



HELLENIC REPUBLIC
Ministry of Administrative Reform
& E-Government



Greek **ACTION PLAN** 2014 - 2016

Open Government Partnership

Confidence in citizens • Participation • Transparency

Reliable Government

Accountability • Innovation • Growth

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I. Introduction

The Greek Government recognizes the value of the open government principles as the cornerstone for government integrity and transparency and as key enabler for citizen participation. We remain strongly committed to the mission and objectives of the Open Government Partnership (OGP) convinced that transparency, participation and accountability policies, if systematically and strategically pursued can have transformative effects upon the relationship model of a citizen with his state.

The implementation of the open government policy can support modernization of both State and Public Administration, through on-going administrative reform, in line with the principles of efficiency, transparency, participation and accountability. Our participation to OGP provides a unique opportunity to cultivate dynamic and fruitful dialogue as well as adopt policies that will transform the relationship between citizens and the Government and will ensure integrity and accountability in public life, spur innovation and stimulate economic growth.

For this purpose, we create and develop a vital space for civil society and its active participation in the process of addressing common challenges and **implementing all commitments undertaken as part of the open government policy.**

This action plan is the result of wide public consultation. It includes commitments covering the period from July 2014 to June 2016. It was drafted in line both with the 2014-2020 e-Government strategy and 2014-2016 Administrative Reform Strategy which were updated by the Ministry of Administrative Reform and e-Governance in April 2014.

Coordination of the national Action Plan implementation

The designated representative of the country in OGP coordinates the promotion of the national policy of open government and the implementation of the national Action Plan.

An important prerequisite to achieve the objectives of the national Action Plan is the adoption of a uniform management model for its implementation. The aim is to monitor and coordinate the implementation of each commitment in order to meet the timetable and update or amend commitments undertaken, where appropriate.

The designated organizational unit of the Ministry of Administrative Reform and e-Governance will coordinate the implementation of the open government commitments.

The main elements of the management model of the action plan are:

- Monitoring progress in implementing the commitments and conducting biannual evaluation and assessment of the action plan.
- Cooperating with the implementing bodies to prioritize new needs and amend actions, where necessary.
- Identifying possible high-risk areas that could jeopardize the consistent implementation of the action plan - Assessing impact and providing alternative solutions.
- Evaluating the effectiveness and efficiency of the various actions of the commitments, in order to identify all sources that cause delays or problems and launch initiatives to address them.

II. Collaboration and Deliberation Initiatives

In April 2012, Greece submitted to OGP the first national Action Plan for Open Government. In September 2013, the process of reviewing the action plan, which had started in August 2013, was concluded. This process included drafting the progress report, carrying out collaboration and deliberation meetings with representatives of various entities of the Greek public administration, civil society organisations as well as independent authorities, and finally submitting the draft progress report for open consultation, prior to its finalisation. The progress report by the OGP Independent Reporting Mechanism (IRM) followed, stating that out of a total number of 11 commitments undertaken within the action plan, two (2) were completely or substantially implemented, while seven (7) were considered partially fulfilled. It is important to highlight that during the period between April 2012, when the first Action Plan was conducted and August 2013, when the new OGP representative was set, significant political changes occurred. Specifically, it should be stressed that two changes occurred in the leadership of the Ministry of Administrative Reform and e-Governance (MAREG), which is the Ministry responsible for the coordination of the national Action Plan implementation. Moreover, other changes regarding designing and implementing governmental strategy on administrative reform and e-governance have taken place.

Starting in August 2013, Open Government Policy is highlighted as an issue of high importance for the Greek Government. The overall strategy is redesigned and the actions on designing and implementing new ambitious and critical goals are intensified. The political leadership of the Ministry of Administrative Reform and e-Governance is committed to promote open government policy and has already undertaken a series of initiatives to this end.

In October 2013, during the annual OGP Summit held in London, the representative of the country to OGP, Deputy Minister of Administrative Reform and e-Governance, Dr Evy Christofilopoulou, announced the new policy and the main commitments of Greece in the field of open government. Actions on drafting the new action plan were initiated immediately after the submission of the internal progress report. As of October 2013, executives from the Ministry of Administrative Reform and e-Governance, serving as members of the Greek OGP team, have launched a series of meetings with representatives of bodies. Those meetings are ongoing and will continue until the final submission of the new action plan. In December 2013, a meeting was held with the representatives of the civil society, Ministries and independent authorities, with the aim to detect the priorities and main goals of the country on open government. The next step was to organise two consultation and cooperation workshops, ensuring a great level of participation of both governmental bodies and civil society. The first workshop focused on open data and their contribution in development and the second one on transparency and citizen participation. The results of the consultation of those workshops were recorded in two policy papers, which were used in defining the commitments in the present action plan. It is also important to stress the fact that, during the first workshop, the Ministry of Administrative Reform and e-Governance officially announced its intention to bring into force the open by default policy, regarding data managed by the Greek Public Administration.

MAREG's initiatives on open government are not limited to the efforts regarding drafting this OGP action plan. MAREG communicated with all Ministries in order to create a network of human resources, aiming at coordinating all actions in the field of open government. An application was created, enabling

the registration of all public sector datasets. MAREG also participated (represented by the Minister and the deputy Minister) to the European Data Forum 2014, during which the new policy on the management and open access to Public Sector Information was announced. Moreover, an open public data HACKATHON was organised, to promote the use of public data, and actions were undertaken regarding informing and promoting social dialogue with high school students from all over the country on the issue of open government.

Finally, the efforts of the Ministry regarding open data should be stressed. Already since October 2013, 'data.gov.gr' has been created. It serves as the central portal for public data, which is continuously enriched with new data sets. Moreover, the process of identifying legal interventions that should be adopted regarding both the implementation of the open by default policy and harmonization with the new PSI EU Directive was initiated.

During the period from the 5th to 26th of May, the national Action Plan will be placed in open public consultation in Greek and English and a publicity plan will be implemented to ensure the greatest participation possible in this process. The comments that will be submitted will be assessed to introduce amendments in the commitments (wherever necessary). Moreover, the cooperation with representatives of the public administration as well as civil society organizations will continue until the final submission of the action plan.

