



Republic Of Tunisia
Presidency Of The Government

ACTION PLAN

FOR THE OPEN GOVERNMENT PARTNERSHIP

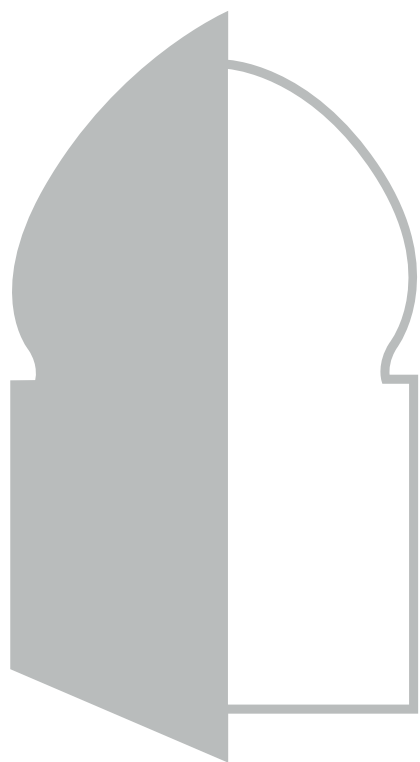
2021-2023



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2021-2023



Open Government Partnership

TUNISIA



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I. Introduction

The Open Government Partnership (OGP) is a multi-stakeholder initiative that was launched on 20 September 2011 on the occasion of the annual opening session of the United Nations General Assembly in New York, by eight countries: Brazil, Indonesia, Mexico, Norway, Philippines, South Africa, United Kingdom and the United States of America. To date, 78 countries have subscribed to the Partnership, including Tunisia.

The OGP's main objective is to encourage countries party to the Initiative to entrench the principles of open government in public institutions and to embrace a mode of governance based on transparency and accountability, as well as to engage citizens in the design of public policies, and to fight corruption through the use of information and communication technologies, thereby improving the quality of life of citizens and their relations with the government.

Under the Fourth National Action Plan, the accomplishments of the previous action plans, such as the creation of a National Open Data Portal and of sectoral open data portals, such as the open data portals of the Ministry of Cultural Affairs and the Ministry of Transport, will be further consolidated. The legal and regulatory framework has been established to facilitate access to public data. For example, Government Decree No. 3 of 2021 dated January 06, 2021 on open public data has been published.

It should also be noted that the commitments spelled out in the 2021-2023 Action Plan are highly significant and exceptional, given that the process of planning and preparation related thereto took place in the context of unprecedented challenges, particularly due to the grave repercussions of the Corona pandemic on the political, economic and social situation of the country. This underscores the utmost importance of working in partnership with all relevant actors to address the effects of the pandemic on the one hand and to overcome the challenges facing the country on the other. These challenges include, inter alia, the fight against corruption, the promotion of integrity in the public sector and the modernization of the administration, including through a set of ambitious reforms and projects whose impact on the lives of citizens can only be positive.

In this context, online meetings, held in partnership with representatives of civil society and several ministries and public institutions, have made it possible to synthesize the various reforms proposed during the public consultations into thirteen commitments both expressing the priorities and aspirations of Tunisians, and reflecting the different pillars and principles of open government, of which the most important are:

- Strengthening transparency, the right of access to information and the opening of public data
- Consecrating integrity and a participatory approach
- Strengthening local governance,
- Engaging youth in public affairs,
- Better governance of the management of natural resources,
- Further development of public services and bringing them closer to the citizen

The elaboration of the Fourth National Action Plan only reiterates Tunisia's official commitment to the OGP principles as well as the country's ongoing efforts to further entrench these principles in the working processes of the government and the administration.

II. Reforms carried out to establish open government

Under OGP, several reforms and initiatives have been implemented, all of which have had a positive impact at the national and local levels. Since joining the Open Government Partnership Initiative in 2014, Tunisia has elaborated and implemented three national action plans. The First Action Plan spanned the period from 2014 to 2016 and consisted of 20 commitments. The Second Action Plan, which included 15 commitments, covered the period from 2016 to the end of August 2018. The Third Action Plan contained 13 commitments and run from 2018 to 2020. All commitments are related to entrenching openness in government work, fighting corruption, fostering a participatory approach, and improving the quality of public services.



The Tunisian government has achieved many advances in recent years under this program. These can be classified according to the areas of open government as follows:

1. Entrenching transparency in government work and opening up public data

To boost the transparency of government action and entrench the right of access to information, Tunisia has made great efforts to enhance the legal and regulatory framework at the national and local levels in order to valorize and enrich Tunisia's experience in the field of open government. Among the most important achievements in this framework, we can mention:

- Enshrining the right of access to information as a constitutional principle. Indeed, Article 32 of the Constitution of January 27, 2014 provides that "the State guarantees the right to information and the right of access to information".

- The promulgation of Organic Law no. 2016-22 of March 24, 2016 on the right of access to information as well as the promulgation of the regulatory texts thereto, such as Circular no. 2018-19 of May 18, 2018 on the right of access to information

- Establishment of the Access to Information Authority in accordance with Article 37 of Organic Law no. 22 of 2016. The members of the authority were elected by the Tunisian Parliament on 18 July 2017. These achievements have been reinforced in the framework of the implementation of the Third National OGP Action Plan (2018-2020) through affirming the right of access to information and the culture relating to this right:

* Development of an access to information guide for public servants, as well as an access to information guide for citizens. These guides aim to instill a new culture of openness and information sharing and to improve the process of engagement in the transparency process, including empowering those access officers and others in charge of responding to access requests with the skills necessary to enable them to carry out their duties to the fullest extent possible in accordance with the provisions of the Access Law.

* Capacity building in the field of access to information by organizing five training courses in cooperation with OECD during in 2017-2018-2019, including at the local level, on access to information, and seven training courses as of September 2018 on the same topic as part of cooperation between the Access to Information Authority and the Ministry of Employment, Civil Service and Modernization of Public Administration and Policy, Article 19 and the World Bank. This comprehensive training was delivered to access to information officers working in ministries, institutions, public enterprises and with local authorities.

To achieve further transparency in the financial field, the following actions were undertaken:

* Publication of the 2017 budget closeout report on July 1, 2019.

* Publication of the Finance Organic Law no. 2019-15 of February 13, 2019.



On the other hand, open data is a key pillar to support the transparency of the administrative system and create value-added services. Tunisia is considered a pioneer in this field, as it was the first to focus on a national open data portal, which went online at the end of September 2016 as a new advanced version of the first portal developed in 2012, in addition to the development of many sectoral portals such as:

- * Open Data Portal of the National Institute of Statistics
- * Open Data Portal of the Ministry of the Interior
- * Open Data Portal of the industrial and energy sectors
- * Open Data Portal of the Ministry of Cultural Affairs
- * Open Budget Portal of the Ministry of Finance "Mizaniatouna"
- * Open Data Portal of the Ministry of Transport
- * Open Data Portal of the Ministry of Agriculture, Water Resources and Fisheries

A network of open data managers has also been set up in various ministries and a data reuse license has been established, in addition to the completion of an inventory of public data that can be made available to the public in an open format in six (06) sectors, on the condition that this inventory be extended to other sectors during the implementation of the upcoming action plans.



In addition, the legal and regulatory framework for the opening of public data has been enhanced by:

- The promulgation of Government Decree no. 3 of 2021 dated January 6, 2021 on Open Data. This text was prepared using a participatory approach that engaged the various open data stakeholders from the relevant ministries, public bodies and independent public agencies, civil society associations and representatives as well as representatives of the private sector working in this area.

This Government Decree aims at regulating the process of publication of public data in accordance with the principle of openness, with a view to:

- * Promoting the principles of transparency and accountability
- * Supporting public participation in the development of public policies, and in monitoring and evaluating their implementation.
- * Modernizing the administration and improving the quality and effectiveness of public services,
- * Contributing to the establishment of the appropriate framework to advance economic development and create additional employment opportunities, in particular by stimulating the establishment of emerging institutions that develop new and innovative uses based on public data.

- Organize a series of training sessions in June 2019 for the benefit of representatives of several ministries, such as transport, cultural affairs, agriculture, industry and social affairs (CNAM) in order to develop capacity in the field of open data. These sessions focused on the following areas:

- * Introducing the concept of open data and the organizational and institutional frameworks for managing this initiative in Tunisia, including the terms of reference of open data managers in different public institutions as well as the mechanisms for cooperation and coordination between open data stakeholders,

- * Technical aspects related to the publication of open data,

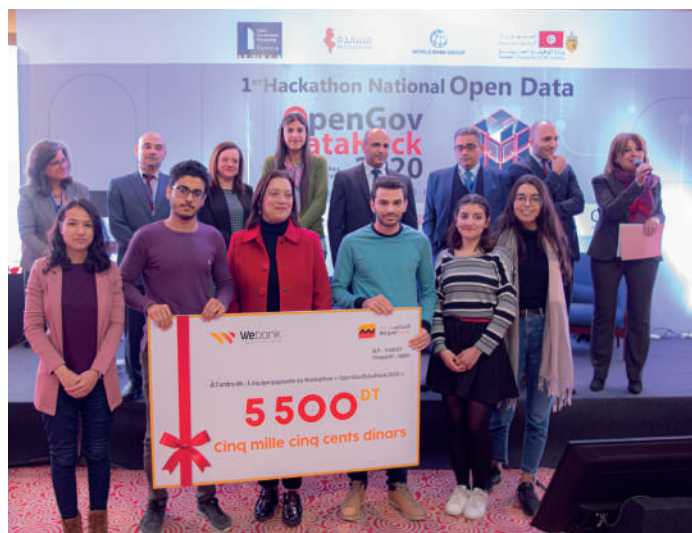
- * Data management and analysis, reviewing the mechanisms of analysis of data consistency; Data interconnection and interoperability; Management of unique identifiers and of graphic displays; In addition to carrying out practical exercises on many of these aspects using "Excel",

- * Piloting the open data program, its impact and objectives by organizing two study days on open data for senior public officers from various ministries and public bodies. In the same context, the Tunisian experience in the field of open data was presented, and the various challenges it faces in terms of organizational, legal and institutional aspects were introduced to create an integrated climate for open data.

- * The legal framework related to open data: Several presentations were given on the law on access to information and on intellectual property in relation to open data. A presentation was also made on the licenses for open data reuse, with reference to the legal aspects that have been included in the draft Decree on Open Data.

- * Introducing the open data technological platforms, including the "CKAN" platform for open data management.

- * Organization of the "OpenGovDataHack2020" competition at the end of January 2020, which focused on a project to develop reuse cases based on open public data for the benefit of several public institutions, including the Ministry of Transport and Logistics, the Ministry of Cultural Affairs and CNAM. This competition is the first national event organized by the administration to promote the reuse of open public data.



