



OPEN GOVERNMENT DATA IN STATE OF KUWAIT

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Abstract

Open government data is an international subject that considered important within many countries around the world. One of these countries is the state of Kuwait, where many activities and efforts shows the dedication of publishing an authorized data that produced from governmental activities. It has a high impact on several standards such as transparency and accountability.

This paper studies the concept of open government data from theoretical and international perspectives and how was applied in state of Kuwait. The paper discusses Kuwait's support of such subject through its laws and international participation with global programs. In addition, it studies whether state audit bureau fulfilled such role by publishing its reports through its official website. The paper was expanded to measure the awareness level of society through an electronic survey as a way to measure the individual's ability of gaining the benefit of open government data.

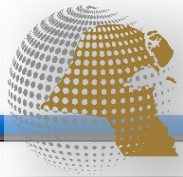
The overall results shows many positive involvements from the government to enrich the concept of open government data, whereas society had the ability of absorbing it depending on its awareness level. However, many improvements and enhancements can increase the benefit and impact of open government data in Kuwait. These improvements and recommendations involves government, its entities and society overall.



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1 Introduction:

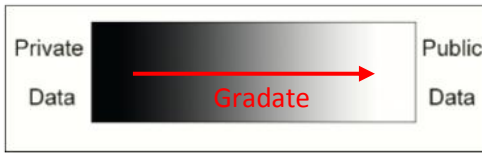
Nowadays, many governments are adopting the concept of open government data as a way to enhance its transparency, accountability and individual participations [5]. Adopting open government data is included within many perspectives such as published data, its structure, policies and individual's awareness.

Kuwait has many efforts regarding open government data internationally and locally. International efforts includes participation within global initiatives, whereas local efforts includes stating policies and society awareness. However, the provided efforts have a wide range of enhancements to maximize its positive impacts. These enhancements will improve the quality of governmental services that leads to achieve Kuwait's vision "New Kuwait 2035".

2 Background of Open Government Data

2.1 Government Data:

Data is a general term for any variable with quantitative or qualitative value. Data can be found in all aspects of life. Governmental data is any data that produced based on governmental services or procedures. It might be considered as a private or public based on given authority[1][3].



2.2 Open Government Data:

Open data is a concept of publishing a data into a public layer. It can be used freely without any legal constraints, reused and republished with respect to its legal license. Governmental open data is adopting such concept into publishing its own data. The following table(1) lists its features[1].

Serial	Feature	Detail
1	Full and easy Access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - On the Internet - Reusable (with respect to its original license). - No password. - Free of cost (no fees to access the data).
2	Ability to republish and redistribute	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Machine-readable. - Data is reasonably structured to allow automated processing. - Data license must be trusted and support the ability of republish and redistribute. - Data is not subject to any copyrights, patent, trademark. <p>Reasonable privacy</p>
3	Ability to share	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Data license should support a full reuse without any exception



	internationally	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Data license should not constraint data on business use only.- Data is available to the widest range of users for widest range of purposes
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Table(1): Governmental open data categories Feature

These features should be considered within publishing the governmental data. Many governments use their official Website as a general source for their open data because it is reachable for all users around the world. Moreover, these features reflect the process of constructing open government data [1] as follows:

- Follow country laws and regulations.
- Raw data without any manipulation.
- Accessible through Website without any obstacles.
- Published periodically.
- Reusable format such as CSV, PDF, XML, XLS to simplify the process of republishing and redistribution with considering the ability of copy, paste and download easily.
- Provide any extra software that should be used to open file content if it is a necessary.

2.3 Open Data Mechanism:

There are several methodologies for preparing and publishing open data [6]. These methodologies can differ in their scope and structure. Some methodologies focus on specific range of data within specific policies, whereas other methodologies provide a generic way for processing datasets before publishing open data. One of these methodologies called COMSODE, which is the outcome of the project Components supporting the Open Data Exploitation [14] .It, covers both technical

