



OPEN GOVERNMENT PARTNERSHIP

ROMANIA

2022-2024 NATIONAL ACTION PLAN

July 2022

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CONTEXT

Open government is the key to maintaining a functioning democracy in a modern and inclusive society. The Romanian Government has developed the 6th National Action Plan (NAP) since it joined the Open Government Partnership (OGP) international initiative in 2011¹. Romania thus reaffirms its determination to promote, support and develop policies specific to an open government, in which transparency, digitalisation of the administration, the fight against corruption, civic participation, institutional inclusion and accountability represent decisive values in the development, on democratic basis, of policies at the level of the government, by respecting the citizens' agenda.

Romania's efforts since accession until today have been noted at international level, in particular through the exercise of two consecutive mandates within the Steering Committee of the Open Government Partnership, in the period 2015-2021². The Romanian Government has thus capitalised on the opportunity to respect the OGP values and promote them globally, underlining, at the same time, the progress made by Romania due to the new measures dedicated to building a consolidated democracy, based on the real growth of citizens' trust in institutions. At the same time, the results of previous commitments undertaken by Romania confirmed the increase of the institutional capacity of the public administration to play an essential role in ensuring the infrastructure necessary to implement the principles of open governance, independently of the developments at the level of political ownership.

The actions related to the Open Government Partnership are based on the corroboration of the principles of a functioning and prosperous democratic society, reiterated by national strategies with similar objectives, such as the National Anti-Corruption Strategy 2021-2025, the Strategy for Strengthening the Public Administration 2014-2020, the National Strategy for Research and Innovation 2014-2020, the National Strategy on the Digital Agenda for Romania 2020, the National Strategy for Sustainable Development of Romania 2030, the National Strategy on Social Inclusion and Poverty Reduction 2015-2020, the National Strategy for Youth Policy 2021-2027.

The design of the new National Action Plan 2022-2024 tends to follow the format developed so far, that of maintaining consistency and a natural causal evolution, between the targets and stakes of the previous commitments implemented by Romania, respectively the current ones, made in permanent collaboration with civil society. Moreover, the latter had an overwhelming role in identifying the activities related to priority themes, such as opening the administration to the real needs of civil society by managing innovative processes in the public sector, increasing the transparency and efficiency of granting grants to the associative environment, or

¹ <http://ogp.gov.ro/nou/2021/09/06/bilant-10-ani-de-ogp-romania/>.

² <https://www.opengovpartnership.org/news/argentina-france-nigeria-and-romania-elected-to-lead-open-government-partnership/>.

the integrated approach in providing basic social, educational and community healthcare services at community level.

Thus, in the process of elaborating the new NAP 2022-2024, the lessons learned from the implementation of the previous action plan were first taken advantage of, complemented by the recommendations presented in the Independent Reporting Mechanism report of the OGP.

STEPS TAKEN TO STRENGTHEN OPEN GOVERNANCE IN ROMANIA

Over the past two years, the steps to strengthen open governance have been implemented through actions to promote the objectives of the OGP, both at national and international level.

At government level, the General Secretariat of the Government ensured a permanent consultation process with members of civil society, joint efforts aimed at both implementing and evaluating commitments. Both at the level of 2020, but also on the occasion of the change of subsequent government formulas, the General Secretariat of the Government has asked ministries to designate, or, where appropriate, reconfirm the appointment of an official at state secretary level on the area of open governance³. This approach aimed at a good control of the implementation process of the OGP commitments, but also an adequate knowledge by the institutions of the stage of implementation, through teams of specialists co-opted in joint working groups, together with the members of representatives from the level of civil society. Moreover, the OGP National Handbook⁴ identifies four main stages in the process of co-creating plans: process planning, information activities and involvement of stakeholders and audiences, development of the action plan and feedback (informing all participants on the final outcome).

Among the commitments successfully implemented under the 2020-2022 NAP can be mentioned *“Coordination of the management of innovative processes for streamlining participation in public administration decisions”, “Transparency of granting non-refundable financing from public funds according to the Law no. 350/2005” and “Increasing the awareness of citizens in Romania and the Republic of Moldova regarding projects financed by the Romanian Government in the Republic of Moldova through digitisation/publication of information”*⁵.

As regards to the commitment dedicated to increasing innovation capacity at the level of public administration, the core result was the development of the *Guide for an innovative approach to citizens’ involvement in decision-making*, with the Government Secretariat-General benefiting

³ <http://ogp.gov.ro/nou/2021/04/08/intalnire-introductiva-cu-reprezentantii-desemnati-responsabili-cu-problematika-ogp-din-cadrul-ministerelor/>.

⁴ <https://www.opengovpartnership.org/documents/ogp-national-handbook-rules-and-guidance-for-participants-2022/>.

⁵ <http://ogp.gov.ro/nou/pna2020/>.

from the expertise provided by the OECD (Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development) Public Sector Innovation Observatory (OPSI), following constant institutional collaboration throughout 2021. The guide aims to support central public authorities in managing the innovative processes necessary for proper interaction with civil society in order to make participatory processes more efficient, while also seeking to inspire civil society stakeholders, focusing on raising awareness of the relevance of building a sustainable partnership between the state and citizens.

The process of elaborating and disseminating the Guide included a number of previous efforts carried out in partnership with OPSI, OECD and civil society experts, which consisted of the elaboration of two questionnaires entitled *'Assessing the practices of central and local public administration in the decision-making process and ensuring access to information of public interest'*, applied both to central and local public administration (ministers and county councils) and to civil society. The analysis revealed that the necessary reconfigurations regarding the hierarchy of priorities in the public administration are correlated, over the next years, with the multiplication of innovative methods of interacting with representatives of civil society, and institutional management will be progressively oriented towards a new "data bureaucracy", in which the advance of digitisation will provide easily machine-readable, storeable, quickly disseminated information accessible to all interested citizens.

Also at the level of the General Secretariat of the Government, following the analysis based on the research carried out at the beginning of 2021, aimed at assessing the practices regarding the granting of non-refundable funds from public funds at the level of the central and local public administration, the commitment *"Transparentisation of awarding grants from public funds according to Law no. 350/2005"* was implemented. Having as partners the Nonprofit Center for Legislation and the Romanian Youth Council, the commitment included the elaboration of a public policy proposal in the field of grants, together with the establishment of additional functionalities to the CONECT platform, aimed at the centralised publication of the grants awarded under the provisions of Law no. 350/2005 on the regime of grants from public funds allocated for non-profit activities of general interest.

The public policy proposal aims to increase the transparency in the allocation of grants from public funds, according to Law no. 350/2005, the General Secretariat of the Government launching in public consultation the document in order to receive suggestions/proposals from representatives of public administration and non-governmental sector. The consolidated and approved version of the public policy proposal was subsequently subject to an extensive information and dissemination process, together with the Guide on Transparency of Grants from Public Funds according to Law no. 350/2005.

