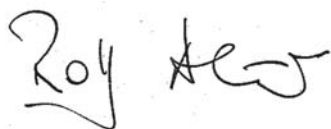


Foreword

Security and justice are important components of individual and social well-being and a major concern for citizens and business. To respond to their expectations, an ambitious reform of the justice system is underway in Mexico, with significant changes planned for how the police and courts operate. In order for these reforms to be effective, however, more and higher quality evidence is needed to monitor progress, measure impact over time and attain the much-needed support from stakeholders who often make or break the success of such initiatives.

The present study, a result of a close co-operation between the OECD and Mexico's Institute for Competitiveness, puts forth a framework for assessing the *role* of evidence in the policy-making cycle in Mexico. Specifically, it demonstrates how the generation and use of performance information is a means to various ends: the design of policies of security and justice that work regionally and locally to build more effective and efficient institutions, the improvement of security and restoration of confidence in the rule of law, and the promotion of more competitive economies.

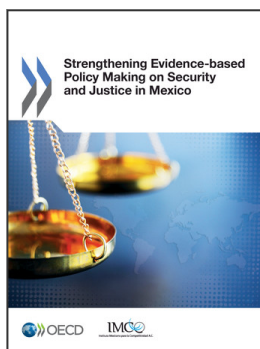
The study finds some gaps in evidence which national statistics agencies are keen to address, and it stresses the need to transform existing evidence to facilitate comparison and policy making. Existing data are scrutinised and a suite of potential, more actionable performance indicators are described for consideration. The need to strengthen formal monitoring and evaluation mechanisms to incentivise better performance is also highlighted as a limitation of the current system. Moreover, it suggests making use of existing transparency initiatives to put justice sector performance front and centre of public policies and debate. Finally, improving multi-level governance will be crucial, both across policy silos and with sub-national governments, to treat crime as a shared challenge requiring collective solutions.



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