III. OGP Commitments

Open Government Commitments

Boosting Public Participation

Commitment 1: Institutional and technological upgrading of Transparency Program

Context

The Transparency Program is a global innovation which has been recognized as a best practice for transparency promotion since it offers citizens the opportunity to have direct access to all public administration decisions and acts, both in a national and local authority level, through the internet, the moment the decision is issued. Starting with the law 3861 of 2010, all public administration bodies must upload and publish their decisions and acts in a single governmental website (diavgeia.gov.gr, where *diavgeia* equals to transparency in Greek). The published electronic document is assigned a unique identification number from the Transparency Program website, which number is a prerequisite for the decision or act to be valid.

Currently there are 3,677 public administration bodies and local authority organizations included in the Transparency Program. There are 11,262,086 published documents. This number currently increases in a rate of around 16,000 documents per day. There are 32,025 trained executives in both narrow and broad public sector, forming a critical mass of digital champions, promoting innovative actions.

Commitment Description

Promotion of transparency and accountability, through the improvement of the legal framework and the enhanced application of process transparency in public administration. This is the second phase of the project, and it is called Transparency Program II.

The main interventions needed pertain to the institutional and technological enhancement of the current (governmental) Transparency Program project:

- Compliance and uniform application of regulations regarding the institutional strengthening of the published document. This will ensure that the unique number given to each document (and not the document itself or its printed version) will be sufficient in referencing, using and handling, throughout the public sector, without the need of additional validation or signing.
- Substantial improvement of the website user interface, including additional search functionality, improved usability and enhanced accessibility.
- Addition of electronic communication channels among citizens, businesses and public administration, in order to submit comments and discuss the published documents.

- Provision of personalized content and search results.
- Improvement of open data provision mechanism. Use of data from governmental audit mechanisms. Implementation of applications for the monitoring of the administrative actions from all interested parties.
- Enrichment of the information provided by Transparency Program, using additional public sector data sources (human resources, e-procurement, income etc.). This way a wider system for information provision will be created, available to the public. A separate subsystem will be designed, addressing the need of public administration bodies to draw business intelligence reports on public administration functioning, expenses and to support decision making.

OGP Values

Access to information, Technology & innovation for transparency & accountability

Implementing bodies

Implementation: Ministry of Administrative Reform and e-Governance, Information Society SA. All bodies of public administration will co-operate in implementing the new Transparency Program.

Objectives

The new Transparency Program will provide improved functionality, allowing the citizen an easier way to access documents of interest. It will also add electronic communication channels to allow interaction with the public body publishing the document. There will also be provision for tagging documents for problems, as well as submission of comments through an electronic, well organized, channel of communication, which will augment citizen participation in decision making.

Finally, through exploitation and re-use of data from the Transparency Program, as well as the combination of this data with other public data sources, there will be further promotion of transparency and accountability.

Means for implementation

Implementation of the project “Implementation of the second phase of the Transparency Program” from Information Society SA. At the same time, the implementation of this commitment relies in the efficient deployment of this second phase to all public administration bodies.

Milestones - Timescales

- Issue of instructions and guides on the application of the new pertaining legislative framework and the new pertaining information system (October 2014).
- Complete integration and operation of public bodies in the new Transparency Program (December 2014).
- Conduction of study and gradual promotion of actions enriching the data provided from other data sources of the public sector. Target being the centralized, correct, information provision for a variety of issues – including expenditure, revenue, personnel etc. (Study June 2015, gradual implementation June 2016).

Commitment 2: Public participation in decision making

Context

In October 2009, the www.opengov.gr system started operating, offering the citizen functionality for e-consultation and electronic comment submission, on each draft legislation (in a separate room created for each Ministry under www.opengov.gr), before the legislation is submitted to the parliament.

Both individuals and organization submit comments, suggestions and views, in an article-by-article format, in order for all this input to be collected and evaluated by the body suggesting the draft legislation. This effort has not been complete, since:

- The consultation period is very short (on average),
- Participants are not informed whether their comments have been taken into account (or not),
- The system has not been developed into place for effective consultation and participation.

Commitment Description

Enhancement of the consultation process in all levels (institutional/legal, operational, technical). More specifically the following areas will be improved:

- **Institutional:** Strengthening of current institutional/legal framework.
- **Technical:** The electronic system www.opengov.gr will be the focal point of information provision and consultation conduction throughout the public sector. Also the functionality offered for consultation of running consultations will be enhanced.
- **Operational:**
 - Introduction of a unique methodology for deliberation conduction, which will apply to all public administration bodies.
 - Adoption of a minimum consultation period.
 - Highlight of best practices. Study of consultations with increased participation.
 - Identification of consultations and submitted draft legislation. Existence of link between the consultation and final draft. Adoption of same enumeration in both consultation provided and final draft, in order to better correlate
 - Template for consultation results presentation.
 - Annual assessment of results.
 - Training and utilization of executives.
 - Adoption of mechanisms for reaching and mobilizing citizens.
 - Structured communication with all interested parties.

OGP values

Citizen participation, Accountability

Implementing bodies

Implementation: Ministry of Administrative Reform and e-Governance with the support of the National School of Public Administration and Local Government.

Objectives

Strengthen the consultation process, through improved cooperation between society and stakeholders. A sturdy framework for the conduction of consultations should be put in place, with well-defined and explicit methodology for all participants.

Additionally, enhance the credibility and transparency of the consultation process, increase involvement of citizens and society, and cultivate a culture supporting consultations in both society and public administration.

Means for implementation

All necessary regulation/legislation will be conducted by the Ministry of Administrative Reform and e-Governance. The National School of Public Administration and Local Government are responsible for both technical and organizational improvements.

Milestones - Timescales

- Regulation/legislation in place by end of December 2015.
- Operational and technical improvements: gradual implementation, ending June 2016. There will be pertaining action plan by the end of 2014, followed by incremental implementation and deployment.
- Preparation of a plan for public administration training, awareness raising and citizen mobilization (December 2014), which will include the needed steps for gradual application.

Open Government Data

Commitment 1: Integration of PSI Directive on the re-use of public sector information

Context

The lack of a clear institutional framework for the re-use of public sector information constitutes a negative factor. A clear framework that will “give the green light” to public officials to dispense public information is therefore needed. It has been characteristically reported by officials that in order to open government data, a ministerial decision is required.

Commitment description

The Greek Government will incorporate on its legislation the revised European Directive on the re-use of public sector information (PSI) until the end of December 2014.

