



WOODle Project

Second Coordination Meeting

Vienna, VICESSE office Paulanergasse 4/8, 1040 Wien 5-6 March 2020

5 March 2020

Unito: Laura Scomparin, Valeria Ferraris, Emanuela Andreis

Amapola: Eleonora Guidi, Giuseppina De Angelis

Crpe: Alexandru Damian

Uni Maribor: Jan Stajnko (via Skype)

Uni Angers: Anthony Taillefait, Christina Koumpli

Vicesse: Reinhard Kreissl, Norbert Leonhardmair, Stefanie Brottrager, Emanuel Tananau

Blumenschein

Morning: 9.45-12.30

⇒ WP3 - Presentation result of score maps (Amapola)

The morning meeting is dedicated to the presentation by the Amapola team of the impact assessment process of the Woodie project. After an illustration of the results of the score maps, the team worked on the implementation indicators.

Pina and Eleonora briefly illustrated the work on the evaluation they have carried out so far. Prior to the meeting some material have been sent to partners by email, namely:

- 1) Methodological plan describing the design and steps of the overall evaluation process (deliverable of WP3).
- 2) <u>Draft Report on the results of the questionnaire and final score map tables on the legislative frameworks of whistleblowing and open data</u>
- 3) <u>Draft document on the indicators of implementation</u> which will be used to design the ICT tool that will be tested in some public administrations in each country.

As regards report no. 2 Pina and Eleonora stressed that some divergences have emerged between the answers to the questionnaires and the country reports. In order not to take time away from the planned work, these differences will be checked with the interested parties via email.

⇒ WP 3 - Presentation and validation of indicators for impact assessment (Amapola)

Most of the morning is devoted to the analysis of the proposed implementation indicators in order to build an Implementation Index which measures the degree of implementation of the mechanisms facilitating the effective application of the WB protection and OD policy to deter and detect corruption.

This index is applied at a single organisation level and it is aimed at improving the implementation level of the WB and OD measures within the PA through the following 3 elements:

- 1) the self-assessment of the own performance level: the final evaluation will represent the PA situation in relation to the implementation of these measures
- 2) the analysis of the areas at risk where to increase the efforts to achieve a better performance
- 3) the description of the factors facilitating the application of anti-corruption measures within the PA to figure out if there are some areas at risk and which type of actions might be put in action to improve them.

Once validated, the indicators will be used to build the ICT tool for public administrations.





The Woodie team started to work on the implementation indicators in this way: after a first reading of the main evaluation sectors, we discussed each indicator thinking of the legislative frameworks of the countries, making changes to some proposed indicators, deciding to delete some of them or add others. The second phase of the work, in the upcoming weeks, will ask partners to assign a weight to each indicator.

Keys areas of evaluation on Open data were:

- Collection and publication of Open Data
- Features and Formats of Open Data
- Responsibilities & Management
- Impact of OD and overall satisfaction

Afternoon: 14.45-17.30

⇒ [continuation] WP 3 - Presentation and validation of indicators for impact assessment

After the lunch break, we continued working on the implementation indicators on Whistleblowing. Keys areas of evaluation on Whistleblowing were:

- Internal Organisation
- Analysis of reports
- Managements process of reports
- Organisational measure and level of adequacy

⇒ WP 3 – Test of the indicators and next steps

Brief presentation of the next steps of the assessment:

- Between March and April, Amapola will organise interviews with some stakeholder to have feedbacks on the indicators of implementation (external evaluation).
- In the meanwhile, the IT Department of the University of Turin will design and develop the ICT tool. The plan is to have it ready for starting the pilot phase in the period June-September.
- The pilot of the impact assessment model and the revision and finalization of the ICT tool will be done by the partners under the supervision of Amapola between May and September. For this phase, there are some organisational questions which need to be further defined among the consortium such as the number of public organizations to be involved, the number of partner countries involved etc. Some proposals will be shared later on but partners are asked to start thinking about the pilot phase.

⇒ Project status and development, timeline (Unito)

Valeria from the Unito team made a summary of the project status and development and recalled the next deadlines.

WP 1 – Management and coordination

Ongoing – activities and deliverables on time

- <u>Interim report.</u> The report was delivered on time (deadline: 21st February 2020). The Unito team has filled and uploaded the Interim report on the participant portal as requested. Short and simplified template. The report is available on the Participant portal.
- <u>Monitoring and evaluation</u>: as agreed, at the end of the meeting there will be the monitoring questionnaire to be filled by all partners
- <u>Project reporting.</u> The final reporting will be delivered at the end. The final meeting will correspond to the final conference to be held in Torino in January 2021





WP2 - Research and implementation assessment

Finished. Length extended. Agreement among partners on the extension in the Kick-off meeting, approval of the EU project officer.

