

# Open access to public information brings democratic changes

## **Ukraine**

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**John Smith Fellowship Program 2011**

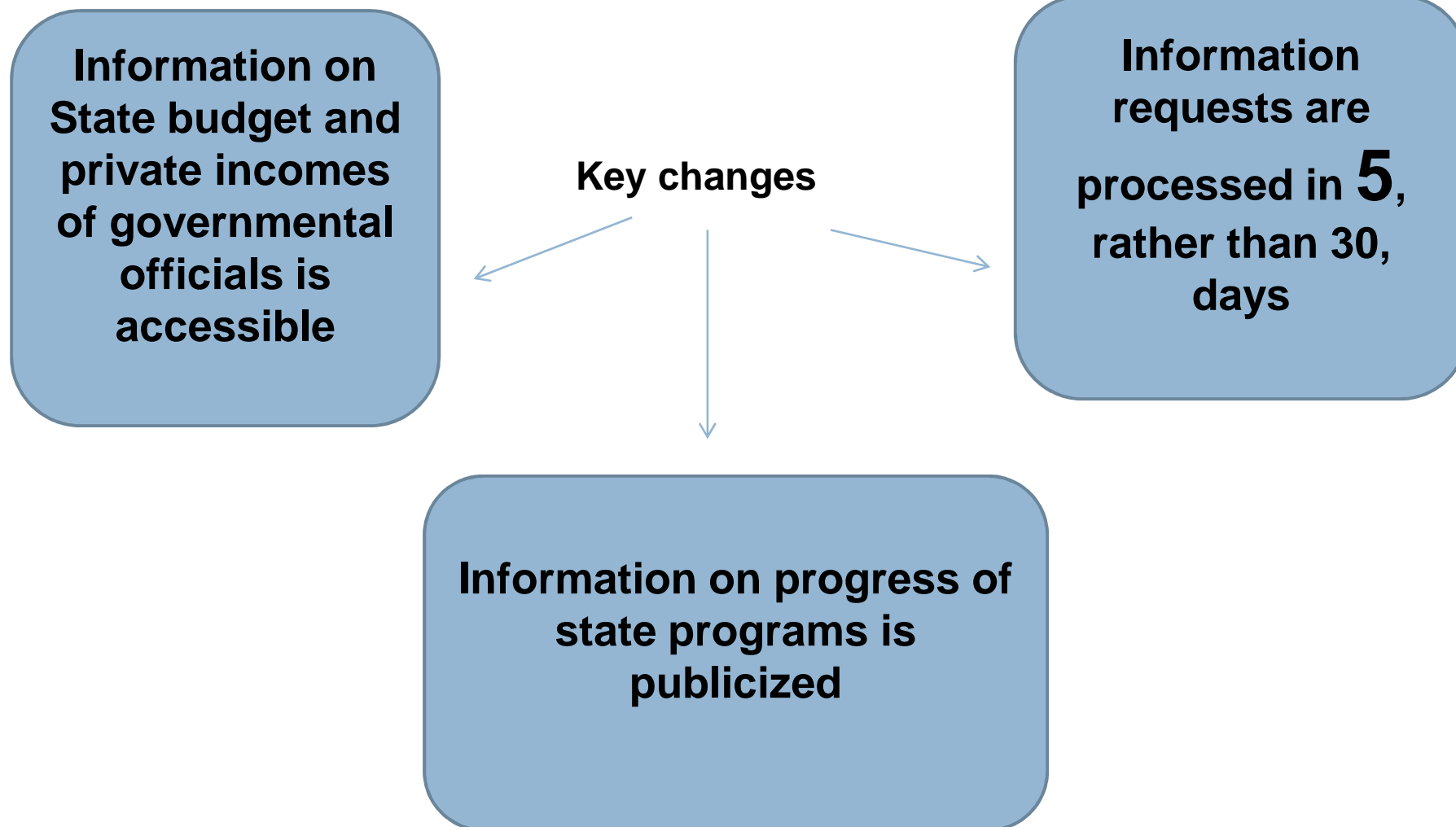
# The Problem

**Access to public information is limited**



**CLOSED DOOR BETWEEN GOVERNMENT  
AND PUBLIC**

# Ukraine passed a law



# Resistance to the law



**Some deputies want to modify the law to effectively return to old practices**

**Some deputies refuse to publicly disclose their income**

**Many officials stall implementation of the law**

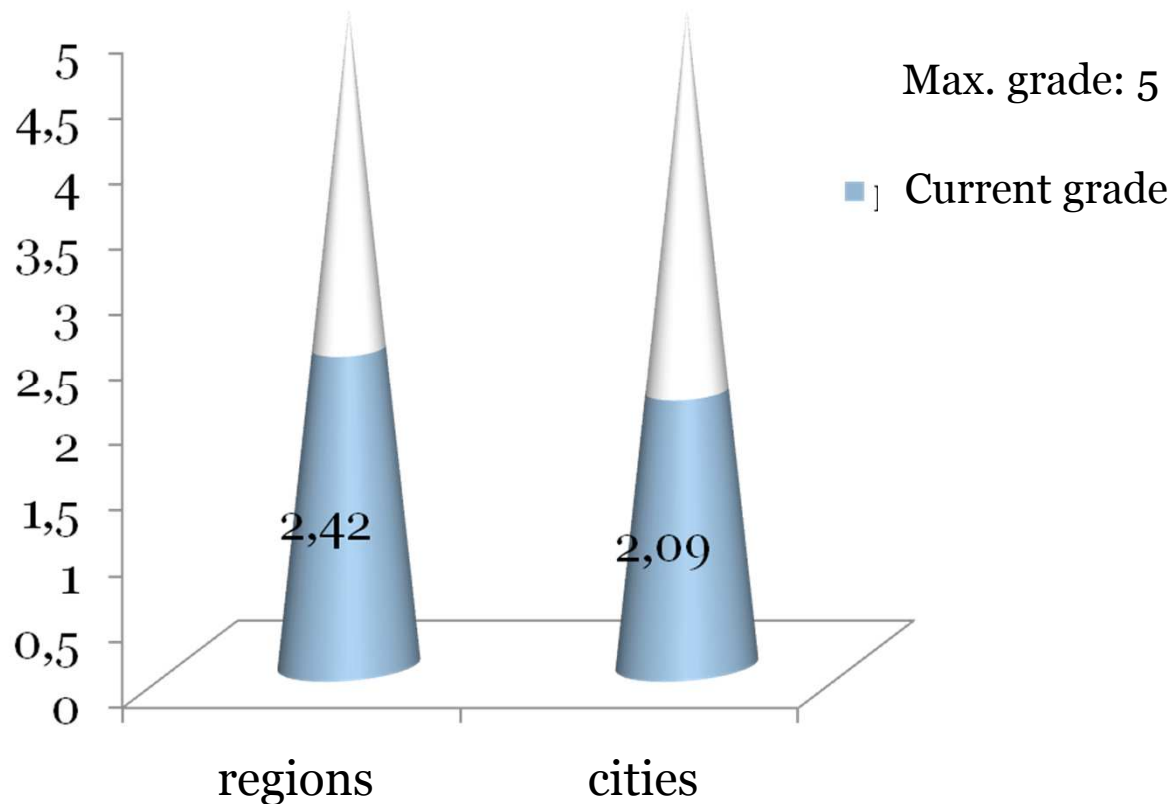
**Internal regulations are not updated according to the law**

**Websites are incomplete and not updated with new resolutions**

# The government is not ready

to open access to information

Readiness to implement the new law, as evaluated by the Committee of Ukrainian Voters  
Overall grade - unsatisfactory



# My Goal

**THE GOVERNMENT NO LONGER OPERATES BEHIND CLOSED DOORS**



**GOVERNMENT**

**PUBLIC**

# My Aims

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graph TD; A[My Aims] --> B[The law is active]; A --> C[The government implements the law]; A --> D[Journalists and citizens make the most of the law];
