

Open Budget Survey 2019

Questionnaire

Moldova (Republic of)

April 2020

Country Questionnaire: Moldova (Republic of)

PBS-1. What is the fiscal year of the PBS evaluated in this Open Budget Survey questionnaire?

Please enter the fiscal year in the following format: "FY YYYY" or "FY YYYY-YY."

Answer:

FY 2019

Source:

Law on public finance nr 181/2014, art 47 (1), a). <http://lex.justice.md/index.php?action=view&view=doc&lang=1&id=354213> the deadline for this document is 1st June.

Comment:

In Moldova PBS is the Mid Term Budget Framework.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

PBS-2. When is the PBS made available to the public?

Publicly available budget documents are defined as those documents that are published on the website of the public authority issuing the document within the time frame specified in the OBS methodology and that all citizens are able to obtain free of charge. (See the Open Budget Survey Guidelines on Public Availability of Budget Documents.) This is a change from previous rounds of the Open Budget Survey: now at minimum documents must be made available on the Internet and free of charge to be considered publicly available.

The OBS methodology requires that for a PBS to be considered publicly available, it must be made available to the public one month before the Executive's Budget Proposal is submitted to the legislature for consideration. If the PBS is not released to the public at least one month before the Executive's Budget Proposal is submitted to the legislature for consideration, option "d" applies. Option "d" should also be chosen for documents that are produced for internal purposes only (that is, produced but never released to the public) or are not produced at all. Some governments may publish budget documents further in advance than the latest possible dates outlined above. In these instances, researchers should choose options "a" or "b," depending on the date of publication identified for the PBS.

Answer:

b. At least two months, but less than four months, in advance of the budget year, and at least one month before the Executive's Budget Proposal is introduced in the legislature

Source:

<http://lex.justice.md/index.php?action=view&view=doc&lang=1&id=377401>

<http://mf.gov.md/sites/default/files/documente%20relevante/CBTM%20%282019-2021%29%20-%20ro.pdf>

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: Often there are delays in this timeline, due to political turbulences. For example, 2015, 2016.

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

PBS-3a. If the PBS is published, what is the date of publication of the PBS?

Note that the date of publication is not necessarily the same date that is printed on the document.

Researchers should respond to this question if the document is published either within the time frame accepted by the OBS methodology or too late.

Please enter the date in the following format: "DD/MM/YYYY." For example, 5 September 2018 should be entered as 05/09/2018. If the document is not published or not produced, leave this question blank.

Answer:
28/9/2018

Source:
Official site of Legal acts <http://lex.justice.md/>
<http://lex.justice.md/index.php?action=view&view=doc&lang=1&id=377401>

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Disagree

Suggested Answer: In 2018, the PBS 2019-2021 (CBTM) was published on 20 August 2018.

<http://mf.gov.md/sites/default/files/documente%20relevante/CBTM%20%282019-2021%29%20-%20ro.pdf>

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Researcher Response

The PBS 2019-2021 (MTBF 2019-2021) was approved by the Government (not published) on 20 August 2018. The publishing date is 28/09/2018 and this is stipulated on the official legal portal. The Ministry of Finance published the document on its site only in October 2018.

PBS-3b. In the box below, please explain how you determined the date of publication of the PBS.

If the document is not published at all, researchers should mark this question "n/a."

Answer:
Official site for legal acts contains this information

Source:
<http://lex.justice.md/>

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Disagree

Suggested Answer: Ministry of Finance website <http://mf.gov.md/sites/default/files/documente%20relevante/CBTM%20%282019-2021%29%20-%20ro.pdf>

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Researcher Response

The PBS 2019-2021 (MTBF 2019-2021) was approved by the Government (not published) on 20 August 2018. The publishing date is 28/09/2018 and this is stipulated on the official legal portal. The Ministry of Finance published the document on its site only in October 2018.

PBS-4. If the PBS is published, what is the URL or weblink of the PBS?

Researchers should respond to this question if the document is published either within the time frame accepted by the OBS methodology or too late. If the document is not published at all, researchers should leave this question blank.

Answer:
<http://lex.justice.md/index.php?action=view&view=doc&lang=1&id=377401>

Source:
Official site of Legal acts <http://lex.justice.md/>

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: Both official publication and the Ministry of Finance website indicate the same date. <http://lex.justice.md/index.php?action=view&view=doc&lang=1&id=377401> <http://mf.gov.md/sites/default/files/documente%20relevante/CBTM%20%282019-2021%29%20-%20ro.pdf>

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

PBS-5. If the PBS is published, are the numerical data contained in the PBS available in a machine readable format?

Material (data or content) is machine readable if it is in a format that can be easily processed by a computer, such as .csv, .xls/.xlsx, and .json. Numerical data found in PDFs and Word (.doc/.docx) files do not qualify as machine readable. See more at: <http://opendatahandbook.org/glossary/en/terms/machine-readable/>

Option "d" applies if the PBS is not published or not produced, therefore its machine readability cannot be assessed.

Answer:
c. No

Source:
Ministry of Finance
<http://mf.gov.md/sites/default/files/documente%20relevante/CBTM%20%282019-2021%29%20-%20ro.pdf>
Official site for legal acts <http://lex.justice.md/index.php?action=view&view=doc&lang=1&id=377401>

Comment:
All data are in PDF or Word format

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: data not in machine readable format <http://mf.gov.md/sites/default/files/documente%20relevante/CBTM%20%282019-2021%29%20-%20ro.pdf>

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

PBS-6a. If the PBS is not publicly available, is it still produced?

If the PBS is not considered publicly available under the OBS methodology (and thus the answer to Question PBS-2 was "d"), a government may nonetheless produce the document.

Option "a" applies if the document is produced and made available to the public online but not within the time frame specified in the OBS methodology (see Question PBS-2)

Option "b" applies if the document is produced and made available to the public within the time frame specified by the OBS methodology but only in hard copy (and is not available online). Option "b" also applies if the document is made available to the public within the time frame specified by the OBS methodology in

soft electronic copy but is not available online.

Option "c" applies if the document is produced for internal purposes only and so is not made available to the public.

Option "d" applies if the document is not produced at all.

Option "e" applies if the document is publicly available.

If a document is not released to the public, researchers may need to write to or visit the relevant government office in order to determine whether answer "c" or "d" applies.

Answer:

e. Not applicable (the document is publicly available)

Source:

The document is available to the public.

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

PBS-6b. If you selected option "c" or "d" in question PBS-6a, please specify how you determined whether the PBS was produced for internal use only, versus not produced at all.

If option "a," "b," or "e" was selected in question PBS-6a, researchers should mark this question "n/a."

Answer:

Source:

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion:

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

PBS-7. If the PBS is produced, please write the full title of the PBS.

For example, a title for the Pre-Budget Statement could be "Proposed 2019 State Budget" or "Guidelines for the Preparation of Annual Plan and Budget for 2018/19."

If the document is not produced at all, researchers should mark this question "n/a."

Answer:

CADRUL BUGETAR PE TERMEN MEDIU (2019-2021)

Source:

<http://mf.gov.md/sites/default/files/documente%20relevante/CBTM%20%282019-2021%29%20-%20ro.pdf>

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: <http://lex.justice.md/index.php?action=view&view=doc&lang=1&id=377401>

<http://mf.gov.md/sites/default/files/documente%20relevante/CBTM%20%282019-2021%29%20-%20ro.pdf>

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

PBS-8. Is there a "citizens version" of the PBS?

While the Citizens Budget was initially conceived as a simplified version of the Executive's Budget Proposal or the Enacted Budget, good practice is now evolving and suggests that a "citizens" version of key budget documents should be produced during each of the four phases of the budget cycle. This would serve to inform citizens of the state of public financial management throughout the entire budget cycle. While it is recognized that it may be unreasonable to expect that a citizens version is produced for each and every one of those key documents, it seems acceptable to expect that according to good practice, the executive releases a citizens version of key budget documents for each of the four stages of the budget process to allow citizens to be aware of what is happening, in terms of public financial management, throughout the entire budget cycle. For more information on Citizens Budget see: <http://www.internationalbudget.org/opening-budgets/citizens-budgets/>.

Answer:

b. No

Source:

Ministry of Finance web page and the discussion with relevant department from the Ministry of Finance

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: Citizen version of the PBS not available. Only Citizen version of the budget

<http://mf.gov.md/sites/default/files/Bugetul%20pentru%20cet%C4%83%C8%9Beni%202019.pdf>

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

EBP-1a. What is the fiscal year of the EBP evaluated in this Open Budget Survey questionnaire?

Please enter the fiscal year in the following format: "FY YYYY" or "FY YYYY-YY."

Answer:

FY 2019

Source:

Law on public finance nr 181/2014 art 46 and art 47.

<http://lex.justice.md/index.php?action=view&view=doc&lang=1&id=354213>

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

EBP-1b. When is the EBP submitted to the legislature for consideration?

Please enter the date in the following format: "DD/MM/YYYY." For example, 5 September 2018 should be entered as 05/09/2018. If the document is not published or not produced, leave this question blank.

Answer:
13/11/2018

Source:
Parliament site <http://parlament.md/ProcesulLegislativ/Proiectedeacteleislative/tabid/61/LegislativId/4455/language/ro-RO/Default.aspx>

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: EBP for 2019 was submitted to parliament on 13 November 2018.

<http://parlament.md/ProcesulLegislativ/Proiectedeacteleislative/tabid/61/LegislativId/4455/language/ro-RO/Default.aspx>

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

EBP-2. When is the EBP made available to the public?

Publicly available budget documents are defined as those documents that are published on the website of the public authority issuing the document within the time frame specified in the OBS methodology and that all citizens are able to obtain free of charge. (See the Open Budget Survey Guidelines on Public Availability of Budget Documents.) This is a change from previous rounds of the Open Budget Survey: now at minimum documents must be made available on the Internet and free of charge to be considered publicly available.

The OBS methodology requires that for an EBP to be considered publicly available, it must be made available to the public while the legislature is still considering it and before the legislature approves (enacts) it. If the EBP is not released to the public before the legislature approves it, option "d" applies. Option "d" should also be chosen for documents that are produced for internal purposes only (that is, produced but never released to the public) or are not produced at all. Some governments may publish budget documents further in advance than the latest possible dates outlined above. In these instances, researchers should choose options "a" or "b," depending on the date of publication identified for the EBP.

The OBS definition of an Executive's Budget Proposal is a document(s) that (i) the executive submits to the legislature as a formal part of the budget approval process and (ii) the legislature either approves or on which it approves proposed amendments.

The OBS will treat the Executive's Budget Proposal as "Not Produced," in the following cases:

- *The executive does not submit the draft budget to the legislature; or*
- *The legislature receives the draft budget but does not approve it or does not approve recommendations on the draft budget;*
- *The legislature rejects the draft budget submitted by the executive, but the executive implements it without legislative approval; or*
- *There is no legislature, or the legislature has been dissolved.*

Answer:

c. Less than two months in advance of the budget year, but at least in advance of the budget being approved by the legislature

Source:
<http://parlament.md/ProcesulLegislativ/Proiectedeacteleislative/tabid/61/LegislativId/4455/language/ro-RO/Default.aspx>

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: EBP for 2019 was made available to public one and a half months before the start of budget year.

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

EBP-3a. If the EBP is published, what is the date of publication of the EBP?

Note that the date of publication is not necessarily the same date that is printed on the document.

Researchers should respond to this question if the document is published either within the time frame accepted by the OBS methodology or too late.

Please enter the date in the following format: "DD/MM/YYYY." For example, 5 September 2018 should be entered as 05/09/2018. If the document is not published or not produced, leave this question blank.

In the comment boxes below, researchers should also list any supporting documents to the EBP and their date of publication.

Answer:
13/11/2018

Source:
Parliament site <http://parlament.md/ProcesulLegislativ/Proiectedeactelegislative/tabid/61/LegislativId/4455/language/ro-RO/Default.aspx>

Comment:
The date is mentioned on the Parliament site as date when the EBP was registered in the Parliament. It could be that this is not the exact date when the document was published, but on 19.11.2018 it was already published and starting with 21 November the EBP was discussed in the Parliamentary Comissions.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Disagree
Suggested Answer: 08/11/2018
Comments: The document was published on 08/11/2018. MoF site <http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/proiectul-hot%C4%83r%C3%Aerii-guvernului-privind- aprobarea-proiectului-legii-bugetului-de-stat-0> Particip.gov.md <http://particip.gov.md/proiectview.php?l=ro&idd=5906> The document published on mentioned sites was approved by the Government and send to the Parliament

Researcher Response
Yes, the Ministry of Finance published on 08/11/2018, several hours before the Government approved the EBP 2019 (and sent it to the Parliament), but it was published only a few documents, without important annexes and supporting documents. The full version of the EBP was available only on the Parliament site. Also, a new proposed date, would not have a bearing on changing the score in Question EBP-2. Also, it should be taken into consideration that the document published by the Ministry of Finance actually is not a EBP, because it presents the situation before Government approval. The approved by the Government Budget Proposal was available only on the Parliament site.

EBP-3b. In the box below, please explain how you determined the date of publication of the EBP.

If the document is not published at all, researchers should mark this question "n/a."

Answer:
The date was determined by researcher by monitoring of the activities in the Parliament during the examination of the EBP. But, also by checking the records in Parliament Committees.

