

### **Evaluation report 5NAP** Second 4-month period

1 July - 31 October 2022



\*\*\*\* \* \* \*\*\*\* \*\*\*\* \*\*\*\* \*\*\*\*









#opengovitaly open.gov.it

### Index

1. Introduction	3
2. Working methodology and monitoring system	7
3. The progress of commitments	9
4. Activities and results	10
ACTION 1 - Governance and open government strategy	11
Commitment 1.01 MSF - Multi-Stakeholder Forum and open government national Strategy	11
ACTION 2 - Corruption prevention and culture of integrity	12
Commitment 2.01 Strategies and networks for integrity and transparency (previous Networks for integrity and transparency)	<b>sly</b> 13
Commitment 2.02 Community of practice of those responsible for the prevention of corruption and transparency" (previously Networks to support whistleblowers)	of 15
ACTION 3 - Strengthening civil society participation	18
Commitment 3.01 Promoting opportunities for participation in the NRRP	18
Commitment 3.02 Creation of a national Hub to support the participation policies	18
ACTION 4 - Promotion of the civic space	20
Commitment 4.01 Gender equality in the public and private sectors	20
Commitment 4.02 Youth Participation	21
ACTION 5 - Inclusive digital innovation	23
Commitment 5.01 Digital citizenship. Enabling inclusive digital innovation	23
Commitment 5.02 Open standards for the inclusiveness and participation of civil society in the monitoring of public spending	24
5. Lessons learned	26

Country	Italy
Monitoring period	Q2 1 July – 31 October 2022
Actual submission date	15 November 2022

## 1. Introduction

The fifth <u>National Action Plan for Open Government 2022 - 2023</u> (5NAP) is the result of a cocreation process, carried out in line with the <u>OGP standards</u>. The process involved collaboration between various levels of government - national and regional - and civil society organisations and defined few but significant commitments, in compliance with the recommendations of the Independent Reporting Mechanism (IRM), in order to implement more widely the principles of open government and to improve the impact of policies based on these principles.

Aiming to bring the national recovery and resilience strategy from the COVID-19 pandemic closer to open government practices, the 5NAP consists of 9 commitments built around five areas of action:

- 1. <u>Governance and open government strategy</u>
- 2. Corruption prevention and culture of integrity
- 3. Strengthening civil society participation
- 4. Promotion of the civic space
- 5. Inclusive digital innovation

The implementation phase of the plan started in March 2022. The first evaluation report related to the first four months of activity was designed and published on the official website. In August 2022, after exchanges within various working teams that implemented the commitments, the contents of the Plan were updated, and a <u>new version of the Plan</u> was released. In addition to the objectives and contents of the activities, this update concerned the timeline and the list of organisations collaborating on each commitment. The key amendments concern:

• Action 1 Governance and open government strategy: the section describing the team of actors responsible for the implementation of the commitment was modified, envisaging

the replacement of the team by the newly established Multistakeholder Forum as the actor responsible for the development of the future national strategy for the open government as from 1 September.

- Action 2 Corruption prevention and culture of integrity: some changes already implemented by the team were formalised for the purpose of simplification. Commitment 2.01 has been transformed into "Strategies and networks for integrity and transparency", while the National Anti-Corruption Authority (ANAC) becomes solely responsible for its implementation. The reshaping of the commitment 2.01 also concerned the activities transformed into 2.01.1 "Networks supporting the anti-corruption strategy" and 2.01.2 "Whistleblowing: supporting the management of the ethical dilemma". The second commitment of action 2 has been reshaped into "2.02 Community of practice of those responsibile for the prevention of corruption and transparency" and passed under the sole responsibility of the SNA; its activities become the following: "2.02.1 Networks supporting the persons in charge of corruption prevention (RPCT), "2.02.2 Support for the management of reports". The revision also formalised the increase of participants to the commitments of Action 2.
- Action 3, and specifically, the commitment "3.01 Promoting opportunities for participation in the NRRP": the sole responsible for the implementation remains the National Commission for Public Debate (CNDP) which will no longer share its responsibility with the Ministry of Infrastructure and Sustainable Mobility (MIMS).

For the complete list of the amendments to the 5NAP, please consult the text of the <u>updated</u> <u>plan</u> available on the website open.gov.it.

Action	Commitment	Key actors
1. Governance and strategy for open government	1.01 MSF - Multi-Stakeholder Forum and national strategy for open government	Presidency of the Council of Ministers – Department for Public Administration (DFP)
2. Corruption prevention and culture of integrity	2.01 Strategies and networks for integrity and transparency	National Anti-Corruption Authority (ANAC)
	2.02 Community of practice of those responsible for the prevention of corruption and transparency	National School of Administration (SNA)

