



**GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA**

**REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ACTION PLAN FOR THE  
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE OPEN GOVERNMENT PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVE IN  
THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA FOR THE PERIOD 2022-2023**

**Zagreb, November 2024**



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## INDEX OF ABBREVIATIONS

|               |   |
|---------------|---|
| <b>ASOC</b>   | Project “At the School of Open Cohesion”          |
| <b>CSO</b>    | civil society organisation                        |
| <b>d.d.</b>   | joint stock company                               |
| <b>d.o.o.</b> | limited liability company                         |
| <b>EDIC</b>   | Europe Direct Information Center                  |
| <b>ESF</b>    | European Social Fund                              |
| <b>EU</b>     | European Union                                    |
| <b>GFS</b>    | Government Finance Statistics                     |
| <b>NIAS</b>   | National identification and authentication system |
| <b>OGP</b>    | Open Government Partnership                       |
| <b>UN</b>     | United Nations                                    |

## 1 Introduction

The Republic of Croatia has been a member of the global initiative Open Government Partnership (OGP) since 2011, by which it expresses its support to the principles of transparency, combating corruption, empowering citizens and using the benefits of new technologies to enable all public authorities at all levels to become more efficient and responsible and to create the prerequisites for a more efficient and innovative provision of public services and the management of public resources.

Certain steps towards achieving these goals were taken through the implementation of the previous three action plans for the implementation of the OGP (for the period from 2012 to 2013, for the period from 2014 to 2016 and for the period until 2020). Through the implementation of Action Plans for the implementation of the OGP in Croatia, the Republic of Croatia has implemented several major reforms which have been recognised as exceptional progress in opening up the government to citizens. For this reason, the global community of the OGP has chosen the Republic of Croatia to be a member of the Steering Committee of the OGP, where the Republic of Croatia, through its two consecutive mandates (2014-2019) had the chance to direct the development and the direction of the Initiative while maintaining the highest standards and ensuring the sustainability of the Initiative. As a member of the OGP Steering Committee, the Republic of Croatia has actively participated in the work of the Subcommittee for Criteria and Standards and in Steering Committee meetings - South Africa (Johannesburg, 2015 and Cape Town, 2016), the United States of America (Washington, 2018) and in meetings held alongside the global summits of the initiative (Ciudad de México 2015, Paris, 2016, Tbilisi, 2018, Ottawa, 2019, Tallinn, 2023) as well as those held every year on the margins of the UN General Assembly. In addition, in 2012, the European Regional Meeting was successfully organized in Dubrovnik, and experiences between the member countries of the Western Balkans Partnership were also exchanged during the conference held in Budva in 2019 (Western Balkans Peer Exchange Meeting), the "Open Government Conference" held in Sarajevo in 2020 and at the meeting held on the margins of the Global Summit in Tallinn in 2023. In addition, in 2020 the delegations of member states of the Partnership from the Western Balkans, including the delegation of the Republic of Croatia, participated in a study visit to Latin America (Open Government Partnership Peer Exchange Working Visit), namely Uruguay and Argentina, and the city of Buenos Aires, a member of the Initiative at a local level.

During the development of the 4th Action Plan, previous experiences and lessons learned were taken into account. The Plan consisted of six priority areas: transparency; anti-corruption; openness; participation of citizens/civil society in the processes of drafting; implementing and monitoring public policy; implementing the OGP at the local and regional levels; and the sustainability of the OGP Initiative. For each of these areas, commitments and implementing activities have been defined for the purpose of achieving the set goals - a total of 16 commitments and 47 activities. 4 The Action Plan was adopted at the 132nd session of the Government of the Republic of Croatia held on 14 July 2022. In accordance with previous practice, the implementation of the 4th Action Plan was monitored and coordinated by the Open Government Partnership Council, with the expert support of the Office for Cooperation with NGOs of the Croatian Government.

This Report provides an overview of progress in the implementation of commitments and activities envisaged by the Action Plan for the implementation of the Open Government Partnership initiative in the Republic of Croatia for the period until the end of 2023 (hereinafter: Action Plan), noting that the report

also includes activities that were completed in the first three quarters of 2024. In accordance with the obligations assumed by the Republic of Croatia by joining the global Open Government Partnership initiative and the obligations assumed by the Action Plan, a written report on the implementation of the Action Plan shall be submitted to the Government of the Republic of Croatia after the implementation of the Action Plan.

## 2 Participatory process of monitoring progress in the implementation of the Action Plan

As during the implementation of the previous action plans, the Council of the Open Government Partnership Initiative was in charge of preparing the 4th Action Plan, as well as monitoring the implementation and proposing to the Government of the Republic of Croatia Amendments to the Action Plan. In the reporting period, the Council operated in its 3rd convocation, with 26 members (representatives of state, local and regional authorities, civil society organizations, academia and the media).

In addition to representatives of state bodies, representatives of the Croatian Counties' Association, the Association of Cities, the Croatian Union of Municipalities, the Institute of Public Finance, the Institute of Public Administration, the Forum for Freedom of Education, Green Action, Gong, the Croatian Open Systems and Internet Association (HrOpen) and the Croatian Employers' Association (CEA) participated as members of the Council at the sessions held during the implementation of the 4th Action Plan. The Office for Cooperation with NGOs of the Government of the Republic of Croatia continued to provide professional and administrative support to the work of the Council, as an advisory body of the Government of the Republic of Croatia, in close cooperation with the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs, whose State Secretary chaired the sessions of the Council.

Since the beginning of the implementation of the 4th Action Plan, the Council held 4 sessions: in February 2022, May 2023, and February and July 2024. The sessions were held online or in person: The 8th session was held online on 11 February 2022, via the Microsoft Teams platform, while the 9th, 10th and 11th sessions were held in person, at the premises of the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs on 26 May 26 2023, and on 29 February 29 and 12 July 2024. Communication among the members of the Council between the sessions was held by e-mail.

In December 2022 and December 2023, public events were held, at which progress in the implementation of the action plan was presented to the public, as well as news regarding the global Open Government Partnership initiative.

Out of 16 commitments of the 4th Action Plan, greatest emphasis was placed on raising transparency: 10 commitments (29 activities) related to the area of transparency; 2 commitments (4 activities) to the fight against corruption and one commitment each related to openness (2 activities), participation of citizens/civil society in the processes of drafting, implementing and monitoring public policies (5 activities); implementation of the Open Government Partnership at the local and regional level (3 activities); and sustainability of the Open Government Partnership initiative (4 activities). The Independent Review Mechanism assessed two commitments as promising. These commitments are based on the achievements of previous action plans in the field of improving media transparency (commitment 8) and the introduction of a new Anti-Corruption Strategy and the Lobbying Act (commitment 12).

### 3 Updates and changes during the implementation of the Action Plan

Amendments to the Act on the Structure and Scope of State Administration Bodies (OG 85/20, 21/23, 57/24) during the implementation of this Action Plan (the last amendments entered into force on 17 May 2024) changed the names of individual state administration bodies, including bodies that are holders and (co)holders of commitments and activities from the Action Plan: The Ministry of Justice and Public Administration has become the Ministry of Justice, Public Administration and Digital Transformation. The Central State Office for the Development of the Digital Society has ceased to operate, and its legal successor is the Ministry of Justice, Administration and Digital Transformation, which has assumed all the rights and obligations of the Central State Office for the Development of the Digital Society.

In the remainder of the text, when describing the implementation of the Action Plan, the names of state administration bodies used before the entry into force of the amendments to the Act on the Structure and Scope of State Administration Bodies are listed, since these names were used in the Action Plan, but also during almost the entire period of its implementation.

### 4 Exchange of experience

In September 2023, the Delegation of the Republic of Croatia participated in the 8th Global Summit of the Initiative, which was held in Tallinn, Estonia. On the margins of the 8th Summit, a meeting of the Eastern Partnership and Western Balkans Community Gathering was held, where a delegation from Croatia shared experiences with the e-Citizens (e-Građani) and e-Consultations (e-Savjetovanje) systems and the Open Data Portal, developed through participation in the Open Government Partnership initiative.

Also, as part of its international cooperation program during 2022 and 2023, the Office for Cooperation with NGOs presented the experiences of the implementation of the Open Government Partnership to the delegations of Kazakhstan in April 2022., Montenegro in April 2023 and Serbia in May/June 2022 and in September 2023.

### 5 Summary of the implementation of commitments and activities

In the 4th Action Plan, the focus was placed on further improving transparency and opening of data, for which the basis was provided in the previous action plans, primarily through the establishment of the Open Data Portal and the e-Consultations project. Through six thematic units, the Action Plan envisaged the continuation of previously initiated activities in the field of the right of access to information and fiscal transparency, the fight against corruption and citizens' participation in decision-making processes, and a special component of this Action Plan consisted of commitments aimed at the local and regional level, which was the first step in the implementation of the Open Government Partnership at the local and regional level in the Republic of Croatia and further approximation of the Open Government Partnership to citizens, and the sustainability of the initiative.



In the thematic part of the Action Plan, entitled "**Transparency**", a strong focus was placed on further improvement of the implementation of the Act on the Right of Access to Information. Despite the quality legal framework, further challenges in the implementation of the Act are noticeable, and the Action Plan envisaged activities aimed at educating and informing about the right of access to information. Efforts continued on ensuring fiscal transparency, through increasing the visibility and use of the database on payments made from the single account of the state budget, timely publication of the draft state budget with explanations in an open format (Excel and Word); promoting transparent publication of budgetary data; timely and continuous publication of the monthly series of revenues and expenditures of the State Budget according to the national methodology of the budget plan, quarterly publication of statements of revenue and expenditure, receipts and expenses of extra-budgetary entities of the state budget, as well as increasing the transparency of the budgets of local and regional governments.

The thematic unit "**Fight against corruption**" focused on the protection of whistleblowers through the implementation of training for judicial officials, confidential persons, trade union commissioners, free legal aid providers and employees, and on improving the normative framework for the prevention of corruption by adopting an Action Plan for the period 2022 to 2024 with the Strategy for the Prevention of Corruption for the period 2021 to 2030, and drafting the Lobbying Act.

In the thematic section "**Openness**", emphasis was placed on data opening activities, in order to increase the amount of open data and increase the reuse of open data. The commitment attempted to ensure the prerequisites and framework for the efficient opening of data at the level of the state administration and encourage state bodies to open data.

The section "**Participation by citizens/civil society in processes of forming, implementing and monitoring public policy**" put emphasis on activities for improving the implementation of public consultations, improving the e-Consultations system and continuing the implementation of education workshops on the implementation of consultations. The commitment also included promotional activities and the activity of updating the database of advisory bodies.

The thematic unit "**Open Government Partnership at the local and regional level**" sought to encourage the "descent" of the activities of the Open Government Partnership initiative into local and regional self-government units, through the launch of city open data portals; the establishment of an online system for consulting the interested public at the local and regional level and the implementation of education on the Open Government Partnership initiative for representatives of local and regional self-government units.

The thematic unit "**Sustainability of the Open Government Partnership Initiative**" was aimed at ensuring the sustainability of the values and content of the Open Government Partnership initiative, through increasing awareness of the goals of the initiative, with a special emphasis on the inclusion of topics related to the importance of open data, transparency, fight against corruption, empowerment of citizens and the use of modern information and communication technologies in order to increase the efficiency and accountability of public authorities and more efficient and innovative provision of public services in the education system.

Progress in the implementation of the Action Plan and the draft report were discussed at the Council sessions held on 29 February and 12 July 2024, before the adoption of the Report. It was found that the **Action Plan was largely implemented according to the plan**, but not all implementation indicators were met for part of the activities. Out of a total of 47 activities, 31 activities (66%) were fully implemented, while 7 activities (15%) were implemented to a significant extent. The remaining 9 activities (19%) were implemented to a lesser extent or the beginning of implementation is still expected.

**The activities expected to be implemented** are part of **commitment 5** – Improving the transparency and financing of referendum activities: Establishing the Record of Referendum Initiatives (activity 5.2) and Conducting training of participants of the referendum activity with the aim of introducing participants with the provisions of the Act on the Financing of Political Activities, Election Campaigns and Referendums (activity 5.3). A prerequisite for their implementation was the amendment of the act prescribing the conducting of the referendum, which would prescribe the manner of establishing and keeping records, i.e. more clearly regulate the issues of transparency of the financing of referendum activities.

**Activities implemented to a lesser extent** are part of **commitment 6** – Improving the transparency of activities and financing of programmes and projects of civil society organizations: Developing a new IT system for monitoring and evaluating the allocation of financial resources to associations implementing programs and/or projects of interest to the common good (activity 6.1, for which preparatory actions were carried out) and conducting education of civil society organizations on public procurement procedures for entities not liable to public procurement with the aim of increasing the transparency of the use of public funds (activity 6.4, which was carried out to a lesser extent, since during the implementation of the Action Plan, the activity holder did not contract projects whose beneficiaries were the intended recipients of trainings). Instead of training, written Rules on the implementation of procurement procedures for entities not liable to the Public Procurement Act were published on the website of the Office for Cooperation with NGOs. Delays in the implementation of **commitment 8** – Improvement of the normative framework for the media, i.e. activity 8.1 – Drafting the Media Act and activity 8.2 - Improving the legal provisions regarding the disclosure of media ownership and sources of financing, occurred due to the work on the European Media Freedom Act, which entered into force on 7 May 2024, and the provisions of which will be fully applied from 8 August 2025. During the period of implementation of the Action Plan, the working group of the Ministry of Culture and Media prepared the preliminary text of the draft proposal of the Media Act, to which it appropriately intends to transpose the provisions of the European Media Freedom Act. Two activities under **commitment 14** – Further improvement in conducting consultations with the public: Improving the Code of Consultation with the interested public in the procedures for the adoption of laws, other regulations and acts (activity 14.1) and continuously updating the database on the composition of working groups for the drafting of laws, other regulations and acts and committees and working bodies (including those in which civil society organizations and other representatives of the interested public participate) within [savjetovanje.gov.hr](http://savjetovanje.gov.hr) (activity 14.5) were also implemented to a lesser extent. On 1 January 2024, the new Act on Better Regulation Policy Instruments entered into force, which unified and improved the basic better regulation policy instruments in one place, including public consultation. The Regulation on the methodology and procedure for the implementation of better regulation policy instruments, as an accompanying bylaw, envisages the adoption of Guidelines for the implementation of better regulation policy instruments within 90 days from the date of entry into force of the Regulation (expected by the end of 2024). Guidelines for the implementation of better regulation policy instruments will also contain revised guidelines for the implementation of public consultations, thus partially achieving the commitment.

In addition, given that part of the activities of the Action Plan refers to the adoption of new normative solutions of other documents, which were adopted at the end of the implementation period of the 4th Action Plan, the concrete effects of these activities will be available for assessment only in the coming period.

It should be noted that during the implementation of this Action Plan, some significant results were achieved with direct benefits for citizens:

- Efforts continued on raising the transparency of public authorities in relation to proactive disclosure of information, public consultation in the decision-making process and ensuring publicity of the work of public authorities, and promoting the re-use of information and open data.

- Systematic trainings were conducted on the implementation of the Act on the Right of Access to Information; Regulation on the criteria, standards and procedures of financing and contracting programs and projects of interest to the public good implemented by associations; on the use of the improved Central Catalog of Official Documents; the application of regulations governing the field of personal data protection with an emphasis on the General Data Protection Regulation; the implementation of consultations with the interested public.
- The e-Consultations system has been technologically, procedurally and functionally improved and expanded: the interface has been modernized, the application adapted to different types of devices (responsive design) and adapted for use at the level of local and regional self-government units.
- In the area of fiscal transparency, the Ministry of Finance increased the frequency of refreshing data in machine-readable form available on the website to a weekly level, while the application on payments from the state budget by suppliers was expanded to a larger number of transactions, and searching using more parameters than before was enabled. Also, the Instruction on the framework content, the minimum set of data and the manner of public disclosure of information on the spending of funds on the websites of local and regional self-government units and budgetary and extra-budgetary entities of the state budget and local and regional self-government units (OG 59/23) was adopted, which obliges local and regional self-government units and budgetary and extra-budgetary users to publish information on the spending of funds or information on payments to legal and natural persons from the budget or financial plan.
- The Lobbying Act was drafted and adopted, and entered into force on 1 October 2024.
- The Council of the Open Government Partnership initiative and the Office for Cooperation with NGOs continued to encourage representatives of local authorities to get involved in the Open Government Partnership initiative. In December 2022 and 2023, public events were organized on the topic of Open Local Authorities, where examples of successful local units were presented. On 16 April 2024, the City of Zagreb, as the first local unit from Croatia, with the partner support of the Gong association, was elected a member of the Open Government Partnership Local (OGP Local) programme.

