



LIETUVOS
RESPUBLIKOS
VYRIAUSYBĖ

2021-2023 ACTION PLAN FOR LITHUANIA'S PARTICIPATION IN THE INTERNATIONAL INITIATIVE 'OPEN GOVERNMENT PARTNERSHIP'



APPROVED
by decision taken at a meeting of
the Government of the Republic
of Lithuania of 16 June 2021

PERFORMANCE PRINCIPLES AND COMMITMENTS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA

The Programme of the Eighteenth Government of the Republic of Lithuania (hereinafter, the Programme) identifies the most important priorities for the country's progress, which will help seek fundamental changes in the life of the state and society; it also lays down the following operating principles that will be followed in the implementation of the provisions of the Programme: **OPEN DATA | ACCOUNTABILITY | DISCUSSION AND KNOWLEDGE-BASED DECISIONS | COOPERATION | COORDINATION OF INTERESTS | ENHANCING REPUTATION | OPEN GOVERNMENT COMMUNICATION.**

OPEN DATA

It is planned to promote the opening of public data in various areas of public policy, to improve the quality of data and data submission platforms, so that the public, the scientific and business communities can use them. The use of open data in public decision-making and development of public services will be promoted through the development and improvement of technical infrastructure, data management capabilities, and increasing need for data-based governance decisions.

Public reporting will aim to ensure that the information provided is specific, clear, and comprehensible to the public, and that data and performance results are presented objectively, without drawing biased conclusions. It is envisaged that the public will be able to contribute opinions, knowledge, and advice during the deliberation of complicated and complex matters. Dissemination of information and development of dialogue are important elements of this Government's communication and cooperation with the public.

ACCOUNTABILITY AND COMMUNICATION

COOPERATION AND COORDINATION OF INTERESTS

There is a commitment to develop ways to involve as many stakeholders as possible in decision-drafting and decision-making processes. Expert knowledge and experience will be mobilised to draft decisions, and opportunities for effective inter-institutional cooperation will be made use of. With the view of consulting with social and economic partners and representatives of public groups, it is planned to update regulation of public consultations, strengthen the methodological tools of consultation, and establish the uniform communication of public consultations at the Government level. Decision-making process will test modern, inclusive, and collaborative consultation methods, enabling stakeholders to help the Government improve the quality of decision-making.

With the view of making appropriate, thoroughly discussed, and reasonable decisions, the Government envisages the use of various means of evidence-based governance, and is committed to increasing the demand for evidence. It is planned to ensure that impact assessment is established at an early stage in the search for solutions to public policy problems and legislative process through inclusive public consultation and dissemination of impact assessment results. At the same time, a greater advisory role of advisory and consultative institutes (councils, commissions, and expert groups) in the Government's decision-making is envisaged.

DISCUSSION AND KNOWLEDGE-BASED DECISIONS

REPUTATION

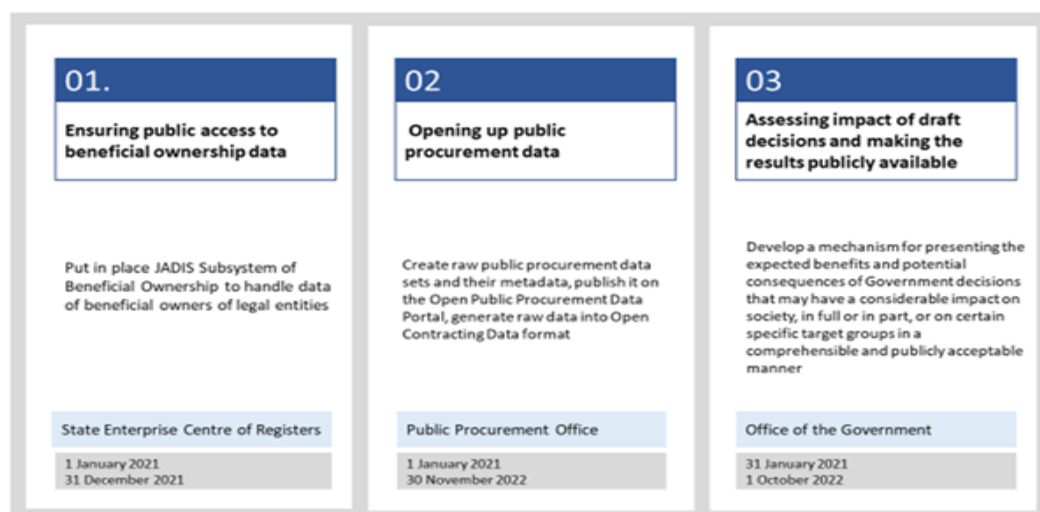
The aim will be to strengthen the cultural and economic reputation of the Republic of Lithuania in the world and use it for the benefit of the country, and to promote trust in institutions, pride in the state, civic spirit, patriotism, and mutual trust of the population.

