



OCDE ORGANISATION DE COOPÉRATION ET
DE DÉVELOPPEMENT ÉCONOMIQUES

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Recommendation of the OECD Council for enhanced access and more effective use of public sector information

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Creativity and innovation

OECD work on innovation in digital content includes:

- **Digital content** – new infrastructure for business, participative web, education, health (OECD policy principles)
- **Public sector information** - increase aggregate returns on public investments, maximise use & spill-overs (OECD Council Recommendation)

Objectives

- Principles for enhanced access and more effective use for public and private sectors
- Increase total returns on public investments and economic and social benefits through:
 - more efficient distribution
 - enhanced innovation
 - development of new uses
 - market-based competition
- International policy principles contribute to global exchange and use of public information

Barriers and difficulties

Development and commercial and non-commercial re-use of public sector information and content is becoming more open but continuing obstacles impede efficient and effective use:

- Restrictive or unclear rules governing access and conditions of re-use
- Discouraging, unclear and inconsistent pricing of information when re-use of information is chargeable
- Complex and lengthy licensing procedures
- Inefficient distribution to final users
- Barriers to development of international markets
- Role of public sector organisations as collectors, producers and disseminators of public sector information is not always clear, particularly in competitive market areas

Recommendation framework

- Principles, e.g. openness and reuse, apply to a different extent to different categories of information & content
- Take account of: legal requirements and restrictions, including IPRs and trade secrets; privacy, confidentiality, and national security concerns; democracy, human rights, freedom of information
- Greater access and use useful regardless of IP ownership
- Strengthening the role of non-public sector in producing, developing and disseminating information and content may require changes in legislation, organisation and budgets
- Take account of OECD Recommendations on:
 - Access to Research Data from Public Funding;
 - Broadband Development

Recommendation principles

Policy principles:

- **Openness**
- **Access and transparent reuse conditions**
- **Asset lists**
- **Quality**
- **Integrity**
- **New technologies and long-term preservation**
- **Copyright**
- **Pricing**
- **Competition**
- **Redress mechanisms**
- **Public private partnerships**
- **Internat'l access / use**
- **Best practices**

Recommendation principles -- details

- **Openness**
 - Assume openness as a default rule for all funding models, define limitations (privacy, security, etc.)
- **Transparent access and reuse conditions**
 - Non-discriminatory competitive access, limited restrictions, eliminating exclusive arrangements
- **Asset lists**
 - Awareness, easy to find, clear information on conditions
- **Quality**
 - Methodical collection, reliability, cooperation
- **Integrity**
 - Best practice management, no unauthorised modification
- **New technologies and long-term preservation**
 - Interoperability, multiple languages, technological obsolescence

Policy principles -- details

- **Copyright**
 - Exercise to facilitate re-use including 3rd party holders
- **Pricing**
 - When not free, pricing transparently and ensure competition. Should not exceed marginal costs of maintenance and distribution. Any higher pricing based on clear policy grounds
- **Competition**
 - Pricing and unfair competition, cross-subsidisation, downstream equality where comparable
- **Redress mechanisms**
- **Public private partnerships** (e.g. for digitisation)
- **International access / use** (harmonisation, interoperability)
- **Best practices** (share widely, information exchange)