

Shared principles of Open Government

Finland

Openness is an essential part of good governance. Openness builds dialogue and is thus an important part of a well functioning democracy. Citizens have the right to receive information, to give feed-back and to be heard and to participate in developing joint solutions and services. Public administration is also open to new development ideas rising from the society.

We commit ourselves to enhancing open government and citizen engagement.

CITIZEN RIGHTS

We strengthen the right of citizens to information and participation in developing joint solutions and services. We inform of the issues that are being prepared already in the early stages of the process, so that there is a genuine possibility to influence.

OPENNESS

We offer information about the operations of government and government data impartially. Information is easily found and used.

ACCOUNTABILITY

We take care that the views of citizens are within policy-making and implementation processes in their different stages. We state clearly beforehand what are the phases of consultation and participation processes, their goals and limits. We take care that the information provided is accurate and up-to-date.

COVERAGE

We offer all citizens the possibility to participate in the preparation of policy-making and development. We use both traditional ways as well as electroning channels for participation and for offering information.

CONSOLIDATION

We prepare issues together with different government actors to avoid over-lapping, divergences or fragmentation.

RESOURCES

We create an open organizational culture, where we have enough know-how and resources to open policy-making with electronic and traditional methods.

EVALUATION AND CONTINUOUS DEVELOPMENT

We evaluate regularly the realization of open government and use the evaluations in planning for further development. Our success is defined by whether citizens genuinely feel that they have been heard.

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