

English

PUBLIC GOVERNANCE AND TERRITORIAL DEVELOPMENT PUBLIC GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

OECD BUDGET PRACTICES AND PROCEDURES SURVEY

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OECD BUDGET PRACTICES AND PROCEDURES SURVEY

1. Background information

The OECD has revised the 2003 Survey of Budget Practices and Procedures and will be updating it during 2006 and 2007. In the fall of 2005 a pilot survey targeted at Latin American countries was completed. The pilot survey was funded by the Inter-American Development Bank. On the basis of the pilot study, and a revision of the rest of the original questionnaire, the following questionnaire has been compiled. It aims to be more concise and targeted than the 2003 survey, while still covering all essential aspects of the budget process.

The questionnaire has been developed by the Budget and Public Expenditure Division of the OECD Public Governance Directorate. It has been reviewed internationally by experts in the fields of budgeting and public management and the Public Policy Group at the London School of Economics.

2. Overview and purpose of the project

The aim of this project is to revise and update the current database. The revision of this database will:

- Aid the development of common practices and standards;
- Provide a free searchable database which fosters mutual learning on budget practices and procedures;
- Enable provision of up-to-date information on budget practices and procedures;
- Enable a comparative analysis of trends and changes in budget practices over time;
- Provide data which enables more informed analysis and development of quantitative and qualitative measures.

The revised database will provide a unique and comprehensive resource for Government practitioners, legislatures, academics, and non-government organisations, providing these groups with well-informed analysis and quantitative measures, and enabling them to compare and contrast national practices. It will be available to all without restriction and without fee. The data collected will allow the OECD, as well as other interested parties, to make substantial analyses and to write reports on recent trends in budgeting.

3. Publicity of information

Please note that all results of the survey will be made publicly available.

PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY BEFORE COMPLETING THE QUESTIONNAIRE

4. Instructions

- To speed up completion and help with international comparison, this survey offers, with few exceptions, a "check-the-box" format: for each question, please check the box(es) which correspond to your answer(s).
- To the extent possible, please choose from the possible answers. Use the "other" category only when your country's practice is *substantially* different from the provided response options.
- If you find a question not relevant or too difficult to answer, you may pass directly to the following question.
- Unless otherwise requested the responses should refer to current practice.
- At the end of each section or in specially designated boxes, respondents are encouraged to supplement their answers with additional information when appropriate.
- When a word/phrase appears in red lettering the term is defined in the glossary. Terms and concepts appear in alphabetical order in the glossary. You may find it helpful to print the glossary prior to beginning the survey.

5. Deadline

Respondents of the survey are kindly requested to complete the survey by_____. Once the survey for your country is completed and judged accurate, we would be grateful if you could notify the OECD by email.

6. Contacts for the project

Should you have any problems accessing the website or any other technical problems, please contact:

Technical Support Team, Email: <u>info@oecdbudgetsurvey.org</u>

For enquiries concerning the questions, please contact:

Ian Hawkesworth, Email: <u>ian.hawkesworth@oecd.org</u> Tel: +33 (0) 1 45 24 16 32

7. Responses

The survey can be completed on the Internet (<u>www.oecdbudgetsurvey.org</u>), in word format, or on paper but we would very much prefer if you could fill in the survey directly on the Internet. Access to **the survey on the OECD website is restricted to co-ordinators only**, who have been provided with a confidential password which allows them to access and complete the survey for their country.

If you prefer to complete the survey in word format or on paper please email the completed questionnaire to the address below or send it via post:

Ian Hawkesworth

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Email: ian.hawkesworth@oecd.org Fax: +33 1 44 30 63 34

Please feel free to attach any useful documents to the survey questionnaire.

INFORMATION SOURCE AND CONTACT INFORMATION

Please fill in this section before completing the questionnaire. If there are multiple names please add them below.

Source

Ministry/Agency/Department:

Country:

Contact Information

Family Name:

First Name:

Title (i.e. Mr/Mrs/Ms)

Position Title:

Ministry/Agency/Department:

Country:

Supervisor (if applicable):

Mailing Address:

Work Phone:

Fax:

Email:

OECD Budget Practices and Procedures Survey

PART I: GENERAL INFORMATION

Organisation of the Central Budget Authority

1. Where is the function of the Central Budget Authority located?

Ministry of Finance
Office of the Chief Executive
President's office
Prime Minister's office
Independent Agency
The Central Budget Authority is split between two or more agencies
Other, please specify below ______

Please specify the name of the Central Budget Authority and provide further details, if applicable

2. Who is the head of the Central Budget Authority – i.e. the highest official whose primary responsibility is the budget?