Source:
Parliament site <http://parlament.md/ProcesulLegislativ/Proiectedeactelegislative/tabid/61/LegislativId/4455/language/en-US/Default.aspx>

Comment:

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Comments: the date is indicated on parliament website.

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Disagree

Suggested Answer: The main source to determine the date of publication of the EBP is the MoF official site <http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/proiectul-hot%C4%83r%C3%Aerii-guvernului-privind-aprobarea-proiectului-legii-bugetului-de-stat-0>

Researcher Response

Yes, the Ministry of Finance published on 08/11/2018, several hours before the Government approved the EBP 2019 (and sent it to the Parliament), but it was published only a few documents, without important annexes and supporting documents. The full version of the EBP was available only on the Parliament site. Also, a new proposed date, would not have a bearing on changing the score in Question EBP-2. Also, it should be taken into consideration that the document published by the Ministry of Finance actually is not a EBP, because it presents the situation before Government approval. The approved by the Government Budget Proposal was available only on the Parliament site.

EBP-4. If the EBP is published, what is the URL or weblink of the EBP?

Researchers should respond to this question if the document is published either within the time frame accepted by the OBS methodology or too late. If the document is not published at all, researchers should leave this question blank.

In the comment boxes below, researchers should also list any supporting documents to the EBP and their URL or weblink.

Answer:

<http://parlament.md/ProcesulLegislativ/Proiectedeactelegislative/tabid/61/LegislativId/4455/language/en-US/Default.aspx>

Source:

Documents could be find on <http://parlament.md/ProcesulLegislativ/Proiectedeactelegislative/tabid/61/LegislativId/4455/language/en-US/Default.aspx>
at Initial Text: 393.2018.ru.pdf , 393.2018.ro.pdf

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Disagree

Suggested Answer: <http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/proiectul-hot%C4%83r%C3%Aerii-guvernului-privind-aprobarea-proiectului-legii-bugetului-de-stat-0>
Comments: Also the documents could be found on: MoF site <http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/proiectul-hot%C4%83r%C3%Aerii-guvernului-privind-aprobarea-proiectului-legii-bugetului-de-stat-0> Particip.gov.md <http://particip.gov.md/proiectview.php?l=ro&idd=5906>

Researcher Response

Yes, the Ministry of Finance published on 08/11/2018, several hours before the Government approved the EBP 2019 (and sent it to the Parliament), but it was published only a few documents, without important annexes and supporting documents. The full version of the EBP was available only on the Parliament site. Also, a new proposed date, would not have a bearing on changing the score in Question EBP-2. Also, it should be taken into consideration that the document published by the Ministry of Finance actually is not a EBP, because it presents the situation before Government approval. The approved by the Government Budget Proposal was available only on the Parliament site.

EBP-5. If the EBP is published, are the numerical data contained in the EBP or its supporting documents available in a machine readable format?

Material (data or content) is machine readable if it is in a format that can be easily processed by a computer, such as .csv, .xls/.xlsx, and .json. Numerical data found in PDFs and Word (.doc/.docx) files do not qualify as machine readable. See more at: <http://opendatahandbook.org/glossary/en/terms/machine-readable/>.

Option "d" applies if the EBP is not published or not produced, therefore its machine readability cannot be assessed.

Answer:

c. No

Source:

<http://parlament.md/ProcesulLegislativ/Proiectedeacteleislative/tabid/61/LegislativId/4455/language/en-US/Default.aspx>
at Initial Text: 393.2018.ru.pdf , 393.2018.ro.pdf

Comment:

The format is PDF. At the same time the MF published draft of EBP2019 with some annexes in machine readable format (<http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/proiectul-hot%C4%83r%C3%AEEii-guvernului-privind-aprobarea-proiectului-legii-bugetului-de-stat-0>). It should be mentioned that the information placed on MF site could be different from what was approved by the Government and send to the Parliament.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: data is not reader-friendly and not machine readable format.

<http://parlament.md/ProcesulLegislativ/Proiectedeacteleislative/tabid/61/LegislativId/4455/language/ro-RO/Default.aspx>

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Disagree

Suggested Answer: a. Yes, all of the numerical data are available in a machine readable format

Comments: On the official site of Mof all of the numerical data are available in format .xlsx <http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/proiectul-hot%C4%83r%C3%AEEii-guvernului-privind-aprobarea-proiectului-legii-bugetului-de-stat-0> (from archived document "Anexele 1-9") The information placed on Mof site is the same what was approved by the Government and send to the Parliament

Researcher Response

Yes, the Ministry of Finance published on 08/11/2018, several hours before the Government approved the EBP 2019 (and sent it to the Parliament), but it was published only a few documents, without important annexes and supporting documents. The full version of the EBP was available only on the Parliament site. Also, a new proposed date, would not have a bearing on changing the score in Question EBP-2. Also, it should be taken into consideration that the document published by the Ministry of Finance actually is not a EBP, because it presents the situation before Government approval. The approved by the Government Budget Proposal was available only on the Parliament site.

EBP-6a. If the EBP is not publicly available, is it still produced?

If the EBP is not considered publicly available under the OBS methodology (and thus the answer to Question EBP-2 was "d"), a government may nonetheless produce the document.

Option "a" applies if the document is produced and made available to the public online but not within the time frame specified in the OBS methodology (see Question EBP-2).

Option "b" applies if the document is produced and made available to the public within the time frame specified by the OBS methodology but only in hard copy (and is not available online). Option "b" also applies if the document is made available to the public within the time frame specified by the OBS methodology in soft electronic copy but is not available online.

Option "c" applies if the document is produced for internal purposes only and so is not made available to the public.

Option "d" applies if the document is not produced at all.

Option "e" applies if the document is publicly available.

If a document is not released to the public, researchers may need to write to or visit the relevant government office in order to determine whether answer "c" or "d" applies.

Answer:

e. Not applicable (the document is publicly available)

Source:

The document is available

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

EBP-6b. If you selected option "c" or "d" in question EBP-6a, please specify how you determined whether the EBP was produced for internal use only, versus not produced at all.

If option "a","b," or "e" was selected in question EBP-6a, researchers should mark this question "n/a."

Answer:

Source:

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion:

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

EBP-7. If the EBP is produced, please write the full title of the EBP.

For example, a title for the Executive's Budget Proposal could be "Draft Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure for BY 2018-19, produced by the Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development."

If there are any supporting documents to the EBP, please enter their full titles in the comment box below.

If the document is not produced at all, researchers should mark this question "n/a."

Answer:

Proiectul legii bugetului de stat pentru anul 2019

Source:

<http://parlament.md/ProcesulLegislativ/Proiectedeactelegislative/tabid/61/LegislativId/4455/language/en-US/Default.aspx>
at Initial Text: 393.2018.ru.pdf , 393.2018.ro.pdf

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

EBP-8. Is there a "citizens version" of the EBP?

While the Citizens Budget was initially conceived as a simplified version of the Executive's Budget Proposal or the Enacted Budget, good practice is now evolving and suggests that a "citizens" version of key budget documents should be produced during each of the four phases of the budget cycle. This would serve to inform citizens of the state of public financial management throughout the entire budget cycle. While it is recognized that it may be unreasonable to expect that a citizens version is produced for each and every one of those key documents, it seems acceptable to expect that according to good practice, the executive releases a citizens version of key budget documents for each of the four stages of the budget process to allow citizens to be aware of what is happening, in terms of public financial management, throughout the entire budget cycle. For more information on Citizens Budget see: <http://www.internationalbudget.org/opening-budgets/citizens-budgets>.

Answer:
b. No

Source:

Comment:
No citizens version is published on the Ministry of Finance, Government or Parliament sites.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Disagree

Suggested Answer: a. Yes

Comments: Citizens version of the budget is available on the Ministry of Finance website:
<http://mf.gov.md/sites/default/files/Bugetul%20pentru%20cet%C4%83%C8%9Beni%202019.pdf>

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Researcher Response

The mentioned by peer reviewer Citizen Budget is not for the EBP-2019, but for the EB-2019.

EB-1a. What is the fiscal year of the EB evaluated in this Open Budget Survey questionnaire?

Please enter the fiscal year in the following format: "FY YYYY" or "FY YYYY-YY."

Answer:
FY 2019

Source:

Law on public finance nr. 181/2014, art 47 (1), lit e).
<http://lex.justice.md/index.php?action=view&view=doc&lang=1&id=354213>

Comment:
According to the law on public finance the budget for 2019 should be approved by the Parliament until 1 December 2018.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

EB-1b. When was the EB approved (enacted) by the legislature?

Please enter the date in the following format: "DD/MM/YYYY." For example, 5 September 2018 should be entered as 05/09/2018. If the document is not published or not produced, leave this question blank.

Answer:
30/11/2018

Source:

Official site for legal acts
<http://lex.justice.md/index.php?action=view&view=doc&lang=1&id=378600>
<http://parlament.md/ProcesulLegislativ/Proiectedeactelegislative/tabid/61/LegislativId/4455/language/en-US/Default.aspx>

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Disagree

Suggested Answer: The parliament has voted the EBP 2019 on December 4th. It was then promulgated (Enacted) by the president on December 13th and published in the official publication on December 22 2018.

<http://parlament.md/ProcesulLegislativ/Proiectedeactelegislative/tabid/61/LegislativId/4455/language/ro-RO/Default.aspx>

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Researcher Response

The EB was approved on 30/11/2018 (on 04/12/2018 the Parliament doesn't had parliamentary debates). The budget law contains the approval day (Lege nr. 303 din 30/11/2018), the publication day in the official monitor (Publicat : 22.12.2018 in Monitorul Oficial Nr. 504-511 art Nr : 842), and the day the law come into force (Data intrarii in vigoare : 01.01.2019).

EB-2. When is the EB made available to the public?

Publicly available budget documents are defined as those documents that are published on the website of the public authority issuing the document within the time frame specified in the OBS methodology and that all citizens are able to obtain free of charge. (See the Open Budget Survey Guidelines on Public Availability of Budget Documents.) This is a change from previous rounds of the Open Budget Survey: now at minimum documents must be made available on the Internet and free of charge to be considered publicly available.

The OBS methodology requires that for an EB to be considered publicly available, it must be made available to the public three months after the budget is approved by the legislature. If the EB is not released to the public at least three months after the budget is approved by the legislature, option "d" applies. Option "d" should also be chosen for documents that are produced for internal purposes only (that is, produced but never released to the public) or are not produced at all. Some governments may publish budget documents further in advance than the latest possible dates outlined above. In these instances, researchers should choose options "a" or "b," depending on the date of publication identified for the EB.

Answer:

b. Between two weeks and six weeks after the budget has been enacted

Source:

<http://lex.justice.md/index.php?action=view&view=doc&lang=1&id=378600>

Comment:

The EB was published on 22 December 2018 on the Official site for legal acts.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Disagree

Suggested Answer: a. Two weeks or less after the budget has been enacted

Comments: Suggested answer a. The Final text of the Budget Law for the Year 2019 was made available to the public on the Parliament official site, Plenary session of 30.11.2018. Source: <http://parlament.md/ProcesulLegislativ/Proiectedeactelegislative/tabid/61/LegislativId/4455/language/en-US/Default.aspx>

Researcher Response

The EB was published on 22 December 2018 on the Official site for legal acts. Yes, the additional source where the State Budget Law for 2019 (EB) was published is the official site of the Parliament on (<http://parlament.md/ProcesulLegislativ/Proiectedeactelegislative/tabid/61/LegislativId/4455/language/en-US/Default.aspx>) but this is a second source. The approved laws are made available online first on the official portal of legal acts (<http://lex.justice.md/> and recently on <http://www.legis.md>) and after on Parliament site. The document made available on Parliament site was published even later than on <http://lex.justice.md/>. So, the answer should remain b. The pdf document published on the Parliament site was created on 20 December 2018 at 12:19:52 (info from properties of the published document) and published later than 22 December 2018. Also, the formats of published documents are more friendly on the official portal of legal acts than on Parliament site where it is one pdf file.

EB-3a. If the EB is published, what is the date of publication of the EB?

Note that the date of publication is not necessarily the same date that is printed on the document.
Researchers should respond to this question if the document is published either within the time frame accepted by the OBS methodology or too late.

Please enter the date in the following format: "DD/MM/YYYY." For example, 5 September 2018 should be entered as 05/09/2018. If the document is not published or not produced, leave this question blank.

Answer:
22/12/2018

Source:
The Official site for legal acts <http://lex.justice.md/>

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: It was published on December 22nd as per the parliament website.

<http://parlament.md/ProcesulLegislativ/Proiectedeactelegislative/tabid/61/LegislativId/4455/language/ro-RO/Default.aspx>

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Disagree

Suggested Answer: Suggested answer 30.11.2018

Comments: Suggested answer 30.11.2018 The State Budget Law for the Year 2019 was published in Monitorul Oficial on 22.12.2019, but on the official site of the Parliament it was published at the Plenary session of 30.11.2018. Source:

<http://parlament.md/ProcesulLegislativ/Proiectedeactelegislative/tabid/61/LegislativId/4455/language/en-US/Default.aspx>

Researcher Response

Yes, the additional source where the State Budget Law for 2019 (EB) was published is the official site of the Parliament on (<http://parlament.md/ProcesulLegislativ/Proiectedeactelegislative/tabid/61/LegislativId/4455/language/en-US/Default.aspx>) but this is a second source. The approved laws are made available online first on the official portal of legal acts (<http://lex.justice.md/> and recently on <http://www.legis.md>) and after on Parliament site. The document made available on Parliament site was published even later than on <http://lex.justice.md/>. The pdf document published on the Parliament site was created on 20 December 2018 at 12:19:52 (info from properties of the published document) and published later than 22 December 2018. The budget law was published on 22 December 2018, and in the same day was made available online on www.lex.justice.md portal.

