



აჭარის ავტონომიური რესპუბლიკის უმაღლესი საბჭო
Supreme Council of Autonomous Republic of Ajara

Open
Government
Partnership



**OPEN GOVERNANCE
ACTION PLAN
OF THE SUPREME COUNCIL
OF THE AUTONOMOUS
REPUBLIC OF AJARA
2020-2021**



Open governance, transparency, accountability, access to public information and citizen engagement, alongside other fundamental values, are indispensable principles of the democratic development of the country.

To introduce the above principles in our work, the Supreme Council of the Autonomous Republic of Ajara (SCA), in partnership with the Institute for Development of Freedom of Information (IDFI) and with the support from the European Union (EU) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) joined the Open Government Partnership (OGP) initiative and, on its extraordinary plenary session held on 30 April 2020, approved amendments to the Rules of Procedure establishing a permanent body within the Supreme Council - the Open Governance Council.

On 22 June 2020, a consultative group was created under the Council, comprised of 11 non-governmental organisations operating in Ajara. The Open Governance Council, in collaboration with the consultative group, prepared the Open Governance Action Plan for 2020-2021. The plan includes important commitments such as holding public consultations in the law-making process, introduction of citizen petitions, development of concepts for adapting the SCA building and website for the Persons with Disabilities (PwDs) to ensure inclusive participation, establishment of the Citizen Engagement Center and other commitments.

Through implementing the openness commitments presented hereby, we aim to improve the performance of the SCA, increase its transparency and accessibility for every member of the society, and consequently promote citizen engagement in the decision-making process. Only with this approach we are able to promote the development of democratic processes at the regional level.

Davit Gabaidze

Chairperson of the Supreme Council of the Autonomous Republic of Ajara





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CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT

Commitment 1: Public Consultations in the Law-making Process	
Lead Agency	Supreme Council of the Autonomous Republic of Ajara (SCA)
Partners	Public institution
	Civil/international / private sector
Initiator (SCA, civil/international/private sector):	Petre Zambakhidze, Member of the SCA; United Nations Development Programme (UNDP); Institute for Development of Freedom of Information (IDFI); Network of Centers for Civic Engagement (NCCE).
Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) the Commitment addresses	Goal 16 and Goal 17
Current Situation and Challenges	<p>SCA Rules of Procedure do not envisage public discussions or other forms of public consultation on legislative bills. At the same time, there is little information on the legislation of the Autonomous Republic of Ajara among the civil society.</p> <p>The SCA is working on significant legislative bills both at the regional and the central levels. Citizen engagement in this process is limited (with the exception of constitutional amendments, which shall be mandatorily discussed in every municipality of the region).</p> <p>To ensure citizen engagement and openness of the legislative body, it is important to enable citizens to comment on legislative bills published on the SCA's website, or to send comments/remarks/opinions to the Council and receive its feedback. Currently, the website of the Council does not provide such a possibility. Commenting on legislative bills published on the SCA's website will increase the quality of citizen engagement in the policy-making processes in the region.</p> <p>Numerous active and qualified civil society organisations are operating in the region. Their involvement in discussing legislative bills will increase the quality and efficiency of the law-making process and will facilitate the process of creating partnerships for legislative advocacy.</p>
Main Objective	To ensure public consultations in the law-making process at the SCA, including the possibility to comment on draft legislation on the website, introduction of a system for sending written comments and opinions and developing a feedback mechanism. To ensure deliberation on legislative bills of the SCA and legislative initiatives of Georgia with the participation of the civil society and other stakeholders.
OGP Challenge	Increasing citizen engagement, improving provision of public services



CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT

Commitment 1: Public Consultations in the Law-making Process

OGP Principles	Transparency	Accountability	Citizen engagement	Technologies and innovation
	✓	✓	✓	✓
Milestones to Fulfil the Commitment	New or existing commitment	Start date:	End date:	
Amending the SCA Rules of Procedure to reflect the commitment to conduct public consultations on legislative bills either physically or electronically.	New commitment	09/2020	12/2020	
Development of guidelines for SCA Members and staff on stakeholder engagement in the law-making process, feedback and reporting.	New commitment	11/2020	03/2021	
Training of staff on collection and analysis of comments/remarks/opinions as well as on provision of feedback and reporting.	New commitment	03/2021	05/2021	
Creating the possibility to make comments or upload remarks/opinions on legislative bills published on the SCA's website; developing the respective platform.	New commitment	03/2021	09/2021	
Establishing a practice of discussing legislative bills presented to the SCA or legislative initiatives of Georgia either in person or electronically.	New commitment	03/2021	09/2021	
Receiving feedback during public consultations and creating a consolidated document (report) on the conducted consultations.	New commitment	05/2021	Continuous	
Implementation of information campaign.	New commitment	09/2021	Continuous	



Commitment 1: Public Consultations in the Law-making Process	
Indicator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Provisions regarding public consultations on legislative bills either in person or electronically are introduced into the SCA Rules of Procedure; - Guidelines on stakeholder engagement, feedback and reporting mechanisms are developed; - SCA staff (at least 10 staff members) are trained on receiving and analysing comments/opinions/remarks, as well as providing feedback and reporting; - Function of commenting or providing remarks/opinions on draft legislation is integrated into the SCA website; - 50% of legislative bills initiated within the SCA are discussed during the public meetings (either in person or electronically); - At least 10 public discussions are conducted with participation of interested parties; - At least 20% of legislative bills initiated within the SCA are commented upon, or remarks/opinions are made on them either on the website or via public deliberations; - The SCA report is published summarising comments, remarks and opinions expressed with respect to legislative bills, detailing whether they were considered in the final draft.
Risks and Assumptions	<p>Even if the platform is created, citizens might not be actively using it. In order to avoid this risk, it is important that citizens are informed about the existence of the platform and that they are able to receive feedback on comments provided by them.</p> <p>To avoid such a result, it is important to carry out an information campaign, to prepare a social advertisement and place it in various media outlets once relevant amendments are made to the Rules of Procedure and the comment tab is added on the website.</p> <p>The SCA's website might not be ready for the function of comments and opinions, or relevant staff member(s) might not have skills necessary for integrating such a function. At the initial stage, it might be possible to enable the commenting function via social media accounts and sending opinions via e-mail, while this information will be available on the website.</p> <p>In case there are limited number of legislative initiatives at the SCA, it might not be possible to activate public consultations.</p> <p>For the process efficiency, it is important to create specific guidelines, which is impossible given existing resources of the SCA, and it might be necessary to mobilise external support.</p>



CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT

Commitment 2: Strengthening the Government Oversight in Collaboration with the Civil Society	
Lead Agency	Supreme Council of the Autonomous Republic of Ajara (SCA)
Partners	Public institution
	Civil/international / private sector
Initiator (SCA, civil/international/private sector):	Merab Bladadze, Member of the SCA
Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) the Commitment addresses	Goal 16 and Goal 17
Current Situation and Challenges	<p>One of the SCA's main functions is to exercise government oversight. Although the SCA Rules of Procedure introduced several new mechanisms, the majority thereof does not consider citizen engagement during oversight processes.</p> <p>It is noteworthy that the Government of Ajara, Ministries and other agencies manage a significant amount of budgetary resources. Infrastructural expenditures amount to more than 60% of the budget (exceeding 200 million GEL), however, there are no oversight mechanisms designated for infrastructural or other types of projects, and citizen engagement in this process is not ensured.</p> <p>Given that the exercise of oversight functions by the SCA depends, to a large extent, on information provided by citizens, the media, the civil society and other parties, it is important to create an oversight mechanism which relies on such an information. For instance, information received by the SCA (application, letter or public statement) might be used to control high-quality implementation of a given project, whereby a SCA Member or a group of Members exercise their legal authority to monitor the executive branch, while at the same time ensuring the local civil society participating in the process. Thus, the government oversight will be exercised through citizen engagement and it will be possible to conduct oversight based on qualifications, experience and field expertise consolidated within the civil society and to timely review the efficiency of the projects implemented by the executive branch.</p> <p>Currently, there is no consolidated website regarding important projects (initially, at least infrastructural or other major projects may be selected) containing information on budgetary expenditures (project, tender documentation, documentation regarding oversight by an agency undertaking the expenses, information related to oversight conducted by the SCA, etc.).</p>
Main Objective	To ensure citizen participation in the oversight processes and consolidate respective information on the website.
OGP Challenge	Increasing citizen engagement, improving provision of public services



**OPEN GOVERNANCE ACTION PLAN OF THE SUPREME COUNCIL
OF THE AUTONOMOUS REPUBLIC OF AJARA 2020-2021**

Commitment 2: Strengthening the Government Oversight in Collaboration with the Civil Society				
OGP Principles	Transparency	Accountability	Citizen engagement	Technologies and innovation
	✓	✓	✓	✓
Milestones to Fulfil the Commitment	New or existing commitment	Start date:	End date:	
Development of an oversight mechanism and respective procedures through engagement of the civil society; development of a concept of the designated web-portal.	New commitment	09/2020	12/2020	
Introducing necessary amendments into the Rules of Procedure.	New commitment	11/2020	12/2020	
Holding working meetings on relevant mechanisms and procedures between the SCA and representatives of the civil society, exploring partnerships for designing the web-portal.	New commitment	01/2021	05/2021	
Training and developing guiding principles on reporting with respect to the oversight processes for SCA Members, SCA staff and representatives of the civil society.	New commitment	05/2021	07/2021	
Launching a pilot web-portal and gradually publishing information on government projects.	New commitment	07/2021	10/2021	
Selection of government projects to be monitored and conducting oversight through citizen engagement.	New commitment	10/2021	Continuous	
Producing reports on the results of monitoring of projects and publication of information on the web-portal.	New commitment	12/2021	Continuous	



CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT

Commitment 2: Strengthening the Government Oversight in Collaboration with the Civil Society	
Indicator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - An oversight mechanism and relevant procedures are developed; - Respective amendments (if necessary) are introduced into the Rules of Procedure; - At least two working meetings are held; - All SCA Members, at least 10 staff members and at least 10 representatives of the civil society are trained; - At least 10 projects funded from the budget of the Autonomous Republic of Ajara are published on the web-portal, with respective documentation indicated therein; - Oversight has been conducted at least over 5 projects implemented or being in the process of implementation by the executive branch.
Risks and Assumptions	<p>Creation of such a mechanism requires a strong political will on the part of the majority of the SCA, which might not be at hand under the new convocation. For this reason, the said project shall be introduced during the term of the current convocation.</p> <p>An additional risk is posed by the lack of experience, which requires solid preparatory works and elaboration of a detailed guiding approach.</p> <p>A system of the web-portal is quite complex, and its implementation might not be possible without relevant partners, given that the SCA and Government of Ajara lack experience in creating similar systems.</p>



Commitment 3: Establishment of the Citizen Engagement Center of the Supreme Council of Ajara	
Lead Agency	Supreme Council of the Autonomous Republic of Ajara (SCA)
Partners	Public institution SCA
	Civil/international/ private sector
Initiator (SCA, civil/international /private sector):	Petre Zambakhidze, Member of the SCA; United Nations Development Programme (UNDP); Institute for Development of Freedom of Information (IDFI).
Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) the Commitment addresses	Goal 16 and Goal 17
Current Situation and Challenges	<p>Under Article 2 of the SCA Rules of Procedure, the Council works based on principles of openness, transparency and accessibility. The SCA is actively undertaking efforts to implement open governance principles in its operation, however, reception of citizens, provision of public services and information on activities of the SCA have not been sufficiently developed. Therefore, engagement of citizens in SCA activities is limited.</p> <p>At the same time, only the ground floor of the SCA's new building is relatively accessible for PwDs, while the majority of public officials are seated on the upper floors. This impedes holding meetings with all citizens. To increase citizen engagement in the policy-making process in the region and, at the same time, to implement modern standards of participation, it is advisable to establish a Citizen Engagement Center.</p> <p>Besides, from late 2019, the SCA is seated in a new, historic building. Even though the building does not have an extensive history or historic spaces, it might be possible to organise study tours in the building to raise awareness about the region's legislative body. Such tours would exceed mere conversations about the history and shall also offer a review of the activities of the Council.</p> <p>By attracting school and university students with such programs, it is possible to raise public awareness, engagement and even attract potential qualified personnel.</p>
Main Objective	To ensure awareness raising and citizen participation in the SCA's activities, including organizing study tours in the building.
OGP Challenge	Increasing citizen engagement, improving provision of public services