These principles will be applied in a targeted manner to achieve changes in the areas of public administration specified in the Programme and in the day-to-day activities and practices of institutions. **The Government's priorities and principles of openness are focused in a targeted manner on open and high-quality legislation, and fact-based, knowledge-based, and sustainable government decisions.** The benefits of applying the principles will contribute to better quality services, efficient use of public funds and transparency, access to and use of public sector information, and closer dialogue between government and society.

GOVERNMENT COMMITMENTS IN THE CONTEXT OF OPEN GOVERNANCE

The Government welcomes the Fifth 2021-2023 Action Plan for Lithuania's participation in the international initiative 'Open Government Partnership' (hereinafter, 'the Fifth Action Plan'), drafted together with the community interested in changes related to openness and consisting of the following commitments:

Fig. 1 Fifth Action Plan Commitments



The Fifth Action Plan will be a public document for concrete openness initiatives for the period 2021-2023. The public will be kept informed about the progress of the implementation of the commitments, and the achieved results will be easily accessible to the national and international communities.

At the same time, the Government is pursuing substantial changes in areas and projects that require immediate attention and priority through specific measures to implement the Programme. **The following priorities and projects have already been launched that are directly in line with the values of open governance:**

- ✓ development of public sector digitisation,
- ✓ implementation of the national open data policy,
- ✓ building confidence in the justice system,
- ✓ intolerance of corruption,
- ✓ high quality and inclusive legislation,
- ✓ a responsive and innovative public sector,
- ✓ development of e-Government, e-services, etc.

To strengthen the focus on the openness of public administration, **the Government additionally commits to implement the following actions of the Programme Implementation Plan in 2021–2023**, while ensuring that implementation of these actions will be innovative, highly open, and responsive to the principles of inclusive consultation:

Fig. 2 Additional actions

<p>01</p> <p>To establish a platform for monitoring NGO funding, and to develop an NGO database</p>	<p>To create a platform where all state and municipal institutions and bodies will publish information on funding opportunities for NGOs; to develop a collection of high-quality data on NGOs by combining data collection systems on NGOs. To ensure that this data is made available to the public and institutions in a user-friendly format</p>	<p>Ministry of Social Security and Labor</p> <p>1 September 2021 - 31 March 2023</p>
<p>02</p> <p>To implement participatory democracy instruments of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)</p>	<p>To analyse the possibilities of implementing participatory democracy instruments, to prepare and ensure the provision of methodological assistance to institutions seeking to test these measures at the national or municipal level</p>	<p>Ministry of Social Security and Labor</p> <p>1 June 2021 - 31 December 2022</p>
<p>03</p> <p>To ensure remote access to public court hearings</p>	<p>In cooperation with judicial self-government institutions and other stakeholders, to assess the legal, technical, and financial possibilities to watch public court hearings remotely, and to adopt a Government resolution on changes in the legal framework and/or organisational measures to ensure this possibility.</p>	<p>Ministry of Justice</p> <p>1 July 2021 - 30 September 2022</p>
<p>04</p> <p>To enable universal electronic communication between citizens and the state via e-delivery with equal and evidential effect</p>	<p>To provide conditions to persons to receive important information from state institutions in a secure way, through a reliable channel, by activating an e-delivery system and ensuring that e-delivery e-boxes have at least 0.5 million (25%) of legal and natural persons.</p>	<p>Ministry of Transport and Communications</p> <p>1 January 2021 - 30 November 2022</p>

