

Module 1, Topic 5

Following are some governance definitions and principles. Please read these carefully.

Governance Definition	Source
In the context of the WA public sector, governance is defined as encompassing the systems and structures by which an organisation is directed, controlled and operated and the mechanisms by which it and the people within it are held to account.	http://www.publicsector.wa.gov.au/public-administration/public-sector-governance
Governance comprises the arrangements put in place to ensure that the intended outcomes for stakeholders are defined and achieved.	Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) and the International Federation of Accountants® (IFAC®) International Framework: Good Governance in the Public Sector: Supplement
The function of governance is to ensure that an organization or partnership fulfils its overall purpose, achieves its intended outcomes for citizens and service users, and operates in an effective, efficient, and ethical manner.	The Good Governance Standard for Public Services, Independent Commission on Good Governance in Public Services, Office for Public Management, CIPFA, 2004
Governance is concerned with structures, processes for decision making, accountability, control, and behaviour at the top of organizations.	Governance in the Public Sector: A Governing Body Perspective, IFAC, 2001
Public sector governance covers the set of responsibilities and practices, policies and procedures, exercised by an agency's executive, to provide strategic direction, ensure objectives are achieved, manage risks, and use resources responsibly and with accountability.	Implementation of Program and Policy Initiatives: Making Implementation Matter, Australian National Audit Office and Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, Australian Public Service Commission, 2006:
Public sector governance encompasses the policies and procedures used to direct an organization's activities to provide reasonable assurance that objectives are met and that operations are carried out in an ethical and accountable manner.	The Role of Auditing in Public Sector Governance, Institute of Internal Auditors, 2012:
The exercise of economic, political, and administrative authority to manage a country's affairs at all levels. It comprises mechanisms, processes, and institutions through which citizens and groups articulate their interests, exercise their legal rights, meet their obligations, and mediate their differences.	Governance for Sustainable Human Development, United Nations Development Programme, 1997
The process by which decisions are made and implemented (or not implemented). Within government, governance is the process by which public institutions conduct public affairs and manage public resources. Good governance refers to the management of government in a manner that is essentially free of abuse and corruption, and with due regard to the rule of law.	Manual On Fiscal Transparency, IMF 2007