5th OECD Expert Group Meeting on Open Government Data

Building an open and connected government

The 5th OECD Expert Group Meeting on Open Government Data was held at the OECD Headquarters in Paris, France, on 6–7 June 2019.

The meeting was led and organised by Ms. Barbara Ubaldi, Head of the Digital Government and Open Data Unit, OECD, and Mr. Arturo Rivera, Policy Analyst, Digital Government and Open Data Unit, OECD.

This year’s meeting benefited from the participation of 30 countries, including 27 OECD members1 and 3 partners countries2. The meeting also benefited from the participation of key international partners including the Inter-American Development Bank (IADB), the Infrastructure Transparency Initiative (CoST), and the Development Bank of Latin America (CAF).

Delegates focused on sharing updates on the main advancements and persisting challenges faced by the governments and the open data community in trying to secure the contribution of open data policies to good governance. Some of the cross-cutting themes discussed this year included the development of more inclusive and gender balanced policy making, the adoption of more innovative approaches to regulatory policy and the focus on stronger efforts to link open data to public sector integrity. There was overall agreement on the fact that these agendas benefit from better data access, sharing, and re-use.

The meeting provided also an ideal forum for delegates to discuss and share experiences on how frameworks for improved governance and management of data can help mainstreaming and scaling up efforts. The adoption of a whole-of-government data strategy to build public sectors capable of integrating data and connecting actors across policy areas, sectors and borders was recognised as an important, although difficult, priority.

The meeting also provided the space to share the latest developments of the OECD work on government data including the 2019 edition of the Open, Useful and Re-usable (OURdata) Index, and the draft principles on Enhancing Access to and Sharing of Data (EASD).

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1 Belgium, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Greece, Ireland, Israel, Italia, Japan, Korea, Latvia, Lithuania, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom.

2 Brazil, Colombia, and Russian Federation.
Open data and diversity: Gender and indigenous communities

The session explored how the re-use of open data can be an important policy tool to respond to the needs of vulnerable groups such as women and indigenous communities. The session addressed how greater accessibility, availability, quality and sharing of disaggregated gender data can help to improve decision making and policy actions at the national, regional and global scale. It discussed how open data can facilitate the relationship between indigenous communities and governments, and the specific governance arrangements needed to establish trustworthy data sharing between these actors. The session also explored data sovereignty from a community perspective, specifically in the context of indigenous people’s rights over their data.

Ms. Alison Rygh, Secondee of the Canadian Government to the OECD, moderated the session, which benefited from presentations by the OECD Secretariat, New Zealand, Canada and the United Kingdom.

Ms. Mariagrazia Quicciarini, Directorate for Science, Technology and Innovation, OECD, presented some highlights from the 2019 OECD Bridging the Digital Gender Divide Report, stressing how the cross-cutting nature, extent and impact of gender policies is yet not fully understood by policy makers. Ms. Quicciarini highlighted how human, social and cultural bias can influence the outputs and outcomes of gender policies, which can decrease trust in institutions.

Ms. Quicciarini pointed to the development of digital skills, increased internet and mobile connectivity, and the promotion of women’s inclusion in areas such as research and innovation as some of the policy issues that require greater government intervention.

Policies on gender data require a focus on long-term results to ensure that policy actions tackle legacy challenges beyond the publication of good quality, granular, interoperable and re-usable gender data.

Ms. Rhonda Paku, Director, Māori, Stats New Zealand, and Mr. Paul Stone, Open Data Programme, New Zealand, shared their experience in addressing data sovereignty issues in the Country.

Growing pressure from Iwi and Maori communities, demanding changes to the government data system as a whole, has led New Zealand’s central government to self-assess their current data governance structures.

New Zealand’s delegates highlighted the benefits of engaging communities, including indigenous groups, in data initiatives. For instance, designing and reengineering data governance frameworks in order to better respond to specific community needs, and enable these communities to exert their rights in relation to data sovereignty, privacy and protection. Moreover, New Zealand raised the question of how to make sure that general open data principles, such as the International Open Data Charter, co-exist with principles of indigenous data sovereignty.

Ms. Mélanie Robert, Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat, stressed how Canada has identified inclusion and diversity as government priorities, for instance by making clear their relevance as part of Canada’s Open Government Partnership 2018 - 2020 National Action Plan.