OGP values

Access to information

Implementing bodies

Implementation: Ministry of Administrative Reform and E-Governance (MAREG) in cooperation with the Ministry of Culture and Sports and the Ministry of Education and Religious Affairs.

Objectives

Integration of the PSI European Directive 2013/37/EU (amending Directive 2003/98/EC) on the re-use of public sector information will make government information available for re-use, for both commercial and non-commercial purposes, in machine-readable format and under open licenses. The incorporation of the Directive will help remove the reservations frequently expressed by many public bodies on their obligation to provide information they own. This will lead to economic benefits and will contribute to the implementation of the Greek Government commitments on transparency and openness of data and information, thus enabling re-use by businesses and citizens and creation of added value products and services.

Means for implementation

The commitment will be implemented internally by the Ministry of Administrative Reform and e-Governance (MAREG).

Milestones — Timescales

The incorporation of Directive 2013/37/EU into Greek legislation will be completed by the end of December 2014.

Commitment 2: Regulatory amendments for the management and provision of open data

Context

Regarding the management and provision of open data, the lack of a clear licensing framework often leads to the enforcement of “terms of use”, attribution claims, limitations on dissemination, which act as barriers to public use of data. Opening up data includes the clear marking of public information as government property and its provision without restrictions.

Many public bodies own information systems with vast amounts of data, that have cost a lot of money, and information is kept locked because either they are not given access to the infrastructure by the Contractor, or there is lack of know-how on obtaining this information by systems operators. Thus a huge volume of data remains untapped.

Data quality is an important issue, since it is quite often that organizations choose to publish data in ways that do not contribute to further re-use of information, or render it excessively difficult, for instance reports, pdf files, excel files, scanned tables, etc. The publication of a guide written in plain and clear language will substantially improve the way government data is provided.

Commitment description

Implementation of regulatory amendments that will facilitate further provision of open data managed by public bodies. This commitment entails the following 3 interventions:

1. Publication of instructions (based on current legislation) requiring the inclusion of open data dissemination on designing publicly funded IT projects.
2. Publication of licensing framework for public data.
3. Publication of open data dissemination guide. Preparation and circulation to the central and local administration of a guide that will describe the obligations, procedures, methodology and technology for publishing open data. The guide will be written in clear and simple language. It will demonstrate the value of open data, the formats for publication and standard methodologies for optimal operational coordination of the process within each public body.

OGP values

Access to information

Implementing bodies

Implementation: Ministry of Administrative Reform and e-Governance (MAREG) in cooperation with the Information Society SA, Managing Authorities, Local Authorities Bodies.

Objectives

The main objective is to remove technical and legal barriers which prevent the publication of public sector data as open data.

Means for implementation

The commitment will be implemented internally by MAREG.

Milestones — Timescales

- Publication of open data provision guide (December 2014).
- Guidelines for including open data provision on the design of IT projects (June 2015).
- Disclosure of open data licensing framework (June 2015).

Commitment 3: Implementation of platform for central distribution of public open data

Context

Public sector open data sets are published on the data.gov.gr central portal. There exist also other public sector websites which publish open data.

Commitment description

Within the context of the implementation and operation of the Greek Government G-Cloud Datacenter, a new central site will be implemented for gathering, storing, disposing and searching open data and linked open data. It will consist of the open data portal data.gov.gr serving citizens and businesses for data retrieval, the website submit.data.gov.gr serving authorized officials in documenting, describing and disposing open data, and a set of specialized tools that through published APIs will deliver all necessary interoperability services for extracting information from systems, devices, applications and third party platforms. Thus the platform will (automatically) collect through standardized processes data generated from the IT systems of public bodies, and will make it available to citizens and businesses.

OGP values

Access to information, Technology & innovation for transparency & accountability

Implementing bodies

Implementation: Ministry of Administrative Reform and e-Governance, Information Society S.A.

Objectives

The main objective is to create the necessary technical infrastructure for management and publication of linked open data. The platform will provide apart from the websites data.gov.gr and submit.data.gov.gr, a set of specific tools and APIs to achieve interoperability with different information systems and also for gathering data in order to be published.

Means for implementation

The main instrument for implementing the commitment is the G-Cloud contract, through which the Open Linked Data platform will be implemented.

Milestones — Timescales

The milestones and implementation timescale have as follows:

- Signing of the implementation contract (July 2014),
- Implementation Study completion and commencement of pilot phase of the platform (November 2014),
- Roll-out of the platform with all the available open data sets (June 2015).

Commitment 4: Provision of open geospatial data

Context

The current lack of an integrated national cadastre and detailed forestry and rural maps, result to the impairment in entrepreneurship since the use of land is not clearly documented. Similarly, the nearly non-existence of geospatial data contributes to the environmental damage due to the unregulated construction which encourages encroachment of public land. All the above lead to environmental

damage. There are laws such as the 3882/2010 which states that public sector data should be available at no cost. However, these laws are often not applied, or they are misunderstood, thereby undermining the free provision of data. The legislative framework has many issues to be settled:

1. We need to define the ownership of the data sets;
2. We need to determine the open data license;
3. We need to determine issues about privacy and confidentiality for the provided data sets.

A major emerging issue is the coordination and control structures for the management / provision of open geospatial data. Additional reasons include the scattering of the data, the lack of an official record in a central registry, and the low quality of the data.

As far as the existing data sets are concerned, some problems arise: a) there are major incompatibilities between the data sets, b) they have many errors, c) no update process exists, d) there is no clear process for validation. The process of compiling the data sets does not follow some standard process and format, acceptable to all stakeholders. It is fragmentary and leads to minimal provision of interoperability services.

Commitment description

The Ministry of Environment, Energy and Climate Change will be responsible for the coordination of the provision of geospatial data from all public administration bodies. The providers will produce and manage their geospatial data and then provide the data to the Ministry, who in turn will make it available in designated format (e.g., oversized paper maps or data sets). Therefore, it is especially important to tag the geospatial data records with appropriate metadata, so that the records can be easily accessed, retrieved and combined with other data sources.

For this purpose, the Ministry of Environment, Energy and Climate Change will prepare all the necessary legislative acts and it will define a specific business process for the provision of data. The provided geospatial data will be publicized through the website of the National Geospatial Information Infrastructure following technical standards and procedures to be established. Also the data will be posted on the Central Governmental registry data.gov.gr.