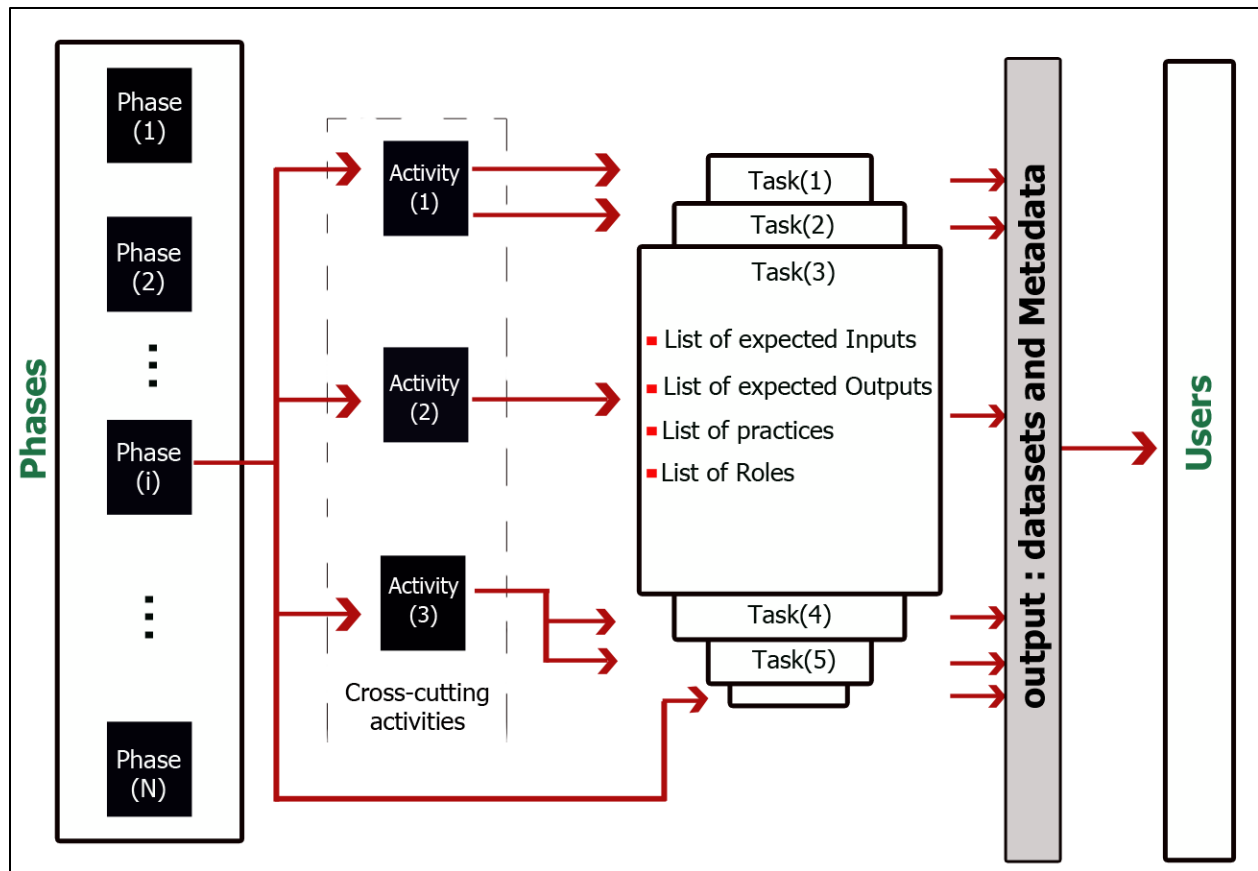


and non-technical issues related to open government data. It consists of the five main building blocks. Each block filled with specific data based on other specific methodology. The following table(1) summarizes each building block [6]:

#	Block Name	Block Content
1	Phases	List of phases produce the life cycle of an open data. Each phase can contains list of tasks and/or activities.
2	Cross-cutting activities	Activities that should performed within each phase. It, also, divided into tasks.
3	Artefacts	The list of inputs and outputs of each task.
4	Roles	Each task has list of people with their roles to complete it.
5	Practices	Detailed guidelines to execute the specified task

Table (2): summarizes each building block

COMSODE provides the ability of adopting many specific scope methodologies by restructure them into COMSODE's five blocks without losing their features and purpose. Moreover, its blocks provide a clear observation on the status of each phase, activity and task within each role. The following graph illustrates the structure of COMSODE with sample linking to simplify the process of communications between its blocks.



3 OPEN DATA ORGANIZATIONS & PROGRAMS:

Governments and Individuals realized the importance of Open Data in increasing Transparency and interoperability and decreasing Anti-corruption. Therefore, Several Organizations and Programs were launched during the past twenty years, involving different countries that has either organized or participated in one or more organization or program.

This section will represent some organizations such as Open Knowledge International (OKI) and Open data Foundation (ODF) as well as partnerships concerned in open data such as Open Government Partnership and PEFA.

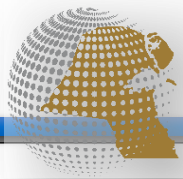


Open Government partnership (OGP) was formally launched on September 20, 2011, with eight founding governments (Brazil, Indonesia, Mexico, Norway, the Philippines, South Africa, the United Kingdom and the United States).

OGP aims to secure actual commitments from governments to promote transparency, empower citizens, fight corruption, and utilize new technologies in order to strengthen governance. The program is directed by a steering committee that is composed of members of governments and civil society organizations. It allows independent reporting mechanism which helps all the stakeholders to track the progress of OGP in contributing countries.

Since 2011 seventy-five OGP participating countries and 15 subnational governments have made over 2,500 commitments to make their governments more open and accountable [22].

PEFA is a program and methodology for measuring public financial management (PFM) performance. The program was initiated in 2001 as a mean to blend country level assessment of public financial management across the organizations. The organizations involved are European Commission, World Bank, International Monetary Fund, and governments of different countries such as UK, Switzerland, France, and Norway. It provides the framework for checking and reporting the weakness and strength of public financial management with the help of quantitative indicators to analyze the performance. The program has been designed to provide the snapshot of the performance of PFM at different points with the help of a methodology that can be simulated in sequential assessments. The basic goals of PEFA are to reduce the duplication and costs of several assessments of public finance, analyze the performance of PFM, develop such



reforms that encourage country ownerships, reduces transaction costs to countries, strengthen donor harmonization and allows monitoring of progress of country PFM performance over time[16].

Open Knowledge International (OKI) is a non-profit organization that works on realizing the value of open data to society. The organization helps civil society groups to utilize the data and to take actions on social issues and problems, It shows the value of open data for work of civil society organizations. It provides organizations with skills and tools to use open data effectively to make government information systems more responsive to civil society. OKI is a network of people working for openness with the help of advocacy and technology. The basic mission of the organization is to allow easy access for everyone and to create the power of knowledge for many as their goal is to “see open knowledge being a mainstream concept, and as natural and important to everyday lives and organization as green is today” [17].

Open Data Foundation (ODF) is also a non-profit organization that is also working on the same mission i.e. open access to data. The organization is working for the development of open sources solutions and for the management of data. It was established to fill the gap in the statistical data and metadata management. ODF supports and helps the development of open source tools for managing statistical data and metadata, it also promotes international cooperation and addresses major global issues [18].



4 Pros of adopting Open Government Data (OGD) in SAB

There are several pros for applying open government data in Kuwait. The following table summarizes the main benefits according to state audit bureau of Kuwait perspective [7]:

Benefit	Description
Increased transparency and accountability	Enhance the performance of the public sector by improving its availability and accessibility of data
Improved public relations and attitudes toward government	OGD increase the trust, understanding and general attitude of individual and organizations toward government.
Increased reputation of a public sector body	Provide better perspectives of the government by representing itself as an open and transparent among citizens and organizations.
Transparent way of informing the general public about infringement of legislation	Enhance accountability through performing an administrative supervision and provide its results openly and without constraints to the ability of finding any infringement of legislation.
Improved the quality of services	Utilize government services through its data availability to increase accountability by public.
Improved government data and processes	Providing the facility of public feedback will increase the individual role of utilizing the services' quality by reusing and analyzing the published data and informing the authorities by any misuse.
Supporting re-use and increasing the value of data	Machine readability, availability of metadata increase the reusability, which provide the ability of developing applications to utilize and integrate it.
Minimizing errors when working with government data	The probability of error is minimized because the published data is machine-readable that can be reused without manual behavior.
Less requests for data	Publication of OGD can help to reduce the number of requests for data because people and organizations will be able to satisfy their information needs by utilizing the published datasets.