- Comparative reports finished.
- A draft version on the comparative reports on OD and WB have been distributed to each partner. Partners are asked to check the reports their parts so that the final version can be released. Deadline for checking the final version: 1 week/10 days

WP 3 – Impact assessment

Slight delay due to the extension of WP2, but the activity is going in the right way

Amapola has delivered the 1° deliverable in the participants' portal at the end of January 2020 as requested (the methodological plan).

The activity is suffering a slight delay due to the extension of WP 1, but we are on the right path.

WP 4 – Development of the ICT tool

On time

Amapola and Unito had previous meetings with the IT department (Boella) to update them on the progress of the WP3. There will be a specific session on this on Friday afternoon; the IT researchers will be connected via skype and will present some preliminary work to all partners.

A lot of work still remains to be done; be on time in WP 3 is crucial.

WP 5 - Dissemination and communication.

Very few activities done so far: the XXII AIV National Conference 'Anticorruption and impact evaluation' (Amapola) and (tomorrow) the Woodie / Protax Joint workshop on WB protection and open government data (VICESSE). It is important to discuss and plan them on time.

⇒ WP2 Outcomes of MS comparison (Unito)

Valeria from the UNITO team distributed to everyone a copy of the two comparative reports on the legislative framework and implementation of the 7 partner countries of the project: one on open data and one on the protection of whistleblowers. She asked everyone to read them carefully, in particular with regard to their country, and to send us by email all the suggestions or changes to be made by March 13th.

⇒ WP 5 National events (Unito)

Valeria recalled that the project foresees national events in each country; each proposal and idea from partners is welcome.

The project was written in very broad terms; this means that we can organise different kinds of meetings aimed at the dissemination with different targets according to partners' capacities and organization, as well as to national priority on one issue or other (OD or WB, or both).

Main features to keep in mind:

- Meetings can vary form targeted workshops (i.e presentation to university students..) to sort of focus group/meeting to discuss a theme.
- It is possible to use these meetings/workshops both to inform on the results of the project and/or to receive input from participants.
- Targets involved in partner countries can be different (students, journalists, professionals or public administration officers attending masters..). Only one point: for the universities, do not involve only students or academics!
- They can be small events (no matter of the number of participants)
- Time: it would be ideal if each country can organise 1 meeting before the summer break



- A policy brief (4-5 pages) could be useful to organise the meetings. Evaluate the possibility to have it and make it circulating among partners
- It will be interesting to involve some coordination/network of people/body on WB and OD (i.e. informal network on state companies, network among public municipalities tipo ANCI..)?

Preliminary ideas for dissemination from partners

- FR: difficulties in organising such a meeting for restrictions given by the University (the permission requires long time) and for organisational problems (lack of time, money, personnel resources to dedicate to this. The contract of Christina will finish in april 2020). Proposal to evaluate the possibility to organise a lesson with master students or PA officers and/or organise something with the PA involved in the case studies.
- AU: in Austria open data is a key issue. Great attention on this now. Proposal can be have an advocate for more open data (before summer)
- IT: idea of involving participants of PA Master including lawyers and PA officers. Other kinds of trainings to be evaluated
- SL: is there a budget to organise the workshop? See the budget breakdown (column "other costs"). Big Interest from journalists and media. We can involve people from another EU project dealing on WB (whistlePRO project)
- RO: we could organise the meeting at national or local level. At national level it could be interesting organise a discussion with members of parliament as we have new government. At local level it would be interesting to organise a meeting with PA. Check if they manage to involve MPs.

Partners agreed to think about it and send some inputs in the next 10-15 days.

⇒ WP5 - Final conference (Unito)

The final conference can be a moment for a roundtable (to keep in mind when planning the national events). It will be held in Turin in January 2021 (after Christmas, between the 6th and the 21st January). Proposed dates: 14-15 January, 1 day for the conference and 1 day for the final coordination meeting. No preliminary ideas on the international conference in terms of content and guests. It would be good idea to circulate a proposal of themes to work on. Nice to know whether partners have to involve speakers from national contexts (other from outside the consortium). Someone from the EPPO Office (Alex suggestion. Each country has to appoint a component for the team...). EU level on the morning (keynote speakers) + roundtable in the afternoon. Send a draft invitation, before summer a draft version of the programme (by July). Is there a EU network of person involving in the WB protection?

