li>• Collect feedback on the participative process from the stakeholders.</li> </ul>		
Brief description of commitment		The commitments follow the OGP National Action Plan 2012 – 2013, which conducted deep evaluation of three dialogues about public policies in order to identify strengths and weaknesses of the process. From the perspective of improving the dialogue it is necessary to conduct regular evaluation of participative processes of public policymaking.		
Relevance / Ambition		This commitment has a positive effect on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improvement of the process of public policymaking in a participative manner.</li> </ul>		
Level of completion		Not started	Limited	Substantial
			✓	

Description of the results	<p>OPGDCS conducted the collection of quantitative and qualitative data in order to evaluate the participative processes of public policymaking which were identified as part of Commitment C.1 in the OGP NAP 2015. The survey included the respondents who participated in the creation of the following public policies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Amendments to Act No. 211/2000 Coll. on Free Access to Information (Freedom of Information Act) (Ministry of Justice),</li> <li>• Mechanism of Tax Assignment of Legal Entities and Individuals (Ministry of Finance),</li> <li>• development of the Policy on Support for Small-scale, Young and Family Farmers (Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development),</li> <li>• Act on the Register of NGOs (Ministry of Interior),</li> <li>• Consumer Code (Ministry of Economy),</li> <li>• Concept to Support Youth Work (Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport),</li> <li>• Strategic Framework for Healthcare 2014 - 2030 (Ministry of Health),</li> <li>• Draft Concept for Development of Youth Work 2016 - 2020 (Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport).</li> </ul> <p>The aim of the survey was to obtain relevant qualitative and quantitative data about the process of creation of public policies, map the participative process, identify strengths and weaknesses of the process and disseminate examples of good practice.</p> <p>More than 60 participants of participative processes were contacted with a request to fill out an on-line form but only 18 of them provided feedback to OPGDCS about the course of participative processes. Data collection was subsequently supplemented by a telephone survey with the questions about the participative process and its evaluation. This table summarizes selected findings of the examined participative processes:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="571 1171 1519 1630"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="571 1171 1043 1211">Strengths</th><th data-bbox="1043 1171 1519 1211">Weaknesses</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="571 1211 1043 1630"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Possibility of an active dialogue</li> <li>• Exchange of practical experiences</li> <li>• Improved public access to information</li> <li>• Reaching a common result based on consensus</li> <li>• Avoidance of disagreements and tensions previously present in public comment process</li> </ul> </td><td data-bbox="1043 1211 1519 1630"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Significant time requirements or limited time for the preparation of the process and processing its results</li> <li>• Lack of interest of the addressed subjects</li> <li>• Excessive formalism of the process</li> <li>• Too broad a spectrum of the stakeholders</li> </ul> </td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p>An interim report of OPGDCS on the survey is available at <a href="http://www.minv.sk/?ros_ogp_spravy&amp;sprava=vybrane-zistenia-hodnotenia-participativnych-procesov-tvorby-verejnych-politik">http://www.minv.sk/?ros_ogp_spravy&amp;sprava=vybrane-zistenia-hodnotenia-participativnych-procesov-tvorby-verejnych-politik</a></p>	Strengths	Weaknesses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Possibility of an active dialogue</li> <li>• Exchange of practical experiences</li> <li>• Improved public access to information</li> <li>• Reaching a common result based on consensus</li> <li>• Avoidance of disagreements and tensions previously present in public comment process</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Significant time requirements or limited time for the preparation of the process and processing its results</li> <li>• Lack of interest of the addressed subjects</li> <li>• Excessive formalism of the process</li> <li>• Too broad a spectrum of the stakeholders</li> </ul>
Strengths	Weaknesses				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Possibility of an active dialogue</li> <li>• Exchange of practical experiences</li> <li>• Improved public access to information</li> <li>• Reaching a common result based on consensus</li> <li>• Avoidance of disagreements and tensions previously present in public comment process</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Significant time requirements or limited time for the preparation of the process and processing its results</li> <li>• Lack of interest of the addressed subjects</li> <li>• Excessive formalism of the process</li> <li>• Too broad a spectrum of the stakeholders</li> </ul>				
Implementation date	February 29, 2016				
Next steps					

## Topic: Government Open to Dialogue

Commitment No. 27

Map the current legislative environment with regards to involving the public in shaping public policies and propose adjustments.