Commitment 3: Establishment of the Citizen Engagement Center of the Supreme Council of Ajara				
OGP Principles	Transparency	Accountability	Citizen engagement	Technologies and innovation
		✓	✓	✓
Milestones to Fulfil the Commitment	New or existing commitment	Start date:	End date:	
Development of a concept for the Citizen Engagement Center.	New commitment	09/2020	11/2020	
Considering and approving the concept for the Citizen Engagement Center.	New commitment	11/2020	12/2020	
Developing and approving study tour programs (while engaging the Agency for Cultural Heritage, educational institutions and other interested stakeholders).	New commitment	09/2020	12/2020	
Creating, setting up and equipping the Citizen Engagement enter, and preparing information materials.	New commitment	01/2021	09/2021	
Implementing adapted services at the Citizen Engagement Center, developing guidelines for staff and providing respective training.	New commitment	04/2021	09/2021	
Popularisation of study tours and implementation of the schedule/procedure for such tours.	New commitment	05/2021	Continuous	
Indicator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A concept for the Citizen Engagement Center is developed and approved; - The Citizen Engagement Center is created, established and equipped; - Information materials are prepared; - The Center offers services adapted to persons with disabilities; - Guidelines for staff employed at the Citizen Engagement Center are developed; - Staff members are trained to be equipped with relevant skills; - At least 4 educational institutions (school, university, etc.) visited the SCA through a study tour program within the scope of services provided by the Center. 			



Commitment 3: Establishment of the Citizen Engagement Center of the Supreme Council of Ajara

Risks and Assumptions	<p>For the proper functioning of the Citizen Engagement Center, it is necessary to have a designated space, which shall be set up and equipped (it will be impossible to provide a separate room for the Center in the building of the Council, however, such space can be set up in a free area near the entrance); this is related to certain expenditures.</p> <p>In view of the limited budgetary resources of the SCA, it might be reasonable to attract donors and work with them on the concept and establishment of such a space.</p> <p>Interest towards the SCA is low among the population, requiring its popularisation and increasing its public image.</p>
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Commitment 4: Developing a System for Electronic and Written Petitions

Lead Agency	Supreme Council of the Autonomous Republic of Ajara (SCA)			
Partners	Public institution	SCA		
	Civil/international/ private sector			
Initiator (SCA, civil/international /private sector):	Institute for Development of Freedom of Information (IDFI)			
Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) the Commitment addresses	Goal 16			
Current Situation and Challenges	Through petitions, a group of citizens addresses governmental bodies with respect to the needs of the country and/or the public. Website platforms for citizen petitions are established at legislative bodies in the majority of countries. Currently, the SCA Rules of Procedure do not contain provisions regarding submission of petitions neither in writing nor electronically. Submission of petitions is important for citizen engagement and for the development of open governance principles. It is necessary to develop special rules for submission and consideration of petitions in accordance with the best international practice.			
Main Objective	To amend the SCA Rules of Procedure and introduce written/electronic petitions.			
OGP Challenge	Increasing citizen engagement			
OGP Principles	Transparency	Accountability	Citizen engagement	Technologies and innovation
	✓	✓	✓	✓



CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT

Commitment 4: Developing a System for Electronic and Written Petitions			
Milestones to Fulfil the Commitment	New or existing commitment	Start date:	End date:
Introduction of respective amendments into the SCA Rules of Procedure, to submit petitions electronically and in a written form.	New commitment	09/2020	12/2020
Training relevant staff members of the SCA.	New commitment	12/2020	03/2021
Introduction of written petitions.	New commitment	03/2021	05/2021
Development of a concept for the platform of electronic petitions and the Terms of Reference (ToR).	New commitment	01/2021	10/2021
Indicator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Relevant amendments are introduced into the SCA Rules of Procedure. - Submission of written petitions is possible. - Terms of Reference for the petitions' platform is prepared. 		
Risks and Assumptions	<p>The website of the SCA might not technically permit integration of the platform for online petitions;</p> <p>Lack of financial resources for creation of the online platform;</p> <p>The platform might be created, but citizens might not utilise the system.</p>		



ACCESSIBILITY OF INFORMATION

Commitment 5: Creation of a Mechanism for Media Accreditation				
Lead Agency		Supreme Council of the Autonomous Republic of Ajara (SCA)		
Partners	Public institution	SCA		
	Civil/ international / private sector			
Initiator (SCA, civil/international /private sector):		Staff of the Supreme Council		
Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) the Commitment addresses		Goal 16 and Goal 17		
Current Situation and Challenges		<p>External persons may only enter the SCA building in accordance with respective security rules. This includes entrance of representatives of the media based on accreditation, however, there is no rule regulating the matter of obtaining accreditation. Accordingly, upon every visit, representatives of the media have to obtain a pass from relevant public officials of the SCA.</p> <p>Since obtaining a pass is time-consuming and requires additional procedures, there is a risk that media representatives might not get a pass in a timely manner, which has a negative impact on transparency of the SCA's work. Therefore, it is necessary to establish rules for issuing accreditation for media representatives, which will ensure increasing accessibility to the SCA activities and transparency in general.</p>		
Main Objective		To enable media representatives access the SCA building and its sessions unobstructedly and independent of good will of public officials.		
OGP Challenge		Increasing citizen engagement		
OGP Principles	Transparency	Accountability	Citizen engagement	Technologies and innovation
	✓	✓	✓	
Milestones to Fulfil the Commitment		New or existing commitment	Start date:	End date:
Developing rules on accreditation.		New commitment	09/2020	10/2020
Discussing rules on accreditation with representatives of the civil society and the media.		New commitment	09/2020	11/2020
Approving rules on accreditation and communicating them to relevant employees.		New commitment	11/2020	12/2020



ACCESSIBILITY OF INFORMATION

Commitment 5: Creation of a Mechanism for Media Accreditation

<p>Indicator</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Rules on accreditation of media representatives are prepared through citizen participation and approved by the SCA; - At least 5 relevant employees are familiar with the rules on accreditation (at least one in-person or a remote meeting is held); - At least 5 media outlets have obtained accreditation; - Media representatives are using the accreditation system in 50% of cases to enter the building; - 50% of media representatives attending SCA sessions are using the accreditation system.
<p>Risks and Assumptions</p>	<p>Given that the interest towards SCA's activities might not be limited only to media outlets operating in the region, the need to issue individual passes might still persist.</p> <p>Representatives of media outlets might not be content given the complexity of accreditation rules, while, on the other hand, vastly simple rules contain high risks in terms of security and disinformation.</p>