In addition to openness initiatives in specific areas (as set out in the Fifth Action Plan), **the potential of the Open Government Principles will be used primarily to develop high-quality, evidence-based, and inclusive legislative practices in the public sector**. Already in 2021, discussions will be initiated on the concept of Open Government Principles, and it will be agreed on the practice of their implementation in the legislative cycle. In addition, it is planned to evaluate the existing mechanism of coordination of open government initiatives and, in cooperation with stakeholders, to develop a model for its more efficient operation as well as to draft a document establishing strategic directions for changes in Open Government.

LITHUANIA'S PARTICIPATION IN OPEN GOVERNMENT PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVES

International Open Government Partnership | In 2009, the United States and Brazil initiated the Open Government Partnership (hereinafter, OGP) International Programme. The initiative currently involves 78 countries around the world, representing more than 2 billion people and thousands of civil society organisations through central and local government. This initiative is an international platform to help governments achieve greater transparency, accountability, fairness, and public participation in decision-making. Cooperation, exchange of good practices, and new technologies open up unique opportunities for countries to improve governance practices at the national, regional, and institutional levels. Country participation in the international initiative is based on the practical implementation of OGP principles and values (see Fig. 3)



Fig. 3 OGP values

Lithuania's participation in the initiative | To achieve greater public openness, Lithuania joined the Open Government Partnership initiative in 2011. Lithuania takes part in the initiative by drafting and implementing two-year national action plans (hereinafter, Action Plans). They set out two-year commitments in line with the above-mentioned open governance principles, as well as actions to implement them, responsible authorities, and expected results. Currently, Lithuania will submit the Fifth Action Plan to the OGP.

Office of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania is the coordinator of Lithuania's participation in the Open Government Partnership International Initiative and is the body responsible for the development of the open government principles in the public sector. An Interinstitutional Working Group¹ (hereinafter, the Working Group) and the Open Government Network established in 2018 are used in the preparation of the Action Plans.

Open Government Network | The network brings together and unites civil society representatives who have voluntarily agreed to contribute their knowledge, skills, and ideas to the development of open governance in the country. The network currently has more than 50 members. Every year, new members from the scientific, business, and non-governmental sectors, employees of state and municipal institutions join the network. The Open Government Network is in line with the Multistakeholder Forum concept recommended by the OGP, and ensures development of inclusive Action Plans and dissemination of openness ideas.

¹ Formed by Order No. V-18 of the Chancellor of the Government of 21 February 2014.

Assessing the progress of an Action Plan | An internal and external (independent) evaluation of an Action Plan is being carried out. An independent evaluation is carried out by an independent researcher appointed by the OGP in accordance with the established rules of the Independent Reporting Mechanism. Evaluation pays particular attention to the accuracy and specificity of commitments, and compliance to the values of the Open Government Partnership, taking into account the ongoing and complex nature of commitments, the intended outcome, and its impact on the relevant area of public administration. The internal evaluation (self-evaluation) is coordinated by the Office of the Government by drafting interim and final progress reports, and making them public.

Public involvement and access to information | The process of Lithuania's participation in the Open Government Partnership international initiative is inclusive and public. During the preparation of Action Plans, a wide-ranging public consultation (or series of consultations) is carried out with stakeholders, directions for development of open governance and measures for their implementation are discussed, and feedback is provided to the participants of the consultation. Members of the Open Government Network are invited to the meetings, discussions, and events of the Working Group. Action Plans that are being drafted and those that are already implemented, as well as other information related to Lithuania's participation in the Open Government Partnership international initiative, are published on the e-citizen website of the My Government portal at: <https://epilietis.lrv.lt/lt/dalyvauk-priimant-ir-keiciant-sprendimus/isitrauk-i-atviros-vyriausybes-veiklas/igyvendinti-veiksmu-planai>.

DRAFTING OF THE FIFTH ACTION PLAN

The Fifth Action Plan has been based on the experience and lessons learned from the previous Action Plans, taking into account recommendations made by researchers in the independent evaluation reports, and suggestions of the Open Government Network and other stakeholders.

