## 5th National Open Government Action Plan 2021-2024

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### Resumen

This Action Plan reflects the progress made in the co-creation processes as an instrument to promote an open, transparent, and efficient Government. For the first time, the three branches of government converge in one plan, simultaneously integrating initiatives of Open Parliament, Open Justice, Central Administration agencies, and Departmental Governments.

### Introduction

### 10 years after the creation of the Open Government Partnership

This year 2021 is the 10th anniversary of Uruguay's membership in the Open Government Partnership and within this framework the country presents its 5th National Action Plan 2021-2024, thus ratifying the commitment undertaken by the country to promote the values of open government as cross-cutting principles in public management.

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The Covid-19 Pandemic set the great challenge of carrying out for the first time a co-creation process in a virtual modality. This challenge became an opportunity to develop an inclusive process, and to broaden and diversify the participation of multiple actors from different parts of the country.

The participation during the co-creation process of people belonging to different population groups in situations of greater vulnerability and inequality, including people with disabilities, elder, Afro-descendant people, and women, helped to integrate into the plan commitments that seek to include their contributions and integrate these perspectives into different initiatives.

The commitments contribute to the Sustainable Development Goals and enhance the progress of the country's digital transformation. In accordance with this line of work, the country is committed to develope a set of initiatives to advance towards guaranteeing the accessibility of the Government's digital information and services, strengthening the participation and digital inclusion of the elderly, enabling the follow-up of affirmative actions for Afro-descendant people, citizen monitoring of the gender strategy in agricultural policies, and strengthening openness, among others.

Likewise, through this 5th Action Plan, Uruguay intends to strengthen transparency and accountability in various areas, such as public procurement, health management, and policies, benefits provided to the business sector, the use of Artificial Intelligence in the Government, and environmental policies. It seeks to make further progress in the National Open Data Strategy, the monitoring of compliance with the Law on Access to Public Information, and its implementation at the local government level.

At this stage, the execution period of the plan is extended in order to achieve the consolidation of each of the initiatives.

This 5th National Open Government Action Plan reaffirms the country's strategy of conceiving action plans and co-creation processes in Uruguay as an instrument to generate new spaces for collaboration and collective construction among public organizations, civil society organizations, private sector, and academia, thus promoting a cross-cutting agenda for all public policies.

### **Development and follow-up process**

The 5th National Open Government Action Plan of Uruguay was co-created through a process that involved the participation of civil society organizations, academia, the private sector, international organizations, and public organizations from different areas, state branches, and levels of government.

#### Design and Leadership

The process was designed, agreed and led by the Open Government Working Group, which for the first time since 2016 - the year in which it was expanded in its integration by Decree N°357/2016 of the Executive Branch-, had the participation of representatives of public organizations from the three state branches, in addition to maintaining the participation of the representation of departmental governments and civil society. Agesic, in its role as an articulator, carried out the different activities of the co-creation

As in previous cycles and as part of a continuous improvement process, the lessons learned and recommendations made by the Independent Review Mechanism (IRM or MRI for its acronym in Spanish) were integrated into the design. In addition, and due to the change of scenario brought about by the beginning of the Covid-19 pandemic in the country in March 2020, the design of the co-creation process had to be adapted to this new context in order to develop it in a virtual modality.

The redesign of the process sought to transform the challenges brought about by the context of the Pandemic into an opportunity to a) diversify and broaden the participation of citizens and public institutions; b) strengthen the plan and the co-creation process as instruments to promote the integration of the principles of transparency, accountability and citizen participation in the different public policies and areas of the Government. The development of this fifth cycle made it possible to substantially increase the number of people, institutions, and organizations involved, as well as the number of proposals and ideas received in its participatory instances.

Below are some of the established guidelines and criteria.

### General characteristics of the process

- An entirely virtual process.
- It combined the use of synchronous participation tools (dialogue tables and workshops via Zoom) with asynchronous digital citizen participation tools such as the proposal management and public consultation platform.
- It integrated induction workshops and support guides to facilitate the informed participation and the propositional capacity of the multiple stakeholders in each of the participation instances.
- It incorporated Uruguayan Sign Language (LSU for its acronym in Spanish) interpreters to the dialogue sessions and virtual co-creation workshops to guarantee the possibility of equal participation of deaf people who participated in the different stages of the process.

Each of the roundtables was designed with the objective of achieving a decentralized, broad, and diverse participation process, placing special emphasis on the integration of the roundtables, as well as on their contents.

#### Plan implementation term

• The plan's implementation term was increased by consensus to 3 years (2021 - 2024) in order to promote the adoption of ambitious commitments and facilitate the consolidation of the initiatives undertaken by public institutions.

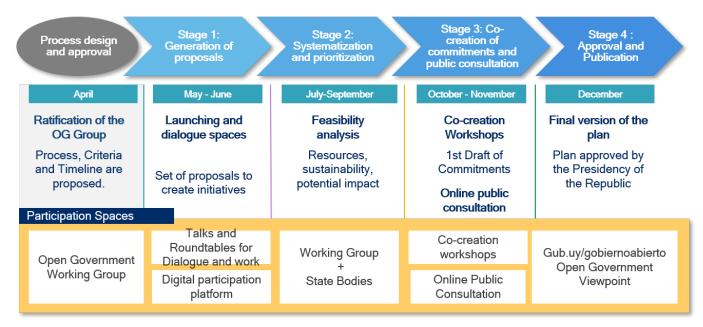
### Prioritization criteria for commitments, among other aspects

- To contemplate the potential impact of initiatives to substantially advance in the process towards an Open State.
- That all commitments are co-created and generated from demands identified in different areas.

  To promote a cross-cutting approach that involves, depending on feasibility, the participation of several institutions related to the same topic in an articulated manner.
- · To incorporate the gender perspective and the inclusion of the intersectional perspective in the commitments.

The process was developed in 4 stages and included the standards of participation and co-creation of the Open Government Partnership.

# Process for the elaboration of the 5th Action Plan



### Description of each stage

- Stage 1 Generation of proposals: The objective was to identify ideas and proposals that could be integrated into the plan. Two types of activities were developed during this stage: 1) Induction talks and workshops to prepare people to participate in the process. 2) Implementation of participation mechanisms, the first one through an online tool and the second through virtual dialogue and working tables.
- Stage 2 Systematization and prioritization: All the ideas and proposals that emerged from the dialogue roundtables and the digital citizen participation platform were
- systematized and their viability was analyzed according to the criteria defined by each of the public institutions involved.

