

**REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ACTION PLAN OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS OF BOSNIA
AND HERZEGOVINA FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INITIATIVE "OPEN GOVERNMENT PARTNERSHIP"
FOR THE PERIOD 2019 - 2021**

December 2020

Introduction

Open Government Partnership (the OGP) is a global multilateral initiative for transparency and openness of public authorities, and its participants are states that commit themselves by the membership in the Partnership to concrete measures and actions in the areas of transparency, strengthening citizen participation in authorities, fighting corruption and introducing new technologies that make public administration as efficient as possible.

The idea of establishing Partnership was first put forward by the US President Barack Obama during his speech at the UN Assembly in September 2010, and the following year the Declaration on Open Government was signed by eight states, which became members of the OGP Initiative's Governing Board - Brazil, Philippines, Indonesia, South Africa, Mexico, Norway, United States and the United Kingdom. Of the OGP's eight original members, the Initiative now includes 79 member states and 20 members of local and regional authorities, and Bosnia and Herzegovina is the member since 24 September 2014.

Development and implementation of the Action Plan is the most important component of a country's participation in the Open Government Partnership, as it expresses its commitment to the fundamental principles of the Partnership, by making ambitious, specific commitments that significantly improve the existing situation within these values.

Principles of the Open Government Partnerships and implementation of measures under this initiative are directly related to the implementation of public administration reform, which is one of the EU's priority requirements and key pillars in the enlargement process, together with the rule of law and economic governance.

As a member of the Initiative, BiH supports its principles in line with the general principles and public administration reform that is focused on creating an efficient, transparent, responsible, modern public administration that will base its work on the best practices and principles of the European administrative space and work effectively in favour of citizens by providing fast and reliable services.

Open Government Partnership is based on values which are entirely complementary with the values BiH has committed to respect and other relevant documents in the EU accession process, in particular through the document "Reform Agenda" which clearly affirms the principles of transparency and efficiency of public administration.

This is the first Action Plan of the BiH Council of Ministers for implementation of the initiative Open Government Partnership in BiH for the period 2019-2021 (the Action Plan). The Action Plan has been prepared under the principles of the Open Government Partnership (OGP) and is the result of joint efforts of civil society organizations and public administration bodies in the process of defining priority areas and creating measures to improve openness of public bodies to citizens.

In order to create a platform for dialogue between public administration bodies and the public, the Advisory Council of the Open Government Partnership Initiative of the Council of Ministers of BiH (the Advisory Council) has been established, consisting of representatives of civil society organizations (Transparency International, Centre for Investigative Reporting - CIN, Foundation CPI and the Association "Zašto ne") and public administration bodies (Ministry of Justice of BiH, Public Administration Reform Coordinator's Office, Ministry of Finance and Treasury of BiH, Public Procurement Agency of BiH, Agency for the Prevention of Corruption and Coordination of the Fight against Corruption of BiH and Agency for Statistics BiH).

The Advisory Council was established to prepare and monitor implementation of measures from the Action Plan, and to advocate introducing of the practice of open government and administration, and its work was supported by international organizations. After the Advisory Council prepared a preliminary draft of the Action Plan, online public consultations were held through the web site of the eKonsultacije (<https://ekonsultacije.gov.ba>) in the period from 2 October to 15 October 2018.

No additional suggestions and comments were received in the public consultation period, during the publication of the Action Plan, and information on the process of drafting the Action Plan and a call for consultations was submitted to civil society organizations for the purpose of disseminating information on consultations.

At the proposal of the Ministry of Justice of BiH, the Action Plan was adopted at the session of the Council of Ministers of BiH held on 4 April 2019 and it contains seven measures in different areas of government and public administration at the state level: opening data in the public procurement sector; improving the process of drafting integrity plans in the institutions through development of an online platform and development of online training for civil servants; improving the availability and openness of statistics; improving public involvement in policy-making processes; improving the proactive transparency of BiH institutions and improving the financial transparency of the government through drafting of the budget for citizens.

Report on the implementation of the Action Plan aims to present the results in the implementation of the commitments. Although the Action Plan was adopted on 4 April 2019, most of the commitments are currently in the final stage of implementation. Given the priorities set by a series of strategic documents such as the BiH Reform Agenda, the Strategic Framework for Public Administration Reform, Anti-Corruption Strategy, Public Finance Strategy and others, the BiH Council of Ministers has agreed that the first Action Plan covers several challenges, such as: strengthening institutional integrity, more efficient public resource management, improving public services through the application of open data, increasing transparency of institutions, and improving co-operation and greater involvement of civil society in policy-making.

The Council of Ministers of BiH has opted for measures that will lead to a more proactive disclosure of information on the BiH institutions' websites and meeting the standards of proactive transparency, open data in the field of statistics and public procurement, building a web platform for drafting BiH institution integrity plans, making the Budget for citizens and establishing effective mechanisms of cooperation with civil society.

A total of 6 public administration bodies are responsible for implementation of the undertaken obligations, while other public administration bodies (ministries, offices, agencies), civil society organizations and international organizations have been identified as other participants involved in this process. The Covid-19 pandemic has slowed down and hampered a significant part of activities implementation, however, most of the planned activities will be implemented by the end of April 2021.

Although a significant part of the obligations under the Action Plan are essentially not of a reform nature, their implementation presents steps towards more open, transparent, efficient and accountable administration. Therefore, it is necessary to continuously monitor implementation of the commitments to further improve the situation in the relevant areas in the next cycles of the Open Government Partnership or through some other compatible processes (public administration reform).

