Transparency in your Municipality

What it is
Why it matters
How to uphold it

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IRI

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What is Effective Transparency

Principles and Norms

TRANSPARENCY INTERNATIONAL
the global coalition against corruption

"Transparency is all about knowing who, why, what, how and how much. It means shedding light on formal and informal rules, plans, processes and actions. Transparency helps us, the public, hold all power to account for the common good."

ACCESS INFO EUROPE

Open Government Standards

1. Right to know
2. All information, all public bodies
3. Access is the rule, secrecy is the exception
4. Proactive Publication
5. Free of charge and free for reuse
6. Open formats
7. Compilation of information
8. Independent review mechanism

Legal Requirements

- Article 41 of the Bulgarian Constitution of 1991
- Access to Public Information Act 2000/2008/2015
- Public Procurement Act 2016
- Anti-corruption and Forfeiture of Assets Act 2018
- ...

VCA findings

- *Municipalities commit to transparency and comply with national law*

- *Publication without accessibility (for example, budgets)*

- *Communication for public relations*

- *Transparency in procurement, but not in implementation*

- *Websites can be incomplete, outdated, or hard to navigate*

- *Limited capacity of public officials to strengthen transparency*

What should reasonable citizens expect?

Regulations and directives

Policy-making process

Budget allocations

Calls and adjudication of contracts, grants, jobs

Public events and forums

Complaints and responses

Public officials' roles and salaries

Politicians' asset declarations?

Public officials' performance?

Meetings with lobbyists?
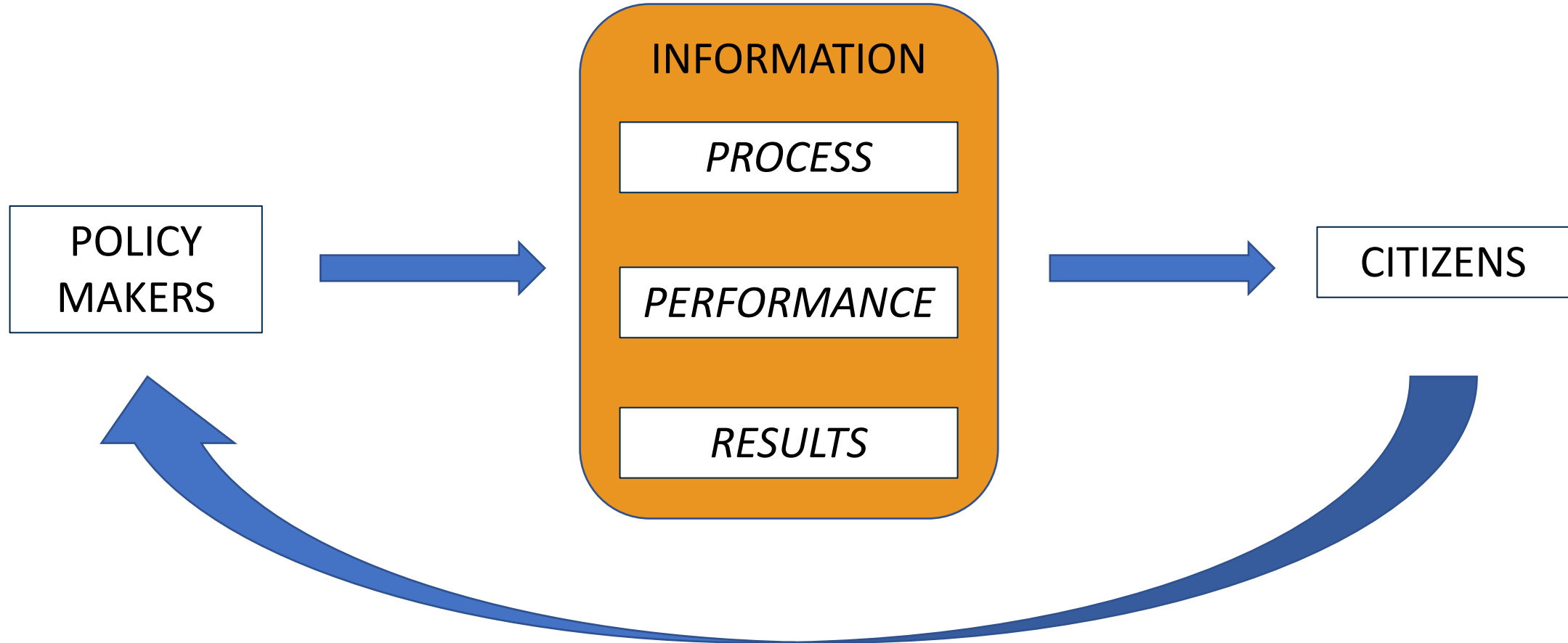
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Why Transparency Matters