Deadline: September 30, 2015		Ongoing commitment / New commitment		
Lead agencies / responsible persons		Plenipotentiary of the Government for the Development of the Civil Society		
Contact persons from lead agencies		Iveta Ferčíková		
Organization		Office of the Plenipotentiary of the Government for the Development of the Civil Society		
E-mail		<a href="mailto:iveta.fercikova@minv.sk">iveta.fercikova@minv.sk</a>		
Telephone		+421 2 509 44 985		
Other actors	Government	-		
	Civil society, private sector, working groups	-		
Issues to be addressed				
Main objective				
Brief description of commitment		-		
Relevance / Ambition		-		
Ambition		-		
Level of completion		Not started	Limited	Substantial
		✓		
Description of the results		OPGDCS asked the Prime Minister of the Slovak Republic Robert Fico to move the deadline of this commitment to January 31, 2019. This commitment will be carried out in a complex way during the implementation of the national project of OPGDCS titled <i>"Promoting Partnership and Dialogue Between the Public Authorities, Citizens and NGOs on the National, Regional and Local Level in the Field of Participatory Public Policy-Making"</i> . The commitment will be implemented in years 2016 – 2019, which is the implementation period of the national project. Prime Minister of the Slovak Republic Robert Fico approved the request.		
Implementation date		January 31, 2019		
Next steps				

## Topic: Government Open to Dialogue

Commitment No. 28

Carry out a public campaign to promote the Collective Electronic Petitions.

Deadline: October 31, 2015

New commitment

Lead agencies / responsible persons

Plenipotentiary of the Government for the Development of the Civil Society

Contact persons from lead agencies

Ing. Milan Andrejkovič

Organization

Office of the Plenipotentiary of the Government for the Development of the Civil Society

E-mail

[milan.andrejko2@minv.sk](mailto:milan.andrejko2@minv.sk)

Telephone

+421 2 509 44 982

Other actors

Government

Government Office / NANES

Civil society, private sector, working groups

Issues to be addressed

A new web application has been created to support the right of public to directly petition the government of the Slovak Republic through the so-called institute of Collective Electronic Petition (CEP). It was necessary to disseminate information about CEP and the new application among the general public, so that they can take advantage of the opportunity offered to them by the Slovak Government as part of its commitment within OGP.

Main objective

The main objective is to raise the awareness of the new opportunity that the Slovak Government has introduced – the CEP. It is necessary to explain what CEP is, how it can be used, what the terms and conditions are, how CEPs can be created and how to support a specific existing CEP.

Brief description of commitment

OPGDCS was tasked with the creation of a campaign to disseminate information about the possibility to directly petition the Slovak Government through the CEP and about the new application supporting the creation of CEP and collection of the necessary signatures.

Relevance / Ambition

Among other things, the Slovak Government has committed to increase the responsiveness to public demands as part of their OGP membership. In order to make it easier for the public to address their demands to the government and to demonstrate the relevance of the requests by showing the number of supporters, a web application has been developed to create CEPs and to collect signatures electronically. Subsequently a process was created to enable the Slovak Government to address those CEPs that collect a minimum of 15 000 signatures in 30 days.

Level of completion

Not started

Limited

Substantial

Completed

✓

Description of the results

In Autumn 2015, OPGDCS organized a series of 8 workshops in regional capitals around Slovakia, which were attended by approximately 350 participants from NGOs, civil society, as well as public administration. One of the topics of these workshops was the presentation of CEP – what CEP was, how it could be used, comparison of CEP with petitions, as well as conditions and rules for a successful CEP. OPGDCS prepared a special section of its website where it published information about CEP<sup>16</sup>. OPGDCS prepared texts about CEP to be published at the Central Government Portal<sup>17</sup>.

	OPGDCS prepared text about CEP which was published in OPIS NEWS No. 9/2015 <sup>18</sup> . OPGDCS cooperated on the creation of a television and radio spot, as well as print article about CEP, broadcast and presented in media in the Autumn of 2015.
Implementation date	October 31, 2015
Next steps	Next steps depend on the existence of themes that resonate in the public so much that it is necessary to turn to the Slovak Government to address them.
Additional information	
The CEP application has been launched and is fully operational at the Central Government Portal <a href="http://www.slovensko.sk">www.slovensko.sk</a> .	