This report was prepared on the basis of research and processing of publicly available information, regular communication with the representatives of the public administration bodies and civil society organizations, and information from the meetings of the Advisory Council of the Open Government Partnership initiative. More information on the Open Government Partnership is available at: <http://www.mpr.gov.ba/reload/default.aspx?id=10936&langTag=bs-BA>

On the basis of the collected information, the current status of implementation of the objectives/activities from the Action Plan is shown in the appropriate colour:

1. **GREEN** – the activity has been implemented or the progress is stable and no implementation delays are expected.
2. **YELLOW** – implementation of the activities is in progress.
3. **ORANGE** – the activity has not been initiated, which requires an explanation by the responsible institution, a discussion and a possible conclusion of the Advisory Council on that issue.
4. **RED** – implementation of the activities should be suspended and not implemented further, which requires an explanation by the responsible institution, a discussion and a possible conclusion of the Advisory Council on that issue.

For the sake of clarity, the terms in a single grammatical gender in this report refer to both men and women, without any discrimination.

Title and number of the obligation: 1. Open Data on Public Procurement in BiH	
Start date and end date: 1. 5. 2019. – 30. 6. 2020.	
Leading agency/institution for implementation	Public Procurement Agency of BiH
Description of the obligation:	
Which public issue will be addressed by this obligation?	<p>Lack of transparency in low-value procedures, as well as the professional and legal implementation of public procurement procedures without the preference of bidders are the main threats to the integrity of the public procurement system in BiH. A large number of public procurement procedures are low-value procurement, for which are currently not provided announcements of the procurement notices on the public procurement portal.</p> <p>Implementation of this measure will increase transparency and enhance responsibilities of public funds management in BiH.</p> <p>Different groups of people and organizations can benefit from the availability of open data in public procurement. At the same time, it is difficult to precisely predict how and which value of open data will be created in the future, because <i>innovation</i> by nature is such that it comes in unexpected ways.</p>
What is the obligation?	Make publicly available all public procurement data in BiH collected through the public procurement portal www.ejn.gov.ba . The data will show how public funds are spent by contracting authorities at all levels of government in BiH. Data will be available in machine-readable JSON format, for data to be used for web and mobile application development for various purposes, and in Excel, for manual processing by interested individuals and organizations such as civil society organizations, journalists, academics, companies.
How will the fulfilment of the obligation contribute to the public issue resolution?	Open data on public procurement will enable transparent insight into the way of implementation of public procurement procedures, and the value of contracts awarded which will enable easier work of administrative inspection, audit office of the financial operations, if necessary, prosecutors and other law enforcement authorities, which will affect the reduction of corruption in this area.

Why is this obligation relevant to OGP values?	It enables public sector transparency in the area of public expenditure, which significantly affects strengthening the integrity and responsibility of the public sector organizations.			
Additional information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The obligation is planned to be implemented through established cooperation with the German Association for International Development Cooperation (GIZ), the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) and the Open Contracting Partnership Organization. • The Anti-Corruption Strategy 2015-2019 and the Action Plan for Implementation of the Anti-Corruption Strategy 2015-2019 provide in Chapter 9.2.5 <i>Public Procurement and the Private Sector</i> two strategic programs relevant for this action: <i>Continuous alignment of the legislative framework in the public procurement area with international obligations and standards</i> and <i>Improvement of the legal framework for more active participation of the private sector in anti-corruption activities</i>. Both programs will be actively supported through the implementation of this obligation; • The Reform Agenda in BiH 2015-2018, adopted by the governments of all administrative levels in BiH, speaks about the need to ensure transparency in the public procurement system. 			
Goals/activities	Start date:	End date:	Goals/activities implementation	Implementation status
Analysis of the existing positive legislation, establishing the necessary activities on the drafting and the necessary amendments to the by-laws, as well as the adoption of the same.	1. 5. 2019.	30. 9. 2019.	<p>Status: There are currently activities on the analysis of the existing positive legislation, establishing the necessary activities on the drafting and the necessary amendments to the by-laws, as well as the adoption of the same.</p> <p>Next steps: We expect a positive response from the donor community (GIZ) in order to accelerate and intensify activities on the implementation of this measure.</p>	
Implementation of OCS standards at the technical level.	30. 9. 2019.	31. 12. 2019.	Status: The activity has not been initiated. Implementation of this activity is planned with donor funds and negotiations with	

			<p>donors are currently underway. After development of the OCS standard at the technical level, it will be possible to start implementation of the remaining part of this activity.</p> <p>Next steps: We expect a positive response from the donor community (GIZ) in order to accelerate and intensify activities on the implementation of this measure.</p>	
<p>Development of open data modules as an extension of the public procurement portal (www.ejn.gov.ba).</p> <p>The aim is to provide data infrastructure for conducting analysis and development of applications and information services in the area of public procurement in BiH.</p>	1. 1. 2020.	30. 6. 2020.	<p>Status: The activity has not been initiated. In the system specification of requests for the third phase of upgrading the public procurement portal, the Public Procurement Agency of BiH did not envisage open data activity due to limited financial resources that had to be redirected to system requirements that include amendments to the Law on Public Procurement. Establishment of the project of opening data in public procurement remains in the focus of attention and intensification of activities on the implementation of the project, which will be worked on in the following period.</p> <p>Next steps: Considering the interconnection of all activities falling under the competence of the Public Procurement Agency of BiH, after implementation of the activities 1 and 2, implementation of the activity 3 will start, therefore the deadline for the implementation of measure 3 is moved to December 2021.</p>	

Contact information	
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NGO, private sector, multilateral working groups	GIZ, UNDP BiH, OCP

¹ After the adoption of the Action Plan of the BiH Council of Ministers for the implementation of the OGP initiative 2019-2021, Belma Šećibović was appointed instead of Taida Bajramović as the responsible person on behalf of the institution responsible for the implementation.

