

# What is Governance?

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Governance is the obligation to dialogue and make decisions in eight areas.

1. To clarify the mandate of the organization.
2. To ensure the lines of business and their parameters are responsive to the citizens' needs and board's resource realities.
3. To develop and implement policies in eight essential areas, and monitor and evaluate those policies to guide effectively the work of the board and the CEO.
4. To govern within the entity's fiscal envelope.
5. To represent *all* stakeholders.
6. To determine and manage risks.
7. To plan strategically at the governance level.
8. To demonstrate that accountability responsibilities are fulfilled by reporting on; the outcomes stated in the strategic plan, the board's fiscal proprieties and the board's legal obligations.

**For more information about each of the areas outlined above refer to *The DecisionMaking Model of Governance: A Handbook for Board Members and CEOs of Public Sector Organizations.***