QUESTION

Can we fight corruption without transparency?

Можем ли да се борим с корупцията без прозрачност?

Enabling Accountability

Deterring Corruption

Incentives: Risk of punishment outweighs potential gain.

Norms: Shame/social sanction outweighs justification.

Habit: Corruption becomes unthinkable.

Stimulating a Culture of Openness

FROM…	TO…
Reactive	Proactive
Letter of the law	Spirit of the law
Citizen as intruder	Citizen as owner
Control	Sharing
Fear	Pride
My office	Your service

Culture change is HARD + Bureaucracies are not set up to be comprehensible

What is the Role of CSOs in Ensuring Transparency

QUESTION

Can CSOs advocate without access to public information and data?

Могат ли организациите на гражданското общество да извършват застъпническа дейност без достъп до публична информация или данни?

Working with Existing Transparency

WHAT WE KNOW
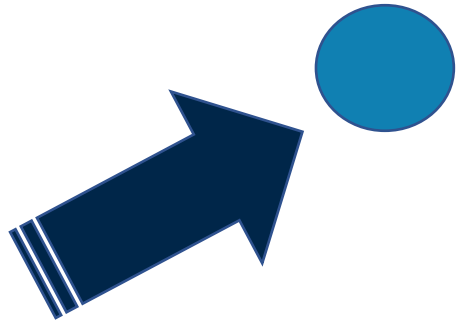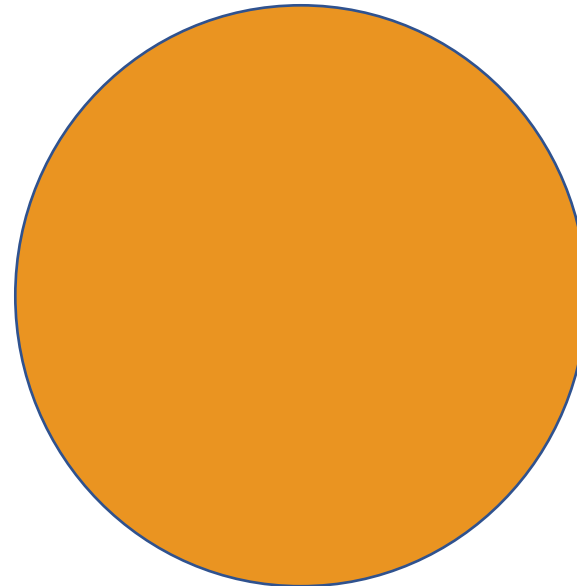
WHAT WE DON'T KNOW