Title and number of the obligation: 2. Development of a web platform for online drafting of integrity plans in institutions	
Start date and end date: 1. 6. 2019. - 31. 12. 2019.	
Leading agency/institution for implementation	Agency for Prevention of Corruption and Coordination of the Fight against Corruption
Description of the obligation:	
Which public issue will be addressed by this obligation?	Getting acquainted with risk situations that can contribute to undermining institutional integrity and suggesting how to avoid said situations in the future. In April 2018, the Agency prepared and published in the form of a manual the Rules for drafting and implementing integrity plans in BiH institutions, thus initiating the second cycle of drafting integrity plans. In order to facilitate the institutions accessing the creation of the document and at the same time modernize the self-assessment process that is being done in this way, access to the creation of a web application for online drafting of integrity plans will make this process faster and easier. People who will be in charge of drafting integrity plans will undergo the necessary training by employees of the Agency.
What is the obligation?	Web platform created and installed in BiH institutions, coordinators trained to use platforms. The second cycle of drafting integrity plans in BiH institutions has been successfully completed.
How will the fulfilment of the obligation contribute to the public issue resolution?	In a single document (electronic format document), the institution will have a complete list of risks threatening to undermine the integrity of the institution and propose measures to minimize defined risks. Implementing the proposed measures to improve integrity in practice strengthens the confidence of citizens and the general public in the work of public institutions. Given that the integrity plan is a preventive anti-corruption mechanism whose purpose is not to solve individual cases of corruption but establishing mechanisms that will influence the reduction of the risk of corruption and other irregularities in all areas of functioning of the institution, by electronic drafting and by the publication of this document of public institutions will affect solving the problem of corruption in society.
Why is this obligation relevant to OGP values?	When making a document, objective self-assessment is important, i.e. relevant and realistic identification and risk analysis, assessment of their intensity and suggesting adequate measures to reduce the risk. Objective self-assessment does not imply recognition of the existence of corruption or other irregularities in the institution but of the perception

	and identification of opportunities and disadvantages that may lead to corruption and other irregularities in the work of the institution. Given that the document should be public, thus are fulfilled obligations such as: disclosing information and improving the availability of information to the public or providing the right to information, creation or improvement of rules, regulations and mechanisms to make civil servants responsible to the public for their actions.			
Additional information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Obligation to develop integrity plans stems from the Anti-Corruption Strategy 2015-2019 and the accompanying Action Plan. 			
Goals/activities	Start date:	End date:	Goals/activities implementation	Implementation status
Creating a Web Platform	1. 6. 2019.	1. 9. 2019.	<p>Status: Activity implemented. Applicative solution related to integrity plans was developed and officially taken over by the Agency, and the procedure of public procurement of IT equipment necessary for establishing and functioning of this module (server and other equipment) is underway. The module can already be used but will be able to perform its full function only after testing and verification.</p> <p>Next steps: The next steps imply testing the system, defining implementation procedures and in the final phase entering data into the system and its full use.</p>	
Creating and publishing manuals for web platform use, training of coordinators, test phase of web application	1. 6. 2019.	1. 9. 2019.	<p>Status: Implementation of the activity is in progress. A video tutorial on how to use the application has been made and published, the test phase of using the application has been completed, training of coordinators has not yet started because of the specific measures in force due to the worsening epidemiological situation.</p> <p>Next steps: Monitoring and analytical data processing and</p>	


			updating the thematic scope of trainings in accordance with estimations.	
Installing a software in BiH institutions, on-line drafting of integrity plans	1. 9. 2019.	31. 12. 2019.	<p>Status: Implementation of the activity is in progress. Installation of software is expected, as well as defining of implementation procedures with accompanying training.</p> <p>Next steps: Putting the system into full operational function. By the end of April 2021, the Agency for Prevention of Corruption and Fight against Corruption is expected to implement all activities.</p>	
<p>Contact information:</p> <p>Agency for Prevention of Corruption and Coordination of the Fight against Corruption Dabrobosanska 26-28 71 123 Istočno Sarajevo kontakt@apik.ba</p>				
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Institutions and other actors involved in the implementation	Civil Service Agency of BiH			
NGO, private sector, multilateral working groups	Regional Anticorruption Initiative (RAI)			