Table(3): Pros of adopting Open Government Data (OGD) in SAB



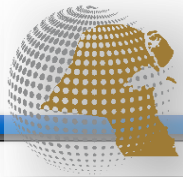
5 Risks Related of Open Government Data in State audit bureau:

Risk	Description
Breach and violation of law by publishing data.	There are some legislations prevent publishing data or leads to encroach somebody's freedoms and rights. The breach and violation of law by publishing data i.e. publishing SAB report before the discussion with Kuwait parliament.
Country Reputation	Publishing SAB reports might affect the country reputation by revealing fraud and corruption.
Publication of inappropriate data and information	The publication of an inappropriate data and information will may cause a negative reaction and response of individuals.
Misconception of the data	Individuals could distort the data either by or not intention. The reason behind could be to harm other people, competitive advantage, cause scandal etc.
Unwilling to cooperate	Ministries and organizations may not cooperate due to the results of SAB's reports that have published.
Requesting and justifying of data	Increase the level of accountability by individual's i.e, asking to justify and clarify about published data in SAB report.

Table(4): Risks Related of Open Government Data in State audit bureau

6 Supporting laws & Agreements in State of Kuwait to open government data

Kuwait laws and Regulations encourages transparency in order to promote accountability and to fight corruptions through several means, several laws were established that encourages open data concept in different articles:



6.1 Law No. 27 for year 1963 Regarding Statics and Census :

- Article 3 of the law encourages collecting, modifying and analyzing the information about Kuwait Census in a readable way and to publish these information through different types of media, In order to achieve economic and social development.
- Article 9 of the law specifies that the department of Statics and Census must prepare an annual report with all informations collected, and with the approval of publishing these informations through different media without any personal information.

6.2 Law No. 2 for the year 2016 Regarding the establishment of Kuwait Anti-corruption Authority:

According to Article 6 in the “United Nation Convention Against Corruption Agreement” and Article 10 in “The Arabic Convention for Combating Corruption agreement” which specifies the importance of establishing one or more authorities in each country to combat anti-corruption. State of Kuwait established the Kuwait Anti-Corruption Authority which encourages transparency and accountability through different matters by the following points:

- Article 4 of the Law, encourages and activate the civil society role in combating corruption through raising the public awareness about corruption’s danger and expanding their knowledge in preventing such action by different methods and means.



- Article 5 of the law, stresses the need of preparing a database, information systems and exchange information with organizations and entities concerned with corruption issues internally and externally.
- Article 10 of the Law revolves around the responsibility of the Board of Trustees in Publishing all information and data on corruption crimes after being confirmed by an adjudication.

Moreover the two agreement supports the Government open data concept through the following articles :

6.2.1 UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION AGAINST CORRUPTION AGREEMENT

According to Kuwait Law No. 47 for the year 2006 regarding Kuwait's agreement on the "United Nation Convention Against Corruption" that supports the concept of Governmental open data in the following Articles:

- The Preamble and Article 1 of the Agreement emphasizes the importance of technical assistance in strengthening the state ability to prevent and fight corruption effectively.
- Article 13 of the agreement indicates the importance of Ensuring that information should be easily accessed by individuals and to respect and promote individual freedom in seeking, receiving, publishing and disseminate information concerning corruption in a way that does not Contravenes the rights or reputations of individuals and the protection of national security, public health or morals.



6.2.2 The Arabic Convention for Combating Corruption AGREEMENT

According to Kuwait Law No. 92 for the year 2013 regarding Kuwait's agreement on "The Arabic Convention for Combating Corruption" that supports the concept of Governmental open data in the following Articles:

- Article 2 of the agreement emphasizes the importance of encouraging individuals and society organizations to participate effectively to prevent and combat corruption through enhancing the State's transparency.
- Article 10 that is concerned on the Preventive measures in order to combat corruptions emphasized the importance of implementing effective and coordinated policies based on transparency, competition and objective criteria in order to enhance individual contribution and accountability .

7 Kuwait's experience in applying government data dissemination locally and internationally

7.1 Governmental bodies and institutions in Kuwait:

Some governmental entities in Kuwait support the concept of open government data by providing data on their websites. These data are available through different levels of knowledge, which are government data resulting from the activity of that governmental body in its field. Table (5) shows the type of each government entity that can be divided as follows:



- Government ministries and Managements
- Accompanying Authority
- Independent institutions

7.2 Kuwait State Audit Bureau supports the open of government data:

Law No. 30 of 1964 regarding the establishment of the State Audit Bureau that must have a product in the form of an annual report containing data as follows[4]

Article 20

"The President of the State Audit Bureau shall prepare an annual report on each of the final accounts referred to in the preceding article, in which the observations and differences between the State of Audit Bureau and the

Government entity	Full and easy Access	Ability to republish and redistribute	Ability to international share
<i>Government ministries and Managements</i>			
Ministry of Finance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Ministry of Public Works	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Ministry of Electricity and Water	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Directorate General of Civil Aviation			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Central Agency for Public Tenders	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<i>Accompanying Authority</i>			
Parliament	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Public Authority for Civil Information			
<i>Independent institutions</i>			
Kuwait Foundation for the Advancement of Sciences	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>



parties that are supervised financially, shall be simplified and submitted to the Head of State, the Council of the Nation, the Council of Ministers and the Minister of Finance, by the end of January following the end of the fiscal year. "

Article 22

State of Audi Bureau shall prepare an annual report on each of the final accounts referred to in the preceding article, in which the observations and differences between the Bureau and the parties that are supervised financially, shall be simplified and submitted to the Head of State, the National Assembly, the Council of Ministers and the Minister of Finance and Industry at the earliest opportunity of the regular session of the National Assembly. The President of the Bureau may submit other reports throughout the year on matters which, in his opinion, are of such importance that their consideration shall be expedited[4].

7.3 About the publication of reports:

- History of State Audit Bureau Reports: The Audit Bureau began publishing its oversight reports two years ago, in order to promote several principles including transparency and accountability. The Bureau has reports on its website for the years 2014-2015 and 2015-2016. The State of Audit Bureau has supported the dissemination of government data by not limiting the user or distinguishing the user from viewing or reusing these reports by not applying the property rights or technical barriers that prevent the copying of those reports. Years prior to the publication of the reports, Soft and hard copies of the reports were provided only to the members of the National Assembly and the Council of Ministers through encrypted and controlled

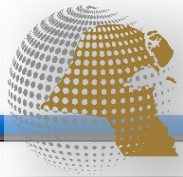


copies with mechanisms that prevent the framing even after such reports are submitted to the Head of State or to the National Assembly and the Council of Ministers.