## 6 Implementation of commitments and activities of the Action Plan for the Implementation of the Open Government Partnership Initiative in the Republic of Croatia for the Period 2022-2023

### A – TRANSPARENCY

#### COMMITMENT 1 - IMPROVING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ACT ON THE RIGHT OF ACCESS TO INFORMATION

| Activity 1.1 Strengthen the awareness of NGOs, journalists and citizens on their right of access to information |  |  |  |                               |
|---|--|--|--|-------------------------------|
| <b>Activity holder:</b>   |  | Information Commissioner   |  |                               |
| <b>Activity co-holder(s):</b>   |  | Central State Office for the Development of the Digital Society, academic society, NGOs  |  |                               |
| <b>Other participants involved (for the whole Commitment 1):</b>  | <b>Public sector:</b>                                      | Government Office for Cooperation with NGOs of the Croatian Government, Central State Office for the Development of the Digital Society  |  |                               |
|   | <b>CSO, private sector, working groups, multilaterals:</b> | CSO, Units of local and regional self-government   |  |                               |
| <b>Implementation start date:</b>   |  | 2022   |  |                               |
| <b>Implementation end date:</b>   |  | December 2023  |  |                               |
| <b>Implementation indicators:</b>   |  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Research on the level of knowledge and awareness of users on the use of the right of access to information on a sample of 500 respondents conducted</li> <li>• Four customised training sessions held for target groups of users of the right of access to information (trainings for journalists and students as part of the continuation of the Right to Access to Information Campaign: I want to know, I want to participate!)</li> <li>• Two briefings per year (green associations, anti-corruption associations in the Office of the Information Commissioner) held</li> <li>• Periodic publication of standards of behaviour in exercising the right of access to information, based on the decisions of the Information Commissioner and the High Administrative Court of the Republic of Croatia, for the purpose of informing users</li> </ul> |  |                               |
| <b>Degree of implementation:</b>  | <b>Implementation not started</b>                          | <b>Implemented to a lesser extent</b>  | <b>Implemented to a significant extent</b> | <b>Implemented completely</b> |
|   |  |  |  | x                             |

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|---|---|
| <b>Activity changes:</b>                                      | No changes were made.   |
| <b>Description of results with implementation indicators:</b> | <p> <u>Research on the level of knowledge and awareness of users on the use of the right of access to information on a sample of 500 respondents conducted:</u> As part of the project "Improving the Implementation of the Act on the Right of Access to Information", a telephone survey was conducted on a sample of 600 respondents, the results of which are available within the <a href="#">Report on the Evaluation of the Effects of the Act on the Right of Access to Information</a>, in Chapter 7. SURVEY ON CITIZENS' AWARENESS OF THE ACT ON THE RIGHT OF ACCESS TO INFORMATION.         </p> <p> <u>Four customised training sessions held for target groups of users of the right of access to information (trainings for journalists and students as part of the continuation of the Right to Access to Information Campaign: I want to know, I want to participate!):</u> </p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2022: The "I want to know, I want to participate" campaign was continued through a study visit to the Commissioner by the public administration students of the Lavoslav Ružička University of Applied Sciences in Vukovar on 24 May and the holding of an educational workshop for students of the Faculty of Law in Osijek on 6 December. In cooperation with the Croatian Journalists' Association, the Commissioner held a workshop for journalists in Zagreb on 14 December.</li> <li>• 2023: The Commissioner held an education for students of the Faculty of Law in Osijek on 8 November, and two trainings for journalists were held in cooperation with the Croatian Journalists' Association (in person in Zagreb, with the possibility of online participation), on 25 November 15 and 12 December.</li> </ul> <p> <u>Two briefings per year (green associations, anti-corruption associations in the office of the Information Commissioner) held:</u> </p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2022: A briefing with green associations was held online on 3 June + briefing within the conference "Right of Access to Information", organized in November by the Anti-Corruption Commission of the Krapina-Zagorje County</li> <li>• 2023: A briefing for green associations was held on 27 November at the Commissioner's Office + a briefing within the conference "Corruption and Clientelism", organized in May by the Anti-Corruption Commission of the Krapina-Zagorje County.</li> </ul> <p> <u>Periodic publication of standards of behaviour in exercising the right of access to information, based on the decisions of the Information Commissioner and the High Administrative Court of the Republic of Croatia, for the purpose of informing users:</u> In the section "From the Commissioner's Practice", 15 opinions, instructions and summaries of the Commissioner's decisions were published during 2022 and 14 during 2023 (<a href="https://pristupinfo.hr/praksa-povjerenika-za-informiranje/">https://pristupinfo.hr/praksa-povjerenika-za-informiranje/</a>).         </p> |

|                                |  |
|--------------------------------|--|
| <b>Additional information:</b> | In the implementation of this activity, the biggest challenge was the reach in the distribution of calls and the response of users of the right of access to information when holding trainings/workshops, including journalists, as well as the limited interest of civil society organizations in holding briefings. |
| <b>Next steps:</b>             | The Information Commissioner's Office plans to continue with the implementation of trainings for target groups of users of the right of access to information and continues to continuously publish standards of conduct in the section "From the Commissioner's Practice".  |

| <b>Activity 1.2 Implement trainings on the right of access to information for officials who apply the provisions of the Act on the Right of Access to Information in their work</b> |   |  |  |                               |
|---|---|--|--|-------------------------------|
| <b>Activity holder:</b>   | Information Commissioner  |  |  |                               |
| <b>Activity co-holder(s):</b>   | Central State Office for the Development of the Digital Society, State School for Public Administration, State Attorney's Office of the Republic of Croatia, Agency for the Protection of Personal Data   |  |  |                               |
| <b>Other participants involved:</b>   | <b>Public sector:</b>   |  |  |                               |
|   | <b>CSO, private sector, working groups, multilaterals:</b>  | CSO, Units of local and regional self-government |  |                               |
| <b>Implementation start date:</b>   | April 2022  |  |  |                               |
| <b>Implementation end date:</b>   | December 2023   |  |  |                               |
| <b>Implementation indicators:</b>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Trainings within the basic and advanced modules of the programme Right of Access to Information via the system of State School for Public Administration held - 4 per year</li> <li>• Implementation of education within the programme "Proactive publication of information and open data" through the system of the State School for Public Administration - 2 per year</li> <li>• At least 8 thematic webinars per year held</li> <li>• The annual professional consultation of the information officer held</li> <li>• Development of guidelines on the application of absolute limitations on the right of access to information</li> <li>• Development of guidelines on exercising the right of access to information in relation to the protection of personal data</li> <li>• Professional revision and amendment of the existing instructions and guidelines of the Information Commissioner</li> </ul> |  |  |                               |
| <b>Degree of implementation:</b>  | <b>Implementation not started</b>   | <b>Implemented to a lesser extent</b>            | <b>Implemented to a significant extent</b> | <b>Implemented completely</b> |

|   |  |  |  |   |
|---|--|--|--|---|
|   |  |  |  | x |
| <b>Activity changes:</b>                                      | <p>The modification of activities was related to the modification in the implementation of the education program "Proactive Publication of Information and Open Data" through the system of the State School of Public Administration. For practical reasons, the aforementioned program has been transformed in such a way that the online workshop "Reuse of Information and Open Data" is held on open data, through the Moodle platform of the State School for Public Administration, and the proactive publication of information is thoroughly processed within the basic module Right of Access to Information, with an overview of the websites of public authorities and customised and regional trainings.</p> <p>Also, the expert refining and updating of the existing instructions and guidelines did not include changes to the previously adopted materials prepared by the Information Commissioner, but, given that the implementation of the evaluation project was in progress, i.e. the evaluation of the effects of the Act on the Right of Access to Information, the said activity was implemented through the adoption of new guidelines, giving recommendations and opinions to public authorities, publishing the standards of conduct and practice of the Commissioner, educational and promotional activities, etc.</p>   |  |  |   |
| <b>Description of results with implementation indicators:</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Trainings within the basic and advanced modules of the programme Right of Access to Information via the system of State School for Public Administration held - 4 per year:</u> In 2022, 3 basic and 3 advanced modules were held in cooperation with the State School of Public Administration in Zagreb, and in 2023 4 basic and 3 advanced modules.</li> <li>• <u>Implementation of trainings of the program "Proactive Publication of Information and Open Data" through the system of the State School of Public Administration – 2 per year:</u> as already stated, for practical reasons, this program has been transformed in such a way that an online workshop "Reuse of Information and Open Data" is held on open data, through the Moodle platform of the State School of Public Administration (4 trainings in 2022 4, and 6 in 2023), and proactive publication is thoroughly processed within the basic module, with an overview of the websites of public authorities (in 2022 3, in 2023 4 basic modules) and specially adapted (in 2022 6 trainings) and regional trainings (in 2023 3 trainings).</li> <li>• <u>At least 8 thematic webinars per year held:</u> During 2022, 23 webinars (386 participants) were held, and during 2023, 19 webinars were held, with more than 150 participants.</li> <li>• <u>The annual professional consultation of the information officer held:</u> In October 2022, the Annual Consultation of Information Officers was held in Osijek (200 participants), and in September 2023 in Split (120 participants).</li> <li>• <u>Development of guidelines on the application of absolute limitations on the right of access to information:</u> In November 2023, the Guideline on the application of the absolute restriction on the right of access to information was published in the section Instructions, guidelines, forms (<a href="https://pristupinfo.hr/pravni-okvir/upute-smjernice-obraci/">https://pristupinfo.hr/pravni-okvir/upute-smjernice-obraci/</a>).</li> </ul> |  |  |   |

|                                |  |
|--------------------------------|--|
|                                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Development of guidelines on exercising the right of access to information in relation to the protection of personal data:</u> In November 2023, the Guideline on the exercise of the right of access to information in relation to the protection of personal data was published in the section Instructions, guidelines, forms (<a href="https://pristupinfo.hr/pravni-okvir/upute-smjernice-obraci/">https://pristupinfo.hr/pravni-okvir/upute-smjernice-obraci/</a>).</li> <li>• <u>Professional revision and amendment of the existing instructions and guidelines of the Information Commissioner:</u> As stated earlier, the execution of this activity did not include changes to the previously adopted materials prepared by the Information Commissioner, but, given that the implementation of the evaluation project was in progress, i.e. the evaluation of the effects of the Act on the Right of Access to Information, the said activity was fulfilled through the adoption of new guidelines, giving recommendations and opinions to public authorities, publication of standards of conduct and practice of the Commissioner, educational and promotional activities, etc.</li> </ul> |
| <b>Additional information:</b> | /  |
| <b>Next steps:</b>             | The Information Commissioner's Office plans to continue the activities related to the maintenance of the existing modules in the National School of Public Administration and webinars intended for information officers.  |

| <b>Activity 1.3 Strengthen the transparency of public authorities in relation to the proactive publication of information, consultations with the public in the decision-making process and ensuring the publicity of the work of public authorities</b> |  |                                       |  |                               |
|--|--|---------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------|
| <b>Activity holder:</b>  | Information Commissioner   |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Activity co-holder(s):</b>  | /  |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Implementation start date:</b>  | 2022   |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Implementation end date:</b>  | December 2023  |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Implementation indicators:</b>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A self-assessment was carried out and a self-assessment document of compliance with the Act on the Right to Access to Information was published on the website for certain groups of bodies, at least 150 public authorities</li> <li>• Analytical monitoring of individual segments of Articles 10, 11 and 12 of the Act on the Right of Access to Information, with the preparation of reports and recommendations for the harmonization of actions, at least 100 public authorities</li> <li>• Monitoring of compliance of websites and applications of public authorities with accessibility requirements for persons with disabilities carried out, with the preparation of reports</li> </ul> |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Degree of implementation:</b>   | <b>Implementation not started</b>  | <b>Implemented to a lesser extent</b> | <b>Implemented to a significant extent</b> | <b>Implemented completely</b> |



|   |   |  |  |   |
|---|---|--|--|---|
|   |   |  |  | x |
| <b>Activity changes:</b>                                      | No changes were made.   |  |  |   |
| <b>Description of results with implementation indicators:</b> | <p><u>A self-assessment was carried out and a self-assessment document of compliance with the Act on the Right to Access to Information was published on the website for certain groups of bodies, at least 150 public authorities:</u> In June 2023, the Commissioner sent a customized self-assessment questionnaire to all public authorities that were on the instructional List of Public Authorities at that time. This was followed by the collection of completed and submitted self-assessment questionnaires, and by the end of 2023, almost 1,200 public authorities submitted the questionnaires to the Commissioner.</p> <p><u>Analytical monitoring of individual segments of Articles 10, 11 and 12 of the Act on the Right of Access to Information, with the preparation of reports and recommendations for the harmonization of actions, at least 100 public authorities, available at <a href="https://pristupinfo.hr/dokumenti-i-publikacije/analiticka-izvjesca/">https://pristupinfo.hr/dokumenti-i-publikacije/analiticka-izvjesca/</a></u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2022: Three rounds of monitoring were carried out, one of which was comprehensive, namely the City of Zagreb (Articles 10, 11 and 12 of the Act) and two specialized rounds of monitoring of individual segments of proactive disclosure of information: financial transparency of 48 companies in 100% or majority ownership of the Republic of Croatia (items 4, 7, 8, 9 and 13 of Article 10 of the Act) and monitoring of the proactive publication of information for re-use on the websites of 50 selected units of local and regional self-government (item 5 of Article 10 of the Act). In addition, three follow-ups were carried out during which it was possible to identify deviations in the conduct of entities liable to conduct public consultations using the e-Consultations portal on a particular day in terms of unjustified shortening of the deadline for the implementation of consultations or non-publication of the report on the conducted consultations, and the implementation of consultations at the level of the Ministry of Labour, Pension System, Family and Social Policy, the Ministry of Sea, Transport and Infrastructure and the Ministry of Tourism and Sports was thoroughly monitored.</li> <li>• 2023: Three analytical rounds of monitoring of individual parts of the obligation to proactively disclose information were carried out: 20 county road administrations (items 6, 10, 11 and 13), 13 majority-owned companies of the City of Zagreb (items 4, 7, 8, 9 and 13) and 32 port administrations (items 9, 10, 11 and 13). In addition, the monitoring of the fulfillment of the obligation to ensure publicity of work at sessions in the form of proactively published information prescribed by item 12 of Article 10 and Article 12 of the Act by 36 bodies that participated in the basic module in the State School of Public Administration, as well as monitoring the fulfillment of the obligation to conduct public consultations in accordance with Article 11 of the Act by 18 bodies that participated in training on consultations in the State School of Public Administration. Also, the results of the control monitoring of the proactive publication of data for re-use were published on the website of 371 units of</li> </ul> |  |  |   |

|                                |   |
|--------------------------------|---|
|                                | <p>local and regional self-government for which the first monitoring from 2022 found that they had not published asset lists.</p> <p><u>Monitoring of compliance of websites and applications of public authorities with accessibility requirements for persons with disabilities carried out, with the preparation of reports:</u> The Report on the compliance of websites and mobile applications of public sector bodies with accessibility requirements for 2022 has been published on the website <a href="https://pristupinfo.hr/pristupacnost-web-stranica-i-mobilnih-aplikacija/">https://pristupinfo.hr/pristupacnost-web-stranica-i-mobilnih-aplikacija/</a>, and monitoring is ongoing for 2023 and the report will be published in early 2024.</p> |
| <b>Additional information:</b> | <p>During 2024, an analytical report on the conducted monitoring of public consultations was published (monitoring on a daily basis in relation to selected consultation procedures on the e-Consultations portal and in-depth monitoring of the implementation of consultations at the level of three ministries). Also, publication of the Report on the compliance of websites and mobile applications of public sector bodies with accessibility requirements is planned for 2023.</p>  |
| <b>Next steps:</b>             | <p>The Office of the Information Commissioner plans to continue with the implementation of targeted monitoring of the fulfillment of the obligation of proactive disclosure of information, the implementation of public consultations and ensuring the publicity of work.</p>  |

| Activity 1.4 Establish a framework for increasing the transparency of the application of the Act on the Right to Access Information |   |                                       |  |                               |
|---|---|---------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------|
| <b>Activity holder:</b>   | Information Commissioner  |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Activity co-holder(s):</b>   | /   |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Implementation start date:</b>   | 2022  |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Implementation end date:</b>   | December 2023   |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Implementation indicators:</b>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Evaluation of the effects of implementing the Act on the Right of Access to Information done by independent experts</li> </ul> |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Degree of implementation:</b>  | <b>Implementation not started</b>   | <b>Implemented to a lesser extent</b> | <b>Implemented to a significant extent</b> | <b>Implemented completely</b> |
|   |   |                                       |  | x                             |

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Activity changes:</b>                                      | No changes were made.   |
| <b>Description of results with implementation indicators:</b> | <u>Evaluation of the effects of implementing the Act on the Right of Access to Information done by independent experts:</u> As part of C2.6. R2 of the Project "Improving the implementation of the Act on the Right of Access to Information", an evaluation was conducted and a Report on the evaluation of the effects of the Act on the Right of Access to Information was published at <a href="https://pristupinfo.hr/djelokrug/projekti/npoo/">https://pristupinfo.hr/djelokrug/projekti/npoo/</a> . |
| <b>Additional information:</b>                                | /   |
| <b>Next steps:</b>  | All project activities have been carried out.   |

COMMITMENT 2 IMPROVING THE APPLICATION OF REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE AREA OF PROTECTION OF PERSONAL DATA

| <b>Activity 2.1 Conduct trainings on the aspects of regulations governing the area of personal data protection with an emphasis on the General Data Protection Regulation</b> |  |   |  |                               |
|---|--|---|--|-------------------------------|
| <b>Activity holder:</b>   |  | Personal Data Protection Agency   |  |                               |
| <b>Activity co-holder(s):</b>   |  | State School for Public Administration  |  |                               |
| <b>Other participants involved:</b>   | <b>Public sector:</b>                                      | /   |  |                               |
|   | <b>CSO, private sector, working groups, multilaterals:</b> | /   |  |                               |
| <b>Implementation start date:</b>   |  | Underway  |  |                               |
| <b>Implementation end date:</b>   |  | December 2023 (for the reporting period concerned)  |  |                               |
| <b>Implementation indicators:</b>   |  | Conducting trainings on the application of regulations governing the area of personal data protection with an emphasis on the General Data Protection Regulation - 6 per year |  |                               |
| <b>Degree of implementation:</b>  | <b>Implementation not started</b>                          | <b>Implemented to a lesser extent</b>   | <b>Implemented to a significant extent</b> | <b>Implemented completely</b> |
|   |  |   |  | x                             |
| <b>Activity changes:</b>  |  | No changes were made.   |  |                               |