Last but not least, an example of success regarding the implementation of the 2020-2022 NAP, with measurable results and positive effects and impact on society, was the commitment *"Increasing the awareness of citizens in Romania and the Republic of Moldova on projects financed by the Romanian Government in the Republic of Moldova, through digitisation/publication of information"*. This commitment created the interface of the

interactive map of Romania and the Republic of Moldova, on the website of the Department for Relations with the Republic of Moldova (drmm.gov.ro). Thus, links were created between partners from the two states, with the possibility of direct access to the following information: name of institutions, type of partnership agreement, amount of funding, funded project, etc. At the same time, a search function for beneficiaries and funding providers was implemented. Optimisations of the map interface and the interactive map search function are also expected.

In order to efficiently and qualitatively implement the commitments, according to the OGP standards, the General Secretariat of the Government ensured, through the technical Secretariat of the National Coordination Committee, together with the national Point of Contact, the coordination and monitoring of the implementation of the National Action Plan, thus respecting the recommendations of the IRM Report, namely:

- Strengthening the institutional framework in which the OGP process takes place;
- Establish online participation and deliberation mechanisms to interact with decision-makers and facilitate accountability of public officials on open governance issues.

In line with the principle of implementing OGP's commitments through a solid institutional framework, the MSF – the National Coordination Committee (CNC) of the Open Government Partnership has the role to develop and implement national action plans, respectively to coordinate the monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of the specific actions of these plans. The CNC consists, according to the standards of the Open Government Partnership, of an equal number of representatives of public administration authorities and civil society.

The representatives of the public institutions that have undertaken commitments in the Action Plans are members of the National Coordination Committee, the representation being ensured at the level of state secretary and alternate members of the technical staff.

For the 2020-2022 mandate, the non-governmental members of the National Coordination Committee for OGP were appointed through a selection process organised by the General Secretariat of the Government, in compliance with the implementation of a transparent and inclusive process⁶.

The OGP Technical Secretariat for the coordination of the implementation of the Open Government Partnership is provided by the Open Government Service (department within the Secretariat-General of the Government) and the OGP national Point of Contact.

⁶ <http://ogp.gov.ro/nou/cnc-2021-2022/>.

PROCESS FOR THE PREPARATION OF THE NATIONAL ACTION PLAN 2022-2024

The draft of the 2022-2024 National Action Plan was prepared on the basis of the proposals of the central public administration (ministers and agencies subordinated to ministries) and civil society from February to May 2022⁷.

Initiated at the level of the Secretariat-General of the Government, the entire process of formulating, elaborating, consulting and undertaking commitments included a complex set of debates and consultations, by co-opting interested partners, in order to identify priorities and action lines that could generate ambitious and fully achievable commitments, starting from pressing priorities in society, across different sectors and/or areas.

The General Secretariat of the Government started with a first step regarding the scanning and identification by public administration authorities and civil society representatives of possible ideas and priorities with the potential to propose provisional variants of commitments. This involved the organising of information activities and the involvement of stakeholders and the public concerned in the pre-stage of the elaboration of NAP 2022-2024. Thus, the General Secretariat of the Government organised, between September 2021 and January 2022, 4 meetings/debates under the aegis of the OGP Club, on topics such as: civic space⁸, digitalisation⁹, anti-corruption¹⁰ and organizational culture¹¹. The debates were aimed at encouraging public authorities and civil society to collaborate and develop in partnership potential commitments for the 2022-2024 NAP, to enhance government action.

Subsequently, the actual online public consultation phase dedicated to the development of new commitments, as well as the call/receipt of proposals from public institutions (ministers, agencies and subordinated/coordinating authorities, central autonomous authorities) and the members of the National Coordination Committee took place between February and March 2022. Moreover, the OGP Technical Secretariat has initiated and organised 32 online meetings with the representatives of the institutions (identified together with the MSF) to further inform them on the priorities of the OGP and on the resources available to identify relevant and ambitious commitments¹². Subsequently, the OGP Technical Secretariat centralised and published all the proposals for commitments received on the website www.ogp.gov.ro and forwarded them to the members of the National Coordination Committee.

At the end of this phase and following the centralization of proposals, the OGP Technical Secretariat proposed to the National Coordination Committee a prioritisation of the 74

⁷ <http://ogp.gov.ro/nou/calendar-2022/>.

⁸ <http://ogp.gov.ro/nou/2021/09/30/ogp-club-factori-favorizanti-pentru-implicarea-spatilui-civic-in-romania-2/>.

⁹ <http://ogp.gov.ro/nou/2021/11/08/ogp-club-digitalizarea-administratiei-publice-3-noiembrie-2021/>.

¹⁰ <http://ogp.gov.ro/nou/2021/12/13/ogp-club-integritate-si-transparenta-continuarea-eforturilor-anticoruptie-in-romania/>.

¹¹ <http://ogp.gov.ro/nou/2022/01/28/ogp-club-cultura-organizationala-a-guvernarii-deschise-27-ianuarie-2022/>.

¹² <http://ogp.gov.ro/nou/consultare-2022/>.

proposals for commitments¹³ from civil society and public institutions considered ambitious and relevant, and proposed a calendar of joint meetings for their development (12 meetings) in April 2022. Besides participating themselves, the representatives of civil society in the MSF had the opportunity to invite experts to these meetings on specific topics under discussion. In line with the requirements of the OGP, this phase included analysing the proposals received, defining problems, working on solutions and drafting commitments. The commitments resulting from these joint meetings were published and submitted to a new public consultation session, focused on the consolidated variants of the National Action Plan 2022-2024¹⁴.

AREAS COVERED BY THE COMMITMENTS

The 2022-2024 National Action Plan for the implementation of the Open Government Partnership aims to develop new commitments in areas such as:

- civic space;
- transparency;
- justice and integrity;
- digitisation;
- public participation and consultation;
- inclusion and gender equality;
- open data.

¹³ <http://ogp.gov.ro/nou/propuneri-primite-2022/>.

¹⁴ <http://ogp.gov.ro/nou/2022/05/16/lansarea-celei-de-a-doua-etape-de-consultare-privind-pna-2022-2024/>.