Title and number of the obligation: 3. Development of online training modules for civil servants in the process of drafting and implementing integrity plans	
Start date and end date: 1. 6. 2019. - 31. 12. 2019.	
Leading agency/institution for implementation	Agency for Prevention of Corruption and Coordination of the Fight against Corruption
Description of the obligation:	
Which public issue will be addressed by this obligation?	Strengthening the awareness of the harmfulness of corruption and strengthening of ethics and professional integrity of civil servants.
What is the obligation?	Creating and distributing a survey that will be compulsory for civil servants employed in BiH institutions in order to determine the state of the personal integrity of civil servants. Based on the conducted survey, analysis is to be made of the existing state of integrity in the civil service. The Agency, in cooperation with NGO INFOHOUSE, initiates activities on the development of online education aimed at improving the knowledge of civil servants regarding drafting of integrity plans in BiH institutions, as well as on the issue of strengthening ethics and professional integrity. Creation as well as the publication of online modules on the official site of the Agency.
How will the fulfilment of the obligation contribute to the public issue resolution?	Training is designed to improve and develop institutional capacities, improve the role of employees in state institutions, contribute to the prevention, monitoring and detection of corruptive behaviours.
Why is this obligation relevant to OGP values?	It is important to improve human resource capacities, to achieve an adequate structure of employees to maximize and enhance their capabilities in the area of corruption prevention (development of institutional and human capacity in the area of corruption prevention). To raise awareness of the damaging effects of corruption as well as emphasizing the importance that the institutions are employing professional and impartial staff whose function is to serve the citizens.
Additional information	

Goals/activities	Start date:	End date:	Goals/activities implementation	Implementation status
Designing and making a survey for civil servants	1. 6. 2019.	1. 9. 2019.	<p>Status: Activity implemented. The system has been put into operation - Agency for Prevention of Corruption and Coordination of the Fight against Corruption - Distance Learning System (http://obuke.apik.ba/).</p> <p>Next steps: Sending notifications to all civil servants to access the system in order to complete the survey/questionnaire.</p>	
Distribution of the survey to the civil servants	1. 9. 2019.	1. 10. 2019.	<p>Status: Activity implemented. The online module is published on the official website of the Agency for Prevention of Corruption and Coordination of the Fight against Corruption, and civil servants can access it and attend training.</p> <p>Next steps: Attendance at online education by all civil servants.</p>	
Analysis and publication of collected data	1. 10. 2019.	31. 12. 2019.	<p>Status: Implementation of the activity is in progress. The activity has not been implemented yet, as it is a continuous measure, the system for online education is still active and civil servants can still access and attend training (Continuous activity).</p> <p>Next steps: Carry out an analysis and publish the collected data.</p>	
Preparation of materials needed for education	1. 6. 2019.	1. 9. 2019.	<p>Status: Activity implemented. Materials prepared and published.</p> <p>Next steps: Materials published, publicly available within online module.</p>	
Preparing moodle for education	1. 11. 2019.	1. 12. 2019.	<p>Status: Activity implemented. The training moodle has been prepared and published, and is publicly available on the</p>	

			official website of the Agency for Prevention of Corruption and Coordination of the Fight against Corruption. Next steps: Monitoring and checking the effect of published trainings, checking the number of civil servants who have attended the training, encouraging others who have not yet attended to do so.	
Publication of moodle on the official website of the Agency and sending notifications to the civil servants about the possibility of attending the said education	1. 10. 2019.	31. 12. 2019.	Status: Activity implemented. Agency for Prevention of Corruption and Coordination of the Fight against Corruption - Distance Learning System (http://obuke.apik.ba/). Next steps: Encouraging employees who have not yet attended the training to apply for it and attend it by sending a circular e-mail to the institutions.	
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Institutions and other actors involved in the implementation	Civil Service Agency of BiH			
NGO, private sector, multilateral working groups	NVO Infohouse			

Title and number of the obligation: 4. Increase availability, openness and use of official statistical data	
Start date and end date: 1. 5. 2019. - 30. 4. 2021.	
Leading agency/institution for implementation	Agency for Statistics of BiH
Description of the obligation:	
Which public issue will be addressed by this obligation?	<p>Official statistics is a basic source of information about a country that provides to its social and economic structure, on an impartial basis, the numerical and representative data and information about the massive economic, demographic and social phenomena, as well as on developments in the field of labour and the environment.</p> <p>The problem addressed by this obligation is the inadequate use of statistical data in decision-making processes, programming, policies, and inability to easily measure results by stakeholder organizations and citizens.</p> <p>By increasing the availability and openness of a series of high quality and reliable data sets, we can expect progress in a large number of areas, as well as creating new products and services, development of innovations, increasing transparency and more.</p>
What is the obligation?	<p>Through the activities of the Agency for Statistics of BiH, we plan to increase the availability, openness and use of official statistical data in a way that all the data published by the Agency will be free, in a machine-readable form under the open license and constantly available at www.bhas.gov.ba consistent with the five-star implementation scheme. In addition to the above-mentioned activities and high-quality promotion that includes events and development of educational materials, we want to boost the use of data and development of innovative solutions.</p>
How will the fulfilment of the obligation contribute to the public issue resolution?	<p>By opening data from different areas (gender, criminality, culture and art, education, social protection, population, labour market, national accounts, prices, foreign trade, construction, industry, investment, business statistics, tourism, agriculture, forestry, environment, energy, traffic, communications, etc.) we are encouraging the service improvement, economic growth, technological development and transparency.</p> <p>In order to achieve this, it is necessary to improve the data infrastructure, overcoming the legal and organizational barriers and establish a sustainable and updated open source information system on permanent web links. In order to make the most of the information we have available, we need active interaction with the users in order to understand their needs on one hand and to provide education to the users with the aim of making proper use of data and strengthening their skills.</p>