This project aims to promote the reuse of open public data and create opportunities for innovation by developing mobile and web applications and examples of reuse cases, based on data published by public bodies and available on the Open Data National Portal and the sectoral portals.

The event brought together about 150 participants divided into 38 teams of different ages, from different regions of the Republic, and with various backgrounds. It also helped to generate many ideas and innovative projects, which would ultimately help improve the quality of public services and support the openness of the administration to its environment and clients, in addition to encouraging various ministries and public bodies to engage in the initiative of open public data and create new horizons for the valorization and reuse of public data in various areas.

It should be noted that in the context of this competition, 7 out of 38 teams were successful in developing innovative digital solutions in the sectors of transport, culture and health insurance. At the closing ceremony of the competition, the winning teams received gifts of encouragement. Coordination was also foreseen between these teams and the relevant public bodies, in cooperation with the World Bank, to accompany the effective implementation of the winning projects for the benefit of both the administration and the citizen.

2. Strengthening integrity and fighting corruption in the public sector

Many reforms and initiatives have been undertaken by Tunisia to strengthen integrity in the public sector and fight corruption. At the legal level, many legislations entrenching and supporting these principles have been enacted, including, inter alia:

- Organic Law no. 2017-10 dated March 7, 2017, on the reporting of cases of corruption and the protection of whistleblowers. Implementing decrees for this law have also been issued:

- * Government Decree no. 2019-1123 of December 9, 2019 setting the conditions and modalities for the granting of incentives to prevent corruption,

- * Government Decree no. 2019-1124 of December 9, 2019 setting the mechanisms, formulas and criteria for providing financial rewards to whistleblowers.

- Law No. 2018-46 of August 1, 2018, on the Declaration of Assets and Interests and the Fight against Illicit Enrichment and Conflicts of Interest. The regulatory decrees thereto have also been published, including Government Decree no. 2018-818 of October 11, 2018, on the standard form used for the declaration of assets and interests and the minimum amounts of income, loans and donations to be declared.

Moreover, as regards organizational, institutional and communicational aspects, Tunisia has made significant efforts to strengthen the government's anti-corruption mechanisms, including:

- Establishing the National Anti-Corruption Authority (INLUCC) in 2011 in accordance with Framework Decree no. 120 of 2011 of November 14, 2011. INLUCC's independence will be further promoted in accordance with Chapter Six of the Constitution, which stipulates the establishment of the Good Governance and Anti-Corruption Authority as an independent constitutional institution.

- Developing TUNEPS, the online public procurement system, which fully digitizes the public procurement process using an online one-stop shop for the conclusion of public procurement contracts. This system provides for a set of dematerialized procedures at all stages of the process, from tender publication to the opening and sorting of tenders, the online posting of tender results and the electronic signing of procurement contracts between the contracting parties. In 2015, this system received an OGP international award as the best system dedicated to transparency in public procurement.

- Further entrenching the transparency of the work of the monitoring bodies and, consequently, accountability through the publication of Government Decree no. 375 of 2020 of June 29, 2020, regulating the process of publication of the reports of these bodies, including monitoring reports.

- Developing the national benchmark of corporate governance, which aims mainly to provide guidelines and requirements for responsible and civic governance within public and private companies.

- Developing the CABRANE system (<http://www.cabrane.com/>) by a CSO (Tunisian Association of Public Auditors), with a focus on monitoring public infrastructure projects. The system aims to improve monitoring progress in the implementation of public projects through evaluation and the reporting of violations and breaches related thereto. The system won an international award as the best integrated online system for fighting corruption and promoting transparency.

3. Strengthening the participatory approach and local governance

The implementation of local governance and decentralization in Tunisia has advanced considerably since 2011. Indeed, in recent years, Tunisia has made great strides in the establishment of decentralization, mainly through promoting "participatory democracy". In this context, the following steps have been undertaken:

- Entrenching the principles of decentralization in twelve articles in the 2014 Constitution,

- Promulgating Organic Law no. 29 of 2018 dated May 9, 2018, on the Local Authorities,

- Publishing public data sets on municipal work in an open format via an open data online platform at the local level: <http://www.collectiviteslocales.gov.tn/>

- Civil society organization "Onshor" developed a municipal open data platform: <http://www.openbaladiati.tn/>

Given the importance of public participation and the impact it has on decision-making and the drafting and implementation of public policies, the Tunisian government has implemented several participatory mechanisms, such as:

- The development of an integrated online petition system <https://www.e-people.gov.tn/>, which is a platform for participation and interaction between the administration and its clients. The communication options available help the citizens express their needs and submit their petitions, suggestions or queries online.

- Government Decree no. 328 of 2018 dated March 29, 2018 on organizing public consultations was issued,

- Putting online the second version of the public participation portal <http://www.e-participation.tn/> which offers a convenient space to further engage citizens in public affairs through online participation in public consultations, submitting and exchanging proposals and ideas, and discussing various topics related to public policies.

- Issuing three circulars on citizen participation, namely: Circular no. 12 of 2011 on engaging the clients of the administration in evaluating public services, Circular no. 13 of 2011 on implementing the participatory approach in the delivery of basic community services, and Circular no. 14 of 2011 on the quality of legislation.

- The Tunisian Constitution recognizes the importance of youth as the effective social force. Indeed, Article 8 of the Constitution stipulates that: "Youth is an effective force in building the nation". Article 133 provides that the electoral law shall guarantee youth representation in local government councils. In this context, efforts have been made to give effect to the role of the youth throughout the country with respect to designing and monitoring the implementation of public policies as well as regarding expressing youth voices and proposals about their own issues or, more broadly, the community issues. To this end, local youth boards with representatives from the civil society and the public authorities have been created in which the youth are strongly represented. To date, five such councils have been established in Kasserine, Ben Guerdane, El-Kef, Testour and Ibn Khaldoun.



- At the national level, open government initiatives have been launched by some municipalities along lines similar to the Open Government Partnership Initiative's participatory process. What distinguishes this initiative from others is that municipalities can now offer commitments that are more consistent with the specificities of their own regions. The initiative also helped to bridge the gap between the administration and the citizen by giving the latter a role in monitoring the implementation of these commitments. To this end, periodic meetings of a joint committee that includes representatives of the municipal administration and of the community residents have been organized. This initiative thus contributed to familiarizing citizens with the concept of open government and to engaging citizens in anchoring this concept in their own community so as to improve the quality of the services delivered by the administration and participate in laying a solid foundation for the governance of community affairs at the local level. As part of this initiative, Open Gov. action plans have been developed in the municipalities of Regueb, Carthage, Hammam El-Shatt, Gabes, Dar chaaban El-Fihri, Zriba, Zaouiat Sousse, Souassi and Medenine. Also, efforts will be made to accompany the implementation of these plans.

4. Towards a better governance of the State's financial and natural resources

Among the most important initiatives undertaken to better govern the management of the State's financial and natural resources, we can cite:

- Developing the open data portal for the hydrocarbon and mining sector according to international standards. This portal aims to promote transparency in this sector by publishing all information and data related to investments in this area. The portal publishes the hydrocarbon exploration, search and exploitation contracts that the Tunisian State concludes, as well as the partnership and production sharing contracts entered into with investors. Thus, Tunisia is one of the few countries in the world and the only Arab country that unreservedly publishes oil contracts. The portal also provides access to many of the contracts concluded in the mining sector in order to enhance transparency in the management of the sector.

- Progress has been made in fulfilling the conditions and procedures necessary to prepare for the country's accession to the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI). In fact, a national coordinator has been appointed to oversee the accession process. Moreover, the civil society representatives to the Stakeholder Council have been elected and the Council's composition was determined, which is a major step towards the completion of the accession process. Contrary to many other countries whose processes have been stumbling because of disagreement over the criteria for the selection of civil society representatives in the Stakeholder Council, Tunisia has managed to complete these steps of the process successfully.



- Development of the Beta version of the Open Budget Portal, which facilitates citizens' access to budget-related information and reinforces transparency by publishing financial data and indicators related to State resources and expenditures, Treasury accounts and public institutions of an administrative nature. Under this plan, work will be carried out to further develop this system.

III. The Fourth National Open Government Partnership National Action Plan in Tunisia (2021-2023)

In preparing the Fourth National OGP Action Plan (2021-2023), care was taken to follow the general guidelines and recommendations agreed at the Initiative's management level and published on the OGP website. All countries that are party to the Partnership have to abide by these guidelines and recommendations that are spelled out in a set of guides to support countries in the transition to open government.



In addition, the recommendations and suggestions contained in the evaluation reports, such as the interim and final independent evaluation reports and the interim and final self-evaluation reports for the implementation of the Third OGP Action plan were taken into consideration. Successful experiences on the ground, as classified by the OGP Initiative, were also taken into account.

While the Tunisian constitution provided for the foundations of a democratic society based on effective citizen participation, the application of the constitutional provisions related thereto took on their full significance in the preparation of the National OGP Action Plans. Indeed, a participatory process based on the principle of "co-creation" was adopted throughout the development of these plans.

1. Fourth National OGP Action Plan process (2021-2023)

During all the stages of preparation of the Fourth National OGP Action Plan (2021-2023), a two-stage public consultation was organized using all available means of communication to collect proposals from citizens, CSOs and NGOs on the reforms that could form part of the Action Plan in relation to the main areas of focus of Open Government.

In this context, an online working session was held on October 12, 2020 to launch the public consultation phase for the preparation of the Fourth National OGP Action Plan (2021-2023) and to collect the feedback of citizens and the clients of the administration on the content of this plan.

a. Establishing the Joint Advisory Committee on preparing and following up the implementation of the Action Plan

The OGP program provides a practical and participatory framework to identify and implement a set of commitments related to the Open Government main areas of focus under the supervision of a Joint Advisory Committee in charge of monitoring the development and implementation of the National OGP Action Plans. This committee, in which the administration and the civil society are equally represented, operates as an open forum, and holds its meetings periodically in the presence of all civil society actors who express the wish to participate.

In this context, the composition of this Advisory Committee was reviewed along lines similar to the previous action plans, with an increase in the number of members from 8 to 10 for both the government and the civil society to ensure a broader representation as requested by CSOs on the ground. Applications were thus opened for all via the national e-participation portal "www.e-participation.tn", and information was published via the OGP website in Tunisia "www.ogptunisie.gov.tn", as well as on the Partnership's Facebook page in the period from October 09 to November 06, 2020. The aim was to enhance the transparency of the Committee establishment process and to give equal opportunities for civil society to join the committee. To further entrench the principles of open government, in particular transparency, public participation and accountability, a committee was formed under the Joint Advisory Committee to screen applications and select civil society representatives. The selection committee included four members from independent public bodies working in the field of open government:

- * Acting President of the Information Access Authority,
- * President of the National Anti-Corruption Authority,
- * President of the National Authority for Protecting Personal Data
- * President of the High Authority for Local Finance.