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>Description of results with implementation indicators:</b> | <p>Raised level of awareness about the importance of personal data protection as well as the rights and obligations of participants, controllers and processors, of education on the role, importance and tasks of Data Protection Officers as well as the overall implementation of all administrative and professional work that stems from the General Data Protection Regulation and the Act on the Implementation of the General Data Protection Regulation (according to the analysis of indicators from the totality of operational-supervisory and advisory-educational activities of the Data Protection Agency).</p> <p>Timely and continuous training is relevant for achieving the values of OGP because it increases the transparency of public authorities, and enables an interactive exchange of experiences from practice between participants and the Personal Data Protection Agency with the aim of facilitating and improving their work, within the framework of rights and obligations that stem from the General Data Protection Regulation and the Act on the Implementation of the General Data Protection Regulation.</p> |
| <b>Additional information:</b>                                | /  |
| <b>Next steps:</b>  | It is planned to continue the activity in question (with open possibilities for certain content and implementation modifications).   |

### COMMITMENT 3 FISCAL TRANSPARENCY

| Activity 3.1 Increase the visibility and the use of the database on payments made from the single State Budget Account |  |                                       |  |                               |
|--|--|---------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------|
| <b>Activity holder:</b>  | Ministry of Finance  |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Activity co-holder(s):</b>  | Ministry of Finance - State Treasury, Sector for Budget Execution  |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Other participants involved:</b>  | <b>Public sector:</b>  | /                                     |  |                               |
|  | <b>CSO, private sector, working groups, multilaterals:</b>   | /                                     |  |                               |
| <b>Implementation start date:</b>  | January 2022   |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Implementation end date:</b>  | ongoing  |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Implementation indicators:</b>  | Increasing the refresh rate of data in a machine-readable form, available on the website of the Ministry of Finance on a weekly basis. |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Degree of implementation:</b><br>(mark with x)  | <b>Implementation not started</b>  | <b>Implemented to a lesser extent</b> | <b>Implemented to a significant extent</b> | <b>Implemented completely</b> |

|   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
|   |  | x |
| <b>Activity changes:</b>                                      | <p>In 2023, the Minister of Finance issued an Instruction on the indicative content, the minimum set of data and the manner of public disclosure of information on the spending of funds on the websites of local and regional self-government units and budgetary and extra-budgetary entities of the state budget and local and regional self-government units (Official Gazette, No. 59/23), which stipulates that the Ministry of Finance may publish on its website information on the spending of funds of budgetary and extra-budgetary users of the state budget for payments made through a single account of the state budget. In the reporting period, the application <i>Inquiry on payments from the state budget by supplier for a particular budget year</i> was upgraded, which includes a larger number of transactions from the state budget that will be published in accordance with the provisions of the Instruction and enables the method of searching data by more parameters than before.</p> <p>The new application <i>Inquiry on payments from the state budget</i> shall replace the previous application "Supplier query" and provide expanded options for reviewing payments and structuring data. Data on payments from the single account of the state budget can be searched by recipients of funds, which now include, in addition to legal entities, natural persons and recipients of funds outside the Republic of Croatia, by payer of funds (budget and extra-budgetary entity who gave the payment order) and by type of cost. The application allows you to combine multiple search parameters and export data in a machine-readable format. Classified information under the law governing data confidentiality and information the disclosure of which would be contrary to special regulations shall not be published.</p> <p>Payout data is refreshed every business day for the previous business day, and can be searched on an annual or monthly basis.</p> |   |
| <b>Description of results with implementation indicators:</b> | <p>Data on the spending of funds from the state budget for 2023 were published on the website of the Ministry of Finance. <a href="https://mfin.gov.hr/istaknute-teme/drzavna-riznica/aplikacija-upit-po-dobavljacima/3250">https://mfin.gov.hr/istaknute-teme/drzavna-riznica/aplikacija-upit-po-dobavljacima/3250</a></p> <p>Also, the Minister of finance issued the Instruction on the framework content, the minimum set of data and the manner of public disclosure of information on the spending of funds on the websites of local and regional self-government units and budgetary and extra-budgetary entities of the state budget and local and regional self-government units.</p> <p>The Instruction on the framework content, the minimum set of data and the manner of public disclosure of information on the spending of funds on the websites of local and regional self-government units and budgetary and extra-budgetary entities of the state budget and local and regional self-government units which was published in the Official Gazette. <a href="https://narodne-novine.nn.hr/clanci/sluzbeni/2023_06_59_1003.html">https://narodne-novine.nn.hr/clanci/sluzbeni/2023_06_59_1003.html</a></p>   |   |
| <b>Additional information:</b>                                | <p>The Ministry of Finance will act within the prescribed deadline in accordance with the provisions of the Instruction on the framework content, the minimum set of data and the manner of public disclosure of information on the spending of funds on the websites of local and regional self-government units and budgetary and extra-budgetary entities of the state budget and local and regional self-government units and publish the first information on the spending of funds for January 2024, no later than 20 February 2024 in a new manner.</p>   |   |
| <b>Next steps</b>   | <p>The continuation of this activity in the same manner is planned in the next implementation period, i.e. in the Action Plan.</p>   |   |

| Activity 3.2 Publishing in a timely manner the State Budget proposal with explanations in machine-readable form (Excel) |  |   |                                       |  |                               |
|---|--|---|---------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------|
| <b>Activity holder:</b>   |  | Ministry of Finance   |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Activity co-holder(s):</b>   |  | State Treasury, Government of the Republic of Croatia, Croatian Parliament  |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Other participants involved:</b>   | <b>Public sector:</b>                                      | /   |                                       |  |                               |
|   | <b>CSO, private sector, working groups, multilaterals:</b> | /   |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Implementation start date:</b>   |  | January 2022  |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Implementation end date:</b>   |  | ongoing   |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Implementation indicators:</b>   |  | The draft State Budget in a machine-readable form (Excel) published as a document for discussion on the websites of the Government and the Croatian Parliament (agenda)   |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Degree of implementation:</b>  |  | <b>Implementation not started</b>   | <b>Implemented to a lesser extent</b> | <b>Implemented to a significant extent</b> | <b>Implemented completely</b> |
|   |  |   |                                       | x  |                               |
| <b>Activity changes:</b>  |  | No changes were made.   |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Description of results with implementation indicators:</b>   |  | <p>The Ministry of Finance, State Treasury, sent the Proposal of the State Budget to the Government of the Republic of Croatia in Excel format, and published it on its website <a href="https://mfin.gov.hr/UserDocImages//dokumenti/Informacije_za_gradane//NPZ%20DP%20RH%20za%202024-25-26.zip">https://mfin.gov.hr/UserDocImages//dokumenti/Informacije_za_gradane//NPZ%20DP%20RH%20za%202024-25-26.zip</a>, the Government of the Republic of Croatia published it in PDF format <a href="https://vlada.gov.hr/sjednice/262-sjednica-vlade-republike-hrvatske-39338/39338">https://vlada.gov.hr/sjednice/262-sjednica-vlade-republike-hrvatske-39338/39338</a>, but after its adoption, it sent the Croatian Parliament the materials in PDF and Excel format, which it published on its website <a href="https://www.sabor.hr/prijedlog-drzavnog-proracuna-republike-hrvatske-za-2024-godinu-i-projekcija-za-2025-i-2026-godinu?t=142293&amp;tid=212269">https://www.sabor.hr/prijedlog-drzavnog-proracuna-republike-hrvatske-za-2024-godinu-i-projekcija-za-2025-i-2026-godinu?t=142293&amp;tid=212269</a> (PDF) <a href="https://www.sabor.hr/sites/default/files/uploads/sabor/2023-11-09/202211/1.%20DPRH%20za%202024.zip">https://www.sabor.hr/sites/default/files/uploads/sabor/2023-11-09/202211/1.%20DPRH%20za%202024.zip</a> (Excel)</p> |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Additional information:</b>  |  | /   |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Next steps:</b>  |  | The continuation of this activity in the same manner is planned in the next implementation period, i.e. in the Action Plan.   |                                       |  |                               |

| Activity 3.3 Promoting transparent publishing of budget data / Popularisation of machine-readable budget data |  |  |  |                               |
|---|--|--|--|-------------------------------|
| <b>Activity holder:</b>   |  | Ministry of Finance  |  |                               |
| <b>Activity co-holder(s):</b>   |  | All members of the Croatian County Association   |  |                               |
| <b>Other participants involved:</b>   | <b>Public sector:</b>                                      |  |  |                               |
|   | <b>CSO, private sector, working groups, multilaterals:</b> | /  |  |                               |
| <b>Implementation start date:</b>   |  | Underway   |  |                               |
| <b>Implementation end date:</b>   |  | ongoing  |  |                               |
| <b>Implementation indicators:</b>   |  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The draft State Budget, Rebalance Budget and reports in machine-readable form published in a timely manner;</li> <li>• Current budget data for 20 counties and the City of Zagreb published in a machine-readable, standardised form; work on the popularisation of open data and transparency</li> </ul>   |  |                               |
| <b>Degree of implementation:</b>  | <b>Implementation not started</b>                          | <b>Implemented to a lesser extent</b>  | <b>Implemented to a significant extent</b> | <b>Implemented completely</b> |
|   |  |  | x  |                               |
| <b>Activity changes:</b>  |  | No changes were made.  |  |                               |
| <b>Description of results with implementation indicators:</b>   |  | <p>Data on payments and disbursements from the budget for all counties, 91 cities and 126 municipalities were published. The Croatian Association of Counties as a national association of all counties and the City of Zagreb continuously implements the <a href="#">Open Budget</a> project, through which budget data for all counties and the City of Zagreb are available. This year, the application was extended to <b>Open Counties</b> with two main goals:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Using a simple application, depict in a unified manner to citizens and all interested participants the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) county budgets by all budget classifications</li> <li>b) the most important indicators of development (entrepreneurship, tourism, demography)</li> </ol> </li> <li>2 Provide county administrations with a detailed analysis and comparison of local and regional budgets, the most important economic, tourism and demographic indicators.</li> </ol> <p>Pursuant to the Instruction on the framework content, the minimum set of data and the manner of public disclosure of information on the spending of funds on the websites of local and regional self-government units and budgetary and extra-</p> |  |                               |

|                                |   |
|--------------------------------|---|
|                                | <p>budgetary entities of the state budget and local and regional self-government units of the <b>Ministry of Finance</b>, counties are obliged to publicly publish information on the spending of funds on their websites. The supervisory authority for the public disclosure of this data is the Ministry of Finance.</p> <p>According to the <b>Institute of Public Finance (November 2022 – April 2023)</b>, the average budget transparency of all Croatian counties is 5, which means that all counties have published on their websites the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• report on the annual implementation of the budget for 2021;</li> <li>• report on the semi-annual implementation of the budget for 2022;</li> <li>• draft budget for 2023;</li> <li>• voted budget for 2023;</li> <li>• citizens' budget guide for 2023.</li> </ul> |
| <b>Additional information:</b> | /   |
| <b>Next steps</b>              | The continuation of the activity is planned in the next implementation period, i.e. in the Action Plan.   |

| <b>Activity 3.4 Publishing in a timely and continuous manner of a monthly series of revenues and expenditures of the State Budget on the website of the Ministry of Finance according to the national methodology of the calculation plan, publishing quarterly statements of revenue and expenditure of extra-budgetary entities and quarterly data for general government according to the new GFS 2014 methodology</b> |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| <b>Activity holder:</b>   | Ministry of Finance   |   |
| <b>Activity co-holder(s):</b>   | Bureau for Macroeconomic Analysis and Planning  |   |
| <b>Other participants involved:</b>   | <b>Public sector:</b>   | / |
|   | <b>CSO, private sector, working groups, multilaterals:</b>  | / |
| <b>Implementation start date:</b>   | ongoing   |   |
| <b>Implementation end date:</b>   | ongoing   |   |
| <b>Implementation indicators:</b>   | Monthly series of revenues and expenditures of the State Budget published in a timely and continuous manner on the website of the Ministry of Finance according to the national methodology of the calculation plan, quarterly statements of revenue and expenditure, receipts and expenses of extra-budgetary entities and quarterly data for general government according to the new GFS 2014 methodology published |   |



| Degree of implementation:                                     | Implementation not started  | Implemented to a lesser extent | Implemented to a significant extent | Implemented completely |
|---|---|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------|
|   |   |                                |                                     |                        |
| <b>Activity changes:</b>                                      | No activity changes were made.  |                                |                                     |                        |
| <b>Description of results with implementation indicators:</b> | The entire public could get an insight into important reports (the manner of realizing the State Budget by months, as well as generating revenues and expenditures of extra-budgetary funds). |                                |                                     |                        |
| <b>Additional information:</b>                                | /   |                                |                                     |                        |
| <b>Next steps:</b>  | It is planned to continue the activity in the same form.  |                                |                                     |                        |

| <b>Activity 3.5 Publishing information on the spending of resources of the units of local and regional self-government, budgetary and extra-budgetary entities</b> |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Activity holder:</b>  | Ministry of Finance   |
| <b>Activity co-holder(s):</b>  | Ministry of Finance - State Treasury, Sector for Budget Execution, Sector for Budget and Financing of Local and Regional Self-Government Units<br>All persons obliged to publish information about resource spending according to the Budget Act  |
| <b>Other participants involved:</b>  | <b>Public sector:</b>   |
|  | <b>CSO, private sector, working groups, multilaterals:</b>  |
| <b>Implementation start date:</b>  | January 2022  |
| <b>Implementation end date:</b>  | ongoing   |
| <b>Implementation indicators:</b>  | The provision of Article 144, paragraph 10 of the Budget Act ( Official Gazette, No. 144/21), stipulates the obligation of local and regional self-government units, budgetary and extra-budgetary entities to publicly publish information on the spending of funds on their websites in such a way that this information is easily accessible, searchable and machine-readable.<br>The publication of information implies at least the publication of payments from the budget, that is, the financial plan during the budget year, the publication of information about the paying agent and the type of expenditure, and the publication of |

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|---|---|---------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------|
|   | <p>information about the recipient of funds, including his personal identification number, the name of a legal entity, or the name and surname of a natural person, except for information that represents classified information according to the Act regulating the secrecy of data and information whose publication would be contrary to special regulations.</p> <p>The Minister of Finance will determine the content, the minimum set of data, the method of publication of information on the spending of funds on the websites of units of local and regional self-government, budgetary and extra-budgetary entities, and the frequency of publication of information, as well as the method of mass download. The Minister will adopt an Instruction by 30 June 2022. The instruction stipulates that liable entities are obliged to publish the first information on the spending of funds for January 2024, no later than 20 February 2024.</p> <p>Since the publication of information on the spending of resources is a legal obligation, we expect that all units of local and regional self-government, as well as budgetary and extra-budgetary entities of both state and local budgets, will publish information on the spending of budgetary resources within the prescribed deadline.</p> |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Degree of implementation:</b>                              | <b>Implementation not started</b>   | <b>Implemented to a lesser extent</b> | <b>Implemented to a significant extent</b> | <b>Implemented completely</b> |
|   |   |                                       | x  |                               |
| <b>Activity changes:</b>                                      | No changes were made.   |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Description of results with implementation indicators:</b> | <p>In May 2023, the Minister of Finance issued the Instruction on the framework content, the minimum set of data and the manner of public disclosure of information on the spending of funds on the websites of local and regional self-government units and budgetary and extra-budgetary users of the state budget and local and regional self-government units (Official Gazette, No. 59/23), which obliges local and regional self-government units and budgetary and extra-budgetary entities to publish information on the spending of funds or information on payments to legal and natural persons from the budget or financial plan.</p> <p><a href="https://narodne-novine.nn.hr/clanci/sluzbeni/2023_06_59_1003.html">https://narodne-novine.nn.hr/clanci/sluzbeni/2023_06_59_1003.html</a></p>  |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Additional information:</b>                                | <p>In 2024, the publication of information on the spending of funds on the basis of the adopted legislation began, i.e. the first publication of information in accordance with the Instruction on the framework content, the minimum set of data and the manner of public disclosure of information on the spending of funds on the websites of local and regional self-government units and budgetary and extra-budgetary entities of the state budget and local and regional self-government units.</p> <p>On 20 February 2024, the Ministry of Finance launched a new interactive web application for reviewing payments from the single account of the state budget available on the Ministry's website: <a href="https://www.drzavnariznica.hr/trosenje_sredstava_DP">https://www.drzavnariznica.hr/trosenje_sredstava_DP</a>.</p>  |                                       |  |                               |