Canada’s open government approach underlines inclusion by design and citizens’ engagement. Ms. Robert stressed how Canada’s commitments in these areas require ensuring the inclusion of women, girls and non-binary people across the life cycle of open government and open data initiatives – from their design to their evaluation. For this reason, Canada’s efforts such as the Gender-based Analysis Plus (GBA+) aims to provide an analytical framework for public officials to “assess how diverse groups of women, men and non-binary people may experience policies, programs and initiatives” (Government of Canada, n.d.).

Indigenous data is unique in the information landscape. Inclusion means reconciliation, but reconciliation requires dialogue - particularly when the governance and ownership of data comes into play.

Canada indicated that indigenous data is unique in the information landscape due historical, constitutional, and nation-to-nation arrangements. From this perspective, Ms. Robert underlined that in some instances inclusion means reconciliation and requires dialogue, particularly when the governance and ownership of data comes into play. Using data for diversity and inclusion means developing new standards in order to tier down legacy measurement models and tackle existent bias.

Canada is committed to sustain its efforts to engage with the First Nations, Inuit and Metis communities to explore i) how reconciliation should translate into government reforms and a better
understanding of Indigenous communities, and ii) what are the implications of those reforms in terms data production, publication and sharing.

Initiatives such as the First Nations Information Governance Centre (FNIGC)'s OCAP Principles (Ownership, Control, Access, Possession) provide and ideal government-to-government framework for dialogue and collaboration in this regard.

Data timeliness, access costs, and granularity have an impact on data access and re-use. Thus, the reason why some indigenous communities have taken an active role as data producers instead of mere consumers of official data that was not fit for purpose. This shift of roles also draws upon the premise of the ownership, control and expertise of indigenous population over their own data, and the need to focus on data production and collection and not only on publication as means to ensure data quality.

Mr. Sam Roberts, Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS), United Kingdom, presented an overview of the evolution of the open data work in the UK. Mr. Roberts highlighted the leading role the UK had in previous years in pushing forward the open data agenda at the international level.

In relation to gender policies, Mr. Roberts stressed that, when analysed and re-used, good quality gender data can help to reveal and address systemic societal issues. Some of these challenges include the gender pay gap, women’s unpaid labor, digital inequality, and the digital gender divide. Yet, the lack or low quality of these data hinders the evidence base that can help to understand the roots of these issues.

Bias results in the distorted production and collection of gender data and perpetuates policy challenges.

As done by other delegates, the United Kingdom underlined the role of bias and its impact in resulting distorted data production and collection. Bias leads to data that can perpetuate policy issues for it is not well-suited (fit for purpose) to provide the needed evidence to assess the depth and nature of the problems faced by women and girls with different backgrounds. Yet, while the UK has made great efforts to publish data on the gender pay gap, Mr. Roberts acknowledged that these efforts are not enough.

Mainstreaming gender into any data-related efforts in the public sector will play a key role in addressing gender-related legacy issues in the production, collection and publication of public sector data. The UK recognized how Canada’s 2018 Gender Budgeting Act and the Gender-Based Budget Analysis can help to embed a gender approach to day-to-day government operations.
Evaluating results is key to understand the impact of gender policies on equality, and solid gender data plays a crucial role in this respect.

Gender equality has implications to everyone. Discussions should be inclusive and all genders must be involved in the conversation on gender data. The value of quality gender data lays also on its reuse. Once available, gender data can help to understand and assess policy results, and identify persistent gaps. Gender data re-use helps to assess how government policies have an impact on men, women, boys, girls and other gender groups. Mr. Roberts also stressed that dialogue with different communities across the civil society, the private sector, the academia, and other groups is needed to ensure policy challenges are addressed with a multi-faceted approach.

Open data and public sector integrity

This session took as a point of departure on previous and on-going OECD work on open data for anti-corruption (e.g. the Compendium on Open Data for Anti-corruption) as well as earlier Expert Group’s discussions on related practices such as initiatives on opening contracting data. It also drew upon recent OECD work on the use of data analytics for integrity (e.g. Analytics for Integrity: Data Driven Approaches for Enhancing Corruption and Fraud Risk Assessments).

The session addressed how common data governance frameworks can contribute to breaking down siloes across different initiatives and connect government-wide efforts targeting public sector integrity. The discussion involved government and international actors working on integrity, digital government, open contracting data, open budget data and public infrastructure transparency to explore the need for greater integration of efforts across these areas.