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<sup>17</sup> More information: [www.slovensko.sk](http://www.slovensko.sk), <https://www.slovensko.sk/sk/elektronicka-hromadna-ziadost/> ;  
<https://www.slovensko.sk/sk/elektronicka-hromadna-ziadost/porovnanie> a <https://open.slovensko.sk/hromadneziadosti>

<sup>18</sup> [http://www.p3.sk/domain/flox/files/opis/OPISnews09\\_2015.pdf](http://www.p3.sk/domain/flox/files/opis/OPISnews09_2015.pdf)

# Open Justice

Transparent and trustworthy judiciary is one of the prerequisites for good business and civil environment. This was one of the reasons why the OGP NAP 2015 after consultations with the stakeholders included a new chapter titled *Open Justice*.

In fulfillment of the OGP NAP 2015 commitments, the Ministry of Justice of the Slovak Republic created a legislative proposal of the bill which amends Act No. 385/2000 Coll. on Judges and Assessors on Amendments of Certain Laws, which implements the commitment to **publish the evaluation of judges**. The material will be introduced in the legislative process in the next parliamentary term. The Prime Minister of the SR was therefore asked to move the deadline for the implementation to July 2016.

Ministry of Justice of the Slovak Republic conducted an analysis of the database of court decisions (list of court records which contain non-anonymized information) as early as December 2014. The result is a list in which suspicious or non-anonymized data is ordered and includes the name of the court, classification code, ECLI (European Case Law Identifier), date of the decision, URL to the anonymized decision, type of issue, non-anonymized data and text. In 2016, it is still possible to develop a control mechanism that will “catch” non-anonymized or wrongly anonymized data in case management before the publication of the judicial decisions on the website.

In January 2016, a pilot of the publication of judicial decisions was launched at the **SLOV-LEX portal**. It is now possible to search the decisions of the Supreme Court of the Slovak Republic, the decisions of ordinary courts of the SR, decisions of the European Court of Human Rights and decisions of the Court of Justice of the EU.

Ministry of Justice of the Slovak Republic during the interdepartmental consultation of **the amendment to the Act on Prosecutors and Candidate Prosecutors** (which was submitted for public comment directly by the General Prosecutors Office of the SR, hereinafter referred to as “GPO SR”) filed an essential comment, which was accepted by GPO SR and the Act was amended by adding Paragraph 4 to Section 3 of the said Act. It reads as follows: *“Supreme Service Office publishes and regularly updates a list of names of prosecutors on its website.”* The amendment to the Act on Prosecutors and Candidate Prosecutors was approved by the Government and then adopted by the vote in the National Council on November 20, 2015. The General Prosecutors Office published the list of names of prosecutors on its website January 15, 2016 based on the amendment.

## Topic: Open Justice

Commitment No. 29				
Prepare a legislative proposal that will enable publishing of evaluations of judges and submit it to the Government.				
Deadline: December 31, 2015		New commitment		
Lead agencies / responsible persons		Minister of Justice		
Contact persons from lead agencies		JUDr. Juraj Palúš		
Organization		Ministry of Justice of the Slovak Republic		
E-mail		<a href="mailto:juraj.palus@justice.sk">juraj.palus@justice.sk</a>		
Telephone		+421 2 593 53 461		
Other actors	Government	-		
	Civil society, private sector, working groups	-		
Issues to be addressed		Non-disclosure of evaluations of the work of judges.		
Main objective		Publish the evaluation of work of judges.		
Brief description of commitment		Publish the evaluation of work of judges.		
Relevance / Ambition		<p>Transparent and trustworthy judiciary is one of the prerequisites for good business and civil environment. Open and generally available information about who and how decides about the rights and duties of the citizens of the Slovak Republic is a prerequisite of such transparency. In 2011, changes were introduced to the Slovak legislation which started the evaluation of work of judges and courts. In addition to the regular annual reporting of judges and courts, a date was set for carrying out the first evaluations of work of a selected group of judges on December 31, 2013. The Act, however, lacks the obligation to publish it. It therefore seems appropriate to adopt changes in the existing legislation that would define the obligation to regularly inform the public about the results of the evaluation of the work of judges. Following the publication it will be possible to assess the informative value of the assessments, to what extent they exclude elements of subjectivity, whether it is suitable to involve an external element in the evaluation, and so on. Subsequently it will be possible to consider proposals for modification of the evaluation criteria, leading to greater transparency and efficiency of the evaluation process.</p>		
Level of completion		Not started	Limited	Substantial
			√	Completed
Description of the results		<p>Ministry of Justice of the Slovak Republic created a legislative proposal of the bill which amends Act No. 385/2000 Coll. on Judges and Assessors on Amendments of Certain Laws, which implements the commitment to publish the evaluation of judges. The material will be introduced in the legislative process in the next parliamentary term. The Prime Minister of the SR was therefore asked to move the deadline for the implementation to July 2016.</p> <p>The working group for preparation of the OGP National Action Plan 2016 – 2019 has proposed for this commitment to be included in the new OGP NAP 2016-2019 but it recommends reformulating the text.</p>		
Implementation date		July 31, 2016		
Next steps		Submit the prepared legislative proposal of the bill which amends Act No. 385/2000 Coll. on Judges and Assessors on Amendments of Certain Laws to the legislative process.		