EB-3b. In the box below, please explain how you determined the date of publication of the EB.

If the document is not published at all, researchers should mark this question "n/a."

Answer:
The official site for legal acts contains the date of publishing.

Source:
<http://lex.justice.md/index.php?action=view&view=doc&lang=1&id=378600>

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Disagree

Suggested Answer:

Comments: Also, the State Budget Law for the Year 2019 (adopted final text) was published on the official site of the Parliament, Plenary session of 30.11.2018. Source: <http://parlament.md/ProcesulLegislativ/Proiectedeactelegislative/tabid/61/LegislativId/4455/language/en-US/Default.aspx>

Researcher Response

Yes, the additional source where the State Budget Law for 2019 (EB) was published is the official site of the Parliament on (<http://parlament.md/ProcesulLegislativ/Proiectedeactelegislative/tabid/61/LegislativId/4455/language/en-US/Default.aspx>) but this is a second source. The approved laws are made available online first on the official portal of legal acts (<http://lex.justice.md/> and recently on <http://www.legis.md>) and after on Parliament site. The document made available on Parliament site was published even later than on <http://lex.justice.md/>. So, the answer should remain b. The pdf document published on the Parliament site was created on 20 December 2018 at

12:19:52 (info from properties of the published document) and published later than 22 December 2018. Also, the formats of published documents are more friendly on the official portal of legal acts than on Parliament site where it is one pdf file. The budget law was published on 22 December 2018, and in the same day was made available online on www.lex.justice.md portal.

EB-4. If the EB is published, what is the URL or weblink of the EB?

Researchers should respond to this question if the document is published either within the time frame accepted by the OBS methodology or too late. If the document is not published at all, researchers should leave this question blank.

Answer:

<http://lex.justice.md/index.php?action=view&view=doc&lang=1&id=378600>

Source:

The official site for legal acts <http://lex.justice.md/>

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Disagree

Suggested Answer:

Comments: Also, the State Budget Law for the Year 2019 (adopted final text) was published on the official site of the Parliament, Plenary session of 30.11.2018. Source: <http://parlament.md/ProcesulLegislativ/Proiectedeactelegislative/tabid/61/LegislativId/4455/language/en-US/Default.aspx>

Researcher Response

Yes, the additional source where the State Budget Law for 2019 (EB) was published is the official site of the Parliament on (<http://parlament.md/ProcesulLegislativ/Proiectedeactelegislative/tabid/61/LegislativId/4455/language/en-US/Default.aspx>) but this is a second source. The approved laws are made available online first on the official portal of legal acts (<http://lex.justice.md/> and recently on <http://www.legis.md>) and after on Parliament site. The document made available on Parliament site was published even later than on <http://lex.justice.md/>. So, the answer should remain b. The pdf document published on the Parliament site was created on 20 December 2018 at 12:19:52 (info from properties of the published document) and published later than 22 December 2018. Also, the formats of published documents are more friendly on the official portal of legal acts than on Parliament site where it is one pdf file. The budget law was published on 22 December 2018, and in the same day was made available online on www.lex.justice.md portal.

EB-5. If the EB is published, are the numerical data contained in the EB available in a machine readable format?

Material (data or content) is machine readable if it is in a format that can be easily processed by a computer, such as .csv, .xls/.xlsx, and .json. Numerical data found in PDFs and Word (.doc/.docx) files do not qualify as machine readable. See more at: <http://opendatahandbook.org/glossary/en/terms/machine-readable/>

Option "d" applies if the EB is not published or not produced, therefore its machine readability cannot be assessed.

Answer:

c. No

Source:

<http://lex.justice.md/index.php?action=view&view=doc&lang=1&id=378600>

Comment:

All data are in Word format

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

EB-6a. If the EB is not publicly available, is it still produced?

If the EB is not considered publicly available under the OBS methodology (and thus the answer to Question EB-2 was "d"), a government may nonetheless produce the document.

Option "a" applies if the document is produced and made available to the public online but not within the time frame specified in the OBS methodology (see Question EB-2)

Option "b" applies if the document is produced and made available to the public within the time frame specified by the OBS methodology but only in hard copy (and is not available online). Option "b" also applies if the document is made available to the public within the time frame specified by the OBS methodology in soft electronic copy but is not available online.

Option "c" applies if the document is produced for internal purposes only and so is not made available to the public.

Option "d" applies if the document is not produced at all.

Option "e" applies if the document is publicly available.

If a document is not released to the public, researchers may need to write to or visit the relevant government office in order to determine whether answer "c" or "d" applies.

Answer:

e. Not applicable (the document is publicly available)

Source:

EB is available.

Comment:

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

EB-6b. If you selected option "c" or "d" in question EB-6a, please specify how you determined whether the EB was produced for internal use only, versus not produced at all.

If option "a," "b," or "e" was selected in question EB-6a, researchers should mark this question "n/a."

Answer:

Source:

Comment:

Peer Reviewer
Opinion:

Government Reviewer
Opinion:

EB-7. If the EB is produced, please write the full title of the EB.

For example, a title for the Enacted Budget could be "Appropriation Act n. 10 of 2018."

If the document is not produced at all, researchers should mark this question "n/a."

Answer:

Legea nr 303 din 30.11.2018 bugetului de stat pentru anul 2019

Source:

<http://lex.justice.md/index.php?action=view&view=doc&lang=1&id=378600>

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: LEGEA Nr. 303 din 30.11.2018 bugetului de stat pentru anul 2019. (Publicat : 22.12.2018 în Monitorul Oficial Nr. 504-511 art Nr : 842)

<http://lex.justice.md/index.php?action=view&view=doc&lang=1&id=378600>

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

EB-8. Is there a "citizens version" of the EB?

While the Citizens Budget was initially conceived as a simplified version of the Executive's Budget Proposal or the Enacted Budget, good practice is now evolving and suggests that a "citizens" version of key budget documents should be produced during each of the four phases of the budget cycle. This would serve to inform citizens of the state of public financial management throughout the entire budget cycle. While it is recognized that it may be unreasonable to expect that a citizens version is produced for each and every one of those key documents, it seems acceptable to expect that according to good practice, the executive releases a citizens version of key budget documents for each of the four stages of the budget process to allow citizens to be aware of what is happening, in terms of public financial management, throughout the entire budget cycle. For more information on Citizens Budget see: <http://www.internationalbudget.org/opening-budgets/citizens-budgets/>.

Answer:

b. No

Source:

Ministry of Finance <http://mf.gov.md/ro>

Comment:

No citizen version for EB 2019 is published, yet.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Disagree

Suggested Answer: a. Yes

Comments: <http://mf.gov.md/sites/default/files/Bugetul%20pentru%20cet%C4%83%C8%99Beni%202019.pdf>

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Disagree

Suggested Answer: a. Yes

Comments: <http://mf.gov.md/sites/default/files/Bugetul%20pentru%20cet%C4%83%C8%99Beni%202019.pdf>

Researcher Response

At the moment of evaluation CB for EB 2019 wasn't published. It was published in the first days of April 2019, later than three months after the legislature approved the budget. According OBS methodology it is considered not published.

CB-1. What is the fiscal year of the CB evaluated in this Open Budget Survey questionnaire?

Please enter the fiscal year in the following format: "FY YYYY" or "FY YYYY-YY."

If more than one Citizens Budget is produced, for each CB please indicate the document the CB simplifies/refers to, and the fiscal year.

Answer:
FY 2018

Source:
CB corresponds to the EBP 2018

Comment:
The Ministry of Finance is working on CB for EB 2019.
According to the law on public finance nr 181/2014 budget for next year should be approved by Parliament until 1 December. Parliament approved EB for 2019 on 30/11/2018 and published it on 22/12/2018. Also, MF intends to elaborate and publish the CB for EB 2019, not for EBP 2019. So, according OBS methodology, the Government has 3 months to publish CB on EB 2019. Taking into consideration above, the FY for CB was selected FY 2018, particularly EBP 2018 (as most recent document).

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

CB-2a. For the fiscal year indicated in CB-1, what is the public availability status of the CB?

If more than one Citizens Budget is produced, please complete this question for one of them, specifying in the comment box below which document (Executive's Budget Proposal or Enacted Budget) you are referring to, and – in the same comment box – which other Citizens Budget is produced and its public availability status.

Remember that publicly available budget documents are defined as those documents that are published on the website of the public authority issuing the document within the time frame specified by the OBS methodology and that all citizens are able to obtain free of charge. This is a change from previous rounds of the Open Budget Survey: now at minimum documents must be made available on the Internet and free of charge to be considered publicly available.

*Option "a" applies if the document is produced and made available to the public online but not within the time frame specified in the OBS methodology
Option "b" applies if the document is produced and made available to the public within the time frame specified by the OBS methodology but only in hard copy (and is not available online). Option "b" also applies if the document is made available to the public within the time frame specified by the OBS methodology in soft electronic copy but is not available online.*

Option "c" applies if the document is produced for internal purposes only and so is not made available to the public.

Option "d" applies if the document is not produced at all.

Option "e" applies if the document is publicly available.

Answer:
e. Not applicable (the document is publicly available)

Source:
<http://mf.gov.md/ro/buget/transparen%C8%9Ba-bugetar%C4%83/bugetul-pentru-cet%C4%83%C8%9Beni>

Comment:

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

CB-2b. If you selected option "c" or "d" in question CB-2a, please specify how you determined whether the CB was produced for internal use only, versus not produced at all.

If option "a," "b," or "e" was selected in question CB-2a, researchers should mark this question "n/a."

Answer:

Source:

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion:

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

CB-3a. If the CB is published, what is the date of publication of the CB?

Note that the date of publication is not necessarily the same date that is printed on the document.

Researchers should respond to this question if the document is published either within the time frame accepted by the OBS methodology or too late.

Please enter the date in the following format: "DD/MM/YYYY." For example, 5 September 2018 should be entered as 05/09/2018. If the document is not published or not produced, leave this question blank.

If more than one Citizens Budget is published, please complete this question for one of them, specifying in the comment box below which document you are referring to, and – in the same comment box – which other Citizens Budget is produced and its dates of publication.

Answer:

30/11/2017 30/11/2017

Source:

For FY 2018 CB was published on EBP 2018.

Comment:

CB for FY 2018 corresponds to EBP 2018. EBP 2018 was approved by the Government on 21 November 2017 <http://lex.justice.md/index.php?action=view&view=doc&lang=1&id=372678> and made public on the Parliament site on 23 November 2017

<http://parlament.md/ProcesulLegislativ/Proiectedeactele legislative/tabid/61/LegislativId/3979/language/ro-RO/Default.aspx> .

The Parliament approved budget for 2018 on 15 December 2017 <http://lex.justice.md/index.php?action=view&view=doc&lang=1&id=373684>

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

CB-3b. In the box below, please explain how you determined the date of publication of the CB.

If the document is not published at all, researchers should mark this question "n/a."

Answer:

Monitored in last OBS It was monitored in OBS 2017

Source:

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Disagree

Suggested Answer: it is not clear when it was published on the Ministry of Finance website. The website does not give such data.
<http://mf.gov.md/ro/categoria-documentului/bugetul-pentru-cet%C4%83%C8%9Beni>

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Researcher Response

The CB for EB 2018 is published on the Ministry of Finance site on (<http://mf.gov.md/ro/buget/transparen%C8%9Ba-bugetar%C4%83/bugetul-pentru-cet%C4%83%C8%9Beni>) or (<http://mf.gov.md/sites/default/files/Buget%20Cetateni%202018.pdf>)

CB-4. If the CB is published, what is the URL or weblink of the CB?

Researchers should respond to this question if the document is published either within the time frame accepted by the OBS methodology or too late. If the document is not published at all, researchers should leave this question blank.

If more than one Citizens Budget is published, please complete this question for one of them, specifying in the comment box below which document you are referring to, and – in the same comment box – which other Citizens Budget is produced and its URL or weblink.

Answer:

<http://mf.gov.md/sites/default/files/Buget%20Cetateni%202018.pdf> <http://mf.gov.md/sites/default/files/Buget%20Cetateni%202018.pdf>

Source:

Ministry of Finance web page <http://mf.gov.md/ro>

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

CB-5. If the CB is produced, please write the full title of the CB.

For example, a title for the Citizens Budget could be "Budget 2018 People's Guide" or "2019 Proposed Budget in Brief: A People's Budget Publication."

If the document is not produced at all, researchers should mark this question "n/a."

If more than one Citizens Budget is produced, for the other CB, indicate the document the CB refers to and, next to it, its full title.

Answer:

Bugetul pentru cetateni 2018 Bugetul pentru cetateni 2018

Source:

<http://mf.gov.md/ro/buget/transparen%C8%9Ba-bugetar%C4%83/bugetul-pentru-cet%C4%83%C8%9Beni>

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

CB-6. If the CB is produced, please indicate which budget document it corresponds to.

