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**MIDTERM SELF-ASSESSMENT REPORT  
ON THE ACTION PLAN FOR LITHUANIAN PARTICIPATION IN  
THE INTERNATIONAL INITIATIVE  
“OPEN GOVERNMENT PARTNERSHIP”**

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Vilnius  
2017-09-29

On 30<sup>th</sup> of May 2016, the Government of Lithuania has approved the third Action Plan for Lithuanian Participation in the International Initiative “Open Government Partnership” for the next 2 years period. The Action Plan provides the main initiatives of the Open Government, and predicts the guidelines for their implementation, actions, administrators who are responsible for these actions and expected results.

The 2016-2018 directions of the Lithuanian action plan are:

- I. Openness to the public of the activities of government institutions;
- II. Preventing corruption and promoting transparency;
- III. Increased civic participation and engagement in public governance.

2016-2018 Lithuania’s Action Plan for participation in the international Open Government Partnership Initiative (hereinafter referred to as the Plan) was worked out by the Working Group having resumed its activities under Order No V-34 of the Chancellor of the Government of 7 March 2016 “On Setting up a Working Group”. New members from the non-governmental sector joined the Working Group, namely: from the Civil Society Institute, Transparency International, NGO Information and Support Centre.

The National Action Plan is based on Lithuania’s strategic documents, such as the national progress strategy ‘Lithuania 2030’, 2014-2020 National Progress Programme, Public Governance Improvement Programme for 2012-2020, the National Anti-corruption Programme of the Republic of Lithuania for 2015-2020, the Information Society Development Programme for 2014-2020 ‘Digital Agenda for the Republic of Lithuania’, etc.

Following the discussions with the stakeholders and members of the Working Group, public consultations were opened on the Draft Action Plan: <http://epilietis.lrv.lt/lt/konsultacijos/pasiulymai-atviros-vyriausybes-partnerystes-veikloms>.

In order to receive public input, 11-24 of September 2017 public consultations were conducted (<http://epilietis.lrv.lt/lt/formos/atviros-vyriausybes-partnerystes-plano-igyvendinimo-konsultacija>). The consultations aimed to present the progress of the third Action Plan for Lithuanian Participation in the International Initiative “Open Government Partnership” for the next 2 years period, to gather public opinion as well as receive suggestions for the implementation of the action plan. An electronic survey method was used for public consultations and NGO’s, business associations, active citizens and others participated. Results of the consultation will be published in <https://epilietis.lrv.lt/>.

All the information concerning Lithuania' participation in Open Government Partnership is published on Government website <http://www.lrv.lt/lt/veikla/atviros-vyriausybes-partneryste/>.

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The results achieved on the implementation of the Action Plan for Lithuanian participation in the international initiative "Open Government Partnership"<sup>1</sup>

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Overall mid-term progress of the implementation of 2016-2018 National Action Plan					
		Not started	Limited	Substantial	Completed
1.	Develop an open source data portal in Lithuania and integrate it into the European digital single market		x		
2.	To develop and implement measures for publicizing information about government activities and civic participation in governance			x	
3.	To publicize information on revenue and expenditure of state and municipal institutions and bodies in the electronic environment via the created information system		x		
4.	Create and broadcast social advertisements, directed towards prevention of corruption in the health care system	x			
5.	To create legal, organizational and technical tools to easily access detailed information about election and voting procedures, participation in the elections, donations to political campaign participants			x	
6.	To create public consultation mechanism.		x		
7.	To foster open public governance culture in public sector by introducing values of Open Government Partnership.		x		
8.	To create an NGO database.		x		
9.	Create an NGO fund.		x		

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<sup>1</sup> The data for the Midterm Report is provided on the actions, which were implemented by 21<sup>st</sup> of August 2017.

I. Openness to the public of the activities of government institutions	
1. Develop an open source data portal in Lithuania and integrate it into the European digital single market	
2016 May 31 - 2018 December 31	
Lead implementing agency	Information Society Development Committee under the Ministry of Transport and Communications
Commitment Description	
What is the public problem that the commitment will address?	<p>Increasing the transparency of public administration activities and the availability of public information to the public is an important Open Government initiative. Opening up the public sector encourages the effective reuse of public sector information for the development of innovative online services, and at the same time, there is a significant potential for business, especially for small and medium enterprises.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Currently, Lithuania does not have favorable conditions for the unrestricted use of information accumulated by state institutions.</li> <li>• Although the state has accumulated large amounts of digital information resources that ensure smooth inter-institutional cooperation and communication with the population and businesses, there is no prerequisite for opening up public data to private individuals for their own purposes.</li> <li>• Only a small percentage of institutions provide data files in open formats for the proper development of machine-readable and advanced processing services. Most of the data is presented in fragmented extracts or formats not suitable for machine readings or they are not provided at all because they relate to personal data, economic, social, law enforcement or other interests of the state, the data subject or other information whose publicity is restricted by law.</li> <li>• Lithuania does not yet have the necessary infrastructure to provide Lithuania with open data for EU Member States and to use open data from other EU Member States to bring together a single European digital market.</li> </ul> <p>The goal is to create centrally managed and shared information technology environments that allow processors to prepare and publish, and to find and use the data processed by public sector institutions both for business development and for the implementation of non-governmental initiatives, without preconditions, and conveniently find and use the data processed by public sector institutions for business and society.</p>

