

PARTICIPATION

This means that our government – federal, state, and local – is elected by the citizens. Citizens vote for their government officials and these officials represent the concerns and ideas of the citizens in government. For example, your Governor is elected by the voters in your state.

RULE OF LAW

Governments need to have good laws, institutions and processes in place to ensure accountability, stability, equality and access to justice for all. This ultimately leads to respect for human rights and the environment. It also helps lower levels of corruption and instances of violent conflict.

TRANSPARENCY

Transparency is widely recognised as a core principle of good governance. Transparency means sharing information and acting in an open manner. Free access to information is a key element in promoting transparency. Information, however, must be timely, relevant, accurate and complete for it to be used effectively.

CONSENSUS ORIENTED

Consensus orientation ensures that the existing systems serve the best interests of society. This may be one of the most difficult principles, as any action or policy is likely to affect different groups in society in different and often opposing ways. Therefore, different viewpoints must be taken into account.

ACCOUNTABILITY

Accountability, in terms of ethics and governance, is equated with answerability, blameworthiness, liability, and the expectation of account-giving. As in an aspect of governance, it has been central to discussions related to problems in the public sector, nonprofit and private (corporate) and individual contexts.

EFFECTIVENESS + EFFICIENCY

Effectiveness + Efficiency - Results meet the agreed objectives. Best possible use is made of the resources available. Performance management systems make it possible to evaluate and enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of services. Audits are carried out at regular intervals to assess and improve performance.

EQUITY + INCLUSIVENESS

Equity and inclusiveness. exist where everyone has opportunities to improve or maintain their well-being. This means that all members of society, especially the most vulnerable, are taken into consideration in policymaking, and no one feels alienated, disenfranchised or left behind.

RESPONSIVENESS

Responsiveness simply involves that institutions respond to their stakeholders within a reasonable time frame.