Commitment 6: Adapting the Website of the Supreme Council of Ajara According to the Needs of Persons with Disabilities

<p>Lead Agency</p>	<p>Supreme Council of the Autonomous Republic of Ajara (SCA)</p>				
<p>Partners</p>	<table border="1"> <tr> <td data-bbox="368 1196 671 1249"> <p>Public institution</p> </td> <td data-bbox="671 1196 1437 1249"> <p>SCA</p> </td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="368 1249 671 1330"> <p>Civil/ international/ private sector</p> </td> <td data-bbox="671 1249 1437 1330"></td> </tr> </table>	<p>Public institution</p>	<p>SCA</p>	<p>Civil/ international/ private sector</p>	
<p>Public institution</p>	<p>SCA</p>				
<p>Civil/ international/ private sector</p>					
<p>Initiator (SCA, civil/international /private sector):</p>	<p>Institute for Development of Freedom of Information (IDFI); Ajara Peer Support, Counselling and Referral Center</p>				
<p>Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) the Commitment addresses</p>	<p>Goal 10 and Goal 16</p>				
<p>Current Situation and Challenges</p>	<p>In 2013, the Parliament of Georgia ratified the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (PwDs), and, therefore, undertook an obligation to ensure and promote the protection of rights of PwDs. Currently, the SCA's website is not accommodated for special needs and PwDs cannot obtain necessary information from the website. For instance, persons with vision impairment are unable to use the SCA's building, nor are they able to use the website; thus, the news available on the website is not accessible for them.</p> <p>Inclusive engagement of citizens is one of the core principles of a democratic society. Thus, it is of utmost importance to develop a specific action plan, which would, in the shortest period of time, enable PwDs to utilize the SCA's website, on an equal footing with others.</p>				



Commitment 6: Adapting the Website of the Supreme Council of Ajara According to the Needs of Persons with Disabilities

Main Objective	Action plan for adapting the SCA's website for PwDs.			
OGP Challenge	Increasing citizen engagement, improving provision of public services			
OGP Principles	Transparency	Accountability	Citizen engagement	Technologies and innovation
	✓	✓	✓	✓
Milestones to Fulfil the Commitment	New or existing commitment	Start date:	End date:	
Development of a concept for adaptation of the website to special needs.	New commitment	09/2020	02/2021	
Preparation of a project and budget for adaptation of the website to special needs.	New commitment	02/2021	06/2021	
Indicator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Project and budget for adapting the SCA website in accordance with relevant standards is prepared; - Project for adapting the SCA website in accordance with relevant standards is approved and the action plan is developed. 			
Risks and Assumptions	<p>Lack of financial resources for development of the project for adaptation of the website and its implementation;</p> <p>Technical impossibility to accommodate the existing website to the needs of PwDs.</p>			

Commitment 7: Adapting the Building of the Supreme Council of Ajara According to the Needs of Persons with Disabilities

Leading Body	Supreme Council of the Autonomous Republic of Ajara (SCA)	
Partners	Public institution	SCA
	Civil/international/private sector	
Initiator (SCA, civil/international /private sector):	Institute for Development of Freedom of Information (IDFI); Ajara Peer Support, Counselling and Referral Center	
Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) the Commitment addresses	Goal 10 and Goal 16	



ACCESSIBILITY OF INFORMATION

**Commitment 7: Adapting the Building of the Supreme Council of Ajara
According to the Needs of Persons with Disabilities**

Current Situation and Challenges	The SCA building is not adapted to persons with disabilities (PwDs), which makes it impossible for them to be engaged in activities of the legislative body of the region and access its building. It is important to develop a concept and define certain ways, which would enable PwDs to use the SCA building and exercise their rights as other persons do.			
Main Objective	Action plan for accommodating the SCA's building to persons with disabilities.			
OGP Challenge	Increasing citizen engagement, improving provision of public services			
OGP Principles	Transparency	Accountability	Citizen engagement	Technologies and innovation
	✓	✓	✓	
Milestones to Fulfil the Commitment	New or existing commitment	Start date:	End date:	
Development of a concept of adaptation of the building.	New commitment	09/2020	02/2021	
Preparation of a project and budget for adapting the building.	New commitment	02/2021	06/2021	
Approving the action plan for adapting of the building.	New commitment	06/2021	09/2021	
Indicator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A concept is developed for adapting of the building in accordance with international standards (for all types of needs); - A respective project and budget are prepared; - The project and the action plan are approved. 			
Risks and Assumptions	<p>Even if the concept is created, it might not be possible to obtain additional financial resources for adapting the SCA building to the needs of PwDs. As of now, it is unknown whether or not it will be possible to adapt the building completely.</p> <p>The SCA building has not been appropriately examined (to explore the possibility of its adapting), which might result in the necessity to adjust the initial budget of the project. This might also affect the timeframe of implementation of the project.</p>			



Commitment 8: Increasing Accessibility of Information regarding Activities of the Supreme Council of the Autonomous Republic of Ajara for People with Hearing Impairments - Adaptation to Sign Language					
Lead Agency		Supreme Council of the Autonomous Republic of Ajara (SCA)			
Partners	Public institution	SCA			
	Civil/international/private sector				
Initiator (SCA, civil/international /private sector):		NNLE Youth Organization Changes for Equal Rights			
Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) the Commitment addresses		Goal 10 and Goal 16			
Current Situation and Challenges		Access to SCA's current activities is still not guaranteed to a part of persons with disabilities, who have a hearing loss or impairments. Persons with hearing impairment are only able to obtain information about the SCA activities from the news. During public meetings, their needs are not considered.			
Main Objective		To increase accessibility to information regarding SCA's activities for persons with hearing impairment.			
OGP Challenge		Increasing citizen engagement, improving provision of public services			
OGP Principles		Transparency	Accountability	Citizen engagement	Technologies and innovation
		✓	✓	✓	✓
Milestones to Fulfil the Commitment		New or existing commitment	Start date:	End date:	
Selecting staff for ensuring translation to sign language.		New commitment	09/2020	01/2021	
Translating information provided on the website to sign language (video materials regarding issues of high public interest) and providing respective subtitles.		New commitment	03/2021	Continuous	
Holding meetings with interpretation in sign language (after assessing specific needs).		New commitment	01/2021	Continuous	