<p>What is the commitment?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To create an open data portal enabling the development of open data and metadata and their use</li> <li>• To create prototype solutions for the elimination of data desensitization or legally sensitive information and transformation into open data structures and formats;</li> <li>• Instruct specialists of state institutions to use portal services</li> <li>• To prepare the priority open data sets and their metadata of the participating institutions in the project accessible through the open data portal.</li> <li>• Integrate the Lithuanian Open Data Portal with the European Union Open Data Portal</li> </ul>
<p>How will the commitment contribute to solve the public problem?</p>	<p>The commitment directly serves the opening of data, improves the quality of opened data or information, increases access to information by the public or provides the public with a real opportunity to exercise the right to information - it is a guarantor of transparency. The commitment creates the basis and preconditions for the public not only to participate in decision-making, but also to influence and prepare its proposals. It is a direct catalyst for the development of a self-confident and rationally critical and active society. The commitment creates an information base for objectively assessing the performance of state institutions and civil servants, achieving results and reasonably claiming liability if they are inappropriate, irrational, and unhelpful to the public.</p>
<p>Why is this commitment relevant to OGP values?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The commitment serves the opening of the data. The quality of the data and information will increase, access of information to the public will increase – therefore the commitment is related to the value of transparency.</li> <li>• The commitment creates preconditions necessary for the public to participate in decision making. It is a catalyst of confident and critical civil society.</li> <li>• The commitment will create an informational basis to objectively evaluate the work of public servants and public institutions, their results and demand accountability from them.</li> </ul>
<p>Additional information</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The project “Implementation of the methodological and legal regulation measures for the development of open data in Lithuania and the development of employees competences at State Institutions” is in accordance with Priority 10 of the Priority EU-funded Investments Action Program 2014-2020 "Public Intelligent Public Management" 10.1.2-ESFA- Measure V-915 "Increasing openness of public administration institutions and promoting public involvement in public administration";</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The project "Implementation of "Open Data Platforms enabling effective public-sector Information reuse for business and creation of data management tools" is under Measure 02.2.1-CPVA-V-523 of Priority 2 "Promoting the Information Society" of the European Union Funds for Investments, 2014-2020 Open Data Interoperability and Optimization</li> </ul>			
Completion Level	Not Started	Limited	Substantial	Completed
		X		
Description of the results	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Developed methodological documents, which define processes for open data processing and their implementation, as well as development and adoption of new legislation and amendments to existing legislation, enable and ensure the implementation of an open data formation process.</li> <li>Centralized infrastructure to access the Lithuanian public-sector metadata and open data sets has been created, which makes it convenient to find and obtain open data. Advanced data transformation and processing methods are implemented.</li> <li>Open data metadata management teaching materials has been prepared and staff of public authorities is trained.</li> <li>Lithuania's open data integrates into the EU's digital single market.</li> <li>An open data portal has been created combining the necessary technological tools - metadata management, data loss and deletion, other regulatory restrictions for access, open-source data conversion, semantic linking, data retrieval and presentation management.</li> <li>Interfaces, that are needed to provide data in an automated way, are created.</li> <li>The Lithuanian Open Data Portal is integrated with the European Open Data Portal.</li> </ul>			
Next Steps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Purchase of project implementation services</li> <li>Projects execution and implementation of the results</li> <li>Monitoring and corrections of state data opening process</li> </ul>			
Milestone status		Start Date:	End Date:	Completion level
Adoption of law: The Law on the right to receive information from state and municipal institutions and State Information Resources Management Act.		2014	2016	Completed
Preparation of the project proposals:		2016	2016	Completed

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Implementation of the methodological and legal regulation measures for the development of open data in Lithuania and the development of employee’s competences at State Institutions”;</li> <li>• “Implementation of Open Data Platform enabling effective public-sector Information reuse for business and creation of data management tools”</li> </ul>			
Preparation, approval and presentation of applications for financing	2017-03	2017-04	Completed
Organization of tenders for the projects execution and service contracting	2017-03	2017-12	In progress
Project " Implementation of the methodological and legal regulation measures for the development of open data in Lithuania and the development of employee’s competences at State Institutions " execution	2017	2019	Planned
Project “Implementation of Open Data Platforms enabling effective public-sector Information reuse for business and creation of data management tools” execution	2018	2020	Planned
Permanent formation of open data by all state institutions	Starting 2020	Continually	Foreseen
<b>Contact information</b>			
Lead implementing agency	Information Society Development Committee under the Ministry of Transport and Communications		
Persons responsible from implementing agency	Kęstutis Andrijauskas Julius Belickas		
Title, Department	Kęstutis Andrijauskas, deputy director Julius Belickas, adviser at Information Resources Division		
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<b>Other Actors Involved</b>			
Government Ministries, Department/Agency	Information Society Development Department at the Ministry of Transport and Communications		
CSOs, private sector, multilaterals, working groups	Information Business Association, Infobalt		

I. Openness to the public of the activities of government institutions	
2. To develop and implement measures for publicizing information about government activities and civic participation in governance.	
31 December 2016 – 31 December 2017.	
Lead implementing agency	Office of the Government
Commitment Description	
What is the public problem that the commitment will address?	<p>Currently, there is a lack of uniform communication and measures for shaping a positive image of the activities of public institutions, enabling appropriate and efficient communication of the message about the value of public consultations for the population.</p> <p>First, government-accountable institutions and agencies lack common standards for publicizing information about government activities; second, communication is effected by different institutions with different communication skills and resources, which prevents uniform message of Government activities.</p> <p>A more effective and faster public communication calls for the use of the public information channels that are in line with the latest communication trends. Social networks currently claim strong positions in this regard. 65 per cent of the average age of Lithuania's population use the Internet every day, most of them have Facebook accounts. 37 per cent of the population aged 15-74 access Facebook on daily basis (TNS data 2016).</p> <p>Effective communication in social networks requires an active generation of interesting content and high-quality visual presentation.</p>
What is the commitment?	Public information about the activities of the Government should be easily accessible and presented in a clear and understandable form in most appropriate for them communication channels. At the same time, the public has to have access information on public governance processes and participation possibilities. It is necessary not only to systematically publicize this information, but also to ensure methodological assistance to institutions and strengthen their capacities needed for greater openness of public governance processes.
How will the commitment contribute to solve the public problem?	Information about the activities of the Government will be accessible to the public and presented it in a clear and understandable form. It will produce common standards for publicizing governmental activities and provide methodological assistance to institutions in terms of building their capacities needed to increase openness of public governance processes.
Why is this commitment relevant to OGP values?	<p>The commitment is relevant to the value of transparency. After completing planned activities, the information about the activities of the government will be more accessible to the public.</p> <p>The commitment is also relevant to the value of civic engagement. After planned activities are completed, public access to governance processes will increase.</p>