#### Table 1. New summary of the commitments of the amended 5NAP

3. Strengthening civil society participation	3.01 Promoting opportunities for participation in the NRRP (National Recovery and Resilience Plan)	National Commission for Public Debate (CNDP)
	3.02 Creation of a national Hub to support the participation policies	Presidency of the Council of Ministers – Department for Public Administration (DFP), Emilia-Romagna Region, Italian Association for Public Participation (Aip2)
4. Promotion of the civic space	4.01 Gender equality in the public and private sectors	Presidency of the Council of Ministers - Department of Equal Opportunities (DPO) and Department for Public Administration (DFP)
	4.02 Youth participation	Presidency of the Council of Ministers – Department for Public Administration
5. Inclusive digital innovation	5.01 Digital citizenship. Enabling inclusive digital innovation	Presidency of the Council of Ministers - Department for Digital Transformation (DTD)
	5.02 Open standards for the inclusiveness and participation of civil society in the monitoring of public spending	National Anti-Corruption Authority (ANAC), Presidency of the Council of Ministers - Department for Digital Transformation (DTD)

This evaluation report analyses the activities within the 5NAP in the second quarter and presents the progress of its implementation in the period July - October 2022 according to the indications of the <u>OGP National Handbook - Rules and Guidance for Participants (2022)</u>. The objective is to evaluate the achievement of the expected results against the objectives and the timeline and to provide evidence of the plan's progress to all stakeholders, first of all, to the CSOs and the PAs - members of the <u>Community OGP Italy</u>, ensuring transparency of the activities of the Plan.

The report is published online and can be consulted in the <u>Monitor</u> section of the official website open.gov.it accompanied by a dashboard that gives access to the produced outputs.

Commitment	Number of meetings in the period 1 July - 31 Oct 22
1.01 MSF - Multi-Stakeholder Forum and National strategy for open government	4
2.01 Strategies and networks for integrity and transparency	4
2.02. Community of practice of those responsible for the prevention of corruption and transparency	2
3.01 Promoting opportunities for participation in the NRRP	2
3.02 Creation of a national Hub to support the participation policies	4
4.01 Gender equality in the public and private sectors	4
4.02 Youth participation	4
5.01 Digital citizenship. Enabling inclusive digital innovation	1*
5.02 Open standards for the inclusiveness and participation of civil society in the monitoring of public spending	3
TOTAL meetings held	28

#### Table 2. Meetings during the second quarter of the 5NAP implementation

\*event organised within the OGP Europe Regional Meeting

During the second quarter of the 5NAP implementation, the <u>OGP Europe Regional Meeting</u> took place in Rome on 11 and 12 October, organised by the <u>Open Government Partnership</u> (OGP) and co-hosted by the Italian and the Estonian Governments. The event was attended by <u>over 240</u> <u>government and civil society leaders</u> representing 31 national and local members of the Open Government Partnership Europe. The speakers of the European Regional Meeting, in addition to the international partners and open government champions, were also the members of the 5NAP working teams, including the members of the Multistakeholder Forum and the Community OGP Italy, PAs and CSOs, who intervened on some occasions of the plenary session, organized working sessions, participated in workshops on the relevant topics and related to the national action plans. Over the two days, the involved CSOs and PAs took advantage of the event to interact and exchange face-to-face.

Furthermore, the new Italian government took office in October after the September elections. The new Government and the Council of Ministers were sworn in on 22 October. As a result, some public actors engaged in the 5NAP have changed.

### 2. Working methodology and monitoring system

The monitoring of the 5NAP implementation process is based on the principles of collaboration and inclusiveness. It provides for the active involvement of public administrations and civil society organisations (CSOs), according to the joint responsibility guiding principles that inspired the drafting of the Plan.

Monitoring takes place on two levels:

Ø activities (monitoring of the progress in the Plan's implementation)

Ø commitment (monitoring the level of achievement of the expected results).

Each working team has assigned its responsible representatives to feed the monitoring system

- respecting the set deadlines,

- filling in the forms uploaded within shared workspaces, with data and information concerning the activities implemented within the planned timeframes,

- providing the evidence supporting the results/products achieved and operational planning for the next four months

All the participants implementing a commitment are entitled to view the information filled in the monitoring forms. Based on the collected data, a preliminary evaluation of the progress of each commitment is provided every four months, classified according to 5 options (including the option that the activity has not yet been started within the reporting period, marked in grey):

To be started	Grey
Not completed, with serious delays	Red
Progress NOT in line with the plan	Orange
Progress in line with the plan	Light Green
Completed	Dark Green

The quarterly evaluation reports can be downloadable in the "<u>Monitor</u>" section. This section displays all the information related to the progress of the commitments and the achieved results.



During the implementation of the 5NAP, five evaluation reports will be produced according to the timeline illustrated in Figure 1.

In addition, to support the implementation of the commitments, each team defines result and impact indicators to evaluate the achieved results. The indicators respect the following structure:

- definition (description of the chosen indicator);
- the unit of measure;
- calculation method;
- numerical value at the start of the activity (baseline);
- value to be achieved at the end of the activity (target);
- current value (measured every four months);
- source or mechanism of verification.

The present evaluation report uses the following **result indicators** to measure the progress of the commitments:

- compliance with the set deadlines for producing outputs,
- number of working group meetings, number of actors involved,
- number of products delivered (events and documents).

The progress against these indicators can be found in the "Monitor" section. The data displayed in the monitoring dashboard is published and updated online.

# 3. The progress of commitments

The summary overview (table 4) traces the progress of the activities and the achieved objectives per each commitment of the 5NAP as implemented **by 31 October 2022**. It incorporates the updates of the plan amended in August 2022.