ACCESSIBILITY OF INFORMATION

Commitment 8: Increasing Accessibility of Information regarding Activities of the Supreme Council of the Autonomous Republic of Ajara for People with Hearing Impairments - Adaptation to Sign Language	
Indicator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The SCA has an employee providing a sign language interpretation; - Video materials on issues of high public interest that are published on the SCA's website are accompanied with a sign language translation or subtitles; - Translation in sign language is provided during meetings and events organized by the SCA.
Risks and Assumptions	<p>Under the budget of the current year, it might not be feasible to allocate financial resources, or it might not be possible to select an interpreter.</p>



TECHNOLOGIES AND INNOVATION

Commitment 9: Electronic System for Issuing a Pass to Enter the Building of the Supreme Council and to Attend its Sessions		
Lead Agency		Supreme Council of the Autonomous Republic of Ajara (SCA)
Partners	Public institution	SCA
	Civil/international/private sector	
Initiator (SCA, civil/international /private sector):		SCA Staff; Ajara Peer Support, Counselling and Referral Center; Transparency International - Georgia.
Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) the Commitment addresses		Goal 16
Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) the Commitment addresses Goal 16		<p>The SCA's website does not provide information on how a citizen gets an appointment with a SCA Member; nor does it provide information on reception hours or relevant schedule. It is essential that the website has a function enabling citizens to make an appointment with a Member or to send them a question/opinion.</p> <p>Currently, in order to pay a visit to the SCA, citizens need to obtain an entry permit from the Entry Pass Office of the SCA, which is located in the separated wing of the building. This area is not adapted to the persons with disabilities (PwDs), which obstructs the process of obtaining the pass.</p> <p>Besides, citizens are unable to obtain the pass in advance, which would have helped them avoid visiting the Entry Pass Office before entering the building of the Council. During events of a considerable scale, issuing passes in such a manner might require a lot of time, which might impede entering the building.</p> <p>In addition, it is noteworthy that health and safety standards related to COVID-19 require minimization of physical contact. In this regard, visiting the Entry Pass Office increases the number of contacts, which creates additional health related risks. As of today, there are no alternatives to such situations.</p>



**Commitment 9: Electronic System for Issuing a Pass to Enter the Building
of the Supreme Council and to Attend its Sessions**

	<p>Furthermore, there are no separate procedures for attending the SCA plenary sessions, which often causes misunderstanding among persons willing to attend these sessions. An additional challenge is posed by a limited space in the room for plenary sessions, which frequently causes conflicts among visiting citizens.</p> <p>Given the very nature of plenary sessions of legislative bodies, the SCA Rules of Procedure do not prescribe rules for attending of a citizen to engage in plenary sessions.. Involvement of third parties (public, civil society and representatives of other organisations) is possible in committee sittings. Accordingly, a procedural rule for attending SCA sessions is necessary to properly understand the rights of attendance and to avoid obstruction of the session.</p> <p>By providing the citizens with the right to attend the sessions, they will be able to observe the course of the session and obtain information live on decisions and activities of the SCA. This might be an additional tool for educational institutions, as the students will have an opportunity to attend sessions and get familiarized with specificities of legislative work.</p>
<p>Main Objective</p>	<p>To simplify a procedure for organizing meetings of citizens with SCA Members, and communicating with them electronically. As a result of this procedure, citizens will be able to obtain an entry permit to the SCA's building electronically, which will simplify their visit.</p> <p>To define rules and establish uniform practice for attending SCA sessions.</p>
<p>OGP Challenge</p>	<p>Increasing citizen engagement, improving provision of public services</p>



Commitment 9: Electronic System for Issuing a Pass to Enter the Building of the Supreme Council and to Attend its Sessions				
OGP Principles	Transparency	Accountability	Citizen engagement	Technologies and innovation
	✓	✓	✓	✓
Milestones to Fulfil the Commitment	New or existing commitment	Start date:	End date:	
Preparation of draft amendments to the Rules of Procedure regarding attendance at plenary sessions.	New commitment	09/2020	10/2020	
Developing and approving the rules on scheduling appointments electronically.	New commitment	09/2020	10/2020	
Developing rules (as a concept) for issuing passes electronically.	New commitment	09/2020	10/2020	
Approving amendments to the Rules of Procedure and additional procedures.	New commitment	10/2020	12/2020	
Incorporating a new function into the SCA's website for making an appointment, technical support for issuing a pass electronically (via SMS or other means).	New commitment	10/2020	12/2020	
Communicating information regarding the electronic system for appointments and rules on attending the SCA plenary sessions with relevant staff and, if necessary, providing a training.	New commitment	10/2020	12/2020	
Publishing information regarding attending SCA sessions separately on the website (alongside a simplified version).	New commitment	12/2020	12/2020	
Launching a pilot version of the system for making appointments and obtaining entrance permits electronically.	New commitment	12/2020	02/2021	
Finalise the implementation of the system for making appointments and obtaining entrance permits electronically.	New commitment	03/2021	05/2021	



**Commitment 9: Electronic System for Issuing a Pass to Enter the Building
of the Supreme Council and to Attend its Sessions**

<p>Indicator</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A separate section in the main menu of the SCA’s website “Write to a Member” is added; - Webpages of every public official incorporates a function for contacting the Member. A separate function - “Make an Appointment with a Member” is added to the main menu; - After making an appointment, a request is received by a respective Member or a secretariat of the faction/committee. Citizen requesting a meeting receives information on the appointment time electronically; - A system for issuing a pass electronically is implemented; - At least 10% of the visitors use the electronic pass system; - Rules on attending the SCA plenary sessions are developed and approved; - Rules on attending the SCA plenary sessions are published on the website in a separate area; - Rules on attending the SCA plenary sessions are implemented in practice and attendance takes place in accordance with these rules.
<p>Risks and Assumptions</p>	<p>Members of the public might not receive information regarding new functions, which is why the SCA staff shall ensure advertisement of respective information via social media and media outlets to spread information on the new services.</p> <p>Electronic system for issuing a pass shall be integrated within the SCA’s website, however its proper functioning is not guaranteed, which might negatively affect the electronic system of issuing entry permits.</p> <p>An additional risk is posed by the preference of direct communication.</p> <p>Given the size of the room of the plenary sessions, a number of guests is limited, which might affect efficient implementation of the rule, given that attendance of a large group of people will be expected but not Fulfilled. This might result in discontent.</p>