Mr. Gavin Ugale, Policy Analyst, Public Sector Integrity, OECD moderated this session that benefited from the presentations provided by delegates from South Korea and Slovenia, and by the participation of the Infrastructure Transparency Initiative (CoST), and was followed by a break out session where delegates had the opportunity to share and discuss more in-depth experiences, and to explore the role of the OECD Secretariat on moving forward these efforts.

Mr. Ugale noted how the OECD, particularly the Public Governance Directorate, has been tackling the intersection of data, digitalisation and public sector integrity from different perspectives. This work has been driven by - and received contributions from - different communities in government and the OECD, such as the OECD Working Parties of Senior Digital Government Officials (E-leaders), of Senior Public Integrity Officials, and of Leading Practitioners on Public Procurement. These joint efforts make possible to explore the intersection between digitalisation, data-driven approaches and public sector integrity in areas such as lobbying, asset disclosure, audit, anti-corruption, and tax, as well as to elevate the discussion on the characteristics of the data needed by integrity actors, like auditors, risk managers, and anti-corruption experts.

The Korean government is using the central open data portal as a platform to integrate and connect different data initiatives relevant for public sector integrity, including open contracting data, open budget data, and the publication of civil complaints data.
Ms. Jieun Oh, Open Data and Innovation Department, Ministry of the Interior and Safety, Korea, presented the Korean approach to the use of open data for public integrity. Notably, the Korean government has developed an index, which assesses public sector organisations’ compliance concerning regulations on open data for integrity (e.g. the publication of hospitality and gifts declarations and declarations of interest). The Korean government is also constantly evolving in the publication, use and analysis of data to improve integrity and auditing. This includes Korea’s ALIO (All Public Information In one-) platform, the DART (Data Analysis, Retrieval and Transfer System), and the use of open APIs and international data standards (such as the eXtensible Business Reporting Language, XBRL) for business reporting in compliance with government regulations.

Ms. Mateja Prešern and Aleš Veršič, Ministry of Public Administration, Slovenia, presented the tri-fold Slovenian approach to the use of digital technologies and data in the context of public sector integrity efforts. This approach includes three key initiatives: the publication of i) contracts on public procurement, concessions and public private partnerships on the e-Public Procurement Portal, ii) public contracts on the STATIST platform (including on CSV format to ease the re-use of the data); and iii) data such as gifts received by public officials and lobbying records on the ERAR platform.

As in Korea, Slovenia’s approach focuses on platform integration to increase the discoverability and re-use of data. For instance, data on the Statist platform is also accessible through the procurement portal and the data available on ERAR is available on the central open data portal as well.

Ms. Natalie Forsyuk, Technical Advisor, Infrastructure Transparency Initiative (CoST), presented and discussed how the complexity of public infrastructure projects (e.g. too many contracts and contractors per project, lack of traceability of contracts due to heterogeneous project identifiers) demands concerted action at the national and international level to facilitate the monitoring and evaluation of public works.

In this light, Ms. Forsyuk presented the CoST Infrastructure Data Standard (IDS)’s aim to standardise how data on public infrastructure is published to facilitate its interoperability, analysis and re-use, drawing upon the example of the Open Contracting Data Standard.

There is a need for building common platforms and initiatives that interconnect and integrate, often disconnected, data initiatives relevant for public sector integrity including on e-procurement, beneficial ownership, open budget, and audits.
During the break out session, delegates aimed to find common agreement on shared challenges and the role the OECD could play to move forward the data agenda in the context of public sector integrity.

**Ms. Forsyuk (CoST)** stressed that global standards and increased data availability is needed to enable peer-to-peer comparisons, identify good practices, and help spot misconduct, particularly when potential corruption acts may take place beyond borders.

**Mexico** raised the issues on balancing openness by default and the protection of sensitive data. For instance, the publication of machine-readable documents, which include sensitive and personal information of third parties (e.g. invoices), can lead to legal action from the affected party. **Slovenia** said that as an effort with balancing openness with data protection the Slovenian government does not publish the name of a public servant along with their salary by default, but at request. Slovenia also stressed the importance governance and leadership, underlying that countries can benefit from the existence of a public body with a bird’s-eye view of initiatives using data for integrity.

