



Shared Prosperity Dignified Life



# Open Government Case Study - Sample Case Submission Form

*[Open Data, Participation, Collaboration, Citizen Engagement, and Public Sector Innovation]*

## Important Information

The Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) are conducting a joint study on the economic and social impact of open government for the Arab region. The study will reflect on literature review and previous studies and reports made by OECD and ESCWA and other organizations, and it will consider case studies and best practices from Arab and OECD countries. As such, and for the preparation of the study, this Sample Case Submission Form is intended to help the collection efforts for inspiring case studies and best practices from government entities and agencies in the Arab region. It should be noted that selected cases may be published within the ESCWA portal for the open government, which is under design and implementation, as well as the [OECD Open Government case platform](#)<sup>1</sup>. Furthermore, the relevant experiences will be featured in the planned Joint OECD-ESCWA meeting of the MENA Working Group on Open and Innovative Government this year, in coordination and collaboration with authorities concerned by these experiences.

The attached form serves as a submission form for open government activities that have been or are currently being developed and implemented at any level of government, and specifically those authorities that are working on open government development in the country, including local levels. The Case Study might cover one of the following topics: Open Government, Open Data, Stakeholder Participation, Collaboration, Citizen Engagement, Transparency, Accountability or Innovation in the Public Sector.

In the context of the attached form, an “activity” refers to any processes and actions taken to work towards the achievement of open government at national, area or local levels. An activity can consist of one or more actions. Participants can submit as many activities they wish, and it is preferable to choose activities with an economic or social impact. ESCWA will make the analysis of the contributions and may contact participants with follow-up questions.

To share a case, please complete the MS Word form, either in English or in Arabic, as many times as you wish. We must receive all submissions no later than [15/05/2020]. Should you have any questions, do not hesitate to send an email to Ms. Nibal Idlebi, chief of Innovation at ESCWA (email: [idlebi@un.org](mailto:idlebi@un.org), & [escwa-tdd@un.org](mailto:escwa-tdd@un.org)) and to the OECD Open Government Unit ([Opengov@oecd.org](mailto:Opengov@oecd.org)).

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<sup>1</sup> [https://oecd-opsi.org/case\\_type/open-government/](https://oecd-opsi.org/case_type/open-government/)

## 1. Organisation Details

### 1.1. Organisation Name

### 1.2. Organisation Type

[Government, NGO, International, Academia, Private Sector]

### 1.3. Country

### 1.4. Primary Sector

[Economic affairs, Education, Public administration, Health, Transport, etc.]

**Office of the Minister of State for Administrative Reform (OMSAR) -**  
 Public Sector Projects and Studies Center (PSPSC)

Government

Lebanon

Public Administration

## 2. Activity Case Study

Now, we are going to ask you several questions about your activity. We are very excited to find out what you did, how you did it and who benefited from it. The more comprehensive your answers are, the easier it will be for the reviewers and readers to appreciate the aims and achievements of your activity.

### 2.1. Title

[a title for your activity]

Public Sector Projects and Studies Website

### 2.2. Website

[the website about your activity, if existed]

Studies.gov.lb

### 2.3. Year Your Activity was Put Into Practice

2002

### 2.4. Which of the following best describes your activity?

[Please mark the main category]

X	Open Data
	Participation
	Collaboration
	Citizen Engagement
	Transparency
	Accountability
	Public Sector Innovation

### 2.5. Summary (Short and Simple Explanation)

The summary should describe your activity and be short and simple (few sentences), and it should use clear language, compel the reader to continue reading, use simple, not sector-specific terminology (no idioms, slang, or domain-specific "buzz" words). The summary should answer the following questions:

- What the activity is?
- Why it was developed or the problem/opportunity being addressed?
- And who it benefitted?

*The public sector projects and studies website was developed as part of the government anti-corruption initiative with an objective for OMSAR to establish and regularly maintain a unified database for all public sector studies. The reason behind this initiative is to ensure a global vision for the development process in the public sector and to avoid the repetition of funding and duplication of similar projects and studies across all Lebanese public entities. Ministries and all public bodies, agencies, as well as the general population will benefit from easily accessible information and data.*

## 2.6. Case Study Overview

The Overview is an overview of the activity and outcomes. You will have the opportunity to elaborate on some of the details. Please tell us:

- What problem the activity solves or what opportunity was taken advantage of
- What the activity is
- Objectives
- Beneficiaries
- How is it envisioned for the future? For example, how will it be institutionalised in its current context? How will it scale even bigger?