Day 2, 6 March 2020

Unito: Laura Scomparin, Valeria Ferraris, Emanuela Andreis

Amapola: Eleonora Guidi, Giuseppina De Angelis

Crpe: Alexandru Damian

Uni Angers: Anthony Taillefait, Christina Koumpli

Vicesse: Reinhard Kreissl, Norbert Leonhardmair, Stefanie Brottrager, Emanuel Tananau

Blumenschein

Morning: 9.15-13.30

Ministry of Justice, Room 553 "Ahnengalerie", Museumsstrasse 7, 1070 Wien

WOODIE/PROTAX: "JOINT WORKSHOP ON WHISTLE BLOWER PROTECTION AND OPEN GOVERNMENT"

⇒ WOODIe Objectives (Laura Scomparin, Unito)





- ⇒ PROTAX Objectives (Umut Turksen, University of Coventry)
- ⇒ Legal framework and implementation of OGD in EU (Valeria Ferraris, Unito)
- ⇒ Legal framework and implementation of WBP in EU (Emanuela Andreis, Unito)
- ⇒ Whistleblower protection and Freedom of Expression (Umut Turksen, University of Coventry)
- ⇒ Roundtable plenary discussion on OGD and WBP in Austria and the EU

Afternoon: 15.00-17.00

INTERNAL COORDINATION AND CONSORTIUM MEETING

VICESSE office, Paulanergasse 4/8, 1040 Wien

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Blumenschein

⇒ Wrap-up of the first day: main decisions, tasks, clarifications (Unito)

WP 2

Comparative report to be read by partners by 13 March

WP3

Finalisation of the implementation indicators by Amapola (20 March)

Translations of the questionnaire (end of March)

Comments from partners (9 April – 12 April)

Finalisation of the indicators by Amapola (20 April)

Identification of the PAs (before Easter holiday)

ICT tool draft version (May)

ICT tool Test (May - June)

WP 5

Google docs for national events (in few days)

National event by the end of June

First ideas for the international conference (after Easter in April).

⇒ WP 4 ICT tool drafting – pilot (Unito, Amapola)

Luigi Di Caro from the ICT department of the University of Torino presented via skype a preliminary proposal of the ICT tool foreseen in WP 4. The slides illustrated the structure and key features of the ICT tools designed so far. The aim is to provide a tool to public institutions for assessing the impact of WB and OD measures within their organizations. The tool is based on a web page accessible by any devise, user friendly and easily updated.

At the end of the presentation, partners exchanged their views on the proposal presented.

Some inputs were discussed, including

- Provide the possibility to download reports on the results on the main indicators so that they can serve as input for actions to be taken within the organization
- Identify the person within each organization that will be in charge of using the tool (there can be differences among public organizations in the countries)
- Provide the possibility to enter the tool to complete the assessment at any time (in this way the responsible can collect information requested offline and then provide the answer)
- Provide, at the end of the assessment, the possibility to visualize previous marks obtained over time (trend visualization)





- Create a "central room or database" to collect metadata from all the assessments of the public administrations using the tools, allowing comparisons at country level or among public administrations belonging to different countries
- Provide the possibility to have a "color flag" (red, yellow, green) both on the overall assessment and for each macro-indicator.

⇒ WP 1 Interim report - Project reporting and financial management (Unito)

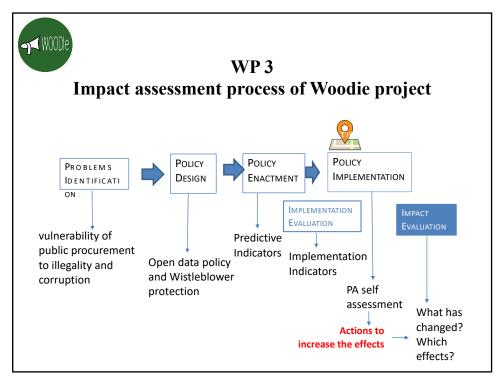
Bianca Gai from the university of Turin presented the reasons to ask to the partners to have the financial reporting of the first year by the end of April. All partners agree to send it.

⇒ WP 1 Monitoring and Evaluation Questionnaire (Amapola)

At the end of the meeting, Amapola distributed the monitoring questionnaire to all partners present to collect opinion on the progress of the project as well as suggestions for improvements. The Slovenian partner did not fill it as he took part only to specific slots of the meeting, not to all of it. The main findings will be presented and shared with the lead partner in order to adopt any necessary changes and make the project run smoothly.







| Step | Tools | Source/s of data | |
|--|---|---|--|
| Analysis of the legislative frameworks, preliminary identification of the impact indicators; Reconstruction of the ToC of the legislator | identifications of the concepts and areas of assessment Impact questionnaire for the ToC | Project documents (partners' legal research on WB and OD) Literature, other reports, studies on WB and OD | |
| Analysis of preliminary impact evidence through the comparison with the CPI Index | Comparative analysis for the impact evidence. Application of timeline compared to CPI index in the countries involved in the project | CPI Index for the seven countries over the period 2012-2018 | |
| Drafting of the preliminary frame of the predictive indicators for WB and OD | Case studies Document analysis | Project documents | |
| Analysis of case studies, expansion and refinement of predictive and implementation indicators (internal validation) | Structured questionnaire NGT | Contributions, feedback and opinions from by the partners | |
| Semi-structured interviews for further refining of the implementation indicators (external validation) | Semi-structured interviews with experts and key informants – to be defined | Contribution, opinions by the experts interviewed Final version of the frame of indicators on WB and OD with corresponding weight value | |
| Elaboration of the ICT tool for the impact assessment | To be defined | | |
| Pilot of the impact assessment model in the selected public administration. Revision and finalisation of the ICT tool after the pilot | Assessment check list for the public —to be defined administration of the pilot | Feedback from the pilot' participants | |
| Drafting of the guiding document/instructions for the use of the ICT tool by other public administration | To be defined | N/A | |
| Data collection of the public administration ranks from the IT tools | To be defined | Data entered in the ICT tool by the public administration | |