OGP values

Access to information, Accountability.

Implementing bodies

Ministry of Environment, Energy and Climate Change in cooperation with the Ministry of Infrastructure, Transport and Networks, Ministry of Defense, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Administrative Reform and e-Governance.

Objectives

Establish a mechanism with which the Ministry of Environment will provide easy and convenient ways to locate, access and share geospatial data. Data will be provided and used by Public Administration in an open and editable format, and according to interoperability standards as defined under Directive 2007/2/EC and by the National Interoperability Framework geo-information and Services.

Until the construction of the geospatial registry and in accordance with Directive 2007/2/EC and Law N.3882/2010, every geospatial provider should provide their geospatial data open. Until the adoption of

institutional rules implementing under Law N.3882/2010, public authorities producing and managing geospatial data can not restrict access to them. The rules of access and use shall be in accordance with national and Community legislation. The conditions that must be met to achieve this objective are the following:

- Determination of the licenses (e.g. Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International) for the provision of open geospatial data and metadata.
- Determination of the shape of metadata describing the open geospatial data.
- Procedures for the initial posting and updating of geospatial data and metadata by the geospatial data provider.
- Procedures for the extraction and cleansing of geospatial data for publication.
- Coordination of the provision process of open geospatial data.
- Training of governmental executives.

Means for implementation

The operational coordination of the geospatial providers of Public Administration will be undertaken by the Ministry of Environment, Energy and Climate Change, involving pertaining institutions. In particular, the Ministry of Environment, Energy and Climate Change will be responsible to inform government organizations on their obligation to provide open geospatial data, and it will also provide solutions on the issues of open data licenses and metadata schemata.

The provision of open geospatial data will require the creation of a central repository. Details regarding the technical management and business support of the repository will be determined in due course. Furthermore the geospatial data providers will have to be identified, and the issues of metadata generation, publication and the update process, export / cleansing / processing and its provision via web services will have to be addressed as well.

Milestones - Timescales

The exact action plan depends on the roadmap of Directive 2007/2/EC implementation and it will have to be completed by June 2016. During the consultation processes for the development of the current action plan, critical geospatial data sets have been identified. Indicative list:

- Provide geospatial registry the set of ortho-photos and any other cartographic backgrounds of EKCHA SA (formerly Cadastre SA).
- Convert and provide OKXE SA archive in digital format.
- Provide data on environmental protection areas (Natura, etc.).

Commitment 5: Provision of open cultural data

Context

Cultural information is excluded from the scope of the law (Law 3448/2006) that defines the re-use of public sector information. Additionally, there are no established procedures regarding publishing relevant information. The adoption of the EU Directive 2013/37/EU (PSI) requires the establishment of new regulatory acts concerning cultural information (Law 3028/2002) and also revision of Law 3448/2006.

Commitment description

The Ministry of Culture and Sports, as well as supervised public bodies, are going to publish cultural data that falls within the definitions of public information of Directive 2013/37/EU. These data sets will be provided for re-use by citizens, academic institutes and enterprises in order to contribute to the development of the national cultural product.

OGP values

Access to information

Implementing bodies

Implementation: Ministry of Culture and Sports in cooperation with the General Secretariat of Culture and the regulated entities of the Ministry of Culture and Sports.

Objectives

Provide open linked data and more specifically:

- All related information about the location, type, description and operation of museums and cultural organisations,
- the largest part of the cultural monuments of the country.

Means of Implementation

For the implementation of the specific commitment the following prerequisites must be fulfilled:

- Completion of the IT project for the digitalisation and provision of open data regarding the Digital mobile monuments of National Monuments Registry.
- Completion of the archaeological cadastral and implementation of interoperability with the National Monuments Registry.
- Implementation of action plan for the opening of cultural data.
- Cooperation with other bodies and organisation (scientific, local, etc.), regarding interoperability between systems which provide open cultural data and information.
- Establishing standards for opening, interoperability provision and re-use of cultural data.

Milestones - Timescales

- Amendment of the legal framework and more specifically of Law 3448/2006 with the adoption of new regulatory acts. This will lead to further amendments for the sectorial — sectoral legislation (completion by the end of 2015).
- Completion of the National Digital Archaeological Cadastral Registry which will make possible the publication of the cultural data (completion by the end of 2015).
- Implementation of interoperability services for the re-usability of cultural data from third party bodies, academic institutions and individuals. (completion by the end of June 2016).

Commitment 6: Provision of open data for offshore companies

Context

Each offshore company is controlled and monitored by a specific tax office. Analytical data regarding offshore companies are not published.

Commitment description

The Ministry of Finance will provide the list of all offshore companies registered in Greece in a machine readable form. The information published will contain the following: headquarters address, VAT id

number, company name, distinctive title, country, address of offices in Greece, code number, NACE Code. This information will be accessible and updated in monthly basis (at least).

OGP values

Access to information, Accountability

Implementing bodies

Implementation by the Ministry of Finance and more specifically the General Secretariat of Public Revenue and General Secretariat of Information Systems.

Objectives

Publication of offshore companies' data aims to reinforce transparency and accountability. Offshore companies data regarding establishment and operation are not available to public. Moreover, the last two years, offshore companies have received negative publicity due to corruption cases and scandals. Publication of this data will substantially support the accountability objective, and will reinforce the official control mechanisms.

Means of Implementation

The commitment will be implemented internally by the Ministry of Finance and does not require changes in the legislation. The data will be published in the governmental sites data.gov.gr, www.publicrevenue.gr with links to the related sites of the Ministry of Finance (www.gsis.gr, www.minfin.gr).

Milestones — Timescales

The commitment will be completed by the end of October 2014. This includes software implementation for the population of the data sets. After that, the mechanism for publishing the data will be implemented by the end of March 2015.