Completion Level	Not Started	Limited	Substantial	Completed
				X
Description of the results	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brandbook of the office of the government will be created.</li> <li>• Development of the guidelines (recommendations) for the publicity of governmental activities with a view to ensure appropriate for the people publicizing of governmental activities, focusing on a common standard, interactivity, feedback and efficiency, through the application of the latest uniform communication standards, methods and tools.</li> <li>• Development of a PowerPoint template for the presentation of governmental activities.</li> <li>• Creation of an interactive electronic newsletter on governmental activities.</li> <li>• Creation of templates for publicizing government activities</li> <li>• "Open Government" publicity campaign in "Facebook" social network. Facebook page "Pilieciu ministerija" was created, which introduces participation opportunities and public consultations to the society.</li> <li>• Civil servant trainings will be held with an aim to strengthen their competences that are necessary to enhance the openness of the open government administration processes.</li> <li>• The content of the portal "My Government" will become more reader-friendly, clear and understandable.</li> </ul>			
Next Steps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Creation of an interactive electronic newsletter on governmental activities.</li> <li>• Creation of templates for publicizing government activities</li> <li>• Civil servant trainings will be held with an aim to strengthen their competences that are necessary to enhance the openness of the open government administration processes.</li> <li>• The content of the portal „My Government” will be revised and transformed into more reader-friendly, clear and understandable.</li> </ul>			
Milestone status		Start Date:	End Date:	Completion level
Development of a PowerPoint template for the presentation of governmental activities.		2017-04-01	2017-05-30	Completed
Civil servant trainings held with an aim to strengthen their competences that are necessary to enhance the openness of the open government administration processes.		2017-04-01	2018	Substantial



The content of the portal „My Government” will be revised and transformed into more reader-friendly, clear and understandable.	2017-09-01	2018-06-01	Not started
Development of the guidelines (recommendations) for the publicity of governmental activities, brandbook of the office of the government has been created.	2017-01-01	2017-10-01	Completed
"Open Government" publicity campaign in "Facebook" social network. Facebook page "Pilieciu ministerija" was created, which introduces participation opportunities and public consultations to the society.	2017-06	2018-02	Limited
Contact information			
Lead implementing agency	Office of the Government		
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Other Actors Involved			
Government Ministries, Department/Agency	-		
CSOs, private sector, multilaterals, working groups	-		

<b>II. Preventing corruption and promoting transparency</b>	
3. To publicize information on revenue and expenditure of state and municipal institutions and bodies in the electronic environment via the created information system	
1 July 2016 – 31 December 2018	
Lead implementing agency	Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Lithuania

Commitment Description				
What is the public problem that the commitment will address?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>At present there is no implemented unified methodological, legal and IT tool model, which would ensure publicity of information on revenue, sources of revenue, expenditure and other financial data of public sector entities (hereinafter – PSE) in the electronic environment.</li> <li>The public does not receive information on PSE revenue and expenditure in acceptable manner, it lacks the ability to find and analyze relevant information on state and/or municipal PSE revenue, sources of revenue, beneficiaries and/or other financial information by using electronic search and analytical tools as the majority of data is presented and published in different formats.</li> </ul> <p>This commitment seeks to solve the aforementioned and other related issues, thus increasing transparency, publicity of public sector decisions and procedures as well as its accountability to the public.</p>			
What is the commitment?	<p>The aim of the commitment is to develop and implement methodological and IT tools to publicize in the electronic environment the information on PSE revenue, expenditure, other financial data and electronic search and analytical tools for finding and analyzing information relevant to citizens, non-governmental organizations and other interested parties.</p> <p>This information will deliver a better understanding of financial activities of public entities and usage of public financial resources.</p>			
How will the commitment contribute to solve the public problem?	<p>The commitment will be implemented through the creation of an information system for publicity of PSE revenue and expenditure data in the electronic environment (hereinafter – IS). The IS will also have tools for collecting, integrating and processing the data from different data sources.</p>			
Why is this commitment relevant to OGP values?	<p>This commitment will open up data, improve the quality of the open data or information, increase public access to information, give the right to the public to receive information, create and improve the public capabilities and capacities to participate in decision-making processes or influence them, and will improve the conditions for civil society. Therefore, the commitment relates to the value of civic participation.</p>			
Additional information	<p>The commitment as a separate measure is provided in the Inter-institutional Action Plan for 2015-2019 of the National Anti-Corruption Programme for 2015-2025.</p>			
Completion Level	Not Started	Limited	Substantial	Completed
		X		
Description of the results	<p>IS development activities are underway - preparation of the IS indicator architecture (purchased consulting services for the development of the IS indicators architecture).</p>			

Next Steps	Creation and implementation of the IS "Open Finance" (the composition of the activities is detailed above).		
Milestone status	Start Date:	End Date:	Completion level
Preparation of the IS indicators architecture	07-2016	01-2018	Limited
Creation and implementation of the IS "Open Finance"	07-2017	12-2018	Limited
Contact information			
Lead implementing agency	Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Lithuania		
Persons responsible from implementing agency	Rasa Kavolytė		
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Other Actors Involved			
Government Ministries, Department/Agency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Information Society Development Committee under the Ministry of Transport and Communications</li> <li>• Special Investigation Service of the Republic of Lithuania</li> </ul> Association of Local Authorities in Lithuania		
CSOs, private sector, multilaterals, working groups	Interinstitutional working group approved by Minister of Finance Order No 1K-246 On the Establishment of a Working Group of 14 June 2016.		