- **Publication Location Reports:** The State of Audit Bureau reports are available on the web site—home page without any restrictions, such as registration on the site to obtain a copy or even restrictions preventing reuse. Reports are available to citizens or residents without discrimination,
- **Mechanism of publishing reports:** After discussing the reports of the Bureau in the National Assembly and in the presence of the members of the Council of Ministers, the Bureau is entitled to publish its reports.
- **Reports format:** The reports of the Bureau are available in pdf format in Arabic, which is the mother language in the State of Kuwait. The website also has the possibility of translating these reports into English.
- **Number of those who reviewed the reports of the Bureau during the period (09/02/2016 -4/05/2017) to the visitors of access to the site as a whole is as follows[11]:**

Subject	Number of visitors
Total Visitor (consider Sab Employees attendance system)	336,301
Unique IPs	81,576
Total hits on Publications-Reports	979

Table (5): Number of those who reviewed the reports of the Bureau



Prospects expected from the publication of the reports of the Office a direct question to the auditors of the Bureau on the application of data dissemination and its impact on the work of the auditor:

The benefits of publishing the reports of the Bureau:

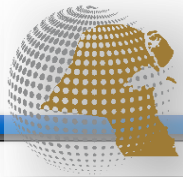
- Transparency.
- Strengthening accountability.
- Reducing corruption.
- Improving government services.
- Application of the principle of governance.

7.4 PEFA in Kuwait:

7.4.1 Government open data:

Dimension 31.4 assesses the transparency of the scrutiny function in terms of public access. Opening committee hearings to the public facilitates public scrutiny of the proceedings and is a good opportunity for a legislative committee to inform the public about its work. Hearings can be 'open' in a variety of ways, which range from allowing exceptional public access to the committee room to inviting members of the public to speak on a subject. Public scrutiny can also be achieved either by transmission of the proceedings by the mass media, i.e., radio or TV, which allows citizens to follow what is currently happening in committees. Dimension 31.4 is focused on the existence of some form of general public access and does not specifically assess whether members of the public are invited to speak at hearings.

If the legislature does not require an external audit of the annual financial reports that government submits, refer to PI-29, the legislature is not fulfilling its role of



ensuring the accountability of the executive leading to score ‘D’ on every dimension of the present indicator[7].

7.5 Mechanism for Strengthening the PEFA Framework in the State of Kuwait:

The Ministry of Finance in Kuwait has recently taken a renewed interest in the PEFA assessment undertaken by World Bank in 2009 – so much so, that a “PEFA Committee” has been established within the Ministry. This Committee has now been working for some time on gaining a thorough understanding of the PEFA methodology and how the indicators were rated, as well as translating the Secretariat’s ‘Fieldguide’ into Kuwaiti (rather than ‘classical’) Arabic. To take this process further, a four-day workshop, based on the Secretariat’s standard training material, but customized to focus on issues that emerged from the 2010 assessment, was presented by Phil Sinnett (former head of PEFA Secretariat) and Franck Bessette (an Arabic speaker, formerly on the staff of the Secretariat and now with the MENA region of the World Bank). Following the training program, discussions were held with senior management in the Ministry, which suggest that a repeat (self- assessment), led by members of the ‘PEFA Committee’ may take place in the not-too-distant future, in order to determine progress on the various PFM reforms currently underway. Where supporting public expenditure and financial accountability in the 2016 edition, through the focus group to measure the performance of the process of public financial indicators the State of Kuwait (Monitoring organizations- State Audit Bureau) as the toolkit refers in the context of measuring the performance of the management of public finances in key common issues to the principle of inclusiveness and transparency while supporting the concept of dissemination of government data as follows (PI- 8 transparency of



financial relations between the government's budget, PI-10 public's ability to access basic information about the General mechanism [7].

Ministry of Finance in cooperation with the four concerned in the State of Kuwait through the introduction of a set of questions that depend on the measurement of the axes of the general framework of the program, then verify of data by the organizational unit in the Ministry, which responsible to complete report is produced highlighting the assessment The performance of government expenditure is then published to the public.

8 Survey

8.1 About the Survey

A survey proposed to measure level of awareness that exists within different categories of Kuwait society. While constructing the survey content, there was a dedication to have different aspects of each individual status such as gender, age, ECT. On the other hand, the survey focused on several aspects which are related to open data as a subject, concept and as an individual's awareness and opinion. The survey starts with providing a brief summary for open data to improve the power of individual's opinion when answering survey questions. Finally, the survey had an open question to know any suggestion regarding improving the government open data in Kuwait.

8.2 SURVEY OBJECTIVES

1. Measure whether the participant has a previous knowledge about government open data or not.
2. Measure the awareness level of existing faculties regarding open government data in Kuwait.



3. Measure the satisfaction level of provided facilities regarding open government data in Kuwait.
4. The participant opinion about the impact of open government data in Kuwait within following aspects:
 - a. Decrease the corruption level.
 - b. Consider Kuwait a financial Center
5. The participant opinion about adopting State audit bureau of Kuwait the concept of open government data by publishing its yearly reports on its official Web site.
6. The participant opinion about implementing a general portal for all governmental institutes in Kuwait for providing their open data.

8.3 PARTICIPANTS

The total number of individuals who attempted the survey was 150. The participant selection process was without any extermination such as nationality and age. The entire list of participants completed the survey completely.

8.4 Methodology

The survey conducted using Monkey Survey. The process of answering its included questions was through electronic Web Link. It sent through different social media layers such as WhatsApp and Facebook. Before publishing the survey, there was an awareness video regarding such subject for all employees of State audit Bureau of Kuwait through their official Instagram account and presented inside of it. The following Table summarizes the survey questions:



