



# OECD OPEN GOVERNMENT REVIEWS

## WHAT ARE OECD OPEN GOVERNMENT REVIEWS?

OECD Open Government Reviews support countries in their efforts to build more open, participatory and accountable governments that can restore citizens' trust and promote inclusive growth. Reviews provide in-depth analysis of countries' open government policies coupled with actionable recommendations to help embed the principles of Open Government in the policy making cycle and to evaluate their impact. The loss of trust in government, following the economic crisis of 2007 and growing inequalities, underline the need for a culture of governance. By promoting open government reforms, the OECD helps countries achieve more inclusive socio-economic development. Reviews address questions such as:

- Is the government able to promote the cultural change needed to ensure more openness, transparency and inclusiveness across the whole-of-government?
- Does the government steer, coordinate and communicate reform efforts?
- Are there mechanisms in place to partner with citizens and businesses in the design, implementation and evaluation of policies?
- Are government actions transparent and accountable?
- How does a country's open government approach support effective and responsive delivery of public services?
- What is the national open government agenda achieving? What impact does it have?

Guided by the principles and the ten provisions laid out in the **2017 Recommendation of the Council on Open Government**, Reviews assess the legal, institutional, policy and implementation frameworks for Open Government, identifying successes and bottlenecks and offering actionable recommendations to enhance the impact of the reform agenda. Reviews can also address specific areas of Open Government in greater depth (such as Open Government at the local level; the link between Open Government and the implementation of the UN SDGs; the role of institutional communication and supportive media ecosystems to promote open government principles; or an analysis of a specific sector such as health or environment), according to countries' priorities. The Review process also includes dissemination and capacity building seminars, international and regional policy dialogue events, implementation support and advice for countries' participation in the Open Government Partnership.

## HOW DO OPEN GOVERNMENT REVIEWS WORK?

### OECD Open Government Reviews:

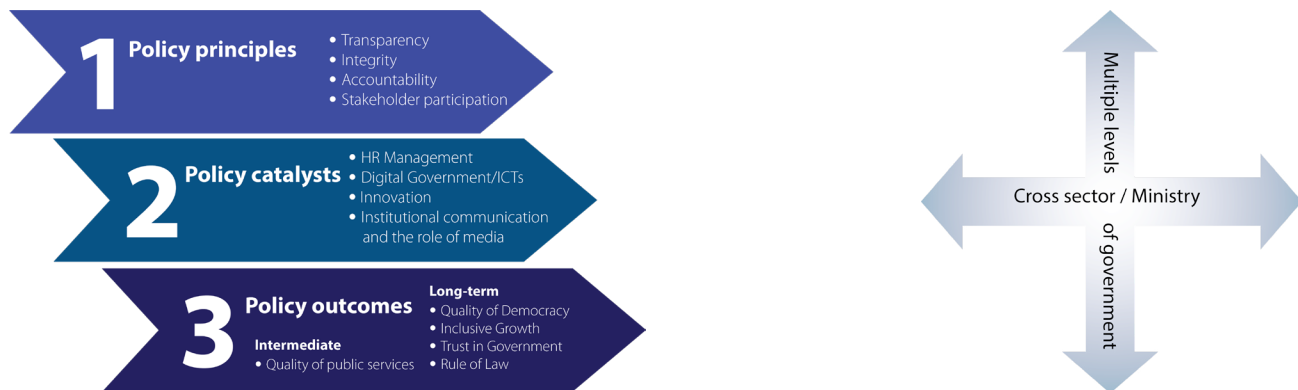
- Are based on a partnership with the requesting country.
- Are tailored to the country's context (institutional, cultural, legal).
- Are inclusive of all relevant actors, outside as well as within government.
- Are supported by peer reviewers from OECD member countries.
- Are conducted by a multidisciplinary team of experts in the OECD Secretariat.
- Are set in an international comparative perspective, based on evidence and good international practices.
- Benefit from insights from all relevant areas of OECD work, such as digital government, public sector innovation, public sector integrity, budgetary governance, territorial development, etc.
- Are aligned with the country's own perspective and reform plans.

## KEY BUILDING BLOCKS

The OECD defines Open Government as "**a culture of governance that promotes the principles of transparency, integrity, accountability and stakeholder participation in support of democracy and inclusive growth**". (OECD 2017, Recommendation of the Council on Open Government).

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Reviews are based on the following theory of change: open government policy principles are transformed into intermediate and long-term policy outcomes through the use of policy catalysts.



Reviews are adapted to country specific needs and priorities, and include an analysis of how open government principles are integrated in and contribute to different public governance areas. OECD Open Government Reviews contain chapters on:

- Context and drivers
- Steering and co-ordination
- Citizen participation
- Integrity and anti-corruption

- Budget transparency
- Innovation in public sector
- ICTs, social media and open data
- Case studies on health, local governance etc.

## OECD OPEN GOVERNMENT PROJECT

OECD Open Government Reviews are part of a broader Open Government Project that includes several elements:

- **Regional Networks** on Open and Innovative Government, which are regular forums for exchange and peer dialogue, currently in MENA, South East Asia and Latin America.
- **Regional comparative analysis** identifying common trends and challenges of Open Government.
- **OECD Survey** on Open Government Coordination and Citizen Participation in the Policy Cycle .
- The OECD official partnership with the **Open Government Partnership (OGP)** to support countries in becoming eligible, drafting national action plans and evaluating impact.
- The **OECD informal Experts Group on Open Government** supports the Secretariat in the development of open government impact indicators and in working towards a toolkit which will provide guidance to countries that adhere to the OECD Recommendation on Open Government.
- **Dialogue with civil society** and the **private sector**.
- **Dissemination and capacity building** events to support implementation of reforms.
- Analysis of open government policies within the broader framework of **OECD Public Governance Reviews**.

### REVIEWS:

- Open Government in Argentina (forthcoming)
- Towards a New Partnership with Citizens: Jordan's Decentralisation Reform (2017)
- Towards an Open Government in Kazakhstan (2017)
- Open Government: The Global Context and the Way Forward (2016)
- Open Government in Costa Rica (2016)
- Open Government in Indonesia (2016)

**The 2017 Recommendation of the Council on Open Government** was adopted on 14 December 2017.

The Recommendation is available in English, French and Spanish:

<http://oe.cd/ogrec>

<http://oe.cd/ogrecfr>

<http://oe.cd/ogrecsp>