ID Commitment	Commitment	Evaluation	Lead implementing actors
1.01	Multi-Stakeholder Forum and open government national Strategy	Progress in line with the plan	Presidency of the Council of Ministers – Department for Public Administration (DFP)
2.01	Strategies and networks for integrity and transparency	Progress in line with the plan	National Anti-Corruption Authority (ANAC)
2.02	Community of practice of those responsible for the prevention of corruption and transparency	Progress in line with the plan	National School of Administration (SNA)
3.01	Promoting opportunities for participation in the NRRP	Progress in line with the plan	National Commission for Public Debate (CNDP)
3.02	Creation of a national Hub to support the participation policies	Progress in line with the plan	Presidency of the Council of Ministers – Department for Public Administration (DFP)
			Emilia-Romagna Region
			Italian Association for public participation (Aip2)

Table 4. Summary of the evaluations on the progress of the commitments

4.01	Gender equality in the public and private sectors	Progress in line with the plan	Presidency of the Council of Ministers - Department of Equal Opportunities (DPO) Presidency of the Council of Ministers - Department for Public Administration (DFP)
4.02	Youth participation	Progress in line with the plan	Presidency of the Council of Ministers - Department for Public Administration (DFP)
5.01	Digital citizenship. Enabling inclusive digital innovation	Progress in line with the plan	Ministry of technological innovation and Digital Transition - Department for Digital Transformation (DTD)
5.02	Open standards for the inclusiveness and participation of civil society in the monitoring of public spending	Progress in line with the plan	National Anti-Corruption Authority (ANAC)

## 4. Activities and results

All the activities carried out in the second quarter (1 July – 31 October 2022), action by action, are described according to the following scheme:

Meetings	Number of meetings held by the team	
Activities	Description of the progress achieved by the commitment activities scheduled for the four months under monitoring.	
Results/Products	Description and link to the results/products of the activities	
Preliminary evaluation	Evaluation of the results achieved including recommendations for redesigning	

Meetings	4
Activities	The <u>Regulation of the Multistakeholder Forum</u> (MSF) was approved on July after a consultation engaging the Community OGP Italy (OGPIT).
	The submission of applications was open from 11 to 18 July; 15 application were received from civil society organisations and 12 from public administrations.
	On 18 July, the working team 1.01 met to define together the method for selecting the 11 representatives for each component as envisaged by the Regulation. The team also agreed to modify commitment 1.01 in the section describing the team of actors responsible for implementing the commitment, expecting the team's replacement by the Multistakeholde Forum as the actor responsible for further implementation of commitment 1.01.
	The voting took place on July 21 via Zoom with the participation of the organisations - members of the OGP Community. The Multistakeholder Forum was officially presented during the plenary session of 26 July, the same day inaugurated its first session. This session adopted the decision related to the working methodology, including appointing two spokespersons, one representing PA (SNA – Valentina M. Donini) and one representing CSOs (PAsocial – Marieva Favoino). Concerning the meeting modality, it was decided to alternate face-to-face meetings, necessary for team-building, with online meetings. Furthermore, it established a sub group committed to developing a proposal to supplement the MSI Regulation with detailed operational aspects. The working agenda included the analysis of the key commitments for the MSF to face in the upcoming months, including the launch of the co-creation process for the open government national Strategy, the possible revision of working rule for the 5NAP implementation and support for the creation of a youth section in the MSF.
	The Forum's next meeting took place on 20 September and wa dedicated to the future strategy of OGP. Small break-out group discussions helped the Forum members to define the first inputs from the Community OGPIT. A dedicated consultation was promoted on ParteciPA from 26/09 to 7/10. Finally, the MSF actively participated in the OG

#### ACTION 1 - Governance and open government strategy

	Europe Regional Meeting, and some members contributed as <u>speakers</u> or <u>moderators</u> to various sessions.
	The first meeting to develop the Open Government Strategy took place on 27 October. It was attended as well by the OECD, who used this occasion to present and explain its methodology for measuring open government.
Results/Products	Final Regulation of the Multistakeholder Forum
	Minutes of the MSF meetings of 26 July and 20 September.
	Document (dated 20/09) questions for the consultation (open from 27/09 till 7/10) to the Community OGP Italy on the OGP future strategy 2023 - 2027.
	OGP strategy – Reflections by the Forum
	<u>Stakeholder Survey – question document</u>
	Document returned to OGP International
	MSF participation in the <u>OGP Europe Regional Meeting (video, interviews,</u> <u>news)</u>
Preliminary evaluation	The commitment is in line with the planned activities. Publication of the Multistakeholder Forum Regulation entailed a broad and significant participation of organisations in the application phase, which involved many PAs and CSOs, collaborating in the implementation of the 5NAP commitments, as well as various organisations active in the Community OGP Italy for quite some time. Thus, on 26 July, the first governance body of the Community OGP Italy was established, meeting the requirements set by the Regulation, including the balance in the composition between PAs (11) and CSOs (11). The MSF met twice on a bi-monthly basis. On the occasion of the next OGP Italy plenary session, the MSF will present to the Community OGPIT the proposals for integrations to the Regulation and its working agenda.