Today target:





Implementation Index – it measures the degree of implementation of the mechanisms facilitating the effective application of the WB protection and OD policy to deter and detect corruption



The implementation indicators

The implementation index shows how WB and OD measures are put into action and efficacy work within a specific public administration (i.e. is the dataset provided in a machine in readable and reusable format? How much data are actually open?).



This index is applied <u>at single organisation level</u> and it is aimed at improving the implementation level of the WB and OD measures within the PA through the following 3 elements:

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1st - the self-assessment of the own performance level: the final evaluation will represent the PA situation in relation to the implementation of these measures

(Risk = it is necessary to intervene; yellow = just sufficient, to monitor and increase the attention on these measurements; green = well done, to continue like this)





2st - the analysis of the areas at risk where to increase the efforts to achieve a better performance



3st-the description of the factors facilitating the application of anti-corruption measures within the PA to figure out if there are some areas at risk and which type of actions might be put in action to improve them.

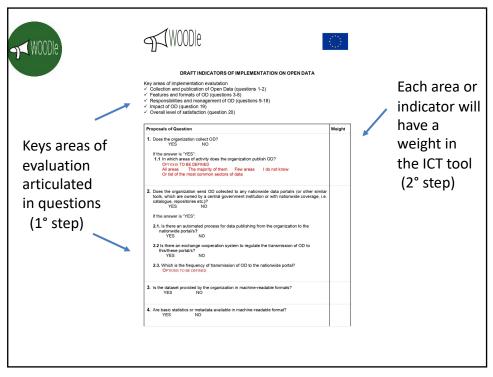
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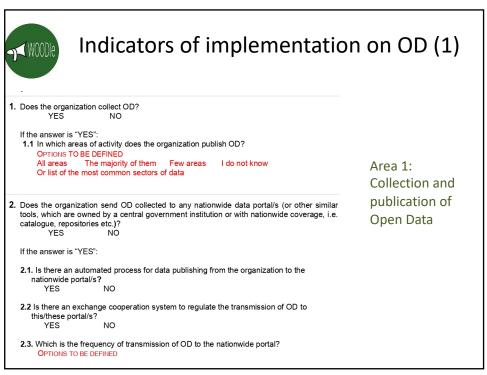


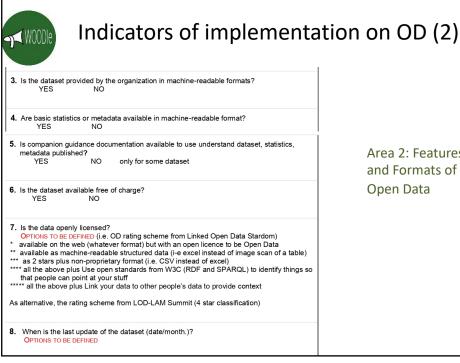
Before starting the work...

- ✓ The document serves as a starting point for our discussion
- ✓ The set of indicators should be the result of a collaborative and participatory process
- ✓ Once validated, the indicators will be used to build the ICT tool for public administrations (Testing phase)



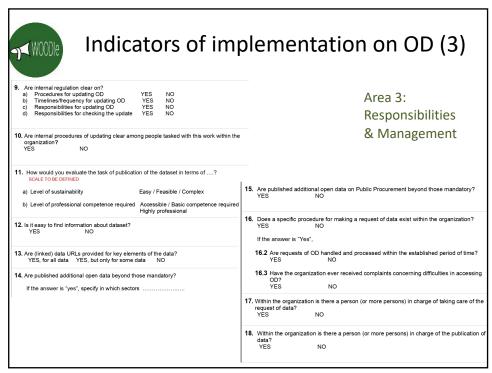


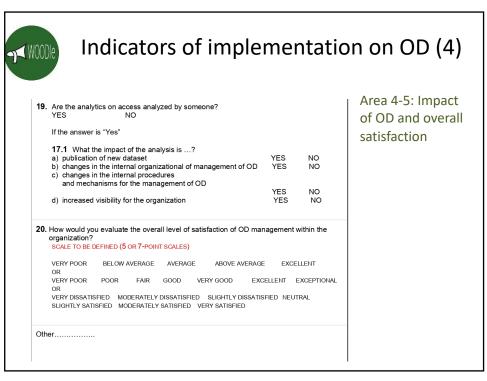




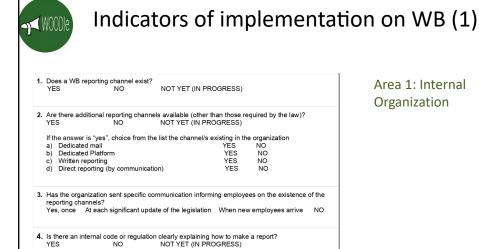
Area 2: Features and Formats of Open Data