<b>II. Preventing corruption and promoting transparency</b>	
4. Create and broadcast social advertisements, directed towards prevention of corruption in the health care system	
2016-2019	
Lead implementing agency	Ministry of Health of the Republic of Lithuania (HM)
<b>Commitment Description</b>	

What is the public problem that the commitment will address?	The commitment addresses the problem of corruption in health care institutions. According to results of the sociological survey “The Lithuanian map of corruption 2016”, 51% of residents mentioned health care institutions as most corrupt (in 2014 - 55%). Before social advertising has been directed for personal healthcare institutions – labels on the doctors' door with the inscription “The best thanks to the doctor are the patient's smile and thank you”, monitors in the clinics, leaflets, information in the billboards. Other public groups - children, young people, business people, working people – are not sufficiently accessible for the purpose of these publicity measures. They currently visit few in the medical institutions and do not reach anti-corruption information inside the institutions.			
What is the commitment?	Created and broadcast social advertisements for the prevention of corruption in the health care system.			
How will the commitment contribute to solve the public problem?	Anti-corruption social advertising in the health care system will contribute to implementation of an anti-corruption education and information, anti-corruption environment and corruption in the health care system of the public, health care system employees, business representatives and other groups.			
Why is this commitment relevant to OGP values?	Social advertising will contribute positively to the development of the values of the “Open Government Partnership”: increasing the transparency and openness of institutions, raising information for the public, increasing the availability of information, raising the quality of information for the public, developing and improving public opportunities (through the provision of feedback, reporting and complaints), to participate in the improvement of the services provided and increase the transparency of the activities of the institutions, promoting compliance with the requirements of legal acts and the provision of services, encourages the society to be civic and responsible, and not tolerate corruption.			
Completion Level	Not Started	Limited	Substantial	Completed
	X			
Description of the results	The plan for the creation and dissemination of anticorruption social advertising in the health care system was prepared and successfully implemented.			
Next Steps	After the implementation of anticorruption social advertising, a survey of the population and other possible target groups about the health care system will be carried out. Based on the results and conclusions of the survey, other corruption prevention and publicity measures will be provided.			
Milestone status		Start Date:	End Date:	Completion level
Preparation of an anti-corruption social advertising plan for the health sector		-	-	Not started
Creation and broadcasting of anti-corruption social advertising		-	-	Not started

<i>The level and dates of implementation of the commitment depend on the date of the contract signed by HM and ESFA and received from EU funds.</i>	
Contact information	
Lead implementing agency	Ministry of Health of the Republic of Lithuania
Persons responsible from implementing agency	Nadežda Buinickienė
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Other Actors Involved	
Government Ministries, Department/Agency	Special Investigation service of the Republic of Lithuania
CSOs, private sector, multilaterals, working groups	-
Additional Information	
<p>This commitment as is provided for in the Interinstitutional Action Plan 2015-2019 of the National Anti-Corruption Program 2015-2025.</p> <p>The Ministry of Health received a letter from European Social Fund Agency (ESFA) no. 00621 “On the Proposal for Application” until 11-15-2017. Ministry of Health by letter No. (1.1.21-60) 10-6865 submitted to the Ministry of the Interior a draft proposal “Strengthening corruption prevention in the health sector”. At present, documents are being prepared (application and other documents) necessary for obtaining funding from EU funds.</p>	

## II. Preventing corruption and promoting transparency

5. To create legal, organizational and technical tools to easily access detailed information about election and voting procedures, participation in the elections, donations to political campaign participants

