

# Area 2: Policy Development and Co-ordination

<b>Principle 6</b>	<b>Government decisions are prepared in a transparent manner</b> and based on the administrations' professional judgement; legal conformity of the decisions is ensured		
<b>Principle approach</b>	<i>WeBER focuses on whether the Government decisions are prepared in a transparent manner.</i> The approach to this principle is to measure the extent to which the process of government decision-making as well as its direct outputs (decisions) are transparent, including the external communication function.		
<b>INDICATOR 1</b>	<b>Transparency of the Government's decision-making</b>		
<b>Indicator focus and general methodological remarks</b>	<p>The indicator measures the extent of transparency of Government's decision-making process. This indicator combines perceptions and expert analysis in order to ensure a balance between the two approaches. Two elements are measured by conducting an online perception survey of CSOs, and three elements by expert analysis of relevant governmental websites.</p> <p>Elements of transparency measured by this indicator include: publishing of information on the decisions of governments, their completeness, citizen-friendliness, timeliness, and consistency. Decision-making denotes decisions made by the government (as a collegiate body) and adopted at government's sessions.</p>		
INDICATOR ELEMENTS			
Element #	Element formulation	Weight	Element data source
<b>E.1</b>	CSOs consider government decision-making to be generally transparent	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Online survey of CSOs</li> </ul>
	<b>Element methodology</b>		<b>Point allocation</b>
<p>For this element methodology will be based on conducting an online survey among CSOs in order to collect CSOs' perception by answering the question:</p> <p>"Based on the experience of your organisation, reflect on the following statement: In general, the Government's decision-making process is transparent."</p> <p>Response scale: 1 – Fully disagree; 2 – Mostly disagree; 3 – Neither agree nor disagree; 4 – Mostly agree; 5 – Fully agree. Researchers calculate the percentage of respondents who reply with "mostly agree" and "fully agree". In addition, to complement survey results with narrative, qualitative inputs, focus groups with CSOs with relevant expertise will be conducted</p>		<p>0 points for 0-49.99%</p> <p>1 point for 50% - 74.99%</p> <p>2 points for 75% - 100%</p> <p><b>Maximum points: 2</b></p>	

	based on same question. However, only survey results are used for point allocation.		
Element #	Element formulation	Weight	Element data source
E.2	CSOs consider the exceptions to the rules of publishing Government's decisions to be appropriate	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Online survey of CSOs</li> </ul>
	<b>Element methodology</b> <p>For this element methodology will be based on conducting an online survey among CSOs in order to collect CSOs' perception by answering the question:</p> <p>"Based on the experience of your organisation, reflect on the following statement: Exceptions to the rules of publishing Government's decisions are appropriate."</p> <p>Scale: 1 – Fully disagree; 2 – Mostly disagree; 3 – Neither agree nor disagree; 4 – Mostly agree; 5 – Fully agree. Researchers calculate the percentage of respondents who reply with "mostly agree" and "fully agree".</p> <p>In addition, to complement survey results with narrative, qualitative inputs, focus groups with CSOs with relevant expertise will be conducted based on same question. However, only survey results are used for point allocation.</p>		<b>Point allocation</b> <p>0 points for 0-49.99%</p> <p>1 point for 50% - 74.99%</p> <p>2 points for 75% - 100%</p> <p><b>Maximum points:2</b></p>
Element #	Element formulation	Weight	Element data source
E.3	The Government makes publicly available the documents from its sessions	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Government websites</li> <li>Websites of official gazettes</li> <li>FOI requests (if needed)</li> </ul>
	<b>Element methodology</b> <p>Expert analysis of relevant government websites to determine if the Government makes the documents related to its sessions publicly available. The websites to be analysed include the Government (Council of Ministers) website, General Secretariat of the Government (Prime Minister's Office, Cabinet Office, etc.) or – where and if applicable – specialised portals/websites for Government communication with the public.</p> <p>Websites will be analysed for availability of the following documents, as a minimum:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Agendas of government sessions</li> <li>Minutes of government sessions</li> <li>All adopted documents at the session, not formally labelled as confidential, and</li> </ul>		<b>Point allocation</b> <p>0 if the Government does not make documents publicly available</p> <p>1 if the Government partially makes documents publicly available (meaning if any of the types of documents is not published or if documents are published irregularly)</p> <p>2 if the Government makes the documents fully publicly available</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Press releases.</li> </ul> <p>The measurement of the indicator will cover the period of the last three months in the calendar year in which the measurement is done, and researchers will observe documents published for each government session within this period.</p>		<b>Maximum points: 4</b>
Element #	Element formulation	Weight	Element data source
E.4	The Government communicates its decisions in a citizen-friendly manner	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Government websites</li> </ul>
Element methodology			Point allocation
<p>Expert analysis of relevant government websites, as referred to in E.3, to determine if the Government communicates its decisions in a citizen-friendly manner.</p> <p>For this element, user-friendly means that the administrative information and documents from the sessions of Government, defined in E.3, are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Accompanied by a summary or an article or a press release, that in clear and simple, non-bureaucratic language, explains the decisions made by the Government, and</li> <li>To be found not more than 3 clicks away from the homepage of the websites.</li> </ul> <p>The measurement of the indicator will cover the period of the last three months in the calendar year in which the measurement is done, and researchers will observe documents published for each government session within this period.</p>			<p>0 if the Government does not communicate its decisions in a citizen-friendly manner</p> <p>1 if the Government partially communicates its decisions in a citizen -friendly manner</p> <p>2 if the Government communications all its decisions in a citizen-friendly manner</p> <p><b>Maximum points: 4</b></p>
Element #	Element formulation	Weight	Element data source
E.5	The Government communicates its decisions in a timely manner	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Government websites</li> </ul>
Element methodology			Point allocation
<p>Expert analysis of relevant government websites as referred to in E.3, to determine if the Government communicates its decisions in a timely manner.</p> <p>For this element, timely means whether documents from the sessions of Government listed in E.3, are made available via Government websites one week after the session at latest.</p>			<p>0 if the Government does not communicate its decisions in a timely manner</p>

	The measurement of the indicator will cover the period of the last month and a half in the year of measurement, i.e. for each government session within this period.				<p>1 if the Government partially communicates its decisions in a in a timely manner</p> <p>2 if the Government communicates all of its decisions in a timely manner</p> <p><b>Maximum points: 4</b></p>		
<b>TOTAL POINTS</b>	0-2	3-5	6-8	9-11	12-14	15-16	
<b>FINAL INDICATOR VALUE</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	