## Topic: Open Justice



Commitment No. 30 Carry out an analysis of the current publication of judicial decisions and propose measures to improve the situation.		
Deadline: June 30, 2015		New commitment
Lead agencies / responsible persons		Minister of Justice of the Slovak Republic in cooperation with the Plenipotentiary of the Government for the Development of the Civil Society
Contact persons from lead agencies		JUDr. Juraj Palúš Bystrík Antalík
Organization		Ministry of Justice Office of the Plenipotentiary of the Government for the Development of the Civil Society Transparency International Slovakia
E-mail		<a href="mailto:juraj.palus@justice.sk">juraj.palus@justice.sk</a> <a href="mailto:bystrik.antalik@minv.sk">bystrik.antalik@minv.sk</a> <a href="mailto:spac@transparency.sk">spac@transparency.sk</a>
Telephone		JUDr. Juraj Palúš: +421 2 593 53 461 Bystrík Antalík: +421 2 509 44 986
Other actors	Government	-
	Civil society, private sector, working groups	Transparency International Slovakia
Issues to be addressed		Inadequate and disorganized publishing of judicial decisions.
Main objective		Develop an analysis of the current state of publication of judicial decisions and propose measures to improve the situation.
Brief description of commitment		Develop an analysis of the current state of publication of judicial decisions and propose measures to improve the situation.
Relevance / Ambition		<p>Judiciary, being the third pillar of state power, must be subject to public scrutiny just like the two other pillars. Judicial decisions not only constitute the creation, modification or removal of individual rights and obligations but they are also an important source of law itself. The courts should therefore decide publicly and openly. The most efficient way of doing this is the publication of judicial decisions. Generally accepted benefits of judicial openness are the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The possibility of public scrutiny of the court decisions,</li> <li>• Increased predictability of judicial decisions and therefore of legal certainty for citizens,</li> <li>• Increased uniformity of judicial decisions (case-unification),</li> <li>• Increased responsibility of judges,</li> <li>• Increased overall credibility of the judiciary,</li> <li>• Improved quality of judicial decision-making,</li> <li>• Narrowing of possibilities of intervention in judicial independence,</li> <li>• Increased capacity of research of case law and legal education.</li> </ul> <p>In the legislation of the Slovak Republic there is an obligation to publish court decisions but many of them are not made public in spite of the legal obligation. Experience has also shown that the information about the percentage of published judicial decisions is not tracked and there is no system for tracking compliance with this obligation. It is therefore necessary to map the current situation and take measures for the increasing compliance and enabling audit of how this legislative requirement is being fulfilled by the judiciary.</p>