Meetings	4
Activities	The four months were dedicated to the activities aimed at participation in and co- design of the National Anti-Corruption Plan (NAP) issued by ANAC.
	As part of the consultation leading to adopting the National Anti-Corruption Plan 2022-2024, ANAC dedicated a series of meetings with civil society organisations under "Strategies and networks for integrity and transparency". The contributions of civil society organisations focused on various topics, in particular, bette accessibility of programming tools for citizens' and associations' participation who can provide useful contributions, for example, on the external context analysis, or monitoring of the actual implementation and the impact of risk preventior measures. Below are the details of the meetings held:
	- Task Force meeting on the National Anti-Corruption Plan (NAP)
	The Task Force meeting on the National Anti-Corruption Plan was held on 7 July as a joint meeting with all members of the task force and the working sub-groups to present the contents of the draft plan. The meeting gathered insights on the topic of public procurement linked to the implementation of the NRRP and on the topic of "revolving doors". The meeting, attended both by public institutions and by the CSOs, launched the participation process in the NAP. At the end of the meeting given the relevance of the raised topics, in particular by the CSOs, it was decided to organise a specific session for the CSOs.
	– Meeting of ANAC and CSOs on the NAP
	In September, informal discussions took place between ANAC and some CSOs to elaborate on the NAP observations. A specific meeting was held with the representatives of the CSOs on 12 September, in which ANAC listened to various issues raised. Given the deadline for the consultation, the CSOs, after a verba presentation and explanation, elaborated and formally submitted their observations and suggestions, which ANAC integrated into the final NAP and those presented by the Task Force institutions with a particular focus on NRRP and verification mechanisms.

#### ACTION 2 - Corruption prevention and culture of integrity

In the frame of consultation and networking activities between institutions and CSOs via regular meetings, the first meeting of the working group on Whistleblowing was held on 14 July, which stressed the importance of a Speak-Up Culture related to whistleblowing to be promoted in the work environment and the society, given the importance of the practice as the main tool for the prevention and detection of illegal acts. Based on this, the institutional actors and the participating CSOs shared their relevant knowledge and experience regarding the image of a whistleblower and the management of reports.
The objectives of the group were reorganised according to the following points:
1) to raise awareness of the heads of administrations on the institution of whistleblowing;
2) to disseminate the knowledge on the practice;
3) to promote support and assistance activities to potential whistleblowers, also to improve the quality of whistleblowing reports. To this end, the Group's objective is to develop a guide based on the experiences of ANAC and those Responsible for Corruption Prevention and Transparency (RPCT) in public institutions;
4) to work on the transposition of the EU Directive. The Delegation Law 2021, which delegates the transposition of the Whistleblowing Directive 2019/1937, entered into force on 10 September, with the delegation expiring in December 2022. The Group's task is to reach out to the transposition process with the CSOs' observations on their assistance.
- II GDL Whistleblowing meeting with CSOs on Directive 1937/2019
The second meeting took place on 29 September; it focused on the four topics indicated above with particular attention to the transposition of the European Directive 2019/1937, given the urgency of the process. On this point, it was noted that the Working Group has the ambitious goal of strengthening and promoting collaboration between civil society actors who support potential whistleblowers and institutional actors who are engaged in managing whistleblower reports. Since the central activity of support and assistance to whistleblowers is currently recognized by art. 20 of the Directive 1937/2019, the WG, exploiting the knowledge and experience of civil society organisations in whistleblowers' support, decided to develop a document to be submitted to the technical table for the Directive transposition.
The <u>document</u> entails CSOs' observations and proposals for the transposition of art. 20 of the aforementioned Directive and was finalised on 06/10.
ANAC, represented by the Cons. Valli submitted this document to the attention of the technical table set up for the transposition of the Directive.

	During the last four months, the working group has been enlarged through the participation of representatives of other institutions and CSOs.
Results/Products	Document "CSO Observations and proposals for the transposition of art. 20 of the Directive 1937/2019"
	Document "CSO observations, implemented by ANAC in support of the NAP development during the open dialogue and the consultation phase"
	Presentation of the National Anti-Corruption Plan and the consultation process
Preliminary evaluation	The progress of the commitment 2.01, with a view to the streamlined action and objectives presented in the updated 5NAP, is in line with the programming. The second 4-month period of activity was distinguished by participation in the elaboration of the NAP, which involved an enlarged task force, bilateral and multilateral meetings dedicated to the CSOs, and the transposition of the suggestions and observations of the CSOs and institutions within the work on the NAP. The process of opening is quite valuable; it also involved a civil society consultation on the transposition of art. 20 of the European Directive 1937/2019. More specifically, there was an example of good practice, which consisted of a coelaboration and a subsequent transposition of the civil society observations submitted by ANAC to the Directive 1937/ 2019 Technical Table.
	Regarding the whistleblowing practice, multilateral meetings dedicated to PA and CSO representatives involved in the whistleblowing management process were organised. These activities confirm the importance of this commitment within the action on the culture of integrity. Some interesting integration processes between policies, strategies and operational solutions were outlined. The joint work undertaken aims to apply these solutions in practice with the contribution of numerous stakeholders.