COMMITMENTS

Civic space		
1. Standardisation of administrative procedures for the recognition of the public utility status		
Duration: 2022-2024		
Leading agency/institution for implementation	General Secretariat of the Government (SGG) — Directorate-General for Open Governance, Public Relations and Cooperation — Open Governance Service	
Partners	central Public Administration	Central public authorities and institutions
	civil society	Will be identified during the implementation of the commitment
Description of the problem	<p>Although the current normative framework includes legal provisions regarding the conditions to be met in order to obtain the status of public utility by legal entities without a patrimonial purpose, the authorities and institutions of central public administration initiating draft government decisions granting utility status identified a number of difficulties/problems in the uniform application of this framework.</p> <p>At present, within each authority and institution initiating draft Government Decisions, there is no structure designated for the management of applications for granting public utility status.</p> <p>Given that the procedure for granting, monitoring and evaluating the status of public utility is carried out by the officials of each initiating institution subjectively, in a non-unitary manner, it is necessary to clarify the stages of procedures for obtaining public status.</p> <p>Representatives from the structures of responsible administrative authorities and institutions need to acquire new tools, knowledge, skills and connections to help them explore appropriate possibilities for interaction with the general public.</p> <p>In the absence of uniformity in the application of the provisions on the status of public utility of Government Ordinance No. 26/2000</p>	

	<p>(https://legislatie.just.ro/Public/DetaliuDocument/20740), a standardised model, accompanied by criteria or indicators, becomes useful for the central public administration authority that assesses the application and initiates a draft Government Decision granting public utility status. This is even more the case, as currently there is a perceived subjectivity in the processing of applications for granting public utility status.</p> <p>The staff of public authorities and institutions signaled the need for inter-ministerial collaboration, such as the creation of a working group between the co-initiators of H.G. projects to provide public utility for organisations carrying out complex activities pertaining to the domains of two or more authorities and institutions.</p>
Description of the commitment	
What the commitment includes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Development and implementation of working tools at the level of public authorities and institutions in order to harmonise practices regarding the recognition of public utility status. 2. Develop a single digital tool aimed at supporting the community of expertise interested in drawing up decisions on the management of applications for public utility status and officials of the central executive dealing with civil society.
what are the results pursued	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - encouraging representatives of legal entities without patrimonial purpose to participate in the digitisation of the application process for granting public utility status and facilitating interaction between public administration and civil society; - uniformisation, transparency and digitalisation of the practices of central public authorities and institutions in the field of public utility; - better coordination of public decisions within the time limits laid down for applications for public utility status according to the provisions of Government Ordinance No.26/2000, amended and supplemented; - the possibility to track the status of the submitted applications;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - increasing the quality of processes by facilitating NGOs' access to the necessary information and structures responsible for managing applications for public utility status within public authorities and institutions; - building skills of civil servants for a unitary and transparent approach to the instruments used in the process. 		
what is the major objective	<p>Development of a coordination mechanism at SGG level to support central public authorities and institutions to manage the processes of granting public utility status, in order to optimise interaction with representatives of legal entities without patrimonial purpose that wish to obtain the status of public utility by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ensuring the possibility of online submission; - simplifying and enhancing the quality of inter-institutional communication on the one hand and between institutions and civil society on the other; - implement digital solutions to make the work of public authorities and institutions more efficient on all three plans: at inter-institutional level, institutionally and externally, in relation to civil society (given the large volume of documentation submitted by NGOs and its cumbersome management at inter-institutional level). 		
Measurable activities	Responsible (institution/partner)	Start date	Date of completion
Organising regular meetings with representatives of the institutions of the target group for the uniformisation of practices and implementation of working tools at the level of public authorities and institutions	SGG/Public Institutions/	2022	2023
Organising regular meetings with representatives from civil society and associative environment — collecting and centralising their proposals on improving the standardised working tools proposed by	Representatives of civil society and associative environment/NGOs	2022	2023

SGG on the one hand and platform functionalities on the other hand			
Assessment within the target group of central authorities and institutions of the level of civil society involvement processes and of the quality of the administration-non-governmental sector relationship. (questionnaire/meeting with public institutions)	SGG/Public Institutions/	2023	2024
Establishing and implementing functionalities for the online application platform that will be created for the submission of public utility status requests. (questionnaire/meeting with public institutions, questionnaire/meeting with NGOs)	SGG/Public Institutions/NGOs	2022	2024
Creation of the database with access to the sections of the websites of public authorities and institutions where standardised tools are found and the publication of data in open format on the data.gov.ro portal, including the unique register of legal entities without patrimonial purpose with the status of public utility with the insertion of the final form of the Government Decision granting/withdrawal of the public utility status	SGG/Public Institutions	2022	2024
Development of the guide for the online submission of the application and the upload of documentation on the SGG website (questionnaire/meetings with NGOs, questionnaires/meetings with public institutions)	SGG/Public Institutions/NGOs	2022	2024
Informing and disseminating the Guide to public administration and civil society authorities and institutions, as well as monitoring the use of the digital instrument (information sessions with NGOs and public institutions)	SGG/Public Institutions/NGOs	2024	2024

Information and training sessions with representatives of the institutions of the target group on uniform practices, implementation of working tools at the level of public authorities and institutions using the digital tool (platform)	SGG/Public Institutions/	2023	2024
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Transparency		
2. Pilot Program — Transparentisation of participatory budgeting process		
Duration July 2022 — June 2024		
Leading agency/institution for implementation	General Secretariat of the Government — Directorate-General for Open Governance, Public Relations and Cooperation — Open Governance Service	
Contact person within the responsible institution	Patrichi Ana-Maria — Adviser Open Government Service ana.patrichi@gov.ro	
Partners	government environment	Court of Accounts of Romania
	civil society	Will be identified during the implementation of the commitment
	others	Local government authorities (LPAs)
Description of the problem	<p>Currently, the organizational culture at the level of the public administration in Romania requires a number of adjustments in terms of participatory processes, in general, but especially regarding budgetary allocations from public funds. The allocation of public money requires a high level of transparency, but also the direct involvement of citizens in all procedural steps specific to this area. Increasing participatory budgeting practices at the level of public authorities in Romania can be an essential factor for the proper distribution of public funds, for increasing the legitimacy of the use of public money and, in particular, for increasing citizens' trust.</p> <p>The latter can be identified by a number of issues in government works, such as: lack of information or incomplete information on the participatory budgeting process, insufficient allocations of funds and without annual recurrence.</p>	
Description of the commitment		
What the commitment means	<p>The purpose of the commitment is to identify how participatory budgeting processes can be improved and if any legislative changes have to be made.</p> <p>The commitment consists of analysing existing practices at national level, achieving unified practices</p>	