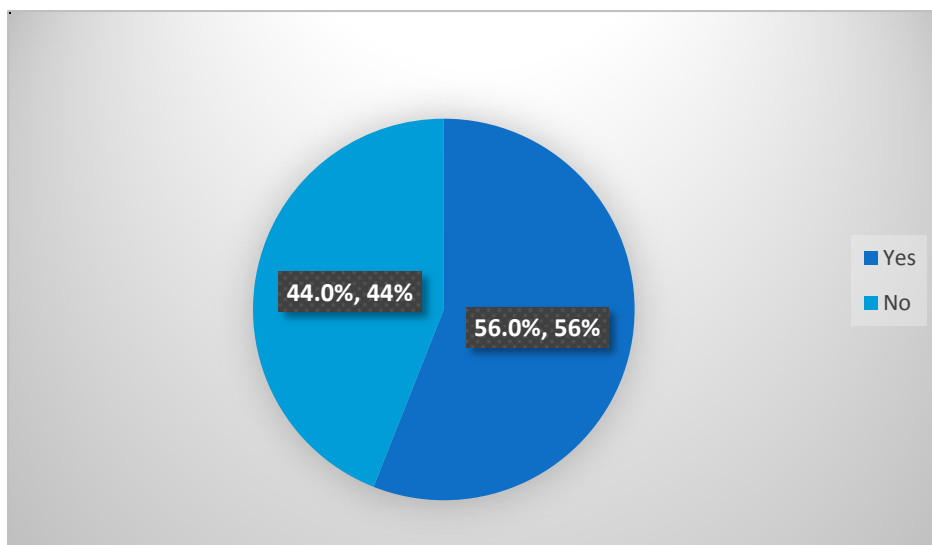
8.5 DATA COLLECTED

The survey contained two types of data, qualitative and quantitative. The qualitative data revolves on having participant's opinion about constructing a general portal of open government data in Kuwait. While all other questions were quantitative. There are two types of quantitative data. The first type related to gaining some information about the participant, whereas, the second type revolves about getting the opinion of the participant regarding different issues of open government data.

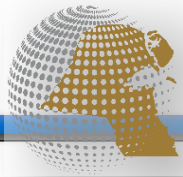


8.6 RESULTS

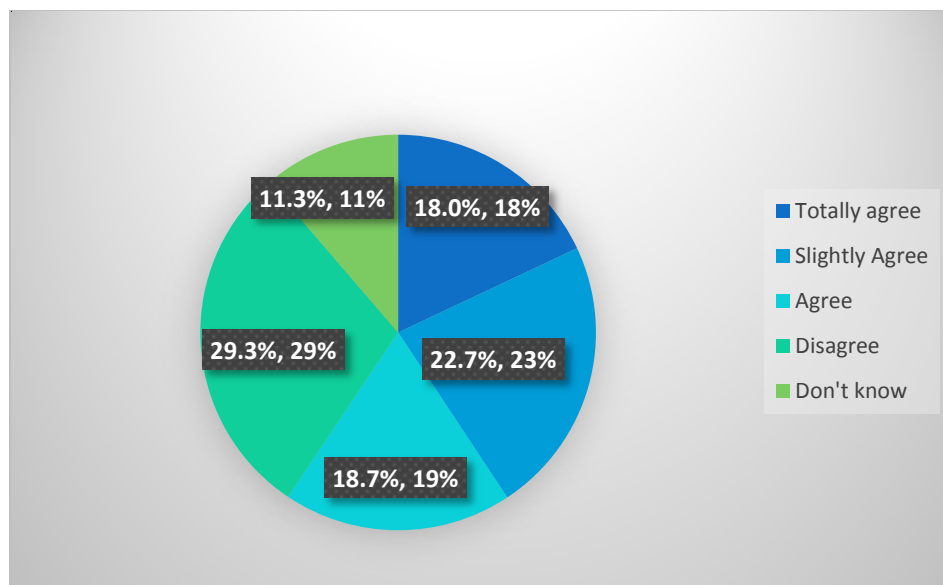
8.6.1 The participant awareness of the concept of open government data



The results indicates that 56% of the sample had the awareness of the concept of open government data, which indicates a high benefit of the published government data once the government provide a full adoption of such concept with detailed and accurate polices regarding publishing such data within all governmental entities (Ministries and institutes).



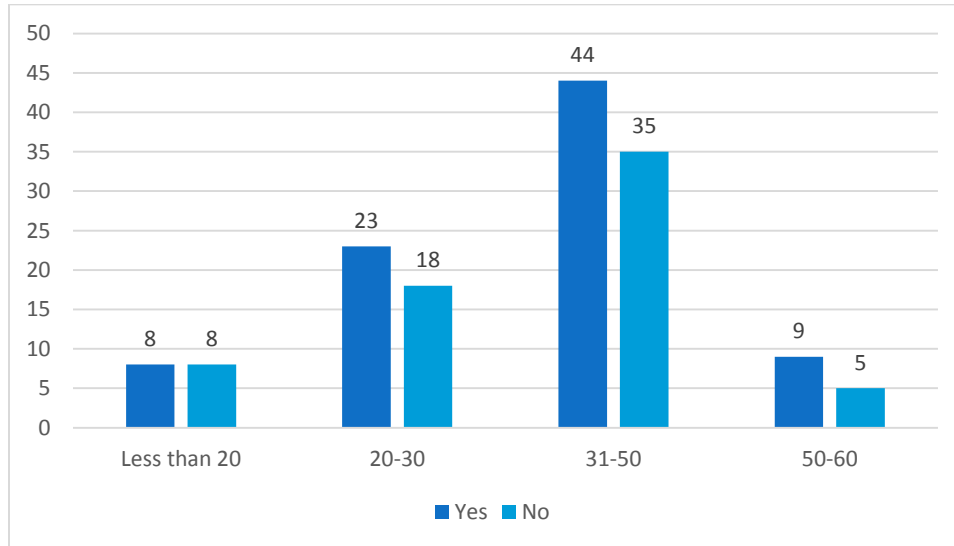
8.6.2 Governmental entities provide its data easily and without constraints



Most of the sample had different responses regarding such question. It is noticeable that approximately 88% of the sample had an experience with the published governmental data, which provide them the ability of answering such question with agreement or disagreement. On the other hand, only 11.3% of the sample could not decide a proper answer. The sample response indicates that even those who does not know about open data had an experience with it without knowing its concept, which simplify the process of increasing their awareness of open government data.