Working with Existing Transparency
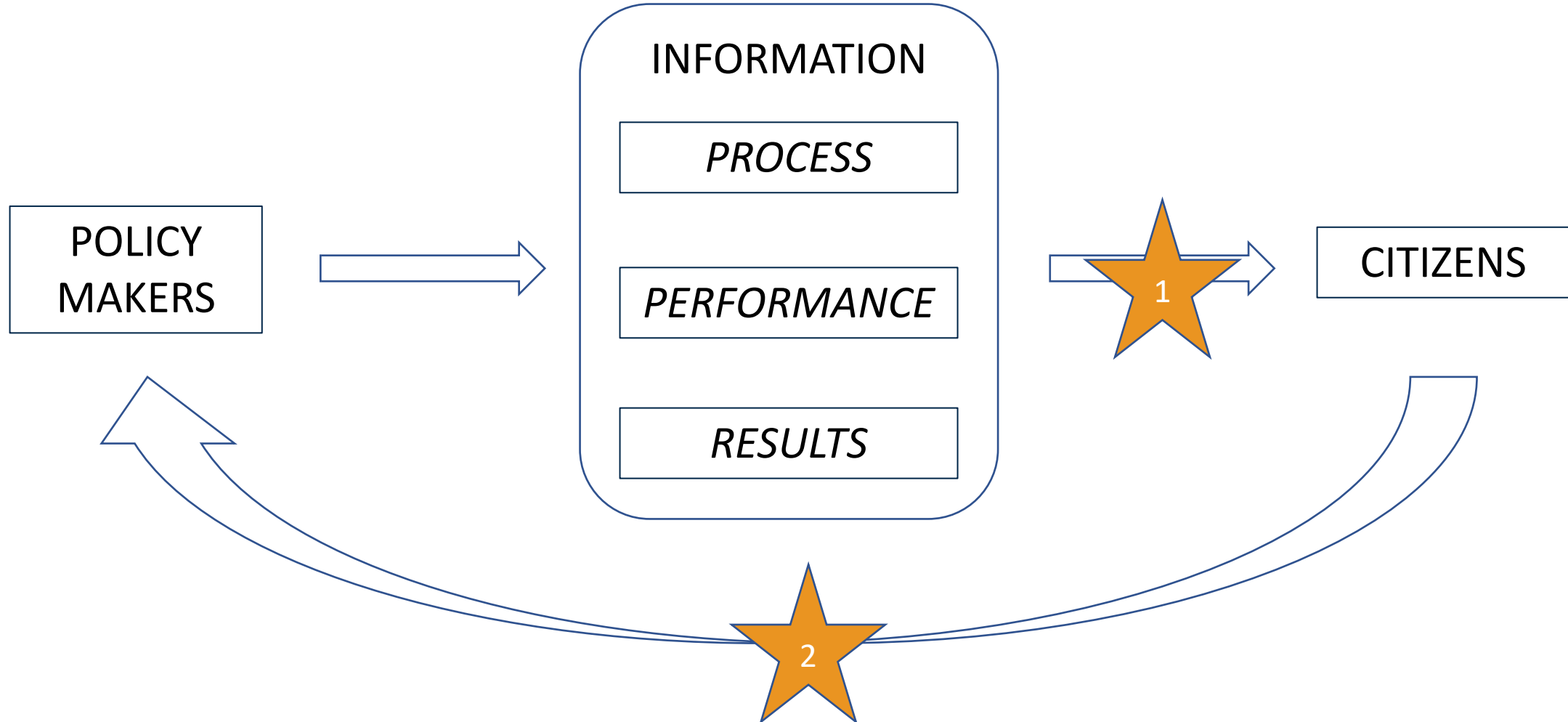
