OECD OURdata Index: 2019

Switzerland

Legend:
- Data Availability
- Data Accessibility
- Government support for data reuse

29th Place

Governance for Open Government Data

| Institutional Governance	Policy Framework	Legal and Regulatory instruments
Since 2019 the implementation of the Open Government Data strategy is the responsibility of the The Federal Department of Home Affairs FDHA and, more specifically, the Federal Statistical Office FSO which is home to the Open Government Data Office.	The new Open government data strategy in Switzerland for the period 2019 to 2023 was approved on 30 November 2018 by the Federal Council. It aims to make all open data from the federal administration available to the public by default.	The modernisation of the legal framework to support the introduction of the 'open by default' principle is currently under evaluation. The implementation of the actual strategy is mandatory at the federal level but also explicity encourages collaboration with the different federal levels and with organisations with a public mandate.

Enabling coherent policy implementation

→ A steering comittee of representatives from federal departments supervises the execution of the strategy. The further federal levels (cantons, communes) and state-related enterprises participate in these activities as a sounding board (forum OGD) (see Organisation of Open Government Data activities according to the 2019–2023 strategy).

→ The 'open government data round table' brings together representatives from data providers and data users to target the coordinated publication of data in a demand-oriented way.

→ An OGD Handbook provides support and guidance on how to identify, prepare and publish open government data.

Open Government Data Portal

→ Opendata.swiss is the platform of open government data from Swiss authorities.

→ A large amount of the available open datasets are linked to either environment or geography.

Using data as a platform: ecosystem engagement and collaboration

→ Focus groups have been organised with public servants to build capacities and share skills within the public sector to implement the open data strategy.

→ A 'user engagement strategy' is currently being designed.

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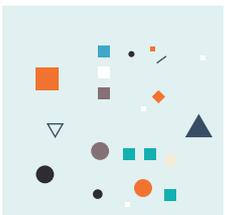
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Switzerland

Good practice

Federal Data Inventory Report

The Federal Archives commissioned the University of Bern to develop a survey platform for the implementation of Measure 4 'Creating an Inventory of Federal Data Stocks' in Switzerland's 2014-2018 open data strategy. This allows existing data catalogues to be integrated, new data collections to be recorded, and all data to be constantly corrected, adapted and supplemented.

Performance per Index Pillar

Data Availability

|		
0.09	0.13	0.20
2017	2019	OECD Average 2019
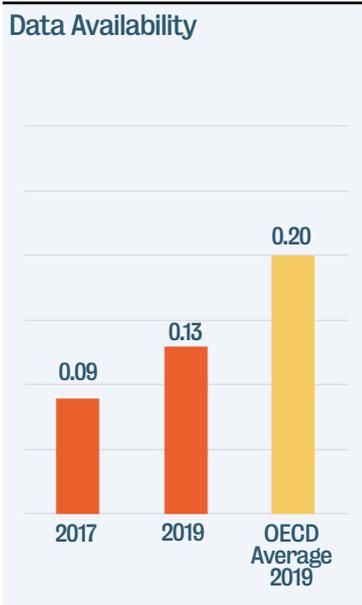
An increase in the amount of high value open datasets on the portal demonstrates Switzerland's progress in data availability. The country still rarely engages with stakeholders to inform the federal open data policy.

Data Accessibility

0.18	0.17	0.23
2017	2019	OECD Average 2019
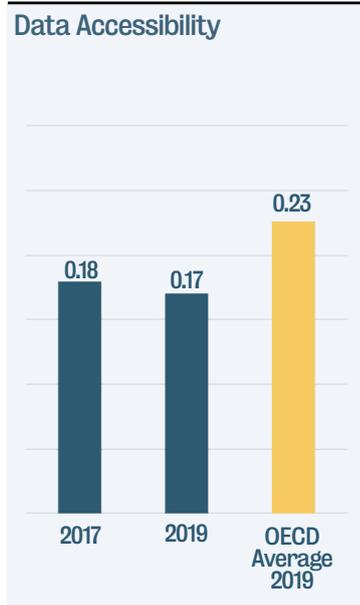
Switzerland releases a majority of its data in accessible and re-usable formats on its federal OGD portal. However, the portal lacks many features that would stimulate stakeholder engagement and enable a more user-driven portal.

Government support for data reuse

0.16	0.12	0.17
2017	2019	OECD Average 2019
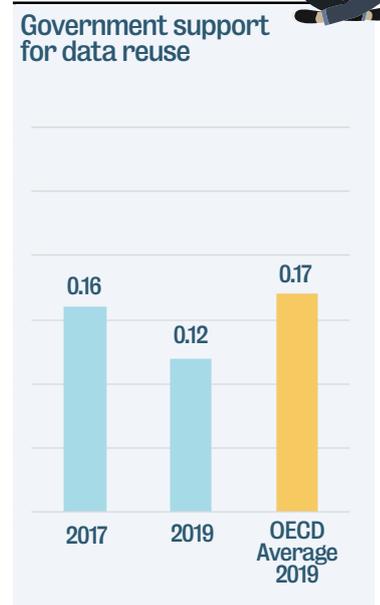
Switzerland performs above the OECD average in monitoring the impact of OGD. However, the government is less active in engaging users outside the public sector to promote their use of government data, especially through strategic programmes and partnerships.

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