**OPEN GOVERNANCE ACTION PLAN OF THE SUPREME COUNCIL
OF THE AUTONOMOUS REPUBLIC OF AJARA 2020-2021**

Commitment 10: Internet Transmission of the Sessions of the Supreme Council of Ajara and Its Bodies and Citizen Engagement					
Lead Agency		Supreme Council of the Autonomous Republic of Ajara (SCA)			
Partners	Public institution	SCA			
	Civil/international/private sector				
Initiator (SCA, civil/international/private sector):		Petre Zambakhidze, Member of the SCA; United Nations Development Programme (UNDP); Governance Monitoring Center.			
Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) the Commitment addresses		Goal 16			
Current Situation and Challenges		<p>Sessions of the SCA, Committees and the Bureau are not transmitted live via television and citizens are not able to observe the sessions. From May 2020, the SCA has commenced transmission of plenary sessions live via its Facebook page (this livestream or a relevant archive is not uploaded on the website). These livestreams were viewed by several hundred people. However, other types of sessions have not been transmitted. Besides, the Rules of Procedure do not envisage the possibility of maintaining interactive communication (e.g. receiving comments, giving feedback, etc.) with citizens through similar transmissions.</p> <p>It should also be pointed out that the plenary session and Bureau rooms (where sessions of the Bureau and, oftentimes, sessions of Committees are held) do not permit attendance of a large group of citizens.</p>			
Main Objective		To implement a system for online transmission of sessions of the SCA and its bodies as well as to receive citizens' questions during the committee sessions, which should be also posted on the website.			
OGP Challenge		Increasing citizen engagement, improving provision of public services			
OGP Principles		Transparency	Accountability	Citizen engagement	Technologies and innovation
		✓	✓	✓	✓
Milestones to Fulfil the Commitment		New or existing commitment	Start date:	End date:	
Adjusting the Rules of Procedure to enable live electronic transmission of sessions and describe the ways of reacting to citizens' questions.		New commitment	09/2020	12/2020	



Commitment 10: Internet Transmission of the Sessions of the Supreme Council of Ajara and Its Bodies and Citizen Engagement

Assessing technical needs for transmitting the sessions of the SCA and its bodies and preparing relevant budget.	New commitment	09/2020	11/2020
Preparing Terms of Reference (ToR) for equipping the session rooms of the SCA and its Bureau with live internet transmission.	New commitment	11/2020	12/2020
Allocation of budgetary resources for high-quality transmission on the website and obtaining additional funds for 2021.	New commitment	11/2020	12/2020
Conducting public procurement.	New commitment	01/2021	03/2021
Creating a transmission system.	New commitment	03/2021	09/2021
Providing online transmission of plenary sessions as well as sessions of the Bureau and Committees, institutionalizing a practice of Q&A during the committee sessions and its promotion.	New commitment	09/2021	Continuous
Indicator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Necessary changes were made to the Rules of Procedure, thereby enabling citizens to send questions and remarks online during the committee sessions, as well as to receive answers in live regime; - Sessions of the Council, Bureau, Committees and other bodies are transmitted online (at least as a Facebook livestream); - Terms of Reference for equipping respective areas with audio-video systems is prepared; - Financial resources are obtained for purchasing the equipment; - Terms of Reference is adopted and budget is allocated; - A company is selected through a tender; - Technical support of a livestream is ensured; - Plenary sessions of the Council as well as sessions of the Bureau and Committees are livestreamed. 		
Risks and Assumptions	<p>Live internet transmission of sessions of the SCA and its bodies (several video cameras to capture various speakers, audio system for microphones, etc.) is related to significant financial resources, which might not be available given the budget of the SCA.</p> <p>Implementation of the system without duly informing the public on livestreaming might result in inefficient spending of budgetary resources; hence, it is necessary to conduct relevant awareness-raising activities.</p>		



Commitment 11: Uploading Documents on the Website of the Supreme Council of Ajara in a Machine-Readable Format, Increasing the List of Information to be Published Proactively		
Lead Agency		Supreme Council of the Autonomous Republic of Ajara (SCA)
Partners	Public institution	SCA
	Civil/international/ private sector	
Initiator (SCA, civil/international /private sector):		United Nations Development Programme (UNDP); Institute for Development of Freedom of Information (IDFI); Transparency International (TI) - Georgia; Network of Centers for Civic Engagement (NCCE).
Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) the Commitment addresses		Goal 16
Current Situation and Challenges		<p>Numerous important documents are available on the SCA's website, including legislative acts, draft acts, reports, minutes of sessions, etc. However, part of these documents is uploaded in a scanned form, which makes their search or processing difficult and, in some cases, even impossible. Draft legislation is also uploaded in a scanned format, familiarisation with which is important for external organisations, including the civil society (see e.g. Draft bill amending the Property Management Law, 2019-2020 Action Plan of the Gender Equality Council, etc.). It should also be noted that scanned versions of the documents are large in size, which obstructs proper functioning of the website.</p> <p>It is important to publish documents in an open and machine-readable format (e.g. HTML/MS Word) for the purposes of their further utilisation.</p> <p>With respect to publishing information proactively, the SCA relies on a Resolution which enumerates the list of information to be published, responsible persons, standards and forms of obtaining public information, etc. According to a study conducted by Transparency International Georgia, the SCA has the best practice among all public institutions of the Autonomous Republic (all the information (29 in total) covered by the Resolution are published); nevertheless to increase transparency, it is necessary to expand the list and provide details for existing and new information.</p>



Commitment 11: Uploading Documents on the Website of the Supreme Council of Ajara in a Machine-Readable Format, Increasing the List of Information to be Published Proactively

