



OECD DAC GUIDING PRINCIPLES ON  
**MANAGING FOR SUSTAINABLE  
DEVELOPMENT RESULTS**



**M**ore than ever, development actors are called upon to join efforts and maximise the impact of individual and collective interventions to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals. The **Guiding Principles on Managing for Sustainable Development Results** (MfSDR) help development organisations navigate complex development co-operation and humanitarian challenges to reach their expected results and support sustainable development effectively.

The Guiding Principles set a renewed practice in results-based management in development co-operation that builds on the Managing for Development Results Principles that were endorsed by development agencies in 2004 and incorporates the principles for effective development co-operation agreed in Busan in 2011. These new principles reflect the changing context for development co-operation and the broader set of actors involved, and help organisations to address the recurrent challenges they have been facing in practice.

The Guiding Principles on Managing for Sustainable Development Results are aspirational and should serve as a reference point. They guide development organisations in setting up or refining results-based management approaches that are fit for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The Guiding Principles will also help to support institutional change and promote a culture of results. While they provide a framework applicable by all development organisations, public and private, at any level and across a variety of interventions, the operationalisation of the Guiding Principles should be interpreted in the context of each organisation, and adapted depending on their mandate and organisational complexity.

The first three principles set the direction while the three others focus on the organisational set-up for MfSDR. The principles are closely inter-related, and each principle should be read and applied in connection with the others. The Guiding Principles are accompanied by a brief description of key elements to explain and help operationalise them.

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### **PRINCIPLE 1. SUPPORT SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS AND DESIRED CHANGE**

**Managing for Sustainable Development Results (MfSDR)** approaches should maximise the impact of efforts towards achieving social, economic and environmentally sustainable development that leaves no one behind.

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### **PRINCIPLE 2. ADAPT TO CONTEXT**

MfSDR systems, methods and approaches should be flexible to allow for tailoring to different operational contexts, modalities of engagement, and types of partnerships.

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### **PRINCIPLE 3. ENHANCE COUNTRY OWNERSHIP, MUTUAL ACCOUNTABILITY AND TRANSPARENCY**

MfSDR approaches should foster development effectiveness by strengthening and using partner countries' systems for strategic planning, monitoring and statistics, and promoting participatory approaches to enhance ownership, mutual accountability and transparency.

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### **PRINCIPLE 4. MAXIMISE THE USE OF RESULTS INFORMATION FOR LEARNING AND DECISION MAKING**

While responding to communication and accountability needs, results information should systematically be used for learning and decision making in order to improve delivery and enhance impact.

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### **PRINCIPLE 5. FOSTER A CULTURE OF RESULTS AND LEARNING**

A culture of results should be promoted and sustained through consistent leadership, and supported by appropriate guidance, tools and capacity building as well as proper incentives.

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### **PRINCIPLE 6. DEVELOP A RESULTS SYSTEM THAT IS MANAGEABLE AND RELIABLE**

While providing credible results information that can be used by all partners, results frameworks, measurement and reporting systems need to be suitable to each organisation's needs and capacities.



For a full version of the Guiding Principles please refer to our website:  
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