

OECD SCHOOLS OF GOVERNMENT NETWORK

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Dear Network participants,

We would like to inform you of the latest activities of the OECD Network of Schools of Government.

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR OF THE PUBLIC GOVERNANCE AND TERRITORIAL DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

Dear Network Members,

I would like to thank all who participated in the 3rd Annual Meeting of the National Schools of Government Network held in Paris on 6 July.

This year's Annual Meeting engaged the Networks in a discussion of a World Class Civil Service and the contribution that National Schools of Government can make to its development. This theme will be one of the key issues on which the OECD will be working on in the coming year. The concept of the World Class Civil Service is an important element in the preparations for the Public Governance Ministerial meeting to be held in Helsinki on 28 October on the theme of *Public Governance for Inclusive Growth*. As part of the Lab on improving public services, ministers will be asked to consider the attributes of a World Class Civil Service informed in part by the discussions of the Annual Meeting.

These discussions put the emphasis on the importance of sharing experiences internationally as part of a dialogue on enhancing civil service capacities. In the future I hope that we will be able to further engage the Network policy dialogue on emerging issues and OECD's priorities, thereby benefitting from each other's shared experiences.

Several exciting projects were launched as part of the Annual Meeting, in particular the establishment of a Working Group to develop Open Government Learning Modules.

Finally, I look forward to seeing many of you at our next Annual Meeting, which our Network Chair, Professor Tria, has graciously offered to host in Italy, in April 2016.

I look forward to our continued collaboration,

Rolf Alter

ANNUAL NETWORK MEETING – “Skills for a World Class Civil Service”

The Annual Meeting of the OECD Network of Schools of Government took place in Paris on 6 July 2015. This meeting was held jointly with the OECD Public Employment and Management Network, with over 70 attendees, including the Slovenian Minister for Public Administration, Mr Boris Koprivnikar. The theme of this meeting was “Skills for a World Class Civil Service”. The Annual Meeting also hosted the launch of the 2015 edition of the OECD's *Government at a Glance*, an international comparative publication that provides a dashboard of 50 indicators covering the whole production chain of public goods and services.

The meeting brought together representatives of national schools of government, international, regional and national associations of schools of public administration, the OECD secretariat, and other stakeholders. Speakers included representatives from the UK, the Australia and New Zealand School of Government, Chile, Spain, Montenegro, Latvia, Bahrain, Morocco, Hungary and Kazakhstan.

Presenters and discussants at the Annual Meeting engaged in lively discussion of the characteristics of a World Class Civil Service. Though the WCCS framework is still in its early development, the Annual Meeting heard about many initiatives that have been launched in relation to the WCCS and signalled the important contribution that national schools of government can make to its development. Participants highlighted a number of issues that will need to be addressed as the WCCS concept takes root:

- political and social changes seem to be accelerating, which puts pressure on governments and civil services to keep up, and remain flexible, relevant and accessible to citizens;
- ensuring that the WCCS Framework maintain a practical application to competency assessments and training and professional development programming;
- ensuring that civil servants' skills are current and relevant are linked to the needs of civil services and the priorities of governments;
- ensuring that WCCS benchmarks acknowledge the need to place openness, flexibility, innovation and citizen engagement at the heart of the public sector processes;

The Annual Meeting concluded with a call for continued and sustained co-operation and sharing of best practices between the members of the Network as an essential part of the developing the WCCS.

The full summary of the meeting will be available on <https://community.oecd.org/docs/summary-report-2015>

FIRST MEETING OF THE OPEN GOVERNMENT WORKING GROUP

The first meeting of the Open Government Working Group of the Schools of Government Network was held on 6 July 2015 at the OECD Headquarters in Paris. It was attended by representatives from around 20 countries. The aim of this meeting was to lay the basis for the development of a curriculum on open government. The need for such a curriculum arises from the challenge of implementing open government practices and creating the needed cultural change. Topics of discussion included the format of the curriculum (i.e. a reading list or a structured course), its guiding principles, how and by whom it will be implemented (i.e. the role of the OECD and the schools). The curriculum will build upon the existing practices and training modules of the schools. Participants voiced their interest in including concrete case studies. Training should not only cover technical know-how, but also enable public officials to transform their way of working and their relations with citizens based on open government values. A whole-of-government approach is needed. One of the issues is how the curriculum will be delivered, as it would need to be conducted in the languages of the member countries. At the same time, an online course could help to disseminate the curriculum more widely. Finally, this work could also help to define a common understanding and approach to open government, without losing the importance of context specifics.

DEVELOPING THE NETWORK – STAFF SECONDMENTS TO OECD

In order to continue to develop the Network the Steering Committee is inviting interested member institutions to consider staff secondments to the OECD for a period of one year. In addition to benefitting the Network these staff secondments could represent a tremendous learning opportunity for your staff to perfect their skills and gain first-hand experience with the OECD. Staff secondments could begin in early 2016.

Expressions of interest in staff secondments can be sent to the Network Secretariat Co-ordinator, Makeda Yohannes at Makeda.YOHANNES@oecd.org.