	<p>Data opening improves their quality by influencing the methodology of collecting and computing through user reactions. Data users are business entities and their associations, state bodies and bodies of local self-government units, cultural, educational and scientific institutions as well as the wider public, and therefore it is important to have timely available, high quality, accurate, objective and independent quantitative information required for quality estimates and decisions.</p> <p>Due to the broad spectrum of different users, for the purposes of education, it is necessary to produce various educational tools in the form of short animated films, brochures, presentations and infographics, with the aim of encouraging the development of innovative solutions, organizing competitions with symbolic prizes (eg. the most interesting application created on open data).</p>			
<p>Why is this obligation relevant to OGP values?</p>	<p>Transparency</p> <p>Obligation means publishing more information, improving the quality of published information and improving public access to information.</p> <p>Citizen Participation</p> <p>The obligation implies improving the possibility and ability of the public to influence the decision-making process by increasing the availability of data that is the basis for the argumentation.</p> <p>Responsibility</p> <p>The obligation implies an improvement of the measurement mechanism and a kind of impact indicator that will increase the public officials' responsibility to the public.</p>			
<p>Additional information</p>	<p>An additional budget for this obligation is not required. The statistics serve as a basis for calculating many SDG indicators.</p>			
<p>Goals/activities</p>	<p>Start date:</p>	<p>End date:</p>	<p>Goals/activities implementation</p>	<p>Implementation status</p>
<p>Establish user-friendly interactive web portal bhas.gov.ba</p>	<p>1. 5. 2019.</p>	<p>15. 6. 2019.</p>	<p>Status: Activity implemented. The set objective has been completely implemented. User-friendly interactive web portal</p>	

			bhas.gov.ba has been established. Next steps: /	
Creating data sets from different areas and publishing under Open Data License under the five-star implementation scheme	1. 5. 2019.	30. 4. 2021.	Status: Implementation of the activity is in progress. Established 20 time sets that are regularly updated, drafted the document <i>Guidelines for preparation and delivery of materials for publication on the website of the Agency for Statistics of BiH</i> prescribing the obligation to create data sets and set the license. Next steps: Publication of licensed data sets on the Agency's website upon delivery.	
Creating educational tools, interaction with users, and promotional events	1. 11. 2019.	30. 4. 2021.	Status: Implementation of the activity is in progress. The geographic portal with the possibility of reviewing data from the censuses of 1961, 1971, 1981, 1991 and 2013 is in the final phase, established monthly infographics that are published on social media, participation at 3 online events. Next steps: Preparation of video educational material. By the end of April 2021, the Agency for Statistics of BiH is expected to implement most of the activities.	
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Institutions and other actors involved in the implementation	
NGO, private sector, multilateral working groups	

Title and number of the obligation: 5. Involvement of civil society organizations in policy-making processes	
Start date and end date: 1. 5. 2019. – 31. 12. 2019.	
Leading agency/institution for implementation	Ministry of Justice of Bosnia and Herzegovina
Description of the obligation:	
Which public issue will be addressed by this obligation?	<p>Co-operation with civil society on public policy issues, including the process of European integration, has become de facto one of the political conditions for full membership in the European Union and is regularly addressed in both the EU enlargement strategies published periodically by the European Commission and in progress reports on Bosnia and Herzegovina for membership in the European Union.</p> <p>The Treaty of Lisbon on the Amendments to the Treaty on European Union and the Treaty establishing the European Community stipulates that the European Union is based on the representative (role of political parties) and participatory democracy (the role of civil society). This is the participation of citizens and civil society organizations in the work of the institutions of the European Union through open, transparent and regular dialogue and consultation, proclaimed by the fundamental constitutional value on which the European Union is founded - and which also obliges candidate countries and potential candidates for membership.</p> <p>In January 2017, the Council of Ministers adopted new Rules on Consultation in Legislative Drafting (Official Gazette of BiH, 5/17) and launched the web application eKonsultacije https://ekonsultacije.gov.ba to conduct a public consultation</p>

	<p>with the interested public on the regulations proposed by the institutions of Bosnia and Herzegovina. The web application eKonsultacije has a total of 55 registered BiH institutions that are conducting public consultations for regulations from their jurisdiction.</p> <p>In 2018, 280 public consultations were conducted and 234 reports on the conducted consultations were published, which is a significant increase compared to 2017 when 111 public consultations were conducted and 108 reports on the conducted consultations were published. The total number of registered users on the web platform eKonsultacije in December 2018 was 1876 and is higher for 389 registered users than the total number of web application users from December 2017.</p> <p>However, the participation of civil society organizations is not sufficient and it is necessary to raise awareness and educate civil society organizations to participate actively in the process of public consultation organized by the institutions of Bosnia and Herzegovina through the web platform eKonsultacije.</p>
<p>What is the obligation?</p>	<p>To hold eight workshops for civil society organizations to present the Rules on Consultation in Legislative Drafting (Official Gazette of BiH, 5/17) and the possibilities of active participation in the process of creating regulations and other acts under the competence of the Council of Ministers of BiH. Web platform eKonsultacije would be presented at the workshop and the way in which civil society organizations can register and actively participate in the process of drafting regulations and other documents by sending their suggestions and comments.</p>
<p>How will the fulfilment of the obligation contribute to the public issue resolution?</p>	<p>By fulfilling this obligation, we want to motivate civil society organizations to participate more actively in the policy-making processes of the Council of Ministers of BiH in order to improve quality of regulations at the Council of Ministers level with their suggestions and comments.</p>
<p>Why is this obligation relevant to OGP values?</p>	<p>Meeting this obligation allows the efficient adoption of public policies and establish clearer procedures of co-operation of the Council of Ministers and the civil society in BiH.</p>
<p>Additional information</p>	