<b>Commitment 2.02</b> Community of practice of those responsible for the prevention of corruption and transparency" (previously Networks to support whistleblowers)	
Meetings	2
Activities	The virtual environment for the compilation of profiles by the responsible facilitators and participants of the Community of Practice (CoP) has been launched.

r	
	The group proceeded with the submission to the CoP of the entry questionnaire essential for the final monitoring, forum moderation and feeding of the repository with materials and documents.
	The activities of the Community of Practice of the RPCTs included a series of six events, in particular:
	- 6 July: Methodological introductory event "Goals and functions of a community of practice", with Mario Pireddu (Associate Professor of Technologies for Education at the Department of Humanities, Communication and Tourism of the University of Tuscia; SNA professor), Nereo Zamaro (Professor of Social research methods at LUISS university; SNA professor), Patrizia Schifano (Formez), Valentina Lostorto (SNA)
	- 15 July: The ethics of a whistleblower: the debate around the documentary film "La Bufera", by Marco Ferrari with Federico Anghelé (The Good Lobby), Anna Corrado (Administrative Magistrate TAR Naples), Valentina M. Donini (SNA).
	- 15 September: Testimonies and experiences: Andrea Franzoso and Maria Giuseppina Pacilli (University of Perugia).
	- 26 September: Analysis of the Italian legal system with a special focus on retaliation: Laura Valli (ANAC), Anna Corrado (TAR Naples), Valentina Lostorto (SNA)
	- 3 October: Whistleblowing as a legal practice and an individual experience. Proposals on the integration of Article 8 of the Code of Conduct for Administration: Andrea Ferrarini (Spazioetico)
	- October 10: Whistleblowing from a human rights perspective. Focus on a whistleblower, the person, not on whistleblowing, the practice: Leonardo Ferrante (Libera), Giorgio Fraschini (Transparency International Italy).
	To evaluate the transformative impact of training on whistleblower protection within the project: "Training to transform. Open administration and innovative training models for a more effective implementation of the whistleblowing practice", around 2500 questionnaires were forwarded to SNA trainees within the commitment related to whistleblower support networks, the results of which will be available soon.
	On 7 October, the SNA project "Training to transform. Open administration and innovative training models for a more effective implementation of the whistleblowing practice" was presented during the Narni Sociology Festival in the framework of the commitment related to whistleblower support networks.
	New activities were planned, and the new training to propose within the CoP was discussed:
	- Beneficial owners transparency (1 working sub-group meeting: 27 October)

	- Participatory PIAO (1 working sub-group meeting: 20 October)
	- Open agenda and standards of conduct for public decision-makers
Results/Products	<u>Event – News on the SNA website on the first introductory-methodological event</u> of the Community of Practice and a <u>Post on Linkedin SNA – official profile</u>
	Event – News on the SNA website on the fourth meeting of the CoP dedicated to the Analysis of the Italian law with particular attention to retaliation, with Laura Valli and Anna Corrado and a post on Linkedin SNA:
	Event News on the SNA website on the presentation of the project at Narni Sociology Festival and a post on Linkedin Narni Sociology Festival event
	Factsheet on the Community of Practice within the SNA training activities and Community of Practice Activity Calendar in the Shared Folder of the Working group
	Event. News on the SNA website on the presentation of the Docufilm La Bufera and a post on Linkedin SNA after the event and a post before the event
	Event "Ethical imperative, legality, roles and models of the whistleblower at the center of the meeting of the Community of Practice for RPCT" and a post on Linkedin SNA
	Event "Protection from retaliation upon reporting at the center of the meeting of the Community of Practice for RPCT"
	Event "Is whistleblowing a duty or a freedom of expression?"
	Project factsheet Training to transform
	Programme of activities of the Community of Practice for RPCT
	<u>Concept note describing further activities of the CoP – Community of Practice for</u> <u>RPCT</u>
	Concept note for the creation of a sub-group on transparency of beneficial owners - Community of practice for RPCT
Preliminary evaluation	The progress of the commitment 2.02, with a view to the streamlined action and objectives presented in the updated 5NAP, is in line with the programming. A packed calendar of meetings within the RPCT community of practice, coordinated by SNA, sets a positive performance of this working group in the second quarter of the 5NAP. Meetings of the working sub-groups were held to support the elaboration of new advanced training to be proposed to the CoP, especially concerning transparency of beneficial owners, participated PIAO, open agendas and standards of conduct of public decision-makers.

Commitment 3.01 Promoting opportunities for participation in the NRRP	
Meetings	2
Activities	In the frame of the <u>Sustainable Development Festival</u> , on 11 October CNDP organised at the Milan Stadium in Rome the event <u>Participation in the Polis</u> : <u>between myth and reality</u> on Participation and Public Debate. The event explored three participation experiences - the energy communities, the local civic agencies, and the public debate on large infrastructures works – getting into the differences and common elements, strengths and weaknesses to extract from the analysis the details on methods and operations for the development and building spaces for participation meeting everyone's needs, starting with the most vulnerable social groups. More details and the event coverage are available on the Festival website. It was planned to hold an event in the upcoming 4 months, organised by the CSOs responsible for the commitment to training activities targeting central and local administrations and information on the public debate targeting citizens and civil society. The event is part of the current programming activity of the CSO working group, involved in the commitment, that is, working independently.
Results/Products	Participation in the event: Participation in the Polis: between myth and reality
Preliminary evaluation	The commitment is divided into two parts, with respective working teams: one managed by CNDP and the other by MIMS. The part of the commitment related to public debate headed by CNDP is advancing according to the plan. On the contrary, the part of the commitment led by MIMS was eliminated from the plan at the end of the previous monitoring period, as it occurred that the proposed action was no longer feasible after the reorganisation of the responsibilities for the NRRP monitoring among the Ministries, transferring this competence exclusively to the Ministry of Economy and Finance.