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|                    | <p>The new application replaces the previous application "Supplier query" and provide expanded options for reviewing payments and structuring data. Data on payments can be searched by recipients of funds, which now include, in addition to legal entities, natural persons and recipients of funds outside the Republic of Croatia, by payer of funds (budget and extra-budgetary entity who gave the payment order) and by type of cost. The application allows you to combine multiple search parameters and export data in a machine-readable format. Classified information under the law governing data confidentiality and information the disclosure of which would be contrary to special regulations shall not be published.</p> <p>Payout data is refreshed every business day for the previous business day, and can be searched on an annual or monthly basis.</p> |
| <b>Next steps:</b> | The continuation of this activity in the same manner is planned in the next implementation period, i.e. in the Action Plan.  |

#### COMMITMENT 4 - OPENNESS AND TRANSPARENCY OF THE CROATIAN PARLIAMENT

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|---|--|
| <b>Activity 4.1 Conducting educational programmes for primary school pupils, 4.2 Conducting educational programmes for high school pupils, 4.3 Conducting educational programmes for students of higher education institutions and 4.4 Conducting educational programmes for citizens</b> |  |
| <b>Activity holder:</b>   | Croatian Parliament  |
| <b>Activity co-holder(s):</b>   | /  |
| <b>Other participants involved:</b>   | <b>Public sector:</b> Primary and secondary schools, universities and colleges   |
|   | <b>CSO, private sector, working groups, multilaterals:</b> /   |
| <b>Implementation start date:</b>   | 1 January 2023   |
| <b>Implementation end date:</b>   | 31 December 2023   |
| <b>Implementation indicators:</b>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Educational visits for students of lower grades (3rd and 4th grade) and students of higher grades (5th, 6th, 7th and 8th grade) conducted</li> <li>• Online quiz for pupils of the 8th grade of primary school "How well do you know the Croatian Parliament?" conducted</li> <li>• Competitions for 8th grade primary school pupils in writing essays/parliamentary speeches on a given topic conducted</li> <li>• Educational visits to the Croatian Parliament conducted, which, along with a tour of the Parliament with expert guidance, also include a lecture for students that follows the subject curricula, attendance at the Parliament session from the gallery in the Parliament and the opportunity to interact with the representatives</li> <li>• Simulated Parliament for high school pupils conducted annually in Sabornica, with expert support to teachers for the preparation of a simulated student parliament</li> </ul> |

|   |   |                                       |  |                               |
|---|---|---------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------|
|   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Online quiz for high school pupils "How well do you know the Croatian Parliament?" conducted annually</li> <li>• Competition in writing essays or parliamentary speeches on a given topic conducted</li> <li>• Lectures for students on the organisation, powers and working methods of the Parliament and its working parties, members' clubs, legislative procedure, rights and obligations of members, tasks and working methods of the Parliament and its working parties in European affairs, etc held.</li> <li>• Simulated Parliament of students in the Assembly Hall conducted</li> <li>• Discussions/thematic discussions of students with members - members of the parliamentary committees, on a pre-agreed topic conducted, the organisation of lectures on a pre-agreed topic held by the lecturers of the Citizens Service as well as lecturers from other specialist services of the Parliament.</li> </ul> <p>Educational workshops for citizens on various topics and possibilities of participation in decision-making processes (e.g. how to write a petition or proposal and to which working body to refer it, depending on the field of the work, how to write a draft legislative proposal, how to participate in the process of public consultation on draft acts in the process of their adoption, the proposers of which are Members of Parliament, working bodies and members' clubs).</p>   |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Degree of implementation:</b>                              | <b>Implementation not started</b>   | <b>Implemented to a lesser extent</b> | <b>Implemented to a significant extent</b> | <b>Implemented completely</b> |
|   |   |                                       |  | x                             |
| <b>Activity changes:</b>                                      | No changes were made.   |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Description of results with implementation indicators:</b> | <p>During the reporting period, three educational projects on the Parliament for primary and secondary school pupils were implemented, held during the spring of 2023. These include online quiz competitions "How much do you know the Croatian Parliament?" for primary and secondary school pupils and the 10th simulated session of the Parliament for secondary school pupils, which was held in the Parliament. On the occasion of marking the Day of the Croatian Parliament on 8 October, the Open Door Day of the Parliament was organized on Saturday, 7 October 2023. Also, during the reporting period, the Croatian Parliament was visited by numerous Croatian citizens, foreign students for the purpose of education during their stay in Croatia, and foreign citizens in individual or group visits.</p> <p>A total of 435 pupils from 135 primary and secondary schools participated in all three educational projects for primary and secondary school pupils, namely 126 pupils from 42 primary schools and 309 pupils from 93 secondary schools across Croatia.</p> <p>A total of 16,127 citizens in 437 organized groups visited and viewed the Croatian Parliament, and attended a lecture on the Croatian Parliament, while 9,900 citizens attended one of the sessions of the Parliament. Out of this total number, the largest number of visitors to the Croatian Parliament consisted of primary school pupils - a total of 6,740 in 161 organised groups from 128 primary schools throughout the Republic of Croatia (activity 4.1). After primary school pupils, the next</p> |                                       |  |                               |

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|                                | <p>largest group of visitors came from secondary schools: 6,340 pupils in 172 organized groups from 163 secondary schools (activity 4.2). Also, in 2023, the Croatian Parliament was visited by students of Croatian and foreign universities as well as colleges - 945 of them in 26 organized groups (activity 4.3). There were a total of 1,160 foreign visitors from all categories in 48 organized groups, primarily foreign students for the purpose of education during their stay in Croatia, and other categories of foreign citizens in individual or group visits to the Croatian Parliament. In addition, on the occasion of marking the Day of the Croatian Parliament, the Citizens' Service organized the Open Door Day of the Parliament on Saturday, 8 October 2023. This event gathered a large number of visitors of all ages from all over Croatia, but also from abroad - a total of 867 of them (activity 4.4).</p> <p>The achieved effect of the activities is positive; educational programs for pupils and students are continuously held, and in relation to visits to the Croatian Parliament, compared to 2022, the total number of visitors, and the number of pupils and students as visitors to the Croatian Parliament, has increased.</p> |
| <b>Additional information:</b> | In 2023, the activity was realised in full and there were no risks and challenges in implementation.   |
| <b>Next steps:</b>             | All activities planned by the date of the completion of the implementation of the commitment, 31 December 2023, have been continued.. On 28 September 2023, the Citizens Service of the Croatian Parliament published on the Parliament's website invitations to primary and secondary school pupils to participate in three educational programs of the Parliament in the school year 2023/2024, which were held in the spring of 2024.   |

#### COMMITMENT 5 - IMPROVING THE TRANSPARENCY AND FINANCING OF THE REFERENDUM ACTIVITY

| <b>Activity 5.1 Conducting training of participants of the referendum activity with the aim of strengthening the transparency of financing of referendum activity</b> |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| <b>Activity holder:</b>   | State Election Commission of the Republic of Croatia  |   |
| <b>Activity co-holder(s):</b>   | /   |   |
| <b>Other participants involved:</b>   | <b>Public sector:</b>   | / |
|   | <b>CSO, private sector, working groups, multilaterals:</b>  | / |
| <b>Implementation start date:</b>   | October 2023  |   |
| <b>Implementation end date:</b>   | December 2023   |   |
| <b>Implementation indicators:</b>   | Online training session for participants of the referendum activity developed and published on the websites of the State Electoral Commission |   |

| Degree of implementation:                                     | Implementation not started   | Implemented to a lesser extent | Implemented to a significant extent | Implemented completely |
|---|--|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------|
|   |  |                                |                                     |                        |
| <b>Activity changes:</b>                                      | No changes were made.  |                                |                                     |                        |
| <b>Description of results with implementation indicators:</b> | <p>An online training was published on the website of the State Election Commission – a guide intended for participants in the referendum activity. The guide is available at: <a href="#">Guide on the financing of referendum activities (izbor.hr)</a>. The existing guide has been updated in accordance with the amendments to positive legal regulations, i.e. the fact that as of 1 January 2023, the currency of the Kuna has been replaced with the euro.</p> <p>As there were no other changes to the positive legal regulations, there was no need for other changes to the guide. The guide is available to the interested public, and provides an overview of the rights and obligations of organizational committees when preparing financing and implementing the financing of referendum activities in a clear and transparent manner.</p> |                                |                                     |                        |
| <b>Additional information:</b>                                | /  |                                |                                     |                        |
| <b>Next steps:</b>  | The State Election Commission will continue to monitor any changes to the positive legal regulations and, if necessary, carry out further actions to adapt the guide to the above.   |                                |                                     |                        |

| Activity 5.2 Establishing the Record of Referendum Initiatives |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <b>Activity holder:</b>  | State Election Commission of the Republic of Croatia   |   |
| <b>Activity co-holder(s):</b>                                  | /  |   |
| <b>Other participants involved:</b>                            | <b>Public sector:</b>  | / |
|  | <b>CSO, private sector, working groups, multilaterals:</b>   | / |
| <b>Implementation start date:</b>                              | /  |   |
| <b>Implementation end date:</b>                                | /  |   |
| <b>Implementation indicators:</b>                              | Record of Referendum Initiatives established and published on the websites of the State Electoral Commission |   |

| Degree of implementation:                              | Implementation not started  | Implemented to a lesser extent | Implemented to a significant extent | Implemented completely |
|--|---|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------|
|  |   |                                | x                                   |                        |
| Activity changes:                                      | No changes were made.   |                                |                                     |                        |
| Description of results with implementation indicators: | The commitment was implemented to a lesser extent since there were no amendments to the law prescribing the implementation of the referendum in the reporting period, which would prescribe the manner of establishing and keeping records. |                                |                                     |                        |
| Additional information:                                | /   |                                |                                     |                        |
| Next steps   | The State Election Commission will continue to monitor possible changes in positive legal regulations and establish records in accordance with the above.   |                                |                                     |                        |

| Activity 5.3 Conducting training of participants of the referendum activity with the aim of introducing participants with the provisions of the Act on the Financing of Political Activities, Election Campaigns and Referendums |  |                                |                                     |                        |
|--|--|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------|
| Activity holder:   | State Election Commission of the Republic of Croatia   |                                |                                     |                        |
| Activity co-holder(s):   | /  |                                |                                     |                        |
| Other participants involved:   | Public sector:   | /                              |                                     |                        |
|  | CSO, private sector, working groups, multilaterals:  | /                              |                                     |                        |
| Implementation start date:   | /  |                                |                                     |                        |
| Implementation end date:   | /  |                                |                                     |                        |
| Implementation indicators:   | Webinars for participants of the referendum activities recorded and published on the websites of the State Electoral Commission. |                                |                                     |                        |
| Degree of implementation:  | Implementation not started   | Implemented to a lesser extent | Implemented to a significant extent | Implemented completely |
|  |  | x                              |                                     |                        |
| Activity changes:  | No changes were made.  |                                |                                     |                        |

|   |  |
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| <b>Description of results with implementation indicators:</b> | The commitment was implemented to a lesser extent, since there were no changes to the law prescribing the preparation and implementation of the referendum in the reporting period, on the basis of which the preparation and publication of the webinar would be initiated. |
| <b>Additional information:</b>                                | /  |
| <b>Next steps:</b>  | The State Election Commission will continue to monitor possible changes in positive legal regulations and establish records in accordance with the above.  |

COMMITMENT 6 - IMPROVING THE TRANSPARENCY OF ACTIVITIES AND FINANCING OF PROGRAMMES AND PROJECTS OF CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS

|  |  |   |                                       |  |                               |
|--|--|---|---------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------|
| <b>Activity 6.1 - Creating a new IT system to monitor and valorise the distribution of funds for programmes and/or projects of interest to the public good implemented by associations</b> |  |   |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Activity holder:</b>  |  | Government Office For Cooperation With NGOs Of The Croatian Government  |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Activity co-holder(s):</b>  |  | /   |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Other participants involved:</b>  | <b>Public sector:</b>                                      | /   |                                       |  |                               |
|  | <b>CSO, private sector, working groups, multilaterals:</b> | APIS company  |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Implementation start date:</b>  |  | January 2022  |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Implementation end date:</b>  |  | December 2023   |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Implementation indicators:</b>  |  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- An information system for monitoring and evaluating the allocation of financial resources to associations implementing programmes and/or projects has been established, in accordance with the provisions of the Regulation on the criteria, standards and procedures for financing and contracting programmes and projects of general interest implemented by associations.</li> <li>- Public database of contracted and financed projects set up</li> <li>- Annual reports on the financed projects of NGOs published</li> <li>- Number of system users</li> </ul> |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Degree of implementation:</b>   |  | <b>Implementation not started</b>   | <b>Implemented to a lesser extent</b> | <b>Implemented to a significant extent</b> | <b>Implemented completely</b> |
|  |  |   | x                                     |  |                               |
| <b>Activity changes:</b>   |  | No changes were made.   |                                       |  |                               |



|   |  |
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| <b>Description of results with implementation indicators:</b> | Preparations are underway for a comprehensive project for the development of an information system for monitoring and evaluating the allocation of financial resources to associations implementing programs and/or projects of interest to the common good, which would cover all prescribed procedures, including evaluation of the results and impact of previously implemented tenders, planning and programming of a new cycle, implementation of tenders, contracting and monitoring of contracted projects. In addition to informational support to providers of financial funds from public sources in the implementation of the procedure prescribed by the Regulation, the system would prevent the possibility of double financing by allowing providers from public sources to see the budgets contracted by other providers with civil society organizations in real time, as well as the exchange of information on organizations that do not comply with their contractual obligations. The system would also provide the public with timely and comprehensive information, not only on the amounts allocated to projects and programs, but also on the results and impact that the funded activities had on the social community through the publication of parts of program reports on the public part of the information system. |
| <b>Additional information:</b>                                | Considering that this is a comprehensive system, the preparation for its creation, testing and transfer to beneficiaries – public financial providers (which will be offered free of charge to the beneficiary) took longer than envisaged, and they are currently in the final phase. It is expected that the contract with APIS d.o.o., which will be a technical partner in the development of the system and user education, will be signed by the end of 2024.  |
| <b>Next steps:</b>  | During 2025, the system should be completed, tested and offered to public funding providers for use with comprehensive training.   |

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| <b>Activity 6.2 - Conduct a training programme on the criteria, standards and procedures for financing and contracting programmes and projects of interest to the public good implemented by associations for civil and local servants as well as other providers of public funds</b> |   |
| <b>Activity holder:</b>   | Government Office For Cooperation With NGOs Of The Croatian Government  |
| <b>Activity co-holder(s):</b>   | State School for Public Administration  |
| <b>Other participants involved:</b>   | <b>Public sector:</b> state administration bodies   |
|   | <b>CSO, private sector, working groups, multilaterals:</b> /  |
| <b>Implementation start date:</b>   | January 2022  |
| <b>Implementation end date:</b>   | December 2023   |
| <b>Implementation indicators:</b>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Six educational seminars conducted for state and local level annually</li> <li>• Number of seminar participants</li> </ul> |

| Degree of implementation:                                     | Implementation not started  | Implemented to a lesser extent | Implemented to a significant extent | Implemented completely |
|---|---|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------|
|   |   |                                |                                     |                        |
| <b>Activity changes:</b>                                      | No changes were made  |                                |                                     |                        |
| <b>Description of results with implementation indicators:</b> | <p>The Office for Cooperation with NGOs implements two training modules: 3-day workshop "Standards of financing and contracting programs and projects of interest to the common good implemented by associations – basic level" and 2-day workshop "Standards of financing and contracting programs and projects of interest to the common good implemented by associations - advanced level".</p> <p>Through a basic three-day workshop, participants are introduced to the criteria, standards, and procedures of financing and contracting that are obliged to be applied by providers of financial funds from public sources when financing programs and projects of interest to the common good implemented by associations, and through an advanced two-day workshop with standards for monitoring project implementation, evaluation and reporting. The main goal of these workshops is to raise awareness on the possibilities of creating social change through effective planning, implementation of tenders for financing associations, and monitoring and evaluating the financing of programs and projects of associations.</p> <p>During 2022, the employees of the Office for Cooperation with NGOs, in cooperation with the State School of Public Administration, held 7 workshops in two modules for 108 participants from state administration bodies and local self-government units. In 2023, 8 workshops were held in two modules (4 basic and 4 advanced workshops) with 105 participants. In addition, in cooperation with the Ministry of Finance, 2 workshops for internal auditors in counties and cities were held on the criteria, standards and procedures for financing and contracting programs and projects of interest to the common good implemented by associations, in which a total of 39 internal auditors participated.</p> |                                |                                     |                        |
| <b>Additional information:</b>                                | /   |                                |                                     |                        |
| <b>Next steps</b>   | The implementation of these activities, i.e. workshops, is planned for the next period.   |                                |                                     |                        |

| <b>Activity 6.3 - Improve the implementation of the Regulation on the criteria, standards and procedures for financing and contracting programmes and projects of interest to the public good implemented by associations</b> |  |
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| <b>Activity holder:</b>   | Government Office For Cooperation With NGOs Of The Croatian Government   |
| <b>Activity co-holder(s):</b>   | State School for Public Administration, state administration bodies, units of local and regional self-government |
| <b>Public sector:</b>   | /  |

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| <b>Other participants involved:</b>                           | <b>CSO, private sector, working groups, multilaterals:</b>  | /                                     |  |                               |
| <b>Implementation start date:</b>                             | January 2022  |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Implementation end date:</b>                               | December 2023   |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Implementation indicators:</b>                             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of trainings held and number of officials providers of financial and non-financial resources trained for the application of the Regulation.</li> <li>• Number of prepared sectoral analyses on financing needs.</li> <li>• Annual plans and calendars for the issuing of public tenders on awards of non-returnable resources to projects and programmes and institutional activities of NGOs published on the websites of the Government Office for Cooperation with NGOs and of the providers of non-returnable resources.</li> <li>• Number of tenders and other funding programmes implemented in accordance with the deadlines set out in the Annual Plan of Issuing Public Tenders.</li> <li>• The annual presentation of public tenders, invitations and other cooperation programmes with associations and other NGOs held, financed from the State Budget, part of gambling revenues, EU funds and other funds at the national level.</li> <li>• Number of public tenders whose documents has been delivered to the Office for Cooperation with NGOs for compliance with the Regulation.</li> <li>• The evaluation of the implementation and impact of the Regulation on the criteria, standards and procedures of financing and contracting programmes and projects of interest to the public good implemented by associations in cooperation with all stakeholders to whom this Regulation applies carried out.</li> <li>• The Regulation amended or supplemented in accordance with the results of the carried out evaluation.</li> </ul> |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Degree of implementation:</b>                              | <b>Implementation not started</b>   | <b>Implemented to a lesser extent</b> | <b>Implemented to a significant extent</b> | <b>Implemented completely</b> |
|   |   |                                       | x  |                               |
| <b>Activity changes:</b>                                      | No changes were made.   |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Description of results with implementation indicators:</b> | During 2022, the employees of the Office for Cooperation with NGOs, in cooperation with the State School of Public Administration, held 7 workshops in two modules "Standards of financing and contracting programs and projects of interest to the common good implemented by associations" for 108 participants from state administration bodies and local self-government units.   |                                       |  |                               |

In 2023, 8 workshops were held (4 basic and 4 advanced workshops) with 105 participants. In addition, in cooperation with the Ministry of Finance, 2 workshops for internal auditors in counties and cities were held on the criteria, standards and procedures for financing and contracting programs and projects of interest to the common good implemented by associations, in which a total of 39 internal auditors participated.