Level of completion	Not started	Limited	Substantial	Completed
				√
Description of the results	<p>In early 2015, The Plenipotentiary of the Government of the SR for the Development of the Civil Society reached out to several third sector representatives with an offer of cooperation on this task. Subsequently, the Plenipotentiary in cooperation with the Ministry of Justice created a working group comprised of the representatives of the government and the third sector. The government was represented by the employees of the Ministry of Justice under the leadership of JUDr. Juraj Palúš, the third sector was represented in the working group by Samuel Spáč from Transparency International Slovakia. Based on the suggestions from the working group the Office of the Plenipotentiary of the Government for the Development of the Civil Society drew up the <i>Analysis of Publication of Judicial Decisions</i>. The document summarizes the reasons for the publication of judicial decisions, current legal status, and analysis of the problems of the publication. It also proposes solutions to improve the situation.</p> <p>Ministry of Justice of the Slovak Republic conducted an analysis of the database of court decisions (list of court records which contain non-anonymized information) as early as December 2014. The result is a list in which suspicious or non-anonymized data is ordered and includes the name of the court, classification code, ECLI (European Case Law Identifier), date of the decision, URL to the anonymized decision, type of issue, non-anonymized data and text. In 2016, it is still possible to develop a control mechanism that will “catch” non-anonymized or wrongly anonymized data in case management before the publication of the judicial decisions on the website.</p>			
Implementation date	June 30, 2015			
Next steps				

## Topic: Open Justice

Commitment No. 31

Based on the recommendations of the analysis, ensure a uniform reporting system of judicial decisions and provide oversight of its operation.

Deadline: December 31, 2015		New commitment		
Lead agencies / responsible persons		Minister of Justice		
Contact persons from lead agencies		JUDr. Juraj Palúš		
Organization		Ministry of Justice of the Slovak Republic		
E-mail		<a href="mailto:juraj.palus@justice.sk">juraj.palus@justice.sk</a>		
Telephone		+421 2 593 53 461		
Other actors	Government	No		
	Civil society, private sector, working groups	No		
Issues to be addressed		Inadequate and disorganized publishing of judicial decisions.		
Main objective		Ensure a uniform reporting system of judicial decisions and provide oversight of its operation.		
Brief description of commitment		Ensure a uniform reporting system of judicial decisions and provide oversight of its operation.		
Relevance / Ambition		<p>Judiciary, being the third pillar of state power, must be subject to public scrutiny just like the two other pillars. Judicial decisions not only constitute the creation, modification or removal of individual rights and obligations but they are also an important source of law itself. The courts should therefore decide publicly and openly. The most efficient way of doing this is the publication of judicial decisions. Generally accepted benefits of judicial openness are the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The possibility of public scrutiny of the court decisions,</li> <li>• Increased predictability of judicial decisions and therefore of legal certainty for citizens,</li> <li>• Increased uniformity of judicial decisions (case-unification),</li> <li>• Increased responsibility of judges,</li> <li>• Increased overall credibility of the judiciary,</li> <li>• Improved quality of judicial decision-making,</li> <li>• Narrowing of possibilities of intervention in judicial independence,</li> <li>• Increased capacity of research of case law and legal education.</li> </ul> <p>In the legislation of the Slovak Republic there is an obligation to publish court decisions but many of them are not made public in spite of the legal obligation. Experience has also shown that the information about the percentage of published judicial decisions is not tracked and there is no system for tracking compliance with this obligation. It is therefore necessary to map the current situation and take measures for the increasing compliance and enabling audit of how this legislative requirement is being fulfilled by the judiciary.</p>		
Level of completion		Not started	Limited	Substantial
				✓
Description of the results		Ministry of Justice of the Slovak Republic provided a unified system for the publication of judiciary decisions. Anonymized judicial decisions are available at the website of the ministry through the information system for case management. Judiciary decisions are published immediately after they are marked as valid in the system. Judicial decisions have been published on the website of the ministry since January 1, 2012.		

	<p>In April 2015 the Ministry of Justice of the Slovak Republic signed a contract with Atos IT Solutions and Services, LLC about the creation of the Information System Portal of Legal Information – Development of the Project Electronic Codex. Section 3.3.2 of Annex No. 1 of the project contract specified the requirement for ensuring the import and further processing of anonymized decisions of Slovak courts from the information system created on the basis of the project Development of Electronic Services of the Judiciary (in Slovak: IS RESS) so that it is possible to add metadata, create links between judicial decisions or create links between judicial decisions and legislation.</p> <p>In January, a pilot operation of the publication of judicial decisions was launched on the portal SLOV-LEX. It is now possible to find in a single place the decisions of the Supreme Court of the Slovak Republic, the decisions of ordinary courts of the SR, decisions of the European Court of Human Rights and decisions of the Court of Justice of the EU.</p> <p>Working group set up to prepare the OGP National Action Plan 2016 – 2019 proposes to evaluate the extent and manner of publication of judicial decisions on an annual basis and automate the adding of metadata in the published court decisions.</p>
Implementation date	December 31, 2015
Next steps	Evaluate the publication of judicial decisions (on an annual basis) and automate the adding of metadata in published court decisions.