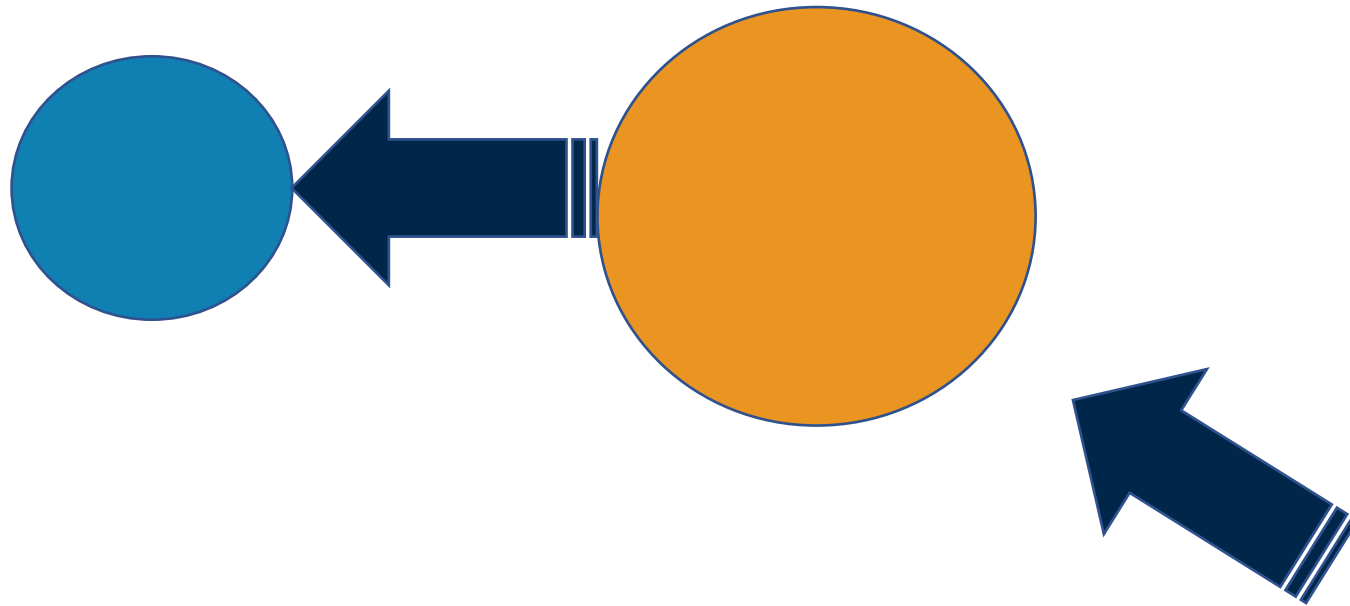# Working to Advance Transparency
