

(28th March 2017)

Open Government Partnership 3rd National Action Plan (2017-2019)

PUBLIC CONSULTATION

1. Background

The Government of Malta is committed to the Open Government Partnership's (OGP) principles of promoting transparency, empowering citizens, fighting corruption and harnessing new technologies. This commitment was formalised by the signing of the OGP in July 2011.

Malta submitted its first National Action Plan (NAP) in June 2012 for the period 2012-2014. The first NAP focused on two grand challenges, namely: 'Creating Safer Communities' and 'Increasing Corporate Accountability'.

The second NAP was launched in June 2015, covering the period 2015-2017. It focuses on the following grand challenges, 'Improving Public Services' and 'Increasing Public Integrity'. The two grand challenges were chosen in collaboration with civil society.

As a member of the Open Government Partnership (OGP), Malta is committed to developing its Third National Action Plan for the time period between 2017 and 2019. This plan is to be developed in conjunction with Civil Society, Social Partners and the public. Government is therefore inviting the public to contribute input into this plan through this consultation.

The OGP is a global effort to make governments better, that is, more transparent, effective and accountable, with institutions that empower citizens and are responsive to their aspirations (citizen engagement). The core OGP values relate to **technology and innovation, accountability, citizenship participation and transparency**. This requires political leadership, technical knowledge, sustained effort, investment and collaboration between governments and civil society. The OGP is a multilateral initiative bringing together 65 governments; its aim is to secure concrete commitments from governments in order to promote transparency, empower citizens, fight corruption, and harness new technologies to strengthen governance. (For further information on OGP, visit their website at: <http://www.opengovpartnership.org/>. Malta's National Action Plans may be found on: <https://www.opengovpartnership.org/country/malta/action-plan.>)

The NAP should be anchored on a core set of themes or as OGP refers to them as "grand challenges". As with any plan, it is desirable to centre such plan around a limited set of priorities or grand challenges rather than all five of them. We will use this consultation exercise to achieve consensus on Malta's preferred grand challenges. The OGP grand challenges are:

- **Improving Public Services**—measures that address the full spectrum of citizen services including health, education, criminal justice, water, electricity,

telecommunications, and any other relevant service areas by fostering public service improvement or private sector innovation;

- **Increasing Public Integrity**—measures that address corruption and public ethics, access to information, campaign finance reform, and media and civil society freedom;
- **More Effectively Managing Public Resources**—measures that address budgets, procurement, natural resources, and foreign assistance;
- **Creating Safer Communities**—measures that address public safety, the security sector, disaster and crisis response, and environmental threats;
- **Increasing Corporate Accountability**—measures that address corporate responsibility on issues such as the environment, anti-corruption, consumer protection, and community engagement.

The table below indicates which grand challenges were addressed in the previous action plans, with their core sub-divisions:

	Grand Challenges				
	Improving Public Services	Increasing Public Integrity	More Effectively Managing Public Resources	Creating Safer Communities	Increasing Corporate Accountability
First National Action Plan (2012-2014)				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>i. Having Cleaner Beaches</i> <i>ii. Construction of Safer Roads</i> <i>iii. Environment</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>i. Transparency in Public Spending</i> <i>ii. Taxation and Benefits abuses</i> <i>iii. Procurement</i> <i>iv. One-stop Shop for Citizens</i>
Second National Action Plan (2015-2017)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>i. Participation of Women in the Public Service</i> <i>ii. Training and knowledge sharing among Public Service Employees</i> <i>iii. eServices</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>i. Social Dialogue</i> <i>ii. Public Access to Information</i>			

2. Consultation questions

In light of the above, the Maltese Government is inviting the public to answer the questionnaire found below and revert with any feedback, comments or suggestions.

3. Documents

Document attached.

4. Submission of input

Submissions must be sent in through the following channels:

By filling the online form below.

By email: dppi.msdc@gov.mt

All input towards this consultation must be received by 14th April 2017.

We thank you in advance for your input.

Please be informed that submissions may be published on the webpage of this consultation at the end of the scoping phase.