## Topic: Open Justice

Commitment No. 32

Prepare a legislative proposal that will enable the publishing of the list of names of prosecutors and submit it to the Government.

Deadline: December 31, 2015		New commitment			
Lead agencies / responsible persons		Minister of Justice			
Contact persons from lead agencies		JUDr. Juraj Palúš			
Organization		Ministry of Justice of the Slovak Republic			
E-mail		<a href="mailto:juraj.palus@justice.sk">juraj.palus@justice.sk</a>			
Telephone		+421 2 593 53 461			
Other actors	Government	-			
	Civil society, private sector, working groups	-			
Issues to be addressed		Absence of a public list of prosecutors.			
Main objective		Prepare a legislative proposal that will enable the publishing of the list of names of prosecutors and submit it to the Government.			
Brief description of commitment		Prepare a legislative proposal that will enable the publishing of the list of names of prosecutors and submit it to the Government.			
Relevance / Ambition		Prosecutors as representatives of the state in court proceedings have a significant and irreplaceable position in the Slovak Republic. It is not known to the public, however, who exactly holds the posts of the prosecutors. In the interest of transparency of the prosecution it is appropriate to introduce a legal obligation to publish the first and last names of people who occupy the post of prosecutor.			
Level of completion		Not started	Limited	Substantial	Completed
					√
Description of the results		<p>Ministry of Justice of the Slovak Republic during the interdepartmental consultation of <b>the amendment to the Act on Prosecutors and Candidate Prosecutors</b> (which was submitted for public comment directly by the General Prosecutors Office of the SR) filed an essential comment, which was accepted by GPO SR and the Act was amended by adding Paragraph 4 to Section 3 of the said Act. It reads as follows: <i>"Supreme Service Office publishes and regularly updates a list of names of prosecutors on its website."</i> The amendment to the Act on Prosecutors and Candidate Prosecutors was approved by the Government and then adopted by the vote in the National Council on November 20, 2015. The General Prosecutors Office published the list of names of prosecutors on its website January 15, 2016 based on the amendment.</p> <p>The Working group set up to prepare the OGP National Action Plan 2016 – 2019 proposes to extend the published list of prosecutors to include the location where they work.</p>			
Implementation date		December 31, 2015			
Next steps		Extend the published list of prosecutors to include the location where they work.			

## Feedback and Next Steps

The Plenipotentiary of the Government of the Slovak Republic for the Development of the Civil Society asked the ministers and heads of other public administration bodies responsible to fulfill commitments in the Government Resolution No. 59/2015 (OGP NAP 2015) to submit their assessments of the commitments. He also asked them to nominate representatives who would participate in the creation of the OGP NAP 2016-2019. Based on the nominations of ministries and other subjects a wider coordination group was created, which participated in the evaluation of OGP NAP 2015, as well as the creation of the Open Government Partnership National Action Plan 2016-2019 (OGP NAP 2016-2019). The Draft Assessment Report of OGP NAP 2015 was published on the website of OPGDCS<sup>19</sup> for public feedback. On March 17, 2016, The Assessment Report on the Implementation of OGP NAP 2015 was submitted to the Council of the Government of the Slovak Republic for NGOs.

OPGDCS also established specialized expert working groups in the following areas: open data / transparency, participation, open education and research, open justice, and MSS web application. Expert working groups comprised of the representatives of government, NGOs, independent experts and academia actively participated in the creation of the 1st draft of OGP NAP 2016-2019 commitments.

The 1st draft of OGP NAP 2016-2019 was available for comment to the members of the wider coordination group and was published online to collect comments from the general public. The entire schedule of the creation of OGP NAP 2016-2019 is publicly available on the OPGDCS website<sup>20</sup>.