Political appointee - i.e. s/he generally leaves with a change of Government A senior civil servant – i.e. s/he does not generally leave with a change of Government Other, please specify below______

3. What is the total number of staff working in the Central Budget Authority?

Please estimate how many full-time equivalent staff are employed

WRITE IN THE NUMBER

Legal framework

4. What is the legal basis for the following?

PLEASE CHECK ALL THAT APPLY

	Constitution	Legislation	Internal Rules	No formal basis
The form and structure of the annual budget and related legislation				
The timing of the annual budget process				
Roles and responsibilities of different parts of the Executive in budget formulation and execution				
Roles and responsibilities of the Legislature and the Executive in the budget process				
Provisions on what happens when the budget is not approved by the beginning of the fiscal year				
Requirement for legislative authorization of spending				
Requirement for legislative authorization of taxes				
Rules for the use of contingency or reserve funds				
Requirement for audit of Government accounts by the Supreme Audit Institution				
Requirements for internal audit structures in line ministries				
Management and reporting relating to off-budget expenditures				

PART II: BUDGET FORMULATION

Macroeconomic forecasting

5. Which of the following actors develop the economic assumptions used in the budget?

Central Budget Authority
Ministry of Finance
President's office
Prime Minister's office
Legislature or other legislative body
Panel of economic experts appointed by the Government
Independent Government body, please specify below
Private sector, please specify below
Other, please specify below

6. Which of the following organisations carry out independent reviews of the economic assumptions used in the budget?

There are no independent reviews of the economic assumptions Independent panel, or similar Supreme Audit Institution Legislature or other legislative body Other, please specify below_____

7. Is the methodology used for establishing the economic assumptions of the budget publicly available?

N	0
Y	es, but only to certain parts of the Legislature
Y	es, it is publicly available on request
Y	es, it is published
	ther, please specify below

8. Is fiscal sensitivity analysis of the economic assumptions included in the budget documentation?

Fiscal sensitivity analysis estimates the fiscal effects of alternative macro-economic assumptions.

No Yes a compr

Yes, a comprehensive analysis is included

Yes, but only for selected activities. Please specify below_____

Fiscal projections

9. How often are fiscal estimates (spending and revenues) revised in the course of a fiscal year?

[DROPDOWN MENU: WEEKLY, MONTHLY, QUARTERLY, BIANNUALLY, ANNUALLY, ON ANOTHER REGULAR INTERVAL, ON AN AD HOC BASIS, NOT REVISED]

10. To what extent are fiscal risks associated with entitlements evaluated in the budget documentation?

Fiscal risks are not evaluated
 Evaluation is on an ad hoc basis
 Evaluation follows a materiality test (i.e. only risks to programmes with certain levels of spending)
 Evaluation is comprehensive
 Other, please specify below ______

11. In the annual budget documentation presented to the Legislature, are expenditures under current commitments in law and policy distinguished from new policies?

No
Yes, but not in all cases
Yes, comprehensively
Other, please specify below

12. How often do you prepare long-term fiscal projections?

[DROPDOWN MENU: Every year; Every 2 years; Every 3 years; ... Every 10 years; On an ad hoc basis; There are no long-term fiscal projections]

How many years do the projections normally cover?

[DROPDOWN MENU: Not applicable; up to 10; 11-20; 21-30; 31-40; 41-50; 51-60, 61-70, 71-80, 81-90, 91-100]

13. What kinds of long-term fiscal analysis are used?

PLEASE CHECK ALL THAT APPLY

- Detailed projections of revenues, expenditures and surplus (deficit)
- Present value calculation of future revenues, expenditures and surpluses (for example fiscal gap analysis)
 - Intergenerational accounting
 - Balance sheet analysis
 - Other, please specify below_____

Please provide any additional details in the box below

Fiscal rules

A fiscal rule is a multi-annual constraint on a fiscal aggregate (e.g. expenditure, revenue, budget balance or debt). The following questions are similar to the 2006 EU survey on fiscal rules.

14. In developing the budget, are there any fiscal rules that place limits on fiscal policy?

PLEASE CHECK ALL THAT APPLY

No (please go to question 16)
Yes, expenditure rule
Yes, revenue rule
Yes, budget balance (surplus/deficit) rule
Yes, debt rule
Other, please specify below

Please state the complete fiscal rule(s) in the box below

For each rule that is selected there will be a path, so that a set of standard questions open up concerning only the rule(s) selected. The questions are the following:

15 b What is the time period covered by the fiscal rule?

This refers to the number of years for which the rule imposes the constraint.

1 year	
2 years	
3 years	
More than 3 years	
Over the economic cycle	
Other, please specify below	_

15 c Which parts of the general Government are covered by the fiscal rule?

The entire Government sector
Central Government
Regional Government
Local Government
Extra-budgetary funds
Other, please specify below

15 d Which of the following defines the fiscal rule?

It is not explicitly defined
Constitution
Legislation
Formal agreement of parties in Government
Political commitment of the Government
Other, please specify below

15 e Who is in charge of monitoring compliance with the fiscal rule?

PLEASE CHECK ALL THAT APPLY

There is no monitoring of compliance with the fiscal rule(s)
Central Budget Authority
Supreme Audit Institution
Legislature or other legislative body
Independent body, please specify below
Other, please specify below

15 f In case of non-compliance with the fiscal rule, what are the enforcement procedures?

PLEASE CHECK ALL THAT APPLY

Enforcement procedures are not defined ex ante
A proposal with corrective measures must be presented to the Legislature
The Government or ministry responsible for the overrun has to implement corrective measures
There is an automatic correction mechanism, please specify below
There is a possibility of sanctions, please specify below
There are automatic sanctions, please specify below
Other, please specify below

In addition to the above set of standard questions, for each type of rule there will be a first question (15 a) that is specific to that type of rule:

Expenditure Rule

15 a What is the target of the rule?

