Survey on Open-Source Policies and Practices

This survey aims to understand the current landscape of **open-source policies, principles, and frameworks** among governments and organizations with a focus on open source software. Your responses will help shape **global efforts to support the adoption and implementation of open-source policies**.

Section 1: General Information

1. **Name of Organization/Government** (*Governments, please include ministry*)**:**
2. **Type of entity:** *(Select one)*
   - ☐ ☐ National Government
   - ☐ ☐ Local Government
   - ☐ ☐ Intergovernmental Organization
   - ☐ ☐ Non-Governmental Organization (NGO)
   - ☐ ☐ International Development
   - ☐ ☐ Private Sector
   - ☐ ☐ Academia/Research Institution
   - ☐ ☐ Other: _____
3. **Does your government/organization currently have an official team, function or office dedicated to open source software?**
   - ☐ Yes, we have an official open source team or office
   - ☐ No, but we have a team that informally provides these functions
   - ☐ No, we have no such function right now
4. **Does your government/organization currently have an official open-source policy or principles?**
   - ☐ ☐ Yes, a formal policy
   - ☐ ☐ Yes, guidelines, principles or best practices
   - ☐ ☐ No, but we are in the process of developing one
   - ☐ ☐ No, and we have not yet considered one
5. **How would you describe the implementation status of your open-source policy/principles?**
   - ☐ ☐ Fully implemented and actively used
   - ☐ ☐ Partially implemented with ongoing improvements
   - ☐ ☐ Approved but not yet implemented
   - ☐ ☐ In development
   - ☐ ☐ No policy/principles currently in place or under development

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Section 2: Existing Open-Source Policies & Practices

1. *If you have an open-source policy/principles, how would you describe its scope?* *(Select all that apply)*
    - ☐ ☐ Encourages open-source software adoption within government projects
    - ☐ ☐ Requires/suggests open-source software to be considered in procurement
    - ☐ ☐ Mandates open-sourcing government-developed software
    - ☐ ☐ Encourages community-oriented open-source software development processes
    - ☐ ☐ Provides funding for open-source software initiatives
    - ☐ ☐ Promotes contribution to existing open-source software
    - ☐ ☐ Establishes an Open-Source Program Office (OSPO) or equivalent structure
    - ☐ Encourages or mandates the creation, use of, and sharing of open datasets
    - ☐ Encourages or mandates the creation, use of, and sharing of open content
    - ☐ ☐ Other: _____

2. **If you have open-source principles that cover software, when were they adopted or when are they expected to be adopted?** *(month, year)* _____

3. **If you have an open-source policy, when did it come into effect or when is it expected to come into effect?** *(Day, Month, Year)*

4. **What is the 'institutional home' of the policy/principles?** *(E.g. within a ministry, an OSPO, or directly linked to the office of the Prime Minister/President?)*

5. **Please provide a link(s) to your open source policies/principles:**

6. **Can we add a link to these open source policies and/or principles to a public repository?**
    - ☐ **Yes**
    - ☐ **No**
    - ☐ **Maybe (please follow-up)**

Section 3: Policy Environment

7. **Does your country/organization collaborate with any other countries or organizations (either directly or through regional groups) on open source:**
    - ☐ Yes, we work directly with another country/countries/organizations on open source
    - ☐ Yes, we work with other countries/organizations but via regional/multilateral groups (e.g. African Union)
    - ☐ No, we don't currently collaborate with other countries/organizations on open source

8. **If yes, can you tell us which countries or regional groups you collaborate with:**

9. **Does your country/organization have regulatory frameworks that impact the adoption of open-source software?**
    - ☐ ☐ Yes, there are specific regulations that actively support open-source software adoption

- ☐ ☐ Yes, but the existing regulations create barriers to open-source software adoption *(e.g., restrictive procurement policies, IP laws favoring proprietary software)*
- ☐ ☐ Yes, but they are not explicitly focused on open-source software (e.g., broader ICT policies, procurement laws)
- ☐ ☐ No, but we are interested in developing regulations to support open-source software adoption
- ☐ ☐ No, and we have not explored regulatory approaches

