Governance for Open Government Data

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institutional Governance</th>
<th>Policy Framework</th>
<th>Legal and Regulatory Instruments</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Federal Commission on the Access and Reuse of Government Data is in charge of supervising access to government data.</td>
<td>“Next Generation Open Data” is listed as one of five main priorities in the Digital Government section of the <a href="https://www.dagemeubel.be">2020 Digital Belgium action plan</a>.</td>
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Enabling coherent policy implementation

- A [transparency committee](https://www.federaleadministratie.be/open-data) of representatives from each federal public authority was created to support the implementation of the federal open data strategy.
- The ‘DCAT working group’ hosted by the Open Data Taskforce meet twice each year to discuss the work on open data.

Open Government Data Portal

- [Data.gov.be](https://data.gov.be) is the federal open data portal of Belgium.
- The [BEST Address](https://bestaddress.be) project launched by the Belgian government enabled the consolidation of, and made open, the address data from the Flemish, Walloon and Brussel regions.
- A [linked data fragments/triple fragments experimental server](https://linkedfragments.be) is available through the portal to facilitate the query of linked data on the web.

Using data as a platform: ecosystem engagement and collaboration

- The Belgian Government often collaborates with the civil society organisation [Open Knowledge Belgium (OKND)](https://www.oknd.be) on open data initiatives.
- The Open Belgium 2020 conference, held in Hasselt, hosted an [interactive co-creation workshop](https://open.belgium.be) with federal and interfederal government representatives. The aim was to gain insights into the development of open data and to discuss how Belgium can become a European trendsetter in the area.
OECD OURdata Index: 2019

Good practice

**Summer of Code**

Each summer, Open Knowledge Belgium, together with the federal government, private and non-profit organisations, organises a 4-week summer programme that provides Belgium-based students the training, network and support necessary to transform open innovation projects into real-world services. With the diverse set of skills and expertise at open Summer of code, organisations are able to co-create innovative digital solutions for the challenges they face while engaging a diverse and talented group of students and training a new generation on the importance of open data use and open source coding.

**Performance per Index Pillar**

**Data Availability**

- 2017: 0.20
- 2019: 0.19
- OECD Average 2019: 0.20

**Data Accessibility**

- 2017: 0.17
- 2019: 0.21
- OECD Average 2019: 0.23

**Government Support for Data Reuse**

- 2017: 0.10
- 2019: 0.18
- OECD Average 2019: 0.17

The availability of high value datasets (as defined by the G8 Open Data Charter) on data.gov.be has increased and the policy framework to support open by default has been strengthened. However, there is still room for improvement in these areas. The few tools and the requirements for effective stakeholder consultation on data release, Belgium has seen a slight overall drop in performance of the Data Availability pillar since 2017.

The policy framework and delivery of accessible datasets on data.gov.be is strong. However, due to the lack of some features that would enable a more user-driven data.gov.be (e.g. through forums for discussions, the possibility for users to add their own data and visualizations, presenting all user feedback on the portal), Belgium remains below the OECD average in total level of data accessibility.

With notable efforts to strengthen the monitoring of the impact of open data (by promoting re-use examples on data.gov.be), Belgium has increased its performance in Pillar 3 – Government Support for Data Re-use. To increase further, the government could focus on increasing the still moderate levels of engagement with external stakeholders and public officials to promote their re-use of open data, via additional strategic partnerships, training programs and events.

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* 2019 OURdata Index data was collected through the 2018 OECD OGD Survey. Some written information was collected in 2019/2020. Data unavailable for Hungary, Turkey, Iceland and United States.
* The index ranges from 0 to 1 and is composed of three indicators with an equal weight of 0.33. Each indicator ranges from 0 to 0.33.