  Stage 3 Co-creation of commitments and public consultation: The objective of this stage was to develop feasible proposals into commitments. To accomplish this, the public institutions generated a first version of the initiative and two participation mechanisms were established to generate the final commitments:
- 1) Co-creation workshops: developed with the aim of improving the commitments that would later be published for public consultation. In these workshops, public institutions presented their initiatives and received contributions from civil society organizations, academia, or the private sector. Seven virtual co-creation workshops were held.

- 2) Public consultation: Once the co-creation workshops were completed, the draft sheets of all the commitments were published for public consultation on the Digital Citizen Participation Platform.
  - Stage 4 Approval and publication of the plan: Once the Public Consultation was completed, the final version of the document of the 5th National Open Government Action Plan was generated and validated by the authorities of the public institutions responsible for the commitments contained therein. Finally, the plan was submitted to the Presidency of the Republic for its approval through the Executive Branch Decree.

All documents of the process and action plan are published in Gub. uy/gobierno-abierto, to start the implementation stage of the plan.

### Follow-up process

The 5th National Open Government Action Plan shall be subject to a public follow-up and monitoring process that will include different stages, mechanisms, and tools, as approved by consensus by the Open Government Working Group.

All commitments will be published in the Open Government Viewpoint, and the representative mentors of each institution shall be responsible for updating the status of each one of the goals.

Semi-annual follow-up reports, 2 national self-assessment reports, 2 monitoring roundtables, and 1 accountability roundtable will be conducted. All information will be published in Gub. uy/gobierno-abierto and in the National Catalogue of Open Data.

### **Process indicators**

The following is a summary of the indicators of the developed process:

### About the participants

497 people participated in the process, 314 women and 183 men.

- 364 on behalf of public institutions at national and departmental levels
- 75 representing civil society organizations
- 36 on behalf of academia
- 10 representatives of international bodies
- 2 representatives of binational bodies
- 7 representatives of the private sector
- 3 who participated as private citizens

### About the institutions and organizations that participated

153 different institutions and organizations

- 9 academic institutions
- 83 Public institutions
- 6 private sector
- 51 civil society organizations
- 4 international organizations

### About the proposals

332 total proposals

- 86 proposals submitted through the platform
- 302 proposals presented at the dialogue roundtables

Note: The total number of proposals does not correspond to the sum of the above amounts, since 56 proposals were submitted simultaneously at the tables and on the platform.

### **About the commitments**

29 commitments from 23 government institutions grouped into 4 thematic areas

- 14 of the 29 commitments include total or partial demands from participants who submitted ideas or proposals at the dialogue roundtables, through the proposal management platform, in the co-creation workshops, or in the public consultation.
- 11 of the 29 commitments explicitly incorporate a gender perspective.

### A more efficient public management that is open to citizen monitoring

To increase transparency and accountability in public procurement, in benefits granted to the productive business sector, health management and policies, the employment promotion plan, the national budget, and the use of Artificial Intelligence in the Government, for a more efficient public management that is open to citizen control and monitoring.

To strengthen oversight of compliance with the Law on Access to Public Information and the National Open Data Strategy.

#### 1.1 Citizen participation in the design of standard bidding documents for public contracts

#### Regulatory Agency for State Procurement (ARCE for its acronym in Spanish)

To design and institutionalize public consultation processes to enable citizen participation in the design of standard specifications of general application in order to receive input prior to its adoption as a regulatory instrument through the Digital Citizen Participation Platform.

#### Goals and/or major milestones

- To design the public consultation process for the standard bidding documents for the acquisition of goods and services of general use in the Government.
- To disseminate the implementation of the public consultation process through the application of a standardized specifications document.
- To submit at least four standard specifications for public consultation.
- To evaluate and document the public consultation process, identifying any lessons learned to be incorporated into the process.

### 1.2 To strengthen the openness, display, and downloading of public procurement data

### Regulatory Agency for State Procurement (ARCE)

To strengthen the opening, visualization, and downloading of public procurement data by incorporating relevant information from the procurement system, such as the application of preferential regimes for the development of suppliers or the demand planning carried out by the executing units of the State.

Likewise, the commitment will include the incorporation of improvements for the downloading of information by potentially diverse users and new visualization alternatives that combine different dimensions of the acquisition process.

### Goals and/or major milestones

- To make available the information regarding the annual contracting plans of the Central Administration.
  To publish information regarding the application of preferential public procurement regimes.
- To generate a space for exchange with different stakeholders (academia, civil society, among others) to identify other needs in terms of visualization and/or downloading of
- To implement the visualization and/or data download improvements that are identified as feasible.
- To generate training sessions for the visualization and/or downloading of information

### 1.3 Transparency and accountability of benefits granted to the productive and business sector

### Ministry of Industry, Energy, and Mining (MIEM, for its acronym in Spanish)

To implement a unified information system to ensure transparency and accountability regarding the tools for the promotion, support, and benefits provided by the Ministry of Industry, Energy and Mining (MIEM) to the national productive and business sector through its different executing units. A single repository of data of beneficiaries (individuals and legal entities) will be created in order to provide the citizens with updated information and the publication of open data of the companies participating in the Ministry's programs, facilitating access to information regarding the duration of the benefits, amounts, beneficiary sector, geographic area, etc.

In accordance with the proposals made during the participatory co-creation process of the 5th National Open Government Action Plan, for the design of the data registry in all cases, the information will be cross-cut by the following dimensions of beneficiaries or ownership of the company or cooperative: gender identity, ethnic-racial descent, age range, geographic location, and disability status, as appropriate.

### Goals and/or major milestones

- · Implementation of the unified information system.
- To gradually incorporate during the period of execution of the Plan, information, and data on the instruments and programs of the different executing units of the Ministry of Industry, Energy, and Mining, for which accountability will be provided.
- To implement a process for publishing data in open format. Creation of display panels to facilitate access to public information, improve data comprehension and facilitate data analysis; these panels will present information that will be disaggregated by different variables prioritized in consultation with potential users of this information.
- To implement a plan to spread and promote the use of published information.

