



OECD Global Network of  
**Schools of Government**

# Skills for a “World Class” Civil Service

6 July 2015, OECD, Paris





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## Skills for a “World Class” Civil Service

OECD Network of Schools of Government Annual Meeting

6 July 2015,

OECD Headquarters, Paris

The meeting provides an opportunity for the Schools of Government Network to reflect upon and input into : “World Class” Civil Service: Benchmarking the Civil Service; a joint initiative with the OECD Public Governance Committee and the Public Employment and Management Working Party. Topics for discussion will include:

- What are the demands, expectations and performance requirements of a World Class Civil Service (WCSS)?
- What requirements are included in current statements of the skills, values, and functioning of the civil service? Do these requirements need to be updated in light of new demands?
- How are different countries objectively measuring the performance of their Civil Services? What kinds of indicators will help to benchmark world class performance?
- How can OECD support countries in strengthening capabilities for advancing innovation?
- What role can be played by national schools of government if fostering the World Class Civil Service initiative?
- How will the changing skills and competencies of the World Class Civil Service alter how national schools of government deliver their programmes?

The meeting will also provide an opportunity to review the activities of the Network and its members and discuss future activities. It will also feature the launch of the latest edition of *Government at a Glance*, an international comparative publication that provides a dashboard of 50 indicators covering the whole production chain of public goods and services.

This meeting will bring together representatives of national schools of government, international, regional and national associations of schools of public administration, OECD secretariat, and other stakeholders. For more information, please visit [www.oecd.org/gov/global-network-schools-of-government.htm](http://www.oecd.org/gov/global-network-schools-of-government.htm).



## Preliminary Agenda

<b>8:00 – 10:00</b>	<b>Open Government Learning Modules Working Group Meeting</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Working Group Participants</b></li> </ul> <p>Agenda TBC</p>	
<b>9:30 – 10:00</b>	<b>Registration/Coffee</b>
<b>10:00 – 10:30</b>	<b>Session 1: Opening remarks</b>
<b>10:30 – 11:00</b>	<b>Session 2: OECD Schools of Government Network: Progress update</b>
<p>This session will provide an update on the latest activities and initiatives of the OECD Schools of Government Network, focusing on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Membership, outreach and communication activities</li> <li>National Schools of Government Survey Report</li> <li>Learning modules on innovation and open government</li> </ul>	
<b>11:00 – 12:30</b>	<b>Session 3: What is a World-Class Civil Service?</b>
<p>The discussion in this session will focus on identifying the key features and expectations of a world class civil service (WCSS). This discussion will build on earlier OECD discussions which have identified a need to benchmark civil service performance against today's expectations of a world class civil service. It will also look at how the civil service can better align people, process and technology to achieve innovative, evidence-based and inclusive policy development and service delivery.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What are the demands and expectations of a WCSS in the eyes of citizens, politicians and civil service leaders?</li> <li>How are the functions of the civil service changing in light of these new demands?</li> <li>What institutional features are prioritised in a WCSS?</li> <li>What implications does this have for civil service management capacity and skills development?</li> </ul>	
<b>12:30 – 14:00</b>	<b>Networking lunch</b>
<b>14:00 – 14:45</b>	<b>Session 4: Launch of OECD Government at a Glance 2015 – Inclusive Growth, a new expectation of a World Class Civil Service?</b>
<p>This session will feature the official launch of the OECD Flagship publication “OECD Government at a Glance 2015”</p>	
<b>14:45 – 15:45</b>	<b>Session 5: What are the skills needed for a “World Class” Civil Service? – Joint discussion with the OECD Public Employment and Management Network</b>
<p>This session will focus on how to identify the right skills, tools and standards to build the capacity of civil services to achieve “world class” standards. This includes workforce planning and innovative learning approaches to identify, acquire, develop, nurture and utilise the necessary skills.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What requirements are included in current statements of the skills, values, and functioning of the civil service? Do these requirements need to be updated in light of new demands?</li> </ul>	



- What are the current skills needs and gaps in the civil service?
- What innovative capacity building approaches can be best aligned with developing a WCSS? What indicators and benchmarks may reflect cutting edge, current and emerging activity, as well as capacity dimensions to enable learning?

15:45 – 16:00 Coffee break

**16:00 – 17:30 Session 6: Schools of government as partners in fostering a “World Class” Civil Service**

As a roundtable discussion this session will explore will explore the contribution of national schools of government can make to the development of training and professional development approaches based on the attributes of a WCSS.

- What is the role of the schools in enabling a WCSS?
- What are the developmental and training priorities in developing the necessary competences for a WCSS?
- Do the competencies for a WCSS change the role of national schools of government?
- How can national schools of government adapt to changing demands of government, civil servants, and society in general in terms of policy agility and service delivery? Do new skills and competencies mean rethinking how learning is offered?
- What role can national schools of government play as vectors of change in national public administrations?

17:30 – 17:45 Session 8: Closing remarks

18:00 Reception