	in the budgetary process, organising exchanges of good practice and training sessions with public authorities, as well as providing guidance/recommendations on the participatory budgeting process.		
what are the results pursued	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increasing the number of local authorities allocating participatory budgets - Increase in the number of projects submitted by civil society - Creating an online catalogue on the CONECT platform (https://conect.gov.ro/) with public authorities allocating participatory budget at national level - Increasing the number of users of the CONECT platform 		
what is the major objective	Transparency in the process of allocating and using the annual participatory budget of public authorities		
Measurable activities (maximum 5)	Responsible (institution/partner)	Start date	Date of completion
1. analysis of the current situation (impediments, difficulties in providing participatory budgets, inconsistency in running programs etc.). A questionnaire will be sent to the local public authorities, the questions of which will answer the above-mentioned issues and on the willingness of the authorities to engage in this participatory budgetary process. Depending on their response, it will be possible to establish an exact number of authorities who will participate in the working meetings and implicitly in the training sessions. At the same time, a questionnaire will be applied at the level of representative NGOs at the level of each county.	SGG/ Court of Accounts of Romania /Local Public Authorities /NGOs	July 2022	October 2022
2. organising 4 working meetings with the aim of presenting models of good practice at national level. The meetings will also have the role of stimulating	SGG/ Court of Accounts of Romania /Local Public Authorities (LPA)/NGOs	November 2022	March 2023

local public authorities to offer participatory budgets and hence to attract civil society within this programme.			
3. organisation of 8 training sessions moderated by public authorities that successfully implement participatory budgets and the Court of Accounts of Romania. During these meetings, local public authorities will be able to learn step by step the stages of participatory budgeting (the development of the institution's budget, the way the meetings are held, the selection of priorities, the development of funding guides, project fiches, etc.)	SGG/ Court of Accounts of Romania /LPAs	April 2023	December 2023
4. creating a catalogue (databases) that will be published on the CONECT platform. It will contain information provided by public authorities and shall be kept up to date.	SGG	July 2022	June 2024
5. Development of an indicative guide/recommendations on the participatory budgeting process for both public authorities and civil society.	SGG/ Court of Accounts of Romania /PLs/NGOs	January 2024	June 2024
Other information			
Budget required (lei) (source, if it already exists)	State Budget (SGG)		

Justice and Integrity		
3. Increasing the transparency, de-bureaucracy and integrity of the deconcentrated services of the Ministry of Culture		
Duration: August 2022 — December 2023		
Leading agency/institution for implementation	Ministry of Culture	
Contact person within the responsible institution	<i>Diaconescu Andrei</i> <i>Public Manager</i> <i>Department of Management of Cultural Institutions</i> <i>andrei.diaconescu@cultura.ro</i>	
Partners	government environment	County Directorates for Culture and Bucharest
	civil society	Romanian Association for Transparency/Transparency International Romania (TI-Ro)
Description of the problem	<p>Currently, at the level of the deconcentrated services of the Ministry of Culture, the degree of transparency/de-bureaucracy is relatively low. There are elements of good practice in the field, but they are not implemented at the level of all devolved services. The main problems created by the existing bureaucracy can be improved/prevented by introducing an effective standardisation of the specialised work of devolved services.</p> <p>At the same time, taking into account the specificity of the cultural field, which does not have specific legal regulations on the prevention of integrity incidents and vulnerabilities to corruption, it is necessary to develop a guide on institutional integrity in the field of conflicts of interest and incompatibility.</p>	
Description of the commitment		
What the commitment means	The commitment is to analyse the legislative framework and the practice that governs the specialised work of devolved services, in order to make the activity more efficient, as well as to reduce their vulnerabilities.	
what are the pursued results	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increasing the degree of transparency/de-bureaucratisation of the specialised activity of devolved services. - Elaboration of unitary operational procedures at the 	

	<p>level of the County Directorates for Culture and Bucharest, respectively, for the specialised activity.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop a guide on avoiding conflicts of interest and incompatibilities at the level of devolved services. - Standardisation of expert information on the websites of devolved services. - Publication of unitary procedures on the websites of the devolved services as well as on the website of the Ministry of Culture. 		
what is the major objective	Elaboration and implementation of operational procedures with unitary framework content at the level of the Ministry's devolved services.		
Measurable activities (maximum 5)	Responsible (institution/partner)	Start date	Date of completion
<p>1. Carrying out analyses on:</p> <p>a) the legislative framework in force;</p> <p>b) existing formalised procedures at the level of devolved services;</p> <p>c) the specialised information on the websites of the devolved services;</p> <p>d) vulnerabilities to corruption;</p> <p>e) good practices in the field.</p> <p>and the preparation of reports in this regard.</p>	<p>Ministry of Culture Deconcentrated services <i>Transparency International -Ro will be involved with the MC in carrying out the analyses and drafting of the respective reports</i></p>	01.08.2022	31.12.2022
<p>2.1. Organisation of information/consultation sessions with representatives of devolved services following the analyses in point 1</p> <p>2.2. Organising training sessions in the field of integrity with an emphasis on ensuring transparency, avoiding conflicts of interest, protecting whistleblowers in the public interest, identifying, avoiding and managing corruption risks, for employees of deconcentrated services</p>	<p>Ministry of Culture Deconcentrated services <i>TI-Ro will provide experts and integrity training programmes with a focus on ensuring transparency, avoiding conflicts of interest, protecting whistleblowers in the public interest, identifying, avoiding and managing corruption risks</i></p>	01.01.2023	31.03.2023
<p>3. Development and adoption of procedures with unitary framework content, as well as a guide to integrity</p>	<p>Ministry of Culture <i>TI-Ro will provide examples of good</i></p>	01.04.2023	31.07.2023

	<i>practice at national and international level</i>		
4. Information and dissemination of procedures and guidance at the level of devolved services for implementation, and their publication on the Ministry's and the devolved services' webpages	Ministry of Culture	01.08.2023	31.08.2023
5. Standardisation of specific information on the websites of devolved services and its publication as open data	Ministry of Culture Deconcentrated services	01.09.2023	31.12.2023
Other information			
Budget required (lei) (source, if it already exists)	Funding opportunities will be analysed through non-reimbursable funding programs/ activities will be realised from the budget of the Ministry of Culture		
Correlation with other government programs/strategies	National Anticorruption Strategy 2021-2025, approved by Government Decision no. 1.269/2021		

Digitalization		
4. Development of an integrated national IT system for recording criminal claims		
Duration: 2022-2024		
Leading agency/institution for implementation	National Agency for the Administration of Preserved Goods (ANABI) & Ministry of Justice	
Contact person within the responsible institution	Cornel-Virgiliu Călinescu Director General, National Agency for the Administration of Unpreserved Goods cornel.calinescu@just.ro	
Partners	government	Prosecutor's Office attached to the High Court of Cassation and Justice
	civil society	
Description of the problem	Given that prior to 2015 there were no coordinated statistical records at national level, providing a clear picture of the status and extent of recovery of the damage and proceeds of the crime, legislative regulations providing for the development of an integrated system were necessary. Thus, according to Article 38(1) of Law No 318/2015, ANABI develops and manages the integrated national information system for recording claims arising from criminal offences as a single system for monitoring assets seized, confiscated and used in criminal proceedings.	
Description of the commitment		
What the commitment means	The integrated national IT system for registering criminal claims (ROARMIS) is a centralised database, which will provide information on different stages of the debt recovery process, starting with the first phases of identification and tracing of property, followed by seizure of proceeds of crime and other types of property, to the implementation of final procedures for the execution of special or extended confiscation security measures, compensation for damage, the conclusion of international agreements for the sharing of property resulting from the crime or the decision on the re-use in the public or social interest of confiscated buildings. The system will increase transparency in the debt recovery process by making open format datasets	