THE NETWORK CONTINUES TO WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

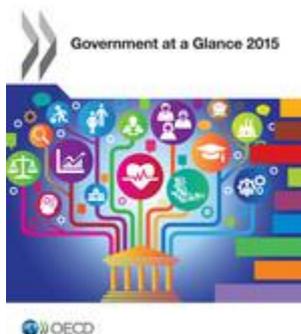
The following institutions have joined the Network since January:

- ✓ Israeli Civil Service Commission
- ✓ Academy of Public Administration under the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan

The Network continues to grow and now includes 80 participating members from 50 countries around the globe. Please continue to support its development by sharing information about the Network with your colleagues.

RECENT OECD PUBLICATIONS (also available on the Network's Platform)

[Government at a Glance 2015](#), OECD Publishing, Paris



This publication provides readers with a dashboard of key indicators assembled with the goal of contributing to the analysis and international comparison of public sector performance. Indicators on government revenues, expenditures and employment are provided alongside key output and outcome data in the sectors of education, health and justice. *Government at a Glance* also includes indicators on key governance and public management issues, such as transparency in governance, regulatory governance or public procurement. While measuring government performance has long been recognised as playing an important role in increasing the effectiveness and efficiency of the public administration, following the economic crisis and fiscal tightening in many member countries, good indicators are needed more than ever to help governments make informed decisions regarding tough choices and help restore confidence in government institutions.

All on Board: Making Inclusive Growth Happen, OECD Publishing, Paris

This publication discusses a new approach to economic growth that goes beyond traditional monetary indicators and includes dimensions that reflect people's well-being. It introduces an analytical framework to assess economic growth based on a measurement of multidimensional living standards. The report also presents win-win policies that can deliver stronger growth and greater inclusiveness in various policy areas. It underscores the crucial role of good governance in implementing an Inclusive Growth agenda.

OECD Economic Outlook, OECD Publishing, Paris

The OECD Economic Outlook is the OECD's twice-yearly analysis of the major economic trends and prospects for the next two years. The Outlook puts forward a consistent set of projections for output, employment, prices, fiscal and current account balances.

Coverage is provided for all OECD member countries as well as for selected non-member countries. This issue includes a general assessment, chapters summarising developments and providing projections for each individual country, a special chapter on investment and a statistical annex.

Achieving Public Sector Agility at Times of Fiscal Consolidation, OECD Publishing, Paris

This publication supports reforms towards greater strategic agility in the public sector including the use of budgeting policy levers, human resource management strategies and ICTs. It presents a toolkit for reform, together with a broader framework for action, taking into account the enabling factors and potential risks that may occur. It is also an attempt to show that the public sector has the capacity to reinvent itself during difficult times and that large public sector organisations are able to take on the challenge.

Forthcoming OECD Publications:**Development Co-operation Report**, OECD Publishing, Paris – 7 September 2015

The Development Co-operation Report 2015 explores the potential of networks and partnerships to create incentives for responsible action, as well as innovative, fit-for-purpose ways of co-ordinating the activities of diverse stakeholders. The report looks at a number of existing partnerships to draw lessons and provide practical guidance on what works in practice. Making Partnerships Effective: Coalitions for Action highlights the crucial role of political leadership in catalysing success through partnership, inviting a number of leading policy makers and politicians to share their insights and views.

[Social Impact Investment](#), OECD Publishing, Paris – 31 August 2015

This report provides a framework for assessing the social impact investment market and focuses on the need to build the evidence base, in particular for impact assessment compared to existing social service delivery models. The report highlights the importance of further international collaboration in developing global standards on definitions, data collection, impact measurement and evaluation of policies as well as experience sharing between players in the market. International organisations can play an important role in facilitating these collaborations as well as conducting further analysis and data collection.

UPCOMING OECD EVENTS

- **OECD Youth Dialogue**,
27 October 2015, Helsinki, Finland
- **Public Governance Ministerial Meeting: “Policy Performance for Inclusive Growth – Challenges for Public Governance”**,
28 October 2015, Helsinki, Finland

UPCOMING EVENTS OF INTEREST

- **2015 MENAPAR Conference – Role of Citizens and Organisations in Co-constructing Public Action in the MENA Region**
6-9 October 2015, Tunis, Tunisia
For more information please visit the conference website at:
<http://menapar.net/menapar/conference/conference-2015/>.
- **Regional School of Public Administration (ReSPA) Annual Conference**
12-13 November 2015, Danilovgrad, Montenegro
For more information, please visit the ReSPA website at: www.respaweb.eu.

SHARE YOUR NEWS

Please share with the Network news and events taking place in your institution via the Network Platform or the Newsletter. The Newsletter also accepts contributions from members on topics of general interest to the membership. For more information about contributions to the Newsletter or the Platform, please contact the Network Secretariat Co-ordinator, Makeda Yohannes at Makeda.YOHANNES@oecd.org

Please share the Newsletter with your colleagues.

We thank you for your ongoing participation!

Best regards,
OECD Schools of Government Network Secretariat

www.oecd.org/gov/global-network-schools-of-government
[OECD Network of Schools of Government Portal](#)