Representatives from the **OECD Public Sector Integrity Division** stressed that while data quality, openness, management and governance is clear for the digital government community, this might not be the case for those public officials working on areas such as public procurement. **Sweden** underlined the need for international measurement instruments to reflect the use governments are giving to data in the context of public sector integrity.

**What would be the role of the OECD from the delegates’ perspective?**

- Provide recommendations, principles and/or guidelines to help build common global approach to the use of data in the context of public infrastructure projects. Such an approach should draw upon previous and current OECD work on open data and its implications in areas such as public budgeting, open government and public sector integrity. This is in line with the principles of the OECD Recommendations on Open Government, Public Sector Integrity and Budgetary Governance, and the OECD Framework for the Governance of Infrastructure.
- Ensure that measurement instruments contemplate data for integrity initiatives.
- Develop sector-based minimum requirements on the use of data for integrity.
- Push forward the digital government and data agenda underlying their benefits for and connection with public sector integrity.
- Provide guidance and incentives for countries with a long tradition of government transparency on why and how to leverage open data for public sector integrity.
- Share knowledge (e.g. country practices) pushing the bar in finding the balance between opening government data and securing privacy.
Open data and regulation

This session discussed how open data can help improving regulatory policies and performance measurement. It explored how enhanced data openness, collection, and sharing can facilitate public engagement and government’s assessment of the availability, state and impact of existing and draft laws and regulations.

Delegates discussed the relevance of cross-sector frameworks for data production, collection and sharing for regulatory monitoring purposes, as well the importance and applicability to this policy agenda of key concepts relevant to open data - such as standards, data taxonomies, interoperability, data federation and linked data.

Mr. Joao Vasconcelos, Policy Analyst, Digital Government, OECD moderated the session and led the discussions during the subsequent breakout session. This benefited from the presentations provided by the OECD Regulatory Policy Division and delegates from Belgium and the Netherlands.

The outcomes of the plenary and the break out sessions provided an ideal opportunity to connect the knowledge of open data practitioners with that of public officials working on regulatory policy. This in light of the 11th OECD Conference on Measuring Regulatory Performance organised in Oslo on 13 – 14 June, 2019, which focused on exploring the impact of digitalisation on regulatory policy.

Ms. Christiane Arndt-Bascle, Senior Policy Analyst, Regulatory Performance Measurement, OECD, explained that while the community of public regulators is increasingly embarking on digitalisation and data-driven initiatives, often initiatives lack clear goals. These results on blurriness in terms of capacities to implement relevant initiatives and in relation to a good understanding of how to create value from new technologies and data. Ms. Arndt-Bascle indicated that the data regulators might need to carry out their activities might be available but not accessible due to restrictions on data access, openness and re-use. Ms. Arndt-Bascle also highlighted the role of National Statistics Office as data producers.

For regulators, blurriness exists in terms of what to do and how to create value from new technologies and data.
Ms. Martine Trznadel and Mr. Jean-Charles Quertinmont, Agency for Administrative Simplification (AAS), Chancellery of the Prime Minister, Belgium, underlined that in Belgium better regulation and open data work sit in the same agency (the AAS), thus providing an ideal governance context to connect both agendas.

Belgium explained the complexities of the regulatory process stressing, that may vary from country to country, and how this may affect the feasibility to integrate data-driven efforts across the whole of it, or in specific stages. In the Belgian context, this would imply using data to accelerate the impact assessment process. For instance, by making available updated records and data on draft regulations in a timely fashion so that relevant stakeholders can access and re-use these data whenever needed.

Together with data standards and leadership, coordination and cross-sectoral collaboration (government-private sector) played a key role in moving forward the SBR in the Netherlands. These elements are part of the strategic layers of data governance frameworks.

Mr. Bas Groenveld, Ministry of the Interior and Kingdom Relations, Netherlands, presented the Standard Business Reporting (SBR) initiative. The Dutch government developed the SBR to reduce the reporting burden on businesses in compliance with Dutch regulations.

Mr. Groenveld presented the core data governance elements of the SBR model, stressing the key role that leadership, coordination and cross-sectoral collaboration (government-private sector) played in moving forward the SBR, and the importance that data standards (e.g. the XBRL) and semantics played in eliminating obstacles for automation and delivering value.

The value of data sharing platforms such as the SBR is exponential as these tools can be scaled to other sector and across borders.