The committee reviewed the various candidacies and set the criteria for the selection of civil society representatives according to the OGP-approved distribution, as follows:

- * Eight (08) representatives of Tunisian NGOs,
- * A representative (01) of the academic sector,
- * A representative of (01) the private sector.

The candidates were ranked and rated in accordance with the following criteria:

1. The candidate must be a member of a legally established association, a university professor, an owner of a private company, or a member of the private sector. The candidate must provide documents to prove his status. 25 points are awarded under this criterion.
2. The candidate must have performed activities related to one of the areas of focus of OG implementation and must submit a number of detailed documents thereto. 25 points are awarded under this criterion.
3. The candidate must submit a project in the framework of the preparation and implementation of the Fourth National OGP Action Plan. 50 points are awarded under this criterion because of the impact such projects may have. The project or idea can indeed give clear insights into the relative importance of the contribution of the candidate to OG initiatives and his strong commitment to the success of OG efforts.

Thus, the maximum number of points that a candidate can receive under the three criteria is 100.

Against this background, the committee examined the candidacies in three phases:

- A pre-selection phase carried out according to the category or capacity of the candidates (civil society, private sector, academic sector). The candidates were therefore divided into three groups as follows:

- * 2 candidates from the private sector,
- * 4 candidates from the academic sector,
- * 39 candidates from the civil society,

- In a second step, the applications were separately examined according to each category (academic sector / private sector - NGOs). The committee examined the applications from the private sector before selecting one candidate. Later on, applications from the academic sector were screened and a university professor from the School of Economics and Management of Tunis was selected.

- Finally, the committee examined the eight civil society and NGO candidates. 16 out of 39 candidates were retained as follows:

- Onshor Association,
- Cartographie Citoyenne Association,
- The National Federation of Tunisian Municipalities,
- The Tunisian Association of Public Auditors,
- I Watch, Tunisia,
- Tunisian Association for Scientific and Administrative Development.
- Tunisian Association for Local Governance,
- Tunis Office of the Natural Resource Governance Institute,
- A university Professor at the School of Economic Sciences and Management of Tunis,
- A representative of a private company.

b. The first phase of the National Consultation on the National OGP Action Plan (2021-2023)

The first phase of the National Consultation on the fourth National OGP Action Plan (2021-2023), used several mechanisms, including:

- The online consultation, which, in its first phase (October 12 to November 08, 2020) was accessible on www.e-participation.tn, the public consultations website,
- Sending official correspondence to the different ministries and public entities to solicit their input on the projects to include in the Action Plan,
- Using other means of participation, including three webinars in November 2020 on OG themes, such as the right of access to information, open public data, local governance, governance of the management of natural resources, digitization of public services and improving their quality. The webinars aimed at further engaging the different actors in the process by identifying and sharing proposals and ideas related to these themes, and which can feed into the initial version of the action plan. Approximately 100 participants from different ministries, agencies, municipalities, associations, NGOs and financial institutions supporting the OGP Initiative participated in these seminars.

The mechanisms leveraged during the first phase of the public consultation produced 275 proposals which were submitted to the Joint Advisory Committee in charge of overseeing the drafting and implementation of the action plan. In this context, a series of online working sessions were organized to disseminate the results of this consultation, and to set the timeline and the coordination and cooperation mechanisms that could be used during the initial selection process. The Advisory Committee members were divided into three working groups to review and sort the proposals to prepare the first draft of the Action Plan. Each group was assigned to a specific OG area of focus:

- Transparency and governance of the use of natural resources,
- Public participation and open government at the local level,
- Digitizing administrative services and enhancing their quality.

The proposals collected were sorted, examined and classified according to the following criteria:

- Specificity: It is possible to identify the problem to be solved. Also the proposal provides for clear procedures or actions to be taken. The expected results are described.
- Measurability: a specific timeline is set, thus making it possible to check progress in implementation.
- Answerability: The entity responsible for implementing the proposal and the stakeholders can be identified
- Relevance: the proposal must be relevant to one of the main areas of focus or challenges of Open Government, namely transparency, accountability and participation,
- Time-Bound: the proposal can be implemented over a period of two years. A clear timeline can be set to that effect.
- Potential Impact: Assess the change expected from the implementation of the proposal.



The Advisory Committee then reviewed all the proposals from each working group separately and made the necessary changes. The initial version of the Action Plan was thus obtained.

c. Stage two of the National Consultation on the Fourth National OGP Action Plan (2021-2023)

After the Joint Advisory Committee on overseeing the development and implementation of the Action Plan completed its work on the draft version of the Action Plan, which included 21 proposals on the different areas of focus of Open Government, the draft was presented for consultation in a second session on February 17, 2021 in order to identify the relevant priority proposals to be included in the final version of the National OGP Action Plan.

The same approach used in the first phase of the consultation was replicated. Indeed, an e-consultation was organized on www.e-participation.tn during the period from February 17 to 24, 2021. The consultation period was then extended until March 10, 2021.



2. The role of civil society in preparing the Fourth National OGP Action plan (2021-2023)

In Tunisia, the OGP Initiative is implemented in a participatory manner whereby effective partnership between public institutions and CSOs is encouraged for the development and monitoring of the implementation of the various commitments contained in the action plans. To entrench OGP principles, notably the cooperation of the administration with CSOs in the formulation of reform programs in general and the commitments under the OGP action plans in particular, many CSOs that are members of the Joint Advisory Committee contributed to the discussion of a set of proposals to be included in the Action Plan.

a. The NRGi Tunis office holds consultative meetings with the civil society in Gafsa, Kebili and Tataouine

In order to exchange ideas on governance and transparency issues in the energy and mining sector and to formulate draft commitments that can be part of the Fourth National OGP Action Plan, NRGi, in partnership with the E-Government Unit and with funding from UNDEF, organized a series of meetings with a group of civil society representatives from the governorates of Gafsa, Kebili and Tataouine, on 06, 07 and 09 July 2020. These meetings produced a set of proposals:

- Publish all data on the hydrocarbon and mining sector on one portal, based on the EITI standard, with a focus on revenues from natural resources,
 - Publish data on the social responsibility of public companies in the extractive industries (beneficiaries and value of amounts allocated),
 - Publish data on licenses and contracts awarded in the field of renewable energy, the beneficiary companies and production volumes,
 - Complete the process of Tunisia's EITI membership.
- The report on these consultative meetings can be found [here](#).



b. Proposals by the Tunisian Association for Local Governance

To collect the input of CSOs on the proposals to be included in the Fourth National OGP Action Plan, the Tunisian Association for Local Governance presented, during the online working sessions, a set of proposals regarding public participation and local governance. These proposals include for example:

1. Organizing a citizen dialogue on the general priorities of the budget. It is proposed that the outcomes of this dialogue will be published in a report to be disseminated to the parties engaged in the preparation of the general budget guidelines then submitted to the parliament along with the other budget documents.
2. The simplified budget for citizens and people with special needs (state budget, municipal budgets),
3. engaging taxpayers and tax officials in the process of tax reform and the fight against tax evasion, smuggling and the informal sector
4. Establishing mechanisms for monitoring the implementation of the proposals and recommendations contained in the audit reports,
5. Establishing a mechanism for engaging with foreigners residing in Tunisia, especially among vulnerable groups, in order to investigate the problems they face and monitor the implementation of the measures taken to resolve them.

c. Proposals by Cartographie Citoyenne

“Cartographie Citoyenne” is one of the associations engaged in the preparation of the Fourth National OGP Action Plan. The association presented and discussed a set of proposals for inclusion in the Action Plan with a special focus on the health sector:

1. Strengthen citizen participation in the adaptation and monitoring of public health policies through the participatory planning of annual programs related to health statistical studies and surveys. To this end, CSOs need to be part of the work undertaken by the National Statistics Institute (INS) and the Ministry of Health. Moreover, regular consultations should be held with the civil society on public health policy decisions,
2. Implement procedures for good governance and cooperation between central and local health authorities: a proposal was made to organize general meetings on an annual basis between the Ministry of Health, its regional departments and CSOs in order to define frameworks for joint cooperation and identify the basic health needs of each region;
3. Publish in an open format the data related to the management of the health crisis caused by Covid-19

d. Proposals by Onshor


1. Publication of audit reports in accordance with the provisions of Government Decree no. 375 of 2020, dated June 29, 2020, regulating the publication of the reports of the audit bodies and their follow-up reports

IV. Commitments under the Fourth National OGP Action Plan



FIRST AREA OF FOCUS





TRANSPARENCY AND GOVERNANCE OF THE MANAGEMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Commitment 1 :

Completing the regulatory framework to consecrate access to information right

Beginning of May 2021 - End of December 2023

Lead implementing agency/actor

Beginning of May 2021 - End of December 2023

Description of the commitment

This commitment aims to consolidate the right of access to information by completing the regulatory and legal framework relating to this area under the provisions of the organic Law no. 2016-22 dated March 24, 2016. To this end, the following regulatory texts shall be issued:

- a Government Decree on the status of the staff of the Access to Information Authority
- a Government Decree on the organizational chart of the Access to Information Authority
- a Government Decree establishing the conditions for the creation of an internal access to information entity in public bodies.

A participatory approach will be adopted throughout the drafting process of these regulatory texts, especially the text related to setting the conditions for creating an internal entity responsible for access to information at the level of each public structures. This participatory approach will be ensured through the organization of a number of workshops and seminars with the relevant public structures, specifically with the access to information officers, and a number of associations, especially those active in open government. Public consultations will also be organized, and in particular, through the national portal for e-participation “www.e-participation.tn can be consulted”.

Problem/Background

The fact of not completing the organizational and regulatory framework for access to information right has limited the effectiveness of the plans and mechanisms put in place to operationalize this right. This includes for example the limited regulatory mechanisms to support the role of the Access to Information Authority due to the lack of a legislation regulating the status of the Authority or its organizational chart. This has negatively affected the ability of the Authority to attract and maintain qualified staff to implement its mandate as stipulated under Organic Law No. 22 of 2016 on the Right to Access Information.

Moreover, as of to date, the regulatory text on setting the conditions for the establishment of an internal structure dealing with access to information at the level of public bodies is yet to be published. This has also negatively affected the effective implementation by the various public bodies of the provisions of this Law, be it through the automatic dissemination of information or through responding to the requests for access within the deadlines. The lack of this regulatory text did not make it possible for the access to information officers to fully and effectively perform their duties nor did it facilitate the allocation of the necessary financial resources to that end.

Identification of commitment objectives/expected results

- Complete the publication of the regulatory texts regulating the Access to Information Authority in order to develop the capacity of the Authority by recruiting the necessary qualified staff to carry out its mandate. The strengthening of the role of the Authority will enable the implementation of the right of access to information and the operationalization of the various principles related to open government, notably transparency, participation and accountability.
- Issue the regulatory text on setting the conditions for the establishment of an internal entity concerned with access to information at the level of public bodies. The goal is to enhance the capacities of access to information officers and enable them to coordinate and follow up the implementation of access to information obligations as defined by Law no. 2016 on Access to Information. Another goal is to improve the quality of information published on public websites and increase the rates of reply to requests for access to information within the legally specified deadlines.
- The internal structures that will be created by this order are represented in a permanent administration in the public structures, comprising at least two officials (the Access to information responsible and his deputy). Noting that its creation will be mandatory at the level of all ministries, while its creation in the rest of the public structures will be mandatory if the conditions that will be set by this order are met.