It is important to note that preparation of the Fifth Action Plan has complied with the essential requirement of the OGP regarding the necessary element of the preparation of Action Plans, i. e. involvement of the public in the process of generating and evaluating ideas for the plan.

The public consultation cycle lasted 4 months, and the following initiatives were launched:

Electronic survey

9 March 2020

17 April 2020

'SUBMIT YOUR PROPOSALS ON HOW TO INCREASE OPENNESS IN THE STATE: take part in drafting of the 2020-2022 Open Government Partnership Action Plan!'

Objective | To gather initial public proposals on how to increase openness in the country.

Results | In total, 18 proposals were received. Members of the public or their groups submitted 14 of them; public sector institutions submitted others. Half of the proposals received (9) concerned the principle of TRANSPARENCY.

Detailed information on the public consultation and its results is published here: <https://epilietis.lrv.lt/lt/konsultacijos/atviros-vyriausybes-partnerystes-veiksmu-planas>.

International Conference
21 May 2020

'OPEN GOVERNMENT 2022. LET US ASSESS THE CHANGE NEEDED'

Objective | To support a series of open government events (Open Government Week) organised by OGP countries, to assess the progress of Lithuania's participation in OGP, to discuss directions of changes in open government needed for the country, and to select the most relevant ideas of openness received during the electronic survey.

Results | More than 180 participants attended. During the round table discussions, and by the vote of the conference participants, the following 5 most relevant ideas of openness were selected:

1. to open up the register of final beneficiaries in open data format;
2. to create a structured and standardised data management structure (tools) to collect data on the past, present, and future public procurements, and to publish them in an open data standard recommended by international organisations and the European Union;
3. to inform NGOs operating in the areas that will be affected by the envisaged legal regulation immediately after the public announcement of the draft legal acts in the Legal Acts Information System (*in Lithuanian*: TAIS);
4. to create or to use an information platform for NGO competitions;
5. to implement the Government Resolution 'On the Approval of the Impact Assessment Methodology of the Intended Legal Regulation': to carry out impact assessment and to publish assessments on the website of the Office of the Government.

Selected ideas were presented to the Working Group and the Open Government Network.

Detailed information on the public consultation and its results is published here: <https://epilietis.lrv.lt/lt/konsultacijos/atvira-vyriausybe-2021-ivertinkime-butinus-pokycius>.

Round table discussion
17 July 2020

'OPEN GOVERNMENT 2022. 5 STEPS TOWARDS CHANGE'

Result | Making use of modern problem-solving methods and tools, 5 selected ideas of openness offered by the public were analysed in detail at the expert level. Through the fishbone diagram, the aim was to identify measures that support and inhibit the selected ideas, and to find the best solutions to implement the proposals.

Detailed information on the public consultation and its results is published here: <https://epilietis.lrv.lt/lt/konsultacijos/viesoji-konsultacija-atvira-vyriausybe-2022-5-zingsniai-pokyciu-link>.

Working Group meetings

14 April 2020

17 September 2020

5 November 2020

7 December 2020

The Working Group, together with the members of the Open Government Network, evaluated the selected 5 ideas, and considered, as to which of them to include in the Fifth Action Plan.

Result | Given the importance and systemic nature of the measures, it was decided to implement two commitments (No. 3 and No. 4) by other measures, without including them in the Fifth Action Plan.