Goals/activities	Start date:	End date:	Goals/activities implementation	Implementation status
In cooperation with the CSO, determine the location of the workshops	1. 9. 2019.	15. 9. 2019.	<p>Status: Activity implemented. In cooperation with the CSO, the locations of the workshops are determined.</p> <p>Next steps: /</p>	
Prepare and publish a call for workshops	15. 9. 2019.	30. 9. 2019.	<p>Status: Activity implemented. Prepared and published the call for workshops.</p> <p>Next steps: Invitation for the next workshops will be prepared and published when the conditions for organizing the remaining workshops are met, which will be held live or online, depending on the epidemiological situation.</p>	
Hold workshops in eight BiH cities	1. 10. 2019.	1. 12. 2019.	<p>Status: Implementation of the activity is in progress. In October 2019, four of the eight planned workshops were held for civil society organizations on the Rules on consultations in legislative drafting and participation in consultations through the web platform eConsultation. The workshops were held in Mostar, Zenica and Sarajevo, in the period from 16 to 18 October 2019.</p> <p>Next steps: The remaining workshops will be held no later than April 2021, and the manner (model) of their holding will depend on the epidemiological situation.</p>	
Make Recommendations for improving the public consultation process based on	1. 1. 2020.	30. 1. 2020.	<p>Status: Implementation of the activity is in progress. Given that four of the eight workshops were held, recommendations for improving the public consultation process were only</p>	

proposals by civil society organizations			<p>partially made.</p> <p>Next steps: The recommendations will be fully developed after the remaining workshops are held. In order to improve the process of public consultations, the inputs obtained from the Questionnaire on cooperation of non-governmental organizations with BiH institutions will also be used.</p> <p>http://www.mpr.gov.ba/aktuelnosti/vijesti/default.aspx?id=10947&langTag=bs-BA.</p>	
Implement recommendations in order to create a more quality legislative and legal framework for inclusion of CSOs in policy-making processes	1. 2. 2020.	1. 6. 2020.	<p>Status: The activity has not been initiated. Implementation of the recommendations has not been initiated until the remaining workshops are held.</p> <p>Next steps: In accordance with the possibilities, implementation of the recommendations will be initiated after the remaining workshops are held and all recommendations received are consolidated. By the end of May 2021, the Ministry of Justice of BiH is expected to implement all the activities.</p>	
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Institutions and other actors involved in the implementation	
NGO, private sector, multilateral working groups	CSO

Title and number of the obligation: 6. Improving transparency in BiH institutions	
Start date and end date: 1. 5. 2019. – 31. 12. 2020.	
Leading agency/institution for implementation	Public Administration Reform Coordinator's Office
Description of the obligation:	
Which public issue will be addressed by this obligation?	<p>According to the Transparency International Corruption Perceptions Index for 2017, Bosnia and Herzegovina is ranked 91st out of a total of 180 countries with a score of 38 on a scale from 0 to 100, which is slightly worse than in the previous 2016. Anti-Corruption Strategy (2015 - 2019) apostrophes the problem of transparency of institutions in BiH and states that "corruption is also favoured by a general lack of transparency in the work of institutions and insufficient freedom of access to information". Therefore, as some of the specific measures, increasing transparency in decision-making (2.7.1 Strategy) and (9.2.1 Strategy) public in institution work and access to information are mentioned. The level of transparency of the institutions at the level of the Council of Ministers of BiH is low, indicating that the institutions do not proactively publish much information of importance to citizens. The average level of transparency is 34.8 per cent, which means that most institutions do not have any basic information on their web sites about their work, management, structure, responsibilities, budget, programs, etc. - these are the results of research conducted by the Centre for Social Research Analitika. Out of 68 institutions, only eight institutions have published more than 50 per cent of the documents/information stipulated by Proactive Transparency Standards. The lack of transparency of institutions in terms of proactive dissemination of information on the websites is also confirmed by the SIGMA 2017 report for BiH and the audit report on the impact of "Transparency of the Work of the Institutions of BiH".</p>
What is the obligation?	The obligation will directly address the above problem, with the aim of increasing the degree of proactive transparency

	<p>through the following measures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o advocacy and promotion of proactive publication of information within the civil service o promotion of proactive publication aimed at the management of institutions o capacity building of civil servants in the area of proactive transparency o customer satisfaction survey on proactive transparency o measuring and tracking progress in the area of proactive transparency.
<p>How will the fulfilment of the obligation contribute to the public issue resolution?</p>	<p>Proactive disclosure of information will provide transparent insight into the work of institutions and decisions made on behalf of citizens. Access to information is thereby made easier for citizens, where the application on a prescribed form, knowledge of the legal framework, waiting or possible payment of access fees are replaced by a proactive approach to the institution and the disclosure of information prior to requesting them. Also, the proactive disclosure of information ensures that the information the institution possesses is accessible to everyone, and not just to applicants. Unless they have the right information, citizens are not able to exercise their rights and access to services provided by the public sector. Access to information is part of the basic tools for monitoring the work of elected officials, as well as for ensuring greater accountability for spending taxpayers money.</p>
<p>Why is this obligation relevant to OGP values?</p>	<p>Increases the transparency of institutions and the participation of citizens in decision-making.</p>
<p>Additional information</p>	<p>The following documents also mention the obligation of proactive disclosure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Universal Declaration of Human Rights • European Good Governance Principles • Directive on the repeated use of information 2003/98/EC • Revised Action Plan 1 of Public Administration Reform