#### ACTION 3 - Strengthening civil society participation

Commitment 3.02 Creation of a national Hub to support the participation policies	
Meetings	4

Activities	The possibility of rescheduling the 5NAP commitments allowed the team to review the timeline of the activities envisaged for the Hub creation. Due to the need to develop a detailed questionnaire, it was decided to postpone the deadline for producing the "Participation hub design model to be implemented at a national level" to 30 October.
	From 14 July until 9 September, the team worked together on developing a survey questionnaire to create a national participation hub, starting from the results of a previous qualitative survey. The questionnaire's objective was to look into the problems and needs to which the Hub could give an effective response based on a vision, objectives and resources that ensure expected benefits through the activities of the involved actors involved. The survey was disseminated to 52 organisations on 22 September, and invited to fill it in by 15 October. 30 organisations of different types completed the survey: 15 CSOs, 9 public bodies, 4 research centres and 2 investors of participatory processes.
	The analysis of the answers received to the questionnaire started on 17 October, which gave the basis for the development of the Hub design model, supplementing the draft document produced by the team in May. Aip2, the Municipality of Rome and Mappi-na worked on the new draft. On 28 October, the team met to finalise the text and define questions to address to the Community OGP Italy regarding the participation Hub.
Results/Products	Survey for creating a national participation hub
	Design of the National hub participation model
Preliminary evaluation	The working team completed the activities scheduled in the Plan (amended on 31 August 2022). More than half of the organisations mapped by the team filled in the questionnaire and provided answers, in most cases, showing a significant degree of agreement on one or more options presented; this agreement also confirms many aspects that emerged from the interviews at the qualitative stage. After the phase of listening to the Community OGP Italy (scheduled on ParteciPa from 8 to 25 November), which will be used to confirm some basic choices emerging from the survey and to increase the number of actors committed to participation in the Hub, the design and construction of the latter will be launched

Commitment 4.01	Gender equality in the public and private sectors
Meetings	4
Activities	The central activity during the four meetings of the working team was dedicated to developing a new strategy for encouraging a broader female representation in the Multistakeholder Forum. Mapping of the organisations to be contacted stressed the need for a shared activity to encourage membership in the Community OGP Italy. Unioncamere expanded the invitation for membership to the Committees for female entrepreneurship, currently under reconstitution. The team discussed and produced a draft of the official email to be sent to all mapped CSOs.
	In July, Unioncamere <u>presented</u> the V Report on Female Entrepreneurship. The Report, developed by Unioncamere in the frame of its ordinary activities, represents an excellent basis for the upcoming activities of the working group: the document offers important issues for discussion and analysis on the topic of gender equality in the private sector and, in particular, in the area of female entrepreneurship, providing a clear picture of the phenomenon.
	Regarding the certification of gender equality, Unioncamere and DPO co- organized an <u>event</u> in September as part of the information and awareness- raising activities for the implementation of the NRRP on the certification of gender equality and the introduction of a national certification system.
	The working team members also participated in the event at the OGP Europe Regional Meeting, which presented data related to the global decline in civic space.
	This occasion facilitated the consolidation of networking and PR activities between the participating CSOs. The working team members (Period Think Tank, Impegno Donna) actively participated in the roundtable discussions and, specifically, in the sessions:
	Open Government for the EU Recovery Agenda: How?; What is the Future for Democratic Participation in Europe?; Measuring Open Government
Results/Products	No specific activities were planned for the 4-month period under consideration

Preliminary evaluation	This commitment is proceeding in line with the activities envisaged in the plan. No specific deadlines or activities were foreseen in this quarter; however, the working group was consolidated, and it focused on the involvement of other civil society organisations dealing with gender equality, on bringing the group's requests to the Multistakeholder Forum and on the promotion of a structured discussion between the MSF and women's organisations. Furthermore, the presence of Unioncamere in the group, sharing the latest Female Entrepreneurship Report and, in particular, the reference to the certification of gender equality for companies, is preparatory to the activities for the upcoming four months.
---------------------------	---

Commitment 4.02 Youth Participation	
Meetings	4
Activities	Regarding the activity of creating a youth section of the Multistakeholder Forum, discussions and planning of activities for the CSOs identified in the mapping document took place during the meetings within the commitment. An email invitation to join the Community OGP Italy, drawn up by the 4.02 team and signed by the spokespersons of the Multistakeholder Forum for Open Government, was sent to the youth organisations mapped.
	As a result, 1 new member adhered to the Community OGP Italy. Among the youth associations invited to participate in the OGP Italy initiative, 4 expressed interest in this regard.
	The working group continues to monitor memberships and will plan a series of meetings with new members/interested organisations, to involve them in the elaboration of proposals and contributions to the development of the OG national strategy.
	The team also approved the rescheduling of the activities' deadlines to align them with the activities of the newly established Multistakeholder Forum for Open Government. The rescheduling was duly reflected in the new 5NAP. Specifically, the deadline for activity 4.02.02 related to the Creation of a youth section in the Multistakeholder Forum, open to the dialogue with the same section of the Forum for sustainable development, has been moved to 15 December.
	The design and implementation of structured moments of consultation and listening to young people for the development of the national strategy for