Commitment 7: Open provision of Public Sector critical data sets

Context

Currently, the following open datasets are provided by the Greek government:

- Taxation data: Currently only statistical data is provided, by the Ministry of Finance - specifically from the websites of the General Secretariat of Public Revenue (www.publicrevenue.gr) and the General Secretariat of Information systems (www.gsis.gr).
- Co-financed projects (financed both by National and European funds): Analytical information related to the implementation process for the projects of National Strategic Reference Framework is provided through the websites anaptyxi.gov.gr, as well as espa.gr. Data from these sites is not provided in an open data format.
- Commercial data:
 - Observatory of tuition fees: Data has been uploaded to the website (<http://app.gge.gov.gr/>), but it is not provided in an open data format.
 - Business Registry (<https://www.businessregistry.gr/>): This website provides limited information about the active enterprises in Greece. The available information is not provided in an open data format and includes the following data fields: Company registry id, Company name, distinctive title, VAT number, legal status, registration date, company public documents.

Commitment description

The commitment pertains to the provision of open data sets, for free, related to areas of taxation, trade and public procurement. No legislative act is required. The main restrictions involve the technical implementation and readiness of stakeholders. Those data sets will be available to open and machine - readable formats through the governmental portal data.gov.gr.

The data sets are:

- Taxation:
 - Local tax offices productivity
 - Number of tax validations and infringements by geographical breakdown
 - Analysis of the central governmental budget by Expense Identification Number
 - Statistics on financial crime
 - Statistics on individuals and legal entities pertaining to VAT and taxes
- Public Procurement:
 - Public procurement data sets from the Central Electronic Public Procurement Registry (<http://www.eprocurement.gov.gr>)
 - Data sets on projects financed by the NSRF, from the monitoring information system of the NSRF (<http://destaerga.gr/>)
- Commerce:
 - Price data from the Observatory of tuition fees (<http://app.gge.gov.gr/>)
 - Data from the business registry (<https://www.businessregistry.gr/>):
 - For legal entities: VAT Number, Registry id, Company Name, distinctive title, Local business registry Office, Company legal status (active, bankrupt, etc.), headquarters address, postal address, capital allocation, management information, legal representatives, website, e-commerce website.
 - Information on the corporate changes: Date and type of change
 - Administrative documents: Notices produced by the business registry services
 - Private documents: The balance sheets of companies

OGP Values

Access to information

Implementing bodies

Implementation:

- Taxation data: General Secretariat of Public Revenue (<http://www.publicrevenue.gr>) and the General Secretariat of Information systems (GSIS)
- Commercial data and data for public procurement and projects from the Ministry of Development & Competitiveness

Other stakeholders: Ministry of Administrative Reform and e-Governance, Ministry of Finance, General Secretariat of Consumer, General Secretariat of Trade, Central Union of Professional Chambers of Greece, IDIKA SA.

Objectives

Provide these datasets as open data, to the central portal data.gov.gr. Data will be in a machine readable (e.g. CSV, XML, RDF) and will be available for reuse without restrictions.

Means of implementation

In all cases, the implementation will be internal with the responsibility of the above implementing bodies.

Milestones — Timescales

- Taxation: Mechanism for data generation preparation (June 2015). Dataset provision (March 2016).
- Public Procurement and NSRF projects:
 - Data form of electronic procurement system (June 2015).
 - NSRF project data (May 2015).
- Commerce:
 - Price data from the Observatory for the tuition fees (December 2014)
 - Data from the business registry (January 2015).

Integrity and Accountability

Commitment 1: Open invitations for filling posts in the public sector

Context

The majority of executives in the public sector, serving for fixed periods to positions with increased responsibilities (chairmen, CEOs and managers of organizations), are appointed upon decision of the Minister, the Secretary-General or the Mayor. This is a brief procedure which fails to ensure transparency. As a result, it is difficult to ensure effective control by the administration or public awareness. Lately, a small number of openings have been published in the electronic platform www.opengov.gr.

Commitment description

Introduction of an open system in the selection of executives serving for a fixed period of time in positions of responsibility in the public sector. This system will replace the current process of appointments to positions of increased responsibility. The system will include interventions in the following areas:

- Institutional level: Establishment of an open selection process for executives.
- Operational level:
 - Proposal for an integrated process, including the selection of members of the Selection Committee, the publication of the call for interest in www.opengov.gr and the publicity of selection practices.
Draft law proposal.
- Technical level:
 - Collection and publication of data to the executive job market, as well as the internal job market. It will record all vacancies, the expiration date of the filled posts, the requirements of the post and the supervising entity.
 - Extension of the Census database application

OGP values

Accountability

Implementing bodies

Implementation: Ministry of Administrative Reform and e-Governance (MAREG)

Objectives

- Ensuring widest possible publicity of the opening.
- Appointment of the members of the Selection Committee, via a transparent and open process.
- Transparent and meritocratic selection process (open invitation, open selection of the members of the selection committee, objective and published evaluation criteria, common and transparent process for application submission, publication of reasoning for the final selection).

Means for implementation

All the necessary regulatory, operational and technical interventions will come from the Ministry of Administrative Reform and e-Governance (MAREG).

Milestones — Timescale

- Regulatory interventions: Completion by the end of March 2015.
- Operational and technical changes: gradually until the end of September 2015. A plan to implement changes will be drafted by the end of 2014, in order to gradually introduce the new system.

Commitment 2: Public administration organizational chart publication

Context

Currently there is no official registry of public administration bodies. This creates problems, including:

- Citizens and businesses have no way to identify the contact details of public administration bodies.
- Inability to combine datasets using different public administration bodies encoding and naming.
- Difficulty in the interoperability of information systems.

Commitment Description

The Greek Government will publicize the organizational structure of all public administration bodies, down and including the head of department level. At each node, there will be information pertaining to contact details and description of responsibilities. The goal is to have the organizational chart accessible publicly, available to everyone, in open and machine-readable format, and updated in real time. This will also act as a registry of all the public administration organizations in Greece.

OGP Values

Access to public information, Accountability

Implementing Bodies

Implementation: Ministry of Administrative Reform and e-Governance, Ministry of Finance. Pertains to all public administration bodies.

Objectives

Facilitation of citizens and businesses to communicate with public administration bodies, as well as the simplification of interoperability among the IT systems of different public bodies.

Means for implementation

The Ministry of Administrative Reform and e-Governance, together with the Ministry of Finance, will implement the project. Other IT systems of the public administration will be involved: Transparency, the Registry of public administration employees and the taxation information system (TAXIS).

Milestones - Timescales

- Implementation of the IT system which will support the storing, updating and publication of the organization charts (September 2014).
- Creation and update of organizational charts of public administration bodies participating in Transparency (June 2015).
- Creation and update of organizational charts of remaining public administration bodies (December 2015).

