**Salient Features of the OHSO:**
1. Information-base: develop and enable access to the information-base necessary for supporting the policy formulation process.
2. Information-access: provide access to data and information on health status, activities and outcomes.
3. Knowledge-base: provide a platform for sharing knowledge, intelligence and networking.
4. Policy dialogue: facilitate policy dialogue and provide a platform for policy analyses.
5. Information use: promote use of information resulting into improved quality and access to information.

**Products & Services of OHSO:**
- Comparative health systems and policy studies
- Health system profiles
- Policy briefs and write-ups
- Situation and trends analyses
- Forecasts and scenarios
- Health policy news and updates for researchers and decision-makers

**OHSO Website**
The OHSO will be a web-based portal with an integrated indicators database, knowledge-base, highlight and profile generator.
The overall goal of the OHSO is to provide information and knowledge in support of evidence-based health policymaking and planning. The specific objectives of the HSO are to:

- comprehensively describing and analyzing health systems dynamics, synergies and the changes they undergo;
- utilizing health sector experience (from across all levels of health care) to illuminate policy issues;
- bringing together a wide range of stakeholders (academics, policy-makers, organizations and practitioners) to analyze trends in health policies and reforms;
- promoting evidence-based health policy-making by engaging directly with policy-makers;
- communicating effectively with policy-makers through a range of dissemination strategies;
- encouraging debate about issues raised by research developments;
- creating a rapid response capacity for emerging health systems issues.

Through streamlining and integration of information and adopting the highest ethical and professional standards, the functions of the OHSO will be:

- Provide up-to-date accurate and quality information of the Omani health care system dynamics, health developments and trends.
- A reliable source of information for descriptive, analytical and prescriptive work on specific health system issues.
- Serve as a powerful tool for advocacy, collection and publishing of reports as well as documentation of best practices.
- Act as a knowledge network for dissemination of information and establishment of links with regional and international observatories, institutions, organizations and researchers.
- Generate and promote evidence-based health policy making and planning.
- Build and disseminate the national evidence-informed policy capacity and culture.