### 1.4 Transparency and accountability of health management, policies, and programs

Ministry of Public Health (MSP, for its acronym in Spanish), DIGESE-Electronic Government Management, DIGESA- Health Sub directorate, DIGESA (General Directorate of Health) -OSN (National Health Objectives), DIGESNIS (General Directorate of the National Integrated Health System)-JUNASA (National Health Board)

To expand the availability of public information with regard to the operation of the national health system and the health resources available in the territory (infrastructure and human resources) and create an Observatory on the implementation of the National Health Objectives 2030, which allows citizens to monitor the main lines of health policy, facilitating the processes of consultation and public involvement in this effort, in accordance with the general guidelines established by the Law on Rights of Access to Public Information (Law No. 18,381 of 2008)

Throughout this process, the MSP is committed to advancing in the opening and publication of open data, incorporating new dimensions based on data demands identified in the system Atuservicio.uy

### Goals and/or major milestones

- To prepare and approve a new ATUSERVICIO Agreement, which incorporates the priorities foreseen for 2022-2024.
   To create a National Registry of Long-Stay Institutions for the Older Persons (ELEPEM, for its acronym in Spanish) and publish information in open data format.
- To conduct a mapping of human resources in the territory and publish geo-referenced maps with indicators of human resources available throughout the national territory, disaggregated by department and locality.
- To generate a Departmental System of Basic Health Resources Files in the territory and a version of simplified information files for publication that facilitates access to the public information produced.
- To publish as open data the information related to long-stay facilities, human resources indicators, and basic health resources in the national territory.
- To create and implement an Observatory to monitor the implementation of the National Health Objectives (OSN, for its acronym in Spanish) 2030. To publish objectives.
- To gradually incorporate the different information, reporting, and training components into the OSN Observatory.
   To publish the Basic Monitoring Data Matrix of the OSN 2030 Plan in open data format.

### 1.5 Transparency and accountability in the implementation of the Comprehensive Plan for Employment Promotion

### Ministry of Labour and Social Security (MTSS, for its acronym in Spanish) - National Directorate of Employment

To account for the results and challenges of the Comprehensive Plan for Employment Promotion, facilitating access to data on employment policies aimed at young people between 15 and 29 years old, workers over 45 years old, and people with disabilities; including a process of data openness and development of displays that facilitate the understanding of the data by all individuals.

- To develop processes for opening and publishing data of indicators on employment policies aimed at young people between 15 and 29 years of age, workers over 45 years of age, and people with disabilities.
- Develop visualization panels for monitoring employment policies aimed at young people between 15 and 29 years of age, workers over 45 years of age, and people with disabilities.

### 1.6 Observatory on the Governmental Use of Artificial Intelligence

Agency for e-Government and the Information and Knowledge Society (AGESIC, for its acronym in Spanish) and the Access to Public Information Unit (UAIP, for its acronym in Spanish).

To create an Observatory on Artificial Intelligence in the Government that promotes and fosters the ethical, responsible, safe, and reliable use of this technology, and strengthens the artificial intelligence ecosystem in Uruguay.

#### Goals and/or major milestones

- To generate spaces for the exchange of different interested sectors in order to devise recommendations, criteria, and technical standards that allow approaching the responsible, safe, and responsible use of AI technologies in the Government.
- To develop criteria and recommendations for the public Institutions providing guidelines for the transparency of the Algorithms in the applications using Al in the
- Government, in synergy with the effective regulations concerning Transparency and Access to Public Information.

  To promote the use of Al technology to benefit the population, taking into consideration certain aspects of ethics, privacy, responsibility, transparency, and nondiscrimination; and to publish use cases of AI in the Government.
- To implement the Government AI Observatory, including guidelines, and use cases.

### 1.7 How to understand public budgets - Budget Literacy Actions

Office of Planning and Budget (OPP, for its acronym in Spanish) - Department of Information for Management and Open Government - Management and Assessment Area.

To design and implement budget literacy actions aimed at fostering effective access to the information by the citizens on this matter and to strengthen the budget transparency. To promote the inclusion of the subject matter and the use of the Budget Transparency Portal for the different kinds of users in different sectors of the public scope (example: Education).

### Goals and/or major milestones

- To perform at least 3 Budget Literacy activities, such as:
- Webinars and/or lectures about contents of the Transparency Portal to public entities, Civil Society Organizations, and others. Playful activities for teenagers in High School (for instance, "Ministerra, prepare your budget" made by the BCU Educa program).
- To prepare, spread materials, and carry out activities that facilitate the inclusion of the Budget theme, in particular, and those contained in the portal, in general, inside the classroom, for the teachers of the different levels of the education system.

  Training sessions and virtual and in-person lectures. "The transparency Portal as classroom resource".

  To publish at least 3 educational resources in Ceibal's Open Educational Resources (REA, for its acronym in Spanish) portal.

- To design and incorporate at least 2 interactive games in the Budget Transparency Portal in connection with the different sections.
- To generate content to approach budget matters (transparency and accountability) aimed at leaders and teams of departmental and municipal governments throughout the country and to implement them through the Virtual Training Classroom in accordance with the training strategy of the Office of Planning and Budget for this audience.

### 1.8 Strengthening the oversight and accountability of compliance with the Law on Access to Public Information

#### Access to Public Information Unit (UAIP, for its acronym in Spanish)

To strengthen the oversight and accountability of the obligations imposed on parties regulated by Law no. 18,381 on Access to Public Information and its Regulatory Decree no. 232/010, through the development of a policy for the implementation and integration of 100% of the regulated parties to the Transparency and Access to Information National Index (INTAI, for its acronym in Spanish). Moreover, a plan for strengthening the transparency in departmental government and municipalities (third level of government) shall be implemented, so as to achieve the integration of all regulated parties into the index.

### Goals and/or major milestones

- To implement a new methodology of the Transparency and Access to Information National Index (INTAI) in all regulated parties except to the municipalities that will be assessed on the second stage.
- To publish INTAI's results in open data format and to develop a display panel to spread and facilitate access to the information obtained in each of the assessments to be performed during the period.
- To implement a plan for the promotion of the right of access to public information at the level of departmental and municipal governments, which includes a consultation round with interested actors, and to create a network of local mentors.
- To implement the INTAI in 100% of the regulated parties and to publish the obtained results.

### 1.9 Open Data Strategy for the 2021-2024 period

The Agency for e-Government and the Information and Knowledge Society (AGESIC) and open data working group made up of the Office of Planning and Budget (OPP), National Office of Civil Service (ONSC, for its acronym in Spanish), National Statistics Institute (INE, for its acronym in Spanish), Ministry of Industry, Energy and Mining (MIEM), Congress of Mayors, Open Government Network, School of Engineering - University of the Republic.