	<p>available to the public. Their analysis will provide an image of the efficiency of the recovery process of claims arising from crimes, which can lead to the identification, by interested persons, including non-governmental organisations, of priority areas for the development of policies and strategies aimed at increasing the efficiency of the debt recovery process in Romania, as well as to formulating concrete proposals in this regard.</p> <p>Through ROARMIS, ANABI will collect statistical data which it transmits annually to the European Commission, in application of Article 11 of Directive 2014/42/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 3 April 2014 on the freezing and confiscation of instrumentalities and proceeds of crime in the European Union.</p> <p>Thus, the implementation of the information system will contribute to the fulfilment of the legal obligation of the Agency, as a national authority competent to centralise the data received from the authorities in respect of precautionary measures, special confiscations and extended confiscations ordered during criminal proceedings, according to Article V of Law No 228 of 2 November 2020 amending and supplementing certain legislative acts in the criminal field in order to transpose European Union directives. The statistical data collected through ROARMIS are also likely to be published in an open format.</p> <p>The system is carried out within the project <i>“Development of the integrated national IT system for recording claims arising from crimes”</i>, SIPOCA code 763. At the same time, the National Recovery and Resilience Plan foresees the interconnection of ROARMIS with Ecris 5, with an estimated budget of EUR 435.000, thus ensuring the long-term sustainability of the above mentioned project.</p>
<p>what are the pursued results</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The development of a working system leading to the unification of the practice at national level in the field of record-keeping of criminal claims through the collection and standardised aggregation of relevant data and indicators. • Strengthening the institutional capacity of the

	<p>judiciary to recover criminal claims.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthening the institutional capacity of ANABI, as well as cooperation between institutions with responsibilities in the field of seizure, administration, confiscation, recovery and reuse of criminal claims, by modernising and streamlining work processes. • Interconnection of ROARMIS with ECRIS 5. 		
what is the major objective	Development and implementation of a modern and efficient IT system on the record of claims arising from crimes, at the level of the institutions of the judiciary, as well as at the level of public institutions with responsibilities in the field of seizure, administration, confiscation, recovery and reuse of claims arising from criminal offences.		
Measurable activities (maximum 5)	Responsible (institution/partner)	Start date	Date of completion
1. Development of the national integrated system for registering criminal claims.	ANABI/CCCJ	2021	2022
2. Initial training session for ANABI staff and representatives of the main beneficiaries (PICCJ, courts, Ministry of Internal Affairs, National Fiscal Administration Agency etc.)	ANABI/CCCJ	2022	2022
3. 14 training sessions (regional meetings) for ROARMIS end-users	ANABI/CCCJ	2022	2022
4. Interconnection of ROARMIS with ECRIS 5	ANABI/Ministry of Justice	2023	2023
5. Publication of datasets managed in the field of records of criminal claims, in open format on the national open data portal data.gov.ro.	ANABI	2023	2024
Other information			
Budget required (lei) (source, if it already exists)	<p>The activities are carried out and financed within the project “Development of the integrated national IT system for registering claims arising from crime”, in partnership with the Prosecutor’s Office attached to the High Court of Cassation and Justice.</p> <p>The total value of the project is 3 912,146.40 lei, of</p>		

	<p>which:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RON 3.218.611.31 — eligible non-reimbursable value from the European Social Fund; • RON 613 805.09 — eligible co-financing of the beneficiary and partner; • 79,730,00 lei — Ineligible value of the project.
Correlation with other government programs/strategies	National Strategy on the recovery of criminal claims for 2021-2025 — “Criminality is not profitable!”, approved by Government Decision 917/2021.

Public participation and consultation	
5. Responsible management of protected natural areas	
Duration: September 2022 — September 2024	
Leading agency/institution for implementation	National Agency for Protected Natural Areas
Contact person within the responsible institution	ANANP — Monitoring Service for Protected Natural Areas, Relationship with Local Communities, Brand Certification Procedures, Parks ananp@ananp.gov.ro
Partners	government, local public administration, etc.
Description of the problem	Administration structures specially constituted, with legal personality, under the coordination/subordination, depending on the case, of autonomous administrations, companies and national companies, local public administration authorities, decentralised services of central public administration, scientific research and educational institutions in the public and private sector, inter-community development associations, museums, constituted according to the law and in contractual relationship with the National Agency for Protected Natural Areas Protected natural areas in Romania are essential in preserving natural and cultural capital as they include the most representative and significant areas in terms of biodiversity and natural values, respectively the cultural values associated with them. The list of the 1574 protected natural areas can be viewed at the URL: http://ananp.gov.ro/wp-content/uploads/inventar_arii_Ro_v1-00000003.pdf . The management of these protected natural areas and of the other natural heritage assets in the national network of protected natural areas also requires specially constituted management structures. Through specially constituted management structures, management measures in protected natural areas must be developed and implemented in such a way as to maintain or even restore, where necessary, natural ecosystems and wildlife populations, while maintaining or seeking solutions for the sustainable use of natural resources.

	Also, in order to ensure transparency in the process of awarding protected natural areas in the committees related to the award sessions, representatives of civil society and/or from non-governmental organisations with concerns in the field of nature protection will also be co-opted.		
Description of the commitment			
What the commitment means	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. ANANP aims in the next period, taking into account the logistical and financial limitations, to assign protected natural areas that require specially constituted management structures. 2. Also, in order to ensure a unitary and efficient management, ANANP will provide the framework for correlating/updating the ongoing management contracts. 		
what are the pursued results	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Transparency of the steps taken in the pre-attribution phases. 2. Ensuring a homogeneous framework in the organisation of the way of correlating/updating the ongoing management contracts. 3. Uniformity of procedures in the process of administration of protected natural areas. 4. Organising sessions for the administration of natural areas protected with the involvement of civil society, with an observer role, within the evaluation commissions of files and committees for analysing appeals. 		
what is the major objective	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Attribution in administration of natural parks to management structures specially established in order to ensure a unitary and efficient management of the national network of protected natural areas and natural heritage. 2. Matching/updating all ongoing management contracts 		
Measurable activities (maximum 5)	Responsible (institution/partner)	Start date	Date of completion
1. Consultation with potential beneficiaries and stakeholders, ensuring balanced representation and transparency in the procedure for	ANANP/autonomous authorities/companies and national companies/local public administration	2022	2024

