Systemic report points out main hindrances to Transparency

Despite constant efforts towards increasing transparency in the Brazilian Administration, citizens still face many obstacles when searching for information from public authorities and institutions. But which are these obstacles?

According to the Systemic Report on Public Transparency (FiscTransparência), produced by the Brazilian Federal Court of Accounts (TCU), the most common causes of lack of transparency are related to failure in public organizations’ internal governance arrangements and in the interpretation of the law. Likewise, the document highlights public authorities and entities’ low capacity of correctly managing standards and instruments regarding document confidentiality classification, and the fragile culture of open data.

FiscTransparência has consolidated 45 audit judgments by TCU, which were carried out based on three guiding axes: management of public finances, transparency in the activities of government organizations, and transparency in performance and outcome indicators.

By associating themes and their corresponding audits, FiscTransparência allows a systemic identification of institutional aspects that provide greater accountability. This report is available at TCU’s website (tcu.gov.br) and it lists best practices that should be shared and disseminated throughout public administration as a whole.