



■ WeBER Indicator Summary

AREA: POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND COORDINATION

SERBIA

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PAR Area	POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND COORDINATION	Country	SERBIA
SIGMA Principle	12. Legislation is consistent in structure, style and language; legal drafting requirements are applied consistently across ministries; legislation is made publicly available.		

WeBER Indicator	PDC_P12_I1: Perception of availability and accessibility of legislation and related explanatory materials by the civil society
Indicator approach	
<p><i>This indicator focuses on the accessibility and the availability of legislation and the explanatory materials related to it. It approaches the measurement from the viewpoint of CSOs, as actors who heavily rely on availability of legislation and explanatory information in the performance of their external control function. Thus, this particular indicator is almost entirely perception based, except for the first element, which is reflected in its main formulation. Therefore, to inform the assessment of all elements in this indicator, results of the survey with CSOs are utilised. The survey is performed on a sample which aims to ensure a representation of CSOs working in as many research areas as possible so the sample is as representative as possible (given that it is not possible yet to create a representative sample of CSOs in the region).</i></p>	
Summary of the findings	
<p><i>In Serbia, all legal acts can be accessed at the website of the Official Gazette. This electronic database is available free of charge for the interested public and civil society alike. It contains consolidated version of legal acts (legal acts are updated with amendments which are clearly marked in each legal act, as well as the Official Gazette number and year of amendment). Database is searchable per various categories. Also, legal acts are available not only for the primary but also for secondary legislation. Lastly, the database of legal acts is easily accessible from the homepage of the Official Gazette.</i></p> <p><i>More than two-thirds of surveyed CSOs (over 70%) responded they are informed on the existence of this online database, and more than 85% of them confirmed they have accessed it during the past year. Nevertheless, when it comes to explanatory materials that are relevant to legislation, including directives, administrative guidance, or other documents with practical impact that do not have the force of law, perception of CSOs on accessibility is significantly lower. In that sense, slightly over a quarter (26.5%) of surveyed CSOs either strongly agree or agree that these are easy to access. Following the same line, CSOs do predominantly disagree that explanatory materials relevant to legislation are written in manner and style that makes them easy to understand (roughly 18% agree, with no strongly agree responses).</i></p>	
Specific observations	
<p><i>For Serbia, a total of N=183 CSOs were surveyed. The base for questions in this indicator were n=157 respondents for three survey questions, and n=109 for one survey question. The data collection method included CASI (computer-assisted self-interviewing).</i></p>	

Indicator score	10 (out of 16 points)
Final indicator value	3 (scale 0-5) ¹
Measurement period	Survey of CSOs: April 23 rd – June 4 th , 2018

¹ Conversion of points: 0-3 points = 0; 4-5 points = 1; 6-8 points = 2; 9-11 points = 3; 12-14 points = 4; 15-16 points = 5.