awarding protected natural areas. (at least 4 consultations)	authorities/decentralised services of central public administration/scientific research and education institutions in the public and private sector/intercommunity development associations/museums.		
2. Establishment of evaluation committees and appeals committees related to the methodology for awarding protected natural areas in administration per session organised. (at least 4 committees)	ANANP, NBM, NNP-Romsilva, Local Public Authorities, Representatives from non-governmental organisations with concerns in the field of nature protection.	2022	2024
3. Organising and conducting sessions for the award of protected natural areas with the involvement of civil society, with an observer role, within the evaluation committees of files and committees for analysing appeals. (at least 2 sessions)	ANANP	2022	2024
4. Promoting and publishing announcements on the award sessions on ANANP's own website. (at least 2 ads)	ANANP	2022	2024
5. Organisation of working meetings with the current specially constituted management structures. (at least 6 meetings)	ANANP/RNP-Romsilva	2022	2024
Other information			
Budget required (lei) (source, if it already exists)			
Correlation with other government programs/strategies	Correlation with the governance programme EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030		

Transparency and open data				
6. Increase transparency on national investment allocations				
Duration 2022-2023				
Leading agency/institution for implementation		Ministry of Development, Public Works and Administration (MDLPA)		
Contact person within the responsible institution		Territorial Analysis and Databases Service		
Partners	civil society	Expert Forum Association (EFOR)		
Description of the problem		In the implementation of the National Programme for Local Development (PNDL), publicly accessible data was limited and did not always have an easy format for potential users to use. Thus, there is a need to increase transparency on the implementation of investment objectives funding programmes		
Description of the commitment				
what Commitment Means		The commitment aims to ensure greater transparency on the implementation of the PNDL 1 and PNDL 2 programmes until completion and for the national investment programme Anghel Saligny (the follow-up programme to PNDL, starting 2022).		
what are the results pursued		Increasing interaction between MDLPA and the public; Informing the public about the state of implementation of PNDL and Anghel Saligny; development of the Saligny implementation platform and the means of data export		
what is the major objective		Publication of open data on the implementation of local development financing programmes (PNDL, National Investment Programme Anghel Saligny)		
Measurable activities (maximum 5)		Responsible (institution/partner)	Start date	Date of completion
1. Organisation of a public meeting by MDLPA on the means of ensuring transparency in the implementation of the Anghel Saligny Programme		MDLPA, Expert Forum	June 2022	September 2022
2. Systematic publication of relevant data on the implementation of PNDL 1 and PNDL 2 programmes — settlement data, lists of completed projects, information on projects where		MDLPA	September 2022	December 2023

criminal irregularities have been identified			
3. Regularly publish on the MDLPA website and on the data.gov.ro portal relevant data on the implementation of the Anghel Saligny Programme — lists of approved projects, applied criteria, procurement and supplier lists, settlement data, lists of completed projects, project information where criminal irregularities have been identified and any other information that can be made public and is relevant. It will also explore the possibility of developing an open data export mechanism or API-type system to extract data from the platform	MDLPA	September 2022	Permanent
Other information			
Budget required (lei) (source, if it already exists)	Activities can be included in the monitoring of the National Investment Programme Anghel Saligny		
Correlation with other government programs/strategies			

Open Data		
7. Publication of open datasets		
Duration: July 2022 — June 2024		
Leading agency/institution for implementation	General Secretariat of the Government Authority for the Digitalisation of Romania	
Contact person within the responsible institution	Larisa Barac, Adviser, DTID, SGG Monica Chiffa, Head of Service, ADR	
Partners	government	Ministry of Research, Innovation and Digitalisation National Institute of Administration National Institute of Statistics Ministry of Internal Affairs Ministry of Labour and Social Solidarity National Employment Agency
	civil society	Community of re-users, depending on the areas concerned
Description of the problem	<p>The subject of open data has been included in all OGP national plans assumed and implemented by Romania so far. These commitments aimed at supporting the government approach, but also the re-use of data, through concrete actions, which in many cases complemented the lack of clear or sufficient regulations for the development of the initiative.</p> <p>Starting with June 2022, through the adoption by the Parliament of the law transposing Directive 1024/2019 on open data and the re-use of public sector information (https://legislatie.just.ro/Public/DetaliiDocument/256414), the legislative framework has been completed and comes with new obligations for public administration institutions. Thus, by implementing the provisions of Law no.179/2022 on open data, as well as the implementation of the project Capacity Development at the Centre of Government, carried out by the Romanian Government with the OECD, from Norwegian funds, a series of actions (milestones) or commitments left unfulfilled or incomplete from previous plans will be covered. In the 2020-2022 NAP, the proposed commitment was only partially implemented due to a lack of resources.</p> <p>In order to ensure the ambitious implementation of the Law on Open Data, but without including already binding actions according to the provisions of the law, this commitment was designed to include complementary</p>	

	<p>practical measures and support them.</p> <p>Unlike the previous Plans, this commitment no longer includes an annex with the list of datasets that the institutions have undertaken/proposed for publication, as the Law identifies a series of high-value datasets in 17 domains, which institutions will be required to open, including the publication of publication plans, within 6 months of the adoption of the law. Thus, the aim was to avoid duplication of this approach, with a focus on the correct implementation of the legislation.</p> <p>According to the EU Open Data Maturity Report, the data opening initiative in Romania has stagnated in recent years, compared to the situation in other Member States. The problems identified concern the incomplete regulatory framework, poor data quality as well as low re-use and impact. The commitment will correlate with OECD conclusions and recommendations from the Digital Government Review (Data-driven Public Sector and Open Government Data) to establish the necessary additional practical and regulatory measures.</p>		
Description of the commitment			
What the commitment means	The commitment aims to facilitate collaboration between the leading institutions of open data initiatives, data publishers and the community of re-users to increase the number and quality of published data, as well as the degree of re-use and impact.		
what are the pursued results	Organisation of mixed working groups to identify needs and measures to advance open data initiatives in Romania		
what is the major objective	Ambitious and efficient implementation of the Open Data Law, with the aim of increasing the impact of publication and re-use of open data		
Measurable activities (maximum 5)	Responsible (institution/partner)	Start date	Date of completion
1. Publication of open data according to agencies' publication plans and in addition, data identified as priority for publication	Ministry of Internal Affairs, INS, MMSS, other institutions	2022	2024
2. Organisation of inter-institutional and mixed working groups for the elaboration of the	SGG, ADR, institutions, civil society (re-user community)	2022	2022

implementing rules of Law no.179/2022 on open data and for the implementation of the publication plans related to the provisions of the Law			
3. Organisation of a joint working group (institutions, re-use community) to identify new high-value datasets (other than those included in the law, i.e. the implementing act of the Directive) and measures necessary to increase the quality and number of published data sets. Inter-institutional approaches to ensure the application of the 'open by design and by default' principle in public administration.	ADR, SGG, civil society, data re-users	2023	2024
4. Organising webinars with institutions and re-users to promote examples of good practice in publication and re-use. Although this activity was also included in the 2020-2022 NAP commitment, being almost completed, it is part of a permanent process for the creation of data ecosystems (publishers, re-users), adapted to the regulations in force (i.e. new regulations and identified needs).	SGG, ADR, institutions, re-users	2022	2024
5. Providing certified open data training courses	INA/SGG	2022	2024
Other information			
Budget required (lei) (source, if it already exists)			
Correlation with other government programs/strategies			