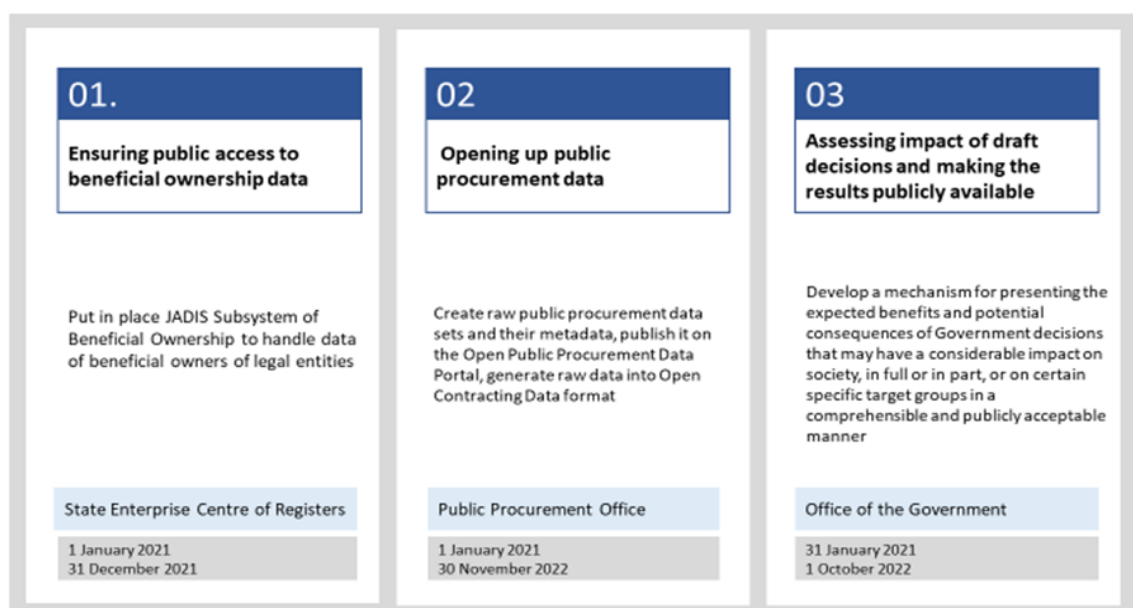
It was decided to propose that the following 3 ideas be included in the Fifth Action Plan:

1. to open up the register of final beneficiaries in open data format;
2. to create a structured and standardised data management structure (tools) to collect data on the past, present, and future public procurements, and to publish them in an open data standard recommended by international organisations and the European Union;
3. to implement the Government Resolution 'On the Approval of the Impact Assessment Methodology of the Intended Legal Regulation': to carry out impact assessment and to publish assessments on the website of the Office of the Government.

Descriptions of the commitments made by the bodies responsible for implementing the selected ideas were discussed in the Working Group.

In consideration of the form of the Action Plan established by the OGP, the Fifth Action Plan was drafted, including the following commitments (measures) (see Fig. 4), a detailed description of them, implementation actions and deadlines, and result indicators.

Fig. 4 Fifth Action Plan Commitments



FIFTH ACTION PLAN COMMITMENTS

1. ENSURING PUBLIC ACCESS TO BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP DATA

1 January 2021 - 31 December 2021

Lead implementing agency	State Enterprise Centre of Registers (hereinafter ‘the Centre of Registers’)
Commitment description	
Status quo and problem addressed by the commitment	<p><i>Status quo:</i> Directive (EU) 2015/849 obligates Member States to ensure that beneficial ownership information is stored in a central register of each Member State. This requirement is transposed into Lithuania’s national law through the Law on Prevention of Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing, which provides for obligation for legal entities to obtain, update and store accurate information on their beneficial owners and submit this information to the Information System of Participants of Legal Entities (<i>in Lithuanian: JADIS</i>). Although Article 25(1), which stipulates this obligation, entered into force on 1 January 2019, Lithuania has failed to put in place JADIS Subsystem of Beneficial Ownership to date, as no public funds have been allocated to this effect.</p> <p>The problem: absence of JADIS Subsystem of Beneficial Ownership to collect beneficial owners’ data needed to prevent money laundering and terrorist financing and to combat informal economy; Directive (EU) 2015/849 is not implemented, and public access to beneficial ownership data is not ensured.</p>
Problem solution/commitment	Put in place JADIS Subsystem of Beneficial Ownership to handle data of beneficial owners of legal entities
Main objective	Up and running JADIS Subsystem of Beneficial Ownership
How will the commitment contribute to the public problem?	The JADIS Subsystem of Beneficial Ownership will provide for the collection of beneficial owners’ data needed to prevent money laundering and terrorist financing and to combat informal economy; Directive (EU) 2015/849 will be implemented and public access to beneficial ownership data will be ensured.
What steps will be taken towards this objective? Distribute steps and expected outcomes over time	

