OPEN DATA – OPEN OPPORTUNITIES

PROFILE

Donors: World Bank, UK Good Governance Fund;
Budget: $305,340; $300,996
Main Partner: Government of Serbia’s Office for IT and e-Government
Duration: 2017-2019

GOAL

To support the development of an open data ecosystem in Serbia, that will enable improved public services for citizens and contribute to economic growth of the country.

CONTEXT

Opening of the data owned by public institutions for reuse is a strategic commitment of the Government of the Republic of Serbia and it is reflected in the Strategy for e-governance development (2015-2018) and in the Action plan for the implementation of the international initiative “Open Government Partnership” in the Republic of Serbia for 2016 and 2017. The Project follows the recommendations set out in the Open Data Readiness Assessment, conducted by UNDP and World Bank in 2015.

FOCUS

• Support for development of an open data ecosystem in Serbia;
• Support for functioning of the Open Data Working Group comprised of public institutions that champion the open data initiative;
• Opening and publication of data sets and their reuse for public good;
• Introduction of open data into Serbian Legislative Framework;
• Upgrade of the National Open Data portal;
• Enable development of data-driven solutions in private, public and civil sector;
• Increasing the data literacy among the public through trainings, knowledge sharing, study visits, workshops and mentoring;
• Support to open data community building.

Open Data ecosystem encompasses three levels:
1) Creation of policy and regulations;
2) Supply by individual agencies and institutions;
3) Demand for open data and its innovative reuse. The Project supports and creates linkages between actors at all levels, vital for ensuring sustainability of the Open Data ecosystem.
RESULTS TO DATE

- Increased number of available data sets on National Open Data Portal from 145 (October 2017) to 393 (December 2018);
- Established Open Data Working Group, comprising 48 institutions;
- Open Data Readiness Assessment, conducted by UNDP and World Bank, used as a starting point for development of open data policy in Serbia;
- National Parliament of Serbia adopted the Law on e-governance, which in part regulates open data in the Republic of Serbia;
- The draft Law on change of Freedom of Information Act stipulates that state institutions should disclose information of public importance through Digital Information Directories (open data);
- First Open Data week organized in Serbia, with 11 events and over 350 participants.

Open Data Week participants (by gender)

- Men: 56%
- Women: 44%

Contribute to Sustainable Development Goal:

16. Peace, justice and strong institutions