10. **If applicable, what type of regulatory frameworks currently exist in your country/organization that affect open-source adoption?** *(Select all that apply)*
    - ☐ ☐ Procurement and funding regulations for open-source software
    - ☐ ☐ Data protection and privacy laws impacting open-source software adoption
    - ☐ ☐ Intellectual property and licensing requirements
    - ☐ ☐ Cybersecurity and risk management policies
    - ☐ ☐ Software accessibility and interoperability requirements
    - ☐ ☐ Open data and transparency laws
    - ☐ ☐ Regulations affecting the open-sourcing of government-built software tools
    - ☐ ☐ None
    - ☐ ☐ Other: _____

Section 4: Future Open-Source Policy Needs & Priorities

11. **Which of the following open-source policy elements would your government/organization like to implement or strengthen?** *(Select up to 5)*
    - ☐ ☐ Formalizing an open-source software first policy for technology adoption
    - ☐ ☐ Formalizing open-source adoption regulation or legal frameworks
    - ☐ ☐ Establishing an Open-Source Program Office (OSPO) or equivalent governance structure
    - ☐ ☐ Developing open-source software procurement policies
    - ☐ ☐ Creating open licensing and compliance guidelines
    - ☐ ☐ Increasing funding and resource allocation for open-source initiatives
    - ☐ ☐ Encouraging open-sourcing of publicly funded software
    - ☐ ☐ Encouraging contributions to existing open-source software projects
    - ☐ ☐ Establishing capacity-building programs on open-source practices
    - ☐ ☐ Strengthening partnerships with international organizations on open-source collaboration
    - ☐ ☐ Other: _____

12. **What are the main challenges in adopting and implementing open-source policies in your country/organization?** *(Select up to 5)*
    - ☐ ☐ Lack of regulatory or legal frameworks supporting open-source software adoption

- ☐ ☐ Lack of political will or institutional support
- ☐ ☐ Resistance to change or preference for proprietary solutions
- ☐ ☐ Existing framework agreements or legal obligations with proprietary solutions
- ☐ ☐ Unclear guidelines on procurement of open-source software solutions
- ☐ ☐ Limited technical expertise in open-source software development and management
- ☐ ☐ Security and risk concerns around open-source software adoption
- ☐ ☐ Sustainability and long-term maintenance challenges
- ☐ ☐ Insufficient funding for open-source software projects
- ☐ ☐ Lack of awareness or understanding of open-source software benefits
- ☐ ☐ Other: _____

13. Which aspects of open-source policy development and implementation are you most interested in? *(Select up to 3)*
- ☐ ☐ Learning from other governments' best practices
- ☐ ☐ Creating a new open-source policy from scratch
- ☐ ☐ Strengthening an existing open-source policy
- ☐ ☐ Developing procurement frameworks for open-source software
- ☐ ☐ Open-sourcing government-developed software
- ☐ ☐ Ensuring compliance with legal and open licensing requirements
- ☐ ☐ Other: _____

Section 4: Support & Resources Needed

14. What types of resources would be most useful to support your open-source policy efforts? *(Select up to 5)*
- ☐ ☐ Sample open-source policies and guidelines from other governments
- ☐ ☐ Sample open-source regulation or legal frameworks
- ☐ ☐ Case studies on successful open-source software policy implementations
- ☐ ☐ Legal and open licensing advisory support
- ☐ ☐ Procurement frameworks and best practices for open-source software adoption
- ☐ ☐ Training programs on open-source policy development and implementation
- ☐ ☐ Research on the impact and benefits of open-source software adoption
- ☐ ☐ Test frameworks to allow for evaluation of open-source software tools
- ☐ ☐ Other: _____

15. Would you be interested in contributing to research or case studies on open-source policies?
- ☐ ☐ Yes, we have insights to share
- ☐ ☐ Maybe, if we receive more information
- ☐ ☐ No, not at this time

Section 5: Final Insights

16. **In one sentence, how would you describe the importance of open-source policies, regulations, and legal frameworks for your government/organization?**
17. **Do you have any additional comments, suggestions, or insights regarding open-source policies and their implementation?**

Thank You!

Your input will help shape global efforts to **support and scale open-source policies and frameworks**. 🚀