

SURVEY REPORT

Pre-assessment survey on the interest and needs of working groups for the *Open Government Partnership*

Within the framework of the EU-funded project *Advocacy for Open Government: Civil Society Agenda-setting and Monitoring of Country Action Plans*, the Center for Research and Policy Making (CRPM) conducted a Pre-assessment Survey with the support of the United Nations Development Program (UNDP). The results from the survey shall be used during the process of coalition building workshops with non-governmental stakeholders for the drafting of the new national Open Government Partnership (OGP) action plan 2016-2018.

The survey, conducted through *Survey Monkey*, aimed for the highest possible dissemination, and therefore used several sources for distributing the information, such as: CRPMs mailing list, contacts registered with the TACSO mailing list of civil society organizations (CSOs), as well as via social media as are Facebook and Twitter. We received 78 responses, in total.

The aim of the survey was to get acquainted with the awareness of the CSOs with the global initiative *Open Government Partnership* and assess their readiness and interest to participate in the creation of the OGP National Action Plan 2016-2018. The survey was designed to map the fields of work of respondents so as to best match their interest and expertise with the opportunities for contribution within OGP. Additionally, the survey also intended to collect preliminary recommendations on the process of consultation and implementation of the OGP action plans (judging based on previous action plans) as well as proposals for measures that should be included in the action plan. Indeed, the survey aimed at grouping the fields of interest of the respondents for the purpose of sorting them in working groups at a latter stages.



The survey was conducted with the support of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in the framework of the EU-funded project *Advocacy for Open Government: Civil Society Agenda-setting and Monitoring of Country Action Plans*. The stances presented in this report do not necessarily reflect the opinion and position of the European Union.

The results of the survey showed that only 38 per cent of the respondents are familiar with OGP, whilst 16 per cent have never heard about it. 56 per cent are partially aware of the global initiative. Moreover, almost 77 per cent of the respondents replied that they have not been involved in the process of drafting and implementation of the OGP National Action Plan 2014-2016. Only 17 of the 78 respondents were included in the process, 9 of whom were active implementing parties. The respondents demonstrated great interest in joining the process of drafting the 2016-2018 National Action Plan, whereby 78 per cent of the respondents replied that they would like to join.

Some of the respondents provided specific recommendations and measures, which can be the focus of the working groups. Some of the recommendations regarding the process of consultation and implementation include: mutual cooperation between citizens and CSOs in drafting mutually acceptable measures; consistent implementation of the Action Plan and embedding the recommendations of the Independent Reporting Mechanism; engagement of the civil society in determining the priorities and challenges in the process of drafting the third Action Plan ; the Action Plan should have precise and well-drafted budget, as well as suitable appraisal for the financial implications; timely and punctual information of the civil society during the adoption of decisions, etc.

As for the recommendation of measures for the action respondents include: raising awareness; improved cooperation between state institutions and the civil society; timely updates; overarching dissemination of information and comprehensive inclusion of civil society and citizens during drafting of the action plan; taking into account the reports and analysis of the civil society, as well as inclusion of the citizens by organizing public debates, on the one hand, and trimming down the measures adopted with “summary process”; involving a group of experts in the process; promoting transparency and accountability etc.

The valuable information collected through this survey will serve CRPM and the National Coordinator for OGP in shaping the consultation process in a format that is responsive to the stakeholders, and hopefully, will contribute to listing more effective and feasible measures in the action plan.



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