The rule targets a nominal expenditure ceiling
The rule targets a real expenditure ceiling
The rule targets a nominal expenditure growth rate
The rule targets a real expenditure growth rate
The rule targets a specific expenditure to GDP ratio
Other please specify below

Then 15b

15c 15d

15u 15e

15f

Revenue rule

15 a What is the target of the rule?

	The rule imposes constraints on the allocation of higher-than-expected revenues in good
	times. Please specify below
	The rule imposes constraints on the developments in the tax-to-GDP ratio. Please specify
	below
	Other please specify below
Then	15b

- 15c
- 15d

15e 15f

Budget Balance rules (including balanced budget rules and golden rules)

15 a What is the target of the rule?

	The rule targets a specific budget balance in nominal terms
H	The rule targets a specific budget balance as a percentage of GDP
H	The rule targets a specific budget balance as a percentage of GDP in cyclically-adjusted or
	structural terms
	The rule targets a specific budget balance as a percentage of GDP within a range of possible
	values depending on growth developments
	The rule targets a given improvement of the budget balance (as a % of GDP)
	The rule targets a given improvement of the structural or cyclically-adjusted budget balance
	(as a % of GDP)
	Other please specify below
Then	15 b
	15 c

- 15 d
- 15 e
- 15 f

Debt rule

The rule targets a specific amount of debt in nominal terms	
The rule targets a specific debt-to-GDP ratio	
The rule targets a given reduction in the debt-to-GDP ratio	
The rule establishes a ceiling for the Government (or a specific sub sector) debt in leve	el or as
a % of GDP	
Other, please specify below	

Other rule not covered above

15b 15c 15d 15e 15f

Budgeting for the medium-term

16. Does the annual budget documentation submitted to the Legislature contain multi-year expenditure estimates?

No
Yes, at the aggregate level
Yes, at the ministry level
Yes, at line item level
Other, please specify below

17. How many years does the multi-year expenditure estimates cover (including the upcoming budget)?

[DROPDOWN MENU: 2; 3; 4; 5; 6; 7; 8; 9; 10]

18. How often are the multi-year expenditure estimates updated?

[DROPDOWN MENU: ANNUALLY, EVERY 2 YEARS, EVERY 3 YEARS...EVERY 10 YEARS, OTHER, please specify below____]

19. If applicable, from what basis do you extrapolate multi-year expenditure estimates?

PLEASE CHECK ALL THAT APPLY

Expenditures in future years are based on current legislation
Expenditures in future years are based on anticipated legislative changes
Expenditures in future years are unchanged in nominal terms
Expenditures in future years are unchanged in real terms
Expenditures in future years are adjusted for the official macroeconomic forecast
Expenditures in future years are adjusted for demographic changes
Other, please specify below

20. Are there multi-year expenditure targets or ceilings?

No, there are no such targets or ceilings
Yes, there are aggregate targets or ceilings
Yes, there are targets or ceilings for each ministry
Yes, there are targets or ceilings for line items
Other, please specify below

21. How many years do the targets/ceilings cover (including the upcoming budget)?

[DROPDOWN MENU: 2; 3; 4; 5; 6; 7; 8; 9; 10]

22. How often are the targets/ceilings revised?

DROPDOWN: Every year; Every 2 years; Every 3 years; ...Every 10 years; After each election; Every time a new Government is formed; Other, please specify]

If other, please specify below

Executive budget negotiations

23. Does the Central Budget Authority impose limits (ceilings) for each ministry's initial spending request?

No, there are no such limits
No, there are only suggested/indicative limits
Yes, but only for some types of expenditure (e.g. salaries) on a chapter level
Yes, but only for some types of expenditure (e.g. salaries) at a line item level
Yes, for all types of expenditure at a chapter level
Yes, for all types of expenditure at a line item level
Other, please specify below

24. What type of information is contained in the annual budget circular/memorandum issued by the Central Budget Authority to guide the preparations of budget proposals/budget estimates?

PLEASE CHECK ALL THAT APPLY

There is no such regulation/memo
A set of rules for the budget process and the main forms to be used in the estimates
submission
The macroeconomic assumptions to be used in the process
Information on Government priorities
Spending ceilings or targets
Other, please specify below

25. In practice, what is the timeframe for the budget drafting process?

Please indicate how many months before the beginning of the fiscal year each of the following stages takes place

Stages of budget formulation

Budget process begins in the Central Budget Authority Budget circular/memorandum is sent to line ministries Initial spending targets are sent to line ministries Budget negotiations with line ministries start Budget negotiations with line ministries end Cabinet approves the budget DROPDOWN MENU [1 TO 24] DROPDOWN MENU [1 TO 24]

How flexible is this timeframe? Please provide any additional information in the box below

26. In practice, how are disputes between line ministries and the Central Budget Authority in the budget preparation process generally resolved, i.e. issues not resolved at civil servant level?