Commitment 3: Coordination and monitoring of Open Government policy

Context

Currently, the Greek public administration does not provide for internal audit units in the various public administration bodies. During the evaluation and re-engineering phase currently undergoing in the public sector, each Ministry will set up an organizational unit for internal audit. In some cases, there will also be a unit for internal affairs. As far as the Ministry of Administrative Reform and e-Governance is concerned, a unit of Transparency, Open Government and Innovation will be set up. These will be responsible for the application and implementation of the national Open Government action plan and policy.

Commitment Description

Enhancing accountability and the fight against corruption directly depend on the strengthening of audit mechanisms in public administration bodies. The Greek government is currently evaluating and re-engineering the organization of all Ministries. In this context, an organizational unit for Internal Audit will be set up in each Ministry. These units will be responsible for aiding and verifying the compliance to the Open Government policy, fundamental principles, as well as successful implementation of the open government projects undertaken by the Ministry.

In the Ministry of Administrative Reform and e-Governance, there will be a unit coordinating and monitoring the implementation of the open government action plan and values on a national level.

OGP Values

Accountability

Implementing Bodies

Coordinator: Ministry of Administrative Reform and e-Governance. Implementation: All Ministries.

Objectives

Ensure the proper application of open government action plan, policy and values, through the new units of internal audit.

Means for Implementation

- Adoption of the Presidential Decree on the formation of Transparency, Open Government and Innovation unit in the Ministry of Administrative Reform and e-Governance.
- New Presidential Decrees on the formation of the new internal audit unit in each ministry.

Milestones - Timescales

Activation of new organization structures (end of June 2015).

Commitment 4: Reorganization of inspectorate bodies and strategic alliance development against corruption

Context

The need to fight bureaucracy and corruption, promote greater levels of transparency and enable citizens and enterprises to gain unhindered access to public sector information is widely acknowledged and more intense than ever. The evident breach in the relationship of trust between public administration and citizens results in the intense need to empower auditing mechanisms, an effort that

shall be pursued through the re-organization of inspectorate bodies, in terms of both structures and human resources.

Commitment description

The commitment consists of two main parts: The first one refers to the development of a strategic alliance with inspectorate and anti-corruption bodies and authorities, and the second one addresses the reorganization of inspectorate bodies.

Under the framework of the e-government strategy, a comprehensive study will be conducted regarding the development of strategic alliance with inspectorate and anti-corruption bodies and authorities. Among other areas of interest, the study will also include identification of: main inspectorate and anti-corruption bodies and authorities; co-operation opportunities with public administration entities; areas, models and ways of cooperation; public administration units that could participate in this strategic alliance, prerequisites and conditions for cooperation; proposals on the ways of implementing strategic alliances in practice; expected results, possible problems and risks/ways to address them; infrastructure and legal framework required.

Within their role, inspectorate bodies detect possible weaknesses in public administration and identify areas where efficiency could be improved. The empowerment of those bodies is highlighted as a priority and could be achieved through mapping the current situation, identifying areas of improvements and undertaking targeted actions to facilitate their ongoing work. The ultimate goal is to ensure optimal coordination of actions and enhance the effectiveness, efficiency and accountability of the public administration.

OGP values

Accountability

Implementing bodies:

Implementation: Ministry of Administrative Reform and e-Governance (MAREG). Stakeholders: Inspectorate and anti-corruption bodies and authorities

Objectives

Two key objectives:

- Conducting a study on reorganizing and strengthening the inspectorate bodies - Implementation.
- Conducting a study on the development of strategic alliance with inspectorate and anti-corruption bodies and authorities - Implementation.

Means for implementation

For the development of the strategic alliance with inspectorate and anti-corruption bodies and authorities study a new project will be undertaken.

Milestones — Timescale

- Study on reorganizing and empowering inspectorate bodies (end June 2015).
- Study on the development of strategic alliance with inspectorate and anti-corruption bodies and authorities (end December 2015).

Open Parliament Commitments

The Hellenic Parliament:

Taking into account the principles of the Initiative on Open Government Partnership (OGP), the Declaration on Parliamentary Openness, the Open Government Guide and its recommendations,

Acknowledging that the Open Government Partnership is an initiative calling for an integrated assessment of technological, institutional-political, legal and social factors, as well as collaboration among different governmental, research and independent bodies, and different Parliament Directorates for the shaping and implementation of commitments,

Recognizing the Right to Information, Access to Information, as well as improvement possibilities regarding the presentation and provision of parliamentary information through the website and the Social Media,

Trusting that enhancement of citizen civic information and awareness can be encouraged and achieved, regardless of age, background and needs, both through providing them with a variety of educational and informative material and via different communication channels,

Expresses its commitment to three basic pillars:

- strengthening Parliamentary Openness, Parliamentary and Legislative Transparency,
- provision and distribution of Open Parliamentary Data, and
- encouragement of Public Participation.

In several cases, and depending on their scope, commitments may correspond to more than one Open Government Principles. Commitments related to the aforementioned pillars aim at: improving the provision and presentation in its entirety of the information uploaded and published both on the Hellenic Parliament website and the “Parliamentary Transparency” section; enabling editing and re-use of parliamentary data; enhancing public participation via traditional communication means, as well as through the use of modern Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs).

Strengthening Parliamentary Openness, Parliamentary and Legislative Transparency

Commitment 1: Tracking changes on bills (from submission to voting by Plenum)

Context

Through its web portal, the Hellenic Parliament makes public the legislation processing stages, as well as all related documents. However, the current process of drafting and amending draft legislation texts does not allow for automated tracking of changes brought about in each processing stage, and consequently, for the publication of electronic files in machine readable and reusable format.

Commitment Description

The original text of bills is amended through various stages of processing, from the parliamentary committee level to voting in the Plenum. Commitment 1 is a basic requirement for legislative process documentation, aiming to achieve the adoption of a system that a) monitors the status and history of actions during processing of the bills by the Parliament, b) assists the production of different versions and c) allows for quick distribution, both internally to members of Parliament and the public. At the same time, it serves as a reliable information data base of the Parliament, allowing parliamentarians and the public to retrieve information in an accurate and timely manner, thus promoting the principles of parliamentary transparency.