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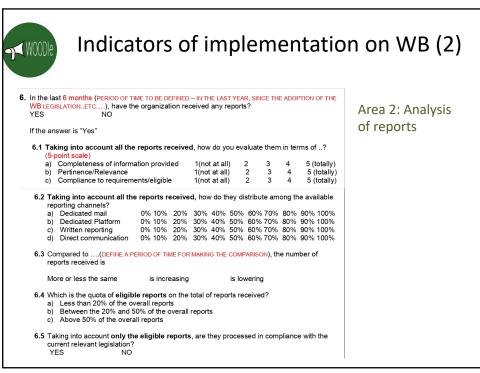
Is the above-mentioned code or regulation available to all potential users? YES NO

5. Are the contacts of the internal WB responsible public and easy to find? YES NO

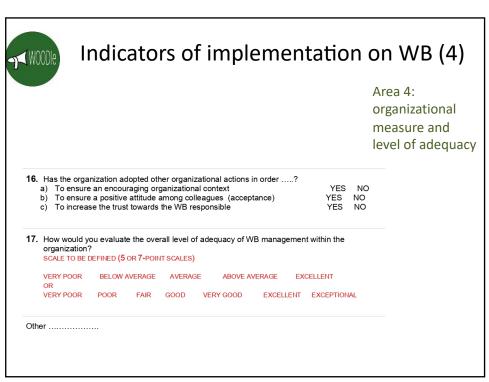
Area 1: Internal Organization

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If the answer is "YES"



| WOODle | Indicators of implementation 7. Are reporting person informed of the status of their report (or on the result of the evaluation of eligibility)? YES NO 8. When the reporting person is informed: a) Only at specific stages of the process If "Yes", specify - When the Responsible receive the report YES NO - At the end of the evaluation of eligibility of the report YES NO - At the end of the process c) Never, because the report is anonymous YES NO 9. Is the protection of the identity of the reporting person ensured in all stages of the process? a) Yes, in all stages b) Yes, but only in some stages of the process c) It depends on the reporting channel adopted 10. Do the organization adopt any measures/changes to address issues raised by the WB reports? YES NO If the answer is "Yes" 10.1 Which kinds of measure/change are they? a) Organizational measures/changes YES NO c) Process measures/changes YES NO d) Other(specify) 11. Does the organization know about complaints concerning forms of retailation occurred against reporting persons? YES NO | Area 3: Managements process of reports |
|--------|---|--|
| | YES NO If the answer is 'yes' 11.1 Does the organization act to remove the forms of retaliation? YES NO | |





5 March 2020 Afternoon (13:30 – 17:30)

WP 3 Test of the indicators and further steps (Amapola) *Coffee break*

WP 1 Project status and development. Timeline.

WP 2 Outcomes of MS comparison *Coffee break*

WP 5 National events

WP 5 International conference

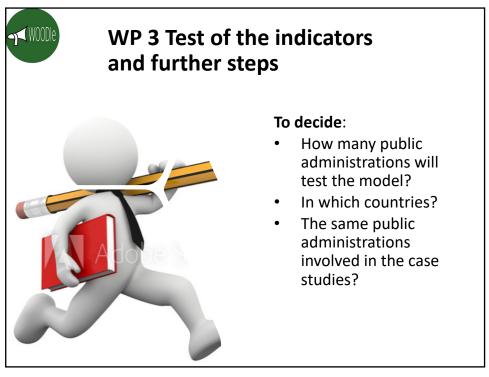


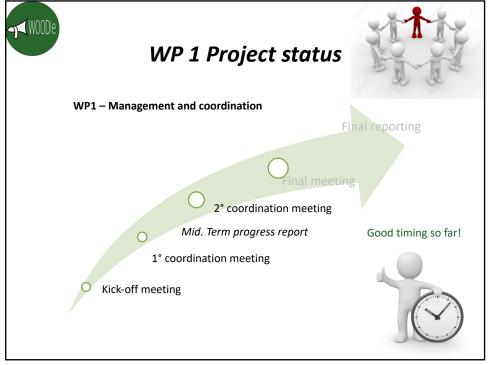
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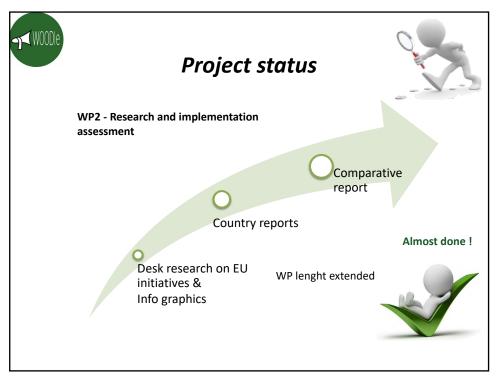


