

Self-Assessment of Stages of Development in Digital Government

Principle 5: Secure leadership and political commitment to the digital strategy

This overview provides a basis to identify key characteristics of countries that have achieved early, intermediate and advanced stages of development for this principle, and the practices and policies that should be considered to progress in its implementation.

CHARACTERISTICS OF EARLY STAGE DEVELOPMENT

- *The use of ICT in government is not seen as a strategic priority in the public sector modernisation and/or innovation agenda*
- *Does not have a coordinating unit or function for ICT within government*
- *Does not have a government-wide digital government strategy*
- *Senior management in the public sector does not see the importance of enabling the digital transformation*

Policies and practices to be considered

- Sensitize senior management at the central level of government on the strategic relevance of ICTs as core enabler of public sector reform and increased performance (e.g. to boost productivity, efficiency)
- Develop a national digital strategy and action plan to foster the digital transformation of the public sector
- Establish a coordinating unit or function for ICT within government to engage the top political leadership (e.g. Centre of Government) and liaise with the different levels of government

CHARACTERISTICS OF INTERMEDIATE STAGE DEVELOPMENT

- *Has an ICT coordinating unit or function at the central government ensuring coherence of ICT use, strategic planning and systems deployment*
- *Has built consensus around the importance of the digital transformation with key stakeholders at the centre of government*
- *Has a national digital strategy and action plan*

Policies and practices to be considered

- Seek to ensure strong political support to the digital transformation agenda at the central government level
- Engage with stakeholders at the subnational level of government and develop coordination mechanisms to ensure coherent approaches over time and across the whole public sector in line with the priorities set in the national digital agenda

CHARACTERISTICS OF ADVANCED STAGE DEVELOPMENT

- *Has strong political support for the digital transformation agenda at the central and local levels of government*
- *Has strong co-ordination mechanisms to align decisions and investments across the public sector with national priorities for digital government*

Policies and practices to be considered

- Nurture strong political and public support to the digital transformation efforts across the public sector
- Develop channels o crowdsource input, gather feedback and foster participation to strengthen the oversight and evaluation of the implementation of the digital government action plan for external actors including citizens, businesses and NGOs