Lead implementing agency

The Central Electoral Commission of the Republic of Lithuania

<b>Commitment Description</b>	
<p>What is the public problem that the commitment will address?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Currently the electoral data which are in the information system of the Central Electoral Commission are partly not available to the public and partly available in an unhandy format;</li> <li>• on the internet pages of the Central Electoral Commission <a href="http://www.vrk.lt">www.vrk.lt</a> and <a href="http://www.rinkejopuslapis.lt">www.rinkejopuslapis.lt</a> are published, in open format, only a part of the electoral data;</li> <li>• there is no possibility to analyze simultaneously and easily data of the candidate who has participated in the previous and (or) the current elections, the related donors and donations and their changes;</li> <li>• general data concerning the expenditures for political campaigns and debts contracted according to the Law on the Financing and Control of Financing of Political Campaigns of the Republic of Lithuania are published (by groups of costs): there is no possibility to analyze them analytically and to search out information about the implementation of the obligations contracted by the participants to the political campaign;</li> <li>• a person is not able to check whether the political party has included a member's fee in the financial record;</li> <li>• there is no possibility to analyze aggregated data concerning violations of law sorted by territorial distribution because the general procedure for recording the complaints by the Central Electoral Commission, constituencies, municipalities and districts electoral commissions is based on registration of the complaints in different not cooperating data base;</li> <li>• the boundaries of the electoral constituencies and the districts and their changes are not presented on the map;</li> <li>• there are no modernly designed and user-friendly search system for electoral data and voters' information and tools for monitoring elections.</li> </ul>
<p>What is the commitment?</p>	<p>To provide the public with comprehensive information on the electoral and voting procedures, to promote participation in elections and donations to participants' political campaigns.</p>
<p>How will the commitment contribute to solve the public problem?</p>	<p>By creating and implementing an IT system which provides detailed information on elections and voting procedures, participation in elections and the donations to participants' political campaign.</p>
<p>Why is this commitment relevant to OGP values?</p>	<p>Relevancy derives from the fact that this commitment relates to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the value of transparency, because it would disclose more information, it would improve the quality of the information disclosed, it would improve public accessibility to information and it would guarantee the right to information;</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the value of social activity, because it would create and improve the context of action for civil society in the country, permitted, in thus way, to be better informed and to influence public decisions.</li> <li>• the public sector accountability, because it would create and improve rules, regulations, and mechanisms to guarantee government officials' accountability for their actions.</li> </ul>			
<p>Additional information</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Link to other government programs:             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) measure 1.1.2 of the Interinstitutional Action Plan for 2015-2019 of the National Anti-Corruption Programme for 2015-2025, approved by the Resolution "On the Implementation of the National Anti-Corruption Programme for 2015-2025 and approval of the Implementation Measures Plan of the Interinstitutional Action Plan for 2015-2019" No 648 of 17 June 2015 of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania;</li> <li>2) the Order No J1-14(1.3) 15 May 15th 2017 "On Approval of the Concept of Opening the Electoral Data to the Public" of the Chairman of the Central Electoral Commission of the Republic of Lithuania.</li> </ol> </li> <li>• Link to Sustainable development goals:             <p>The aim is to ensure transparency in the implementation of the state welfare policy by developing and implementing innovative anti-corruption measures at local and regional level.</p> </li> </ul>			
<p>Completion Level</p>	<p>Not Started</p>	<p>Limited</p>	<p>Substantial</p>	<p>Completed</p>
<p>Description of the results</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">X</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) The Central Electoral Commission of the Republic of Lithuania has implemented advanced electronic services to voters by the project "Voter's Page" (project code VP2-3.1 ISDC-14-K-01-011) under Priority 3 "Information Society for All" of the Economic Growth Operational Programme, financed by the European Regional Development Fund and the budget of the Republic of Lithuania (project started: 01-09-2012, ended 30-06-2015). The financing of the project was 1.528.108,31 EUR. The portal "Voter's Page" permits: a) to access to personal profile and b) to receive basic personalized information about: i) elections and voting procedures, ii) voter's participation in elections, c) to order some personalized certificates (created under the aims of the project), c) to upload some electronic documents and d) to get some information about the donations received by the participants of political campaigns.</li> <li>2) The expression "detailed information on elections" and the requirements of open data have been stated and defined according to "The Concept of Opening the Electoral Data to the</li> </ol>			

	<p>Public”, approved on May 15th 2017 by the Order of Chairman of the Central Electoral Commission of the Republic of Lithuania “On Approval of the Concept of Opening the Electoral Data to the Public”.</p> <p>3) The project “Transparent Elections” has been prepared for achieving this task, by receiving financial support from the EU Structural Funds. The project corresponds to the 10th Priority, under the scheduled conditions of financing projects for the purpose of the Measure (“to reduce the factors of the appearance and of the growth of the corruption in the public sector”), as defined in the Priority 10, “Good governance and efficient public administration“ No. 10.1.2-ESFA-V-916, Measure “Implementation of the National Anti-corruption measures“, activity 9.3 “supported activities – corruption, monitoring and management of corruption’s risk, as well as the corruption prevention and (or) investigations on corruption-related offenses and the elaboration, improvement and development of the necessary measures of management (e.g., registers, public information systems, methodological documents and other methodologically aimed measures)”.</p>		
Next Steps	<p>Currently:</p> <p>Assessed that during election, held on 9 October 2016, to the Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania activity of the information system of the Central Electoral Commission had problems and that security gaps appeared, it is necessary to raise the aim to increase the level of diffusion of electoral data to the public by acceptable means of communication for it (this action would suppose the accountability of the subjects involved in politics to the public). And it is necessary to achieve the goals to make available safe open data on elections to the public according to the legal acts of the Republic of Lithuania and to categorize the electoral data according to the role of the person interested in elections (i.e. voters, candidates, organizers of elections).</p>		
Milestone status	Start Date:	End Date:	Completion level
Portal “Voter’s Page” – creation	2012-09-01	2015-06-30	Completed
Portal “Voter’s Page” – development	-	-	Not started
Contact information			
Lead implementing agency	The Central Electoral Commission of the Republic of Lithuania		



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Other Actors Involved	
Government Ministries, Department/Agency	Ministry of Justice
CSOs, private sector, multilaterals, working groups	-
Additional Information	
The commitment has been planned as a separate measure in the Interinstitutional Action Plan for 2015-2019 of the National Anti-Corruption Programme for 2015-2025.	