The issue is resolved by the Minister of Finance
The issue is resolved by the Prime Minister
The issue is resolved by the President
The issue is resolved by the Cabinet
The issue is sent to a ministerial committee

Other, please specify below_____

27. Is your central Government budget split into a separate capital and operating budget?

ĺ	

No, capital and operating budgets are integrated Yes, there are separate capital and operating budgets Other, please specify below_____

28. How does the Legislature fund capital projects that require funding over a number of years?

It appropriates funding for the entire cost of multi-year project up-front
It provides funding incrementally each year until the project is completed
It establishes extra-budgetary funds
There is no general rule, funding is determined on a case by case basis
Other, please specify below

29. In practice, which option most accurately describes the way in which the budget for the Judiciary is prepared?

The Judiciary prepares its budget and the Central Budget Authority includes it in the
Government's budget proposal without any changes
The Judiciary is subject to the same procedures and policies as any other governmental
organisation included in the Government's budget proposal
The Judiciary prepares its budget and submits it directly to the Legislature for approval
Other, please specify below

30. In practice, which option most accurately describes the way in which the budget for the Supreme Audit Institution is prepared?

- The Supreme Audit Institution prepares its budget and the Central Budget Authority includes it in the Government's budget proposal without any changes
- The Supreme Audit Institution is subject to the same procedures and policies as any other governmental organisation included in the Government's budget proposal
- The Supreme Audit Institution prepares its budget and submits it directly to the Legislature for approval
- Other, please specify below _____

31. In practice, which option most accurately describes the way in which the budget for the Legislature is prepared?

- The Legislature prepares its budget and the Central Budget Authority includes it in the Government's budget proposal without any changes
 The Legislature is subject to the same procedures and policies as any other
- The Legislature is subject to the same procedures and policies as any other governmental organisation included in the Government's budget proposal
 - The Legislature prepares its budget independently
- Other, please specify below _____

PART III: BUDGET APPROVAL

Role of the legislature

32. If there is more than one chamber in the Legislature, how would you describe their relative powers over the budget?

The Legislature is unicameral
There are two chambers with equal powers over the budget
There are two chambers, but only the lower chamber is involved in the budget process
Both chambers are involved in the budget process but the lower chamber can overrule the
upper chamber
Other, please specify below

33. Thinking about the following types of committee structures for dealing with the budget, please indicate which arrangement applies to each chamber.

Unicameral countries, please fill in lower chamber column only

	Lower chamber	Upper chamber
A single budget committee formally considers all budget-related matters. Sectoral committees may make recommendations, but the budget committee does not have to follow them		
A single budget committee formally considers the budget, but members from sectoral committees attend meetings of the budget committee when expenditures in their specific areas are discussed		
A single budget committee formally considers budget aggregates (total level of revenue and spending and their allocation to each sector) and sectoral committees formally consider spending for sector specific appropriations		
Sectoral committees formally consider appropriations for each respective sector. No budget committee is in place or it provides technical assistance only		
No formal committee involvement, but committees may choose to consider aspects of the budget		
Other, please specify below		

34. Is there a specialised budget research office/unit attached to the Legislature to conduct analyses of the budget?

No

Yes, there is a specialised budget research office/unit

Other, please specify below_____

Please estimate the number of full-time equivalent staff employed by this office/unit TEX

35. In the presentation of central Government budget documents to the Legislature, which of the following elements are included?

PLEASE CHECK ALL THE APPLY

Fiscal policy objectives for the medium-term
Macroeconomic assumptions
Budget priorities
Comprehensive annual financial plan encompassing all revenues and expenditures including off budget expenditures and extra budgetary funds
Comprehensive annual financial plan encompassing all revenues and expenditures for all levels of Government (including regional and local)
Comprehensive table of tax expenditures (exemptions, deductions and credits)
Non-financial performance targets for programmes and/or agencies
Medium-term perspective on total revenue and expenditure (possibly in the form of a
Medium-term Expenditure Framework)
Long-term perspective on total revenue and expenditure (10 or more years)
Clearly defined appropriations to be voted by the Legislature
Linkage of appropriations to administrative units (e.g. ministry, agency)
Text of legislation for policies proposed in the budget

36. Does the Legislature formally debate/discuss overall budget policy?

PLEASE CHECK ALL THAT APPLY

budget policy debate in the Legislature
lget policy debate in the Legislature, i.e. prior to the introduction
posal
on overall budget policy following the introduction of the
overall budget policy, but legislators discuss it in committee
ion of the Executive's budget proposal
overall budget policy, but legislators discuss it in committee

- sessions following the introduction of the Executive's budget proposal
- Other, please specify below ____

37. Does the Legislature first vote on the total amount of expenditure before it votes on specific appropriations?

No
Yes

38. How many line item appropriations are contained in the budget?

Line items are the lowest, i.e. most detailed, level where sanction of spending is given in law.

Please estimate and write in the number here

TEXTBOX

39. In practice, what is the timeframe for the following stages of budget approval?

Please indicate how many months before (or after) the beginning of the fiscal year each of the following stages takes place

Stages of Budget approval

The budget is presented to the Legislature [DROPDOWN: from 10 months before to 10 months after] The budget is approved by the Legislature [DROPDOWN: from 10 months before to 10 months after]

How flexible is this timeframe? Please provide any additional information in the box below

40. What are the formal powers of the Legislature to amend the budget proposed by the Executive?

The Legislature has unrestricted powers to amend the budget
The Legislature may make amendments but only if it does not change the total deficit/surplus
proposed by the Executive
The Legislature may only decrease existing expenditures/revenues (i.e. the Legislature cannot
increase existing items nor create new ones)
The Legislature may not make any changes; it can only approve or reject the budget as a
whole

Other, please specify below _____

41. What has been the total size of changes made by the Legislature as a percentage of the budget presented by the Executive?