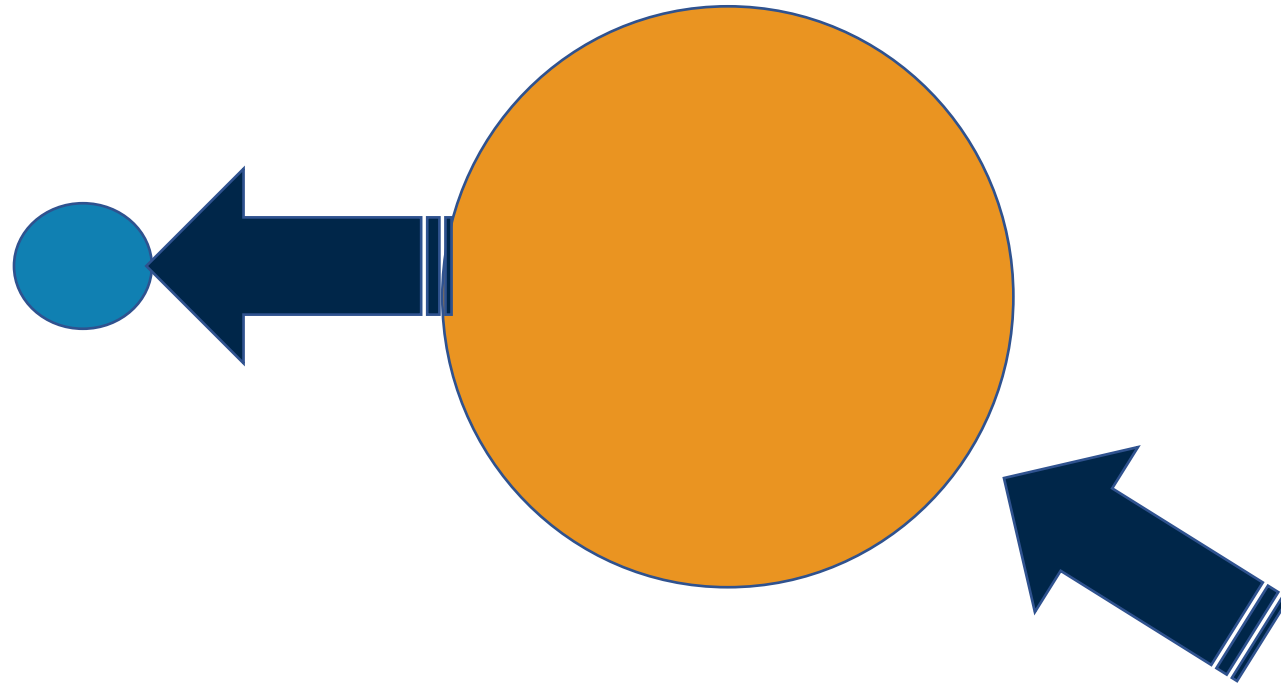
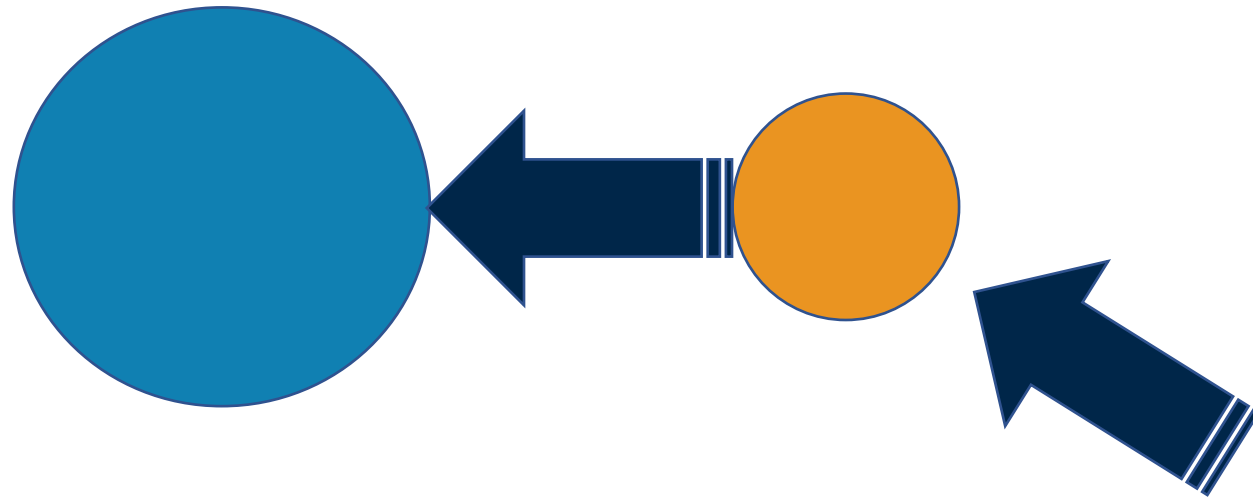WHAT WE KNOW