Inclusion and gender equality	
8. Balanced participation of women and men in decision-making in public and political life	
Duration 2023-2024	
Leading agency/institution for implementation	National Agency for Gender Equality (ANES)
Contact person within the responsible institution	Gianina DIMITRESCU Director — Directorate for Strategies, Policies, Programs and Monitoring for Equal Opportunities E-mail: gianina.dimitrescu@anes.gov.ro Andreea PASCU Head of Service — Strategy, Policy, Programs and Monitoring Service for Equal Opportunities E-mail: andreea.pascu@anes.gov.ro
Partners	government
	civil society
Description of the problem	There are still worryingly few women in management positions: in politics, in public administration, in supreme courts or in the boards of directors of Companies (private entities). This is true even if there is gender parity at the lower levels. The fact that, for a long time, top management positions have been held exclusively by men influences recruitment patterns for successors, in some cases only due to unconscious biases.
Description of the commitment	
What the commitment means	Responding to the complex challenges faced by decision-makers today requires inclusive and varied leadership. Increased inclusion is essential to be able to present new ideas and innovative approaches that better meet the expectations of a dynamic and prosperous society. Enabling citizens of all backgrounds to participate significantly in society is a necessary prerequisite for a functioning democracy and results in the development of policies anchored in everyday reality, legislative regulations, strategies and action plans. In order to improve women’s participation in decision-making positions, comprehensive analyses

	are needed on the balanced participation of women and men in decision-making positions at central public administration level, the participation of women and men in electoral processes, employment, pay and pensions.		
What are the results pursued	<p>Creation and publication of databases on women and men in decision-making positions at central public administration level, electoral processes, employment, unemployment rate.</p> <p>The data will be centralised from the relevant institutions through inter-institutional collaboration and collaboration protocols.</p> <p>They will be published at ANES level and will be disseminated to all collaborative institutions and civil society (NGO, academia, trade unions, employers).</p> <p>It is envisaged to organise debates and seminars to address the results of the analyses and to generate proposals to improve public policies in the field.</p> <p>Another objective of this commitment is to identify good practices that can improve the balance of women's participation in decision-making in the public and private environments.</p>		
What is the major objective	Promoting the balanced participation of women and men in decision-making and leadership, balanced participation in the labour market and improving the transparency of the roles of women and men in public administration, electoral and labour processes.		
Measurable activities (maximum 5)	Responsible (institution/partner)	Start date	Date of completion
1. Conducting analyses on the balanced participation of women and men in decision-making positions at central public administration level	ANES	annual	
2. Conducting analyses on the participation of women and men in electoral processes.	ANES AEP EXPERT FORUM	Yearly, for election years	
3. Conducting regular analyses of gender balance in the labour market	ANES MMSS (Ministry of Labour and Social Solidarity) ANOFM/AJOFM (National	2023	2024

	and county level Agencies for Employment)		
Other information			
Budget required (lei) (source, if it already exists)	Funding from the state budget, through the budgets of the responsible institutions.		
Correlation with other government programs/strategies	National Strategy on promoting equal opportunities and treatment between women and men and preventing and combating domestic violence for 2022-2027.		

Inclusion and gender equality	
9. Ensuring access to justice for victims of domestic and gender-based violence	
Duration 2022 — April 2024	
Leading agency/institution for implementation	National Agency for Gender Equality (ANES)
Contact person within the responsible institution	Cîrstea Monaliza — Director — Directorate for Prevention and Combating Domestic Violence monaliza.cirstea@anes.gov.ro
Partners	government
	civil society
Description of the problem	In recent years, appropriate measures have been adopted and implemented in Romania to combat domestic violence. The legislative changes made at national level, in particular by Law No 174/2018, amending and supplementing Law No 217/2003 on preventing and combating domestic violence, marked the introduction of additional protection measures — the temporary protection order, as a matter of urgency, immediately applicable on the spot by the policeman, in situations of imminent danger, but a deficient aspect in the application of the protection measures continues to be insufficient information on the legal provisions, means of intervention, existing social services (many of the victims do not know about the existence of the protection order and how to obtain such an order). One of the most important current challenges in the implementation of the legislation in force is the impossibility of ensuring (especially due to the lack of financial resources) the continuous training of staff responsible for preventing domestic violence in multidisciplinary intervention for the rehabilitation of victims of domestic violence, which represents an important obstacle in the provision of specialised

	services in the field.		
Description of the commitment			
what Commitment Means	Through this programme, ANES is committed to improving access to justice for victims of domestic and gender-based violence and of affected children by providing support and information on fundamental rights and freedoms, powers of courts, prosecutor's offices and police, judicial proceedings (divorce, custody of minors, exercise of parental authority, protection order, etc.), as well as information and guidance to benefit from free legal assistance and mechanisms to guarantee non-discrimination on grounds of gender.		
what are the results pursued	Within this specific project, specialists working at local level in combating domestic violence, respectively specialists from the General Directorates for Social Assistance and Child Protection/Social Assistance Directorates/Public Services of Social Assistance will be trained and working tools will be developed that will support and streamline their work. At the same time, a study will be developed that will analyse the situation at county level regarding local strategies and action plans in the field, gender budgeting, evolution of the phenomenon, practices and trends, social services, protective measures (PPO/PO), legal advice, psychological support, labour market, etc.		
what is the major objective	Develop a legal information, guidance and support programme to facilitate access to justice for victims of domestic and gender-based violence and children affected.		
Measurable activities (maximum 5)	Responsible (institution/partner)	Start date	Date of completion
1. Development of a unitary methodology on information and legal guidance of victims of domestic and gender-based violence and of affected children, which will contain information on rights and obligations, other relevant legal provisions, effective counselling	ANES/NGO Consortium Partners	2022	2024