	the open government was extended to February 2023. The activity of construction of a dedicated group of OGP Italia actors to enhance and disseminate information - digital and non-digital - through national and regional youth portals on the opportunities offered to them by the NRRP as well as on the Open Government principles was also extended to December 2022. The working group has planned to prepare a contribution to the development of the National strategy for enhancing the role of new generations. The National Council for Youth also proposed designing a questionnaire on the modalities for constructing a physical and digital space for listening to and interacting with young people by analogy with a similar tool used by the European institutions (EU Youth dialogue). It was also considered to proceed with identifying shared rules for the composition of the dedicated section of the FMS.
	space and also relevant local/national experiences of youth participation and active citizenship education. This occasion facilitated the consolidation of networking and PR activities
	between the participating CSOs. The working team members (Orizzonti Politici, Associazione Centro Culturale San Martino, SaveTheChildren) actively participated in the roundtable discussions and, specifically, in the sessions:
	Open Government for the EU Recovery Agenda: How?; What is the Future for Democratic Participation in Europe?; Measuring Open Government
Results/Products	No specific activities were planned for the 4-month period under consideration
Preliminary evaluation	The working team completed on time the activities envisaged in the Plan. It also supervised the involvement of further youth civil society organisations in the OGP Italy initiative. This step is essential for the implementation of the forthcoming activities of the commitment: the creation of a section in the Multistakeholder Forum dedicated to youth as well as planning and organisation of structured consultation and listening to young people in the view of the development of the national strategy for open government. From this perspective, the group will promote targeted meetings with organisations interested in joining the OGP Community and with those who have already joined it to involve them in developing the national strategy for open government.

#### ACTION 5 - Inclusive digital innovation

Meetings	1 <sup>*</sup> *event within the OGP Europe Regional Meeting
Activities	In the frame of the activity on the establishment of the Network of Facilitation Points and Digital Education of at least 3000 units to be mapped organically, on 30 September DTD closed the tender for selection of 2160 young volunteers for the first call (25 January) of the Digital Civil Service funded by the NRRP. The Digital Civil Service project promotes the creation of digital facilitation points based on the initiatives of non-profit associations. The activity of increasing the number of facilitation points continued; currently, 700 are registered and activated non-organically. The entities that participated in the pilot phase of the Digital Civil Service pilot phase finalised capacity building and launched training for 1,000 selected volunteers.
	The agreements with the Regions for the activation and/or enhancement of the digital facilitation points were formalised. The operational plans are under elaboration.
	Testing of the digital education platform for citizenship is ongoing; it will guide citizens towards the most suitable training for their knowledge gaps, correlating the online resources created by the Coalition for digital skills and promoting local training with a widespread school logic.
	Concerning public campaigns to raise awareness of digital rights for citizens, the second edition of the National Award for digital skills is underway and scheduled to be launched in December 2023. The planning phase applies as well to the National Week for digital skills which is expected to take place in the spring of 2023, and to the dissemination campaign on IT security and safe use of digital channels and tools entitled "Informed and Secured Navigators"
	Within the OGP Europe Regional Meeting, DTD organised a session <u>What are</u> the Conditions and Rules for Involving Citizens in the Design of Digital Public <u>Services?</u> The session's subject was the role of inclusive and participatory planning in improving the quality of service delivery and in increasing trust among citizens, administrations and politicians. Special attention was paid to listening to and getting feedback from the citizens involved in planning of digital public services at the national and local levels.
Results/Products	Call for Digital Civil Service volunteers

Preliminary evaluation	All commitment activities are advancing in line with the plan. The activities of the third quarter (November 2022-February 2023) have been planned. Being a commitment financed by the NRRP, some objectives have already been achieved, as assumed at the beginning of the project, and interventions have been initiated in all the Regions through direct contracts between DTD and a region.
	To ensure inclusion, it is necessary to eliminate digital divides by training personnel to support citizens - civil service is an example - but also by setting up digital facilitation points throughout the country. To this end, a series of measures and interventions aimed at strengthening digital skills were successfully implemented in this 4-months period of the 5NAP.
	In the coming months, it will be possible to involve and encourage further stakeholders, in particular the Regions, as bodies responsible for the dissemination of digital facilitation points in their territories.
	Associations can be involved in various regions both for the dissemination of information on the points and for training and organisation of local events.
	In addition to regional representatives, these events should be attended by DTD and local CSOs. This action will also serve to increase the level of participation of various territories.

# Commitment 5.02 Open standards for the inclusiveness and participation of civil society in the monitoring of public spending

Meetings	3
Activities	The monthly meetings of the working group (8 July, 14 September, 26 October) continued regularly. The working group composition has been updated following the replacement of some members in the OpenCUP project. Although it was not possible to involve MEF and MISE, the activity on reconstructing the NRRP contract data was launched with a bottom-up approach.
	Drafting of the stock-taking document was launched. The participating CSOs, in particular, Ondata, started collecting datasets, and at the same time, they tried to integrate different data sources to monitor the NRRP. Some difficulties arose from the performance and uptime of the services made available by the PAs (such as ANAC) and from the unavailability of a central catalogue to guide the choice.