WHAT WE DON'T KNOW

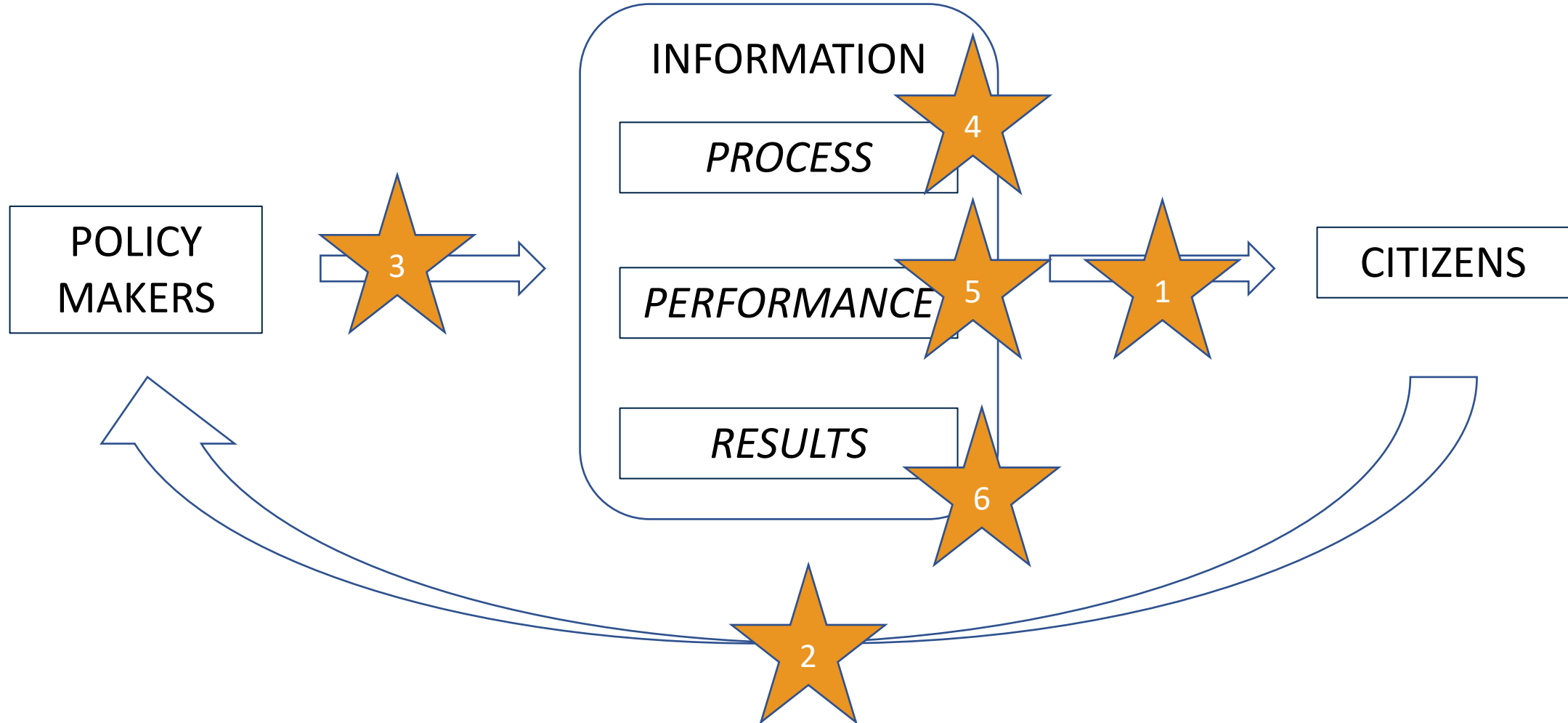# Working to Advance Transparency

WHAT WE KNOW

WHAT WE DON'T KNOW

Working to Advance Transparency

WHAT WE KNOW

WHAT WE DON'T KNOW

Working to Advance Transparency

What are some Effective Mechanisms at the Local Level

Open Data Portals
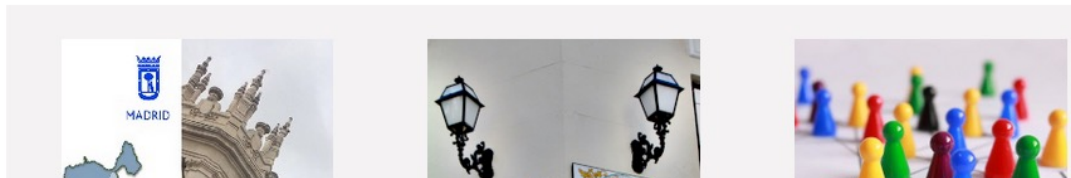
Open Government Partnership - Local

From ensuring safe water to supporting schools, local governments provide the key services impacting people's daily lives. Through the OGP Local initiative, participants can learn how to use open government values such as transparency, accountability, responsiveness, and inclusion to better meet the needs of the citizens they serve.

