



MAPS

Methodology for Assessing
Procurement Systems

Requirements to obtain the MAPS Seal of Approval

2021



Introduction

The Methodology for Assessing Procurement Systems (MAPS) puts emphasis on a sound quality assurance process, to guarantee that all assessments reviewed and approved by the Assessment's Technical Advisory Group (ATAG) and the MAPS Secretariat comply with the methodology and provide useful information for all stakeholders about the procurement system of the assessed jurisdiction.

The MAPS quality assurance process comprises a substantive review by the ATAG followed by a methodological review carried out by the MAPS Secretariat. Following the steps outlined in Template 2 of the [methodology](#), the lead institution (or country authority for self-assessments) must send the finalised report and its annexes, along with the Checklist for Quality Review of Compliance (Template 11) to the MAPS Secretariat.

This document presents a brief explanation of the requirements that the MAPS Secretariat reviews for each assessment to grant the MAPS Seal of Approval. These requirements are inspired by the [2018 PEFA Check](#) drafted by the PEFA Secretariat.



Methodological review criteria

To grant the MAPS Seal of Approval, the MAPS Secretariat will review that each of the following ten criteria for the assessment are met. Bearing in mind that MAPS evaluations were being carried out before the MAPS Secretariat started its operations, for those assessments with stages completed before 1 January 2021, the MAPS Secretariat will review a modified version of some of these criteria (*in italics*).

1. An Assessment Steering Committee was put in place for the assessment.
For assessments started before 1 January 2021: A group of in-country stakeholders provided input to the report.
2. The draft concept note was shared with the ATAG and the MAPS Secretariat for comments.
For assessments started before 1 January 2021: This criterion will not be reviewed.
3. The final version of the concept note was shared with the ATAG and the MAPS Secretariat and describes the main information included in the MAPS Concept Note Template.
For assessments started before 1 January 2021: The concept note with the assessment objectives and scope was drafted.
4. The report includes a country context section and all pillars and indicators have been assessed (strengths, weaknesses, gaps, recommendations, and red flags).
5. At least 47 sub-indicators have been assessed (85% of the total).
6. At least 13 of the minimum quantitative indicators (85% of the total) have been calculated, if information is available to do so.
7. A validation exercise with country stakeholders was carried out.
8. The complete MAPS report was submitted to the ATAG for comments.
For assessments completed before 1 January 2021: The complete MAPS report was submitted to external (out-of-country) institutions for review and comments.



9. The assessment team prepared a revised MAPS report attaching a matrix with the ATAG's comments and their responses to demonstrate how these were considered¹.

For assessments completed before 1 January 2021: A revised MAPS report was prepared by the assessment team after considering comments from the reviewers.

10. The ATAG expresses its non-objection to the revised report.

For assessments completed before 1 January 2021: The reviewers express their non-objection, or there is ample evidence that the comments were considered in the revised report.

¹ This matrix need not be disclosed in the final report.