If more than one Citizens Budget is produced, please complete this question for one of them, specifying in the comment box below which document you are referring to, and – in the same comment box – which other Citizens Budget is produced and which budget document it simplifies.

Answer:

CB 2018 corresponds to EBP 2018 It corresponds to EBP-2018

Source:

<http://mf.gov.md/ro/buget/transparen%C8%9Ba-bugetar%C4%83/bugetul-pentru-cet%C4%83%C8%9Beni>

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

IYRs-1. What is the fiscal year of the IYRs evaluated in this Open Budget Survey questionnaire?

Please enter the fiscal year in the following format: "FY YYYY" or "FY YYYY-YY."

Answer:

FY 2017 and FY2018

Source:

Ministry of Finance

<http://mf.gov.md/ro/trezorerie/rapoarte-privind-executarea-bugetului/rapoarte-lunare>

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

IYRs-2. When are the IYRs made available to the public?

Publicly available budget documents are defined as those documents that are published on the website of the public authority issuing the document within the time frame specified in the OBS methodology and that all citizens are able to obtain free of charge. (See the Open Budget Survey Guidelines on Public Availability of Budget Documents.) This is a change from previous rounds of the Open Budget Survey: now at minimum documents must be made available on the Internet and free of charge to be considered publicly available.

The OBS methodology requires that for IYRs to be considered publicly available, IYRs must be made available to the public no later than three months after the reporting period ends. If at least seven of the last 12 monthly IYRs, or at least three of the last four quarterly IYRs are not released to the public at least three months after the reporting period ends, option "d" applies. Option "d" should also be chosen for documents that are produced for internal purposes only (that is, produced but never released to the public) or are not produced at all. Some governments may publish budget documents further in advance than the latest

possible dates outlined above. In these instances, researchers should choose options "a" or "b," depending on the date of publication identified for the IYRs.

Answer:

a. At least every month, and within one month of the period covered

Source:

Ministry of Finance

<http://mf.gov.md/ro/trezorerie/rapoarte-privind-executarea-bugetului/rapoarte-lunare>

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

IYRs-3a. If the IYRs are published, what are the dates of publication of the IYRs?

Specifically: if quarterly In-Year Reports are published, indicate the dates of publication of at least three of the last four IYRs that were publicly available. If monthly IYRs are published, indicate the dates of publication of at least seven of the last 12 IYRs that were publicly available.

Note that the date of publication is not necessarily the same date that is printed on the document.

Researchers should respond to this question if the document is published either within the time frame accepted by the OBS methodology or too late.

Please enter the date in the following format: "DD Month YYYY." For example, 5 September 2018 should be entered as 05 September 2018. If the document is not published or not produced, please mark this question "n/a."

Answer:

All monthly reports (December 2017 -November 2018) were published before the end of the next month. This was monitored by visiting the Ministry of Finance site every month in the period starting with 26th day up to the end of the month.

Source:

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

IYRs-3b. In the box below, please explain how you determined the date of publication of the IYRs.

If the document is not published at all, researchers should mark this question "n/a."

Answer:

By visiting the Ministry of Finance site every month in the period starting with 26th day up to the end of the month.

Source:

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: The IYRs are published monthly, however the Ministry of Finance website does not offer the information that would make it possible to verify when exactly these are published.

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

IYRs-4. If the IYRs are published, what is the URL or weblink of the IYRs?

Researchers should respond to this question if the document is published either within the time frame accepted by the OBS methodology or too late.

Researchers should provide the weblink to the most recent In-Year Report in the space below, and – in the comment box underneath – the weblinks to older IYRs.

If the document is not published at all, researchers should leave this question blank.

Answer:

<http://mf.gov.md/ro/trezorerie/rapoarte-privind-executarea-bugetului/rapoarte-lunare>

Source:

Ministry of Finance

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

IYRs-5. If the IYRs are published, are the numerical data contained in the IYRs available in a machine readable format?

Material (data or content) is machine readable if it is in a format that can be easily processed by a computer, such as .csv, .xls/.xlsx, and .json. Numerical data found in PDFs and Word (.doc/.docx) files do not qualify as machine readable. See more at: <http://opendatahandbook.org/glossary/en/terms/machine-readable/>

Option "d" applies if the IYRs are not published or not produced, therefore their machine readability cannot be assessed.

Answer:

a. Yes, all of the numerical data are available in a machine readable format

Source:

<http://mf.gov.md/ro/trezorerie/rapoarte-privind-executarea-bugetului/rapoarte-lunare>

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: other than the narrative reports, all data are published in excel format.

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

IYRs-6a. If the IYRs are not publicly available, are they still produced?

If the IYRs are not considered publicly available under the OBS methodology (and thus the answer to Question IYRs-2 was "d"), a government may nonetheless produce the document.

Option "a" applies if the document is produced and made available to the public online but not within the time frame specified in the OBS methodology (see Question IYRs-2).

Option "b" applies if the document is produced and made available to the public within the time frame specified by the OBS methodology but only in hard copy (and is not available online). Option "b" also applies if the document is made available to the public within the time frame specified by the OBS methodology in soft electronic copy but is not available online.

Option "c" applies if the document is produced for internal purposes only and so is not made available to the public.

Option "d" applies if the document is not produced at all.

Option "e" applies if the document is publicly available.

If a document is not released to the public, researchers may need to write to or visit the relevant government office in order to determine whether answer "c" or "d" applies.

Answer:

e. Not applicable (the document is publicly available)

Source:

Documents are publicly available

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

IYRs-6b. If you selected option "c" or "d" in question IYRs-6a, please specify how you determined whether the IYRs were produced for internal use only, versus not produced at all.

If option "a," "b," or "e" was selected in question IYRs-6a, researchers should mark this question "n/a."

Answer:

Source:

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion:

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

IYRs-7. If the IYRs are produced, please write the full title of the IYRs.

For example, a title for the In-Year Report could be "Budget Monitoring Report, Quarter 1" or "Budget Execution Report January-March 2018."

If In-Year Reports are not produced at all, researchers should mark this question "n/a."

Researchers should provide the full title of the most recent In-Year Report in the space below, and – in the comment box underneath – the full titles of older IYRs.

Answer:

Rapoarte lunare

Source:

<http://mf.gov.md/ro/trezorerie/rapoarte-privind-executarea-bugetului/rapoarte-lunare>

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Disagree

Suggested Answer: Raport privind executarea bugetului public național la situația din ____ (month/day/year)

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Disagree

Suggested Answer:

Comments: We do not agree. We suggest changing the response. The monthly report has the following title: Report on State Budget Execution in 2018 to March 31, 2018.

Researcher Response

The Ministry of Finance produces and publishing monthly reports regarding the budget execution. These include reports on the execution of the National Public Budget (General Government Budget) and its components: State budget, consolidated local budget, state social insurance budget, compulsory medical assistance funds, as well as central consolidated budget, public debt, etc. So if, to speak strictly of the execution of the state budget then, the name mentioned by the Ministry of Finance is the correct one, namely it has the form: "Raport privind executarea bugetului de stat la situația din XX luna 2019" (Report on the execution of the state budget at the XX month 2019). It represents the execution of the State Budget from the beginning of the year until the end of reported month.

IYRs-8. Is there a "citizens version" of the IYRs?

While the Citizens Budget was initially conceived as a simplified version of the Executive's Budget Proposal or the Enacted Budget, good practice is now evolving and suggests that a "citizens" version of key budget documents should be produced during each of the four phases of the budget cycle. This would serve to inform citizens of the state of public financial management throughout the entire budget cycle. While it is recognized that it may be unreasonable to expect that a citizens version is produced for each and every one of those key documents, it seems acceptable to expect that according to good practice, the executive releases a citizens version of key budget documents for each of the four stages of the budget process to allow citizens to be aware of what is happening, in terms of public financial management, throughout the entire budget cycle. For more information on Citizens Budget see: <http://www.internationalbudget.org/opening-budgets/citizens-budgets/>.

Answer:

b. No

Source:

It was checked on the Ministry of Finance web page

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

MYR-1. What is the fiscal year of the MYR evaluated in this Open Budget Survey questionnaire?

Please enter the fiscal year in the following format: "FY YYYY" or "FY YYYY-YY."

Answer:
FY 2018

Source:
Law on public finance nr 181/2014, art 46
<http://lex.justice.md/index.php?action=view&view=doc&lang=1&id=354213>

Comment:
FY is equivalent to calendar year.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

MYR-2. When is the MYR made available to the public?

Publicly available budget documents are defined as those documents that are published on the website of the public authority issuing the document within the time frame specified in the OBS methodology and that all citizens are able to obtain free of charge. (See the Open Budget Survey Guidelines on Public Availability of Budget Documents.) This is a change from previous rounds of the Open Budget Survey: now at minimum documents must be made available on the Internet and free of charge to be considered publicly available.

The OBS methodology requires that for an MYR to be considered publicly available, it must be made available to the public no later than three months after the reporting period ends (i.e., three months after the midpoint of the fiscal year). If the MYR is not released to the public at least three months after the reporting period ends, option "d" applies. Option "d" should also be chosen for documents that are produced for internal purposes only (that is, produced but never released to the public) or are not produced at all. Some governments may publish budget documents further in advance than the latest possible dates outlined above. In these instances, researchers should choose options "a" or "b," depending on the date of publication identified for the MYR.

Answer:

d. The MYR is not released to the public, or is released more than three months after the midpoint

Source:
Ministry of Finance web page
<http://mf.gov.md/ro/trezorerie/rapoarte-privind-executarea-bugetului/rapoarte-semianuale>

Comment:
The above six-month implementation report, which was published online in September 2018, makes reference to some of the elements of the Mid-Year Review. However, since it does not contain any updated budget information, and scores 0 on Questions 76-83 in Section 3 of the Open Budget Survey, it is not considered publicly available based on content.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Disagree

Suggested Answer: c. More than nine weeks, but less than three months, after the midpoint
Comments: As per the legislation, MYR are supposed to be presented to the parliament by September 15. IN 2018 the MYR was presented on 18 sept. However, the Moldovan MYR only offers statistics about the first semester and the public finance. It does not look forward at the second semester and is not used as an opportunity to introduce new measures to improve the fiscal outlook. There is no analysis whatsoever, not even superficial one, about the perspectives of the second half of the year. <http://mf.gov.md/ro/trezorerie/rapoarte-privind-executarea-bugetului/rapoarte-semianuale> In the last MYR there is one standard paragraph that refers to the second semester, offering no substance. The rest of the document is looking at the execution in the first semester.

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Disagree

Suggested Answer: c. More than nine weeks, but less than three months, after the midpoint
Comments: We do not agree. We propose to modify the answer in d) to c). The semiannual report was published on 17.09.2018

Researcher Response

Yes, the document with name "Raportul privind executarea bugetului public național și a componentelor acestuia pe primul semestru al anului 2018" (MYR 2018) was published on 18/09/2018. But the content of the document does not include important elements (mentioned above) and in the presented version couldn't be considered as MYR, according OBS methodology.

MYR-3a. If the MYR is published, what is the date of publication of the MYR?

Note that the date of publication is not necessarily the same date that is printed on the document.

Researchers should respond to this question if the document is published either within the time frame accepted by the OBS methodology or too late.

Please enter the date in the following format: "DD/MM/YYYY." For example, 5 September 2018 should be entered as 05/09/2018. If the document is not published or not produced, leave this question blank.

Answer:

Source:

Ministry of Finance

<http://mf.gov.md/ro/trezorerie/rapoarte-privind-executarea-bugetului/rapoarte-semianuale>

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Disagree

Suggested Answer: The last MYR was published on 18/09/2018. <http://mf.gov.md/ro/trezorerie/rapoarte-privind-executarea-bugetului/rapoarte-semianuale> The document, however, only looks at the first semester and the budget execution. It does not look forward at the second semester, and it does not offer any assessment of the expectations and perspectives about the state of public finance in the second half of the year.

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: The semiannual report was published on 17.09.2018

Researcher Response

Yes, the document with name "Raportul privind executarea bugetului public național și a componentelor acestuia pe primul semestru al anului 2018" (MYR 2018) was published on 18/09/2018. But the content of the document does not include important elements (mentioned above) and in the presented version couldn't be considered as MYR according OBS methodology.

MYR-3b. In the box below, please explain how you determined the date of publication of the MYR.

If the document is not published at all, researchers should mark this question "n/a."

Answer:

n/a

Source:

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Disagree

Suggested Answer: It is on the name of the document published on the Ministry of Finance website: 18/09/2018

<http://mf.gov.md/ro/trezorerie/rapoarte-privind-executarea-bugetului/rapoarte-semianuale>

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Disagree

Suggested Answer:

Comments: We do not agree. We suggest changing the response. The publication date was established according to the publication request on official website no. 80 of 17.09.2018

Researcher Response

Yes, the document with name "Raportul privind executarea bugetului public național și a componentelor acestuia pe primul semestru al anului 2018" (MYR 2018) was published on 18/09/2018. But the content of the document does not include important elements (mentioned above) and in the presented version couldn't be considered as MYR according OBS methodology.

MYR-4. If the MYR is published, what is the URL or weblink of the MYR?

Researchers should respond to this question if the document is published either within the time frame accepted by the OBS methodology or too late. If the document is not published at all, researchers should leave this question blank.