How will the commitment contribute to solve the public problem

- Enhance the effectiveness of strategies and mechanisms aimed at operationalizing the right to access information in Tunisia by strengthening and operationalizing the role of the Access to Information Authority and of the access to information officers in public bodies. Achieve the implementation of the various obligations stipulated in Organic Law no. 22 of 2016 on the Right to access Information and standardizing the work procedures across public bodies.

Relevance with OGP values	<p>- TRANSPARENCY</p> <p>The commitment will make it possible to step up the dissemination of information, improve the quality of access to it, and facilitate the work of the information access officer, both in terms of the officer's relation with the members of staff who produce information in the department and with the information seeker.</p> <p>It will also enable the Access to Information Authority to support and operationalize its role in monitoring the implementation of the provisions of the Organic Law on Access to Information.</p>	
Source of funding /Relation with other programs and policies	Funding source: Government Budget	
Stages and implementation timeline	Milestones	Implementation timeline
	Preparation and approval of a Government Order on the status of the staff of the Access to Information Authority.	December 2022
	Preparation and approval of a government order on the organizational chart of the Access to Information Authority	December 2022
	Preparation and approval of a government order establishing the conditions for the creation of an internal access to information entity in public bodies	December 2021
Contact point		
Name of the responsible person from implementing agency	Mr. Adnene Lassoued, President of the National Access to Information Authority	
Supervision position and institution	President of the National Access to Information Authority	
E-mail address	adnene.lassoued@inai.tn	
Other Actors involved	State actors involved	
	CSOs, private sector, multilateral, working groups	- ARTICLE 19

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Enhance the effectiveness of strategies and mechanisms aimed at operationalizing the right to access information in Tunisia by strengthening and operationalizing the role of the Access to Information Authority and of the access to information officers in public bodies

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Commitment 2:

Enhancing transparency and accountability regarding audit reports

Beginning of May 2021 - End of December 2023

Lead implementing agency/actor	The High Administrative and Financial Control Authority in coordination with the General Control Authority for Public Services, the General Financial Control Authority, the General Control Authority for State Property and Real Estate Affairs , the Public Authority for Control of Public Expenses, the State Auditors Authority and the High Authority for Public Procurement
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Description of the commitment

The audit bodies publish several reports annually. These reports are of great importance because they identify numerous violations and failures relating to administrative and financial misconduct and corruption in the public sector. The importance of the auditing reports rests on their publication and availability to the public, so as to shed light on the failures and gaps that are identified. The main purpose behind the preparation of these reports is to publish and share them with the various stakeholders in order to build a system of fair accountability that enables resistance to and minimization of corruption.

Therefore, this commitment aims to enhance transparency and accountability regarding audit reports, specifically through the implementation of the following:

- Publish the audit reports in accordance with the provisions of Government Order no. 375 of 2020, dated June 29, 2020, regulating the process of publishing the reports of the audit bodies and the follow-up reports thereto. At the same time, a procedures manual that regulates the publication process shall be drafted,
- Establish an online mechanism for monitoring the implementation of the recommendations contained in these reports.

This commitment will contribute to activating the participation of civil society and NGOs in enhancing transparency in the oversight field by adopting a participatory approach in the process of selecting some reports as a first experience, such as reports related to municipalities, regional councils, etc; in addition to organizing a consultative meetings and workshops to identify the approach to be adopted in the drafting of the procedures manual and its submission to the public consultation; and in the development of the dedicated electronic platform; as well as the participation of some active associations in this area in the implementation process this commitment.

Problem/Background	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Despite the many legislative texts providing for the principle of publication of audit reports, the audit bodies have not fully engaged in this process despite the importance of their reports. - Limited response to requests for data on audit missions and the failures they have identified. - The failure to publish these reports, and the lack of mechanisms to make them available and accessible to the public, represent a major obstacle to achieving the reform objectives of these reports, and limits their effectiveness.
Identification of commitment objectives/expected results	<p>Ensure transparency in the area of oversight and enhance the right of access to information as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Establish and reinforce the mechanisms for publishing the reports of audit bodies online, in accordance with the provisions of Government Decree no. 375 of 2020. - Publish audit reports in accordance with the international standards applicable in the field. - Develop an online system for monitoring the implementation of the recommendations contained in these reports. This platform will provide a common database between the various audit bodies for greater coordination between them by providing a dashboard including several information on the auditing tasks and their recommendations as well as the progress status of their implementation. This platform will also represent an interface for interaction between the involved audit structures and the various civil society components by providing features and functions that facilitate users to consult the audit reports' content; to follow up the implementation of the recommendations contained therein; and to submit their suggestions and inquiries related to this field.
How will the commitment contribute to solve the public problem	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Strengthen accountability mechanisms and monitor the government action based on the results of audit reports, which would improve the integrity of the public sector and increase the effectiveness of its performance.

Relevance with OGP values	- Transparency and accountability: the commitment will allow for more information to be published on the results and outputs of audit missions, thereby improving transparency and accountability based on the results contained in these reports.	
Source of funding /Relation with other programs and policies	Funding source: Government Budget	
Stages and implementation timeline	Milestones	Implementation timeline
	Drafting a procedures manual that regulates the publication process of audit reports	
	Establishing a working group to draft the procedures manual	December 2021
	Preparing the initial version of the procedures manual	October 2022
	Presenting the manual procedures to the public consultation and approving its final version	June 2023
	Establish an online platform for monitoring the implementation of the audit reports recommendations	
	Appointment of a steering committee to monitor the project implementation	January 2022
	Drafting the terms of reference of the platform and selecting the studies office in charge of its development	July 2022
	Design and development of the platform	September 2023
Testing, and put online of the platform	December 2023	

Contact point

Name of the responsible person from implementing agency	Mr. Imed Hazgui	
Supervision position and institution	President of the High Administrative and Financial Audit Authority	
E-mail address	imed.hazgui.ih@gmail.com	
Other Actors involved	State actors involved	Audit and inspection bodies
	CSOs, private sector, multilateral, working groups	Tunisian Association of Public Auditors

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Strengthen accountability mechanisms and monitor the government action based on the results of audit reports, which would improve the integrity of the public sector and increase the effectiveness of its performance.

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Commitment 3: Strengthening integrity in the public sector

Beginning of May 2021 - End December 2023

Lead implementing agency/actor	National Anti-Corruption Authority (INLUCC)
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Description of the commitment

This commitment aims to strengthen the integrity of the public sector in terms of declaration of assets and interests and to fight against illicit enrichment and conflicts of interest through :

- the issuance of the regulatory text (draft decree) relating to setting the form for publication of the content of the declaration of assets and interests,
- the publication of the content of the declaration of assets and interests for the persons subject to the obligation (the first eight categories of Article 5 of Law no. 46 of 2018),
- Developing an integrated online system to receive and process declarations of assets and interests.

Problem/Background	Limited mechanisms for monitoring the content of the declarations of assets and interests by the civil society, which precludes its role in monitoring the work of the government and fighting corruption.	
Identification of commitment objectives/expected results	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Grant citizens access to the content of the declarations of the persons subject to this obligation - Provide civil society and the press with the necessary data they need to exercise their monitoring role and operationalize accountability mechanisms, - Enable the persons subject to the reporting obligation to declare their assets and interests online and to update or renew the declaration whenever so required by law, - INLUCC has an online mechanism for tracking the persons subject to the declaration obligation and using the data contained in the authorizations. 	
How will the commitment contribute to solve the public problem	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Strengthen transparency and accountability by providing public access to the content of the declarations of assets and interests of the persons subject to this obligation - Facilitate investigative work by automating the process of filing and processing of the declarations - Streamline procedures and make them more effective by providing the persons subject to the obligation with the option to file their declarations online. 	
Relevance with OGP values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Transparency: promote and facilitate the exercise of the declaration obligation. Publish the content of the declarations and the list of persons who comply with this obligation or fail to do so. - Participation: operationalize the participatory approach through the dissemination of information, the engagement of citizens in public affairs, as well as the engagement of investigative journalism in INLUCC's investigative work, - Accountability: facilitate the oversight role of civil society and investigative journalism. 	
Source of funding /Relation with other programs and policies	Funding source: INLUCC's budget	
Stages and implementation timeline	Milestones	Implementation timeline
	Preparation and approval of the government order related to setting the form for publishing the content of the declaration of gains and interests.	Before the end of December 2021
	Publication of the content of the declaration of gains and interests for legally determined officials (the first eight categories of Chapter Five of Law No. 46 of 2018).	Before the end of December 2022
Development of an integrated electronic system to receive and process declaration for gains and interests.	Before the end of December 2023	

Contact point

Name of the responsible person from implementing agency	Mrs. Nadia Saadi	
Supervision position and institution	Director General of the Assets and Interests Declaration Unit at INLUCC	
E-mail address	Nadia.saadi@inlucc.tn	
Other Actors involved	State actors involved	Directorate-General for Governance and Prevention of Corruption at the Presidency of Government
	CSOs, private sector, multilateral, working groups	-Onshor Association; -Tunisian Association of Public Auditors

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Strengthen transparency and accountability by providing public access to the content of the declarations of assets and interests of the persons subject to this obligation

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Commitment 4: Entrenching financial transparency

Beginning of May 2021 - End of December 2023

Lead implementing agency/actor	- Ministry of Economy, Finance and Support to Investment - High Authority for Local Finance
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Description of the commitment

Financial and tax transparency is an important pillar for promoting the principles of open government. It is also a mechanism for enhancing integrity and accountability and streamlining the management of public finances. This requires the use of a set of mechanisms and procedures to further entrench transparency in the management of the State's financial resources.

In this context, this commitment aims to achieve transparency in the management of the State's financial resources through

- publishing aggregate data on subsidies granted by the state budget to associations and societies, and ensuring that all details are shared and updated. This will be carried out by the Ministry in charge of Finance.
- developing a new version of the open budget portal (Our Budget) in line with the new Organic Law of Budget no. 15 of 2019, which provides for a program-based approach for the preparation and execution of the state and local government budget.
- preparing the simplified State budget for citizens and people with special needs.
- preparing the simplified municipal budget for citizens and people with special needs at the level of a set of municipalities.

The several activities planned within the framework of this commitment will further reinforce the participation of civil society components active in this field by organizing workshops and consultative forums on the formulas and methodology that will be adopted; In addition to establishing mechanisms for participation and interaction with the users' needs and demands and those interested in reusing the available public financial data and improving its quality.