Please estimate and write in the size as a percentage of the proposed budget for the current fiscal year TEXT BOX

Please indicate whether this entailed an increase or decrease in total spending

Increase in total spending Total spending was unchanged

Decrease in total spending

Please estimate and write in the size as a percentage of the proposed budget for the previous fiscal year TEXT BOX

Please indicate whether this entailed an increase or decrease in total spending

ĺ	

Increase in total spending Total spending was unchanged Decrease in total spending

42. Notwithstanding the formal powers of the Legislature to modify the budget, is a vote on the budget considered a vote of confidence in the Government?

No
Yes
Other, please specify below

43. If the budget is not approved by the Legislature before the start of the fiscal year, which of the following describes the consequences?

The Executiv	ve's budget proposal takes effect
The Executiv	ve's budget proposal takes effect on an interim basis, i.e. for a limited period
The Executiv Last year's b	udget takes effect on an interim basis, i.e. for a limited period
Other interin	n measures are voted on by the Legislature
Other interin Expenditure	without legislative approval are not allowed
Other, please	e specify below

44. Does the Executive have the power to veto the budget approved by the Legislature?

- No, it does not have such power
 Yes, it has line item veto power
 Yes, it has package veto power
 - Yes, it has both line item and package veto powers
 - Other, please specify below_____

If applicable, when was the last time the Executive used its veto power Please write in the year TEXT BOX

Please write in the year	IEXI B
Please provide any further details below	

Off-budget expenditures

Off-budget expenditures are Government transactions/activities that are not part of the formal annual appropriation(s) law(s), for example extra budgetary funds, loans, loan guarantees and Public Private Partnerships.

45. What types of off-budget expenditure exist?

PLEASE CHECK ALL THAT APPLY

Please check the box to indicate which are applicable (if they exist in the country), whether they require authorization from the Legislature, and whether information on off-budget expenditures is included in the budget documentation.

Type of off-budget expenditure	Is it applicable?	Does it require legislative authorization?	Is it included in budget documentation?
Tax expenditures (exemptions, deductions and credits)			
Social security funds			
Public Private Partnerships (PPP)			
Off-budget loans			
Loan guarantees			
Public health care funds			
Public sector pensions			
Funds for higher education establishments			
Emergency/contingency funds			
Donor funds			

OECD Budget Practices and Procedures Database

Stabilization funds		
Expenditure financed by external loans		
Military expenditure		
Special accounts managed by the Ministry of		
Finance/Treasury/Central Budget Authority		
Other, please specify below		

46. Approximately how large is off-budget expenditure in relation to total expenditure in the central Government budget?

Please estimate and write in the size as a percentage of the central Government budget TEXT BOX

47. If applicable, what is defined as a public contingent liability?

PLEASE CHECK ALL THAT APPLY

This term is not defined for the public sector
Loan guarantees
Law suits pending
Public Private Partnerships/Private Finance Initiatives
Environmental degradation
Other guarantees, please specify below
Other, please specify below

48. Are Government's contingent liabilities noted in the budget documentation (or in other documents) presented to the Legislature?

No
Yes

PART IV: BUDGET EXECUTION

49. Do your agencies/executive organisations receive lump sum appropriations?

- No, each agency/executive organisation receives an appropriation that specifies expenditures below the agency level
- Yes, each agency/executive organisation receives a lump sum appropriation for operating expenditures only, without sub-limits
- Yes, each agency/executive organisation receives a lump sum appropriation for operating expenditures only, with a sub-limit on wages
- Yes, each agency/executive organisation receives a lump sum appropriation covering both operating and capital expenditures, without sub-limits
- Yes, each agency/executive organisation receives a lump sum appropriation covering both operating and capital expenditures, with a sub-limit on wages
- Other, please specify below ____

50. Is any charge imposed on agencies/executive organisations for using capital assets? (e.g. use of government owned building)

- No capital charge is used
- Yes, a general capital charge is used

Yes, a capital charge is used in certain cases. Please specify below_____

In-year changes

51. Does the Government have the authority to increase spending once the budget has been approved by the Legislature?

For each type of change please indicate whether it applies, with what restrictions, and whether any approval is required

a. Increase mandatory spending

Is it possible?

No Yes, without restrictions Yes, with restrictions. Please specify below_____

Does it require any approval?

PLEASE CHECK ALL THAT APPLY

Approval is not required
It requires Central Budget Authority approval prior to the fact
It requires legislative approval prior to the fact
It requires Central Budget Authority approval after the fact
It requires legislative approval after the fact

Other, please specify below_____

b. Increase discretionary spending

Is it possible?

No Yes, without restrictions Yes, with restrictions. Please specify below_____

Does it require any approval?