<b>III. Increased civic participation and engagement in public governance</b>	
6. To create the public consultation mechanism.	
31 December 2016 - 30 June 2018	
Lead implementing agency	Office of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania.
<b>Commitment Description</b>	
What is the public problem that the commitment will address?	Currently, civic participation in public administration processes is considerably weak. For more active engagement of the public in administration processes, institutions need shared public consultation mechanism regulation and practice of its application. At present, there is no shared methodology for public consultation, no key consultation principles, terms, nor standards have been set, consultation methods have not been described, and institutions lack methodological aid and targeted competences to carry out proper public consultation. It is necessary not only to encourage civic participation, but also to monitor the participation efficiency.
What is the commitment?	The commitment to create a public consultation mechanism is linked to the objective to regulate the public consultation procedure, and, having drafted methodological documents, to set a shared consultation practice among

	institutions. The main objective is to encourage more active civic participation in public administration processes.
How will the commitment contribute to solve the public problem?	<p>1. Following analysis of public consultation practice in Lithuania and abroad, public consultation methodology will be drafted, and institutions and agencies accountable to the Government will jointly apply it. Municipal institutions and agencies will be recommended to apply the methodology as well. Public consultation principles, procedure for the organization and execution of consultations, and participants to the public consultation process, as well as their functions, will be laid down in the methodology. Expected result: in compliance with the methodology provisions, joint public consultation practice will be shaped, and more active civic engagement will be encouraged.</p> <p>2. In order to ensure proper application of the provisions of the public consultation methodology, guidelines for its application will be drafted. The guidelines will give practical recommendations for institutions on planning, organization, and execution of public consultation, as well as analysis, assessment, and publication of public consultation results in accordance with the methodology provisions. Expected result: the guidelines will help institutions achieve optimal way of consultation and will help, through concrete examples, shape joint practice of public consultation.</p> <p>3. In order to encourage institutions to actively apply provisions of the public consultation methodology and to use its application guidelines, an electronic publication will be launched to make these methodological documents public. In order to encourage the society to take part in public consultation, an awareness-raising video clip will be created. Expected result: an electronic publication and an awareness-raising video clip will be presented (made public) to institutions and the society through various channels of communication, hence encouraging institutions to make use of the methodological documents, and the society to take part in consultations.</p> <p>4. To assess the effect of various means of civic participation on public administration processes, a methodology for monitoring civic participation in public administration processes will be drafted and practically tested. The methodology will provide recommendations for carrying out monitoring, assessment, and publication of results on application of measures for public consultation and other methods of civic participation in public administration processes.</p> <p>5. In compliance with the methodology provisions, regular monitoring and assessment of efficiency of civic participation in public administration processes will be carried out.</p>
Why is this commitment relevant to OGP values?	This commitment is relevant to the following OGP values: transparency, efficiency and accountability. The implemented commitment will help institutions to improve the accessibility and quality of information provided to the public about public consultations. The commitment is also improving opportunities for the public to participate and influence decisions; therefore, it is relevant to civic participation. The commitment to create a public consultation mechanism is

	linked to the aim to improve the current regulation of the public consultation procedure.			
Completion Level	Not Started	Limited	Substantial	Completed
		X		
Description of the results	<p>At this stage, analysis of the existing public consultation practices in Lithuania and practices of other countries has been drafted. This is one of the key parts that are necessary in order to prepare the public consultation methodology. Furthermore, a draft version of the public consultation methodology has been prepared which is still being reviewed to fill in information before it can be finalized.</p> <p>There is also a draft of guidelines for application of public consultation methodology being prepared. It will be finalized once there is a completed version of public consultations methodology.</p>			
Next Steps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to add information and finalize the public consultation methodology.</li> <li>• Review the draft version of the guidelines for application of the public consultation methodology and finalize them.</li> <li>• Start preparing for the production processes of an electronic publication and a video clip.</li> </ul>			
Milestone status		Start Date:	End Date:	Completion level
1. Public consultation methodology		2016 12 31	2018 06 30	Substantial
2. Guidelines for application of public consultation methodology		2016 12 31	2018 06 30	Limited
3. Measures for publication of public consultation methodology and guidelines for its application (an electronic publication and an awareness-raising video clip)		-	2018 06 30	Not Started
4. Methodology for monitoring civic participation in public administration processes		-	2018 06 30	Not Started
Contact information				
Lead implementing agency	Office of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania			
Persons responsible from implementing agency	Gitana Jurjonienė			

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Other Actors Involved	
Government Ministries, Department/Agency	Ministry of the Interior of the Republic of Lithuania
CSOs, private sector, multilaterals, working groups	-

<b>III. Increased civic participation and engagement in public governance</b>	
7. To foster open public governance culture in public sector by introducing values of Open Government Partnership	
31 December 2016 – 30 June 2018	
Lead implementing agency	Office of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania
<b>Commitment Description</b>	
What is the public problem that the commitment will address?	Often civil servants and employees fail to grasp full importance of open government and open public administration. Even those civil servants, who understand this, lack knowledge and skills as regards application of the open public administration principles.
What is the commitment?	To build competencies of civil servants and employees, to foster open public administration culture, and to create a forum for cooperation between the State and municipal institutions and civil society devoted for sharing best practices in application of the open public administration principles.
How will the commitment contribute to solve the public problem?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. In order to strengthen capacities of civil servants and employees in the field of open public administration, civil servant trainings will be held. Civil servants and employees, who deal with citizens in their daily tasks, will better understand the essence and methods of open public administration, and correctly apply the principles of open public administration in their daily work.</li> <li>2. In order to create a forum for cooperation between the State and municipal institutions and civil society, conferences, seminars and discussions with civil society will be held. State and municipal institutions will have a platform for an organised cooperation with the civil society, which would help understand the essence and</li> </ol>