Problem/Background	Although the financial system is consistent with the international standards regarding fiscal transparency and access to and sharing of information, the mechanisms put in place at the practical level still fall short of the aspirations of the various stakeholders and citizens. Indeed, they do not take into account the needs of all those interested in public and local finances, in addition to the limited effectiveness of the tools put in place to enhance financial transparency.
Identification of commitment objectives/expected results	Ensure financial transparency through : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Greater transparency and improved access to information on the management of public financial resources, including allocations from the State and local government budgets for the benefit of associations and societies. - Developing the current version of the open budget portal in accordance with the strategic orientations and vision of the Ministry. Facilitating access to public data on public finances and the execution of the State and local government budgets, making them available to the public in an open format, which allows users to reuse and exploit them more effectively.
How will the commitment contribute to solve the public problem	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Strengthen financial transparency and fight against corruption and the embezzlement of public funds, - Improve access to and reuse of public data on public finances, - Establish practical and streamlined mechanisms that citizens can use to gain knowledge of and follow the process of preparing and implementing the State and municipal budgets
Relevance with OGP values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Entrenching transparency by facilitating access to information on the management of financial resources - Strengthening accountability by establishing effective mechanisms to monitor the proper use of public financial resources
Source of funding /Relation with other programs and policies	

Stages and implementation timeline	Milestones	Implementation timeline
Developing a new version of the open budget portal (Mizaniatouna)		
	Appointment of a steering committee to monitor the project implementation	December 2021
	Drafting the terms of reference of the portal and selecting the studies office in charge of its development	June 2022
	Design, development, testing, and put online of the portal	September 2023
Strengthen the opening of the public finance data		
	Publishing aggregate data on subsidies granted by the state budget to associations and societies	June 2022
	Preparing the simplified State budget for citizens and people with special needs	December 2023
	Preparing the simplified municipal budgets for citizens and people with special needs.	December 2023

Contact point

Name of the responsible person from implementing agency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mr. Asad Khalil, - Mrs. Amel Loumi. 	
Supervision position and institution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Director General at the Ministry in charge of Finance - President of the High Authority for Local Finance 	
E-mail address	akhalil@finances.tn president@hifl.tn	
Other Actors involved	State actors involved	Audit and inspection bodies
	CSOs, private sector, multilateral, working groups	Tunisian Association for Local Governance

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Establish practical and streamlined mechanisms that citizens can use to gain knowledge of and follow the process of preparing and implementing the State and municipal budgets

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Commitment 5:

Enhancing the public data opening and promoting its reuse

Beginning of May 2021 - End of December 2023

Lead implementing agency/actor

E-Government Unit at the Presidency of Government

Description of the commitment

Open public data is a new tool to stimulate economic development and create employment opportunities. It also reinforces transparency and accountability, fighting against corruption, developing of public services, and improving their quality. In this regard, Tunisia has developed and implemented several initiatives and projects that promote the opening of public data and the establishment of a "data culture at the service of the citizen and the administration". These initiatives covered the different aspects of the open data area, including the institutional, organizational, legal and technical aspects. However, establishing an integrated climate to promote the reuse of open public data necessitates more efforts to build on the achievements and complete the implementation of the various procedures and projects related to open data area, in compliance with the provisions of Government Order no. 3 of January 6, 2021 on Open Public Data.

Thus, this commitment aims to implement a number of measures to promote the opening of public data and improve its reuse through the following steps:

- Developing a new version of the national open data portal that takes into account the technical specifications laid down in Government Decree no. 2021-3 of January 6, 2021 on open public data
- Carrying out an inventory of priority public data in a range of sectors that can be released in an open format in accordance with the approved methodologies and specifications, as required by Government Decree no. 3 of 2021 on open public data; as well as encouraging public structures to engage in the open data program with a focus on:
 - * a range of sectors such as health, social affairs, education, justice, interior affairs,
 - * geospatial data to develop the uses of the geomatics in the field.

Problem/Background

- Necessity of the compliance of the technical platforms used in the open data release with the international specifications and standards adopted in the field, as well as its compatibility with trends and technological developments in the field.
- The administration faces several challenges with regard to the inventory of data and documents and the identification of those that can be published in an open format, given the lack of standardized mechanisms and standards for administrative data management, which adversely impacts automatic data inventorying by public bodies. There exists also a need to comply with the Government Decree on open public data.

Identification of commitment objectives/expected results

- Establish a new version of the National Open Public Data Portal in accordance with the internationally recognized standards and specifications, as well as with the expectations and needs of public bodies and users,
- Make an inventory of priority public data in a range of sectors that can be released in an open format according to approved methodologies and specifications.
- Reinforce the open public data reuse by introducing and raising awareness of the public on it, organizing hackathons, open days, and workshops that bring together public data providers and users to enhance its reuse and to create services and applications based on it.

How will the commitment contribute to solve the public problem

- Reinforce the culture of open public data within the administration and affirm the principles of openness, transparency and cooperation,
- Foster economic development and create employment opportunities through a sustained reuse of open public data in order to develop innovative public data uses and achieve the expected added value from such data release.

Relevance with OGP values

- **Transparency and accountability:** uphold the principles of transparency and accountability by opening up public data and promoting its reuse.
- **Public participation:** Prepare public data that can be shared in an open format, thus facilitating their dissemination and the development of new mechanisms to strengthen public participation in the elaboration of public policies, the monitoring of their implementation and their evaluation.
- **Promote innovation and develop public services:** Strengthen mechanisms for reusing open public data to develop new services and applications and create new added value.

Source of funding /Relation with other programs and policies	Funding source: - The World Bank in the framework of the "Musnada" program - Cooperation program with South Korea - Cooperation with the French Development Agency within the framework of the "PAGOF" program.	
Stages and implementation timeline	Milestones	Implementation timeline
	Developing a new version of the national open data portal	
	Drafting the specification and selection of the studies office	December 2021
	Appointing a steering committee and a technical committee to follow up the project	December 2021
	Design and development of the portal	December 2022
	Testing and put online of the portal	June 2023
	Carrying out an inventory of priority public data in a range of	
	Identifying priority sectors and announcing the launch of the project	December 2021
	Completing the preliminary inventory: presenting the inventory methodology, and launching the inventory activities at the level of the sectors involved	December 2022
	Assessment and follow-up of public structures in the open data inventory process	June 2023
Validation of the final inventory document and publication of some datasets included in it.	December 2023	

Contact point

Name of the responsible person from implementing agency	Mr. Khaled Salami	
Supervision position and institution	Director General of the E-Government Unit at the Presidency of Government	
E-mail address	khaled.sellami@pm.gov.tn	
Other Actors involved	State actors involved	Relevant ministries (Health, Social Affairs, Education, Justice, and Interior)
	CSOs, private sector, multilateral, working groups	- Onshor association - Cartographie Citoyenne Association - AGEOS

Commitment 6:

Improving public data accessibility through defining common specifications and nomenclature

Beginning of May 2021 - End of December 2023

Lead implementing agency/actor National Statistics Institute (INS)

Description of the commitment

National references to define the common specifications and nomenclatures are among the key mechanisms for coordinating activities related to the processing of public data produced and collected by public bodies at national and sectoral levels. It is recommended that most public bodies adopt standard codifications and classifications for the processing of public data, allowing interoperability between the different national and sectoral information systems, and streamlining the interconnection and mashup of data from different sectors for the purpose of developing services and applications based on these data.

This commitment aims to promote and develop the use of national references for the definition of public data common specifications and nomenclatures, notably through :

- Identifying a range of national references for the definition of common specifications and nomenclature for priority and cross-cutting public data,
- Promoting and entrenching the use of these references by public bodies.

Problem/Background	The lack of standardized references and nomenclature for data that can be jointly used by public bodies, and the inadequate adoption and use of those already in place.	
Identification of commitment objectives/expected results	Promote the opening of public data through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Standardizing the mechanisms for data collection, classification and processing using a set of common codifications and categories, - Release public data in all its dimensions in accordance with unified standards specifications at the national level and in compliance with the international standards in the field, thereby promoting data exchange and reuse. - Urging public bodies to engage in opening public data and to adopt relevant mechanisms and references to that end 	
How will the commitment contribute to solve the public problem	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Setting practical mechanisms and unified standards to facilitate the public data release through the establishment of unified references concerning the classifications of private and common data between the various public bodies - Alignment with open data international standards and specifications, notably with regard to public data collection and classification. 	
Relevance with OGP values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Transparency: Releasing public data in accordance with national standards and specifications with the aim of promoting exchange of data between public bodies and data reuse and exploitation in the preparation and implementation of public policies and decision-making. - The right of access to information: Enhancing public data access and reuse and improving its quality by providing a set of standard methodologies and mechanisms across the entire data chain. 	
Source of funding /Relation with other programs and policies	- Source of funding	
Stages and implementation timeline	Milestones	Implementation timeline
	Appointing a steering committee to follow up the project	December 2021
	Identifying the priority sectors to be covered by these national nomenclature	March 2022
	Preparing the initial version of the nomenclatures and submitting them to the public structures consultation	April 2023
	Approving the final version of the nomenclatures and publish them in an open format	July 2023

Experimenting the nomenclatures and generalizing their use within the public structures

December 2023

Contact point

Name of the responsible person from implementing agency	Mr. Adnene Lassoued	
Supervision position and institution	INS Director General	
E-mail address	INS@ins.tn	
Other Actors involved	State actors involved	E-Government Unit
	CSOs, private sector, multilateral, working groups	- AGEOS

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Alignment with open data international standards and specifications, notably with regard to public data collection and classification.

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Commitment 7:

Promoting transparency in the field of energy and mines

Beginning of May 2021 - End of December 2023

Lead implementing agency/actor Ministry of Energy, Mines and Renewable Energies

Description of the commitment

Under this commitment, a new energy and mining open data website will be created in accordance with the relevant international standards, notably the ITIE standard. The aim is to promote the participatory, systematic and sustainable data dissemination process and to continue the process of Tunisia's accession to the EITI Initiative.

As a multi-stakeholder council was formed, consisting of all stakeholders in the extractive industries sector, in preparation for Tunisia's adherence to the EITI Transparency Initiative. The stakeholders, especially civil society, will be involved in visualizing the content of the portal and the way to provide information, based on the Transparency Initiative standard and comparative experiences for the purpose. Associations active in the sector and not represented in the council will also be involved in order to broaden the base of participation.

Care will also be taken to encourage associations to exploit the data that will be included in the portal, in partnership with the Natural Resources Governance Institute.

Consultation sessions will also be organized with civil society regarding the proposed draft regulatory texts in the context of implementing the requirements of the Social Responsibility Law, to make comments in this regard and send them to the concerned government parties. Special emphasis will be placed on the active associations in the regions producing natural resources, given the importance of the subject to them and to ensure the effectiveness and feasibility of the content of the proposed texts.