PLEASE CHECK ALL THAT APPLY

Approval is not required
It requires Central Budget Authority approval prior to the fact
It requires legislative approval prior to the fact
It requires Central Budget Authority approval after the fact
It requires legislative approval after the fact
Other, please specify below

52. Does the Government have the authority to cut/cancel/rescind spending once the budget has been approved by the Legislature?

Is it possible?

No Yes, without restrictions Yes, with restrictions. Please specify below______

Does it require any approval?

PLEASE CHECK ALL THAT APPLY

Approval is not required
It requires Central Budget Authority approval prior to the fact
It requires legislative approval prior to the fact
It requires Central Budget Authority approval after the fact
It requires legislative approval after the fact
Other, please specify below

53. Are ministers allowed to reallocate/vire funds between line items within their responsibility?

CHECK ALL THAT APPLY

No
 Yes, without restrictions
 Yes, with restrictions, please specify below_____
 With the approval of the Legislature
 With the approval of the Finance Minister
 Please specify below any restrictions/limits that apply

54. Can ministers carry-over unused funds or appropriations from one year to another?

a. Operating expenditures

		No Yes, without restrictions Yes, with restrictions, please specify below
With the approval of the Legislature		
With the approval of the Finance Minister	=	

b. Investments

No
Yes, without restrictions
Yes, with restrictions, please specify below
With the approval of the Legislature
With the approval of the Finance Minister

c. Transfers/subsidies

No
Yes, without restrictions
Yes, with restrictions, please specify below
With the approval of the Legislature
With the approval of the Finance Minister

Please specify below any restrictions/limits that apply

55. Is it possible for ministries/Government organisations to borrow against future appropriations?

PLEASE CHECK ALL THAT APPLY

	No	
	Yes, without approval	
On anoting Free on ditarnog	Yes, without approval if within a specified sub-limit	
Operating Expenditures	Yes, with approval of the Legislature	
	Yes, with approval of the Central Budget Authority	
	Other, please specify below	
	No	
	Yes, without approval	
Internet and a	Yes, without approval if within a specified sub-limit	
Investments	Yes, with approval of the Legislature	
	Yes, with approval of the Central Budget Authority	
	Other, please specify below	
	No	
	Yes, without approval	
Transfers, subsidies, etc.	Yes, without approval if within a specified sub-limit	
	Yes, with approval of the Legislature	
	Yes, with approval of the Central Budget Authority	

Other, please specify below

Supplementary budgets

56. How frequently do you publish information on actual revenues and expenditures during the fiscal year?

[DROPDOWN: Weekly; Monthly; Quarterly; Every six months; Annually; On ad hoc basis; Not at all; Other, please specify below_____]

57. Can overspending occur before a supplementary appropriation law/budget is approved by the Legislature?

[

No Yes, there are no limits on overspending without legislative approval Yes, but only up to a certain limit, please specify below______ Yes, but only for mandatory spending Other, please specify below ______

Please provide any additional information in the box below

58. How many supplementary budgets or appropriation laws/budgets have been submitted annually in the past two years?

Last fiscal year [DROPDOWN MENU: NONE, ONE, TWO...UP TO 20+]

Previous to last fiscal year [DROPDOWN MENU: NONE, ONE, TWO...UP TO 20+]

59. What have been the major factors requiring supplementary budgets?

PLEASE CHECK THE THREE MOST IMPORTANT

Legal requirement for supplementary budget
End of year "account clean up"
Prior year "account clean up"
Changing economic forecasts resulting in lower revenue/higher expenditure
Natural disaster
Ad hoc emergency needs
New policy initiatives
Transfer of funds from one appropriation to another (no net increase)
Formal approval of appropriations carried forward from one fiscal year to the next
Rescission/cancellation of planned spending
Other, please specify below

60. In the last fiscal year, what was the total size of supplementary budgets as a percentage of total planned expenditure in the original budget?

Please estimate and write in the size as a percentage of total planned expenditure TEXT BOX

Please indicate whether this entailed an increase or decrease in total spending

Increase in total spending

Total spending was unchanged

Decrease in total spending

61. Did the budget for the last fiscal year include any central reserve funds to meet unforeseen expenditures?

PLEASE CHECK ALL THAT APPLY and write in the relative size of the reserve fund as a percentage of the budget

	Reserve size as a percentage of the budget
No	
Yes, to meet general unforeseen expenditures	WRITE IN NUMBER
Yes, to finance new policy initiatives	WRITE IN NUMBER
Yes, to meet major forecasting errors in macroeconomic and other assumptions underlying the budget	WRITE IN NUMBER
Other, please specify below	WRITE IN NUMBER

PART V: ACCOUNTING AND AUDIT

Accounting basis and standards

62. On what reporting basis are the following presented to the Legislature?

	Budget	Financial statement (*)
Cash-based (including obligations based) <i>Revenue</i> and costs are recognised when transactions take place	Please write in the approximate percentage of total on-budget expenditure on cash	Please write in the approximate percentage of total on-budget expenditure on cash
Accrual-based Revenue and costs are recognised when they are earned or incurred	Please write in the approximate percentage of total on-budget expenditure on accruals	Please write in the approximate percentage of total on-budget expenditure on accruals
Other, please specify below	Please write in the approximate percentage of total on-budget expenditure on this basis	Please write in the approximate percentage of total on-budget expenditure on this basis

(*) IF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT IS BOTH IN CASH AND ACCRUALS PLEASE WRITE IN 100 % IN BOTH

Please provide any further details below

63. How are the technical standards for the budget and related documents and the technical accounting standards for financial statements determined?