Mr. Groenveld underlined the scalability of the SBR for the platform for some private sector actors in the country (e.g. banks) have adopted the tool in the Country. In order to democratise the value of these tools and data and expand their use across borders, governments need to work together to standardise data, processes and technology. Mr. Groenveld also explained that streamlining the
regulatory process and rationalising legal and regulatory frameworks would require the harmonization of data definitions and full digitalisation of data sources.

The panel for this session was followed by a break out session, when delegates discussed the OECD’s potential role on advising and developing guidelines on how to use data in the context of regulatory policy, and the notion of interoperability within governments, the need for standardisation of data and issues around the use of existing open data.

Among different issues, delegates discussed how challenges related to data discoverability, completeness, accessibility, and interoperability are barriers for data re-use. Delegates also expressed that the lack of common data governance frameworks undermines the production, sharing, access, and re-use of good quality data.

### What would be the potential role of the OECD?

- Provide guidelines and policy advice to support government in developing and adopting a common data policy and data standards in the context of regulatory work.
- Identify shared- and high-value datasets relevant to assess, monitor and evaluate regulators performance and compliance, and promote their regulation, standardisation, and harmonisation, particularly when such data comes to governmental use. This would include the development of reference data, semantics and metadata.
- Develop key performance indicators (KPIs) to monitor the use of digital technologies and data in the context of regulatory policy.

### Towards the development of broader government data policies

In line with the discussion of the 2018 EGM, the session explored the connection between open government data and broader national data strategies. Delegates discussed and shared their most recent experiences aimed to support and connect different elements of the management of the public sector data value chain. These include data generation, collection, sharing, privacy protection, opening up, and re-use.

This session was moderated by Ms. Barbara-Chiara Ubaldi, Acting Head of Division and Head of the Digital Government and Open Data Unit, OECD. The session also benefited from formal presentation by delegates from Italy, Canada and Norway who shared their experiences with the Expert Group.

Mr. Enzo Maria Le Fevre, Agency for Digital Italy (AgID), Italy, presented the efforts the Country is doing to move towards the greater maturity of its data policy in connection to the [2019 – 2021 Italian Digital Agenda](https://www.governo.it/it/diitalizzazione-e-digitale), and the Digital Agenda for Europe.
Italy is taking a more integrated approach to its data policy bringing together elements such as data interoperability, open data, and the publication of data of national interest (e.g. geodata).

The Italian data policy also makes clear the connection of sound public sector data infrastructures (e.g. data lakes) with the provision of digital services and the use of technologies such as big data in the public sector. The Plan also highlights the role the ecosystem (inside and outside the public sector) in the co-design and co-delivery of public services and a more integrated public sector.

Governments should embrace and scale up the knowledge that the public sector open data community created during the last years.

Ms. Mélanie Robert, Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat, expressed that in Canada, it is important to keep the focus on both the open government and open data agendas. She highlighted that while the political discourse and government priorities have moved from open data to broader data policies in recent years, governments should embrace and scale up the knowledge that the public sector open data community created during the last years.

Canada also explained how Canada’s Data Strategy Roadmap stresses the value of building greater data stewardship within the public sector, keep the focus on the citizen, and work in the open and with a share by default mindset. Ms. Robert also highlighted that any broader data strategy should take into consideration the complexities of federal and multi-level systems of government.

Ms. Heather Broomfield, Agency for Public Management and eGovernment (Difi), Norway, provided an overview of the evolution of open data and data policies in the Country. She presented the colour code model used in Norway to classify the level of openness and access to certain datasets (from full openness to full protection for privacy or security reasons). The model is a key tool for a sound data governance in Norway.

Ms. Broomfield explained how since 2018 the Norwegian government is focusing on five dimensions as means to increase data sharing within the public sector and with the private sector. These dimensions include a stronger governance, secured funding, sound legislation, improved competencies, and higher re-use.
Data governance in the public sector

This break out session, moderated by Mr. Arturo Rivera, Policy Analyst, Digital Government, OECD, benefited from the participation of delegates from Norway, Sweden, Italy, Portugal, Mexico, and Korea.

During the session, delegates had the opportunity to discuss and define the concept of data governance as applicable to the public sector. Results showed different levels of understanding among delegates in terms of the implications of data governance for public sector practitioners.

Delegates discussed and produced the following definitions of the concept of “data governance”:

- **A set of actions**, defined by a specific board (body) gathering different levels of expertise, which guide implementation at the operational level in order to apply strategic objectives.
- **A legal, procedural, and technical framework** that enables the ecosystem to work at a country, organisational and domain level.
- **Culture of management of data as an asset** in a trustworthy and responsible manner for the benefit of a sustainable society.