Problem/Background

Structural problems: The organizational instability within the Ministry of Energy and Mines has led to problems in the provision and updating of energy and mining data. Indeed, there is no dedicated website for the energy and mining sectors. In the past, there was a website for all the sectors operating under the Ministry of Industry, which meant that the energy and mines sectors were not hosted on a dedicated website despite their social, economic and symbolic importance. The merger and demerger of ministries have had a negative impact on the updating and ongoing development of the website due to coordination issues between the two ministries.

- Problems of quality: The published data do not meet international standards in terms of form and content: Despite the efforts of the Ministry of Energy and Mines with respect to data publication, no significant results have been achieved, partly because of data format (not reusable or not clear enough for the non-specialists...) or incompleteness. For example, no aggregated data on income from natural resources or Social Responsibility Programs are published despite the important budget allocated to this end and the impact of these Social Responsibility Programs on social peace, especially in the areas producing natural resources.

- Data publication is usually carried out unilaterally by the administration without the participation or knowledge of civil society, which reinforces the climate of mistrust between the stakeholders and the constant skepticism regarding the data provided by the administration in the framework of national and local campaigns. This sometimes led to the disruption of production, which negatively affected the sector's profitability.

- The failure to enact the Social Responsibility regulatory laws has had a negative impact on both the performance and governance of the energy and mining sectors. Indeed, when it comes to transparency and effectiveness of Social Responsibility programs implemented by companies operating in the natural resources sector, many questions are posed by the residents of the areas producing natural resources and CSOs.

- Tunisia is experiencing a worsening energy deficit, which led the country to set ambitious energy transition goals given the high economic stakes, and the need for civil society to contribute to the policies related to this transition.

Identification of commitment objectives/expected results

The implementation of the commitment will contribute to building trust between the various stakeholders in the energy and mining sector by providing the necessary data and working in a participatory manner to improve the governance of the sector. The steps to undertake are as follows:

- * Create a new open data website for this sector that meets international standards in terms of data format, content and updating.

- * Ensure the sustainability of the data dissemination process through Tunisia's accession to the Transparency Initiative, which requires that data be published on an ongoing basis and stakeholders be effectively engaged.

Identification of commitment objectives/expected results	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Enact the Social Responsibility regulatory laws to promote the transparency and effectiveness of the legal framework. * Highlight the key economic issues, such as the data on Social Responsibility programs in the energy and mining sectors, the income from natural resources and information related to renewable energies. Publish the data on the licenses and contracts awarded in this field, the beneficiary companies and the production volumes. 	
How will the commitment contribute to solve the public problem	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The implementation of the commitment will contribute to enhancing transparency and improving governance of the energy and mining sectors by further entrenching management openness through sector data disclosure based on international standards of transparency. This can only strengthen trust between stakeholders and ensure they are engaged in the reform efforts. It should be recalled that the implementation of the EITI standard will contribute to institutionalizing dialogue, participation and transparency. - The implementation of the commitment will have important social and economic impacts by reducing protests and tensions. In fact, data disclosure and stronger stakeholder joint action will contribute to improving the investment climate in the sector, an adequate share for citizens from the sector's revenues and reducing the energy deficit. 	
Relevance with OGP values	<p>The creation of the open data site on which key sector information is shared and which will be updated on an ongoing basis will contribute to enhancing transparency regarding the management of natural resources. It will also ensure sustainable transparency regardless of the structural changes at the Ministry in charge of energy. The implementation of the EITI standard will also help to build a culture of participation through the working methods adopted by the Stakeholder Council. Indeed, the relevant data will be shared to enable official and non-official supervisory parties to assess how well natural resources are managed.</p>	
Source of funding /Relation with other programs and policies	<p>UNDEF NRGI</p>	
Stages and implementation timeline	Milestones	Implementation timeline
	<p>Development of a portal for the energy and mining</p>	<p>From July 2021 to July 2022</p>
	<p>sectors that includes the most important data on the two mentioned sectors, including renewable energies.</p>	
	<p>Preparation and approval of the regulatory texts related to the Social Responsibility Law.</p>	<p>From July 2021 to January 2023</p>
<p>Submitting Tunisia's adhesion request to the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative.</p>	<p>From July 2021 to January 2022</p>	
Contact point		
Name of the responsible person from implementing agency	<p>Hedi Youssef</p>	
Supervision position and institution	<p>Director General in the Ministry in charge of Energy and Mines</p>	
E-mail address	<p>hedi.youssef@energiemines.gov.tn</p>	
Other Actors involved	<p>State actors involved</p>	<p>The Ministry in charge of Energy and Mines</p>
	<p>CSOs, private sector, multilateral, working groups</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Natural Resource Governance Institute, - The Tunisian Association of Petroleum and Gas - Tunisian Network for Transparency in Energy and Mines, - Tunisian Association of Public Auditors



**SECOND AREA
OF FOCUS**

2



PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Commitment 8:

Defining the Open Government strategic priorities in Tunisia

Beginning of May 2021 - End of December 2023

Lead implementing agency/actor The E-Government Unit at the Presidency of Government

Description of the commitment

This is a commitment to develop an Open Gov. strategy in Tunisia rooted in a comprehensive indicator-based short, medium and long term vision the implementation of which could be measured.

This strategy will lead to:

- Establishing a benchmark to coordinate reforms in this field at the national and local levels,
- Determine the goals and priorities that must be effectively implemented,
- Provide a strategic framework for OGP action plans that are prepared and implemented every two years.
- Promote and entrench an open government culture across the public sector and among all stakeholders.

During all phases of implementing this commitment, a participatory process based on the principle of co-creation will be followed, bringing together the various parties involved in the implementation of the commitment, in particular the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development-OECD, representatives of public structures and representatives of civil society within the joint advisory committee in charge of monitoring the development and implementation of the Fourth OGP National Action Plan.

Problem/Background

- The lack of a strategic framework and a roadmap based on which OGP action plans are prepared and implemented,
- The variation in levels of government openness, both on the part of public structures and between them,
- Perceiving open government as a purely technical issue of concern to only an elite of civil servants,
- The proliferation of Open Gov. initiatives and activities in many countries that strive to consolidate this concept. However, there are no clear and common goals that bring all these countries together.

Identification of commitment objectives/expected results

- This commitment will make it possible to:
- design a long-term vision to ensure the coherence and effectiveness of OGP activities over several years, especially with regard to developing and implementing OGP action plans,
 - Attain a standard level of maturity in terms of government openness,
 - Cooperate within a standard, joint and consistent framework with the other countries interested in open government.

How will the commitment contribute to solve the public problem

- Operationalize the concept of open government for the benefit of all public officers, without exclusion,
- Systematically collect data and information on the implementation of Open Gov. initiatives and developing a set of indicators to measure their impact.

Relevance with OGP values

- **Participation:** This commitment will initiate a participatory, coordinated and integrated process to design a strategic plan for the development of a range of Open Gov. initiatives in cooperation with the various stakeholders.
- **Transparency:** The publication of this strategy will also ensure the transparency of the implementation process of the various initiatives, notably through CSOs.

Source of funding /Relation with other programs and policies

- OECD

Stages and implementation timeline

Milestones	Implementation timeline
Completing the 2020 Open Government Survey	End of July 2021
Organizing online workshops on the open government strategy in Tunisia and on comparative experiences in the field.	August 2021
Presentation of the Scan on the diagnosis of open government in Tunisia	End of August 2021

Organization of consultative workshops on the results of the survey project related to the state of open government in Tunisia.	September 2021
Compilation of inputs for the strategy based on the results of the workshops and formulation of the first version of the strategy	October 2021
Presentation of the first version of the open government strategy in Tunisia and collection of notes and proposals for amendments on this version	November 2021
Announcing the launch of the Open Government Strategy in Tunisia.	January 2022

Contact point

Name of the responsible person from implementing agency	Mr. Khaled Sellami	
Supervision position and institution	Director General of E-Government Unit at the Presidency of Government	
E-mail address	Khaled.sellami@pm.gov.tn	
Other Actors involved	State actors involved	All public bodies that are members of the joint Advisory Committee on preparing and monitoring the implementation of the Fourth Action Plan.
	CSOs, private sector, multilateral, working groups	Civil society representatives within the joint Advisory OECD .
	groups	Committee in charge of preparing and monitoring implementation of the Fourth Action Plan

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Operationalize the concept of open government for the benefit of all public officers, without exclusion

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Commitment 9:

Promoting the use of national portals for public participation

Beginning of May 2021 - End of December 2023

Lead implementing agency/actor

E- Government Unit And the Central bureau for Citizen Relations at the Presidency of Government

Description of the commitment

To entrench the principles of participatory democracy and the openness of the administration to its environment with a view to serving its clients, notably the citizens, many e-portals, applications and e-participation mechanisms are now hosted on public websites at the central and local levels.

The National E-Participation Portal www.e-participation.tn and the e-people portal www.e-people.gov.tn are key cases in point. Both portals provide mechanisms to engage citizens in public affairs by organizing public consultations, submitting ideas, participating in a dialogue forum (e-participation portal), reporting, submitting complaints and suggestions, requesting information, participating in a dialogue forum, and reporting on corruption (the e-citizen portal).

Despite their importance, the solutions provided by the two portals remain mostly underused, mainly because of limited human resources in terms of portal administration and the limited financial resources dedicated to the development and the absence of an effective communication plan to increase the rates of its use, in addition to the similarity in some of the channels it adopts to engage the citizen.

In consequence, as part of this commitment, the following actions will be undertaken:

- Further develop e-participation national portals, notably www.e-participation.tn and www.e-people.gov.tn and urge public bodies to leverage them for the purpose of public participation while ensuring more consistency of the sections under each portal,
- Increase the use rates of the portals by the various clients of the administration, especially the citizens, by means of an effective communication plan designed to this end.

As part of the implementation of this commitment, a joint working group will be created, comprising representatives of the concerned departments and a number of civil society representatives, in order to follow up and coordinate the various stages of implementation of this project. Public consultations will also be organized in order to take into account the citizens' expectations regarding the improvements that can be made to these portals and the priority axes that they may include.

A space will be allocated within the national portal for public participation to publish various data related to public consultations that are organized through these portals and how to adopt the results of these consultations for public decision-making and public policy perception.

<p>Problem/Background</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The proliferation of portals on citizen engagement in public affairs, the overlap in terms of the mechanisms and channels they provide, and the limited communication and promotional activities around these portals led to many problems, notably: - The need to strengthen human resources at the level of portal administration to ensure ongoing content updating and the processing of applications, proposals and notifications within the specified deadlines, - The need to merge the too many public participation portals. - The fact that the various mechanisms and channels provided by these portals to engage citizens in public affairs are underused calls for further communication activities around the portals to promote public awareness and urge citizens to use them.
<p>Identification of commitment objectives/expected results</p>	<p>This commitment will ensure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The further development of the two portals (www.e-participation.tn and www.e-people.gov.tn) and increasing their effectiveness and use by public bodies, - The two portals are merged to facilitate their use by the citizen, - Higher use rates by the citizens and clients of the administration towards more participation in public affairs.
<p>How will the commitment contribute to solve the public problem</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Provide mechanisms to enable the effective participation of citizens across the country and abroad in decision-making and the management of public affairs through following up on the issues of public interest, notably the design of public policies and programs and the monitoring of their implementation.