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anti-Corruption Strategy and Action Plan for implementation of the Anti-Corruption Strategy 2015-2019 • Regulations (BiH Law on Public Procurement, laws on administration, laws on free access to information...) • Performance Audit Report on "Transparency of the institutions in Bosnia and Herzegovina." 			
Goals/activities	Start date:	End date:	Goals/activities implementation	Implementation status
<p>After the Council of Ministers of BiH adopted the information on the Policy of proactive transparency and Standards of proactive transparency of the Public Administration Reform Coordinator's Office and obliged all institutions on the implementation of the conclusion, the degree of fulfilment of standards of proactive transparency in the institutions of BiH increased.</p>	1. 9. 2019.	31. 12. 2019.	<p>Status: The Public Administration Reform Coordinator's Office conducted an online survey among administrative institutions in the period from 12 June to 05 July 2019. The survey covered 74 institutions, and out of this number, 44 institutions provided answers to all 38 questions. The survey showed that the average fulfilment of the proactive transparency standard is 63.46%, which is an improvement compared to the analysis of the website of public institutions conducted in 2016 by the Centre for Social Research Analitika, when the average level of institution transparency (on a sample of 68 institutions) amounted to 34.8%.</p> <p>From 10 June to 3 July 2020, the Public Administration Reform Coordinator's Office conducted the second online survey, to which 57 institutions responded, although the request was addressed to 81 institutions that meet proactive transparency standards. The average fulfilment of the proactive transparency standard was 64.04%, which is a slight improvement compared to the previous survey. The improvement also refers to the fact that 19 new institutions participated in this year's research.</p>	

			<p>Next steps: Next survey on the fulfilment of proactive transparency standards will be conducted during 2021.</p>	
<p>Proactive transparency capacities of civil servants and heads of institutions are increased</p>	<p>1. 5. 2019.</p>	<p>1. 1. 2020.</p>	<p>Status: The Communications Group of the Program for Strengthening Public Institutions held on 14 and 15 May 2019, a workshop where it additionally worked on a new categorization of proactive transparency standards by type of information and elaboration and finalization of guidelines for implementation of proactive transparency standards. This group held in Dobož, on 30 and 31 October 2019, a workshop on proactive transparency for representatives of the institutions of the Federation of BiH, Republic of Srpska and Brčko District of BiH. A total of 29 participants completed the training. The workshop presented the concept of proactive transparency and the history of the initiative itself, the importance of implementing 38 standards for BiH citizens and implementation of the public administration reform in BiH, a tool for self-assessment of standards, guidelines for meeting standards with the focus on frequently asked questions, and an example of the plan to publish information on the institutions' website. By the end of 2019, the Public Administration Reform Coordinator's Office was working within the Group on the preparation of a peer-to-peer training program on proactive transparency, which officially began in early 2020.</p> <p>Next steps: During 2020, through the Program for Strengthening Public Institutions, two webinars on proactive transparency were held for civil servants from the level of the Council of Ministers of BiH (26 and 27 November 2020) and</p>	

			<p>civil servants and managerial civil servants within the FBiH institutions (30.11.2020). The webinar organized by the Civil Service Agency of BiH gathered 26 participants, and 16 participants within the organisation of the Civil Service Agency of the Federation of BiH. It was stated that further efforts should be made to raise awareness of proactive transparency among the heads of institutions, given that in the work so far there have been no recorded participants in trainings belonging to the category of heads of institutions. It is planned to implement advocacy activities at the entity level and in the Brčko District of BiH in the next period in the context of improving the capacity of civil servants and heads of institutions on proactive transparency.</p>	
<p>A mechanism for measuring and researching proactive transparency has been established</p>	<p>1. 6. 2019.</p>	<p>1. 6. 2020.</p>	<p>Status: The Public Administration Reform Coordinator's Office and the BiH Agency for Statistics signed on 13 June 2019, a Memorandum of Cooperation on the use of online research systems on proactive transparency. The online system contains questions regarding the fulfilment of 38 proactive transparency standards and was developed through the work of the inter-institutional Communications Group of the Program for Strengthening Public Institutions, implemented by the German GIZ (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit) upon the order of the Federal Government of Germany and Great Britain. This online tool was used in both surveys conducted by the Public Administration Reform Coordinator's Office after the Conclusion of the BiH Council of Ministers of 3 December 2018, with the fact that this tool was further improved during 2020, which made it easier for institutions to fill out the questionnaire on the standards of proactive transparency.</p>	

			<p>The Public Administration Reform Coordinator's Office has fully implemented these activities.</p> <p>Next steps: The established mechanism of measurement and research will be applied to the survey in 2021.</p>	
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Institutions and other actors involved in the implementation	<p>Council of Ministers of BiH</p> <p>Civil Service Agency of BiH</p> <p>Directorate for European Integration</p> <p>Agency for Statistics of BiH</p> <p>Agency for Development of Quality of Higher Education and Quality Assurance</p> <p>Agency for Prevention of Corruption and Coordination of the Fight against Corruption</p> <p>Institution of Human Rights Ombudsman of BiH</p> <p>All Institutions of the Council of Ministers of BiH</p>			
NGO, private sector, multilateral working groups	<p>The inter-institutional thematic working group for communications of Program of strengthening of public institutions</p> <p>Civil Society Organization: Transparency International BiH, Analitika, Zašto ne, CIN, CPI and other civil society organizations</p>			

