

Presentation of the OECD Toolkit

Budget Transparency Toolkit Practical steps for supporting openness, integrity and accountability in Public Finance Management

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Some Features of the Budget Transparency Toolkit

- Timely, robust and reliable: evidence based, expertise
- Comprehensive: shared synthesis from the complementary work of different bodies in field
- Concise reference of actions and steps to improve
- Entryway to the various authoritative & detailed reference available materials
- Contributes in helping countries self-assess
- Looks forward: includes new in-process items, trends & processes

1. Examples of Public Participation in Budget Process

Stage in budget and policy cycles	Participation mechanisms	Selected country examples
Executive budget preparation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Participatory National Planning -Pre-budget consultations -External expert review of macro/fiscal forecasts -Independent setting of key macro assumptions -Independent fiscal policy advisory body or council -Participatory budgeting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Brazil -Canada, Kenya, Ireland -Korea -Chile, Colombia -Ireland, Croatia -Numerous countries (Portugal)
Legislative consideration & enactment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Budget Strategy Statement, with public submissions -Main budget with public submissions -Public submissions to legislature on money bills -Parliamentary Budget Office 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Canada -Numerous countries -Numerous countries -Australia, Croatia, Italy, USA

2. Examples of Public Participation in Budget Process

Stage in budget and policy cycles	Participation mechanisms	Selected country examples
Budget implementation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Independent administrative review (tax, procurement) -Multi-stakeholder monitoring of revenue collection -Multi-stakeholder monitoring of public contracting -Community engagement in public investment projects -Participatory/external expert program evaluations -Participatory budgeting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Numerous countries -EITI member countries -Open contracting partners -Mexico, Philippines -Korea -Numerous countries
Legislative review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Committee reviews of agencies, public submissions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> =USA
Supreme Audit oversight/social audit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Citizen audit request body -Participatory performance auditing -Social audit 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Korea -Philippines -India

3. Examples of Public Participation in Fiscal Policies

Stage in budget and policy cycles	Participation mechanisms	Selected country examples
Major new fiscal policy proposals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Consultation by executive on new revenue policies -Consultation by executive on new expenditure policies -Participatory public expenditure review 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Numerous countries -Canada and others -UK
Public service delivery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Complaints mechanisms -Social audit -Regular published surveys of service users -Citizen involvement in delivery/co-production 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Numerous countries -Uganda and others -Some OECD countries -South Africa
Public investment projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Consultation on social and environmental impacts -Geo-tagging and social monitoring 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Numerous countries -Philippines

Possible Objections to Increased Public Participation in Fiscal Policies

- Costly
- Undermines existing democratic institutions
- Fiscal issues: too complicated for general public
- Undermines decision making (& secrecy)
- Slows the policy process
- Influential and well-organized groups tend to dominate the process

Response to objections to increased public participation in fiscal policies

- ~~○ Costly: not so much anymore thanks to IT~~
- ~~○ Undermines institutions: complementarity~~
- ~~○ Too complicated: Experts engage too~~
- ~~○ Undermines decision making: classification prevails when justified & openness helps policy effectiveness and efficiency~~
- ~~○ Slows process: but it improves quality & saves costs~~
- ~~○ Influential groups domination: inclusion & dissemination efforts needed~~

Access to information and public participation: What difference does it make?

- Better resource allocation & provision of public services
- Improved response to the preferences of beneficiaries of services & constituencies
- Opportunity for marginalized groups to exert some influence in decisions that affect them
- Greater impact of actions that affect communities in social policies: health sector, community level public works, education, in a word, well-being
- **Increases trust and citizen compliance (rules & taxes)**

CONGRATULATIONS TO OECD! THANK YOU

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