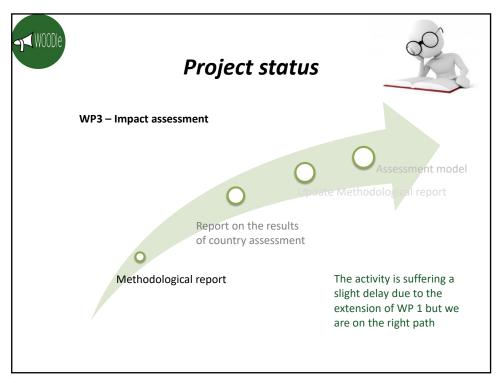
WP 3 Test of the indicators and further steps

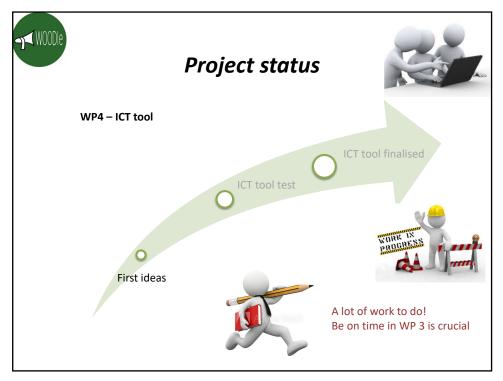
| | | TIMELINE |
|---|-------------------------|--------------------|
| Interviews with external stakeholders | Amapola | March - April |
| Elaboration and release of the ICT tool | Unito ICT Department | March - May |
| Pilot of the impact assessment model. Revision and finalization of the ICT tool | Partners + Amapola | May - September |

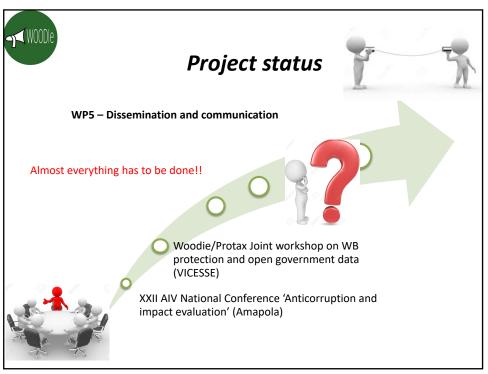


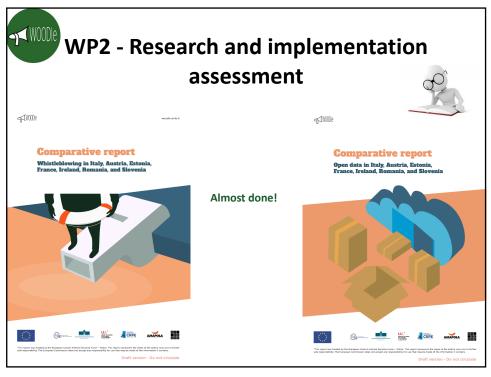














WP5: Dissemination and communication

What is written in the project proposal...



Presentation of the main findings of the implementation and impact assessment to relevant audiences at the national level.

- •What targeted workshops
- •Why to present the results and get feedback
- •Who relevant stakeholders, academia, policy makers, experts, civil society representatives and media.
- •Where all MSs
- •When before the summer (at least 1 for each MSs). By October for those that can/want to organise a second national event



WP5: Dissemination and communication



What we want to do... according to:

- MS situation
 Something interesting to find out, to debate, etc...
- 3) MS desired changes Something interesting to advocate for
- 4)
- 5)

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WP5: Dissemination and communication

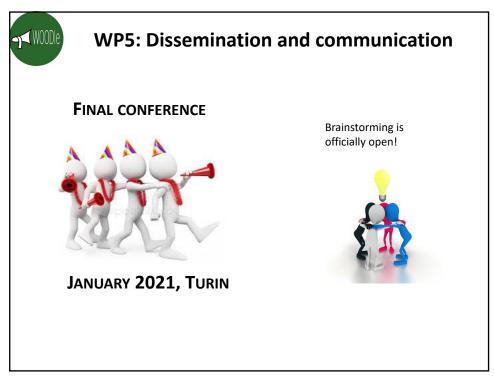


Some ideas.... workshop with

- PAs on implementation challenges
- NGOs working on Open data
- · Media on media disclosure
- Lawyers on WB legal protection
- Authorities and PA on implementation of public tender data standard
-

Time to discuss and propose!









