



# DAY 1: GROUPS 5 AND 6



Group 5	Group 6
Hungary	
Turkey	Bosnia and Herzegovina
Croatia	Croatia
Serbia	Serbia
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Montenegro
Romania	
Volunteer Reporter: Halis Kiral Facilitator: Deanna Aubrey Expert: Kay Brown South Africa National Treasury	Volunteer reporter: Nina Blecic Facilitator: Ljerka Crnkovic Expert: Lewis Hawke and Sandy Min (World Bank)
Observer: Irene Frei - SECO	

- **Summary of Outcomes for Question 1** **Group-5**
- **Romania and Turkey demonstrated portals**
  - **Transparency – even individual salaries for staff in Romania and salary bands in Turkey**
- **Information must be used by somebody, cost vs benefits. Lack of IT infrastructure, staff, skills, capacity in some countries**
- **Quality vs quantity of information. Checks&balances. Risk of misuse of information. Confidentiality problem? –exp.Internal Audit-**
- **Transparency often driven by international requirements.**
- **Importance of exchange of information between different levels of government-centralized information, many issues are at local level in several countries.**

- **Summary of Outcomes for Question 1 (Group 6)**
- **Presentation on portals in Croatia**
- **Presentation by World Bank (Sandy Min) on different portals taken from FMIS and OBD study**
- **All countries have websites.**
- **Montenegro, Serbia, Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina – MoF web pages.**
  - **Public procurement information published outside MoF – Public Procurement Administration (Serbia, Montenegro), Agency (BiH), Ministry of Economy (Croatia).**

### **Good practice examples**

- **Information on arrears with due dates (SRB)**
- **Benefits**
  - **Transparency**
  - **Increased Government accountability**
  - **Better use of funds**
  - **Compliance with laws and bylaws**

# Suggestions for Improvement

- Enable the citizens to provide their inputs in the process of budget preparation.
- Citizens should have the option to take part in budget development (good examples of some cities).
- Web portals should present more information that citizens need.
- Citizens should get involved in budget development prior to its adoption by the Government, in the process of public debate.

- **Summary of Outcomes for Question 2&3 Group-5**
- **Assessments very useful (PEFA) for benchmarking, recommendations.**
- **Conflicting results!(EU does not accept PEFA)**
- **Results must be accurate and verified before released and, conducted by competent people but tools, surveys, interviews are not very perfect.**
- **International organizations should clarify their results with respective MoF. Sometimes out of date when released.**
- **OECD, WB, EC- multiple reports & multiple recommendations. Country prioritization of recommendations important.**
- **Inappropriate benchmarking. No one size fits all. Policy space**
- **Lost in translation, concept, terminology. Importance of glossary, quality of interpreters.**

- **Summary of Outcomes for Question 2 (Group 6)**
- **All countries are familiar with these assessments.**
- **These assessments have pointed out some weaknesses and helped address them and thus contribute to improving of efficiency.**
- **Most countries have established Fiscal Councils.**

- **Summary of Outcomes for Question 3 (Group 6)**
- **Assessments can indicate the areas that need improvement and increase efficiency of use of public funds.**
- **Encourage citizen participation, either through applications and/or round tables or debates.**







**Thank you!**