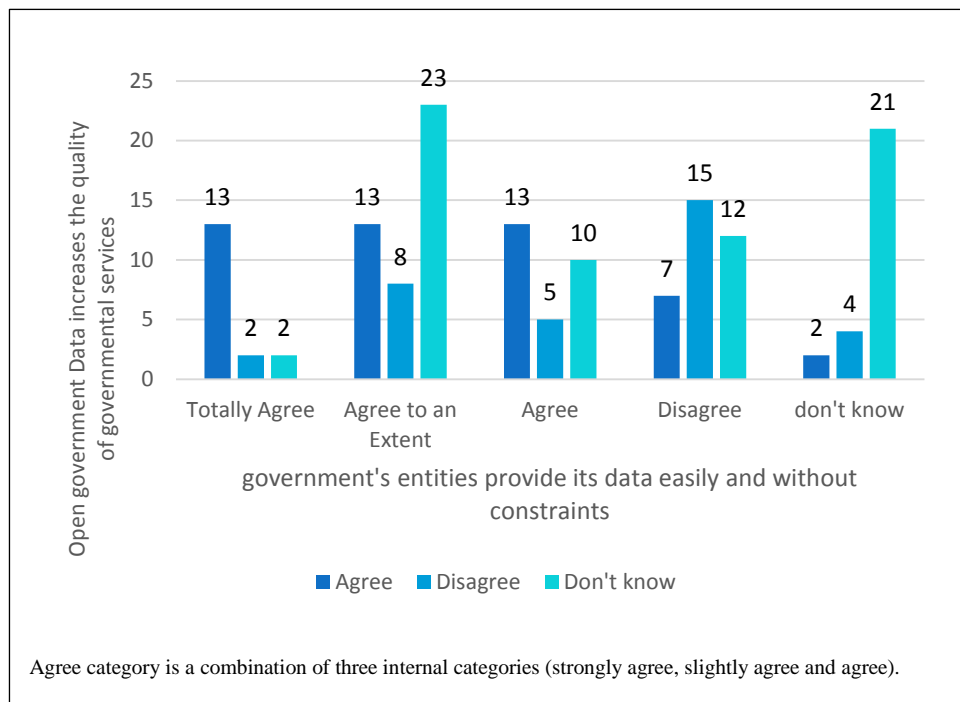
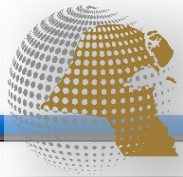


8.6.3 The relation between Age categories and awareness of the concept of open government data



The graph shows the relation between the participant age and whether he/she has an awareness regarding open government data. From a general perspective, the graph indicates a non-decreasing level of awareness among overall categories of age. The approval number was highest within category (31-50) with percentage 56% among the overall sample and was in its lowest values within category (less than 20).

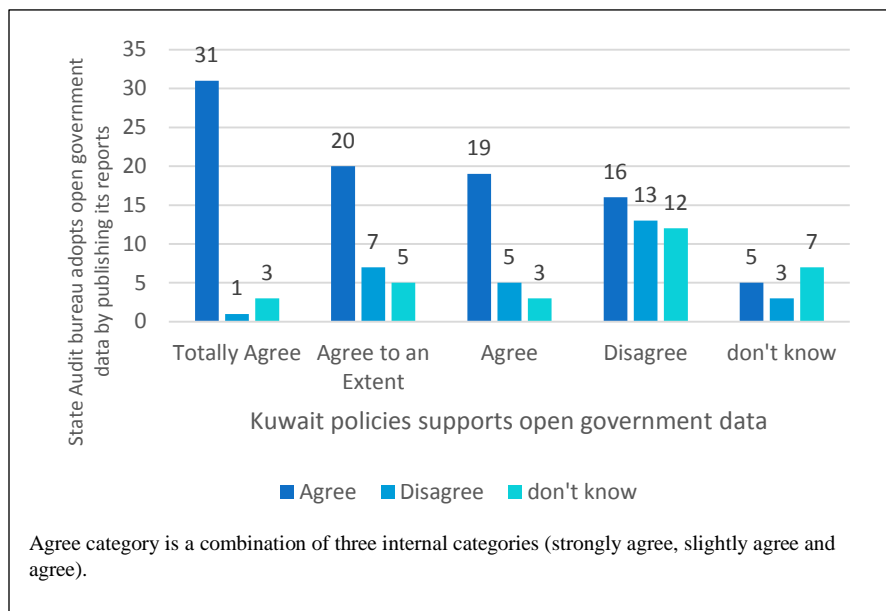
8.6.4 The relation between the participant response regarding the status of open government data in Kuwait and its impact on the provided governmental services.



In the first three groups of the graph, the participants approved on having an acceptable environment for open government data in Kuwait. Afterward, the survey measured the participant's opinion on the impact of the open government data on governmental services. The results show 43.8% of participants approved on the positive relation between the open governments data in Kuwait and its quality of services. On the other hand, 56.1% could not indicate the relation between such factors due to their awareness level of such concept and its high impact.



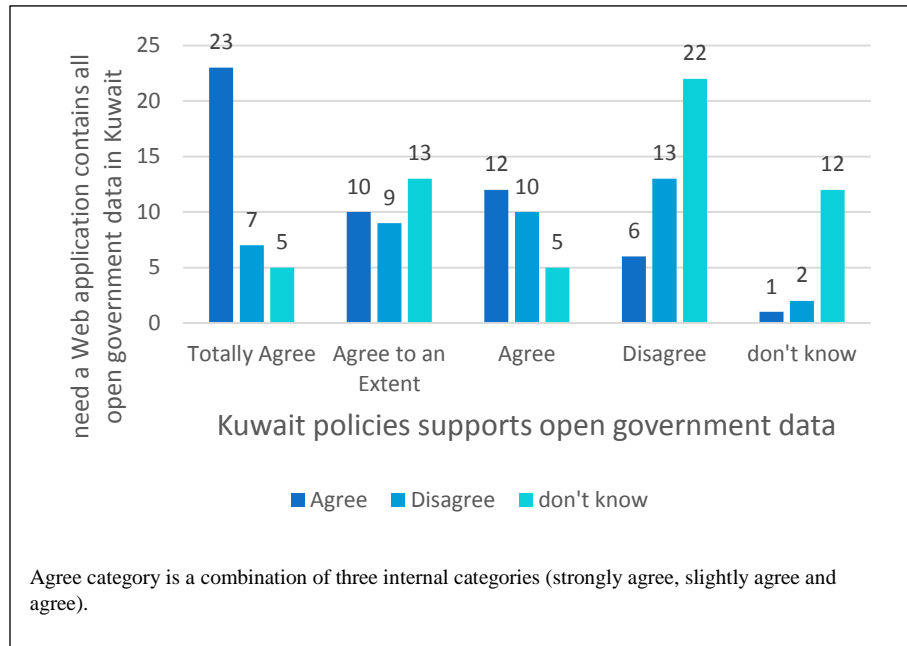
8.6.5 The relation between the participant response regarding the adoption of open government data in Kuwait and the extent to which this is applied in the State Audit Bureau by publishing reports on its official website



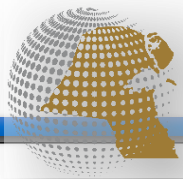
In the first three groups of the graph, the participants approved on adoption of open government data in Kuwait through its existing polices. Afterward, the survey measured the participant's opinion on whether such concept achieved in state audit bureau (SAB) by publishing its reports on their official website. The results shows 74.4% of participants approved on the positive relation between the adoptions in Kuwait through polices and SAB achievements through publishing its reports. On the other hand, 25.6% could not indicate the relation between such factors due to their awareness level of such concept or its related polices in Kuwait or SAB reports. The results shows on a general agreement that SAB did the role of publishing his product, reports, based on Articles 21 and 22 of its creation law 30/1964.



