WeBER Indicator Summary

AREA: Strategic Framework of Public Administration Reform

ALBANIA

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**STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK OF PAR**

**Country**

**SIGMA Principle**

1. Public administration reform is purposefully implemented; reform outcome targets are set and regularly monitored

4. Public administration reform has robust and functioning management coordination structures at both the political and administrative levels to steer the reform design and implementation process

**WeBER Indicator**

**SFPAR_P2&4_I1: Civil society involvement in the PAR monitoring and coordination structures**

**Indicator approach**

The focus of measurement for this indicator is on quality of PAR implementation, coordination and monitoring form the perspective of civil society engagement. Strategic PAR document whose coordination and monitoring structured are monitored and measured by this indicator, is overall PAR strategic document. Focus on the single strategic document, instead of two or more determines at the same time whether efforts to simplify monitoring and coordination structures for different PAR strategic documents exist. In case there is no overall PAR strategy, the most comprehensive strategic document in force and under implementation is considered. For each element under this indicator, review and qualitative assessment of official documents pertaining to the organisation and functioning of PAR coordination and monitoring structures is conducted. Findings from other data sources, where applicable, are used to corroborate the findings from the official documents.

**Summary of the findings**

Integrated Policy Management Group for Good Governance and Public Administration Reform (IPMG-PAR) is the main structure responsible for coordinating and managing PAR (except PFM), both at the political and administrative levels.

At the political level, the Deputy Prime Minister leads IPMG-PAR, while the Department of Development and Good Governance at the Prime Minister Office serves as the technical secretariat. With regard to the involvement of civil society, even though the guidelines of the Prime Minister Order stipulate that the membership of IPMGs must include a representative of the National Council for Civil Society, not any civil society organization is an official member of the IPMG-PAR. In practice, the format of CSOs involvement has been subject to closed invitations for each meeting round. At the administrative level, structures in place for PAR coordination and monitoring include the six thematic groups established under IPMG-PAR, namely Civil Service, Policy-making, Decentralization, Digitalization & E-Albania, Anti-corruption, Public services and Deregulation. Thematic groups chairs’ may invite representatives of civil society organisations to their meetings on a needs basis, but participation of civil society does not imply membership. So far, the format of CSOs involvement has been subject to closed invitations for each meeting round. IPMG-PAR meetings (both administrative and political) allow for discussion and feedback but CSOs are only in the status of observers and subject of closed invitations.

According to the guidelines, IPMG meetings shall be held every three months in accordance with the calendar agreed in the annual work plan. Since its establishment IPMG-PAR has held 6 meetings. The last one on 6 May 2018, whereas the previous on 17 March 2017. The meetings of the thematic groups have taken place less frequently.

IPMG-PAR responsibilities include inter alia: proposing efficient ways of using available financial resources, securing effective management of foreign aid through regular dialogue with donors and monitoring the progress of EU budgeted support as well as the absorption of other funds provided by development partners. No evidence is found that CSOs have been consulted on specific measures of PAR financing.

**Specific observations**

None.

**Indicator score**

8 (out of 26 points)

**Final indicator value**

1 (scale 0-5)\(^1\)

\(^1\)Conversion of points: 05 points = 0; 6-9 points = 1; 10-13 points = 2; 14-17 points =3; 18-21 points = 4; 22-26 points = 5
Measurement period: June-July 2018