



SIGMA News

June 2016

Launch of *The Principles of Public Administration: A Framework for ENP Countries*



To support the dialogue on public administration reform in both East and South European Neighbourhood countries, SIGMA has developed ***The Principles of Public Administration: A Framework for ENP Countries***. An accountable public administration, at central and local levels, is key to democratic governance and inclusive economic development. The Principles define what good governance entails in practice and have been developed primarily as a framework for policy makers and practitioners who are designing and implementing public administration reforms in their countries. These Principles are derived from international standards, as well as good practice in EU Member States and OECD countries. [Read more.](#)

Regional conference for European Neighbourhood countries, Dead Sea, 10 May 2016



This conference brought together participants from central management institutions with responsibility for public administration reforms as well as representatives of the EU and the OECD. The purpose of the event was to present *The Principles of Public Administration: A Framework for ENP Countries* and to explain how they can be used to design and implement reforms, as well as to evaluate progress over time. The conference allowed participants to discuss key elements of public administration reform and to compare national and regional experience and challenges. It highlighted the importance of an efficient, accountable, effective and transparent public administration within countries' wider economic and social development agendas. [Read more.](#)

Focus on Egypt: simplification of administrative procedures



In **Egypt**, SIGMA formed a joint working group with the Egyptian Regulatory Reform and Development Activity (ERRADA) to enhance capacity for administrative simplification. The joint working group formulated general rules that are proposed as citizen-oriented principles for good administrative behaviour, and also reviewed the draft Manual of Administrative Procedures Simplification, developed by ERRADA in early 2015. Working in partnership with the Ministry of Trade and Industry and the Industrial Development Authority, the ERRADA/SIGMA group also formulated a number of specific recommendations for a better environment for investment through good administration of industrial licencing. SIGMA presented the recommendations to the Board of Trustees of ERRADA, representatives of the Ministry of Trade and Industry, the Ministry of International Co-operation and other stakeholders on 2 June 2016 in Cairo. The event also focused on the future application of the project and the efforts of the Egyptian authorities to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of service provision for citizens and businesses. [Related documents.](#)

Focus on development of laws on administrative procedures in the Western Balkans



With SIGMA support, new **laws on general administrative procedures** (LGAPs) have been drafted and adopted in recent years in Montenegro (2014), Albania and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (2015) and Serbia and Kosovo* (2016). Croatia adopted an LGAP in 2009, also prepared with support from SIGMA. This means that many Western Balkan countries will have advanced regulations on the administrative decision-making process in the near future, which should result in the practical enhancement of the right to good administration as proclaimed in the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union.

The main developments in the new LGAPs concern: the protection of citizens' rights; a greater emphasis on the principle of proportionality; the introduction of administrative contracts; the regulation of electronic communication within the administration; the protection of citizens in their relations with providers of services of general interest; the simplification of procedures; the simplification of extraordinary legal remedies and the creation of "one-stop-shops".

SIGMA publications



On 12 May 2016 SIGMA presented the findings of its **Baseline Measurement Report on the public administration of Moldova** in Chisinau, with the participation of the Prime Minister, the EU Ambassador, members of the National Council for Public Administration Reform, development partners and other stakeholders. The Report presents the results of the review and evaluation of the public administration in Moldova carried out by SIGMA against *The Principles of Public Administration*. The review was carried out between October 2015 and March 2016 at the request of the Government of Moldova, supported by the EU Delegation, with the objective of providing findings and recommendations to help the Government of Moldova to design, prioritise, sequence and implement reforms, and the EU Delegation to plan public administration reform assistance. [Read more.](#)

Multi-country events



The **regional conference for public procurement review bodies in EU Enlargement countries**, jointly organised by the State Appeals Commission in Skopje and SIGMA, took place on 9-10 June 2016, in Ohrid, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. The conference brought together chairpersons, board members and key staff of the seven Procurement Review Bodies. It provided an opportunity to increase awareness and promote the importance of a well-functioning public procurement review system, with a particular focus on international good practice, and to foster co-operation and knowledge-sharing among procurement review bodies from the region. The conference was concluded with an expression of interest by participants for further regional events to provide a platform for the exchange of experience and of information on the challenges and achievements of the procurement review and remedies systems in the region. [Read more.](#)

To subscribe to this newsletter and/or provide feedback, please write to sigmaweb@oecd.org.

www.sigmaweb.org

* This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.