6 March 2020 Afternoon (15:00 – 17:00)

WP 3 Wrap-up of the first day: main decisions, tasks, clarifications

WP 4 ICT tool drafting – pilot

WP 2 Interim report - Project reporting and financial management

WP 1 Monitoring and Evaluation Questionnaire



1



Wrap-up of the first day

WP 2

Comparative report to be read by partners by 13 March

Finalisation of the implementation indicators by Amapola (20 March) Translations of the questionnaire (end of March) Comments from partners (9 April – 12 April)

Finalisation of the indicators by Amapola (20 April) Identification of the PAs (before Easter holiday)

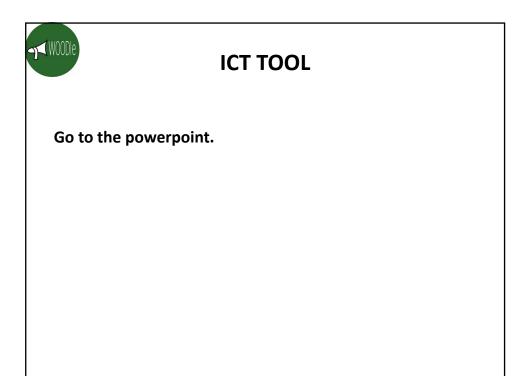
ICT tool draft version (May) ICT tool Test (May - June)

WP 5

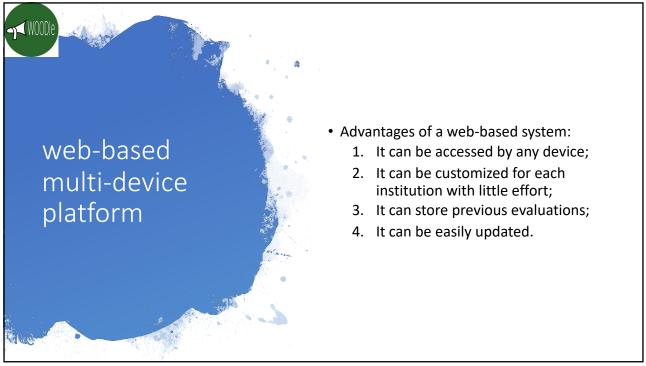
Google docs for national events (in few days)

National event by the end of June

First ideas for the international conference (after Easter in April)







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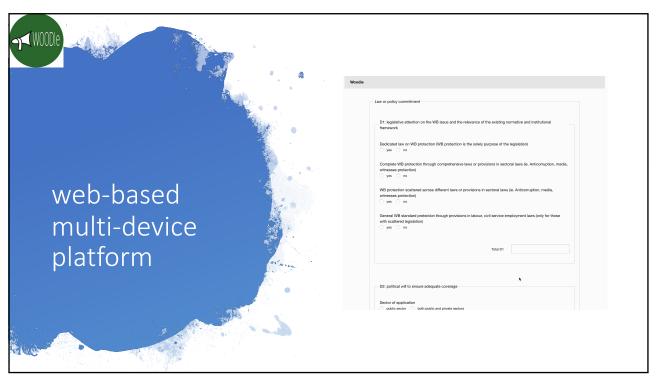


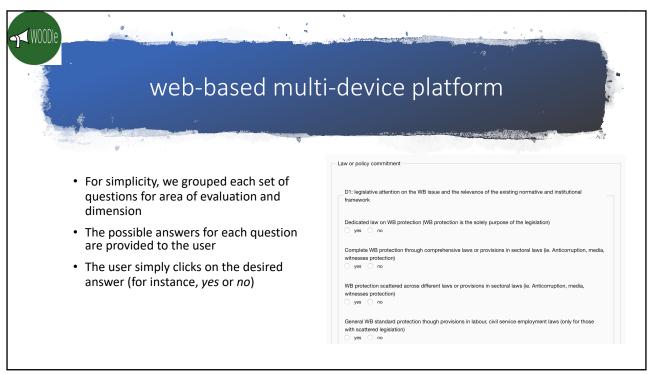
- The application will allow a user to register in order to store the history of previously-inserted data and scores
- The user, after the login phase, can update areas or dimensions
- The system will provide visualization tools to highlight scores for specific areas or single dimensions.
- A method to select specific periods of time (e.g. last month, etc.) will be integrated