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**The law is active**

**Journalists and citizens  
make the most of the law**

**The government  
implements the law**



# My action plan

## **Present the law throughout Ukraine**

- ✓ for local government officials
- ✓ for public and journalists

# My action plan

**Prepare a series of TV reports and interviews to explain how the law works**



# My action plan

## Lead by own example:

- ✓ prepare and submit information requests to various governmental offices
- ✓ report the results





# My action plan

## **Prepare public lectures on information access**

- ✓ Kyiv-Mohyla Academy
- ✓ Kyiv National Taras Shevchenko University

# My action plan

**Make a documentary  
about access to public information**





# Outcome



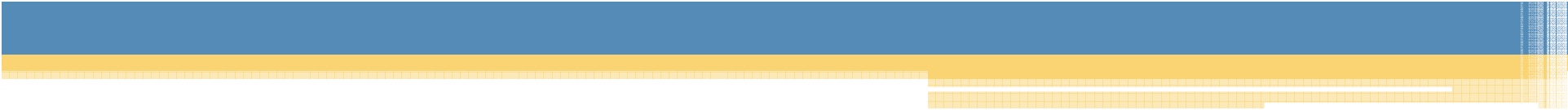
**More transparency**



**More civil rights**



**More accountability**



I would like to thank the organizers of the John Smith program and 2011 participants for the knowledge and energy they have shared; I will use this experience to bring effective and decisive changes to my country

**Sergii Andrushko**