To implement the 2021-2024 National Open Data Strategy driving 5 lines of action: fostering the opening of data from the design in the diverse government scopes and levels, strengthening the national ecosystem, updating the reference framework by creating the first Metadata inventory about the data in possession of the Government, and promoting and supporting opening processes in themes concerning gender, anti-corruption, environment, climate change, health, parliament, justice, among others.

- To update the reference framework about open data to foster the data opening from the design, including dimensions such as sex, gender, generations, ethnic-racial, and
- To drive an open data community through a) the execution of at least 4 awareness and use promotion activities per year, with at least one of them aimed at subnational governments and b) the creation of an interinstitutional space to share knowledge and experiences, c) getting to know the data ecosystem to assess the implemented
- To develop transversal projects for the opening and publication of data including instances of citizen participation in the open data prioritization process in matters such as gender, anti-corruption, climate change, parliament, justice, among others.

  To develop a process of education data opening and publication, starting with Plan Ceibal data since the year 2019 in connection with the use of the Crea platform.
- To create and implement the first version of a national metadata catalogue that allows the mapping of all data available in the entities of the Executive Branch, generating a concept map that eases the access and uses thereof.
- To standardize and improve the publication of open data with regard to waste collection and cleaning, such as waste and containers of recyclable waste.

### Citizen participation and policies for equality

To promote the open government principles as a tool for the construction, implementation, and monitoring of public policies oriented towards achieving a more equal and inclusive society. To provide tools to diversify and extend the participation mechanisms, fostering digital citizen participation.

### 2.1 Accessibility in the information and digital services of the Government

Agency for e-Government and the Information and Knowledge Society (AGESIC), Civil Service National Office (ONSC), and the Access to Public Information Unit (UAIP).

To drive an accessibility policy with regard to information and digital services provided by the Government, involving people with disabilities in spaces of dialogue and

#### Goals and/or major milestones

- Space for multi-actor dialogue and exchange. To set up a space for multi-actor exchange which integrates representatives of collectives of people with disabilities, institutions of the Government, and academia that can contribute to the design of the lines of action of the Accessibility Program on digital contents. To generate technical guidelines, an awareness and training plan on the theme aimed at entities of the Government and its implementation.
- To harmonize the implementation of the Law on Access to Public Information with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. To adopt, through a participative process involving people with disability, a ruling by the Access to Public Information Unit which establishes guidelines to correlate the implementation of the Law on Access to Public Information with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and other provisions in connection with the adoption of standards and practices for the universal design and/or reasonable adjustments.
- Accessibility of the governmental call for applications in Uruguay Concursa. To modify the information of the calls managed by Uruguay Concursa aimed at persons with disability so that these are accessible. To prepare the communicational guidelines and directions and to promote a training plan aimed at all entities which are obliged to publish their calls in the *Uruguay Concursa* portal.
- Accessible electronic resumé and new dimensions of information. To develop a new electronic resumé of Uruguay Concursa, which meets the accessibility standards, and which incorporates the dimensions of gender identity, ethnic-racial self-description, and disability.
- Accessibility to Citizen Service. To develop a pilot incorporating centralized virtual assistance with Uruguayan Sign Language (USL) and update the catalogue of online proceedings and services so that the information thereof is accessible.

### 2.2 Strengthening the spaces of citizen participation and use of digital tools in public policies about aging and old age

### National Institute of Older Persons (Inmayores) - Ministry of Social Development (MIDES, for its acronym in Spanish)

To strengthen the citizen participation of civil society organizations concerning aging and old age, in institutionalized spheres, such as Inmayores Advisory Committee. For such purposes, the use of digital citizen participation tools will be integrated in order to strengthen their participation in terms of impact on the design, implementation, and assessment of the public policies on the subject matter, thus boosting the exercise of their right of participation, favouring their integration and contribution to the development of the society.

#### Goals and/or major milestones

- To prepare a working plan (road map), which includes the steps and activities to be performed, building strategic alliances among all the actors involved in the development of the commitment.
- To design and implement together with Agesic and with the Advisory Committee of the National Institute of Older Persons a module about aging and old age within the Digital Citizenship Participation Platform available for the Uruguayan Government.
- To design a series of training sessions on the use of the digital citizen participation platform aimed at the Advisory Committee and other intervening actors, considering the inclusion of people with disabilities such as the deaf community.
- Monitoring and follow-up of the participative process through the digital Platform.
  To implement a series of training sessions on the use of the platform for digital inclusion aimed at developing procedural skills and abilities for promoting the participation of the members of the Committee and representatives of older persons' civil society organizations.
- · To carry out workshops to raise awareness on the right to participation and digital inclusion in the process of public policies about aging and old age.

### 2.3 Observatory for the follow-up of the implementation of affirmative actions for People of African Descent

### Division of Promotion of Public Policies for Afro Descendants - Ministry of Social Development (MIDES)

To create an Observatory for the follow-up and monitoring of the implementation of affirmative actions aimed at the African descent population, strengthening the transparency, accountability, and citizen participation with regard to the compliance with Law 19,122. To promote guidelines and implement actions to improve the production and availability of information that integrates the ethnic-racial variable by public institutions.

### Goals and/or major milestones

- To design a proposal of Observatory through a participative process within the framework of the Implementation Committee of Law 19,122 and its Advisory Committee.
- To launch the Observatory for the follow-up of the implementation of affirmative actions for people of African descent.
  To implement a process for opening the data of the Observatory and to develop displays to boost the citizen monitoring tools.
- To incorporate spaces for exchanges and citizen participation in connection with the subject matters of the Observatory through the Digital Citizen Participation Platform.
- To draft guidelines to implement improvements to the production of disaggregated data and compliance with effective regulations in connection with the application of the ethnic-racial variable, allowing mapping of all the registries which currently use this variable.
- To design and implement an awareness program aimed at entities and officers with regard to the subject matter so as to promote improvements to the information systems so that disaggregated data can exist and data opening processes are promoted; and to prepare a guide, by the Division, favouring the effective implementation of
- To spread the Observatory and foster its use within the target population.

### 2.4 Monitoring and transparency of the National Gender Plan in Agricultural Policies

### Ministry of Livestock, Agriculture, and Fisheries (MGAP, for its acronym in Spanish)

To perform the monitoring of the National Gender Plan of the Agricultural Policies (PNG Agro, for its acronym in Spanish), together with the civil society, fostering its involvement, impact, and transparency in the management and execution of the PNG Agro.