In order to collect feedback on the 1st draft of OGP NAP 2016-2019, OPGDCS organized workshops in 3 regional capitals:

- March 21, 2016 between 9:00 - 14:00, Košice
- March 22, 2016 between 9:00 - 14:00, Banská Bystrica
- March 23, 2016 between 9:00 - 14:00, Bratislava

The Plenipotentiary of the Government of the Slovak Republic for the Development of the Civil Society has been tasked to create the new OGP National Action Plan and submit it to the government by June 30, 2016.

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<sup>19</sup> [http://www.minv.sk/?ros\\_ogp\\_hodnotenie\\_2015&sprava=verejna-diskusia-hodnotiaca-sprava-k-implementacii-akcneho-planu-iniciativy-pre-otvorene-vladnutie-na-rok-2015](http://www.minv.sk/?ros_ogp_hodnotenie_2015&sprava=verejna-diskusia-hodnotiaca-sprava-k-implementacii-akcneho-planu-iniciativy-pre-otvorene-vladnutie-na-rok-2015)

<sup>20</sup> [http://www.minv.sk/?ros\\_ogp\\_tvorba\\_2016-19&sprava=pripravujeme-akcny-plan-iniciativy-pre-otvorene-vladnutie-na-roky-2016-2019](http://www.minv.sk/?ros_ogp_tvorba_2016-19&sprava=pripravujeme-akcny-plan-iniciativy-pre-otvorene-vladnutie-na-roky-2016-2019)

## Topic: Feedback and Next Steps

Commitment No. 33

Carry out final evaluation of the OGP Action Plan for 2015.

Deadline: March 29, 2016		Ongoing commitment		
Lead agencies / responsible persons		Plenipotentiary of the Government for the Development of the Civil Society		
Contact persons from lead agencies		Iveta Ferčíková		
Organization		Office of the Plenipotentiary of the Government for the Development of the Civil Society		
E-mail		<a href="mailto:iveta.fercikova@minv.sk">iveta.fercikova@minv.sk</a>		
Telephone		+421 2 509 44 985		
Other actors	Government	Ministry of Transport, Construction and Regional Development, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Economy, Ministry of Culture, Ministry of Defense, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport, Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs, Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family, Geodesy, Cartography and Cadastre Authority, Office for Public Procurement, Ministry of Environment, Statistical Office, Ministry of Health, NANES		
	Civil society, private sector, working groups	Transparency International, Slovensko.digital, Utopia civic organization, Center for Philanthropy, Slovak Academy of Sciences, EEA, Fair-Play Alliance, Trnava University in Trnava, Comenius university in Bratislava, SPy (Slovak Python) Civic Association.		
Issues to be addressed		Need to evaluate the implementation of the OGP National Action Plan 2015.		
Main objective		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create assessment report in order to identify strengths and weaknesses in the implementation of the OGP National Action Plan 2015.</li> <li>• Based on the assessment initiate further commitments in OGP NAP 2016-2019.</li> </ul>		
Brief description of commitment		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Initiation of new commitments must be preceded by the creation of objective assessment of the implementation of the OGP NAP 2015.</li> </ul>		
Relevance / Ambition		This commitment has positive effect on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Effectiveness of implementation of further commitments.</li> </ul>		
Ambition		Based on the assessment initiate further commitments in OGP NAP 2016-2019.		
Level of completion		Not started	Limited	Substantial
				✓
Description of the results		The Plenipotentiary of the Government of the Slovak Republic for the Development of the Civil Society asked the ministers and heads of other public administration bodies responsible to fulfill commitments in the Government Resolution No. 59/2015 (OGP NAP 2015) to submit their assessments of the commitments. He also asked them to nominate representatives who would participate in the creation of the OGP NAP 2016-2019. Based on the nominations of ministries and other subjects a wider coordination group was created to participate in the evaluation of OGP NAP 2015, as well as the creation of the OGP NAP 2016-2019.		