In 2022, the tender documentation of 3 state administration bodies and 1 public company was commented and harmonized with the Regulation, and in 2023, the tender documentation of 8 state administration bodies, 1 local self-government unit and 1 public company was commented and harmonized with the Regulation.

In 2022, the tender documentation of 3 state administration bodies and 1 public company was commented and harmonized with the Regulation, and in 2023, the tender documentation of 8 state administration bodies, 1 local self-government unit and 1 public company was commented and harmonized with the Regulation.

The Office has received sectoral analyses to identify priority areas of financing programs and projects of interest to the common good implemented by associations and other civil society organizations from public sources for 2024 within the framework of the application of the Regulation on the criteria, standards and procedures of financing and contracting programs and projects of interest to the public good implemented by associations. During 2022, sectoral analyses for 2023 were submitted by 27 bodies, and during 2023, sectoral analyses for 2024 were submitted by 26 bodies (14 ministries, two central state offices, two offices of the Government of the Republic of Croatia and eight public institutions - a public foundation, fund, institute, agency, etc.).

The annual tender plans of other funding programs for associations from public sources at the national level were published on the website of the Office for Cooperation with NGOs, which were prepared on the basis of the submitted sectoral analyses of individual providers. In the Annual plan for announcing public tenders in 2022 for the award of grants to projects and programs and institutional activities of civil society organizations, 99 tenders were planned from 12 ministries, two government offices, three central state offices and seven public institutions. Out of the planned 97 tenders and two direct allocations for public needs for 2022, in accordance with the Annual tender plan of state administration bodies for financing CSO projects in 2022, 80 tenders were announced. In the Annual plan for announcing public tenders in 2023, 96 tenders were planned on the websites of the Office for Cooperation with NGOs and individual grant providers, consisting of 11 ministries, one government office, two central state offices and seven public institutions. According to the information available to the Office for Cooperation with NGOs, 63 tenders were conducted in 2023, of which 36 tenders were conducted by 11 ministries, 6 tenders were conducted by two central state offices, two tenders were conducted by one Government office, and seven public institutions conducted 19 tenders.

The Office for Cooperation with NGOs, in cooperation with state administration bodies - providers of financial funds from public sources, organizes INFO DAYS on tenders for financing projects and programs of civil society organizations from the State Budget of the Republic of Croatia and EU funds. The 13th INFO DAYS was held on 29 and 30 March 2022. 93 tenders were presented, which were planned to be announced by 22 state administration bodies, offices of the Government of the Republic of Croatia and public institutions at the national level in 2022. The tenders were presented

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|                                | in 13 program areas, and their implementation was planned to finance more than 8,100 projects, for which more than HRK 800 million was provided. Organized by the Office for Cooperation with NGOs, the 14th INFO DAYS, held on 30 and 31 March 2023, hosted 22 state administration bodies, offices of the Government of the Republic of Croatia and public institutions and two civil society organizations (CSO consortium) who presented a total of 70 public tenders, calls and other cooperation programs with associations and other civil society organizations from 14 program areas. These bodies continued to submit to the Office for Cooperation with NGOs tender documentation for comments and harmonization with the Regulation on the criteria, standards and procedures of financing and contracting programs and projects of interest to the public good implemented by associations. In 2022, the Office commented on the tender documentation of 5 public tenders, and in 2023 of 10 public tenders. |
| <b>Additional information:</b> | /   |
| <b>Next steps</b>              | It is planned to continue educational workshops in cooperation with the State School of Public Administration, to publish the Annual plans for announcing public tenders for the award of grants to projects and programs and institutional activities of civil society organizations, and to annually present public tenders, calls and other cooperation programs with associations and other civil society organizations financed from the state budget, part of the revenues from games of chance, EU funds and other funds at the national level, as well as to regularly comment on the tender documentation of state administration bodies, local self-government units and public companies in order to comply with the provisions of the Regulation.   |

|   |  |
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| <b>Activity 6.4 Conduct trainings of CSOs on procedures of public procurement for entities not liable to public procurement with the aim of increasing transparency of the use of public resources.</b> |  |
| <b>Activity holder:</b>   | Ministry of the Economy and Sustainable Development  |
| <b>Activity co-holder(s):</b>   | /  |
| <b>Other participants involved:</b>   | <b>Public sector:</b>  |
|   | <b>CSO, private sector, working groups, multilaterals:</b>   |
| <b>Implementation start date:</b>   | 1 January 2023   |
| <b>Implementation end date:</b>   | 31 December 2023   |
| <b>Implementation indicators:</b>   | One training per year on procedures of procurement for entities not liable to public procurement conducted in an online format |

| Degree of implementation:                                     | Implementation not started   | Implemented to a lesser extent | Implemented to a significant extent | Implemented completely |
|---|--|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------|
|   |  | x                              |                                     |                        |
| <b>Activity changes:</b>                                      | The activity was carried out to a lesser extent, since in the reporting period the Office for Cooperation with NGOs did not contract projects for whose beneficiaries (civil society organizations) it was envisaged to hold public procurement training for entities not liable to public procurement.  |                                |                                     |                        |
| <b>Description of results with implementation indicators:</b> | For all interested CSOs, written <a href="#">Rules on the implementation of procurement procedures for entities not liable to the Public Procurement Act have been published on the website of the Office for Cooperation with NGOs.</a>   |                                |                                     |                        |
| <b>Additional information:</b>                                | After the announcement of the planned tenders, implementation workshops will be held, within which training for CSOs not liable to public procurement and updating written instructions will be held, which will be published on the website of the Office for Cooperation with NGOs.  |                                |                                     |                        |
| <b>Next steps:</b>  | In the coming period, it is planned to announce tenders (for example, within the framework of the Swiss-Croatian Cooperation Program) within which implementation workshops for beneficiaries will be conducted. At the implementation workshops, users will be introduced to public procurement procedures for entities not liable to public procurement and written instructions will be available on the website of the Office for Cooperation with NGOs. |                                |                                     |                        |

COMMITMENT 7 – STRENGTHENING TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY AT THE LEVEL OF COMMERCIAL COMPANIES IN MAJORITY OWNERSHIP OF UNITS OF LOCAL AND REGIONAL SELF-GOVERNMENT

| <b>Activity 7.1 - Implementing the training programme for commercial companies in the ownership of the Republic of Croatia or one or more units of local and regional selfgovernment on the standards for awarding donations and sponsorships to NGOs</b> |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Activity holder:</b>   | Government Office For Cooperation With NGOs Of The Croatian Government                                |
| <b>Activity co-holder(s):</b>   | /   |
| <b>Other participants involved:</b>   | <b>Public sector:</b> /   |
|   | <b>CSO, private sector, working groups, multilaterals:</b> /  |
| <b>Implementation start date:</b>   | January 2022  |
| <b>Implementation end date:</b>   | December 2023   |
| <b>Implementation indicators:</b>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A minimum of two training workshops held annually</li> </ul> |

| Degree of implementation:                                     | Implementation not started  | Implemented to a lesser extent | Implemented to a significant extent | Implemented completely |
|---|---|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------|
|   |   |                                |                                     |                        |
| <b>Activity changes:</b>                                      | No changes were made.   |                                |                                     |                        |
| <b>Description of results with implementation indicators:</b> | <p>In 2022 and in 2023, the tender documentation of one public company was commented and harmonized with the Regulation.</p> <p>In 2022 and 2023, the Office for Cooperation with NGOs held two (four in total) workshops on the criteria, standards and procedures for financing and contracting programs and projects of interest to the public good implemented by associations for public companies, attended by a total of 54 participants (that is, 32 participants in 2022 and 22 participants in 2023).</p> |                                |                                     |                        |
| <b>Additional information:</b>                                | /   |                                |                                     |                        |
| <b>Next steps:</b>  | The Office for Cooperation with NGOs plans to continue holding educational workshops for public companies.  |                                |                                     |                        |

#### COMMITMENT 8 - IMPROVING THE NORMATIVE FRAMEWORK FOR THE MEDIA

| <b>Activity 8.1 Drafting the Media Act</b> |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Activity holder:</b>                    | Ministry of Culture and Media   |
| <b>Activity co-holder(s):</b>              | stakeholders to whom the provisions of the Act apply, state administration bodies   |
| <b>Other participants involved:</b>        | <b>Public sector:</b> Agency for Electronic Media, Croatian Competition Agency, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development, Information Commissioner  |
|  | <b>CSO, private sector, working groups, multilaterals:</b> Croatian Chamber of Economy, Croatian Employers' Association, Croatian Association of Radio Broadcasters, National Association of Television, Croatian Journalists' Association, Nova TV d.d., RTL Hrvatska d.o.o., Croatian Radio Television, experts working in the field of media fact-checking |
| <b>Implementation start date:</b>          | November 2021   |
| <b>Implementation end date:</b>            | Deviations in deadlines occurred due to the work on the European Media Freedom Act, the provisions of which will be implemented to some extent in this act  |
| <b>Implementation indicators:</b>          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Working groups set up to produce the draft Media Act</li> <li>• Draft Media Act produced</li> <li>• Draft Media Act adopted at a session of the Government</li> </ul>  |

| Degree of implementation:                              | Implementation not started  | Implemented to a lesser extent | Implemented to a significant extent | Implemented completely |
|--|---|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------|
|  |   |                                | x                                   |                        |
| Activity changes:                                      | No changes were made.   |                                |                                     |                        |
| Description of results with implementation indicators: | Established working group and drafted provisional text of the draft Media Act |                                |                                     |                        |
| Additional information:                                | /   |                                |                                     |                        |
| Next steps   | Work continues on the drafting of the Act.                                    |                                |                                     |                        |

| Activity 8.2 Improve legal provisions related to the disclosure of media ownership and sources of financing |   |  |                                     |                        |
|---|---|--|-------------------------------------|------------------------|
| Activity holder:  |   | Ministry of Culture and Media  |                                     |                        |
| Activity co-holder(s):  |   | Agency for Electronic Media, Croatian Chamber of Economy   |                                     |                        |
| Other participants involved:  | Public sector:                                      | Agency for Electronic Media, Croatian Competition Agency, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development, Information Commissioner   |                                     |                        |
|   | CSO, private sector, working groups, multilaterals: | Croatian Chamber of Economy, Croatian Employers' Association, Croatian Association of Radio Broadcasters, National Association of Television, Croatian Journalists' Association, Nova TV d.d., RTL Hrvatska d.o.o., Croatian Radio Television, experts working in the field of media fact-checking |                                     |                        |
| Implementation start date:  |   | November 2021  |                                     |                        |
| Implementation end date:  |   | Deviations in deadlines occurred due to the work on the European Media Freedom Act, the provisions of which will be implemented to some extent in this act.  |                                     |                        |
| Implementation indicators:  |   | Proposal for changes to the relevant legislative framework to allow the publishing of information on media proprietors to the level of natural persons (reusable, easily searchable, open code format) and the source of media funding.  |                                     |                        |
| Degree of implementation:   | Implementation not started                          | Implemented to a lesser extent   | Implemented to a significant extent | Implemented completely |
|   |   | x  |                                     |                        |
| Activity changes:   |   | No changes were made.  |                                     |                        |



|   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Description of results with implementation indicators:</b> | Established working group and drafted provisional text of the draft Media Act |
| <b>Additional information:</b>                                | /   |
| <b>Next steps</b>   | Work continues on the drafting of the Act.                                    |

| <b>Activity 8.3 Establishing the media fact-checking system</b> |  |  |                                       |  |                               |
|---|--|--|---------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------|
| <b>Activity holder:</b>   |  | Ministry of Culture and Media  |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Activity co-holder(s):</b>                                   |  | Agency for Electronic Media  |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Other participants involved:</b>                             | <b>Public sector:</b>                                      | /  |                                       |  |                               |
|   | <b>CSO, private sector, working groups, multilaterals:</b> | /  |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Implementation start date:</b>                               |  | 2022   |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Implementation end date:</b>                                 |  | The complete commitment will be completed by mid-2026, and by the end of 2023, the study "Strengthening the Resilience of Society to Disinformation" was prepared, the procedure and rules were developed, and decisions were made based on the conducted public calls on the selection of legal entities that will deal with the verification of media information  |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Implementation indicators:</b>                               |  | The Agency for Electronic Media will implement the measures through the establishment of a media fact-checking system, including the development of procedures and rules, the development of registers and the strengthening of the capacity of digital competences of fact-checkers, as well as the development of technological programmes, platforms and systems of communication with the media, the creation of a database.                     |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Degree of implementation:</b>                                |  | <b>Implementation not started</b>  | <b>Implemented to a lesser extent</b> | <b>Implemented to a significant extent</b> | <b>Implemented completely</b> |
|   |  |  |                                       | x  |                               |
| <b>Activity changes:</b>  |  | No changes were made.  |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Description of results with implementation indicators:</b>   |  | The Agency for Electronic Media implements the measures through the establishment of a media fact-checking system, including the development of procedures and rules, the development of registers and the strengthening of the capacity of digital competences of fact-checkers, as well as the development of technological programmes, platforms and systems of communication with the media, the creation of a database. The complete commitment |                                       |  |                               |

|                                |  |
|--------------------------------|--|
|                                | will be completed by mid-2026, and by the end of 2023, the study "Strengthening the Resilience of Society to Disinformation" was prepared, the procedure and rules were developed, and decisions were made based on the conducted public calls on the selection of legal entities that will deal with the verification of media information. All information is available at <a href="https://npoo.aem.hr/">https://npoo.aem.hr/</a> |
| <b>Additional information:</b> | /  |
| <b>Next steps</b>              | A common platform is being developed, as well as additional training of persons who will engage in this activity   |

#### COMMITMENT 9 - IMPROVING THE CENTRAL CATALOGUE OF THE OFFICIAL DOCUMENTATION

| <b>Activity 9.1 Improving the Central Catalogue (improving the system of managing official documents of the Republic of Croatia with an improved search engine for finding and downloading official documentation)</b> |  |  |                                       |  |
|--|--|--|---------------------------------------|--|
| <b>Activity holder:</b>  |  | Central State Office for the Development of the Digital Society  |                                       |  |
| <b>Activity co-holder(s):</b>  |  | Academic community (University of Zagreb - Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Computing, Text Analysis and Knowledge Engineering Lab)   |                                       |  |
| <b>Other participants involved:</b>  | <b>Public sector:</b>                                      | /  |                                       |  |
|  | <b>CSO, private sector, working groups, multilaterals:</b> | /  |                                       |  |
| <b>Implementation start date:</b>  |  | Underway   |                                       |  |
| <b>Implementation end date:</b>  |  | July 2023<br>The activities took place within the EU project, the duration of which was extended until July 2023.  |                                       |  |
| <b>Implementation indicators:</b>  |  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Developed and integrated modules for optimising business processes of the Central Catalogue through the development of the software system for managing official documents and information</li> <li>The semantic search engine of the Central Catalogue and the automatic semantic analysis of the document improved</li> </ul> |                                       |  |
| <b>Degree of implementation:</b>   |  | <b>Implementation not started</b>  | <b>Implemented to a lesser extent</b> | <b>Implemented to a significant extent</b> |
|  |  |  |                                       |  |
|  |  |  |                                       | x  |
| <b>Activity changes:</b>   |  | No changes were made.  |                                       |  |