Relevance with OGP values	<p>-Participation: This commitment will help to operationalize and diversify the mechanisms available to engage citizens in the management of public affairs.</p> <p>-Transparency: All data on public policies and reforms will be published along with data on citizen participation in this regard.</p>	
Source of funding /Relation with other programs and policies	State budget	
Stages and implementation timeline	Milestones	Implementation timeline
	Technical improvements to the portals: www.e-participation.tn and “e-people” and the extension of their use to a larger number of public structures.	From January 2022 - December 2023
	Reinforcement of capacities in the field of public participation through the organization of training courses for the benefit of public officials (100 persons).	From September 2021 - December 2023
	Conception and the definition of a communication plan to increase the rates of use of e-participation national portals by the citizen.	From September 2021 - December 2023

Contact point

Name of the responsible person from implementing agency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mr. Khaled Sellami - Ms. Faiza Limam 	
Supervision position and institution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Director General of the E-Government Unit at the Presidency of Government - Director General of the Central bureau for Citizen Relations 	
E-mail address	Khaled.sellami@pm.gov.tn faiza.limam@pm.gov.tn	
Other Actors involved	State actors involved	law and legislation adviser of the Government at the Presidency of the Government
	CSOs, private sector, multilateral, working groups	Tunisian Association for Local Governance

“ Provide mechanisms to enable the effective participation of citizens across the country and abroad in decision-making and the management of public affairs through following up on the issues of public interest, notably the design of public policies and programs and the monitoring of their implementation. ”

Commitment 10: Enhancing the role of youth in designing and monitoring public projects at the local level

Beginning of May 2021 - End of December 2023

Lead implementing agency/actor	Municipalities cooperating with the National Federation of Tunisian Municipalities and the E-Government Unit at the Presidency of Government
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Description of the commitment

Enhancing the role of youth from different age groups and in a number of governorates in the decision-making process and the formulation of national reforms and following up on their implementation. Indeed the youth will be encouraged to use their capabilities, potential and qualifications to express their concerns, opinions and aspirations. In this context, the active participation of youth is a tool for positive change and a model to follow in the process of comprehensive reform and community development. This approach would also contribute to consecrating collective responsibility and proposing solutions to the youth's most common issues, such as unemployment, social and geographical disparity, and illegal migration. In addition, the approach will help with rethinking the priorities and orientations for the benefit of the youth, especially at the local level.

In this context, work will be carried out on the design of mechanisms for engaging the youth in formulating some local projects and monitoring their implementation through enabling them to design action plans that provide for a number of priority projects at the level of 12 municipalities that will be implemented in a participatory manner in cooperation with the relevant stakeholders, notably the local authorities.

A set of mechanisms will also be implemented that will contribute to the continuation of this trend aimed at enhancing youth participation at the local level, such as: the Youth Charter, Signing a partnership agreement with municipalities to ensure continued youth participation, allocating days for youth in the participatory path in a number of municipalities and allocating a percentage of the municipal budget to implement projects proposed by youth. This is in addition to the municipalities organizing periodic meetings with youth.....

Problem/Background	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The limited frameworks available to communicate with the youth about their concerns, - Youth reluctance to participate in public life and local affairs, - Limited practical mechanisms to foster youth participation and representation in public life at the central, regional and local levels in accordance with both the constitution and the national strategies in this field.
Identification of commitment objectives/expected results	Under this commitment, local youth action plans will provide for a range of pilot projects that entrench a culture of partnership between all youth actors at the local level and strengthen the capacities of the various stakeholders in the field of governance and public participation. A large number of young women and men across the country will have an opportunity to express their concerns and perceptions of their own issues. Guarantees should however be provided that youth views are taken on board in decision-making and the design of government projects.
How will the commitment contribute to solve the public problem	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Youth participation in designing action plans at the local level will afford them greater opportunities to display their capacity to participate in public life, - Build youth capacities to work as one team within the framework of a participatory approach that brings together the stakeholders engaged in decision-making at the local level. This will enable the youth to offer ideas and proposals in line with their needs and expectations and help to implement them - Enhance the effectiveness of the decision-making process through a relationship of trust and responsibility between youth and local authorities, which gives a voice to the youth in local affairs.
Relevance with OGP values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Participation: enable young people to have access to public decision-making processes by affording them the opportunity to present ideas and proposals on their own issues - Accountability: provide mechanisms to hold the relevant authorities, notably at the local level, to account with regard to the development and implementation of public reforms.
Source of funding /Relation with other programs and policies	- GIZ

Stages and implementation timeline	Milestones	Implementation timeline
	Open for applications to select 12 municipalities to implement the commitment.	End August 2021
	Presenting the project by organizing open days and workshops in the concerned municipalities.	End September 2022 - End November 2022
	Development of youth work teams (in each team 4 representatives of the administration and 4 representatives of civil society).	End September 2022 - End November 2022
	Implementation of the program related to capacity building (principles of open government, the method of formulating an action plan for youth, the legal framework for public participation...).	December 2022 - March 2023
	Implementation of the project related to the implementation of action plans for youth.	June 2022 - March 2023

Contact point

Name of the responsible person from implementing agency	- Municipalities coordinating with the National Federation of Tunisian Municipalities and the E-Government Unit at the Presidency of Government.	
Supervision position and institution	National Federation of Tunisian Municipalities	
E-mail address		
Other Actors involved	State actors involved	Ministry of Youth and Sport
	CSOs, private sector, multilateral, working groups	

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Youth participation in designing action plans at the local level will afford them greater opportunities to display their capacity to participate in public life

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**THIRD AREA
OF FOCUS**

3



OPEN GOVERNMENT AT THE LOCAL LEVEL

Commitment 11: Entrenching OGP principles at the local level

Beginning of May 2021 - End of December 2023

Lead implementing agency/actor	Municipalities engaged in the OGP Initiative at the local level that have finalized their own action plans in the framework of this initiative.
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Description of the commitment

In line with the objectives of the 2014 Constitution of the Second Republic with respect to establishing local governance in Tunisia, and the provisions of the Local Authorities Code enacted in May 2018 on strengthening local democracy and open government, and to establish new democratic relationships based on engagement and the progressive joint construction of strong, effective, responsible and transparent local institutions in the service of the common good, this commitment aims to:

- Implementation of a number of projects mentioned in the open government action plans in the municipalities that developed these plans in implementation of commitment # 11 of the 2018-2020 Third National OGP Action Plan. These plans provide for a range of projects on the different Open Gov. principles, such as the right to access information and open public data, promoting participatory democracy mechanisms and principles with regard to local governance, bringing administrative services closer to citizens in a digital format, ensuring better governance of natural resources management, capacity development in the Open Gov. areas of focus.

In this context, a number of these projects will be implemented, notably those related to:

* Developing mechanisms to communicate with citizen in 08 municipalities at least and improving reception services. In this context, the digitized citizen space in its new version can be used.

* Inventory public data in at least 08 municipalities and provide open access to priority public data with a focus on spatial data.

It should be noted that a participatory approach will be adopted during the various phases of implementing this commitment. This is done through organizing workshops, seminars and periodic meetings in partnership between the various parties involved in the implementation of the commitment and the concerned municipalities.

Problem/Background	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The inadequate frameworks and mechanisms for coordination between the various initiatives and reforms undertaken by municipalities in the field of open government and the failure to take into account the specificities of each municipality and its relative advantages with regard to these reforms, - Some municipalities are experiencing difficulties that limit the efficiency and effectiveness of their efforts to implement Open Gov. projects, - The limits inherent to the mechanisms for communicating with citizens or for giving effect to their participation in local affairs. - Local authorities in general and municipalities in particular face obstacles, notably with regard to inventorying the data that can be published as open data.
Identification of commitment objectives/expected results	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Build a governance system that is rooted in the local context through promoting joint action in the context of OGP action plans at the national level, - Provide an operational framework to coordinate and advance the implementation of a number of OGP commitments at the local level, which contributes to the entrenchment of local participatory democracy and a better quality of municipal services, - Further bring the concept of open government closer to the citizens so that it can be leveraged to enhance the quality of municipal services and so that citizens can participate in laying solid foundations for the governance of local public affairs, - Enhance the capacities of local officials to engage in the open data program, thus facilitating municipal public data inventories.
How will the commitment contribute to solve the public problem	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Support the implementation of projects and initiatives that entrench the principles of open government, serve the region, and have a direct and tangible impact on the lives of citizens, - Strengthening the role of municipalities in involving youth, civil society organizations and local public and private structures in managing local affairs, - Help municipalities to plan and improve their services by developing and digitizing their work methods, thus providing citizens with prompt access to the necessary information and services, - Provide prompt, high-quality municipal services that meet the aspirations and expectations of citizens, - Streamline and clarify administrative and service delivery procedures, to reduce processing times for applications and bring services closer to citizens. - Achieve the expected added value from the inventory of public data in a number of municipalities and their publication in an open format through enhanced data reuse based on various models.

Relevance with OGP values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Participation: The participation of all citizens in the implementation of the participatory commitments and projects provided for in the action plans, thus enabling these citizens to implement reforms and initiatives that take their needs into account, - Accountability: Monitor the decision-making process and hold the municipality to account regarding the development and implementation of public policies at the local level, - Enhancing the quality of public services: upgrade and develop municipal services by strengthening the mechanisms of communication with citizens (e-citizen space) and enabling the reuse of open public data to develop new citizen-friendly administrative services. 	
Source of funding /Relation with other programs and policies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - GIZ - The French Development Agency within the framework of the “PAGOF Program » 	
Stages and implementation timeline	Milestones	Implementation timeline
With regard to developing mechanisms for communication with citizens at the level of 08 municipalities:		
Develop communication plans according to the requirements and characteristics of each municipality.	November 2021 - January 2022	
Supporting the capabilities of the employees in these municipalities.	February 2022 - April 2022	
Acquisition of some machines and equipment necessary to carry out the various communicative activities	February 2022 - April 2022	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop a visual identity specific to each municipality to facilitate the communication process. 	February 2022 - April 2022	
For the inventory of public data at the level of 08 municipalities:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Organizing meetings with the concerned municipalities to present the objective of the project, work methodology and inventory model 	November 2021 - January 2022	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Diagnosing the data inventory owned by the municipalities by working on the inventory model that will be adopted in this path 	February 2022 - May 2022	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conducting evaluation and follow-up meetings to see the progress in implementing the inventory process in order to overcome the difficulties and improve the quality of the data included in the inventory form 	June 2022 - August 2022	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Approval of the final version of the inventory at the level of each municipality 	October 2022	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Publication of priority public data sets in an open format, with importance given to geographical data. 	December 2022	