OGP values

Access to information, legislative openness, technology and innovation for parliamentary transparency, and accountability.

Implementing bodies

Implementation: Hellenic Parliament.

Collaboration with general government bodies (ministries), the European Union, other Parliaments and institutions for protocol standardization and provision of free software

Objectives

Objectives of this specific commitment are:

- Adopting a system that allows for changes' easy tracking brought about to a bill during processing at the Parliamentary Committee and the Plenary level, following inclusion of amendments, improvements and corrections.
- The possibility of bill publication in a machine readable and reusable format for other applications and websites.
- Facilitating the exchange of documents between the services involved (Parliament, Government, Civil Society and foreign parliaments).
- Automated linking of related (to the bill) parliamentary documents (Minutes of Committees, Minutes of Plenary, reports, voting outcome).
- Support of multiple imaging modalities (different views of the bill: online, paper copy, merging into another document, use by disabled accessed websites).
- Ensuring long-term preservation of documents for future use via any technology.

Milestones - Timescales

The steps and actions to be followed for achieving the commitment are as follows:

- Collaboration with Central Government Bodies (Ministries) to activate the process of certified electronic transmission and filing of Bills and ministerial amendments to parliament and the joint adoption of open standard XML in the drafting of bills and amendments.
- Reviewing information flow from bill submission to voting in Plenum and its subsequent transmission to the National Printing Office for publication.
- Internal review of drafting and modification processes regarding legislation documents and texts.
- Adoption of an international open standard XML for syntax and processing of legislative texts.

Commitment 2: Usability and functionality improvements of the ‘Parliamentary Transparency’ section of the Hellenic Parliament website

Context

The ‘Parliamentary Transparency’ section of the Hellenic Parliament portal is an important effort to promote openness and transparency of the parliamentary work. Founded in January 1st, 2014, it allows citizens to be better informed about the work of the Parliament, its management and administration, its budget drafting and implementation, contracting, supplies and issues relating to its personnel.

Commitment description

Enhancement and improvement of the functionality offered by the ‘Parliamentary Transparency’ section of the Hellenic Parliament portal. Provision of open structured information.

OGP values

Access to information, technology and innovation for parliamentary transparency, accountability

Implementing bodies

Implementation: Hellenic Parliament

Collaboration with other Parliaments and institutions for protocol standardization and provision of open software.

Objectives

Increased web traffic on the ‘Parliamentary Transparency’ section will enable improvement both at the institutional and technological level, while providing room for accountability strengthening.

Milestones - Timescales

- Provision of the visitor information via RSS (Rich Site Summary) either by subject area or by type of decision,
- Development of the ‘FAQ’ section, for institutional and technological questions originating from visitor feedback ,
- Questionnaire concerning visitor experience regarding usability, accessibility and institutional level,
- Publication of statistical data,
- Provision of structured information (based on open standards) for execution of the budget by the Parliament.

Provision of Open Parliamentary Data

Commitment 3: Improvement of the Hellenic Parliament Website and implementation of new standards-technologies

Context

A Hellenic Parliament website is available since 2001 for the provision of parliamentary information. In May 2010, a new web portal was activated in accordance with the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) guidelines for the creation of parliamentary websites. The (web) portal is the main mean of communication between citizens and the Parliament since a broad range of parliamentary data and information are available through it, in various formats.

Technological developments in the areas of Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs), together with Civil Society's requests for additional, timely, accurate and re-usable information, call for the portal functionality reevaluation, as well as additional ways of production, disclosure and disposal of parliamentary data.

Commitment description

Open Parliamentary Data is a major challenge for the Hellenic Parliament, following the example of parliaments worldwide. Moreover, proper structuring of information ensures user broader and more qualitative experience and pooling of all requested data sought for at specific points of the portal.

The specific commitment requires functionality improvement in the Hellenic Parliament portal, in line with new standards that meet the Open Public Data, content enrichment, application development for visual representation of information and development of search tools.

OGP values

Access to information, technology and innovation for parliamentary transparency, accountability

Implementing bodies

Implementation: Hellenic Parliament.

Cooperation with Parliaments worldwide, as well as with the European Parliament, aiming to best practices exchange.

Objectives

Through reviewing and improving the functionality of the Hellenic Parliament web portal, the present commitment aims at:

- Strengthening integrity, accountability and transparency of the Parliament and its Members.
- Improving the overall user experience in terms of understanding and use of parliamentary information.
- Presenting in a simple and systematic way the information / documents related to parliamentary proceedings.
- Guaranteeing completeness, accuracy and validity of information.
- Abolishing or minimizing restrictions of public access to parliamentary information.

- Adopting a policy ensuring the supply of parliamentary information through the use of ‘Open Data’ principles, in a machine readable format.
- Further dissemination of parliamentary information in social media.

Milestones - Timescales

- Setting up of a project team in order to evaluate parliamentary information flow and technological infrastructure. Determination of the information’s exact nature and the parliamentary data implementation scope, redefinition of standards concerning the kind of information to be disclosed, where, when, and in what format.
- Review of the terms of use of the Hellenic Parliament portal, in order to allow for content reuse.
- Review of ways, means and time of information presentation.
- Presentation of existing data, information and documents in a variety of formats: creation of e-books, legislative documents and Minutes of the Plenary in html format further to pdf and word formats.
- Web portal size and key features (menus, images, text) adjustment, depending on user's screen device dimensions (responsive web design).
- Further utilisation of the general search tool provided through the web portal in order to enable advanced searches, using logical operators and selection of distinct information groups.
- Better visualization and linking of given information.
- Supply of parliamentary information in an open data format (JSON, XML etc.) in a separate section of the web portal.
- Content enrichment with data which may concern: dissemination of voting results through open standards, publication of MPs amendments, publication of first draft Minutes of Committee Meetings, additional data on MP’s activity (votes, participation in Committee meetings, in parliamentary missions, abstracts of their interventions in the committees and the plenary etc.), additional data on parliamentary control means (protocol number, search by subject), advanced search criteria of the Plenary composition, publication of Independent Authorities reports, periodic publication of parliamentary control special procedures data, dynamic presentation of the Parliament organization chart etc.

Commitment 4: Provision of historical parliamentary documents to the public

Context

The Plenary session Minutes are published on the Hellenic Parliament web portal, in pdf or/and word, txt formats from the 9th Legislative Period and forth. The bills’ introductory reports from 1993 and forth are also published.