	<p>OPGDCS also established specialized expert working groups in the following areas: open data / transparency, participation, open education and research, open justice, and web application for tracking the spending of public money through grant schemes.</p> <p>OPGDCS created the presented Draft Assessment Report on the basis of own information, official documents of ministries and other subjects, as well as input from the expert working groups.</p> <p>The OGP NAP 2015 Draft Assessment Report is available at the OPGDCS website. It was also made available for commenting in the wider coordination group which included the ministry representatives. Because the Draft Assessment Report was available at the OPGDCS website, it was also available for the general public to comment on.</p> <p>On March 17, 2016, the Plenipotentiary of the Government for the Development of the Civil Society submitted the Assessment Report on the Implementation of OGP NAP 2015 to the Council of the Government of the Slovak Republic for NGOs.</p>
Implementation date	March 29, 2016
Next steps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Submit the Assessment Report to the Council of the Government of the Slovak Republic for NGOs between May 26 and June 9, 2016.</li> <li>• Based on the Assessment Report initiate further commitments in OGP NAP 2016-2019.</li> <li>• Include in OGP NAP 2016-2019 those commitments which were not evaluated as “completed”.</li> </ul>



## Topic: Feedback and Next Steps

Commitment No. 34

Develop OGP Action Plan for the next period and submit it to the Government.

Deadline: June 30, 2016		Ongoing commitment	
Lead agencies / responsible persons		Plenipotentiary of the Government for the Development of the Civil Society	
Contact persons from lead agencies		Iveta Ferčíková	
Organization		Office of the Plenipotentiary of the Government for the Development of the Civil Society	
E-mail		<a href="mailto:iveta.fercikova@minv.sk">iveta.fercikova@minv.sk</a>	
Telephone		+421 2 509 44 985	
Other actors	Government	Ministry of Transport, Construction and Regional Development, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Economy, Ministry of Culture, Ministry of Defense, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport, Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs, Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family, Geodesy, Cartography and Cadastre Authority, Office for Public Procurement, Ministry of Environment, Statistical Office, Ministry of Health, NANES	
	Civil society, private sector, working groups	Transparency International, Slovensko.digital, Utopia civic organization, Center for Philanthropy, Slovak Academy of Sciences, EEA, Fair-Play Alliance, Trnava University in Trnava, Comenius university in Bratislava, SPy (Slovak Python) Civic Association	
Issues to be addressed		Although the Slovak legislation includes many good tools compatible with the principles of open government (e.g. Central Register of Contracts, FOIA, publishing of judicial decisions, Legislative Portal, etc.) it is necessary to initiate further commitments to promote good governance.	
Main objective		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Create OGP National Action Plan 2016 – 2019 in a participative manner in cooperation between the representatives of public administration and the civil society.</li> </ul>	
Brief description of commitment		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Initiate new commitments in the area of open governance.</li> </ul>	
Relevance / Ambition		Commitment has positive impact on the introduction of innovation in public administration, support for participation, and openness of the public administration toward the citizens, etc.	
Level of completion		Not started	Limited
			✓
Description of the results		The Plenipotentiary of the Government of the Slovak Republic for the Development of the Civil Society asked the ministers and heads of other public administration bodies responsible to fulfill commitments in the Government Resolution No. 59/2015 (OGP NAP 2015) to submit their assessments of the commitments. He also asked them to nominate representatives who would participate in the creation of the OGP NAP 2016-2019. Based on the nominations of ministries and other subjects a wider coordination group was created to	

	<p>participate in the creation of the OGP NAP 2016-2019.</p> <p>OPGDCS also established specialized expert working groups in the following areas: open data / transparency, participation, open education and research, open justice, and web application for tracking the spending of public money through grant schemes.</p> <p>The OGP NAP 2016-2019 is being created based on the inputs formulated in the expert working groups. The draft will be made available for public comment to the wider coordination group which consists of the representatives of ministries as well as the general public.</p> <p>Furthermore, there will be workshops in Košice (March 21, 2016), Banská Bystrica (March 22, 2016) and Bratislava (March 23, 2016).</p> <p>The planned date for submission of the OGP NAP 2016-2019 to the Government of the Slovak Republic is June 30, 2016.</p> <p><i>(The Assessment Report will be updated after the completion of this commitment.)</i></p>
Implementation date	June 30, 2016
Next steps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Submit the Assessment Report to the Council of the Government of the Slovak Republic for NGOs between May 26 and June 9, 2016.</li> <li>• Submit the OGP NAP 2016-2019 to the Government of the Slovak Republic and ensure the coordination of commitments.</li> </ul>