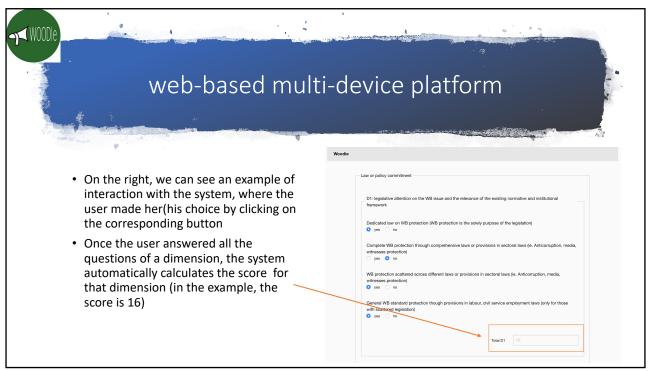


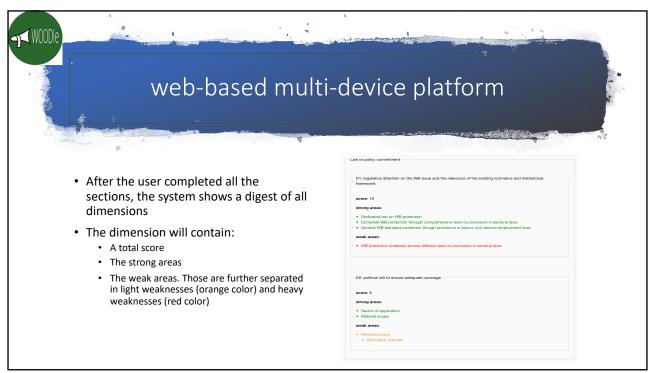
- The user, after the login phase, has two possible path:
 - a digest of all dimensions and visualization features, if the inserted data are complete
 - 2. a request to insert or update the data
- The user can interact with the platform through a set of questions divided by area and dimension (video in the next slide)

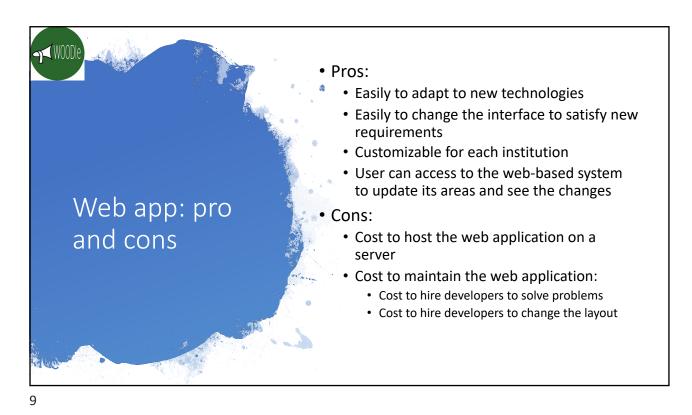
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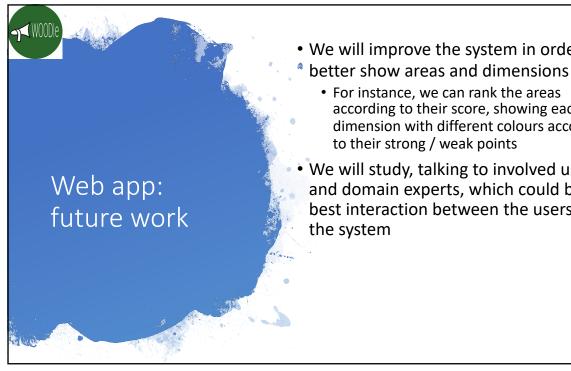












- We will improve the system in order to
 - For instance, we can rank the areas according to their score, showing each dimension with different colours according to their strong / weak points
- We will study, talking to involved users and domain experts, which could be the best interaction between the users and



Financial Reporting

Final financial report:

- created automatically by the electronic exchange system, consolidating the individual financial statements for all reporting periods
- due within 60 days following the end of the reporting period (20/01/2021) → deadline 21/03/2021



4



Responsibilities in the Grant Agreement (I)

"The **coordinator** must request and review any documents or information required by the Commission and **verify their completeness and correctness** before passing them on to the Commission" (GA 25.2);



Responsibilities in the Grant Agreement (II)

"The Commission will — at the payment of the balance or afterwards — claim back amount that was paid but is not due under the Agreement.

The **coordinator** is **fully liable for** repaying debts of the consortium (under the Agreement), **even if it has not been the final recipient of those amounts**. In addition, the **beneficiaries** (including the coordinator) are **jointly and severally liable** for repaying any debts under the Agreement" (GA 28.1).

6



Financial responsibilities







Horizon 2020

"The Agency will [...] claim back any amount that was paid, but is not due under the Agreement.

Each beneficiary's financial responsibility in case of recovery is limited to its own debt" (H2020 Model GA)

ISFP Programme

Financial responsibility is on the Coordinator and, in addition, on all the Benecificiaries



Financial monitoring: next steps

By the 30th of April:



- Reporting template: real costs incurred in the 1st year
- Effort file: hours/months worked for each staff unit, for each WP
- **Supporting documentation:** cfr. *WOODIe Project Management Handbook.*

8



Documentation to be provided

STAFF COSTS

timesheets, salary slips, contracts of employment

TRAVEL COSTS

travel tickets and invoices (boarding passes!), attendance lists

SUBSISTENCE COSTS

proof of accommodation, receipts (foods, beverages, local transport...), reimbursement claim

OTHER GOODS AND SERVICES

invoices, documents related to the award procedure (offers, bid received, comparison of the bids...)

ALL COSTS:

proofs of payments/reimbursement



WP 1 Monitoring and Evaluation Questionnaire

It is time to fill in the questionnaire and give it back!