WeBER Indicator Summary

AREA: POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND COORDINATION

MACEDONIA

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POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND COORDINATION

Country

MACEDONIA

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

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).

Summary of the findings

Online governmental database of legal texts is available on a webpage called National Electronic Registry of Legislation (ENER). The database contains consolidated versions of the legal texts. The legal texts can be searched, and older versions and amendments can be found as well. The legal texts are less than three clicks away from the homepage and can be downloaded in Power point format free of charge. Points are awarded according to the methodology, but it should be underlined that the webpage of ENER is not promoted enough on other governmental sites and consequently a lot of people are not aware of its existence.

The survey showed that the majority of CSOs or 64.81% were informed about the existence of this website. Moreover, the vast majority or 71.43% respondents had also accessed the website in the past year. Regarding explanatory materials relevant to existing legislation, only 26.42% of surveyed CSOs, either “agree” (24.53%) or “strongly agree” (1.89%) that they are easy to access, while 24.53% of surveyed CSOs, either “agree” (22.64%) or “strongly agree” (1.89%) that the explanatory materials to the legislation are written in a manner and style, which makes them easy to understand.

Specific observations

For Macedonia, a total of 74 CSOs were surveyed. The data collection method included CASI (computer-assisted self-interviewing).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator score</th>
<th>10 (out of 16 points)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Final indicator value</td>
<td>3 (scale 0-5)¹</td>
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<tr>
<td>Measurement period</td>
<td>Survey of CSOs: April 23rd – June 7th, 2018</td>
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¹Conversion 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.