	methods of open public administration, and create preconditions for the public institutions and civil society representatives to cooperate in their daily activities.			
Why is this commitment relevant to OGP values?	<p>This commitment is relevant to OGP values of transparency, accountability and civic participation.</p> <p>Completing the commitment to strengthen capacities of civil servants and employees in the field of open public administration will support the goal of ensuring that civil servants will apply the principles and methods of open public administration more widely in their activities, including the principles of transparency and accountability.</p> <p>Creating a forum for cooperation between the State and municipal institutions and civil society will broaden the opportunities and strengthening the ability of the civil society to participate in decision-making or influence decisions.</p>			
Completion Level	Not Started	Limited	Substantial	Completed
		X		
Description of the results	One out of five planned discussions on open public administration was organized – a round table discussion “Open public administration: where are we now and where are we heading?”			
Next Steps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Up to 5 planned civil servant trainings will be held, during which principles of open government and other relevant information will be explained.</li> <li>In order to create a forum for cooperation between the State and municipal institutions and civil society, up to 2 conferences, 2 seminars and 4 discussions on open public administration will be held.</li> </ul>			
Milestone status		Start Date:	End Date:	Completion level
1. Conferences, seminars and discussions with civil society have been held.		2016 12 31	2018 06 30	Limited
2. Civil servant trainings have been held.		2016 12 31	2018 06 30	Not started
Contact information				
Lead implementing agency	Office of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania.			
Persons responsible from implementing agency	Gitana Jurjonienė			
Title, Department	Head of Personal Service Unit			

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Other Actors Involved	
Government Ministries, Department/Agency	Representatives of ministries and agencies accountable to them, representatives of municipal administrations.
CSOs, private sector, multilaterals, working groups	the Civil Society Institute, Transparency International Lithuania, NGO Information and Support Centre and other.

<b>III. Increased civic participation and engagement in public governance</b>	
8. Creation of NGO database.	
30 September 2016 - 31 December 2018	
Lead implementing agency	Ministry of Justice
<b>Commitment Description</b>	
What is the public problem that the commitment will address?	<p>The NGO database is at the disposal of the main body – the Centre of Registers since 2004 but the organizations that comply with the concept of NGO defined in Law on Development of Non-governmental Organisations are unidentified in this data base. The State Tax Inspectorate under the Ministry of Finance also has a certain database (containing data on non-profit legal entities having the status of beneficiary) but NGOs are not divided by the nature of independence and the definition of NGO provided for in the Law. Therefore, a single information system for data collection on NGOs is needed which would not only distinguish the <i>actual</i> NGOs but would also allow for reducing the administrative burden and expenditure related to change in management bodies or reporting.</p> <p>The main problem is that up to date the number of registered and actually functioning NGOs is unclear, i. e. there is no concrete database on NGOs and their activities. According to the data of the Centre of Registers currently there are over 20 000 NGOs registered in Lithuania (associations, charity and support funds, public enterprises). This number is inaccurate due to 2 reasons: 1) it is unknown which organizations are indeed operational, as they might have been registered many years ago but do not perform actual activities; 2) it is not clear whether organizations established on the basis of these legal forms can be treated as NGOs.</p> <p>The indicated number of the NGOs registered in Lithuania does not show neither the actual scale of operation nor compliance with the NGO definition provided</p>

	<p>for in the Law. Under such uncertainty for the majority of potential supporters and even NGOs themselves it is unknown how many and what type of these organizations are actually operational in Lithuania.</p>			
<p>What is the commitment?</p>	<p>The objective of a single NGO data base (including data on potential applicants seeking state funding and reporting on the funds paid) is to create an exclusive data system that would provide standardised information on the non-governmental sector of Lithuania and its involvement in the implementation of the programmes financed by public state / municipal institutions through an open tender.</p> <p>Such a database would save time and financial resources both in the public institutions responsible for the preparation and administration of programs and NGOs that each time when participating in tenders of different institutions face the same requirements to prove their eligibility to apply.</p> <p>Data on an organization (statute, list of board members, contacts of the sole holder, etc.) would be kept in the database with a possibility to update the contact details or management information by connecting via electronic means (e-bank, e-signature, etc.).</p> <p>NGO data base will be created where the registered users are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NGOs applying to participate in various project tenders and aiming to get financial support for their activities;</li> <li>• Public institutions (managers of appropriations) financing the NGO projects through various national and/or international programs.</li> </ul>			
<p>How will the commitment contribute to solve the public problem?</p>	<p>This database would enable the creation of an instrument of collection and dissemination of consolidated information for the department of Statistics of Lithuania. This way the principle of transparency of the NGO sector will be ensured and the administrative burden will be reduced (incurred by the public institutions), as well as the financial burden (incurred by NGOs for paying fees for the provision and updating of data to the Centre of Registers). It will be a single information system for data collection on NGOs is needed which would not only distinguish the <i>actual</i> NGOs but would also allow for reducing the administrative burden and expenditure related to change in management bodies or reporting.</p>			
<p>Why is this commitment relevant to OGP values?</p>	<p>This database would enable the creation of an instrument of collection and dissemination of consolidated information for the department of Statistics of Lithuania, representatives of the non-governmental sector and public institutions, academic community and the society as a whole. Such information will make it possible to see the real overview of the NGO sector, monitor the changing environment and financial data. Therefore, the principle of transparency will be ensured.</p>			
<p>Completion Level</p>	<p>Not Started</p>	<p>Limited</p>	<p>Substantial</p>	<p>Completed</p>
		<p>X</p>		

