



OECD Global Network of **Schools of Government**





Summary Action Plan

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The **OECD Network of Schools of Government** is a world-wide network of schools of government, research and training institutions that serves as a consultative and knowledge diffusion body for the work of the OECD Public Governance and Territorial Development Directorate.

The Network will aim to support countries in securing long-term sustainability of public sector reforms through:

- Strengthening the link between international policy dialogue and national public service capacity-building efforts;
- Informing the OECD policy dialogue with lessons and good practices on implementation on the ground; and
- Supporting exchange among national schools of government on current policy priorities and capacity-building, policy implementation and research needs.

Activities

The main activities of the Network will include:

1. **Creating a professional community of practice** through the establishment of an online OECD platform to facilitate the sharing of information on
 - international standards, policy and service delivery benchmarks and comparative data across OECD member countries; and
 - current capacity-building efforts and needs in priority areas.

The platform will provide free access to OECD policy materials and benchmarks. Partners will receive free copies of all new research publications and policy papers in the area of governance and management. Countries are invited to integrate OECD policy research materials into their curricular, training and research modules.

This platform will also facilitate countries' participation in OECD data collection activities, public governance reviews and other OECD work.

2. **Facilitating policy dialogue**, linking OECD and experts from schools of government to share their experiences and their know-how, discuss emerging issues and jointly identify possible solutions in implementing policy reforms and strengthening public sector capacities.
 - **Dialogue among schools of government and OECD** - Partners will be invited to annual meetings of the Network hosted by partner organisations or the OECD.
 - **Dialogue between international policy-makers and schools of government** - Partners will be invited to attend a selection of OECD and other international conferences, seminars and expert meetings on priority topics. The Network could leverage OECD links to communities of policy-makers to facilitate policy dialogue between schools of government and national policy-makers on critical issues, including through OECD participation in national events or training modules.
 - **Collaboration among schools** - the Network will offer an opportunity to collaborate on the development of joint conferences, workshops and seminars on mutual interests, which could be hosted by partner institutions or the OECD.

This network will complement others by focusing on key policy priority areas identified by the governments and the schools, including those highlighted in Box 1. The OECD will play an important role by contributing international comparative evidence (e.g. OECD *Government at a Glance* series) and benchmarks to the discussions.

3. **Continuous monitoring and assessment of current capacity building and skills development activities**, undertaken by Schools of Government in priority areas and diffusion of related findings to facilitate dialogue and exchange of good practices.
4. **Partnering in research and country specific activities**, which may include specific demand-driven capacity-building activities and practical tools both for trainers and civil servants to support implementation of public sector reforms (e.g. seminars, study visits, e-learning, handbooks, OECD review and certification of some courses, professional secondments and internships). These would be subject to mutual interest and resources availability, and may involve other stakeholders, including alumni of national schools of government.

Box 1. Potential priority areas for policy dialogue

OECD Governments have identified the following priorities for action within their administrations:

- Embedding cutting-edge innovation in the public sector;
- Strengthening employee engagement (motivation) and leadership;
- Open, inclusive, clean and accountable government for restoring trust;
- The impact of technology on governance, public sector decision-making and key public servant competencies;
- Strategies for improving the productivity and effectiveness of public service;
- Evaluation and performance measurement: strategic enablers for driving government performance and accountability.

It is proposed that the above topics become the focus for discussions among schools of government, to complement those in other fora and support progress in implementation.

Members

Institutions involved in public sector capacity-building activities and research may become members of the Network, including national schools and academies of government, institutes of public administration, associations of schools of public administration and international / regional associations.

Governance Structure

The network will be chaired by a participating school of government. In view of the prominent role of Italy in setting up the network, Professor Tria, Director of the National School of Administration (SNA) of Italy will serve as the first Chair of the Partnership.

The activities of the Network will be guided by the Steering Group, which includes representatives of national schools of government, associations of schools of public administration and international / regional associations.

The Network's Chair and members of the Steering Group will be designated on a biannual basis.