	<p>At the same time, for the purposes of increasing citizen engagement, it is important to publish information on the website of the Council not only proactively, but also in a simplified and easily comprehensible manner. In this regard, it is of utmost importance to publish financial and budgetary information in a consolidated and simplified manner on the website of the Council as well its social media, which will increase accessibility of information related to the budget.</p> <p>As noted above, information shall be published in a machine-readable format.</p>			
Main Objective	<p>To increase the number of types of information to be published proactively (to include at least 40 categories) and publish official documentation in a machine-readable format, which will allow citizens to access desired documents, find specific information in these documents and, if necessary, process them.</p>			
OGP Challenge	<p>Increasing citizen engagement, improving provision of public services</p>			
OGP Principles	Transparency	Accountability	Citizen engagement	Technologies and innovation
	✓	✓	✓	✓
Milestones to Fulfil the Commitment	New or existing commitment	Start date:	End date:	
Introducing amendments to the relevant Resolution.	New commitment	09/2020	12/2021	
Updating and analysing information published on the website, selecting documents from 2016 until the present day for their further publication in a machine-readable format.	New commitment	09/2020	02/2021	
Publication of information in accordance with the amended Resolution.	New commitment	01/2021	05/2021	
Publication of documents related to the budgetary calendar and other information in a simplified form.	New commitment	11/2020	05/2021	



Commitment 11: Uploading Documents on the Website of the Supreme Council of Ajara in a Machine-Readable Format, Increasing the List of Information to be Published Proactively

<p>Indicator</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - At least 20% of documents dating from 2016 is updated on the website in a machine-readable format; - Existing information is updated with a detailed breakdown and in a machine-readable format; - According to the expanded list, information is based on the renewed requirements; - Simplified budgetary documents are published by the SCA.
<p>Risks and Assumptions</p>	<p>A large portion of the documents currently available on the website, which do not exist in another format (MS Word, etc.) requires preparation in accordance with the version that is published on the website; this might take a significant amount of time. In this case, it might be possible to select only those documents of high importance (legislative bills, explanatory notes, action plans, reports) rather than addressing all the documents (e.g minutes of sessions).</p>



ACCOUNTABILITY

Commitment 12: Public Reports of the Supreme Council of the Autonomous Republic of Ajara, Its Bodies and Members	
Lead Agency	Supreme Council of the Autonomous Republic of Ajara (SCA)
Partners	Public institution
	Civil/international/private sector
Initiator (SCA, civil/international /private sector):	Davit Gabaidze, Chairperson of the SCA; United Nations Development Programme (UNDP); Institute of Democracy (IOD).
Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) the Commitment addresses	Goal 16
Current Situation and Challenges	<p>Under the SCA Rules of Procedure, its Committees (Art. 44) and consultative bodies (Arts. 67, 671 - Gender Equality Council and Open Governance Council) are responsible for providing their activity reports. Once a year, these bodies present activity reports to the Supreme Council.</p> <p>The Law does not prescribe the duty to present the reports of the SCA, its Members, Fractions or Committees to citizens. Nor do Rules of Procedure stipulate that such reports shall be published and be accessible electronically (with the exception of the Committee reports).</p> <p>SCA Rules of Procedure do not envisage the obligation to present reports by its Members. Although separate bodies of the SCA do provide reports, such reports are not presented to the public. Consequently, often, the public does not have any knowledge with respect to the work of the SCA Members, challenges and achievements of the SCA and the ways in which Members contributed to its activities.</p> <p>It is important that the voters from different municipalities of Ajara receive information with respect to processes taking place at the SCA as well as activities of the representatives elected by them.</p>
Main Objective	To set up the rules and practice for publicly presenting periodic reports by the SCA, its Members, Committees, Consultative Councils and other bodies.



Commitment 12: Public Reports of the Supreme Council of the Autonomous Republic of Ajara, Its Bodies and Members				
OGP Challenge	Increasing citizen engagement, improving provision of public services			
OGP Principles	Transparency	Accountability	Citizen engagement	Technologies and innovation
	✓	✓	✓	
Milestones to Fulfil the Commitment	New or existing commitment	Start date:	End date:	
Introducing rules and timeframes for presenting reports into the SCA Rules of Procedure.	New commitment	09/2020	12/2020	
Development of a format and issues recommended for the reports of the SCA, its Members and bodies (issues, necessary information, etc.).	New commitment	12/2020	02/2021	
Development of training/orientation courses on preparing and presenting reports for Members and staff. Training of Members and their assistants where applicable (desirably with Partners' support).	New commitment	01/2020	03/2021	
Development of a schedule of public reports for SCA Members and its bodies.	New commitment	05/2021	07/2021	
Presentation of Members' reports to the public (via meetings held either in person or electronically) and publication of the reports on the website in a machine-readable format.	New commitment	10/2020	12/2021	
Presentation of reports of Committees and Consultative Councils to the public (via meetings held either in person or electronically) and publication of reports on the website in a machine-readable format.	New commitment	10/2021	12/2021	



Commitment 12: Public Reports of the Supreme Council of the Autonomous Republic of Ajara, Its Bodies and Members

<p>Indicator</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - SCA Rules of Procedure prescribe rules and timeframes for presenting reports; - Recommended format of reports is developed, and important issues are identified for the SCA, its Members and SCA bodies; - A training/orientation course on preparation and presentation of reports is developed for the SCA Members and relevant staff; - Training on reporting is provided to the SCA Members and relevant staff (100% of assistants, at least one staff member from each Committee); - A schedule for public reports is developed for the SCA and its Members; - Reports of at least half of the total number of SCA Members are presented to the public (via meetings held either in person or electronically) in at least half of the municipalities and reports are published on the website in a machine-readable format; - Reports of all Committees and Consultative Councils are presented to the public (via meetings held either in person or electronically) and reports are published on the website in a machine-readable format.
<p>Risks and Assumptions</p>	<p>Given the political composition of the SCA, difficulty of maintaining communication with certain subjects might result in abstaining from presentation of reports in such a format. In addition, the threat of COVID-19 might also obstruct holding public events to present reports.</p> <p>In this regard, it might be feasible to work with the Members on preparation of written reports and to set the practice of presenting reports via television or social media, instead of holding public meetings in person. This approach also takes into account the risk of spread of the virus.</p> <p>Presenting first reports by the end of 2021 might not be deemed feasible by the members of the new convocation of the SCA.</p>