	Budget	Financial statements
The Finance Ministry or Central Budget Authority determines the standards following recommendations by an advisory board established by law		

The Finance Ministry or Central Budget Authority appoints an independent standards board to determine the standards to be used	
The Finance Ministry or Central Budget Authority determines standards	
A private sector standards body determines the standards to be used, i.e. Government organisations follow standards applicable to the private sector	
Other, please specify below	

64. Is there a system to charge a price for goods and services provided by one Government organisation to another?

No
Yes, it is used to a great extent
Yes, it is used to some extent
Yes, but it is used only to a minor extent, please specify below
Other, please specify below

65. In general, are Government organisation managers able to keep any savings from efficiency gains that they have realized in order to finance other expenditures?

This only concerns organisations that are under ministerial responsibility and the savings refer to the line item appropriations. An example would be an agency responsible for food safety reapplying saved funds available as a result of new ways of organizing its activities.

No	
Yes, without restrictions	
Yes, with some restrictions,	please specify below
Other, please specify below	

Audit systems

66. Do any line ministries have internal audit units?

No Yes

If yes, what proportion of line ministries have internal audit units? [DROPDOWN MENU: not applicable; 0-20%; 21-40%; 41-60%; 61-80%; 81-100%]

Are	they	prescribed	by	law?
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No
Yes
Other, please specify below

Please provide any additional information in the text box below



67. Approximately what percentage of central Government spending is annually subject to performance or value-for-money audits by the Supreme Audit Institution?

- a. Please write in the approximate number of performance audit reports published every year
- b. Please write in the approximate percentage of central Government spending covered by performance audits
- *c. Please give us an example of a performance audit, and if possible, provide a URL where it can be obtained*

68. According to the relevant legal provisions, to whom does the Supreme Audit Institution principally report?

PLEASE CHECK ALL THAT APPLY

The President
The Prime Minister
The Cabinet
The Judiciary
The Legislature
The finance or budget committee in the Legislature
A legislative committee that specializes in audit scrutiny, e.g. Public Accounts Committee
Sectoral legislative committees (e.g. health, education etc.) as relevant or appropriate
Other, please specify below

69. Are the findings of the Supreme Audit Institution available to the public?

Yes, always
Yes, in most cases, but with some exceptions (e.g. audits of the military). Please specify
below
Rarely
Never
Other, please specify below

70. When are the accounts audited by the Supreme Audit Institution publicly available?

[DROPDOWN MENU: From 1 to 12 months after the end of the fiscal year; more than 12 months after the end of the fiscal year; they are not publicly available]

PART VI: PERFORMANCE INFORMATION

Types of performance information

71. What types of performance information are produced to assess the Government's non-financial performance?

PLEASE CHECK ALL THAT APPLY

None
Performance targets
Performance measures
Evaluation reports (e.g. programme, sectoral, efficiency, or cost effectiveness reviews)
Benchmarking
Other, please specify below

72. What types of evaluations are commissioned and/or conducted by the following institutions?

PLEASE CHECK ALL THAT APPLY

	Central Budget Authority	Ministry of Finance	Line ministries	Supreme Audit Institution	Legislat ure	Other
Review of ongoing programmes						
Ex post review of programmes						
Review of new initiatives or programmes						
Sectoral reviews						
Efficiency and/or cost effectiveness reviews						
None						

If other, please specify below____

73. What types of non-financial performance measures have been developed for central Government?

a. Output measures



Please estimate the number of output measures Please give us two examples of output measures

b. Outcome measures

No
Yes

Please estimate the number of outcome measures Please give us two examples of outcome measures

c. Other non-financial performance measures



Please estimate the number of such measures Please give us two examples of such measures

74. In which year was the first Government-wide initiative to introduce performance measures (outputs and/or outcomes)?

Please write in the year in which Government-wide performance measures were first introduced

75. Approximately how many performance targets are there in the budget?

[WRITE IN NUMBER]

Please estimate what percentage of expenditure is specifically linked to performance targets

[DROPDOWN MENU: NOT INCLUDED, 1-10%, 11-20%, ..., 91-100%]

76. Are expenditures linked to performance goals or objectives?

[DROPDOWN MENU: No; Yes, 0-20% of expenditures; Yes, 21-40% of expenditures; Yes, 41-60% of expenditures; Yes, 61-80% of expenditures; Yes, 81-100% of expenditures]

If applicable, please provide an example of such a performance goal or objective

77. Who has responsibility for setting performance target?

	Formally	In practice
	Primary	The most active
	responsibility	participants are
	lies with	CHECK ALL
	CHECK ONE	THAT APPLY
No one		
The Prime Minister		
The President		
The Cabinet		
The relevant minister		
The Minister of Finance		
The administrative head of the relevant ministry		
The Minister of Finance together with the relevant minister		
The Legislature		
International organisation, please specify below		
Other, please specify below		

78. Who is responsible for achieving performance targets?

PLEASE CHECK ONE

No one
The President
The Prime Minister
The Central Budget Authority
The relevant minister
The highest civil servant in the relevant ministry
Other, please specify below

79. If performance targets cut across organisational boundaries, who is responsible for achieving them?

No one One of the relevant ministers All of the relevant ministers The highest ranking civil servant in one of the relevant organisations The highest ranking civil servant in each of the relevant organisations
The highest ranking civil servant in each of the relevant organisations
Other, please specify below

80. If ministries/Government organisations are required to report on performance against targets, to which bodies are they required to report?