Delegates also discussed the main elements that a public sector data governance framework should include. Mr. Rivera, OECD, then presented and discussed with delegates the work the OECD Digital Government and Government Data Unit (GOV) is carrying-out to develop an scalable and replicable data governance framework (see Figure A) based on the previous and on-going work on digital government and open data in OECD member and partner countries. The session concluded with a discussion on the potential role the OECD Directorate for Public Governance (GOV) can play to advance data governance efforts in the public sector.

**Figure A. Data governance in the public sector**

What would be the potential role of the OECD?

→ Develop a definition and model for data governance applicable in the public sector that can be used to guide actions at the national level
→ Develop principles and action-oriented guidelines for the design and implementation of data management efforts in the public sector.
→ Provide a platform for knowledge sharing among governments

Data ethics

Mr. Benjamin Welby, Policy Analyst, Digital Government, OECD, and Mr. Jaron Haas, Ministry of the Interior and Kingdom Relations, The Netherlands, moderated this break out session.

The break out session benefited from the participation of delegates from United Kingdom, New Zealand, Denmark, Switzerland, Slovenia, Finland, and Canada. The purpose was to discuss the ethical implications for the generation, collection, sharing and use of data within the public sector. Mr. Welby, OECD, presented a summary of the OECD work on data-driven public sector, highlighting the recently published OECD Working Paper touching on this topic, and trailing the report to be published on the same issue later in 2019.

Mr. Haas, the Netherlands, and lead for the Thematic Group on Data-driven Public Sector of the OECD Working Party of Senior Digital Government Officials (E-Leaders), shared the desire of the Netherlands to establish cross-cutting, common guidelines that can inform how countries approach the use and reuse of data in an ethical way.

Drawing on several existing ethical frameworks the delegates worked together to identify common themes and important priorities. Those discussions culminated in the following aggregated set of thoughts:

1. Building trust in society is the basis that should guide any government work with a data element.
2. Data ethics principles sit within a broader framework and context of standards, guidelines and principles governing the behaviour of civil servants, the treatment of citizens and laws around these topics. Data ethics principles do not need to solve all those issues
3. Recognising data as a public good is an important foundational principle in terms of approach to data and application thereof.
4. Clarity is needed in terms of design, purpose, needs, and benefits. This clarity helps setting the extent and limits for data access, sharing and re-use.

5. The use of data needs to be balanced, minimal and accountable. Public officials should avoid abuse of their position, the data at their disposal, and the trust of the public.

6. Issues of transparency in terms of how data is being used, and personal control over personal data are firmly connected and the response should be considered accordingly.

7. Developing the necessary skills in terms of either public servants or the public at large should not be an afterthought.

**The Open, Useful and Re-usable data (OURdata) Index: Preliminary results for 2019**

During this closed-door session, the OECD Secretariat presented the preliminary results of the 2019 edition of the OECD Open, Useful and Re-usable data (OURdata) Index.

Ms. Barbara Ubaldi, Acting Head of Division and Head of the Digital Government and Open Data Unit, OECD; Mr. Arturo Rivera, Policy Analyst, Digital Government and Government Data Policies, OECD, and Mr. Reginald Dadzie, Junior Policy Analyst, OECD, led this session.

Mr. Reginald Dadzie provided delegates with an update on the status of the development process for the Index and presented the preliminary results and policy findings of the Index and its three composites on data availability (Pillar 1), data accessibility (Pillar 2), and government support to data re-use (Pillar 3). Delegates then had the opportunity to raise questions and discuss with the OECD Secretariat the preliminary results of the Index. The results of the third edition of the OECD OURdata Index will be available during the second semester of 2019.

**Towards general best practice principles and concepts for Enhancing Access to and Sharing of Data (EASD)**

Ms. Barbara-Chiara Ubaldi (OECD) provided delegates with an update on the analytical work carried-out by the OECD Directorates for Public Governance (GOV) and for Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) aiming to develop common high-level principles for enhanced access to and data sharing.

After discussions on the content and purpose of the EASD principles, delegates were invited to provide comments to the draft principles which will be presented and discussed in the relevant GOV and STI committees and working parties towards their finalisation and final publication.