Step and its description		Expected practical outcome	Start date	End date
1.	Designing	Drawing up: designing documentation, architectural documentation, etc.	29/03/2021	09/07/2021
2.	Preparing for development	Transfer of analysis results to the task management system, agreeing on the prototype, procurement of development competencies	05/04/2021	09/07/2021
3.	Development	Software ready for installation. Ongoing programming and software configuration works meeting functional and non-functional requirements	12/07/2021	29/10/2021
4.	Testing	The developed software introduced in a testing environment; acceptance testing scenarios and testing methodology and plan have been prepared; successfully completed acceptance testing	23/07/2021	10/12/2021
5.	Preparedness of business, and trial launch	The developed software introduced in production environment	01/12/2021	31/12/2021
6.	Launch of the system	System launched for the use of consumers	01/01/2022	
How is the commitment relevant to the values of transparency, accountability, and civic participation?		<p>This commitment will open up data and increase public access to information:</p> <p>Once the commitment has been fulfilled and the Information System of Participants of Legal Entities (JANGIS) has become operational, any interested party will be able to access a very wide range of information regarding beneficial owners of legal entities (such as legal entity code, name, head office; date of last revision; beneficial owner's given name and surname, year and month of birth, country of residence, nationality, ownership and/or control rights; scope of ownership rights (shares or voting rights) held by the direct owner (percentage).</p> <p>The commitment will improve conditions for civil society.</p> <p>The commitment will improve conditions in terms of increasing public sector accountability for their actions. Once the</p>		

	commitment has been fulfilled, the beneficial owners' data will be accessible to society, whose active citizens will be able to better judge the interests of those involved in public administration and make a direct influence when electing representatives of state institutions.
Additional information	–
Contact information	
Lead implementing agency	Centre of Registers
Name, title, department, email, and telephone number of the responsible person	Gintarė Linkevičiūtė, JADIS Subsystem of Beneficial Ownership Product Manager, email: Gintare.Linkeviciute@registrucentras.lt , tel.: + 370 5 268 8341
Other ministries, departments/agencies involved	Ministry of Justice
What civil society organisations, private sector representatives or other stakeholders are you planning to involve in the implementation of the commitment? Do you plan to conduct a public consultation during the implementation of the commitment?	Public consultations have taken place during the preparation of the legislation required to ensure the functioning of the JADIS Subsystem of Beneficial Ownership. The legal preconditions are already in place, and now the works of the development of the subsystem are carried out. Where appropriate, public consultations with stakeholders may take place.

2. OPENING UP PUBLIC PROCUREMENT DATA

1 January 2021 - 30 November 2022

Lead implementing agency	Public Procurement Office
Commitment description	
Status quo and problem addressed by the commitment	The Public Procurement Office publishes on the Central Public Procurement Information System (hereinafter, 'the CPPIS') public procurement notices, reports, annual procurement plans and contracts. Public procurement data are not conveniently displayed for analysis of efficient and transparent use of funds. To change this situation, data on public procurement notices, reports, annual procurement plans and contracts will be opened up.
Problem solution/commitment	The problem will be addressed through the development of technological capabilities for publishing public procurement data. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create raw public procurement data sets and their metadata.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Publish public procurement data on the Open Public Procurement Data Portal. • Generate data from raw data in Open Contracting Data format. 		
Main objective	Open up public procurement data on the Open Public Procurement Data Portal.		
How will the commitment contribute to the public problem?	The creation of an open Public Procurement Data Portal will provide access for procurement promoters, citizens and businesses to cross-cutting public procurement data, and publicity is the most effective tool to achieve transparency in public procurement.		
What steps will be taken towards this objective? Distribute over time planned steps and expected outcomes			
Step and its description	Expected practical outcome	Start date	End date
1. Create public procurement data sets (international, simplified procedure and low value procurement reports and contracts) and their metadata	Opened up public procurement and contract data	01/06/2020	31/12/2020
2. Build data sets for concessions and defence sector reports and their metadata	Opened up data of concessions and defence sector reports	01/06/2020	31/03/2021
3. Publish public procurement data on the Open Public Procurement Data Portal	Publicly accessible data suitable for machine reading	01/06/2020	31/12/2020
4. Opening up data in Open Contracting Data format.	Opened up data accessible in Open Contracting Data format.	01/01/2021	31/12/2022
How is the commitment relevant to the values of transparency, accountability, and civic participation?	<p>Opening up public procurement data is one way to increase the transparency and accountability in public procurement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • it will improve the value added of procurement and help the state to save public finances; • it will help create a fairer business environment; • it will provide for better communication with the public and increase trust; • it will reduce circumstances conducive to corruption. 		