OGP LOCAL

Local Members

Filter by **Europe** ▾ **All Statuses** ▾

A

Aragón, Spain
Asturias, Spain

B

Banská Bystrica, Slovak Republic
Basque Country, Spain

C

Catalonia, Spain

D

Detmold, Germany

E

Elbasan, Albania

G

Glasgow, United Kingdom

H

Hamburg, Germany

I

Iași, Romania

K

Khmelnytskyi, Ukraine
Kildare, Ireland

M

Madrid, Spain

N

Northern Ireland, United Kingdom
Novi Pazar, Serbia

P

Palermo, Italy
Paris, France

S

Scotland, United Kingdom
Sveti Nikole, North Macedonia

T

Ternopil, Ukraine
Timișoara, Romania
Tirana, Albania

V

Valencian Community, Spain
Vinnytsia, Ukraine

Ž

Žilina (Region), Slovak Republic

Posting and Tracking Signals
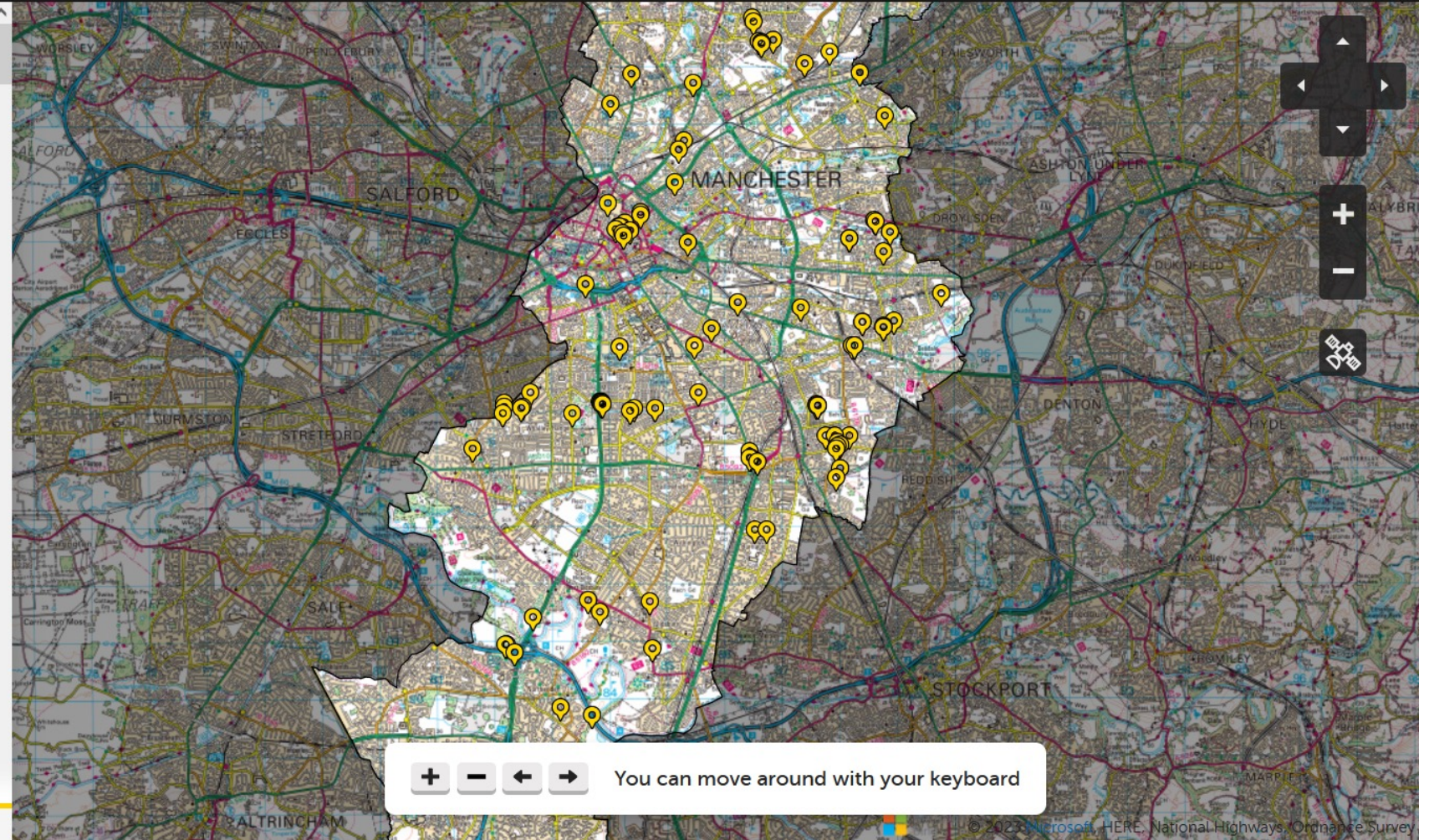
THANK YOU!

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