

THEMATIC COMPILATION OF RELEVANT INFORMATION SUBMITTED BY BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

ARTICLE 13 UNCAC

ACCESS TO INFORMATION

BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA (SEVENTH MEETING)

In relation to ensuring that the public has effective access to information (article 13 (1) (b)), the latest tendencies related to the free access to information are seen in the insistence on the proactive transparency as a new quality i.e. a necessary standard that only can ensure an effective and complete access to all information controlled by public authorities and of importance for the public and democratic participation in political processes.¹⁴ TI B&H has also prepared an analysis of the Transparency, Accountability and Integrity in the public administration within the project “Public Administration Reform Monitoring (PARM)”¹⁵. The result of the analysis does not record desired dynamics.

In the period from January to March 2016 Transparency International B&H conducted a survey aimed at assessing the readiness of institutions in the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina to open data policy, while the subjects to the analysis are the current situation and the existing capacities at this level of government, as well as definition of needs in trying to implement the agenda of open data. In general, the results of this survey indicate that the successful initiative for the open data in the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina shall require the following:

- . ○ Strengthening the role of federal institutions in the activities within the field of the OGP initiative, and their capacities in order to readily and successfully address the challenges and obligations of the OGP initiative.
- . ○ Strong political orientation and leadership of the entity authorities in support to the openness.
- . ○ Centralized unit, with expertise regarding technical, legal and strategic implications of open data, responsible for the implementation of the open data initiative and providing education on open data to the civil servants in different departments, agencies and ministries.
- . ○ Adoption of clear policies on the right to re-use the data owned by the government.
- Launch of the initiative aimed at activating critical mass of citizens who are familiar with the fact that data are published and that they are allowed to re-use them.