Commitment description

The commitment aims to enrich the Parliament web portal content with the publication-in accordance with open standards- of digitized material concerning:

- Plenary Session Minutes from the 1st Legislative period to the 8th Legislative period (9-12-1974 to 22-8-1996)

- Introductory reports of bills tabled from 1975 to 1993.

It also aims at the partial conversion of parliamentary archives into electronic books (e-books), making them available to the public through the web portal.

OGP values

Access to information, legislative openness, technology and innovation for parliamentary transparency, accountability

Implementing bodies

Hellenic Parliament

Objectives

The provision and promotion of digital material to the public, relating to the parliamentary-political history of our country available at the Parliament's Library, through modern integrated digital services.

The enrichment of the Hellenic Parliament web portal content with additional forms of electronic versions of parliamentary material files, that may be available also via mobile devices, is a new process that the Parliament has been committed to examine and adopt.

Milestones - Timescales

- Investigation and adoption of specialized optical character reading software (OCR) that will be able to accurately digitize printed material written on a typewriter.
- Digitization using optical character reading software of historical material relating to Minutes of Plenary Sessions and to Bills introductory reports.
- Systematic quality control in resulting digitized text files and application of necessary corrections.
- Documentation of the digitized material and its progressive publication on the Hellenic Parliament portal.

Concerning e-books creation, the following actions will be implemented:

- Exploration and adoption of open standards for the creation and reading of electronic books and open source applications.
- Pilot electronic book creation on different categories of parliamentary documents.
- Finalization of e- books structuring by category of parliamentary documents.
- Activation of e- books creation and publication process for selected categories of parliamentary material.

Enhancing Citizen Participation

Commitment 5: Enhancement of Social Media Policy in the Hellenic Parliament

Context

The existing social media accounts of the Press Office on Twitter and the Hellenic Parliament TV on YouTube present parliamentary work, news and press releases on various events, as well as audiovisual material related to several kinds of productions. The recent launch of a Facebook page addressed to the “Youth Parliament” aims at strengthening young people’s education, awareness and participation, approaching them through communication channels that they are familiar with and use.

Commitment description

Parliament Social Media communication policy enhancement and improvement of its already established social media account e- services are the Hellenic Parliament’s major goals. Regular and organized citizens’ approach and access in terms of information, education and participation is a necessity calling for the Parliament’s integrated communication design.

OGP values

Access to information, technology and innovation for parliamentary transparency, citizen participation

Implementing bodies

Implementation: Hellenic Parliament

Collaboration with other Parliaments of the European Union, as well as other Greek Public Bodies for the provision of technical know-how and the organization of seminars.

Objectives

The present commitment aims to enhance the role of the three pillars based on Social Media (information, education, participation): (i) by creating a cohesive and systematic communication design among the three social media accounts, and (ii) by linking them with printed and face-to-face information, education and citizen participation.

Milestones - Timescales

The commitment will be implemented internally with the collaboration of different Hellenic Parliament Directorates. If necessary, external bodies or stakeholders will be engaged for the provision of technical know-how and further training.

- Listing of gaps and needs for the enhancement of each social medium at communicative, administrative and technical level.
- Results’ presentation, decision on the communication policy goal and the information to be posted on social media, the use of social media widgets on specific points of the Hellenic Parliament website, as well as that of the Hellenic Parliament Foundation for Parliamentarism and Democracy, for enabling sharing of specific content.
- Establishment and training of content management teams, content uploading and communication with citizens.

- Technical improvements, setting social media widgets, completion of content uploading/posting automation.
- Examination of choice between a Creative Commons or YouTube Standard License in compliance with Open Data general practices and Greek legislation, as well as with the EC Directive on the re-use of Public Sector Information (PSI).

Commitment 6: On line provision of Exhibitions

Context

Exhibitions organized by the Parliament and the Foundation are free to public and are presented in an exhibition space of the Foundation and in Parliament premises accessible to people with disabilities.

The exhibitions are transferred in major cities all over Greece in collaboration with local authorities, thus giving the opportunity to local communities to come in contact with cultural and educational goods.

The exhibitions are made public through press releases, free press materials, brochures, the internet and the Parliament television station.

Commitment description

The library and the Hellenic Parliament Foundation for the Parliamentarianism and Democracy organize exhibitions aimed at the study and promotion of the concepts of democracy and parliamentarianism, the search for collective memory and collective identity formation.

Digital platform processing of exhibitions, adopting technologies for virtual visits to the natural exhibit sites, enabling open access to exhibitions via the internet and mobile devices promote citizens' awareness and understanding of parliamentary function.

The development of an interactive relationship between the Parliament and the citizens, through educational and cultural activities, encourage their involvement in Parliamentary affairs, while enhancing Parliament openness.

OGP values

Access to information, technology and innovation for parliamentary transparency, citizen participation

Implementing bodies

Hellenic Parliament, Foundation for the Parliamentarianism and Democracy

Collaboration with other Parliaments and institutions for protocol standardization and provision of open software

Objectives

- Broadening the Parliament's communication policy, offering parliamentary and historical knowledge to all citizens, regardless of educational level, political identity, age, place of residence, language, or other factors of exclusion and limitation.
- Strengthening approach possibilities between citizens and cultural collections.
- Ensuring long-term preservation of collections for exhibitions.

Milestones - Timescales

- Platform adoption for exhibition collections' digital viewing on the internet that will provide easy access to people with disabilities. Implementation should be based on international standards and protocols, open documented and published interface systems with third-party programs, open communication protocols and open environment for data transfer and exchange with other systems (National Documentation Centre, Europeana).
- Development of applications for specialized services for exhibitions' virtual tour.
- Development of applications for access to digital exhibitions from mobile phones and other popular mobile platforms.
- Selection of exhibition collections to be transferred to digital platform.
- Examination of the possibility of documentation and presentation of exhibits in multiple languages.
- Digitization of exhibits.
- Identification of copyright for each element to be used in digital exhibition.
- Virtual tour for selected exhibitions.
- Gradual publishing of digital exhibitions online.



HELLENIC REPUBLIC
Ministry of Administrative Reform
& E-Government

Open
Government
Partnership



Open Government

Open Society

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