### Goals and/or major milestones

- To create a follow-up committee for the implementation of the National Gender Plan in Agricultural Policies (PNG Agro) made up by the farming civil society and the rural sphere, and to set it up.
- To establish a network of mentors in the Rural Development Boards that joins the PNG Agro implementation process.
- To generate and implement a training plan to strengthen the impact and monitoring abilities of the Follow-up Committee and/or Network of mentors in the Rural
- To develop and set up a viewpoint for the implementation of the National Gender Plan in the Agricultural Policies to facilitate the follow-up and access to the information and regular reports of the operational commitments by all interested citizens
- To carry out, during the implementation process, at least 6 events to account for actions taken, around commemorative days on March 8th and October 15th of each year.

### 2.5 Gender equality perspective in open data and in Montevideo's street naming

### Municipality of Montevideo (IM, for its acronym in Spanish)

To develop a process to increase the availability and publication of open data which allows promoting the analysis with a gender equality perspective

To foster citizen participation, transparency, and accountability to reduce the gender gap in the city's street naming, within the frame of the Strategy for Gender Equality in

Montevideo, strengthening the implementation of the project Mujeres con Calle (Street Smart Women) and the affirmative action provided by Decree 37,252/19 of the Departmental Board

#### Goals and/or major milestones

- To prepare recommendations for the publication of open data with a gender equality perspective in the organization.
- To update the publication of the existing open data, by applying the recommendations.
  To classify the list of street names of Montevideo with the collaboration of the civil society to publish as open data and allow its analysis with different perspectives.
- To promote the transparency in the evolution of the proposals submitted within the frame of the project Mujeres con calle, through feedback thereof.
- To make the gender gap in the street naming visible and to draw attention to the path of women who are part of it, as well as of those who were proposed, through diffusion activities and workshops to raise awareness of the project on the territory.

#### 2.6 Domestic and gender-based violence; access to open data

### Ministry of the Interior (MI) - National Directorate of Gender Policies

To extend the publication of open data on domestic and gender-based violence, and to develop a display panel to facilitate the comprehension and interpretation of data, considering contributions of specialists for the construction thereof.

### Goals and/or major milestones

- · To redesign the model for the publication of open data concerning domestic and gender-based violence.
- To update the data in an open format with regard to domestic violence and associated situations and gender-based violence situations in the year 2018 and to publish data of domestic violence situations and related data in 2019 and 2020.
- To publish data in an open format on domestic homicides to women and by gender-based violence, and data about sexual crimes in 2019 and 2020.
- To design and develop a display panel of the domestic and gender-based violence crimes, to facilitate the understanding of the information by the citizens, with the support of Agesic.
- To implement the display panel.

### 2.7 Access to information for the empowerment and economic autonomy of women

Ministry of Social Development (MIDES) - National Institute for Women

#### What is the commitment?

To strengthen the access to information so as to contribute to fostering the economic autonomy of women in Uruguay, through the development of a collaborative, gratuitous, open, and public application that involves the active participation of the potential users in the design and prioritization of contents.

#### Goals and/or major milestones

- · To submit an initial query and another one in the mid-term to potential users using the Digital Citizen Participation Platform as one of the mechanisms.
- To design and implement strategic alliances with governmental institutions related to the initiative within the frame of the National Gender Congress. To develop the application and implement a pilot stage.
- To design and implement a strategy of dissemination and appropriation by the users and public institutions.

### 2.8 Promotion and strengthening of Digital Citizen Participation

### Agency for e-Government and the Information and Knowledge Society (AGESIC)

To reinforce a digital citizen participation policy, promoting digital inclusion, the use by public institutions of the Digital Citizen Participation Platform or other digital tools, and incorporating best practices in the participative processes. To investigate the factors that generate gaps for citizen participation in digital environments, considering dimensions such as gender, generations, ethnic-racial, territoriality, disability, among others, that allow strengthening the strategy.

### Goals and/or major milestones

- To amend the National Catalogue of Citizen Participation in terms of updating information and accessibility.
- To incorporate the perspective of Civil Society and of Academia through tables of dialogue or participative instances, for the reinforcement of the digital citizen participation policy and of the reference framework for this citizen participation method, in order to intensify the instruments and actions on this subject matter.
   To incorporate standards, guidelines, and tools to promote accessible participative processes and boost the inclusive digital citizen participation in the Platform, aligning
- them to the use of international standards in terms of accessibility.
- To study and analyse the factors that generate barriers and gaps in the participation in digital environments, considering dimensions such as gender, generations, ethnic-
- racial aspects, territoriality, disabilities, among others.

   To institutionalize the Digital Citizen Participation Platform, as an instrument to centralize the scopes and processes of the Government.

### 2.9 Co-creation and public monitoring of the National Action Plan on Human Rights

### Human Rights Secretariat under the Presidency of the Republic (SDH, for its acronym in Spanish)

To implement a participative process for the construction of the first National Action Plan on Human Rights. To design and develop a citizen follow-up and monitoring process, integrating digital tools to guarantee the public access to information and accountability mechanisms.

### Goals and/or major milestones

- To implement the first stage of the participative process to gather problems and actions proposals through 4 instruments:
- A platform on digital citizen participation,
- Creatón (4 regional conferences)
- 1 academic seminar
- 3 tables of dialogue with academicians and institutional mentors.
- To systematize and prioritize the proposals received for the preparation of the document "Bases hacia un Plan Nacional de Acción en Derechos Humanos y relatorías para la construcción de la mirada estratégica" (Basis towards a National Action Plan on Human Rights and reports for the construction of the strategic outlook).
- Co-creation and approval of operation plan through a participative process carrying out a table of dialogue per each central theme.
- To implement a citizen follow-up and monitoring process, using digital tools to guarantee the public access to information (Viewpoint).
- To carry out an annual dialogue table for follow-up with social participation, in September every year. The institutions shall assess the execution and shall re-plan a new annual operation plan.

To organize an instance for the accountability and assessment of the plan by the end of the period.

### Management, surveillance and environmental protection and territorial planning

To encourage the open government principles as a tool to advance in the integrated and sustainable management of the territory and the environment, to progress towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, and to contribute to the principles promoting the Regional Agreement on Access to Information, Public Participation and Justice in Environmental Matters in Latin America and the Caribbean (Escazú Agreement).

#### 3.1 National System for Environmental Complaint's Management

#### Ministry of Environment (MA, for its acronym in Spanish)

To implement a national system for the management of environmental complaints which allows receiving complaints through multiple channels, extending the available public information and allows making a citizen monitoring of the complaint processing and resolution.