PLEASE CHECK ALL THAT APPLY

Not applicable, there are no targets
Not required to report
Internally within the relevant ministry/Government organisation
Parent Ministry
Central Budget Authority
President's Office

Prime Minister's Office
Cabinet
Legislature
Supreme Audit Institution
Other, please specify below

81. Is performance against targets routinely presented to the Legislature?

No, it is not presented at all
No, it is only presented on an ad hoc basis
Yes, it is presented in a Government-wide report not accompanying the budget
Yes, it is presented in a Government-wide report accompanying the budget
Yes, it is integrated into the annual financial documents
Yes, it is integrated into the main budget documents
Yes, each ministry prepares performance reports accompanying the budget
Other, please specify below

82. Is performance against targets made available to the public?

PLEASE CHECK ALL THAT APPLY



Application of performance information in Government decision-making

- 83. Is performance information used as part of the budget discussions/negotiations between the Central Budget Authority and line/spending ministries?
- **Evaluation reports** a.

]	No
]	Yes

If yes, could you indicate the proportion of ministries with whom evaluation reports are used as a basis for negotiations?

[DROPDOWN: None; up to 20 %; 21-40%; 41-60%; 61-80%; 81-100%]

b. **Performance against targets**

No
Yes

Yes

If yes, could you indicate the proportion of ministries with whom performance against targets are used as a basis for negotiations?

[DROPDOWN: None; up to 20 %; 21-40%; 41-60%; 61-80%; 81-100%]

84. How is performance information generally used by the following two actors?

PLEASE CHECK THE THREE MOST IMPORTANT

	Central Budget	Line
	Authority	ministries
No impact on decision-making		
Allocating resources between ministries/agencies		
Allocating resources between programmes		
Allocating resources within programmes		
Justifying existing allocations to specific		
activities/programmes		
Cutting expenditures		
Compelling or pushing change in programmes		
Setting targets for next year		
Managing programmes/agencies		
Other, please specify below		

85. If performance targets are not met, how likely is it that any of the following consequences are triggered?

Please check all that apply, specifying how often those consequences occur

	Almost never	Rarely	Sometimes	Often	Almost always
	0-20%	21-40%	41-60%	61-80%	81-100%
The programme is eliminated					
There is more intense monitoring of the programme/activities in future					
There are negative consequences for the size of the budget of the ministry responsible for delivering the target (i.e. the budget decreases)					
There are negative consequences for the pay of the head of the ministry/entity responsible for delivering the target					
There are negative consequences for future career opportunities of the heads of ministries/entities responsible for delivering the target					
Other, please specify below					

86. If evaluations indicate poor performance, how likely is it that any of the following consequences are triggered?

Please check all that apply, specifying how often those consequences occur

	Almost never	Rarely	Sometimes	Often	Almost always
	0-20%	21-40%	41-60%	61-80%	81-100%
The programme is eliminated					
There is more intense monitoring of the programme/activities in future					
There are negative consequences for the size of the budget of the ministries responsible for the target (i.e. the budget size does not increase or decreases)					
There are negative consequences for the pay of the head of the ministry/entity responsible for delivering the target					
There are negative consequences for future career opportunities of the heads of ministries/entities responsible for delivering the target					
Other, please specify below					

	Almost never	Rarely	Sometimes	Often	Almost always
	0-20%	21-40%	41-60%	61-80%	81-100%
The President					
The Prime Minister					
The Cabinet					
The Minister of Finance					
The Central Budget Authority					
The minister with responsibility for the ministry/entity which is supposed to deliver a performance target					
Members of the Budget Committee in the Legislature					
Members of sectoral committees in the Legislature					
Other, please specify below					

87. How often do the following actors use performance information in budgetary decision-making?

88. When performance against targets is used by the Central Budget Authority in the budget formulation process, how is it used and how often?

PLEASE CHECK ALL THAT APPLY AND SCORE THE FREQUENCY

	Almost never	Rarely	Sometimes	Often	Almost always
	0-20%	21-40%	41-60%	61-80%	81-100%
Performance against targets is used to determine budget allocations					
Performance against targets is actively used along with information on fiscal policy and policy priorities to inform but not determine budget allocations					
Performance against targets is not used in budgetary decision-making					
Other, please specify below					

89. When the results of evaluations are used by the Central Budget Authority in the budget formulation process how are they used and how often?

	Almost never	Rarely	Sometimes	Often	Almost always
	0-20%	21-40%	41-60%	61-80%	81-100%
Evaluation results are used to determine budget allocations					
Evaluation results are actively used along with information on fiscal policy and policy priorities to inform but not determine budget allocations					
Evaluation results are not used in budgetary decision-making					
Other, please specify below					

Please check all that apply and score the frequency