Contact point

Name of the responsible person from implementing agency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ms. Monia Nouagi: Municipality of Carthage, - Mrs. Salwa Al-Rajhi: Municipality of Hammam Al-Shatt, - Mr. Chadli El-Fihri and Mr. Mohamed Amin Majdoub: Municipality of Dar Chaaben Fehri - Mr. Ahmed Belhaj Mbarak: Municipality of Zaouiat Sousse; - Mr. Mohamed Boukeel: Municipality of Zriba; - Mr. Abdel Sattar Al-Qadri: Municipality of Regueb; - Mrs. Ayeda Jendoubi: Municipality of Souassi, - Mrs. Samira El-Omri: Municipality of Gabes. 	
Supervision position and institution	Coordinators of the commitment n° 11 of the 3rd OGP-Action Plan	
E-mail address	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ms. Monia Nouagi: mairie.carthage@planet.tn - Mrs. Salwa Al-Rajhi: rajhi.saloua@gmail.com - Mr. Chadli El-Fihri and Mr. Mohamed Amin Majdoub: communedcf@commune-dar-chaabane-elfehri.gov.tn - Mr. Ahmed Belhaj Mbarak: ahmedhjbarek2011@gmail.com - Mr. Mohamed Boukeel: kilymed@gmail.com - Mr. Abdel Sattar Al-Qadri: communeregueb@gmail.com - Mrs. Ayeda Jendoubi: communesouassi.1965@gmail.com - Mrs. Samira El-Omri: samiraamorri30@gmail.com 	
Other Actors involved	State actors involved	Ministry of Local Affairs and the Environment
	CSOs, private sector, multilateral, working groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Federation of Tunisian Municipalities - Tunisian Association for Local Governance, - Onshor association

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Support the implementation of projects and initiatives that entrench the principles of open government, serve the region, and have a direct and tangible impact on the lives of citizens

Strengthening the role of municipalities in involving youth, civil society organizations and local public and private structures in managing local affairs

Help municipalities to plan and improve their services by developing and digitizing their work methods, thus providing citizens with prompt access to the necessary information and services

Provide prompt, high-quality municipal services that meet the aspirations and expectations of citizens

Streamline and clarify administrative and service delivery procedures, to reduce processing times for applications and bring services closer to citizens

Achieve the expected added value from the inventory of public data in a number of municipalities and their publication in an open format through enhanced data reuse based on various models.

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Commitment 12:

Supporting financial transparency at the local level

Beginning of May 2021 - End of December 2023

Lead implementing agency/actor

The High Authority for Local Finance and the E-Government Unit

Description of the commitment

Article 127 of Chapter Four of the Local Authorities Code on the local authorities financial system stipulates that:

“The state is committed to establishing a national online network on the sound management of the resources and properties of all local authorities to keep the inventory of real estate property and activities updated. This aims to ensure the collection of taxes, fees, charges and local contributions and to follow up on the development of expenditures and resources with a view to putting this data at the disposal of the High Local Finance Authority to facilitate the implementation of its mandate and the development of public policies.

Local authorities commit to endorsing and using the aforementioned networks”.

Article 61 of the same Code stipulates that:

“A higher local finance authority shall be established, under the supervision of the Supreme Council of Local Authorities, to consider all issues related to local finance, support, modernize and dispose of them in accordance with the rules of good governance and in a manner that would support the financial independence of local communities and reduce disparities between them.... ”

In this context, work will be carried out based on this commitment to upgrade and digitize the system for the realization of local municipal revenues by developing a digital platform bringing together the Authority, the local authorities and the central authority. The platform will include data and indicators related to local finance as well as economic and social statistical data to be agreed upon with the stakeholders.

A participatory approach will also be adopted throughout the implementation of this commitment. This participatory approach will be embodied in the organization of a number of workshops, seminars and meetings with various intervening parties such as municipalities, the Ministry of Local Affairs and the Environment, Federation of Tunisian Municipalities and a number of associations active in the field.

<p>Problem/Background</p>	<p>Issues in the management of local finances:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The failure to enact the government regulatory orders for the Local Authorities Code, which represents a legal issue with implications on the operation of local authorities, particularly with respect to local finances - Many practical challenges posed by the legal framework regulating the management of the property of the local authorities, notably the proliferation and fragmentation of legislations, thus leading to problems in collecting local municipal revenues. - The failure of the National Council on Public Accounting Standards to complete the publication of the standards for public authorities accounting, in accordance with Article 191 of the Local Authorities Code on the local authorities accounting system - Inadequate human resources at the level of local authorities, especially the municipalities and municipal tax offices in charge of the quantitative and qualitative management of municipal finances. The lack of modern management mechanisms and tools, which impacts the collection of local revenues. - Rampant indebtedness of most Tunisian municipalities.
<p>Identification of commitment objectives/expected results</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop local municipal finances, - Foster a sounder, more effective and transparent management of local financial revenues, - Encourage the necessary reforms. - Enhance the municipality’s role in achieving economic, social and cultural development since it is the local authority closest to the citizen,
<p>How will the commitment contribute to solve the public problem</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Enhance the available municipal financial capacities for better municipal services, - Identify the needs of the municipalities in line with the needs of the citizens, taking into account the characteristics of the municipality and its comparative advantages. - Identify the untapped, new or developable resources, and making proposals thereto.
<p>Relevance with OGP values</p>	<p>- Transparency and accountability: empower citizens and CSOs to follow up on the performance of local authorities and holding them to account with respect to local public finances.</p>
<p>Source of funding /Relation with other programs and policies</p>	

Stages and implementation timeline	Milestones	Implementation timeline
	Creation of a multilateral working group to follow up the implementation of the commitment under the supervision of the Commission	August 2021
	Determining the functional and technical needs of the platform	December 2021
	Choosing the study office that will develop the platform	March 2022
	Platform design and development.	January 2023
	Experience and approval of the platform by the team	March 2023
	Conducting sensitization sessions to introduce the platform and formative sessions for the parties involved in grafting the exploitation of the platform	May 2023
	Put the platform on the line and graft it with the connected data	June 2023

Contact point

Name of the responsible person from implementing agency	Ms. Amel Elloumi Baouab	
Supervision position and institution	President of the High Local Finance Authority	
E-mail address	president@hifl.tn	
Other Actors involved	State actors involved	E-Government Unit at the Presidency of Government
	CSOs, private sector, multilateral, working groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Federation of Tunisian Municipalities - Tunisian Association for Local Governance, - Onshor association


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Identify the untapped, new or developable resources, and making proposals thereto.

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**FOURTH AREA
OF FOCUS**

4



ENHANCING THE QUALITY OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES AND DIGITIZING THEM

Commitment 13:

Developing a range of online administrative services at the sectoral level

Beginning of May 2021 - End of December 2023

Lead implementing agency/actor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Direction of Public service Quality at the Presidency of Government - Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Migration and Tunisians Abroad - Tunisian Investment Authority
Description of the commitment	
<p>This commitment aims to develop the administrative working methods by leveraging the available technologies to provide easy-to-access, high quality, effective and transparent online administrative services for the benefit of citizen and to alleviate the burden placed on both citizens and the administration.</p> <p>To this end, a range of online administrative services will be developed in many sectors, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * An online directory of public bodies with spatial and geographical information about the public entities on maps and the services they deliver. * Develop the online consular services delivered by the delegations reporting to the ministry through establishing the e-consular website. * Develop a range of online administrative services intended for investors, including the filing and processing of applications for residence permits, affiliation to CNSS, Customs ID and Tax ID. <p>These services will contribute to the establishment of mechanisms for participation and interaction between citizens and public service providers through the possibility of submitting and following up the services requests online.</p> <p>The development of these services will also promote the reuse of open public data by creating citizen-oriented applications based on this data; In addition to further activating the access to information right by ensuring the right of access to necessary documents and information when using public services.</p>	
Problem/Background	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The inadequacy of the traditional methods for the provision of administrative services with the needs of the clients of the administration - The limited number of currently available online services at a time when citizens need more effective and transparent services that could be readily accessible online, - The difficult access to a range of services, notably for a number of the Central Administration's clients.
Identification of commitment objectives/expected results	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Further bringing administrative services closer to citizens and facilitating access to them, - Facilitating access to information regarding administrative procedures and services, - Facilitating the users' access to administrative services in order to improve their quality - Providing more transparent and streamlined services in a number of sectors.
How will the commitment contribute to solve the public problem	<p>This commitment will provide effective and ready online access to administrative services without there being a need for the in-person presence of the client. Moreover, more safeguards in terms of transparency and effectiveness are provided</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The delivery of cost-effective services within shorter deadlines.
Relevance with OGP values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Transparency: Ensuring the transparency of the procedures adopted to provide the service and improve its quality <p>Entrenching the principles of transparency and integrity and fighting corruption:</p> <p>The development of these services online will increase their use by the citizen. The online use to services will lead to more transparency of the service-related information, procedures and processes. Responsibilities are clearly identified regarding the delivery of the service, which helps to curb corruption that arises from the in-person contact between public officers and the citizen.</p>
Source of funding /Relation with other programs and policies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Budgets of the implementing public bodies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Presidency of Government * Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Migration and Tunisians Abroad, * Tunisian Investment Authority

Stages and implementation timeline	Milestones	Implementation timeline
Developing an online directory of public structures		
	Drafting the specification and selection of the studies office will be in charge of the project development	June 2022
	Design, development and testing of the application	December 2022
	put online the application	June 2023
Develop the online consular services		
	Appointing a steering committee to follow up the project	July 2021
	Drafting the specification and selection of the studies office	December 2021
	Design of the dedicated e-consular services	June 2023
Develop a range of online administrative services intended for investors		
	Identify the list of services to be developed	December 2021
	Identify the technical characteristics and drafting the specification	June 2022
	Design, development of the services	March 2023
	Testing and put online of the services	June 2023

Contact point

Name of the responsible person from implementing agency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mr. Amin Al-Hishri, Presidency of Government, - Mr. Fouad Jawadi, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Migration and Tunisians Abroad, - Tunisian Investment Authority . 	
Supervision position and institution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mr. Amin Al-Hishri, Public service adviser-Presidency of Government, - Mr. Fouad Jawadi, Head of service of Consular Affairs-Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Migration and Tunisians Abroad, - Tunisian Investment Authority 	
E-mail address	Mr. Amin Al-Hishri :amine.hichri@pm.gov.tn Mr. Fouad Jawadi: f.jaouadi@diplomatie.gov.tn	
Other Actors involved	State actors involved	E-Government Unit
	CSOs, private sector, multilateral, working groups	Tunisian Association for Local Governance

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This commitment will provide effective and ready online access to administrative services without there being a need for the in-person presence of the client. Moreover, more safeguards in terms of transparency and effectiveness are provided

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الإدارة الإلكترونية التونسية
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