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>Description of results with implementation indicators:</b> | <p>Developed and integrated modules for optimising business processes of the Central Catalogue through the development of the software system for managing official documents and information, and the automatic semantic analysis of the Central Catalogue improved.</p> <p>The new integrated system for managing official documents of the Republic of Croatia ensures the automation of work processes necessary for the maintenance and updating of the Central Catalogue of Official Documents and Information of the Republic of Croatia, and the officials of the Office use it for daily work from September 2023. Its development has provided technology that will accelerate the acceptance (user mailboxes for the delivery of a mandatory copy of the document integrated with the NIAS user authentication system) and facilitate the processing, monitoring, publication and permanent storage of records and documents. A new communication channel has also been established for exchanging information and downloading the content of the Central Catalogue. All workflows are performed through an integral system without the need for additional applications. Since the integral system is modular, all system updates and upgrades in line with the growing needs of the Central Catalogue or its users (civil servants, the public) will be possible to be carried out in a relatively short time and at a lower cost.</p> <p>The semantic search engine has been developed and integrated with the system and enables a uniform search of all collections of the Central Catalogue, including the full text.</p> |
| <b>Additional information:</b>                                | /  |
| <b>Next steps</b>   | /  |

| <b>Activity 9.2 Conducting trainings on the use of an improved Central Catalogue (delivery and searching)</b> |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Activity holder:</b>   | Central State Office for the Development of the Digital Society   |
| <b>Activity co-holder(s):</b>   | /   |
| <b>Other participants involved:</b>   | <b>Public sector:</b> /   |
|   | <b>CSO, private sector, working groups, multilaterals:</b> /  |
| <b>Implementation start date:</b>   | January 2022  |
| <b>Implementation end date:</b>   | July 2023 (the activities took place within the EU project, the duration of which was extended until July 2023) |
| <b>Implementation indicators:</b>   | Conducted 26 workshops for information officers on the use of an improved Central Catalogue                     |

| Degree of implementation:                              | Implementation not started   | Implemented to a lesser extent | Implemented to a significant extent | Implemented completely |
|--|--|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------|
|  |  |                                |                                     |                        |
| Activity changes:                                      | No changes were made.  |                                |                                     |                        |
| Description of results with implementation indicators: | Commitment indicators were achieved - education on the use of the improved Central Catalog. Due to the reorganization of workshop organizations, instead of 26 planned live workshops, 12 online workshops were held in which a larger number of participants could participate. A total of 883 participants were educated at the workshops. |                                |                                     |                        |
| Additional information:                                | /  |                                |                                     |                        |
| Next steps:  | /  |                                |                                     |                        |

| Activity 9.3 Enabling continuous training for officials on the application of the Act on the Right of Access to Information in terms of the Central Catalogue, as well as the obligations and ways of its enforcement through the E-learning System |   |   |                                     |                        |
|---|---|---|-------------------------------------|------------------------|
| Activity holder:  |   | Central State Office for the Development of the Digital Society   |                                     |                        |
| Activity co-holder(s):  |   | /   |                                     |                        |
| Other participants involved:  | Public sector:                                      | /   |                                     |                        |
|   | CSO, private sector, working groups, multilaterals: | /   |                                     |                        |
| Implementation start date:  |   | February 2022   |                                     |                        |
| Implementation end date:  |   | July 2023 (the activities took place within the EU project, the duration of which was extended until July 2023) |                                     |                        |
| Implementation indicators:  |   | One promotional video about the Central Catalogue produced  |                                     |                        |
| Degree of implementation:   | Implementation not started                          | Implemented to a lesser extent  | Implemented to a significant extent | Implemented completely |
|   |   |   |                                     | x                      |

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>Activity changes:</b>                                      | No changes were made.  |
| <b>Description of results with implementation indicators:</b> | 4 video materials on the Central Catalogue have been published on the new Portal – "Delivery of an official document to the Central Catalogue", "About the Central Catalogue of Official Documents of the Republic of Croatia", "Searching and viewing the collections of the Central Catalogue, part I" and "Searching and viewing the collections of the Central Catalogue, part II “. |
| <b>Additional information:</b>                                | /  |
| <b>Next steps</b>   | /  |

#### COMMITMENT 10 - IMPROVING THE CENTRAL REGISTRY OF STATE ASSETS

|   |  |  |                                       |  |                               |
|---|--|--|---------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------|
| <b>Activity 10.1 Improving the Central Registry of State Assets (improving the system of managing the public portal for a more transparent portrayal of assets)</b> |  |  |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Activity holder:</b>   |  | Central State Office for the Development of the Digital Society  |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Activity co-holder(s):</b>   |  | /  |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Other participants involved:</b>   | <b>Public sector:</b>                                      | /  |                                       |  |                               |
|   | <b>CSO, private sector, working groups, multilaterals:</b> | /  |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Implementation start date:</b>   |  | June 2020  |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Implementation end date:</b>   |  | December 2023  |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Implementation indicators:</b>   |  | Upgraded information system for the management of state assets of the Republic of Croatia with a more transparent public part of the browser of state assets |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Degree of implementation:</b>  |  | <b>Implementation not started</b>  | <b>Implemented to a lesser extent</b> | <b>Implemented to a significant extent</b> | <b>Implemented completely</b> |
|   |  |  |                                       |  | x                             |
| <b>Activity changes:</b>  |  | No changes were made.  |                                       |  |                               |

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Description of results with implementation indicators:</b> | The implementation of the commitment is related to the implementation of the EU project "Improving the system of records and management of state property". The default indicator of the commitment has been achieved - the information system of state property management of the Republic of Croatia has been upgraded. |
| <b>Additional information:</b>                                | /   |
| <b>Next steps:</b>  | /   |

## B. – FIGHT AGAINST CORRUPTION

### COMMITMENT 11 - PROTECTION OF WHISTLEBLOWERS

| Activity 11.1 Conducting trainings for judicial officials in the context of protection of whistleblowers |  |   |  |                               |
|--|--|---|--|-------------------------------|
| <b>Activity holder:</b>  |  | Judicial Academy  |  |                               |
| <b>Activity co-holder(s):</b>  |  | /   |  |                               |
| <b>Other participants involved:</b>  | <b>Public sector:</b>                                      | /   |  |                               |
|  | <b>CSO, private sector, working groups, multilaterals:</b> | /   |  |                               |
| <b>Implementation start date:</b>  |  | September 2022  |  |                               |
| <b>Implementation end date:</b>  |  | December 2023   |  |                               |
| <b>Implementation indicators:</b>  |  | A minimum of two trainings with a total of 20 participants conducted. |  |                               |
| <b>Degree of implementation:</b>   | <b>Implementation not started</b>                          | <b>Implemented to a lesser extent</b>                                 | <b>Implemented to a significant extent</b> | <b>Implemented completely</b> |
|  |  |   |  | x                             |
| <b>Activity changes:</b>   |  | No changes were made.   |  |                               |

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>Description of results with implementation indicators:</b> | In the period in question, the Judicial Academy conducted five one-day workshops two in 2022 and three in 2023) for judicial officials and advisers in the judiciary on the protection of whistleblowers. A total of 71 participants participated. |
| <b>Additional information:</b>                                | /  |
| <b>Next steps:</b>  | /  |

| <b>Activity 11.2 Conducting trainings in the context of protection of whistleblowers for confidential persons, trade union commissioners, providers of free legal aid and employees</b> |  |   |  |                               |
|---|--|---|--|-------------------------------|
| <b>Activity holder:</b>   |  | Ministry of Justice and Administration  |  |                               |
| <b>Activity co-holder(s):</b>   |  | /   |  |                               |
| <b>Other participants involved:</b>   | <b>Public sector:</b>                                      | /   |  |                               |
|   | <b>CSO, private sector, working groups, multilaterals:</b> | For conducting trainings: The Office of the Ombudsman, State School for Public Administration |  |                               |
| <b>Implementation start date:</b>   |  | September 2022  |  |                               |
| <b>Implementation end date:</b>   |  | December 2023   |  |                               |
| <b>Implementation indicators:</b>   |  | A total of five trainings with a total of at least 75 participants conducted                  |  |                               |
| <b>Degree of implementation:</b>  | <b>Implementation not started</b>                          | <b>Implemented to a lesser extent</b>   | <b>Implemented to a significant extent</b> | <b>Implemented completely</b> |
|   |  |   |  | x                             |
| <b>Activity changes:</b>  |  | No changes were made.   |  |                               |

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Description of results with implementation indicators:</b> | The Ministry of Justice and Administration held 3 trainings for confidential persons and employees related to the implementation of the Act on the Protection of Whistleblowers in the premises of the State School of Public Administration (in May, September and October 2023). The training was attended by 20 participants in May, 17 in September and 15 in October. The trainees were confidential persons from state and other public law bodies. In March 2023, the Ministry of Justice and Public Administration held 1 training for representatives of legal entities owned by the Republic of Croatia, which was attended by 12 participants. The activity is relevant because it improves the availability of information to the public, since whistleblowers provide information of public interest to the public. Indirectly, the activity is also relevant to public accountability as it improves the rules and mechanisms regarding the protection of whistleblowers. |
| <b>Additional information:</b>                                | /   |
| <b>Next steps</b>   | /   |

#### COMMITMENT 12 - IMPROVING THE NORMATIVE FRAMEWORK FOR PREVENTING CORRUPTION

| Activity 12.1 Adopting the Action Plan for the period from 2022 to 2024 with the Anti-Corruption Strategy for the period from 2021 to 2030 |  |  |                                       |  |
|--|--|--|---------------------------------------|--|
| <b>Activity holder:</b>  |  | Ministry of Justice and Administration   |                                       |  |
| <b>Activity co-holder(s):</b>  |  | /  |                                       |  |
| <b>Other participants involved:</b>  | <b>Public sector:</b>                                      | /  |                                       |  |
|  | <b>CSO, private sector, working groups, multilaterals:</b> | Representatives of government bodies, units of local and regional self-government, civil society organisations             |                                       |  |
| <b>Implementation start date:</b>  |  | July 2022  |                                       |  |
| <b>Implementation end date:</b>  |  | December 2024  |                                       |  |
| <b>Implementation indicators:</b>  |  | Developed Action Plan for the period from 2022 to 2024 with the Anti-Corruption Strategy for the period from 2021 to 2030. |                                       |  |
| <b>Degree of implementation:</b>   |  | <b>Implementation not started</b>  | <b>Implemented to a lesser extent</b> | <b>Implemented to a significant extent</b> |
|  |  |  |                                       |  |
|  |  |  |                                       | x  |
| <b>Activity changes:</b>   |  | No changes were made.  |                                       |  |



|   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>Description of results with implementation indicators:</b> | <p>The Government of the Republic of Croatia has adopted the Report on the Implementation of the Action Plan for the period from 2022 to 2024 for the year 2022. In 2022, a total of 42 activities were planned, of which 29 were implemented, 8 were partially implemented, and 5 activities were not implemented. In percentages, this amounts to 69% of implemented activities, 19% of partially implemented and 12% of activities that have not been implemented. The report was published on the official website of the Ministry of Justice, Administration and Digital Transformation<br/> <a href="https://mpudt.gov.hr/UserDocImages/dokumenti/Antikorupcija/Izvjesce%20o%20implementation%20Action%20plan%20for%202022..pdf">https://mpudt.gov.hr/UserDocImages/dokumenti/Antikorupcija/Izvjesce%20o%20implementation%20Action%20plan%20for%202022..pdf</a>.</p> <p>At its 24th session, held on 13 September 2024, The Government of the Republic of Croatia adopted the Report on the Implementation of the Action Plan for the period from 2022 to 2024 for the year 2023<br/> <a href="https://mpudt.gov.hr/UserDocImages/dokumenti/Antikorupcija/Izvjesce%20o%20implementation%20Action%20plan%20for%20period%20from%202022%20to%202024%20years%20for%20Strategy%20prevention%20corruption%20for%20period%20from%202021%20to%202030%20years%20for%202023.pdf">https://mpudt.gov.hr/UserDocImages/dokumenti/Antikorupcija/Izvjesce%20o%20implementation%20Action%20plan%20for%20period%20from%202022%20to%202024%20years%20for%20Strategy%20prevention%20corruption%20for%20period%20from%202021%20to%202030%20years%20for%202023.pdf</a>.</p> |
| <b>Additional information:</b>                                | /  |
| <b>Next steps:</b>  | Based on the implementation of the Action Plan, official implementation reports are prepared by the Ministry of Justice and Administration, with the aim of reporting to the Government of the Republic of Croatia. The reports were approved by the Council for the Prevention of Corruption, and after acceptance by the Government of the Republic of Croatia, published on the official website of the Ministry of Justice and Administration.   |

| <b>Activity 12.2 Drafting the Lobbying Act</b>   |   |                       |   |  |  |
|--|---|-----------------------|---|--|--|
| <b>Activity holder:</b>  | Ministry of Justice and Administration  |                       |   |  |  |
| <b>Activity co-holder(s):</b>  | /   |                       |   |  |  |
| <b>Other participants involved:</b>  | <table border="1"> <tr> <td data-bbox="412 1005 696 1043"> <b>Public sector:</b> </td> <td data-bbox="696 1005 2074 1043"> / </td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="412 1043 696 1153"> <b>CSO, private sector, working groups, multilaterals:</b> </td> <td data-bbox="696 1043 2074 1153"> Representatives of government bodies, units of local and regional self-government, civil society organisations </td> </tr> </table> | <b>Public sector:</b> | / | <b>CSO, private sector, working groups, multilaterals:</b> | Representatives of government bodies, units of local and regional self-government, civil society organisations |
| <b>Public sector:</b>  | /   |                       |   |  |  |
| <b>CSO, private sector, working groups, multilaterals:</b>                                 | Representatives of government bodies, units of local and regional self-government, civil society organisations  |                       |   |  |  |
| <b>Implementation start date:</b><br><i>(if there were any deviations, please clarify)</i> |   |                       |   |  |  |
| <b>Implementation end date:</b><br><i>(if there were any deviations, please clarify)</i>   | April 2023<br>The public consultation procedure on the Draft Lobbying Act proposal was completed on 16 July 2023, and at the session of 2 November 2023, the Government of the Republic of Croatia accepted the Draft proposal and referred it to the first reading procedure in the Croatian Parliament. The Act was adopted in March 2024 and entered into force on 1 October 2024.                                     |                       |   |  |  |

|   |  |                                       |  |                               |
|---|--|---------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------|
| <b>Implementation indicators:</b>                             | Draft Lobbying Act produced  |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Degree of implementation:</b><br><i>(mark with x)</i>      | <b>Implementation not started</b>  | <b>Implemented to a lesser extent</b> | <b>Implemented to a significant extent</b> | <b>Implemented completely</b> |
|   |  |                                       |  | x                             |
| <b>Activity changes:</b>                                      | No changes were made.  |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Description of results with implementation indicators:</b> | /  |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Additional information:</b>                                | /  |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Next steps:</b>  | The Lobbying Act was adopted and entered into force on 1 October 2024. In the coming period, the drafting of bylaws and the monitoring of the implementation, i.e. the performance of the Act will take place. |                                       |  |                               |

## C. – OPENNESS

### COMMITMENT 13 - ONGOING DATA OPENING

| <b>Activity 13.1 Provide operational and technical support to public sector bodies when publishing open data on the Open Data Portal</b> |   |                                       |  |                               |
|--|---|---------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------|
| <b>Activity holder:</b>  | Central State Office for the Development of the Digital Society   |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Activity co-holder(s):</b>  | /   |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Other participants involved:</b>  | <b>Public sector:</b>   | /                                     |  |                               |
|  | <b>CSO, private sector, working groups, multilaterals:</b>  | /                                     |  |                               |
| <b>Implementation start date:</b>  | Ongoing, at the request of the body   |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Implementation end date:</b>  | Ongoing, at the request of the body   |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Implementation indicators:</b>  | Percentage of replies on the requests for operational and technical support by public authorities made through the Open Data Portal |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Degree of implementation:</b>   | <b>Implementation not started</b>   | <b>Implemented to a lesser extent</b> | <b>Implemented to a significant extent</b> | <b>Implemented completely</b> |
|  |   |                                       |  | x                             |