Description of the results	<p>The objective of a single NGO database is to provide standardised information for government institutions, which finance NGO projects through various national and international programmes. The functionality of the database:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NGOs will voluntarily upload their financial and activity reports;</li> <li>• NGOs will upload informaton on theri functions and other information;</li> <li>• Potential manager of the database - Centre of Registers. Users – academics, municipalities, government institutions.</li> </ul> <p>The database will have a public NGO contact database and a resctricted access contact database.</p>
Next Steps	Clarify the definition on an NGO in the Law of development of NGO's.
<b>Contact information</b>	
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<b>Other Actors Involved</b>	
Government Ministries, Department/Agency	State Enterprise Centre of Registers, Ministry of Social Security and Labour.
CSOs, private sector, multilaterals, working groups	NGO Council, National NGO Coalition

<b>III. Increased civic participation and engagement in public governance</b>	
9. Creation of NGO fund	
31 December 2016 - 30 June 2018	
Lead implementing agency	Republic of Lithuania ministry of social security and labour
<b>Commitment Description</b>	



<p>What is the public problem that the commitment will address?</p>	<p>Based on the recent studies, it can be concluded that the development of the Lithuanian NGO sector and its cooperation with the public institutions remains fragmented and underdeveloped. This is due to several key aspects such as underdeveloped legal environment, unclear role of NGOs in the mechanism of state governance, insufficient opportunities for NGOs to get involved into the decision-making process, uncertain number of registered and active NGOs.</p> <p>Unstructured self-regulation of NGOs limits the possibilities for developing the partnership between NGOs and the state and municipal institutions, as well as possibilities for including NGOs to the public decision-making process. The performance of the NGO Councils established on the basis of the Law on Development of Non-governmental Organisations of 2013 at the national and municipal levels is still poor and does not meet the possibilities for influencing the decision-making processes of the public institutions provided for by this Law. This is due to the closed nature of the public institutions, lack of inclusion of the NGO sector to the public decision-making and the public policy making.</p>
<p>What is the commitment?</p>	<p>The fund for strengthening the civil society (of the NGO sector) is dedicated to strengthening the national and umbrella organizations for the sake of their operational efficiency in representing the interests of their members (NGOs) in the public institutions, improving the legal and tax environment of NGOs, developing advocacy skills, performing a continuous monitoring of the development of the NGO sector and assessment of the policies implemented by the public institutions as regards to the provision of public services and the inclusion of the citizens to the decision-making process. The fund will promote the creation of the self-regulation mechanisms of the NGO sector, creation of transparency and accountability standards, communication of its activities by various means to the public, cultivation of competences and skills for participation in the public policies and their implementation with the aim to provide high-quality public services for the population.</p>
<p>How will the commitment contribute to solve the public problem?</p>	<p>The National civil society fund would be designed to finance NGO programmes. These programmes would contribute to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• boosting the NGO expert potential and professional involvement in the cooperation with the public and municipal institutions that are competent and skilled in separate areas of public policy; mechanisms such as consultancies and development of mentoring activities (for example, dissemination of knowledge and skills between the professional NGO practices, development of new cooperation forms, etc.);</li> <li>• organization of special training according to needs in order to transfer the provision of public services to the NGO sector, by strengthening the NGO capacities to draft and implement strategic plans and strengthening the representation skills;</li> <li>• development of advocacy activities with particular regard to advocacy training, mentoring, provision of consultancy and participation in the decision-making processes, creation and strengthening of cooperation networks and coalitions, strengthening of the partnership between NGOs and the state and municipal institutions by formulating, implementing and</li> </ul>

	<p>assessing the provision of the public services in various areas of public policy;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• provision of comprehensive support to the NGO sector with particular regard to the provision of information and communication between NGOs themselves and the members of their networks (between themselves) as regards to improvement of quality and development of the activities of this sector; consolidation of the role of the NGO sector between the decision-makers and the public service operators;</li> <li>• implementation and development of databases and information systems.</li> </ul>			
<p>Why is this commitment relevant to OGP values?</p>	<p>The fund will promote the creation of the self-regulation mechanisms of the NGO sector, creation of transparency and accountability standards, communication of its activities by various means to the public, cultivation of competences and skills for participation in the public policies and their implementation with the aim to provide high-quality public services for the population.</p> <p>The purpose of the fund is to finance the strengthening of institutional capacities of NGOs required for participation in the public decision-making process, as well as drafting of proposals by NGOs on decisions of public governance and presentation to the interested institutions and the public; strengthening of competences of NGO representatives required for the drafting and presentation of such proposals.</p> <p>Fund contributes to development of advocacy activities with particular regard to advocacy training, mentoring, provision of consultancy and participation in the decision-making processes, creation and strengthening of cooperation networks and coalitions, strengthening of the partnership between NGOs and the state and municipal institutions by formulating, implementing and assessing the provision of the public services in various areas of public policy.</p>			
<p>Additional information</p>	<p>The proposed instrument contributes to the implementation of the following strategic documents of the state:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lithuania’s Republic Government plan for implementation program</li> <li>• Strategy “Lithuania 2030”;</li> <li>• National Progress Programme for 2014-2020;</li> <li>• Public Governance Improvement Programme for 2012-2020;</li> <li>• OECD recommendations for Lithuania;</li> <li>• Public Education Strategy for 2013-2022.</li> </ul>			
<p>Completion Level</p>	<p>Not Started</p>	<p>Limited</p>	<p>Substantial</p>	<p>Completed</p>
		<p>X</p>		
<p>Description of the results</p>	<p>Alternatives to NGOs Fund are being finalized</p>			
<p>Next Steps</p>	<p>The prepared alternatives to the Fund will be presented in the NGOs Council. Subject to approval of any specific alternatives to the Fund, it will be presented for comments to the interested parties.</p>			

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Other Actors Involved	
Government Ministries, Department/Agency	Ministry of the Interior
CSOs, private sector, multilaterals, working groups	NGO Council, National NGO Coalition