Answer:

Source:

Ministry of Finance web page <http://mf.gov.md/ro/trezorerie/rapoarte-privind-executarea-bugetului/rapoarte-semianuale>

Comment:

It is the archived file

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: <http://mf.gov.md/ro/trezorerie/rapoarte-privind-executarea-bugetului/rapoarte-semianuale> All the MYRs are on the same page of the Ministry of Finance.

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: <http://mf.gov.md/ro/trezorerie/rapoarte-privind-executarea-bugetului/rapoarte-semianuale>

MYR-5. If the MYR is published, are the numerical data contained in the MYR available in a machine readable format?

Material (data or content) is machine readable if it is in a format that can be easily processed by a computer, such as .csv, .xls/.xlsx, and .json. Numerical data found in PDFs and Word (.doc/.docx) files do not qualify as machine readable. See more at: <http://opendatahandbook.org/glossary/en/terms/machine-readable/>.

Option "d" applies if the MYR is not published or not produced, therefore its machine readability cannot be assessed.

Answer:

c. No

Source:

Comment:

All documents are in PDF format

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: all data is available in PDF only.

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

MYR-6a. If the MYR is not publicly available, is it still produced?

If the MYR is not considered publicly available under the OBS methodology (and thus the answer to Question MYR-2 was "d"), a government may nonetheless produce the document.

Option "a" applies if the document is produced and made available to the public online but not within the time frame specified in the OBS methodology (see Question MYR-2).

Option "b" applies if the document is produced and made available to the public within the time frame specified by the OBS methodology but only in hard copy (and is not available online). Option "b" also applies if the document is made available to the public within the time frame specified by the OBS methodology in soft electronic copy but is not available online.

Option "c" applies if the document is produced for internal purposes only and so is not made available to the public.

Option "d" applies if the document is not produced at all.

Option "e" applies if the document is publicly available.

If a document is not released to the public, researchers may need to write to or visit the relevant government office in order to determine whether answer "c" or "d" applies.

Answer:

d. Not produced at all

Source:

Ministry of Finance web page

<http://mf.gov.md/ro/trezorerie/rapoarte-privind-executarea-bugetului/rapoarte-semianuale>

Comment:

The above six-month implementation report, which was published online in September 2018, makes reference to some of the elements of the Mid-Year Review. However, since it does not contain any updated budget information, and scores 0 on Questions 76-83 in Section 3 of the Open Budget Survey, it is not considered publicly available based on content.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Disagree

Suggested Answer: c. Produced for internal purposes/use only

Comments: The document published on the Ministry of Finance website <http://mf.gov.md/ro/trezorerie/rapoarte-privind-executarea-bugetului/rapoarte-semianuale> does not look forward to the second semester and only offers information about the budget execution for the first semester. It cannot, therefore, be fully compliant with the OBS criteria. However, the government often amends and reviews the national budget in the middle of the year. This means that a more in-depth MYR looking at the perspectives for the second semester of the year, is performed, however not released to the public. Example: Parliament amended the budget for 2019. <http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/parlamentul-aprobat-modificarea-legii-bugetului-de-stat-pentru-anul-2019>

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Disagree

Suggested Answer: e. Not applicable (the document is publicly available)

Comments: We do not agree. We suggest modifying the answer from d) to e). The semiannual report was published.

Researcher Response

Yes, the document with name "Raportul privind executarea bugetului public național și a componentelor acestuia pe primul semestru al anului 2018" (MYR 2018) was published on 18/09/2018. But the content of the document does not include important elements (mentioned above) and in the presented version couldn't be considered as MYR, according OBS methodology. Also, to be considered as published for internal use the report should be qualified (as content) as MYR according the OBS methodology, but as was mentioned it does not include important elements and couldn't be considered as MYR.

MYR-6b. If you selected option "c" or "d" in question MYR-6a, please specify how you determined whether the MYR was produced for internal use only, versus not produced at all.

If option "a," "b," or "e" was selected in question MYR-6a, researchers should mark this question "n/a."

Answer:

The mentioned six-month implementation report, which was published online in September 2018, makes reference to some of the elements of the Mid-Year Review. However, since it does not contain any updated budget information, and scores 0 on Questions 76-83 in Section 3 of the Open Budget Survey, it is not considered publicly available based on content.

Source:

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: I choose not to review this question

Comments: The MYR released to the public is looking only at the first semester and no information is provided about the perspectives for the second semester. The Parliament at the initiative of the Government (Ministry of Finance) often amends and reviews the budget in the middle of the year. This means that ahead-looking analyses about the state of public finance are being performed regularly at the Ministry of Finance, however not released to the public. Example: Parliament amended the budget for 2019. <http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/parlamentul-aprobat-modificarea-legii-bugetului-de-stat-pentru-anul-2019> Parliament amended budget for 2018: <https://mf.gov.md/ro/content/proiectul-de-lege-pentru-modificarea-%C8%99i-completarea-legii-bugetului-de-stat-pe-anul-2018-nr>

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Disagree

Suggested Answer: n/a

Comments: n/a

Researcher Response

Yes, the document with name "Raportul privind executarea bugetului public național și a componentelor acestuia pe primul semestru al anului 2018" (MYR 2018) was published on 18/09/2018. But the content of the document does not include important elements (mentioned above) and in the presented version couldn't be considered as MYR, according OBS methodology. Also, to be considered as published for internal use the report should be qualified (as content) as MYR according the OBS methodology, but as was mentioned it does not include important elements and couldn't be considered as MYR.

MYR-7. If the MYR is produced, please write the full title of the MYR.

For example, a title for the Mid-Year Review could be "Semi-annual Budget Performance Report, FY 2017/18" or "Mid-Year Report on the 2018 National Budget."

If the document is not produced at all, researchers should mark this question "n/a."

Answer:

n/a

Source:

<http://mf.gov.md/ro/trezorerie/rapoarte-privind-executarea-bugetului/rapoarte-semianuale>

Comment:

Raportul privind executarea bugetului public național și a componentelor acestuia pe primul semestru al anului 2018

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: Raportul privind executarea bugetului public național și a componentelor acestuia pe primul semestru al anului 2018 In translation: Report on the execution of the national budget and its components for the first semester of 2018.

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Disagree

Suggested Answer:

Comments: We do not agree. We suggest changing the response. The semiannual report has the following title: Semi Annual Report on the execution of the national public budget and its components for 2018.

Researcher Response

Yes, the document with name "Raportul privind executarea bugetului public național și a componentelor acestuia pe primul semestru al anului 2018" (MYR 2018) was published on 18/09/2018. But the content of the document does not include important elements (mentioned above) and in the presented version couldn't be considered as MYR, according OBS methodology.

MYR-8. Is there a "citizens version" of the MYR?

While the Citizens Budget was initially conceived as a simplified version of the Executive's Budget Proposal or the Enacted Budget, good practice is now evolving and suggests that a "citizens" version of key budget documents should be produced during each of the four phases of the budget cycle. This would serve to inform citizens of the state of public financial management throughout the entire budget cycle. While it is recognized that it may be unreasonable to expect that a citizens version is produced for each and every one of those key documents, it seems acceptable to expect that according to good practice, the executive releases a citizens version of key budget documents for each of the four stages of the budget process to allow citizens to be aware of what is happening, in terms of public financial management, throughout the entire budget cycle. For more information on Citizens Budget see:

Answer:

b. No

Source:

Ministry of Finance web page <http://mf.gov.md/ro>

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

YER-1. What is the fiscal year of the YER evaluated in this Open Budget Survey questionnaire?

Please enter the fiscal year in the following format: "FY YYYY" or "FY YYYY-YY."

Answer:

FY 2017

Source:

According to the law on public finance (nr 181/2014, art 47, (1) lit i) the YER for FY should be approved by the Parliament until 15 July in FY+1. <http://lex.justice.md/index.php?action=view&view=doc&lang=1&id=354213>

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

YER-2. When is the YER made available to the public?

Publicly available budget documents are defined as those documents that are published on the website of the public authority issuing the document within the time frame specified in the OBS methodology and that all citizens are able to obtain free of charge. (See the Open Budget Survey Guidelines on Public Availability of Budget Documents.) This is a change from previous rounds of the Open Budget Survey: now at minimum documents must be made available on the Internet and free of charge to be considered publicly available.

The OBS methodology requires that for an YER to be considered publicly available, it must be made available to the public no later than one year after the fiscal year to which it corresponds. If the YER is not released to the public within one year after the end of the fiscal year to which it corresponds, option "d" applies. Option "d" should also be chosen for documents that are produced for internal purposes only (that is, produced but never released to the public) or are not produced at all. Some governments may publish budget documents further in advance than the latest possible dates outlined above. In these instances, researchers should choose options "a" or "b," depending on the date of publication identified for the YER.

Answer:

a. Six months or less after the end of the budget year

Source:

Government approved the YER 2017 on 23.05.2018 (<http://lex.justice.md/index.php?action=view&view=doc&lang=1&id=375607>) and has submitted it to the Parliament. Legislature has not approved it, yet, but the commission (Economy, Budget and Finance) discussed it and report is publicly available on the Parliament web page (<http://parlament.md/ProcesulLegislativ/Proiectedeacteleislative/tabid/61/LegislativId/4217/language/ro->

RO/Default.aspx
document in Word format: <http://parlament.md/LegislationDocument.aspx?id=fbd8b97f-0062-4a1d-b2e0-79bb0dad1bae>).

Comment:

Also, the YER 2017 prepared by the Ministry of Finance is available on the Government web page at:
https://gov.md/sites/default/files/document/attachments/intr36_17.pdf

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

YER-3a. If the YER is published, what is the date of publication of the YER?

Note that the date of publication is not necessarily the same date that is printed on the document.

Researchers should respond to this question if the document is published either within the time frame accepted by the OBS methodology or too late.

Please enter the date in the following format: "DD/MM/YYYY." For example, 5 September 2018 should be entered as 05/09/2018. If the document is not published or not produced, leave this question blank.

Answer:

30/5/2018

Source:

<http://parlament.md/ProcesulLegislativ/Proiectedeacteleislative/tabid/61/LegislativId/4217/language/ro-RO/Default.aspx>
<http://parlament.md/LegislationDocument.aspx?id=fbd8b97f-0062-4a1d-b2e0-79bb0dad1bae>

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

YER-3b. In the box below, please explain how you determined the date of publication of the YER.

If the document is not published at all, researchers should mark this question "n/a."

Answer:

It is the registration date in the Parliament

Source:

<http://parlament.md/ProcesulLegislativ/Proiectedeacteleislative/tabid/61/LegislativId/4217/language/ro-RO/Default.aspx>

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

YER-4. If the YER is published, what is the URL or weblink of the YER?

Researchers should respond to this question if the document is published either within the time frame accepted by the OBS methodology or too late. If the document is not published at all, researchers should leave this question blank.

Answer:

<http://parlament.md/LegislationDocument.aspx?id=fbd8b97f-0062-4a1d-b2e0-79bb0dad1bae>

Source:

<http://parlament.md/ProcesulLegislativ/Proiectedeactelegislative/tabid/61/LegislativId/4217/language/ro-RO/Default.aspx>
<http://parlament.md/LegislationDocument.aspx?id=fbd8b97f-0062-4a1d-b2e0-79bb0dad1bae>

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: We agree. By filling in the source: <http://mf.gov.md/ro/trezorerie/rapoarte-privind-executarea-bugetului/rapoarte-anuale>

YER-5. If the YER is published, are the numerical data contained in the YER available in a machine readable format?

Material (data or content) is machine readable if it is in a format that can be easily processed by a computer, such as .csv, .xls/.xlsx, and .json. Numerical data found in PDFs and Word (.doc/.docx) files do not qualify as machine readable. See more at: <http://opendatahandbook.org/glossary/en/terms/machine-readable/>

Option "d" applies if the YER is not published or not produced, therefore its machine readability cannot be assessed.

Answer:

c. No

Source:

<http://parlament.md/ProcesulLegislativ/Proiectedeactelegislative/tabid/61/LegislativId/4217/language/ro-RO/Default.aspx>
The YER 2017 available to the public is in Word format.
<http://parlament.md/LegislationDocument.aspx?id=fbd8b97f-0062-4a1d-b2e0-79bb0dad1bae>

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: data in PDF format alone.

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

YER-6a. If the YER is not publicly available, is it still produced?

If the YER is not considered publicly available under the OBS methodology (and thus the answer to Question YER-2 was "d"), a government may nonetheless produce the document.

Option "a" applies if the document is produced and made available to the public online but not within the time frame specified in the OBS methodology (see

Question YER-2)

Option "b" applies if the document is produced and made available to the public within the time frame specified by the OBS methodology but only in hard copy (and is not available online). Option "b" also applies if the document is made available to the public within the time frame specified by the OBS methodology in soft electronic copy but is not available online.

Option "c" applies if the document is produced for internal purposes only and so is not made available to the public.

Option "d" applies if the document is not produced at all.

Option "e" applies if the document is publicly available.

If a document is not released to the public, researchers may need to write to or visit the relevant government office in order to determine whether answer "c" or "d" applies.

Answer:

e. Not applicable (the document is publicly available)

Source:

YER 2017 is publicly available.