Additional information	The Public Procurement Office is implementing data opening by its own efforts. The data will be later transferred to the Information Society Development Committee in the framework of the project 'Implementation of open data platforms enabling effective public-sector information reuse for business and creation of data management tools'.
Contact information	
Lead implementing agency	Public Procurement Office
Name, title, department, email, and telephone number of the responsible person	Marius Žemaitis, Head of e-Procurement, email: marius.zemaitis@vpt.lt , tel.: +370 672 30 615
Other ministries, departments/agencies involved	–
What civil society organisations, private sector representatives or other stakeholders are you planning to involve in the implementation of the commitment? Do you plan to conduct a public consultation during the implementation of the commitment?	The opening of data in the Open Contracting Data format involves procurement of a public consultation.

3. ASSESSING IMPACT OF DRAFT DECISIONS AND MAKING THE RESULTS PUBLICLY AVAILABLE

31 January 2021 - 1 October 2022

Lead implementing agency	Office of the Government
Commitment description	
Status quo and problem addressed by the commitment	<p>Article 15 of the Law on Legislative Framework provides that when drawing up a draft legal act which provides for regulation of previously unregulated relations, also whereby legal regulation is substantially amended, assessment of the effect of envisaged legal regulation must be carried out. The comprehensiveness of this assessment must be proportionate to the likely consequences of the envisaged legal regulation.</p> <p>According to Article 15(3) of the Law on Legislative Framework, the results of assessment of the effect of envisaged legal regulation provided for in a draft law or another draft legal act of the Seimas shall be presented in an explanatory note or a separate document, e.g. following the Regulatory impact assessment guidelines, the results of the impact assessment may be presented in a regulatory impact assessment certificate. Also, following Articles 21.2 and 38.1 of the Rules of Procedure of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania, the letter</p>

(submission) submitting a draft legislation for feedback or for Government's consideration must specify the problem to be addressed through the legislative proposal, the substance of regulation proposed through legislative proposal: solution of the issue (solution measures), solution costs, benefits and/or expected outcomes. Information must be concise, the problem to be addressed must be substantiated by data, the costs, and benefits of the implementation of the proposed solution must be substantiated by quantitative and/or qualitative assessments.

All draft legislation and accompanying documentation (submission, explanatory note, regulatory impact assessment certificate, etc.) must be published in the Legal Acts Information System (*in Lithuanian*: TAIS), which is free and accessible to all the people and stakeholders. Hence, impact assessment of legislative proposals is available to the public at large, including academic and business communities and all the stakeholders. However, such publication of results of the assessment of the potential regulatory impact is not always acceptable to the public, so there is a need to publicise certain Government decisions in a more publicly acceptable and comprehensible form.

The Government can approve up to 1.400 different decisions per year, which greatly differ in terms of their scope and the diversity of matters to be regulated but also in terms of their significance (as legislation is improved and amended also in editorial and technical terms) and the extent of possible consequences. For example, only about 170 from 1.400 of annual average of Government-approved decisions are related to the approval of relevant draft packages. As we know, all the key provisions of state-regulated societal relations must be consolidated in law, hence, presumably it would be best to find ways to inform the public in simple and clear language about positive and/or negative consequences of key laws that are or will be deliberated by the Government.

