This overview provides a basis to identify key characteristics of countries that have achieved early, intermediate and advanced stages of development for this principle, and the practices and policies that should be considered to progress in its implementation.

CHARACTERISTICS OF EARLY STAGE DEVELOPMENT

- *Does not have a legal and regulatory framework that supports the use of ICT to increase the openness and transparency of government processes, operations, data and information*
- *Does not have an "open by default" standard for government data in various policy domains*
- *Has low levels of openness, transparency and inclusiveness in government processes and operations*
- *Has important digital divides, insufficient digital skills across society and low uptake of online government services*
- *Does not have a transparency and/or access to information, and/or open government data portal.*
- *Has no institutional presence on Social Media to communicate transparently governments' actions, decisions, etc.*
- *There is no recognition of the relevance of technology to sustain efforts to support the fight against corruption.*

Policies and practices to be considered

☐ Adapt the legal and regulatory frameworks to guarantee access to and transparency of government processes, operations, information and data supported by digital technologies

☐ Sensitize different stakeholders on the importance of open, transparent and inclusive government processes and operations

☐ Establish an "open by default" standard regarding government data with necessary legal exceptions to protect privacy and other types of sensitive information

☐ Put in place initiatives to reduce the digital divide and develop ICT skills – both in the society and among civil servants

CHARACTERISTICS OF INTERMEDIATE STAGE DEVELOPMENT

- *Has in place a policy to foster transparency facilitating access to government data and information through digital means*
- *Has put in place an enabling legal and regulatory framework that mandates the publication of government data in a machine readable format*
- *It regularly publishes government data sets in machine readable formats on central data repository and making accessible to all (i.e. "one-stop-shop" open data portal)*
- *Has in place an Open Government and Open Government Data strategies complemented by an action plans*

> - *Fosters an "open by default" culture across the administration regarding government data with necessary legal exceptions to protect privacy and other types of sensitive information.*
> - *Has partial institutional presence on social media channel (e.g. Facebook, Twitter) to communicate to the public on governments' decisions, programmes, etc.*
> - *There is awareness of the relevance of technology and open data to strengthen efforts to fight corruption (e.g. open budget data are regularly published, there is transparency portal)*

Policies and practices to be considered

☐ Review the strategy and incentives in place in order to create an open culture both within the administration and the broader society with strong cooperation and dialogue between the two, both at the national and subnational levels.

☐ Develop policies, infrastructure and capacities to monitor and ensure a whole-of-government approach to the disclosure of public information and data that is coherent and homogeneous across levels of government.

CHARACTERISTICS OF ADVANCED STAGE DEVELOPMENT

> - *Open Government and Open Government Data strategies are in place and aligned with the digital government strategy and broader public sector reform objectives*
> - *Legal and regulatory framework mandates the regular publication of government data with necessary key exceptions for security and privacy reasons (i.e. "open by default").*
> - *Inclusive policy making mechanisms both within the administration and with the broader society are a regular practice, and in many instances compulsory, both at national and subnational levels.*
> - *Regularly publishes government data sets prioritising high value data sets (selected in consultation with the users, and performance data including APIs interacting with a dynamic open government ecosystem)*
> - *Has a highly ICT-skilled population and civil service*
> - *Has a Social Media strategy*
> - *Technology and open data are part of a formal anti-corruption plan, strategy, etc.*

Policies and practices to be considered

☐ Design a specific Open Government Data strategy linked to sector policies and strategies (e.g. anticorruption strategy/policy).

☐ Explicitly recognise the importance of innovative technologies and open data for increasing public sector integrity and strengthen the fight against corruption

☐ Design awareness raising and capacity building programmes for civil servants to strengthen their skills and capacities to use technology for public sector opened and transparency.

☐ Embed the goal of using technology as a key tool to reach the most vulnerable segments of the population in the national digital government strategy (e.g. to improve delivery of service in the welfare areas).