<http://parlament.md/ProcesulLegislativ/Proiectedeactele legislative/tabid/61/LegislativId/4217/language/ro-RO/Default.aspx>

<http://parlament.md/LegislationDocument.aspx?Id=fbd8b97f-0062-4a1d-b2e0-79bb0dad1bae>

Comment:

YER 2017 is publicly available.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: YER 2018 is publicly available.

YER-6b. If you selected option "c" or "d" in question YER-6a, please specify how you determined whether the YER was produced for internal use only, versus not produced at all.

If option "a," "b," or "e" was selected in question YER-6a, researchers should mark this question "n/a."

Answer:

Source:

Comment:

Due to the fact that Parliament didn't discuss and approve YER 2017, it is considered as not produced.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion:

Government Reviewer

Opinion:

YER-7. If the YER is produced, please write the full title of the YER.

For example, a title for the Year-End Report could be "Consolidated Financial Statement for the Year Ended 31 March 2018" or "Annual Report 2017 Published by the Ministry of Finance and Planning." If the document is not produced at all, researchers should mark this question "n/a."

Answer:

Raportului privind executarea bugetului de stat pe anul 2017

Source:

<http://parlament.md/ProcesulLegislativ/Proiectedeactele legislative/tabid/61/LegislativId/4217/language/ro-RO/Default.aspx>
<http://parlament.md/LegislationDocument.aspx?id=fb8b97f-0062-4a1d-b2e0-79bb0dad1bae>

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: Raportului privind executarea bugetului de stat pe anul 2017 Raportului privind executarea bugetului de stat pe anul 2018

YER-8. Is there a "citizens version" of the YER?

While the Citizens Budget was initially conceived as a simplified version of the Executive's Budget Proposal or the Enacted Budget, good practice is now evolving and suggests that a "citizens" version of key budget documents should be produced during each of the four phases of the budget cycle. This would serve to inform citizens of the state of public financial management throughout the entire budget cycle. While it is recognized that it may be unreasonable to expect that a citizens version is produced for each and every one of those key documents, it seems acceptable to expect that according to good practice, the executive releases a citizens version of key budget documents for each of the four stages of the budget process to allow citizens to be aware of what is happening, in terms of public financial management, throughout the entire budget cycle. For more information on Citizens Budget see: <http://www.internationalbudget.org/opening-budgets/citizens-budgets/>.

Answer:

a. Yes

Source:

Ministry of Finance <https://mf.gov.md/sites/default/files/RAPORT%20PENTRU%20CETATENI%202017.pdf>

Comment:

This document reflects the results of budget execution of FY 2017, prepared by Ministry of Finance.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

AR-1. What is the fiscal year of the AR evaluated in this Open Budget Survey questionnaire?

Please enter the fiscal year in the following format: "FY YYYY" or "FY YYYY-YY."

Answer:

FY 2017

Source:

According to the law on public finance nr 181/2014 AR should be produced by the Court of Accounts and presented to the Government and Parliament until 1st June.
<http://lex.justice.md/index.php?action=view&view=doc&lang=1&id=354213>

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: The Researcher names the Audit Report on the Government Report on the execution of the state budget as "AR" - Annual Report. We mention that the Court of Accounts develops and submits to the Parliament several annual reports and special reports: - until May 1st, the annual activity report, which is to be heard in the Parliament's plenary session; - until June 1st, the auditor's reports on the annual reports of the Government on the execution of the state budget, the state social insurance budget and the mandatory health insurance funds, which are to be heard in plenary session of the Parliament concomitantly with the respective reports of the Government; - until September 15th, the annual report on the administration and use of public financial resources and public assets, which is to be heard in the plenary session of the Parliament; - other reports that it deems necessary to submit. These reports, but also all the rest of the audit reports (financial, compliance, performance, IT) will be published later in the Official Journal (Official legal acts site <http://lex.justice.md/index.php?action=view&view>). = doc & lang = 1 & id = 376 290). This delay is related to the need to translate reports into the second language (Russian), a time-consuming procedure.

AR-2. When is the AR made available to the public?

Publicly available budget documents are defined as those documents that are published on the website of the public authority issuing the document within the time frame specified in the OBS methodology and that all citizens are able to obtain free of charge. (See the Open Budget Survey Guidelines on Public Availability of Budget Documents.) This is a change from previous rounds of the Open Budget Survey: now at minimum documents must be made available on the Internet and free of charge to be considered publicly available.

The OBS methodology requires that for an AR to be considered publicly available, it must be made available to the public no later than 18 months after the end of the fiscal year to which it corresponds. If the AR is not released to the public at least 18 months after the end of the fiscal year to which it corresponds, option "d" applies. Option "d" should also be chosen for documents that are produced for internal purposes only (that is, produced but never released to the public) or are not produced at all. Some governments may publish budget documents further in advance than the latest possible dates outlined above. In these instances, researchers should choose options "a" or "b," depending on the date of publication identified for the AR.

Answer:

b. 12 months or less, but more than six months, after the end of the budget year

Source:

Court of Accounts site <http://ccrm.md/hotariri-si-rapoarte-1-95?idh=909>

Official legal acts site <http://lex.justice.md/index.php?action=view&view=doc&lang=1&id=376290>

Comment:

Court of Accounts approved the AR on 28 May 2018 and published on 6 July 2018.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: <http://www.ccrm.md/hotariri-si-rapoarte-1-95?year=2019>.

AR-3a. If the AR is published, what is the date of publication of the AR?

Note that the date of publication is not necessarily the same date that is printed on the document.

Researchers should respond to this question if the document is published either within the time frame accepted by the OBS methodology or too late.

Please enter the date in the following format: "DD/MM/YYYY." For example, 5 September 2018 should be entered as 05/09/2018. If the document is not published or not produced, leave this question blank.

Answer:

6/7/2018

Source:

Court of Accounts site <http://ccrm.md/hotariri-si-rapoarte-1-95?idh=909> and

Official legal acts site <http://lex.justice.md/index.php?action=view&view=doc&lang=1&id=376290>

Comment:

Court of Accounts approved the AR on 28 May 2018 and published on 6 July 2018.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree
Comments: 6/7/2019 Court of Accounts approved the AR on 28 May 2019 and published on 5 July 2019.

Researcher Response
According to the OBS 2019 methodology, in the OBS 2019 was considered AR for 2017 budget year, not for 2018. It is the most recently released document that meets its publication deadline and is published before the cut-off date (31 December 2018). The mentioned by researcher references remains.

AR-3b. In the box below, please explain how you determined the date of publication of the AR.

If the document is not published at all, researchers should mark this question "n/a."

Answer:
From official legal site <http://lex.justice.md/index.php?action=view&view=doc&lang=1&id=376290>

Source:
<http://lex.justice.md/index.php?action=view&view=doc&lang=1&id=376290>

Comment:

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree
Comments: <http://lex.justice.md/index.php?action=view&view=doc&lang=1&id=376290>

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree
Comments: Comment: Raportul este făcut public pe pagina WEB a Curții imediat după aprobare, iar după traducere în rusă – ambele variante ale raportului se remit la Monitorul Oficial (rom. și ru.).

AR-4. If the AR is published, what is the URL or weblink of the AR?

Researchers should respond to this question if the document is published either within the time frame accepted by the OBS methodology or too late. If the document is not published at all, researchers should leave this question blank.

Answer:
<http://ccrm.md/hotariri-si-rapoarte-1-95?idh=909>

Source:
Court of Accounts site <http://ccrm.md/hotariri-si-rapoarte-1-95?idh=909>

Comment:

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree
Comments: Also official legal acts website: <http://lex.justice.md/index.php?action=view&view=doc&lang=1&id=376290>

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Comments: <http://www.ccrm.md/hotariri-si-rapoarte-1-95?year=2019>.

AR-5. If the AR is published, are the numerical data contained in the AR available in a machine readable format?

Material (data or content) is machine readable if it is in a format that can be easily processed by a computer, such as .csv, .xls/.xlsx, and .json. Numerical data found in PDFs and Word (.doc/.docx) files do not qualify as machine readable. See more at: <http://opendatahandbook.org/glossary/en/terms/machine-readable/>

Option "d" applies if the AR is not published or not produced, therefore its machine readability cannot be assessed.

Answer:

c. No

Source:

The report is in Word format

<http://ccrm.md/hotariri-si-rapoarte-1-95?idh=909>

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: PDF/DOC format only.

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

AR-6a. If the AR is not publicly available, is it still produced?

If the AR is not considered publicly available under the OBS methodology (and thus the answer to Question AR-2 was "d"), a government may nonetheless produce the document.

Option "a" applies if the document is produced and made available to the public online but not within the time frame specified in the OBS methodology (see Question AR-2).

Option "b" applies if the document is produced and made available to the public within the time frame specified by the OBS methodology but only in hard copy (and is not available online). Option "b" also applies if the document is made available to the public within the time frame specified by the OBS methodology in soft electronic copy but is not available online.

Option "c" applies if the document is produced for internal purposes only and so is not made available to the public.

Option "d" applies if the document is not produced at all.

Option "e" applies if the document is publicly available.

If a document is not released to the public, researchers may need to write to or visit the relevant government office in order to determine whether answer "c" or "d" applies.

Answer:

e. Not applicable (the document is publicly available)

Source:

<http://ccrm.md/hotariri-si-rapoarte-1-95?idh=909>

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

AR-6b. If you selected option "c" or "d" in question AR-6a, please specify how you determined whether the AR was produced for internal use only, versus not produced at all.

If option "a," "b," or "e" was selected in question AR-6a, researchers should mark this question "n/a."

Answer:

Source:

Comment:

Peer Reviewer
Opinion:

Government Reviewer
Opinion:

AR-7. If the AR is produced, please write the full title of the AR.

For example, a title for the Audit Report could be "Annual General Reports of the Controller and Auditor General." If the document is not produced at all, researchers should mark this question "n/a."

Answer:

Raportul auditului financiar al Raportului Guvernului privind executarea bugetului de stat pe anul 2017

Source:

<http://ccrm.md/hotariri-si-rapoarte-1-95?idh=909>
and <http://lex.justice.md/index.php?action=view&view=doc&lang=1&id=376290>

Comment:

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

AR-8. Is there a "citizens version" of the AR?

While the Citizens Budget was initially conceived as a simplified version of the Executive's Budget Proposal or the Enacted Budget, good practice is now evolving and suggests that a "citizens" version of key budget documents should be produced during each of the four phases of the budget cycle. This would serve to inform citizens of the state of public financial management throughout the entire budget cycle. While it is recognized that it may be unreasonable to expect that a citizens version is produced for each and every one of those key documents, it seems acceptable to expect that according to good practice, the executive releases a citizens version of key budget documents for each of the four stages of the budget process to allow citizens to be aware of what is happening, in terms of public financial management, throughout the entire budget cycle. For more information on Citizens Budget see: <http://www.internationalbudget.org/opening-budgets/citizens-budgets/>.

Answer:

b. No

Source:

Court of Accounts site <http://ccrm.md/>

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Disagree

Suggested Answer: a. Yes

Comments: • COMMENT There are press releases on the website of the Court of Accounts; the report is examined publicly in the presence of the Auditees, officials, journalists and all other public. In addition, these sessions are broadcasted online. www.ccrm.md <https://www.youtube.com/user/CurteadeConturi/videos> Court of Accounts meetings (archive) on www.privesc.eu, in the day of the meeting there is an online transmission: <https://www.privesc.eu/arhiva/cauta/curtea%20de%20conturi/> Press releases, including on the reports (on web site, sent by e-mail): <http://www.ccrm.md/noutati-si-comunicate-1-120> Informing through social media: www.facebook.md

Researcher Response

Even the Court of Accounts issues a press realise and broadcasting online its meetings these couldn't be considered as "citizens version" of the report. The "citizens version" of the AR is a simplified version of the report and helps people to better understand information included in the AR.

GQ-1a. Are there one or more websites or web portals for disseminating government fiscal information? If yes, please provide the necessary links in the comment/citation.

GQ-1a asks the researcher to list any government websites or portals where fiscal information can be found. For example, in New Zealand the Treasury website (<http://www.treasury.govt.nz/>) hosts important budget-related information, including the Pre-Budget Statement, the Executive's Budget Proposal, the Citizens Budget, In-Year Reports, the Mid-Year Review, and the Year-End Report. In addition, New Zealand's Parliamentary Counsel Office (<http://www.legislation.govt.nz/>) posts the Enacted Budget while the Controller and Auditor-General website (<http://www.oag.govt.nz/>) publishes the annual Audit Report. The New Zealand researcher would provide the links to each of these sites. Other countries have developed portals that include fiscal information, though not in the "documents" format. For example, these portals have been created by Mexico (<https://www.transparenciapresupuestaria.gob.mx/>) and Brazil (<http://www.portaltransparencia.gov.br/>). Some countries have both a website and a portal. The Brazilian government, for example, apart from the Transparency Portal, has a dedicated website for the federal budget, where all key documents and other information can be found (www.orcamentofederal.gov.br). Researchers should include details about all of the relevant websites and/or portals that they can be used to access budget information.