8.6.6 The relation between the participant response regarding the adoption of open government data in Kuwait and the need to create a Website for all government data.

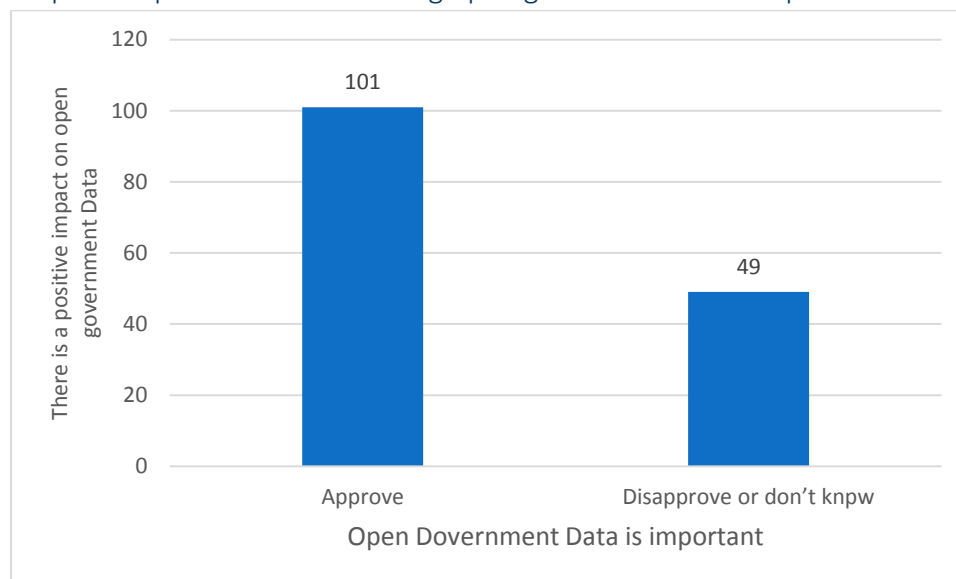


In the first three groups of the graph, the participants approved on adoption of open government data in Kuwait through its existing policies. Afterward, the survey measured the participant's opinion on whether there is a need to construct an enterprise Website for all open government data in Kuwait with a data processing facility for all Kuwait entities. The results shows 47.87% of participants approved on the positive relation between the adoptions in Kuwait through laws and regulations on the need of Enterprise Website for Open Government Data in Kuwait. On the other hand, 52.13% could not indicate the relation between such factors due to their awareness level of such concept or its related polices and the



impact of such Website into increasing the accountability and transparency of all entities in Kuwait.

8.6.7 Participant's opinion of the following open government data impacts



The survey studies the participant's opinion of the following open government data impacts:

- 1- Decrease corruption level in Kuwait
- 2- Support Kuwait to become a financial center
- 3- Increase the quality of governmental services

The analysis of the results was constructed by counting number of participants that provide (strongly approve, slightly approve, approve) for the three questions regarding the impact of open government data, whereas those with degraded answers between approving, disapproving or could not decide about it were included into other category. The results shows 67.33% of the sample believed on the positive impact of open government data into the three decided factors whereas only 32.26% could not visualize this impact partially due to their awareness level of the concept of open government data.



9 Conclusions

Kuwait laws and agreements tend to promote/encourage transparency and open government data in a way that does not contravenes the rights or reputations of individuals and the protection of national security. However, Several Enhancements for current government policies and framework should have more specifications to improve the concept of OGI in Kuwait.



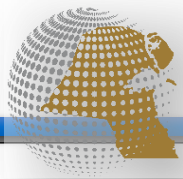
10 Recommendation

1. Adopt searchable database for all SAB remarks on its official Website.
2. Enhance the policies and laws supporting the publishing of government data, with the possibility of modifying the Law No.27 of 1963.
3. Strengthening the principle of accountability in Kuwaiti society and supporting the right to access government data while ensuring the reduction of corruption.
4. Increase the awareness of the concept of government data in the Kuwaiti society, and adopt the establishment of a governmental unit, as in Saudi Arabia, UAE, Bahrain and Oman for OGD.
5. Adopting curriculum in the intermediate and secondary stages that support the mechanisms of reducing corruption and accountability principles.
6. Establishment of a portal or platform for government data (Government Open Data Portal).
7. Encourage government organizations to cooperate and participate with international data dissemination initiatives to ensure applying list of all standards that benefit the process of unifying work and supporting the transparency and accountability standards.



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1. Appendix

Questionnaire

Impact of Adoption of Open Government Data – State Audit Bureau

Open Government Data is the data that are easily accessible, can be reused and published without any publication cost or restraint. It is resulted from the government procedures that are applied by the government institutions, ministries and entities[9] [6](such as: traffic violations data, Ministry of Health data on number of patients against the provided health services, Ministry of Education data on number of schools, their names, and number of students at each stage distributed to these schools, and financial data - revenues and expenditures of each government entity – entities budgetsetc.), that can be found on the websites of each entity or on the Central Statistics Bureau website in a collective manner:

<https://www.csb.gov.kw>

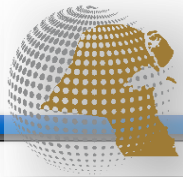
The State Audit Bureau of Kuwait experience in the openness of its reports based on the examination of government entities compliance is only a type of Open Government Data. By this questionnaire, we seek to measure the impact of SAB application of the Open Government Data approach on the auditor, the specialist, or the beneficiary in general.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Best regards,