<p>and guidance, in relation to the actions the victim chooses to exercise. The methodology will also include integrated sections dedicated to specific issues concerning domestic and gender-based violence against Roma women.</p> <p>The methodology will be developed with the participation of ANES representatives, with the active involvement of representatives of DGASPC/DAS/SPAS, representatives of other relevant institutions with responsibilities in the field (police, prosecutors, judges, lawyers specialised in cases with incidence in the field of domestic violence).</p> <p>The activity on the elaboration of the methodology will be ensured by a Consortium of NGOs, as a partner, consisting of the Center for Training and Evaluation in Social Assistance, Sensiblu Foundation, Necuvinte Association, the Foundation of the Center for Mediation and Community Security.</p>			
<p>2. Organisation of 8 training sessions, attended by legal advisers from DGASPCs and DAS (social assistance services), other professionals from other institutions and authorities responsible in the field of reference, specialists of the NGO Consortium consisting of the Centre for Training and Evaluation in Social Assistance, Sensiblu Foundation, Necuvinte Association, Foundation for Mediation and Community Security, as well as other active members of civil society.</p>	<p>ANES/NGO Consortium Partners</p>	<p>2022</p>	<p>2024</p>
<p>3. Organisation of 5 local workshops involving at least 100 representatives from ANES level, DGASPCs, other specialists from the Departments of</p>	<p>ANES/NGO Consortium Partners</p>	<p>2022</p>	<p>2024</p>

<p>Social Assistance/Public Services of Social Assistance, as well as representatives of the Centre for Training and Evaluation in Social Assistance, Sensiblu Foundation, Necuvinte Association, Foundation of Mediation and Community Security.</p>			
<p>4. Organising networking events at regional/local/national level, attended by representatives of institutions with powers in the field of domestic violence, as well as NGOs and representatives of bar associations, magistrates in order to raise awareness of the need, the problem and to lay the foundations for future partnerships.</p>	<p>ANES/NGO Consortium Partners</p>	<p>2022</p>	<p>2024</p>
<p>5. The elaboration of the national barometer according to the specific indicators focused on the situation at the level of each county, and will focus on the different forms of violence against women, with a focus on violence between spouses/partners and children witnessing situations of domestic violence.</p> <p>The main purpose of the National Barometer is to identify important elements that will support the medium and long-term development of central and local public policies on preventing and combating domestic violence and violence against women and developing specialised intervention and services to facilitate victims' access to the necessary and appropriate support measures. The Barometer will be conducted according to specific indicators and will inform the necessary guidelines for local authorities in the development of the local budget, strategies and plans to prevent and combat domestic violence.</p>	<p>ANES/NGO Consortium Partners</p>	<p>2022</p>	<p>2024</p>

<p>The indicators will be carried out in open consultation with representatives of ANES and representatives of other relevant institutions with responsibilities in the field and will comprise a segment on the situation of Roma women. These indicators will be validated by ANES to substantiate the National Bar Association.</p> <p>The results of the Barometer in the field of domestic violence and gender-based violence will be disseminated through press releases, posts on the ANES/partner’s Facebook page, posts on ANES/partner’s websites, conferences/videoconferences.</p> <p>The Barometer will also be disseminated electronically to institutions with relevant responsibilities in the field, in order to be used by representatives of ministries and local public institutions with responsibilities in the field, specialists from the level of public and private social services providers for victims of domestic violence, professionals working at the level of local authorities, non-governmental organisations, judges, prosecutors, police officers, lawyers.</p>			
Other information			
<p>Budget required (lei) (source, if it already exists)</p>	<p>The activities are carried out within the predefined project “VERA — Positive change through integrated action in turbulent!”, implemented by ANES, with several NGOs formed in consortium, through the “Justice” Program financed by the Norwegian Financial Mechanism 2014-2021. The total budget is EUR 231,988.</p>		
<p>Correlation with other government programs/strategies</p>	<p>National Strategy on promoting equal opportunities and treatment between women and men and preventing and combating domestic violence for 2022-2027.</p>		

Transparency			
10. Preparation of Romania's accession to Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative/EITI			
Duration July 2022 — June 2024			
Leading agency/institution for implementation		Ministry of Energy	
Contact person within the responsible institution		Directorate for Anti-Fraud, Integrity and Inspection	
Partners	government environment		
	civil society	Will be identified during the implementation of the commitment	
	others		
Description of the problem		<p>EITI is a global standard that pursues the transparency and accountability of states in the exploitation of oil, natural gas and natural resources. The EITI standard pursues these objectives throughout the production chain: allocation of licenses, extraction, beneficial owners of companies in the field, tax provisions, and the way governments use royalty money and other taxes to improve community life.</p> <p>At this point, the EITI standard has been adopted by 51 countries in various implementation phases. Even though the EITI initially addressed mainly those countries whose economies depend on such resources, it gradually expanded to countries where extractive resources are an important factor in the economy without being dominant.</p>	
Description of the commitment			
what Commitment Means		Preparing Romania's accession to the EITI in 2024, by consulting and informing relevant public sector, industry and civil society actors.	
what are the results pursued		The commitment is aimed at Romania's accession to the EITI — Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative.	
what is the major objective		Increasing transparency in extractive industries.	
Measurable activities	Responsible (institution/partner)	Start date	Date of completion
Sending a non-binding letter of interest from Romania through the Ministry of Energy to the EITI Secretariat for cooperation on the possible accession of	Ministry of Energy	September 2022	September 2022

Romania to the EITI.			
Organisation of a tripartite working group — public institutions, industry, civil society — to coordinate consultation and information activities on the EITI standard. The Group Secretariat will be jointly supported by the ministries involved and the SGG (through the Technical Secretariat OGP Romania) so as to maintain links with both complementary international initiatives (EITI and OGP).	Ministry of Energy/SGG/Civil Society	October 2022	December 2022
Organising information sessions, held by representatives of EITI and OGP, with the participation of representatives of public institutions, industry and civil society from Romania, about the EITI standard and its requirements.	Ministry of Energy	January 2023	June 2023
Organisation of bilateral meetings between the Coordination Group and representatives of EITI member countries (recommendations: Norway, Germany, Ukraine), on the application of the EITI and its benefits in those countries.	Ministry of Energy	January 2023	June 2023
Organising national and local thematic debates (gas, oil, coal, mineral resources) on the possible application of the EITI standard in those areas.	Ministry of Energy	July 2023	November 2023
Organisation of the National Conference on Transparency in Extractive Industries with High Level Participation, setting out the conclusions of previous stages.	Ministry of Energy	November 2023	November 2023
Drafting, by the Working Group, a technical position paper on the implementation of the EITI standard in Romania, which will also include an action plan for implementation.	Ministry of Energy	November 2023	March 2024
Political decision on joining the EITI (in one sense or another).	Ministry of Energy	April 2024	June 2024
Other information			
Budget required (lei) (source, if it already exists)			