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Activity changes:</b>                                      | No changes were made.   |
| <b>Description of results with implementation indicators:</b> | All requests for operational and technical support by public authorities sent using the Open Data Portal shall be resolved on the same day, except in exceptional cases when the intervention of an external associate maintaining the portal is required. Communication with publisher bodies is done on a daily basis.<br><br>At the time of the conclusion of the report, 2,768 datasets were published on the portal by 484 bodies. |
| <b>Additional information:</b>                                | /   |
| <b>Next steps</b>   | /   |

| Activity 13.2 Ongoing technological, process and functional building up of the current IT system for publishing open data |  |  |  |                               |
|---|--|--|--|-------------------------------|
| <b>Activity holder:</b>   |  | Central State Office for the Development of the Digital Society  |  |                               |
| <b>Activity co-holder(s):</b>   |  | /  |  |                               |
| <b>Other participants involved:</b>   | <b>Public sector:</b>                                      | /  |  |                               |
|   | <b>CSO, private sector, working groups, multilaterals:</b> | /  |  |                               |
| <b>Implementation start date:</b><br><i>(if there were any deviations, please clarify)</i>                                |  | Underway   |  |                               |
| <b>Implementation end date:</b><br><i>(if there were any deviations, please clarify)</i>                                  |  | December 2023  |  |                               |
| <b>Implementation indicators:</b>   |  | Two specially designed trainings conducted annually for the target group - information officers in public authorities. |  |                               |
| <b>Degree of implementation:</b>  | <b>Implementation not started</b>                          | <b>Implemented to a lesser extent</b>  | <b>Implemented to a significant extent</b> | <b>Implemented completely</b> |

|   |   |  |   |
|---|---|--|---|
|   |   |  | x |
| <b>Activity changes:</b>                                      | <p>Instead of two specially designed trainings per year for the target group, in cooperation with the State School for Public Administration, user instructions that provide officials in public authorities with information on how to publish data sets on the Open Data Portal were uploaded to the Moodle system on the Open Data Portal <a href="https://data.gov.hr/">https://data.gov.hr/</a>. Also, within the project <i>Adaptation of information systems of public sector bodies to the Open Data Portal</i>, 468 state and public officials were trained to use the portal and on how to fulfil the legal obligation to publish the data sets of their bodies on the Open Data Portal through 18 workshops. Due to the implementation of the EU project "Adaptation of information systems of public sector bodies to the Open Data Portal", it was estimated that this type of education would be more adequate at the moment.</p>   |  |   |
| <b>Description of results with implementation indicators:</b> | <p>The results of the implementation of the project "Adaptation of information systems of public sector bodies to the Open Data Portal" were: Technological, process and functional improvement of the IT system for publishing open data of public authorities in a machine-readable form and Strengthening the capacity of employees of state and public authorities and involving a larger number of their entities in publishing open data, as well as more active involvement of all stakeholders in the open data system. As one of the indicators of the project, 18 online trainings were conducted, with 468 officials who underwent trainings and were accepted as participants in the project.</p> <p>Instead of two specially designed trainings per year for the target group, in cooperation with the State School for Public Administration, user instructions that provide officials in public authorities with information on how to publish data sets on the Open Data Portal were uploaded to the Moodle system on the Open Data Portal <a href="https://data.gov.hr/">https://data.gov.hr/</a>.</p> |  |   |
| <b>Additional information:</b>                                | /   |  |   |
| <b>Next steps:</b>  | /   |  |   |

## D - PARTICIPATION BY CITIZENS/CIVIL SOCIETY IN THE PROCESSES OF FORMING, IMPLEMENTING AND MONITORING PUBLIC POLICY

### COMMITMENT 14 - FURTHER IMPROVEMENT IN CONDUCTING CONSULTATIONS WITH THE PUBLIC

| <b>Activity 14.1 - Improving the Code of practice of consultation with the interested public in procedures of adopting laws, other regulations and acts</b> |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| <b>Activity holder:</b>   | Legislation Office  |   |
| <b>Activity co-holder(s):</b>   | Information Commissioner, Government Office for Cooperation with NGOs |   |
|   | <b>Public sector:</b>   | / |

|   |   |                                       |  |                               |  |
|---|---|---------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------|--|
| <b>Other participants involved:</b>                           | <b>CSO, private sector, working groups, multilaterals:</b>  | /                                     |  |                               |  |
| <b>Implementation start date:</b>                             | 15 July 2022  |                                       |  |                               |  |
| <b>Implementation end date:</b>                               | Underway  |                                       |  |                               |  |
| <b>Implementation indicators:</b>                             | In cooperation with the Council for Civil Society Development, a broad consultation conducted with civil society organizations on the objectives and content of the Code; Adopted a new Code of consultation with the interested public in the procedures for the adoption of laws, other regulations and acts; Revised Guidelines for the application of the Code of consultation with the interested public in the procedures for the adoption of laws, other regulations and acts  |                                       |  |                               |  |
| <b>Degree of implementation:</b>                              | <b>Implementation not started</b>   | <b>Implemented to a lesser extent</b> | <b>Implemented to a significant extent</b> | <b>Implemented completely</b> |  |
|   |   | x                                     |  |                               |  |
| <b>Activity changes:</b>                                      | On 1 January 2024, the new Act on Better Regulation Policy Instruments entered into force, which unified and improved the basic better regulation policy instruments in one place, including public consultation. The Regulation on the methodology and procedure for the implementation of better regulation policy instruments, as an accompanying bylaw, provides for the adoption of Guidelines for the implementation of better regulation policy instruments adopted in March 2024. The Guidelines for the implementation of better regulation policy instruments also contain revised guidelines for the implementation of public consultations, thus partially achieving commitment 14.1. |                                       |  |                               |  |
| <b>Description of results with implementation indicators:</b> | Part of the commitment was implemented in accordance with the above changes.  |                                       |  |                               |  |
| <b>Additional information:</b>                                | /   |                                       |  |                               |  |
| <b>Next steps:</b>  | /   |                                       |  |                               |  |

| <b>Activity 14.2 - Improve the interactive Internet system for consultations with the public on procedures of adopting laws, other regulations and acts (e-Consultations)</b> |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| <b>Activity holder:</b>   | Central State Office for the Development of the Digital Society, Legislation Office |   |
| <b>Activity co-holder(s):</b>   | Government Office for Cooperation with NGOs, Information Commissioner               |   |
|   | <b>Public sector:</b>   | / |

|   |  |   |  |                               |  |
|---|--|---|--|-------------------------------|--|
| <b>Other participants involved:</b>                           | <b>CSO, private sector, working groups, multilaterals:</b>   | Working Group within the project "e-Consultations – extensions, upgrades and improvement of legislative processes of public consultation" with the participation of representatives of local and regional self-government, in addition to representatives of state administration bodies and state bodies |  |                               |  |
| <b>Implementation start date:</b>                             | 16 August 2021   |   |  |                               |  |
| <b>Implementation end date:</b>                               | 31 December 2023   |   |  |                               |  |
| <b>Implementation indicators:</b>                             | Units of local and regional self-government publish public consultation on the central system of eConsultation   |   |  |                               |  |
| <b>Degree of implementation:</b>                              | <b>Implementation not started</b>  | <b>Implemented to a lesser extent</b>   | <b>Implemented to a significant extent</b> | <b>Implemented completely</b> |  |
|   |  |   |  | x                             |  |
| <b>Activity changes:</b>                                      | No changes were made.  |   |  |                               |  |
| <b>Description of results with implementation indicators:</b> | The project entitled "e-Consultations – extensions, upgrades and improvement of legislative processes of public consultation" was completed in December 2023. The result of the project is the technological, process and functional improvement and expansion of the e-Consultations IT system, and the strengthening of capacities and improvement of the operation of the existing e-Consultations system, as well as the employees of the state and public administration for work in the e-Consultations system. The interface has been modernized, an application tailored to different types of devices (responsive design). The system is adapted to the standard of e-service development, integrated with the National Identification and Authentication System (NIAS). The e-Consultations system was tested through pilot projects with selected local and regional self-government units and then adapted to local and regional self-government units. As a result, the e-Consultations system has been extended for use by local and regional governments. |   |  |                               |  |
| <b>Additional information:</b>                                | Since February 2024, the e-Consultations portal has become a service within the e-Citizens system and the sign-in to the application is done through the NIAS system. Also, from February 2024, local and regional self-government units can conduct their consultations through the e-Consultations portal.   |   |  |                               |  |
| <b>Next steps:</b>  | /  |   |  |                               |  |

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Activity 14.3 - Conducting a programme of education on standards for consultations with the interested public on procedures for adopting laws, other regulations and acts, and workshops on using the e-Consultations system</b> |   |
| <b>Activity holder:</b>   | Legislation Office, Central State Office for the Development of the Digital Society                           |
| <b>Activity co-holder(s):</b>   | State School for Public Administration, Information Commissioner, Government Office for Cooperation with NGOs |

|   |   |   |  |                               |  |
|---|---|---|--|-------------------------------|--|
| <b>Other participants involved:</b>                           | <b>Public sector:</b>   | /   |  |                               |  |
|   | <b>CSO, private sector, working groups, multilaterals:</b>  | Working Group within the project "e-Consultations – extensions, upgrades and improvement of legislative processes of public consultation" with the participation of representatives of local and regional self-government, in addition to representatives of state administration bodies and state bodies |  |                               |  |
| <b>Implementation start date:</b>                             | 15 July 2022  |   |  |                               |  |
| <b>Implementation end date:</b>                               | 31 December 2023  |   |  |                               |  |
| <b>Implementation indicators:</b>                             | Education on the preparation and implementation of public consultations – 3 workshops per year; Education on the use of the e-Consultations portal - 6 education sessions per year; implementation of educational programs through the ESF project  |   |  |                               |  |
| <b>Degree of implementation:</b>                              | <b>Implementation not started</b>   | <b>Implemented to a lesser extent</b>   | <b>Implemented to a significant extent</b> | <b>Implemented completely</b> |  |
|   |   |   |  | x                             |  |
| <b>Activity changes:</b>                                      | Since January 2023, the workshop on the implementation of consultations in the procedures for the adoption of laws, other regulations and acts and workshops on the use of the e-Consultations portal has been merged into one workshop entitled "Consultation with the public as part of the legislative procedure".   |   |  |                               |  |
| <b>Description of results with implementation indicators:</b> | <p>Through the workshop on the preparation and implementation of public consultations, participants are informed about the methods of consultation and tools for practical application in the implementation of the Code of Consultations with the interested public in the formulation of laws, other regulations and acts and the Ac on the Right of Access to Information, which improves the practice of consultation with the interested public in the formulation of public policies. In cooperation with the State School of Public Administration and the Office of the Information Commissioner, 3 workshops were held for 29 participants in 2022. During 2023, the workshop was jointly held by the Office for Legislation and the Central State Office for the Development of the Digital Society. In 2023, seven (7) workshops entitled "Public consultation as part of the legislative procedure" were held, with a total of 94 participants.</p> <p>Also, through the project "e-Consultations – extensions, upgrades and improvement of legislative processes of public consultation" funded through the European Social Fund (ESF), the CSODDS implemented 8 educational programs in which a total of 400 participants were present.</p> |   |  |                               |  |
| <b>Additional information:</b>                                | /   |   |  |                               |  |
| <b>Next steps:</b>  | In the coming period, the trainings will continue to be held continuously within the State School of Public Administration.   |   |  |                               |  |

| Activity 14.4 Conducting a promotional campaign for citizens on e-Consultations |   |  |                                     |                        |
|---|---|--|-------------------------------------|------------------------|
| Activity holder:  |   | Central State Office for the Development of the Digital Society<br>Legislation Office  |                                     |                        |
| Activity co-holder(s):  |   | /  |                                     |                        |
| Other participants involved:  | Public sector:                                      | /  |                                     |                        |
|   | CSO, private sector, working groups, multilaterals: | /  |                                     |                        |
| Implementation start date:  |   | Underway   |                                     |                        |
| Implementation end date:  |   | December 2023  |                                     |                        |
| Implementation indicators:  |   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• promotional and video content produced</li> <li>• promotional materials produced</li> <li>• launch and final conference held</li> </ul>   |                                     |                        |
| Degree of implementation:   | Implementation not started                          | Implemented to a lesser extent   | Implemented to a significant extent | Implemented completely |
|   |   |  |                                     | x                      |
| Activity changes:   |   | No changes were made.  |                                     |                        |
| Description of results with implementation indicators:                          |   | As part of the project "e-Consultations"- expansion, upgrading and improvement of legislative processes of public consultation, a promotional campaign was carried out on Facebook, LinkedIn, and Central State Office for the Development of the Digital Society website. |                                     |                        |
| Additional information:   |   | /  |                                     |                        |
| Next steps:   |   | /  |                                     |                        |

| Activity 14.5 - Continuously updating the database on the composition of working groups for drafting laws, other regulations and acts and commissions and working bodies (including also those which participate in NGOs and other representatives of the interested public) as part of savjetovanja.gov.hr |   |
|---|---|
| Activity holder:  | Legislation Office  |
| Activity co-holder(s):  | Central State Office for the Development of the Digital Society |



|   |  |                                       |  |                               |  |
|---|--|---------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------|--|
| <b>Other participants involved:</b>                           | <b>Public sector:</b>  | /                                     |  |                               |  |
|   | <b>CSO, private sector, working groups, multilaterals:</b>   | /                                     |  |                               |  |
| <b>Implementation start date:</b>                             | 15 July 2023   |                                       |  |                               |  |
| <b>Implementation end date:</b>                               | 31 December 2023   |                                       |  |                               |  |
| <b>Implementation indicators:</b>                             | In cooperation with the Council for Civil Society Development, a broad consultation conducted with civil society organizations on the objectives and content of the Code; Adopted a new Code of consultation with the interested public in the procedures for the adoption of laws, other regulations and acts; Revised Guidelines for the application of the Code of consultation with the interested public in the procedures for the adoption of laws, other regulations and acts   |                                       |  |                               |  |
| <b>Degree of implementation:</b>                              | <b>Implementation not started</b>  | <b>Implemented to a lesser extent</b> | <b>Implemented to a significant extent</b> | <b>Implemented completely</b> |  |
|   |  | x                                     |  |                               |  |
| <b>Activity changes:</b>                                      | No changes were made.  |                                       |  |                               |  |
| <b>Description of results with implementation indicators:</b> | The subpage "Database of Advisory Bodies" is located within the portal savjetovanje.gov.hr and through it, it is possible to search for permanent and occasional (ad hoc) working and advisory bodies of state bodies. The data can be searched by state body, type of advisory body, name and surname of the member and by the institution/organization from which they come. The subpage is updated in accordance with the submitted observations of state bodies.                   |                                       |  |                               |  |
| <b>Additional information:</b>                                | /  |                                       |  |                               |  |
| <b>Next steps:</b>  | Under the Regulation on the methodology and procedure for the implementation of better regulation policy instruments, which entered into force in February 2024, professional holders are obliged to submit data on the composition of advisory bodies and working groups for the drafting of laws and other regulations to the Office for Legislation, in the first quarter of the current year for the previous calendar year, for publication in the "Database of Advisory Bodies". |                                       |  |                               |  |

## E - OPEN GOVERNMENT PARTNERSHIP AT THE LOCAL AND REGIONAL LEVELS

### COMMITMENT 15 - ENCOURAGING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF OPEN GOVERNMENT PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVE AT LOCAL LEVELS

#### Activity 15.1 - Conducting trainings on the OGP Initiative for the representatives of units of local and regional self-government

|   |  |   |                                       |  |                               |
|---|--|---|---------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------|
| <b>Activity holder:</b>                                       |  | Government Office for Cooperation with NGOs, Central State Office for the Development of the Digital Society, Council of the OGP Initiative   |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Activity co-holder(s):</b>                                 |  | Croatian County Association, Association of Cities in the Republic of Croatia, Croatian Association of Municipalities   |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Other participants involved:</b>                           | <b>Public sector:</b>                                      | /   |                                       |  |                               |
|   | <b>CSO, private sector, working groups, multilaterals:</b> | /   |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Implementation start date:</b>                             |  | 1 January 2022  |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Implementation end date:</b>                               |  | 31 December 2023  |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Implementation indicators:</b>                             |  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One presentation of the OGP Initiative for municipalities, cities and counties held annually</li> <li>• One training session per year was held on the development of action plans for representatives of local and regional self-government units</li> </ul>   |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Degree of implementation:</b>                              |  | <b>Implementation not started</b>   | <b>Implemented to a lesser extent</b> | <b>Implemented to a significant extent</b> | <b>Implemented completely</b> |
|   |  |   |                                       | x  |                               |
| <b>Activity changes:</b>                                      |  | No changes were made.   |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Description of results with implementation indicators:</b> |  | <p>The Government Office for Cooperation with NGOs continued to encourage representatives of local authorities to participate in the Open Government Partnership initiative. In December 2022 and 2023, public events were organized on the topic of open local government, which were also attended by representatives of the Council and where examples of successful local units were presented.</p> <p>At the conference "Open Local Government – Challenges and Opportunities" held on 14 December 2022, José María Marín, Senior Programme Advisor for the Open Local Government Programme, presented the ways and benefits of involving local and/or regional units in the global OGP community. The Central State Office for the Development of the Digital Society presented a project for the establishment of a consultation system for local and regional units that will be integrated into the existing "e-Consultations" system, designed through the OGP Action Plan. The cities of Pakrac and Rab also presented their efforts of participatory planning and opening of city budgets to citizens, and European examples included the City of Tirana and the platform "Decide Madrid", the Madrid City Council that enables public participation in decision-making. Several video examples from around the world (Buenos Aires in Argentina, Austin in the United States and Kaduna in Nigeria) were also shown, which served as an inspiration to</p> |                                       |  |                               |

|                                |   |
|--------------------------------|---|
|                                | <p>local and regional units from Croatia to use innovative methods of participatory democracy in which citizens decide how to distribute part of the public budget or (co)create public policies.</p> <p>At the conference "Open Government in Croatia – A Look into the Future" held on 19 December 2023, José María Marín from the Open Local Government Programme presented examples of good practice of involving local units and an open call for the involvement of local self-government units in the OGP initiative. All information is shared on the Office's website and disseminated through communication channels. Upon invitation, application from Croatia was received, and in April 2024, the City of Zagreb, as the first local unit from Croatia, with the partner support of the Gong association, was elected a member of the Open Local Government Programme (OGP Local).</p> |
| <b>Additional information:</b> | /   |
| <b>Next steps:</b>             | /   |