### Goals and/or major milestones

- To generate participative instances to foster exchange among multiple actors and receive contributions which allow redesigning the management processes of environmental complaints and generating the adaptation proposal.
- To modify the system of environmental complaints, to incorporate new proposals generated through the participative process.
- To implement the new system within the scope of the Ministry of Environment and incorporate at least 3 public institutions.
- To make available an instrument for the follow-up of the complaints and tools which provides transparency to all the reporting and resolution processes.
- To publish the information and the data in open formats in the National Environmental Observatory and in the national catalogue of open data, to facilitate the access and use by different interested audiences.

### 3.2 Observatory "Uruguay más circular" (More circular Uruguay): National Waste Plan

### Ministry of Environment (MA)

To create an Observatory - *Uruguay más circular*: National Waste Plan which allows monitoring the progress, and provides data and information in connection with the Plan follow-up indicators, initiatives to promote recycling and circular economy, information categorized by type of waste valorisation route, among other key information for decision-making and informed citizen participation.

#### Goals and/or major milestones

- To perform the concept design of the Waste Information Single Integrated System, incorporating instances for exchange and contributions with different interested actors. It includes the concept design of the incorporation of the Observatory *Uruguay más circular:* National Waste Plan as a module of the National Environmental Observatory.
- To develop the Waste Information Single Integrated System and implement the Observatory Uruguay más circular: National Waste Plan.
- To incorporate applications into the Observatory Uruguay más circular to facilitate the participation of civil society in the recycling programs.
- To publish information with indicators that allow following up the National Waste Management Plan.
- · To provide information related to applications enabling waste traceability.
- · To train in the use of the applications and promote the information about waste to foster the use by the different sectors of the society.

### 3.3 Participative process for the preparation of Uruguay's Second Nationally Determined Contribution and its follow-up

### National System on Climate Change Response and variability (SNRCC, for its acronym in Spanish)

To design and implement a participative process with the objective of contributing to the preparation of Uruguay's Second Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC), consolidating and articulating a set of actions aimed at fostering the participation and involvement of the actors and sectors, and at achieving great ambition and commitment in this instrument. The process will include a public consultation by means of the Digital Citizen Participation Platform as a tool to amplify and diversify the public participation opportunities. Once the Second NDC becomes effective, a system will be implemented for its follow-up, which will be made public in the National Catalogue of Open Data, and accessible through the use of display panels.

### Goals and/or major milestones

- To design a participative process for the preparation of the Second Nationally Determined Contribution on Climate Change.
- Communication and diffusion.
- To implement consultation and exchange instances within sectors and with different transversal actors.
- To implement a public consultation on the draft of the Second NDC.
- Completion of the Second NDC document, considering the contributions.
- · Preparation of follow-up indicators and methodological guides considering the possibility of opening data.
- Implementation of display of indicators and communication strategy with involved subjects.

### 3.4 Santa Lucía Portal, a tool for the territorial management of the River basin

## Ministry of Housing and Territorial Planning (MVOT, for its acronym in Spanish) - National Directorate of Territorial Planning (DINOT, for its acronym in Spanish)

To design and implement a digital participation platform that enables the performance and management of the preparation process of the National Program on Territorial Planning and Sustainable Development in the Santa Lucía river basin and the integrated management thereof. This tool shall allow unified access to the Program cocreation process, facilitating the operation of the Coordination and Follow-up Commission, and the spaces for the construction of collaborative documents during the territorial planning instrument preparation process.

To develop a portal that supplements the solution and allows: a) Accessing information, services, and ongoing initiatives on a centralized basis in the basin with regard to territorial planning instruments, fostering information, participation, and training instances. b) Having a direct channel to file complaints of non-compliance with territorial planning provisions. c) Incorporating compliance follow-up and accountability components concerning the territorial planning instruments and provisions that affect that territory.

- To implement a design process of the Santa Lucía Portal for the territorial planning and management of the river basin, and the institutional agreements so that it works as an integrated space.
- To develop the platform and launch it.
- To implement public promotion campaigns to involve the citizens in the processes implying the monitoring and follow-up of the plans and measures with impact on the territory.
- To develop 2 training session workshops and opportunities for exchange and appropriation of the use of the platform by the different actors involved in Santa Lucía´s river basin.
- Generation and application of consultation and assessment forms to the users so as to make adjustments and improvements to the solution in two instances.

#### Towards an Open State

To drive the principles of the open government as transversal components of the public duty in all public branches, scopes, and levels of the government, progressing towards an Open State. To integrate the national Parliament and continue making progress in the development of new instruments that endow the Judicial System with transparency.

### 4.1 Strengthening the Digital Citizen Participation in the Parliament

#### Legislative Branch - Senate

To institutionalize the Open Parliament policy in the sphere of the Senate. To regulate the operation of the digital Citizen Participation Program (PROPACI, for its acronym in Spanish) of the Parliament to reinforce the implementation of the tool in the sphere of the Senate and contribute to guaranteeing effective participation of people. To develop supplementary actions oriented towards fostering the digital participation of women in the PROPACI.

### Goals and/or major milestones

- To institutionalize a space, through the creation of an area for the management, development, and implementation of open parliament initiatives.
- To design regulations and protocols that guarantee the efficiency of the tool through a participative process, designed by incorporating the contributions of the parliamentary commissions, officers, technical specialists, academia, and interested civil society.
- To assess the tool incorporating new features.
- To implement a promotion and skill development plan for the use of the tool, including actions aimed at promoting the participation of women and several specific collectives to be prioritized.

### 4.2 Strengthening the policy on access to public information and opening of Parliament data

#### Legislative Branch - Senate

To drive a data opening institutional policy and to establish an incremental publication plan, identifying and prioritizing the most relevant data for the citizens. To generate a participative space to identify such demands, fostering transparency and accountability towards the citizens and the value of the data before the different groups of the society.

#### Goals and/or major milestones

- To design and approve a parliamentary open data policy and its corresponding regulations.
- To generate a participative process to identify sets of critical data to be published, receiving the contributions of the interested sectors.
- To design and implement a publication, diffusion, and promotion plan on the use of the data published in open format made public in the website of the Parliament and in the National Data Catalogue.

#### 4.3 New perspectives for the copyright law

#### Legislative Branch - Senate's Commission of Education and Culture

To implement parliamentary reflection sessions which enable making evolution proposals to the copyright law and related provisions in areas such as education, libraries and files, science, and freedom of speech in the digital era.