Answer:

a. Yes

Source:

Comment:

Ministry of Finance (<http://mf.gov.md/ro>) hosts important budget-related information, including the Pre-Budget Statement, the Executive's Budget Proposal, Enacted Budget, the Citizens Budget, In-Year Reports, the Mid-Year Review, and the Year-End Report. The official legal acts site (<http://lex.justice.md>) posts the Pre-Budget Statement after approved by the Government, the Enacted Budget and the annual Audit Report. On the Parliament site (<http://parlament.md/>) the Executive's Budget Proposal and the Enacted Budget. The Court of Accounts site (<http://ccrm.md/>) the annual Audited Report.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

GQ-1b. On these websites/portals, can revenue and/or expenditure data for the current fiscal year be downloaded as a consolidated file (or set of files)? If yes, please provide the necessary links in the comment/citation.

GQ-1b, GQ-1c, and GQ-1d ask about whether governments publish specific types of content on their websites/portals: (a) consolidated files that contain revenue and/or expenditure information for the current fiscal year; (b) consolidated files that contain revenue and/or expenditure information for multiple years in consistent formats; and (c) infographics/visualizations or other similar tools used to simplify data access and analysis. Researchers should provide the links to relevant webpages and some explanations of what they contain.

Answer:

a. Yes, both revenue and expenditure data can be downloaded as a consolidated file

Source:

On the Ministry of Finance site (<http://mf.gov.md/ro>) visualizations (chart) for last 12 months revenue and expenditure and approved vs executed on annual bases for last 4 years (<http://mf.gov.md/ro/trezorerie/rapoarte-privind-executarea-bugetului/informa%C8%9Bii-operative>)

Comment:

On the Ministry of Finance site (<http://mf.gov.md/ro>) visualizations (charts) for last 12 months revenue and expenditure and approved vs executed on annual bases for last 4 years (<http://mf.gov.md/ro/trezorerie/rapoarte-privind-executarea-bugetului/informa%C8%9Bii-operative>)

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

GQ-1c. On these websites/portals, can consolidated revenue and/or expenditure data be downloaded for multiple years in consistent formats? If yes, please provide the necessary links and details in the comment/citation.

Answer:

a. Yes, both revenue and expenditure data can be downloaded for multiple years in consistent formats

Source:

Comment:

These are a simple image one chart, it could be downloaded in pdf format or image format

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Disagree

Suggested Answer: a. Yes, both revenue and expenditure data can be downloaded for multiple years in consistent formats

Comments: We do not agree. We suggest modifying the answer from d) to a). On the official site of the Mof consolidated revenue and expenditure data can be downloaded for the years 2001-2019 in format .xlsx Evolutia indicatorilor bugetari for the years 2001-2015 and 2016-2019 <http://mf.gov.md/ro/ministerul-finan%C8%9Belor/catalogul-de-date-deschise-al-ministerului-finan%C8%9Belor-2019>

Researcher Response

Yes, MoF presents mentioned documents (for the years 2001-2015, and 2016-2018 (cut of day is 31/12/2018)). But, the information (on revenue and expenditure) presented for 2015 and 2016 are not consistent.

IBP Comment

IBP acknowledges that the formats for the 2001-2015 expenditure and revenue files and the 2016-2019 files are not consistent. However, since both those files are consistent in themselves, and for cross-country consistency, we agree with the government's comment and revise the answer from "d" to "a".

GQ-1d. On these websites/portals, are infographics/visualizations or other similar tools used to simplify data access and analysis? If yes, please provide the necessary links and details in the comment/citation.

Answer:

a. Yes

Source:

Comment:

<http://mf.gov.md/ro/trezorerie/rapoarte-privind-executarea-bugetului/informa%C8%9Bii-operative>

The chart provide aggregate data for last 12 months on expenditure, revenues, and debt, both for state and general government budgets. Also, it contains the same information on annually base for last 4 years.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: There are visuals, however they are done in a poor format, often not helpful and not giving the useful information.

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

GQ-2. Are there laws in place guiding public financial management and/or auditing? If yes, please provide the necessary details and links in the comment/citation, and specify whether and where the law(s) contains specific provisions for budget transparency and/or participation.

GQ-2 asks about the existence of any national laws governing public financial management and auditing. These may include a public finance act, a section of the constitution, or an organic budget law. In some countries, fiscal responsibility legislation may also be relevant. For example, the Kenya researcher may include the link to its Public Finance Management Act, 2012 (<http://www.kenyalaw.org/lex/actview.xhtml?actid=No.%2018%20of%202012>), and the Macedonian researcher may include a link to its State Audit Law (<https://www.finance.gov.mk/files/u11/Audit%20law.pdf>). Researchers should provide links to websites where such laws are published, if possible, or an electronic copy of the law itself. They should also indicate if and where (e.g. which article) these laws include specific provisions for budget transparency and citizen participation in budget processes.

Answer:

a. Yes

Source:

Comment:

Law on public finance and fiscal responsibility <http://lex.justice.md/index.php?action=view&view=doc&lang=1&id=354213> contains a few provisions regarding transparency: the public finance should be managed under the Principle of transparency, requirements to the Ministry of Finance to publish reports on the state budget executions, also all public entities have obligations to publish their budgets and budget reports (art 21, 23-25, 72, 74). Law on the organization and functioning of the Court of Accounts of the Republic of Moldova nr 260/2017 state that Court of Accounts mission is promoting internationally recognized standards on transparency and accountability in public finance management (art 5), also how it should ensure transparency and accountability in its work (art. 10). (<http://lex.justice.md/index.php?action=view&view=doc&lang=1&id=373596>)

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

GQ-3. Are there additional laws regulating: (1) access to information; (2) government transparency; or (3) citizens participation? If yes, please provide the necessary details and links in the comment/citation, and specify whether and where these laws contain specific provisions for budget transparency and/or participation.

The third and last question asks researchers to list any additional laws regulating access to information, transparency, or citizens' participation that are relevant for the promotion of budget transparency and citizen participation in budget processes. These might include legislation related to access to information, to planning processes, or to public administration more generally. India's Right to Information Act of 2005 (<https://www.ncess.gov.in/facilities/central-public-information-officer/rti-act-details.html>) is an example of this type of law. More information on access to information legislation (constitutional provisions, laws, and regulations), including examples of model laws, can be found here: <http://www.right2info.org/laws/constitutional-provisions-laws-and-regulations#section-1>.

Answer:

a. Yes

Source:

Comment:

Law nr 982/2000 on Access to Information <http://lex.justice.md/md/311759/>

The law regulates the relations between the information providers and citizens and / or legal persons in the process of assuring and implementing the constitutional right of access to information and what are the conditions, ways and modalities of realizing this right.

Law nr 239/2008 on transparency in decision-making process <http://lex.justice.md/md/329849/>

This law establishes the applicable rules for ensuring transparency in the decision-making process of the central and local public administration authorities, other public authorities and regulates their relations with the citizens, with the associations formed in accordance with the law, with other stakeholders in order to participate in the decision-making process.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: although with certain legal flaws, the main problem is that these laws are not properly enacted.

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

1. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present expenditures for the budget year that are classified by administrative unit (that is, by ministry, department, or agency)?

GUIDELINES:

Question 1 addresses the presentation of expenditure by administrative unit. This information indicates which government entity (ministry, department, or agency, or MDAs) will be responsible for spending the funds and, ultimately, held accountable for their use.

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation must present expenditures for all administrative units, accounting for all expenditures, in the budget year. To answer "b," the administrative units shown individually, in the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation, must account for at least two-thirds of all expenditures in the budget year. In other words, the sum of the expenditures assigned to the individual MDAs (education, health, infrastructure, interior, defense, etc.) must account for at least two-thirds of the total expenditure budgeted for that particular year. A "c" answer applies if the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation presents administrative units that account for less than two-thirds of expenditures. Answer "d" applies if expenditures are not presented by administrative unit.

Answer:

a. Yes, administrative units accounting for all expenditures are presented.

Source:

EBP presents expenditure by administrative units accounting for all expenditure, Annex nr. 3.1 (from archived document "Anexele 1-9") to the budget and Table nr 8 (from archived document "Tabelele 1-11") to the Information Note of the budget law (<http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/proiectul-hot%C4%83r%C3%Aerii-guvernului-privind-aprobarea-proiectului-legii-bugetului-de-stat-0>)

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

2. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present expenditures for the budget year by functional classification?

GUIDELINES:

Question 2 addresses the presentation of expenditure by functional classification. This classification indicates the programmatic purpose, sector, or objective for which the funds will be used, such as health, education, or defense. Administrative units are not necessarily aligned with functional classifications. For instance, in one country all functions connected with water supply (which fall into the "Housing" function) may be undertaken by a single government agency, while in another country they may be distributed across the Ministries of Environment, Housing, and Industrial Development. In the latter case, three ministries have programs addressing water supply, so three ministries contribute to one function. Similarly, some administrative units may conduct activities that cut across more than one function. For instance, in the example above, some programs of the Ministry of Environment would also be classified in the "environmental protection" function.

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation must present expenditures for the budget year organized by functional classification.

Answer:

a. Yes, expenditures are presented by functional classification.

Source:

Yes, expenditure are presented by functional classification, Annex nr. 4 (from archived document "Anexele 1-9") to the budget and and Table nr 6 (from archived document "Tabelele 1-11") to the Information Note of the law (<http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/proiectul-hot%C4%83r%C3%AEEii-guvernului-privind-approbarea-proiectului-legii-bugetului-de-stat-0>)

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

3. If the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation presents expenditures for the budget year by functional classification, is the functional classification compatible with international standards?

GUIDELINES:

Question 3 asks whether a country's functional classification meets international standards. To answer "a," a country's functional classification must be aligned with the OECD and the UN's Classification of the Functions of Government (COFOG), or provide a cross-walk between the national functional presentation and COFOG.

The OECD Best Practices for Budget Transparency can be viewed at <http://www.oecd.org/gov/budgeting/Best%20Practices%20Budget%20Transparency%20-%20complete%20with%20cover%20page.pdf>

COFOG can be viewed at https://unstats.un.org/unsd/publication/SeriesM/SeriesM_84E.pdf or at <http://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/gfs/manual/pdf/ch6ann.pdf>.

Answer:

a. Yes, the functional classification is compatible with international standards.

Source:

Yes, the functional classification is compatible with international standards. In the decision of Minister of Finance nr 208 of 24.12.2015 Annex 6 is mentioned that functional classification is compatible with COFOG (first paragraph on page 1). (<http://lex.justice.md/index.php?action=view&view=doc&lang=1&id=362651>)

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

4. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present expenditures for the budget year by economic classification?

GUIDELINES:

Question 4 asks whether the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation presents expenditures for the budget year organized by economic classification. Economic classification provides information on the nature of the expenditure, such as whether funds are being used to pay for wages and salaries, capital projects, or social assistance benefits.

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation must present expenditures for the budget year organized by economic classification.

Answer:

a. Yes, expenditures are presented by economic classification.

Source:

Expenditures are presented by economic classification in Table nr 4 and Table 7 (from archived document "Tabelele 1-11") to the Information Note of the law (<http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/proiectul-hot%C4%83r%C3%A2rii-guvernului-privind-adoptarea-proiectului-legii-bugetului-de-stat-0>)

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

5. If the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation presents expenditures for the budget year by economic classification, is the economic classification compatible with international standards?

GUIDELINES:

Question 5 asks whether a country's economic classification meets international standards. To answer "a," a country's economic classification must be consistent with the International Monetary Fund's (IMF) 2001 Government Finance Statistics (GFS). The GFS economic classification is presented here: <http://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/gfs/manual/pdf/app4.pdf>. To learn more about Government Finance Statistics also refer to the entire IMF 2001 GFS manual (<http://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/gfs/manual/pdf/all.pdf>).

Answer:

a. Yes, the economic classification is compatible with international standards.

Source:

The economic classification is compatible with international standards. In the decision of Minister of Finance nr 208 of 24.12.2015 Annex 12 is mentioned that economic classification is elaborated based on GFS 2001 (first paragraph on page 1). (<http://lex.justice.md/index.php?action=view&view=doc&lang=1&id=362651>)

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

6. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present expenditures for individual programs for the budget year?

GUIDELINES:

Question 6 asks whether expenditures are presented by program. There is no standard definition for the term "program," and the meaning can vary from country to country. However, for the purposes of answering the questionnaire, researchers should treat the term "program" as meaning any level of detail below an administrative unit – that is, any programmatic grouping that is below the ministry, department, or agency level. For example, the Ministry of Health's budget could be broken down into several subgroups, such as "primary health care," "hospitals," or "administration." These subgroups should be considered programs even if they could be, but are not, broken down into smaller, more detailed units.

A note for francophone countries: "Program" level detail is sometimes referred to as *le plan comptable* or *le plan comptable detaillé*. (These data are typically coded in the financial management database, following the chart of budgetary accounts, so that they can be organized by administrative and functional classification.)

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation must present expenditures for all individual programs, accounting for all expenditures, in the budget year. To answer "b," the programs shown individually in the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation must account for at least two-thirds of all expenditures in the budget year. A "c" answer applies if the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation presents programs that account for less than two-thirds of expenditures. Answer "d" applies if expenditures are not presented by program.

Budget decisions for the upcoming year can also affect the parameters of future budgets. It is therefore useful to estimate revenues and expenditures for multi-year periods, understanding that these estimates might be revised as circumstances change. Sometimes referred to as a Medium Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF), a three-year period – that is, the budget year plus two more years – is generally considered an appropriate horizon for budgeting and planning.

Answer:

a. Yes, programs accounting for all expenditures are presented.