Type	<input type="checkbox"/> Female		<input type="checkbox"/> Male	
Age	<input type="checkbox"/> 20 <	<input type="checkbox"/> 21-30	<input type="checkbox"/> 31-50	<input type="checkbox"/> 51-60
Work nature	<input type="checkbox"/> Auditor (accounting- legal)	<input type="checkbox"/> Researcher	<input type="checkbox"/> Technical Specialist	<input type="checkbox"/> Others....
Education degree	<input type="checkbox"/> Intermediate education	<input type="checkbox"/> University degree	<input type="checkbox"/> Post graduate degree	<input type="checkbox"/> None of the mentioned
1) I have information and knowledge on the term open government data				
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes		<input type="checkbox"/> no		
2) Open government data has an important role in Kuwait society				
<input type="checkbox"/> Totally agree	<input type="checkbox"/> Agree to some extent	<input type="checkbox"/> Agree	<input type="checkbox"/> Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/> Don't know
3) Government entities provide their data easily on their websites without restrains				
<input type="checkbox"/> Totally agree	<input type="checkbox"/> Agree to some extent	<input type="checkbox"/> Agree	<input type="checkbox"/> Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/> Don't know
4) The State of Kuwait laws support open government data policy				
<input type="checkbox"/> Totally agree	<input type="checkbox"/> Agree to some extent	<input type="checkbox"/> Agree	<input type="checkbox"/> Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/> Don't know
5) Open government data for beneficiaries may have impact on the elimination of corruption percentage in the State of Kuwait				
<input type="checkbox"/> Totally agree	<input type="checkbox"/> Agree to some extent	<input type="checkbox"/> Agree	<input type="checkbox"/> Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/> Don't know
6) Open government data concept application contributes to maximizing government services quality				
<input type="checkbox"/> Totally agree	<input type="checkbox"/> Agree to some extent	<input type="checkbox"/> Agree	<input type="checkbox"/> Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/> Don't know
7) The continued support to open government data concept will contribute to transferring the state of Kuwait to a Financial Center				
<input type="checkbox"/> Totally agree	<input type="checkbox"/> Agree to some extent	<input type="checkbox"/> Agree	<input type="checkbox"/> Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/> Don't know
8) SAB applied open government data concept to the fullest extent by publishing its reports on the website www.sabq8.org				
<input type="checkbox"/> Totally agree	<input type="checkbox"/> Agree to some extent	<input type="checkbox"/> Agree	<input type="checkbox"/> Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/> Don't know
9) Establish a website, which shall be administrated by all government entities, and it shall include all raw data once established. The website shall support transparency				



principal, limit corruption and contribute to transferring the State of Kuwait to a Financial Center.				
<input type="checkbox"/> Totally agree	<input type="checkbox"/> Agree to some extent	<input type="checkbox"/> Agree	<input type="checkbox"/> Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/> Don't know
10) Your suggestions to improve open government data concept application in the State of Kuwait				

Council of Ministers

Copyright law, Law no. 22 of 2016

on Copyrights and Related Rights

Article (4)

The protection prescribed in accordance with the provisions of this Law shall not apply to the following:

1. Ideas, procedures, working methods, operating methods, mathematics concepts, abstract principles, facts, discoveries and data, even if they are expressed, described, or defined in a classification.
2. Official documents, in any original language, or the language to which they are translated, such as the texts of laws, regulations, resolutions, international agreements, judicial decisions, arbitrators judgments and decisions of competent judicial administrative committees.
3. News or daily events that are considered just press releases.



Protection shall be applied to all of the previously mentioned if their collection is characterized by innovation in arrangement, presentation or classification.



State of Kuwait

Law no. (30) of the year 1964 on the Establishment of the State Audit Bureau 30/1964

Article (82)

The documents and accounts of the State Audit Bureau shall be audited by the Ministry of Finance, and SAB shall be notified of any remarks or deviations resulting from such audit and submit them to SAB President to take the necessary action in accordance with this law. Such remarks or comments shall be mentioned in SAB annual report.

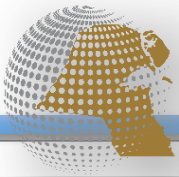
Law no. (2) of the year 2016 on the establishment of Kuwait Anti-Corruption Authority and the Related Provisions to Disclose the Financial liabilities

Based on Law no. (47) of the year 2016, upon the approval on the United Nations Convention against Corruption

Article (4)

The Authority aims to achieve the following:

- 1) Establish the principle of transparency and integrity in economic and administrative transactions to ensure the rational management and optimal use of state funds, resources and properties.
- 2) Apply the United Nations Convention against Corruption, approved by Law no. (47) of the year 2006, and the approved international conventions and agreements on anti-corruption.
- 3) Combat corruption, prevent its risk and effects, prosecute the perpetrators and withhold and restore funds and revenues resulted from practice in accordance with law.



- 4) Protect the state agencies from bribery, powers trade, misuse of power to realize personal interests, and prevent mediation and nepotism.
- 5) Protect whistleblowers of corruption.
- 6) Promote the cooperation and participation principles with states and regional and international organizations in fighting corruption fields.
- 7) Encourage and activate the role of civil society organizations and establishments in combating corruption, raising awareness among the society about its dangers, and expanding knowledge of preventions means and methods.

Article (5)

The Authority shall exercise the following missions and responsibilities:

- 1- Develop a comprehensive national strategy for integrity, transparency, and fighting corruption, besides developing mechanisms, plans and programs to implement the strategy, and following up the implementation with the concerned entities.
- 13- Prepare databases, information systems, and exchange information with entities and organizations concerned with corruption issues internally and externally based on the legislation in force.

Article (10)

The Board of Trustees shall have the following responsibilities:

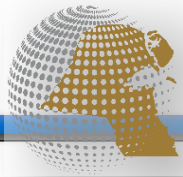
- 8- Publish all information and data on corruption crimes after being confirmed by an adjudication.



Article (21)

The Authority cooperates with various entities in the fight against corruption, in particular the following:

- 1) Cooperation with educational institutions and places of worship to spread the values of transparency, integrity and good citizenship.
- 2) Cooperation with governmental and private institutions to prepare general awareness programs related to the Authority activities.



Report for sub: General Statistics

Powered by
WebLog Expert

Time range: 09/02/2016 03:00:08 - 03/05/2017 21:22:26

Generated on Thu May 04, 2017 - 13:33:48

Summary

Summary

Hits	
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Visitor Hits	9,051,497
Spider Hits	1,412,486
Average Hits per Day	23,253
Average Hits per Visitor	24.71
Cached Requests	883,407
Failed Requests	1,716,397
Page Views	
Total Page Views	2,037,026
Average Page Views per Day	4,526
Average Page Views per Visitor	5.56
Visitors	
Total Visitors	366,301
Average Visitors per Day	814
Total Unique IPs	81,576
Bandwidth	
Total Bandwidth	0 B
Visitor Bandwidth	0 B
Spider Bandwidth	0 B
Average Bandwidth per Day	0 B
Average Bandwidth per Hit	0 B
Average Bandwidth per Visitor	0 B