#### Goals and/or major milestones

- To carry out a refresher seminar on the matter at a national and international level to generate objective information which paves the way for the participation, with the involvement of academicians, and specialists on copyrights, information management, libraries, records, education, and Information and Communication Technology and digital culture.
- To provide two workspaces for exchange on the following topics: a) Improvements to the copyright law concerning records, libraries, museums, and galleries and b) Improvements to the copyright law concerning education and investigation.
- Space in the PROPACI to receive proposals on the subject matter.
   Document of proposals submitted to the commission for its treatment.

### 4.4 Transparent Plenary Session in Maldonado's Departmental Board

### Maldonado's Departmental Board (JDM, for its acronym in Spanish)

To develop a digital transformation strategy of Maldonado's Departmental Board that reinforces the transparency and accountability concerning the departmental legislative work, incorporating an electronic voting system for municipal elected officers, which allows checking attendance to plenary sessions and commissions, the verification of the correct configuration of the plenary session and control of quorum.

### Goals and/or major milestones

- To implement a new system that will enable electronic voting, the attendance control of plenary sessions and commissions, the verification of the correct configuration of the plenary session, and the control of quorum, integrating 100% of the municipal elected officers.
- To institute the new effective rules of procedure of Maldonado's Departmental Board and to approve its adjustments within the reference framework for the execution of the commitment.
- To implement an awareness and training plan aimed at elected municipal officers and the citizens for the exploitation of the digital transformation.
- To incorporate the attendance data generated by the new system to the information available through the Active Transparency mechanisms of the entity.
- To publish the attendance and other data generated within the framework of the commitment in the open data format in the website of Maldonado's Departmental Board and in the National Catalogue of Open Data.

### 4.5 Canelones: Observatory, interinstitutional information, open municipalities, and guide of social resources

### Municipality of Canelones (IC, for its acronym in Spanish)

To implement a comprehensive strategy to promote the highest transparency levels in the departmental management, strengthening the right to access to public information and the interaction with the citizens, through:

1) The creation of an Observatory of strategy and public policy of the Municipality of Canelones, seeking to maximize the access to available information through its publication in open data and georeferencing; 2) The design and implementation, together with the Departmental Board, of an interinstitutional information system facilitating interaction and participation of the citizens through the availability of accessible information about the duties and roles of the different institutions that are part of the Government of Canelones; 3) The reinforcement of the open municipalities policy; 4) The creation and set up of a platform that facilitates access to public information on the available social resources in the department, including the georeferencing of support services for victims of Gender-based Violence, spaces and services destined to older persons, persons with disabilities, scholarships and educational programs, among others.

- To design and implement an Observatory for strategy and public policy of the Municipality of Canelones, seeking to maximize access to available information through its publication in open data and georeferencing.
- To design and implement, together with the Departmental Board, an interinstitutional information system.
- To create and set up a citizen follow-up platform which consolidates and georeferences the information concerning the support services to the victims of Gender-Based Violence (GBV), spaces destined to older persons, services destined to persons with disabilities, access to housing, educational programs, access to scholarships, access to recreational spaces.
- To generate and implement a strategy to strengthen the open municipality policy including an awareness campaign on the right to Access to Public Information at a departmental level and training sessions for reinforcement of 30 municipalities concerning transparency and access to public information.

### 4.6 Opening of data on the criminal proceedings about charges and convictions to persons.

#### Office of the Attorney General (FGN, for its acronym in Spanish)

To publish in open data format the result of the diverse stages of the criminal procedure about charged and convicted persons on record as of February 2019.

To design and implement displays that enhance transparency and accountability about criminal proceedings and the exercise of the criminal charges.

### Goals and/or major milestones

- To perform the regular publication of a series of data about the criminal proceedings, from the filing to the last recorded hearing since February 2019 thereon, in the national catalogue of open data and in the portal of the Office of the General Attorney of the Nation.
- To carry out a workshop with civil society organizations, researchers, and specialists on the subject matter, to define indicators to be incorporated in the display and promote its use.
- To implement a display that enhances the comprehension of the stages of the criminal proceedings, and allows understanding the data published by all persons without the need of being specialized in the subject matter.

### 4.7 Strengthening of access to information of court records

### Judicial Branch (PJ, for its acronym in Spanish)

Modify the online system "Consulta de Expedientes Judiciales" (Find Court Records) to incorporate the search by name and last names (patronymic search) of the persons that are part of a file, to facilitate access to such information.

- To develop the new Consulta de Expedientes Judiciales system.
- To implement diffusion actions to make known the performed changes.
- To launch the new "Consulta de Expedientes Judiciales" version.

### Participants in the creation of the Plan

The creation process was supported by the following entities:

- Accessibility for Uruguay's Deaf Community (ACSU, for its acronym in Spanish)
   Open Government Partnership Multi-Donor Trust Fund and World Bank
   Ministry of Social Development National Secretariat of Care and Disability

- Democracy Network through the Support Unit of the Open Government Partnership.

This support contributed to reinforcing the participation of new civil society organizations and carrying out an inclusive process.

Below, there is a detailed description of all organizations which participated in the different stages from introductory workshops, subject-specific workshops, dialogue spaces up to the integration of commitments:

#### **Governmental Entities**

State Health Services Administration, Fuel, Alcohol and Cement National Administration, Post Office National Administration, National Public Education Administration, National Administration of State Sanitary Works, National Telecommunications Administration, National Administration of Power Stations and Electric Transmissions, Agency for the Development of Electronic Management Government and Information and Knowledge Society, National Research and Innovation Agency, National Housing Agency, Regulatory Agency for State Procurement, Internal Auditing Office of the Nation, Central Bank of Uruguay, Social Welfare Bank, Mortgage Bank of Uruguay, Joint Technical Commission on Salto Grande, Congress of Mayors, General Accounting Office of the Nation, Electoral Court, National Customs Directorate, Office of the Attorney General, National Human Rights Institute and Ombudsman of Uruguay, Institute for the Child and Adolescent of Uruguay, National Quality Institute, National Colonization Institute, National Institute of Employment and Professional Development, National Institute of Statistics, National Institute of Education, National Institute for Adolescent Social Inclusion, National Agricultural Research Institute, National Cooperativism Institute, Departmental Municipality of Canelones, Departmental Municipality of Cerro Largo, Departmental Municipality of San José, Departmental Municipality of Durazno, Departmental Municipality of Flores, Departmental Municipality of Florida, Departmental Municipality of Lavalleja, Departmental Municipality of Montevideo, Departmental Municipality of Paysandú, Departmental Municipality of Rivera, Departmental Municipality of Rocha, Departmental Municipality of Salto, Departmental Municipality of Treinta y Tres, Board of Canelones, Transparency and Public Ethics Board, Departmental Board of Lavalleja, Departmental Board of Maldonado, Departmental Board of Paysandú, Departmental Board of San José, Ministry of Environment, Ministry of National Defence, Ministry of Social Development, Ministry of Economy and Finance, Ministry of Education and Culture, Ministry of Livestock, Agriculture, and Fisheries, Ministry of Industry, Energy and Mining, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Public Health, Ministry of Labour and Social Security, Ministry of Transport and Public Works, Ministry of Tourism, Ministry of Housing and Territorial Planning, Ministry of Interior, Cerro de las Cuentas Municipality, Ch Municipality, Aiguá Municipality, Dolores – Soriano Municipality, La Paloma Municipality, Pando Municipality, San Antonio Municipality, San Jacinto Municipality, Tala Municipality, Tres Islas Municipality, José Pedro Varela Municipality, Nuevo

