



■ WeBER Indicator Summary

AREA: POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND COORDINATION

MACEDONIA

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PAR Area	POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND COORDINATION	Country	MACEDONIA
SIGMA Principle	10. The policy-making and legal-drafting process is evidence-based, and impact assessment is consistently used across ministries		

WeBER Indicator	PDC_P10_I1: Use of evidence created by think tanks, independent institutes and other CSOs in policy development
Indicator approach	
<p><i>This indicator focuses on the extent to which government institutions invite CSOs to prepare evidence-based policy documents and the extent to which evidence produced by them (the data collected and research) is consulted and used in policy development process. Measurement of elements of this indicator combines expert analysis of relevant government documents and an online perception survey of CSOs.</i></p> <p><i>The indicator covers a wide range of CSOs working at policy level, such as think tanks, independent institutes, as well as locally-based organisations which declare themselves as working on the policy level.</i></p> <p><i>In addition, to complement survey results with narrative, qualitative inputs, focus groups with CSOs with relevant expertise are conducted based on same questions, on a sample of 3 policy areas in each country where a substantial number of CSOs actively work and perform research and analyses. However, only survey results are used for point allocation for those elements.</i></p>	
Summary of the findings	
<p><i>Based on the documentation analysis, evidence-based findings produced by CSOs are not referenced in the sample of adopted government policy documents. The 14 documents that are currently being implemented in three policy areas (environment, social welfare and anti-discrimination policy) do not contain reference to CSO findings. Regarding social welfare and anti-discrimination policy, no policy papers and impact assessment documents are available online. Moreover, the Ministry did not respond to a few FOI's sent in this regard. Also, within all three examined policy areas, no ex-post analysis was received through the FOI's.</i></p> <p><i>With regards to development proposals or addressing policy problems, 40% of respondent CSOs "agree" (36%) or "strongly agree" (4%) that government institutions invite their organization to prepare or submit policy papers, studies or impact assessments, while 36% "disagree" (10%) or "strongly disagree" (26%) with this statement. Furthermore, 42% of the respondent CSOs have stated that upon inviting government institutions to partake in their events, these invitations are accepted either "often" (28%) or "always" (14%), while 24% of the same have stated that this happens "rarely" (20%) or "never" (4%). Regarding the opposite, whether relevant ministries invite organizations to participate in working groups for drafting policy or legislative proposals, a total of 32% of respondent CSOs have stated that this happens "often" (28%) or "always" (4%). The percent of respondents that perceive that this practice happens rarely or never is 28% (rarely – 22%; never – 6%).</i></p> <p><i>Moreover, regarding the feedback provided by relevant ministries explaining the reasons on either the acceptance or rejection of evidence-based proposals and recommendations coming from organizations during the participation in the working groups, a total of 10% of respondent CSOs have answered that this happens "often" (8%) or "always" (2%), while 54% have answered that it happens "rarely" (28%) or "never" (26%).</i></p> <p><i>Regarding how much relevant ministries generally consider the policy proposals made by an organization, a total of 18% of respondent CSOs have answered that this happens "often" (14%) or "always" (4%), while 42% have stated that it happens "rarely" (34%) or "never" (8%).</i></p>	
Specific observations	
<p><i>Three policy areas in which the largest number of CSOs has been identified in Macedonia: environment policy, anti-discrimination policy and social welfare. The assessment of distribution/number of CSOs working in these policy areas was done combining the following sources: TACSO Data Base and EPI's internal data base of civil society organisations. FOI's were sent to the Ministry of Labour and Social Policy and the Ministry for Environment in the period April – June 2018.</i></p> <p><i>The survey of CSOs was administered through anonymous, online questionnaire. The data collection method included CASI (computer-assisted self-interviewing). For Macedonia, a total of 73 CSO were surveyed. The base</i></p>	

for questions in this indicator was n=50. Only CSOs that confirmed that they produce proposals, recommendations or other inputs for the decision-making processes at the central/national level responded to the questions related to this indicator.

Indicator score	4 (out of 24 points)
Final indicator value	0 (scale 0-5) ¹
Measurement period	April - June 2018 Survey of CSOs: April 23 rd – June 7 th , 2018

¹ Conversion of points: 0-5 points = 0; 6-8 points = 1; 9-12 points = 2; 13-16 points = 3; 17-19 points = 4; 20-24 points = 5.