	Updating or expanding the semantic content published on NDC - National Data Catalog for Semantic Interoperability - for compatibility with OCDS, carried out in collaboration with the Department for Digital Transformation (DTD), has been launched at the national level, even though with a delay. The progress is considered in line with the plan, given that the start-up was expected in the last quarter of 2022, and the activity is expected to continue in 2023. API publication of the National Public Contracts Database (BDNCP) on PDND with the relative metadata through the National Data Catalog for Semantic Interoperability has been initiated by ANAC and DTD, even if it continues outside of the activity 5.02, it is strategically aligned.
	Participation in the OGP Europe Regional Meeting was ensured.
	During the event, a specific <u>meeting</u> was dedicated to the availability of open data on the National Recovery and Resilience Plan (NRRP) and the indications developed and proposed by the <u>Open Spending EU Coalition</u> ; therefore, about this initiative and to avoid overlaps, the event scheduled for October, co-organized by ANAC and Open Contracting, was postponed to the next three-month period of activity (November-January).
	Within the commitment team, the contact person of the Puglia region has also involved a public contracting office to ensure active participation in data related to contracting.
Results/Products	Document "Databases and investment projects - Data and services for reuse"
	Project of BDNCP opening (National Database of Public Contracts) following the OCDS standards (Open Contracting Data Standard) illustrated in the article published by Open Contracting Partnership
Preliminary evaluation	The progress of the commitment is in line with the plan. The collaborative approach between PAs and CSOs characterised the activities related to the drafting the stock-taking document on national databases and investment projects and integrating with other data sources for monitoring NRRP contracts. With a view to a progressive openness of data, it can also be noted an openness in processes. This significant evolution represents an endpoint but also a starting point necessary for the continuation of the further implementation of the 5NAP, of the scouting work on the NRRP data with more detail.
	In the period under monitoring, Istat, in collaboration with the Department for Digital Transformation, launched the <u>National Data Catalog</u> project for the semantic interoperability of public administration information systems. This initiative is in line with the activities planned from September 2022 regarding the

updating and expanding of the semantic content published in NDC - National Data Catalog - in line with the OCDS standards to be adopted within the commitment 5.02
Communent 5.02

#### 5. Lessons learned

The period demonstrates an effective collaboration between the involved actors. The working teams carried out the scheduled meetings, mostly respecting the shared implementation rules.

The newly established Multistakeholder Forum, the governance body of the OGP Italy Community and forum for dialogue between PAs and CSOs, in addition to the provisions of its working agenda, in particular, the definition of the priorities for the national strategy for open government, will have to promote the results progressively achieved within the 5NAP, as well as the implementation of the future strategy.

In the context of action 2 on the culture of integrity, the working methods applied were characterised by the collaboration between multiple stakeholders. This participation has brought results that represent good practices. For example, in the context of the legislation on whistleblowing, there were organised multilateral meetings dedicated to PA and CSO representatives involved in the reporting management process. Furthermore, the community of practice of RPCTs, consolidated during the period, has already identified new advanced research methods on transparency, beneficial owners, participated PIAO, open agendas and standards of conduct for public decision-makers.

In the context of the action on participation, the institution of public debate continues to be an important focal point. As commonly known, the revision of the Public Procurement Code is underway, which could also result in the reformulation of the latter. The topic is being monitored by various civil society organisations, and members of the Community interested in maintaining the effective tool for the purposes of opening-up policies.

The development of the design model for a national participation hub represents a significant intermediate result already achieved by the 5NAP. A further reflection on the issue of inclusiveness of public policies will be represented through a consultation of the Community OGP Italy, which will take place in November, as per the 5NAP schedule. This listening phase has a two-fold objective: to highlight the importance of collaboration between public administrations and civil society in support of a participation policy which represents a fundamental pillar of open government; and to increase the number of actors interested in contributing to the Hub creation and, subsequently, to its functioning, by becoming part of the community of practice that will be established internally.

Concerning action 4 on promotion and protection of civic space, a topic which was addressed by previous national action plans just sporadically, the activity of identifying and mapping new subjects to join the

Community was considered a necessary step, which further can ensure a stronger commitment to the implementation of effective public policies in ensuring support to women and youth at a national level. In this area, efficient collaboration between the teams of action 4 and the Multistakeholder Forum has already been initiated. The latter represents the need to promote the diversity of voices and requests within the Community OGP Italy.

As to action 5, the commitment on Digital Citizenship, while also involving other stakeholders, was carried out mainly by the Department for Digital Transformation. The working team met only once due to the elections, which temporarily suspended the Department's activities in this area. The responsibilities of the new Government also include the development of strategic guidelines and competencies, programming, coordination, evaluation and implementation of programmes, projects and plans in the area of open government, which could imply renewed collaboration opportunities. Finally, the increasingly consolidated collaboration between PAs and CSOs has positively influenced the commitment activities regarding national databases and investment projects and integration with other data sources for monitoring NRRP contracts.