Pan de Azúcar Municipality, Pando Municipality, Office of Planning and Budget, National Office of Civil Service, Parliament of Uruguay, Plan Ceibal, Judicial Branch, Presidency of the Republic, National Emergency System, Access to Public Information Unit, Regulatory Unit for Communications Services, Regulatory Unit of Energy and Water Services, National Youth Institute, General Accounting Office of the Nation, Presidency of the Republic's Human Rights Secretariat, National Secretariat for the Fight Against Money Laundering and Terrorism Financing under the Presidency of the Republic

### **Civil Society**

Florida´s Economic Development Agency, AIBEX International Organization, Amnesty International, Afro Assembly, Assembly for the Water of Santa Lucía River, Prader-Willi Syndrome Civil Association, Young Men's Christian Association, Association of Ricegrowers, Uruguayan Association of Librarians, Uruguayan Deaf Association, National Association of NGOs oriented towards Development, Uruguayan Association of Archivists, Community Library Fomentando Sueños, Center of Records and Access to Public Information, Interdisciplinary Center on Development Studies, CÍVICO, todo por los niños/retroalimentate Collective, Afro-Uruguayan National Coordinator, Cotidiano Mujer, DATA Uruguay, El Abrojo, Coordination Spaces for the River Agreements in Uruguay, Uruguayan Federation of Disability Institutions, Bensadoun Laurent Foundation, Ceibal Foundation, Entre Soles y Lunas Foundation, Gastesi Martinicorena Foundation, Lagunas Costeras Foundation, Girls In Tech Uruguay, Grupo de la Esperanza, Inclusive Education Working Group – 4D Lab, Esperanza y Vida Group, Pro rights Fellowship, Communication and Development Institute, Data and Society Laboratory, League for Consumer Defence of Uruguay, Latin American Observatory of Media Regulation and Convergence, Uruguayan Observatory of Rights of Disabled Persons, Open Contracting Partnership,, Uruguayan Businesswomen Organization, Pensamiento Colectivo, Las Garzas small owners, Poder, National Network of Organizations for Older Persons, Pro Cuidados Network, Uruguayan Network against Domestic and Sexual Violence, Uruguayan Network of Environmentalists NGOs, Memory Sites - Uruguay, Uruguay Transparente, Accessibility for the Deaf Community, Cooperative of Uruguayan Sign Language Interpreters.

### **Academia**

School of Uruguayan Sign Language, FLACSO Uruguay, Inter-American Institute of Human Rights, Universidad Católica del Uruguay, Universidad de la Empresa, Universidad de la República, Universidad Tecnológica del Uruguay, School of Information and Communication of the University of the Republic, Ibero-American Coaching Center Foundation.

### Private sector

Chamber of Uruguayan Waste Management Companies, Uruguayan Chamber of Information Technologies, Cerro Largo Commercial and Industrial Center, Uruguaya Business Confederation, Gary Tours- Inclusive Tours in Uruguayan Sign Language, Uruguay's Union of Exporters.

### International organization

Grutas del Palacio UNESCO Global Geopark, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Food and Agriculture Organizations.

## **Summary of the commitments**

A more efficient public management that is open to citizen monitoring	1.1 Citizen participation in the design of standard bidding documents for public contracts
	1.2 To strengthen the openness, display, and downloading of public procurement data.
	1.3 Transparency and accountability of benefits granted to the productive and business sector.
	1.4 Transparency and accountability of health management, policies, and programs
	1.5 Transparency and accountability in the implementation of the Comprehensive Plan for Employment Promotion.
	1.6 Observatory on the Governmental Use of Artificial Intelligence.
	1.7 How to understand public budgets - Budget Literacy Actions
	1.8 Strengthening the oversight and accountability of compliance with the Law on Access to Public Information.
	1.9 Open Data Strategy for the 2021-2024 period.
2 Citizen participation and policies for equality	2.1 Accessibility in the information and digital services of the Government.
	2.2 Strengthening the spaces of citizen participation and use of digital tools in public policies about ageing and old age
	2.3 Observatory for the follow-up of the implementation of affirmative actions for People of African Descent.
	2.4 Monitoring and transparency of the National Gender Plan in Farming Policies
	2.5 Gender equality perspective in open data and in Montevideo's street naming
	2.6 Domestic and gender-based violence: access to open data
	2.7 Access to information for the empowerment and economic autonomy of women
	2.8 Promotion and strengthening of Digital Citizen Participation
	2.9 Co-creation and public monitoring of the National Action Plan on Human Rights
Management, surveillance and environmental protection and territorial planning	3.1 National System for Environmental Complaint's Management
	3.2 Observatory "Uruguay más circular" (More circular Uruguay): National Waste Plan
	Participative process for the preparation of Uruguay´s Second Nationally Determined Contribution and its follow-up
	3.4 Santa Lucía Portal, a tool for the territorial management of the River basin
4 Towards an Open State	4.1 Strengthening the Digital Citizen Participation in the Parliament
	4.2 Strengthening the policy on access to public information and opening of Parliament data
	4.3 New perspectives for the copyright law
	4.4 Transparent Plenary Session in Maldonado´s Departmental Board
	4.5 Canelones: Observatory, interinstitutional information, open municipalities, and guide of social resources
	4.6 Opening of data on the criminal proceedings about charges and convictions to persons
	4.7 Strengthening of access to information of court records