Title and number of the obligation: 7. Drafting of the budget for citizens	
Start date and end date: 1. 5. 2019. – 31. 12. 2020.	
Leading agency/institution for implementation	Ministry of Finance and Treasury of BiH
Description of the obligation:	
Which public issue will be addressed by this obligation?	<p>Generally speaking, governments are responsible to their citizens or at least they should be responsible for actions and policies they are implementing. Budget, as the basic instrument by which the government implements its policies and realizes plans, is usually very complex and difficult to understand by a large part of the public. Therefore, it is not only important that the budget is available to the public, but it is equally important that budget documentation is accessible and understandable to citizens.</p> <p>According to the results of the International Budget Openness Research (IBP), the Budget Openness Index in Bosnia and Herzegovina for 2017 was only 35 points out of a total of 100 index points, which BiH puts in countries whose "government provides citizens with minimal budget information".</p> <p>According to this survey, the worst segment, citizens' participation in the budget cycle, was rated with only nine index points.</p>
What is the obligation?	<p>Regarding the described situation, one or the first of the measures that the institutions of BiH should undertake is to make the information about the budget of the institutions of Bosnia and Herzegovina available and accessible in a simple, concise and transparent way to the citizens and the public in a form and content that would reflect their interest and needs.</p> <p>This measure would be realized through the preparation and publication of the Budget for citizens, while the process of publishing the publication itself would imply several steps and involvement of a number of actors. The essence of drafting a Budget for citizens is to make very complicated, professional and comprehensive information presented in a simple, concise and appealing way. The main objective is to: make citizens competent and interested to participate in budget processes.</p>
How will the fulfilment of the obligation contribute to the	The regular preparation and publication of the Budget for Citizens is a reflection of the best international practices and trends in the area of public finance transparency.

public issue resolution?	Given that the state level of government has not had significant activities and initiatives in this area until now, by introducing the practice of compiling and publishing the Budget for Citizens, it is expected to strengthen citizens' awareness and public accountability, as well as a much better rating of BiH institutions on the international scale budget transparency, measured primarily by the Budget Transparency Index, which will result in increased trust among citizens, donors and civil society organizations.			
Why is this obligation relevant to OGP values?	<p>The relevance of this measure to OGP values is reflected in the following facts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Through the implementation of this measure/obligation, for the first time information on the budget intended for citizens will be published, the quality of published information will be improved in relation to the needs of the target group, the availability and accessibility of information in the public will be improved. • The obligation will directly affect the creation of preconditions and a favourable environment for the public to influence the decision-making process. • By achieving greater transparency and the sense of significant public oversight, the public officials' accountability towards their actions is expected. 			
Additional information	<p>The purpose of this activity is to publish and distribute the Budget for Citizens of BiH Institutions for the first time and not only as an informative material of the Ministry of Finance and Treasury of BiH, which would formally comply with this obligation, but the result would be the document in which the citizens themselves participated and NGOs, which fully reflects their interests and needs. Also, it is envisaged that the entire process is implemented systematically and some kind of methodology/guidelines will be developed for the preparation of budgets for citizens, which would be used for the purposes of further training and dissemination of positive practice to all institutions and possibly other levels of government in order to achieve more transparency.</p> <p>Although most of these activities will be implemented within the staffing capacities of the Ministry of Finance and Treasury of BiH and BiH institutions, the BiH Ministry of Finance and Treasury will request a partner donor organization ready to support the planned activities, especially in the area of mentoring and expertise in this area, meetings and workshops, design and preparation of the document itself, as well as assistance in the distribution of the same and eventual procurement of the information tool for the publication of the data on the websites of the institutions of BiH.</p>			
Goals/activities	Start date:	End date:	Goals/activities implementation	Implementation status
In cooperation with the NGO, we will identify the interests and needs of the beneficiary/target group, consider and process the collected information, then	1. 5. 2019.	1. 8. 2019.	Status: Implemented. The Budget for Citizens for BiH Institutions and International Obligations for 2020 has been prepared, distributed and published on the website of the Ministry of Finance and Treasury of BiH.	

work out, write, design and publish the Budget for Citizens and distribute it to citizens through a web site and in a printed form.			https://www.mft.gov.ba/bos/images/stories/javni_dug/informacije/2020/decembar/BUD%C5%BDEET%20bosanski%20el.pdf Next steps:	
Preparation of guidelines for the preparation of the Budget for Citizens for BiH Institutions and provision of education to institutions in connection with drafting the Budget for Citizens.	1. 8. 2019	31. 12. 2020.	Status: Implemented. The Methodology for the preparation and publication of the Budget for the citizens of the BiH institutions was developed and published on the website of the Ministry of Finance and Treasury of BiH https://www.mft.gov.ba/hrv/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=203&Itemid=152 Two workshops were held with 12 budget users and on 29 September 2020, focus groups were held, attended by 9 budget users and 8 representatives of civil society organizations. Comments on the Methodology mostly referred to information on the state of the public debt, what is financed from reserve funds, data on salaries of civil servants and appointed persons, connection with strategic budget documents and public procurement. Next steps:	
Contact information				
Name of the responsible person appointed by the institution responsible for the implementation	1. Snežana Tuševljak 2. Halida Pašić			

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Institutions and other actors involved in the implementation	<p>Public Administration Reform Coordinator's Office of CoM BiH (considering the previous experience in this area) in the preparation phase of the guidelines and drafting the Budget for Citizens, and at a later stage (training) the other BiH institution.</p>
NGO, private sector, multilateral working groups	<p>CSO and multilateral working groups</p>