Every six months, the Government selects, from its legislative plan, draft legislation that can potentially have greater impact. Projects are selected on the basis of specific greater impact criteria agreed by the Government. The number of such projects ranges on average from 8 to 10 in six months. Given that greater impact legislation is selected, it is appropriate that during public consultations and/or adoption of such legislation the public is informed in greater detail and in a more comprehensible and accessible manner about the expected benefits and consequences.

It would also be appropriate to store and publicise the results of impact assessments of the selected greater-impact legislation in one place making them accessible to the general public and academia, as well as to all the stakeholders.

Problem solution/commitment

Develop a mechanism for presenting the expected benefits and potential consequences of Government decisions that may have a considerable impact on society, in full or in part, or on certain

	specific target groups in a comprehensible and publicly acceptable manner.		
Main objective	Provide clear and comprehensible public information about the expected benefits and costs of potentially greater-impact legislation under Government's consideration, and underlying reasons for the specific decisions.		
How will the commitment contribute to the public problem?	<p>The mechanism for presenting the expected benefits and potential consequences of Government decisions that may have a considerable impact on society in a simple and publicly accessible and convenient manner will enable public access to and better understanding of Government decisions and their expected benefits and consequences after enactment.</p> <p>The introduction of standardised publicity of the benefits and consequences of the proposed regulation is expected to lead to a more cautious approach by law-drafting civil servants in their assessment and documentation of potential benefits and consequences for the general public or certain target groups.</p>		
What steps will be taken towards this objective? Distribute over time planned steps and expected outcomes			
Step and its description	Expected practical outcome	Start date	End date
1. Develop a mechanism (process) for informing the public about expected benefits and consequences of potentially greater-impact legislation under Government's deliberation. The mechanism should cover the responsibilities and duties of the participants in the process (Office of the Government and ministries), deadlines, ways of sharing information, etc.	Process ready (described) as to who, when, and in what way disseminates information to the public about the expected benefits and consequences of potentially greater-impact legislation under Government's deliberation	01/03/2021	01/05/2021
2. Develop a template for a press release (or other chosen method) to provide information to the public in a uniform manner. The template should set out the requirements and clearly structure the content of the information to be published. Public relations staff should be involved in the development of the template	Template for a press release (or other chosen method) agreed between the Office of the Government and ministries	01/05/2021	01/07/2021
3. Present the results of steps 1 and 2 to decision makers	A decision made to organise public information about	01/07/2021	01/09/2021

		expected benefits and consequences of potentially greater-impact legislation under Government's deliberation in the proposed manner		
4.	Publish the results of the assessment of greater-impact legislation on My Government portal. Publish structurally in one place the results of impact assessments	Anyone interested now has easier access to the results of the impact assessments of potentially greater-impact legislation	31/01/2021	31/01/2022 and onwards
How is the commitment relevant to the values of transparency, accountability, and civic participation?		<p>The commitment will increase the dissemination of information on the expected benefits and consequences of greater-impact legislation under Government's deliberation to the public and certain target groups, and it will directly contribute to increasing public accountability and transparency in decision-making.</p> <p>Simpler and clearer information to the public about potential benefits and costs of Government decisions will help the public to better understand and judge decisions and discuss their reasonableness.</p> <p>The implementation of the commitment can encourage civil servants, who draft legislation on publicly relevant issues, to carry out public consultations during the decision-making phase, which would contribute to public involvement in public governance and public policy solutions.</p>		
Additional information		–		
Contact information				
Lead implementing agency		Office of the Government		
Name, title, department, email, and telephone number of the responsible person		Daiva Žaromskytė-Rastėnė, Head of Strategic Competencies Group, email: daiva.zaromskyte@lr.v.lt , tel. +370 706 63 776 Asta Petkevičienė, Adviser, Strategic Competencies Group, email: asta.petkeviciene@lr.v.lt , tel. +370 706 63 944		
Other ministries, departments/agencies involved		Public Relations Unit, Office of the Government Open Government Group, Office of the Government Ministerial units in charge of public relations Ministerial sector-specific units involved in drafting of greater-impact legislation		

What civil society organisations, private sector representatives or other stakeholders are you planning to involve in the implementation of the commitment? Do you plan to conduct a public consultation during the implementation of the commitment?

Where appropriate, public consultations on individual actions may take place.