| <b>Activity 15.2 - Launching city Open Data Portals</b>       |  |  |                                       |  |                               |
|---|--|--|---------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------|
| <b>Activity holder:</b>                                       |  | Government Office for Cooperation with NGOs, Central State Office for the Development of the Digital Society, Council of the OGP Initiative                    |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Activity co-holder(s):</b>                                 |  | Central State Office for the Development of the Digital Society, Association of Cities in the Republic of Croatia, units of local and regional self-government |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Other participants involved:</b>                           | <b>Public sector:</b>                                      | /  |                                       |  |                               |
|   | <b>CSO, private sector, working groups, multilaterals:</b> | /  |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Implementation start date:</b>                             |  | 1 January 2022   |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Implementation end date:</b>                               |  | 31 December 2023   |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Implementation indicators:</b>                             |  | Number on units of local and regional self-government that have launched Open Data Portals   |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Degree of implementation:</b>                              |  | <b>Implementation not started</b>  | <b>Implemented to a lesser extent</b> | <b>Implemented to a significant extent</b> | <b>Implemented completely</b> |
|   |  |  | x                                     |  |                               |
| <b>Activity changes:</b>                                      |  | No changes were made.  |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Description of results with implementation indicators:</b> |  | Currently, the cities of Rijeka, Zagreb, Krk, Virovitica, Varaždin, Brod-Posavina County and the municipality of Grožnjan have their own open data portals.    |                                       |  |                               |

|                                |   |
|--------------------------------|---|
| <b>Additional information:</b> | / |
| <b>Next steps:</b>             | / |

| <b>Activity 15.3 Setting up Internet systems for consultation with the interested public at local and regional levels</b> |  |   |                                       |  |                               |
|---|--|---|---------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------|
| <b>Activity holder:</b>   |  | Central State Office for the Development of the Digital Society<br>Office for Cooperation with NGOs<br>Council of the OGP Initiative  |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Activity co-holder(s):</b>   |  | /   |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Other participants involved:</b>   | <b>Public sector:</b>                                      | /   |                                       |  |                               |
|   | <b>CSO, private sector, working groups, multilaterals:</b> | /   |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Implementation start date:</b>   |  | June 2022   |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Implementation end date:</b>   |  | December 2023   |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Implementation indicators:</b>   |  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A system for consultation with the interested public for units of local and regional self-government set up within e-Consultations</li> <li>• Number of units of local and regional self-government which implement procedures for consultations via the newly established system</li> <li>• Number of consultations held with the interested public at local and regional levels</li> </ul> |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Degree of implementation:</b>  |  | <b>Implementation not started</b>   | <b>Implemented to a lesser extent</b> | <b>Implemented to a significant extent</b> | <b>Implemented completely</b> |
|   |  |   |                                       |  | x                             |
| <b>Activity changes:</b>  |  | No changes were made.   |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Description of results with implementation indicators:</b>   |  | The new e-Consultations system developed through the EU project "e-Consultations - Extending, Upgrading and Improving Legislative Processes of Public Consultation" has been extended to local, regional and regional self-government units.  |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Additional information:</b>  |  | /   |                                       |  |                               |

|             |   |
|-------------|---|
| Next steps: | / |
|-------------|---|

## F - SUSTAINABILITY OF THE OPEN GOVERNMENT PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVE

### COMMITMENT 16 - ASSURING THE SUSTAINABILITY OF VALUES AND CONTENT OF THE OPEN GOVERNMENT PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVE

|   |  |  |                                       |  |                               |
|---|--|--|---------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------|
| <b>Activity 16.1 Raising the level of knowledge and skills of high school pupils on civic monitoring of public finances, the use of publicly available (open) data and the activities of the Open Government Partnership Initiative</b> |  |  |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Activity holder:</b>   |  | Ministry of Regional Development and EU Funds  |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Activity co-holder(s):</b>   |  | Ministry of Science and Education, Government Office for Cooperation with NGOs   |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Other participants involved:</b>   | <b>Public sector:</b>                                      | /  |                                       |  |                               |
|   | <b>CSO, private sector, working groups, multilaterals:</b> | /  |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Implementation start date:</b>   |  | Network trainings within the project "At the School of Open Cohesion, ASOC" started in January 2023  |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Implementation end date:</b>   |  | In addition to the introductory online training, four additional trainings were held for secondary school teachers. The last in a series of online trainings was held in May 2023.   |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Implementation indicators:</b>   |  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Online training conducted for all participants of the implementation of the project "At the school of Open Cohesion" (pupils, teachers, principals, representatives of regional coordinators, representatives of EDIC, representatives of ministries involved in the implementation of the project, representatives of civil society involved in the implementation of the project) with up to 200 participants in the school year of implementation of the project "At the School of Open Cohesion, ASOC"</li> <li>The total number of educated participants of online training on the topic of the use of open data, active citizenship and the Open Government Partnership Initiative, up to 200 (number of pupils and persons who will participate in the implementation of the activities of the project "At the School of Open Cohesion, ASOC").</li> </ul> |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Degree of implementation:</b>  |  | <b>Implementation not started</b>  | <b>Implemented to a lesser extent</b> | <b>Implemented to a significant extent</b> | <b>Implemented completely</b> |
|   |  |  |                                       |  | x                             |
| <b>Activity changes:</b>  |  | No changes were made.  |                                       |  |                               |

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <p><b>Description of results with implementation indicators:</b></p> | <p>The activity was successfully implemented, with about 100 participants, including high school pupils and teachers. In November 2022, the Ministry of Regional Development and EU Funds, in cooperation with co-holders of activities, issued a Public Call for Expression of Interest for Secondary Schools to participate in the ASOC Project – Cross-Border Interreg Cooperation Italy-Croatia. Upon receipt of the applications, an evaluation procedure was carried out and 8 secondary schools were selected to be involved in the implementation of the project. At the very beginning of the implementation, one school withdrew from the implementation; consequently, 7 secondary schools from the Republic of Croatia participated in the project.</p> <p>In January 2023, the formal implementation of the project began, in such a way that in the period from January to May 2023, in addition to the introductory conference, four additional online workshops were held for high school teachers. In accordance with the curriculum of the ASOC project, the Ministry's employees educated teachers about the ways of using public data and monitoring the financing of projects with an emphasis on the concept of active citizenship. After each online education, the educated teachers transferred the knowledge and materials to their team of pupils, who were then obliged to prepare a report related to each topic of online education. The report in question was submitted to the e-mail address of the Ministry within the set deadlines. Given that the ASOC project was implemented under the Italy-Croatia Cross-Border Cooperation Programme, it is important to note that Italian and Croatian school teams collaborated, i.e. worked in pairs, studying a jointly selected project funded through the Italy-Croatia Cross-Border Cooperation Programme.</p> <p>During the implementation of the project, participants were encouraged to involve additional stakeholders with the aim of deepening the acquired knowledge. Accordingly, the teams contacted regional coordinators, Europe Direct information centres, and various representatives from the local or regional level.</p> <p>In addition to four online trainings, the Open Government Week was marked in May 2023 in cooperation with the Government Office for Cooperation with NGOs, and on that occasion an employee of the Office for Cooperation with NGOs held an online training for pupils and teachers.</p> <p>Upon completion of all activities, an Evaluation Committee was established, whose task was to evaluate the work of the pairs of Croatian and Italian schools that participated in the project. The winning pair of schools was selected and in October 2023, in Zadar, with the participation of pupils and mentor teachers, a ceremony was held to present recognition for participation and success in the implementation of the project.</p> |
| <p><b>Additional information:</b></p>                                | <p>/</p>   |
| <p><b>Next steps:</b></p>  | <p>Given that the activity is carried out in cooperation and coordination with colleagues from the Italian Cohesion Agency, who are also the conceptual initiators of the project, the Ministry will respond in a timely manner to their possible invitation to continue the implementation of the project.</p>  |

**Activity 16.2 Carrying out an educational visit for high school pupils to national institutions (Croatian Parliament, Ministries)**

|   |  |  |                                       |  |                               |
|---|--|--|---------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------|
| <b>Activity holder:</b>                                       |  | Ministry Of Regional Development And EU Funds  |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Activity co-holder(s):</b>                                 |  | Ministry of Science and Education, Government Office for Cooperation with NGOs, Croatian Parliament  |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Other participants involved:</b>                           | <b>Public sector:</b>                                      | Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Computing, University of Zagreb  |                                       |  |                               |
|   | <b>CSO, private sector, working groups, multilaterals:</b> | /  |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Implementation start date:</b>                             |  | school year 2022/2023 (September 2022)   |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Implementation end date:</b>                               |  | school year 2022/2023 (June 2023)  |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Implementation indicators:</b>                             |  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An educational visit to a national institution organised for all pupils and teachers involved in the implementation of the project "At the School of Open Cohesion", up to 200 participants in the school year of the implementation of the project "At the School of Open Cohesion, ASOC"</li> <li>• The total number of pupils up to 200 per school year of the implementation of the project (number of pupils and teachers who will participate in the implementation of the activities of the project "At the School of Open Cohesion") educated on the transparency of the activities of the visited institution, familiarised and empowered for the development of competences for participating in the processes of shaping, decision-making and monitoring the implementation of public policies and active citizenship</li> </ul> |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Degree of implementation:</b>                              |  | <b>Implementation not started</b>  | <b>Implemented to a lesser extent</b> | <b>Implemented to a significant extent</b> | <b>Implemented completely</b> |
|   |  |  |                                       |  | x                             |
| <b>Activity changes:</b>                                      |  | The activity was carried out in a partially modified form since the visit was held to the Ministry of Regional Development and the Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Computing in Zagreb. In communication with the teachers, the interest of the pupils was examined and the agenda was agreed. Some pupils have already had the opportunity to visit the Croatian Parliament and the visit was focused on a higher education institution and the Ministry.   |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Description of results with implementation indicators:</b> |  | <p>The activity was successfully implemented, about 70 pupils and teachers participated in the activity, since the teams from two schools were unable to respond to the call.</p> <p>The visit took place on 11 December 2023. A ceremony was held at the premises of the Ministry of Regional Development and EU Funds to receive pupils and teachers who were given certificates of participation in the project. Representatives of the Ministry of Science and Education and the Office for Cooperation with NGOs also attended the ceremony. After the program at the Ministry, which included presentations on the implementation of EU projects, the visit continued at the Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Computing, where the participants had the opportunity to hear numerous interesting facts related to the implementation of projects.</p>                     |                                       |  |                               |

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| <b>Additional information:</b> | /  |
| <b>Next steps:</b>             | Given that the activity is carried out in cooperation and coordination with colleagues from the Italian Cohesion Agency, who are also the conceptual initiators of the project, the Ministry will respond in a timely manner to their possible invitation to continue the implementation of the project. |

| <b>Activity 16.3 Carrying out an educational visit for high school pupils to local or regional institutions (municipality/city/county)</b> |  |  |                                       |  |
|--|--|--|---------------------------------------|--|
| <b>Activity holder:</b>  |  | Ministry Of Regional Development And EU Funds  |                                       |  |
| <b>Activity co-holder(s):</b>  |  | Ministry of Science and Education, Government Office for Cooperation with NGOs   |                                       |  |
| <b>Other participants involved:</b>  | <b>Public sector:</b>                                      | Local and regional self-government units and public institutions and other stakeholders from the following counties: Primorje-Gorski Kotar, Karlovac, Split-Dalmatia, Zadar and Dubrovnik-Neretva  |                                       |  |
|  | <b>CSO, private sector, working groups, multilaterals:</b> | /  |                                       |  |
| <b>Implementation start date:</b>  |  | School year 2022/2023 (September 2022)   |                                       |  |
| <b>Implementation end date:</b>  |  | School year 2022/2023 (June 2023)  |                                       |  |
| <b>Implementation indicators:</b>  |  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Educational visits organised to at least four regional/local institutions for a minimum of 4 groups of pupils and teachers involved in the implementation of the project "At the School of Open Cohesion, ASOC", about 100 participants of educational visits in the school year of implementation of the project "At the School of Open cohesion, ASOC"</li> <li>• The total number of pupils around 100 per school year of the implementation of the project (number of pupils and teachers who will participate in the implementation of the activities of the project "At the School of Open Cohesion, ASOC") educated on the transparency of the activities of the visited institution, familiarised and empowered for the development of competences for participating in the processes of shaping, decisionmaking and monitoring the implementation of public local and regional policies and active citizenship in local communities</li> <li>• Number of organised educational visits to local or regional institutions</li> </ul> |                                       |  |
| <b>Degree of implementation:</b>   |  | <b>Implementation not started</b>  | <b>Implemented to a lesser extent</b> | <b>Implemented to a significant extent</b> |
|  |  |  |                                       | x  |



|   |  |
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| <b>Activity changes:</b>                                      | During the online trainings, Ministry staff encouraged team leaders to contact local and regional stakeholders and, in many cases, facilitated their communication. Therefore, within the project implementation, team leaders and pupils had the opportunity to visit or hold interviews with representatives of local and regional self-government units and representatives of civil society.   |
| <b>Description of results with implementation indicators:</b> | The activity was successfully implemented, although not directly organized by the Ministry, but certainly with the support and facilitation of contacts. Specifically, one of the project activities envisages a field visit and communication between participating schools and stakeholders from the local or regional level was established within it. The project teams expressed great satisfaction with the contacts made and the level of additional information necessary for the implementation of the project, which they learned from the local/regional level. |
| <b>Additional information:</b>                                | /  |
| <b>Next steps:</b>  | Given that the activity is carried out in cooperation and coordination with colleagues from the Italian Cohesion Agency, who are also the conceptual initiators of the project, the Ministry will respond in a timely manner to their possible invitation to continue the implementation of the project.   |

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| <b>Activity 16.4 - Including the values and contents on which the OGP Initiative is founded in the curricula for Civic Education, Politics and Economics, in the programmes of ongoing professional development of teachers and support staff, in competitions and festivals organised by the Education and Teacher Training Agency and through co-financing projects of NGOs under the Competition for the award of non-returnable funds for projects by associations in the area of children's and youth education outside institutions</b> |  |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Activity holder:</b>   | Ministry Of Regional Development And EU Funds  |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Activity co-holder(s):</b>   | Ministry of Science and Education, Education and Teacher Training Agency, Government Office for Cooperation with NGOs  |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Other participants involved:</b>   | <b>Public sector:</b>  | /                                     |  |                               |
|   | <b>CSO, private sector, working groups, multilaterals:</b>   | /                                     |  |                               |
| <b>Implementation start date:</b>   | Every school year  |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Implementation end date:</b>   | Every school year  |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Implementation indicators:</b>   | As part of activities related to the continuous professional development of teachers, support staff and principals, the Education and Teacher Training Agency will continue its activities to promote the international initiative Open Government Partnership, including the organisation of the school, county and state festivals within the "Project Citizen". |                                       |  |                               |
| <b>Degree of implementation:</b><br><i>(mark with x)</i>  | <b>Implementation not started</b>  | <b>Implemented to a lesser extent</b> | <b>Implemented to a significant extent</b> | <b>Implemented completely</b> |

|   |   |  |  |   |
|---|---|--|--|---|
|   |   |  |  | x |
| <b>Activity changes:</b>                                      | No changes were made.   |  |  |   |
| <b>Description of results with implementation indicators:</b> | <p>As part of activities related to the continuous professional development of teachers, support staff and principals, the Education and Teacher Training Agency conducted activities to promote the international initiative Open Government Partnership during professional training, including the organisation of the school, county and state conferences within the "Project Citizen".</p> <p>During 2022, 13 professional conferences were held with a total of 318 participants.</p> <p>After the conducted school and county conferences on 14 May 2022, the State conference of projects in civic education and other cross-curricular topics – "Project Citizen" in the school year 2021/2022 was held at the Grigor Vitez Elementary School in Zagreb.</p> <p>A total of 268 pupils and 67 mentors participated in the conference.</p> <p>The proceedings of the conference have been published on the website of the Education and Teacher Training Agency: <a href="https://www.azoo.hr/natjecanja-i-smotre-arhiva/zbornik-smotra-projekata-2022-iz-gradanskog-odgoja-i-obrazovanja/">https://www.azoo.hr/natjecanja-i-smotre-arhiva/zbornik-smotra-projekata-2022-iz-gradanskog-odgoja-i-obrazovanja/</a></p> <p>During 2023, 20 professional conferences were held with a total of 443 participants (one state expert conference and 19 county expert councils).</p> <p>After the conducted school and county conferences on 18 May 2023, the State conference of projects in civic education and other cross-curricular topics – "Project Citizen" in the school year 2022/2023 was held at the Grigor Vitez Elementary School in Zagreb.</p> <p>A total of 288 pupils and 72 mentors participated in the conference.</p> <p>The proceedings of the conference have been published on the website of the Education and Teacher Training Agency: <a href="https://www.azoo.hr/natjecanja-i-smotre-arhiva/zbornik-smotra-projekata-2023-iz-gradanskog-odgoja-i-obrazovanja/">https://www.azoo.hr/natjecanja-i-smotre-arhiva/zbornik-smotra-projekata-2023-iz-gradanskog-odgoja-i-obrazovanja/</a>.</p> |  |  |   |
| <b>Additional information:</b>                                | /   |  |  |   |
| <b>Next steps:</b>  | The Education and Teacher Training Agency will continue with regular professional training of educational staff in the field of Civic Education and the holding of school, county and state conferences within the application of the Project Citizen method.   |  |  |   |