**Commitment 13: Developing and Publishing Committee Action Plans
of the Supreme Council of Ajara**

Lead Agency	Supreme Council of the Autonomous Republic of Ajara (SCA)	
Partners	Public institution	SCA
	Civil/international/ private sector	
Initiator (SCA, civil/international/private sector):	United Nations Development Programme (UNDP); Institute for Development of Freedom of Information (IDFI).	
Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) the commitment addresses	Goal 16 and Goal 17	
Current Situation and Challenges	<p>SCA Rules of Procedure do not prescribe an obligation to develop Committee Action Plans. This issue has been deemed problematic in the study undertaken with the support of the joint EU-UNDP project “Consolidating Parliamentary Democracy in Georgia”. This prevents effective planning of committee activities, monitoring progress and reporting.</p> <p>Moreover, participation of the civil society in the activities of the SCA Committees is very low, which fails to ensure participatory and inclusive legislative and oversight processes. Engagement of the civil society in the process of developing action plans will facilitate planning of committee activities ensuring citizen-oriented policies.</p> <p>For the purposes of accountability and transparency, it is important that Committees develop, plan and publish activities to be undertaken throughout the year in advance.</p>	
Main Objective	To elaborate and publish annual action plans of the Committees, which will provide the public with the information regarding processes planned at the legislative body. To involve civil society in drafting the action plan.	
OGP Challenge	Increasing citizen engagement, improving provision of public services	



ACCOUNTABILITY

**Commitment 13: Developing and Publishing Committee Action Plans
of the Supreme Council of Ajara**

OGP Principles	Transparency	Accountability	Citizen engagement	Technologies and innovation
		✓	✓	✓
Milestones to Fulfil the Commitment	New or existing commitment	Start date:	End date:	
Considering the elaboration of the Committee Action Plans in the SCA Rules of Procedure.	New commitment	09/2020	12/2020	
Training Committee staff on the specificities of Action Plans and issues related to their elaboration in a participatory manner.	New commitment	12/2020	01/2021	
Commencement of the process of elaboration of Committees' action plans and involving the civil society in the process.	New commitment	01/2021	03/2021	
Approving SCA Committee Action Plans.	New commitment	03/2021	05/2021	
Indicator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - SCA Rules of Procedure envisage elaboration of Committee Action Plans; - Each Committee has held at least one meeting with representatives of the civil society to develop biennial reports; - Each Committee develops and approves biennial action plans; - Action Plans are published on the website in a processable format. 			
Risks and Assumptions	Members of the SCA's new convocation might find it difficult to develop action plans and discuss them with the civil society in a short period of time.			



**OPEN GOVERNANCE ACTION PLAN OF THE SUPREME COUNCIL
OF THE AUTONOMOUS REPUBLIC OF AJARA 2020-2021**

Commitment 14: Open Door Day					
Lead Agency		Supreme Council of the Autonomous Republic of Ajara (SCA)			
Partners	Public institution	SCA			
	Civil/international/ private sector				
Initiator (SCA, civil/international/private sector):		Civil Society Institute (CSI)			
Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) the commitment addresses		Goal 16			
Current Situation and Challenges		<p>Ever since the SCA has moved into one of the central areas of Batumi, there has been an expectation that the Council would undertake its activities with a more active participation of citizens. However, the interest towards the legislative body of the region is not high. In addition, attendance on sessions is very limited for the citizens not only due to the size of the session room, but also due to the absence of relevant practice.</p> <p>An effective mechanism for increasing the interest among citizens and ensuring their engagement in SCA activities includes setting a practice of “open door days”, which will ensure more accountability and transparency.</p>			
Main Objective		The SCA holds “open door day” events biannually for the purposes of listening to the electorate registered on the territory of Ajara.			
OGP Challenge		Increasing citizen engagement, improving provision of public services			
OGP Principles		Transparency	Accountability	Citizen engagement	Technologies and innovation
		✓	✓	✓	
Milestones to Fulfil the Commitment		New or existing commitment	Start date:	End date:	
Developing and approving rules regulating open door days.		New commitment	09/2020	12/2020	
Preparation of guidelines on setting the practice of open door days and training employees.		New commitment	01/2020	03/2021	
Organising the first open door day event.		New commitment	03/2021	06/2021	



ACCOUNTABILITY

Commitment 14: Open Door Day			
Preparation and publication of minutes and a report regarding the open door day event, publication of information on relevant responsive actions.	New commitment	06/2021	08/2021
Indicator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Rules regulating open door day are developed; - Guidelines on organising open door day and reporting are prepared; - Relevant employees are trained; - At least one open door day event is held; - Minutes of the open door day and a report are published on the website in a machine-readable format. 		
Risks and Assumptions	Organising an open door day in a plenary room might be difficult due to its size; therefore, conducting sessions outside of the building shall be considered.		

Commitment 15: CSO Day		
Lead Agency	Supreme Council of the Autonomous Republic of Ajara	
Partners	Public institution	SCA
	Civil/international/private sector	
Initiator (SCA, civil/international/private sector):	Civil Society Institute (CSI)	
Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) the commitment addresses	Goal 16 and Goal 17	
Current Situation and Challenges	The SCA does not have a tradition and experience of active cooperation with the civil society. No regular meetings are being held, that would enable organisations to engage into dialogue, discuss the partnership possibilities and, at the same time, increase transparency and accountability of the Council.	
Main Objective	To set a practice of holding annual meetings between the SCA and the civil society organisations represented in the region.	
OGP Challenge	Increasing citizen engagement, improving provision of public services	



**OPEN GOVERNANCE ACTION PLAN OF THE SUPREME COUNCIL
OF THE AUTONOMOUS REPUBLIC OF AJARA 2020-2021**

Commitment 15: CSO Day				
OGP Principles	Transparency	Accountability	Citizen engagement	Technologies and innovation
		✓	✓	✓
Milestones to Fulfil the Commitment	New or existing commitment	Start date:	End date:	
Signing a declaration between the SCA and civil society.	New commitment	12/2020	03/2021	
Organising the first meeting by the SCA Open Governance Council.	New commitment	03/2021	09/2021	
Preparing a report on the meeting and publishing on the website.	New commitment	09/2021	11/2021	
Indicator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Rules of Procedure envisage an obligation to conduct annual meetings; - A memorandum is signed between the SCA and representatives of the civil society; - The SCA holds one meeting annually. 			
Risks and Assumptions	Due to little experience of cooperation of the SCA with the civil society, expectations with respect to CSO day might vary; therefore, it is necessary to strengthen the practice of collaboration.			



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