*Ministries and high-level administrators are most of the time making decisions without having access to all relevant data such as existing studies, draft laws, and strategies. Thousands of working hours are lost during the decision-making process in Lebanese public administrations. This is due to the fact that there is no national central access point for government information to utilize when making decisions. Studies website have tried to solve this problem by publishing online a list of all the plans, strategies, and studies prepared for the public sector. The Public Sector Projects and Studies Center is planning to upload all available studies and associated resources to the website in the coming months.*

*The website was developed to improve coordination among the various government bodies, promote the exchange of information between various government stakeholders, facilitate the search for studies, plans, and projects conducted in various public sector administrations and institutions, put available studies at the disposal of the public administrations and institutions, enhance transparency, and avoid the repetition of identical studies.*

*The project aims to change the current approach in conducting studies in the public sector to adopt a new policy based on analysis and evaluation of existing data before launching any new project/study. The website should expand to become the unique centralised location for all public sector studies, GIS data, primary and secondary legislations, draft laws, council of minister agenda and decisions, and international agreements and conventions signed by Lebanon.*

## 2.7. What Makes Your Activity Different, Unique, or Innovative?

*The website is the first of its kind, providing a single access point to all public sector plans and studies. It organizes those studies by providing a faster search access that will provide the needed information required.*

## 3. Development

### 3.1. Collaborations & Partnerships

Were there partners involved? Describe what each brought to the table and why it was important to the case. These may include: Citizens, Government officials, Civil society organisations, and Companies.

*The Public Sector Projects and Studies Center collaborates with all public sector entities and international organizations that conduct studies in Lebanon, and aims in the future to collaborate with academic institutions and the private sector.*

### 3.2. Users, Stakeholders & Beneficiaries

Who are the users, beneficiaries, and stakeholders targeted? How each group are affected. These may also include Citizens, Government officials, Civil society organisations, and Companies.

*The Public Sector Projects and Studies Center collaborates with all public sector entities and international donor organizations, namely:*

1. **Council for Development and Reconstruction (CDR)** where many valuable studies, plans, and projects had been carried out and preserved
2. **Presidency of the Council of Ministers** which issued some circulars related to the Center
3. **Ministry of Finance** which introduced a new mechanism to fight corruption in the development of public sector studies (all the public administrations must provide OMSAR with a copy of each study prepared in order to obtain funding)
4. **Central Inspection** in charge of controlling the application of circulars issued by the Presidency of the Council of Ministers and related to the work of the Center.
5. **Donors** that finance studies for government entities

*Key beneficiaries include decision makers at all level of government, as well as citizens, civil society organizations, students and academic institutions, international organizations, and private sector companies*

## 4. Reflections

### 4.1. Results, Outcomes & Impact

- What results and impacts have been observed from the activity so far?
- How have the results and impacts been measured (e.g., methodologies used)?
- What results and impacts do you expect in the future?
- To the extent possible, please indicate the tangible or numeric results.

*Through the website, and by making publicly available all existing studies, we are reducing the possibility of replication of the public sector studies, which ultimately reduce the inefficiency in the use of public funds. We have observed in the months following the launch of the website a significant decrease in the duplication of existing studies (this was observed by the Public Sector Projects and Studies Center which part of its mandate is to approve or disapprove the conducting of studies based on the existence of similar previously conducted studies)*

### 4.2. Challenges

- What challenges have been encountered?
- What failures have been encountered along the way (e.g., structural failures or significant setbacks)?
- And how, if at all, have those challenges and/or failures been responded to?

*Some Ministries and public administrations are not cooperating nor providing the center with the studies in their possession. This limits the comprehensiveness of the center's database. While circulars have been issued to ensure compliance, the legal mechanisms currently in place limit the quick and effective enforcement of the relevant circulars.*

### 4.3. Conditions for Success

What conditions do you think are necessary for the success of your activity? Conditions for success may include:

- Supporting infrastructure and services
- Policy and rules
- Leadership and guidance
- Human and financial resources
- Personal values and motivation

*Proper allocation of funding and human resources is critical to ensure the success of the website which requires continuous update and maintenance.  
Legal mechanisms will need to be updated to provide the center with more authority and ensure compliance from all public sector entities.*

#### **4.4. Replication**

Has the activity been replicated to address similar problems? If so, how? In your opinion, what is the potential for it to be further replicated in the future? You may wish to discuss how the activity has already been used by others, as well as how you believe it could be used by others in the future. These others may be in: Other organisations, within your organisation, larger or smaller agencies, organisations or governments.

*While the existence of single and central location for all public center studies and resources is important, and their publication to the public is critical, this does not undermine the importance of replicating such a website to all public sector entities for them to publish all their resources and make them easily accessible to the public*

#### **4.5. Lessons Learned**

What lessons from your experience would you like to share with others like you? Where there any pitfalls to avoid?

N/A

#### 4.6. Anything Else

Is there any other information you would like to share about the activity?

N/A
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### 5. Materials

#### 5.1. Materials

Do you have online materials you would like to include with your submission? Please use the fields below to insert your links.

Link for images

[https://...]
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Link for supporting files

[https://...]
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Project-Related Video URL 1

[https://...]
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Project-Related Video URL 2

[https://...]
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Other related URL

[https://...]
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**5.2. Could you give us the permission to republish the data and information, or part of them, included in this form?**

Yes
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**5.3. Please provide the correct reference for re-publishing purposes.**

<i>Public Sector Projects and Studies Center, Office of the Minister of State for Administrative Reform, Beirut, Lebanon, Studies.gov.lb</i>
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