Source:

The programs accounting for all expenditures are presented in the Table nr. 8 (from archived document "Tabelele 1-11") to the Information Note of the law (<http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/proiectul-hot%C4%83r%C3%AEEii-guvernului-privind-aprobarea-proiectului-legii-bugetului-de-stat-0>)

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: The programs accounting for all expenditure are also presented in the Annex nr. 3.1 to the budget (from archived document "Anexele 1-9")

7. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present expenditure estimates for a multi-year period (at least two-years beyond the budget year) by any of the three expenditure classifications (by administrative, economic, or functional classification)?

GUIDELINES:

Question 7 asks if multi-year expenditure estimates are presented by any one of the three expenditure classifications – by administrative, economic, and functional classifications – which were addressed in Questions 1-5 above. Each of the classifications answers a different question: administrative unit indicates who spends the money; functional classification shows for what purpose is the money spent; and economic classification displays what the money is spent on.

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation must present expenditure estimates by all three of the expenditure classifications for at least two years beyond the budget year. To answer "b," multi-year expenditure estimates must be presented by two of these three classifications. A "c" answer applies if multi-year expenditure estimates are presented by one of the three classifications. Answer "d" applies if multi-year expenditure estimates are not presented by any of the three classifications.

Answer:

d. No, multi-year expenditure estimates are not presented by any expenditure classification.

Source:

Multi-year expenditure estimates are not presented by any expenditure classification (<http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/proiectul-hot%C4%83r%C3%AEEii-guvernului-privind-aprobarea-proiectului-legii-bugetului-de-stat-0>)

Comment:

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

7b. Based on the response to Question 7, check the box(es) to identify which expenditure classifications have estimates for a multi-year period in the Executive's Budget Proposal?

Answer:

None of the above

Source:

Multi-year expenditure estimates are not presented by any expenditure classification (<http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/proiectul-hot%C4%83r%C3%AEEii-guvernului-privind-approbarea-proiectului-legii-bugetului-de-stat-0>)

Comment:

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

8. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present expenditure estimates for a multi-year period (at least two-years beyond the budget year) by program?

GUIDELINES:

Question 8 asks if multi-year expenditure estimates are presented by program. There is no standard definition for the term "program," and the meaning can vary from country to country. However, for the purposes of answering the questionnaire, researchers should understand the term "program" to mean any level of detail below an administrative unit, such as a ministry or department. For example, the Ministry of Health's budget could be broken down into several subgroups, such as "primary health care," "hospitals," or "administration." These subgroups should be considered programs even if they could be, but are not, broken down into smaller, more detailed units.

A note for francophone countries: "Program" level detail is sometimes referred to as le plan comptable or le plan comptable detaille. (These data are typically coded in the financial management database, following the chart of budgetary accounts, so that they can be organized by administrative and functional classification.)

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation must present expenditures for all individual programs, accounting for all expenditures, for at least two years beyond the budget year. To answer "b," the programs shown individually in the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation must account for at least two-thirds of all expenditures over the multi-year period. A "c" answer applies if the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation presents multi-year estimates for programs that account for less than two-thirds of expenditures. Answer "d" applies if multi-year estimates are not presented by program.

Revenues generally are separated into two major categories: "tax" and "non-tax" revenues. Taxes are compulsory transfers that result from government exercising its sovereign power. The largest sources of tax revenue in some countries are taxes on personal and business income and taxes on goods and services, such as sales or value-added taxes. The category of non-tax revenues is more diverse, ranging from grants from international institutions and foreign governments to funds raised through the sale of government-provided goods and services. Note that some forms of revenue, such as contributions to social security funds, can be considered either a tax or non-tax revenue depending on the nature of the approach to these contributions. Particularly because different revenues have different characteristics, including who bears the burden of paying the tax and how collections are affected by economic conditions, it is helpful when estimates for revenues are disaggregated and displayed based on their sources.

For more information, please refer to the 2001 GFS manual, in particular Appendix 4 (<http://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/gfs/manual/pdf/app4.pdf>).

Answer:

d. No, multi-year estimates for programs are not presented.

Source:

Multi-year expenditure estimates are not presented by program (<http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/proiectul-hot%C4%83r%C3%AEni-guvernului-privind-aprobarea-proiectului-legii-bugetului-de-stat-0>)

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

9. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present the individual sources of tax revenue (such as income tax or VAT) for the budget year?

GUIDELINES:

Question 9 assesses the degree to which the individual sources of "tax" revenue are disaggregated in the budget. The largest sources of tax revenue in some countries are taxes on personal and business income and taxes on goods and services, such as sales or value-added taxes.

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation must present all individual sources of tax revenue for the budget year, and "other" or "miscellaneous" revenue must account for three percent or less of all tax revenue. To answer "b," the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation must present individual sources of tax revenue that when combined account for at least two-thirds of all tax revenue, but not all revenue. A "c" answer applies if the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation presents individual sources of tax revenue that account for less than two-thirds of tax revenues. Answer "d" applies if individual sources of tax revenue are not presented.

Answer:

a. Yes, individual sources of tax revenue accounting for all tax revenue are presented.

Source:

The individual sources of tax revenue accounting for all tax revenue are presented in Annex nr. 2 (from archived document "Anexele 1-9") to the budget, and in the Table nr. 4 and 5 (from archived document "Tabelele 1-11") to the Information Note of the law (<http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/proiectul-hot%C4%83r%C3%AEni-guvernului-privind-aprobarea-proiectului-legii-bugetului-de-stat-0>).

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: yes.

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

10. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present the individual sources of non-tax revenue (such as grants, property income, and sales of government-produced goods and services) for the budget year?

GUIDELINES:

Question 10 assesses the degree to which the individual sources of "non-tax" revenue are disaggregated in the budget. The category of non-tax revenues is diverse, and can include revenue ranging from grants from international institutions and foreign governments to funds raised through the sale of government-provided goods and services.

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation must present all individual sources of non-tax revenue for the budget year, and "other" or "miscellaneous" revenue must account for three percent or less of all non-tax revenue. To answer "b," the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation must present individual sources of non-tax revenue that when combined account for at least two-thirds of all non-tax revenue, but not all revenue. A "c" answer applies if the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation presents individual sources of non-tax revenue that account for less than two-thirds of non-tax revenues. Answer "d" applies if individual sources of non-tax revenue are not presented.

Answer:

a. Yes, individual sources of non-tax revenue accounting for all non-tax revenue are presented.

Source:

The individual sources of non-tax revenue accounting for all non-tax revenue are presented in Annex nr. 2 (from archived document "Anexele 1-9") to the budget, and in the Table nr. 4 and 5 (from archived document "Tabelele 1-11") to the Information Note of the law (<http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/proiectul-hot%C4%83r%C3%AEEii-guvernului-privind-aprobarea-proiectului-legii-bugetului-de-stat-0>).

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: non-tax revenues are accounted for in the EBP.

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

11. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present revenue estimates by category (such as tax and non-tax) for a multi-year period (at least two-years beyond the budget year)?

GUIDELINES:

Question 11 evaluates whether revenue estimates are presented for a multi-year period (at least two years beyond the budget year) by "category," that is, whether tax and non-tax sources of revenue are shown separately.

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation must present multi-year estimates of revenues classified by category for at least two years following the budget year in question.

Answer:

a. Yes, multi-year estimates of revenue are presented by category.

Source:

Multi-year revenue estimates by category are presented in the Table nr. 5 (from archived document "Tabelele 1-11") to the Information Note of the law (<http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/proiectul-hot%C4%83r%C3%AEEii-guvernului-privind-aprobarea-proiectului-legii-bugetului-de-stat-0>).

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

12. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present estimates for individual sources of revenue presented for a multi-year period (at least two-years beyond the budget year)?

GUIDELINES:

Question 12 evaluates whether revenue estimates for individual sources of revenue are presented for a multi-year period (at least two years beyond the budget year). The question applies to both tax and non-tax revenue.

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation must present multi-year estimates of all sources of revenue individually, accounting for all revenue, and "other" or "miscellaneous" revenue must account for three percent or less of all revenue. To answer "b," the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation must present multi-year estimates of individual sources of revenue that when combined account for at least two-thirds of all revenue, but not all revenue. A "c" answer applies if the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation presents multi-year estimates of individual revenue sources that account for less than two-thirds of revenue. Answer "d" applies if individual sources of revenue are not presented for a multi-year period.

Answer:

a. Yes, multi-year estimates for individual sources of revenue accounting for all revenue are presented.

Source:

Multi-year revenue estimates by individual sources of revenue are presented in the Table nr. 5 (from archived document "Tabelele 1-11") to the Information Note of the law (<http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/proiectul-hot%C4%83r%C3%Aerii-guvernului-privind-adoptarea-proiectului-legii-bugetului-de-stat-0>).

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

13. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present three estimates related to government borrowing and debt: the amount of net new borrowing required during the budget year; the total debt outstanding at the end of the budget year; and interest payments on the debt for the budget year?

GUIDELINES:

Question 13 asks about three key estimates related to borrowing and debt that the budget should include:

- *the amount of net new borrowing required during the budget year;*
- *the central government's total debt burden at the end of the budget year; and*
- *the interest payments on the outstanding debt for the budget year.*

Debt is the accumulated amount of money that the government borrows. The government can borrow from its citizens and banks and businesses within the country (domestic debt) or from creditors outside the country (external debt). External debt is typically owed to private commercial banks, other governments, or international financial institutions such as the World Bank and the IMF.

Net new borrowing is the additional amount of new borrowing that is required for the budget year to finance expenditures in the budget that exceed available revenues. Net new borrowing adds to the accumulated debt. It is distinct from gross borrowing, which also includes borrowing needed to repay existing debt that matured during the budget year; debt that is replaced (or rolled over) does not add to the total of accumulated debt.

Interest payments on the debt (or debt service costs) are typically made at regular intervals, and these payments must be made on a timely basis in order to avoid defaulting on the debt obligation. Interest payments are separate from the repayment of principal, which occurs only when the loan has matured and must be paid back in full.

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation must present all three estimates of borrowing and debt. For a "b" answer, the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation must present two of those three estimates. For a "c" answer, the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation must present one of the three estimates. Answer "d" applies no information on borrowing and debt is presented for the budget year.

Answer:

a. Yes, all three estimates related to government borrowing and debt are presented.

Source:

All three estimates related to government borrowing and debt are presented in the Information Note to the budget law (pages 15-16, and 44) (Nota informativă la proiectul legii bugetului de stat pe anul 2019, <http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/proiectul-hot%C4%83r%C3%Aerii-guvernului-privind-adoptarea-proiectului-legii-bugetului-de-stat-0>).

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

13b. Based on the response to Question 13, check the box(es) below to identify which estimates of government borrowing and debt are presented in the Executive's Budget Proposal:

Answer:

The amount of net new borrowing required during the budget year
The central government's total debt burden at the end of the budget year
The interest payments on outstanding debt for the budget year

Source:

All three estimates related to government borrowing and debt are presented in the Information Note to the budget law (pages 15-16, and 44). (Nota informativă la proiectul legii bugetului de stat pe anul 2019, <http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/proiectul-hot%C4%83r%C3%Aerii-guvernului-privind- aprobarea-proiectului-legii-bugetului-de-stat-0>).

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

14. "Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present information related to the composition of the total debt outstanding at the end of the budget year?"

(The core information must include interest rates on the debt instruments; maturity profile of the debt; and whether it is domestic or external debt.)"

GUIDELINES:

Question 14 focuses on the composition of government debt at the end of the budget year, asking whether "core" information related to its composition is presented. These core components include:

- *interest rates on the debt;*
- *maturity profile of the debt; and*
- *whether the debt is domestic or external.*

The interest rates affect the amount of interest that must be paid to creditors. The maturity profile indicates the final payment date of the loan, at which point the principal (and all remaining interest) is due to be paid; government borrowing typically includes a mix of short-term and long-term debt. As discussed in Question 13, domestic debt is held by a country's citizens, banks, and businesses, while external debt is held by foreigners. These factors related to the composition of the debt give an indication of the potential vulnerability of the country's debt position, and ultimately whether the cost of servicing the accumulated debt is affordable.

Beyond these core elements, a government may also provide additional information related to the composition of its debt, including for instance: whether interest rates are fixed or variable; whether debt is callable; the currency of the debt; a profile of the creditors (bilateral institutions, multilateral institutions, commercial banks, Central Bank, etc.); an analysis of the risk associated with the debt; and where appropriate, what the debt is being used to finance.

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present all of the core information related to the composition of government debt at the end of the budget year as well as some additional information beyond the core elements. To answer "b," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present all of the core components noted above. Answer "b" is also accepted if one of the core elements is not presented but additional information beyond the core elements is presented. A "c" answer applies if some information related to the composition of government debt is presented, but some of the core pieces of information are not included. Answer "d" applies if no information is presented on the composition of the debt outstanding at the end of the budget year.

Answer:

c. Yes, information is presented, but it excludes some core elements.

Source:

Information is presented, but it excludes some core elements. Note to the budget law (Nota informativă la proiectul legii bugetului de stat pe anul 2019) pages 12, 15-17 (<http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/proiectul-hot%C4%83r%C3%Aerii-guvernului-privind- aprobarea-proiectului-legii-bugetului-de-stat-0>).

Comment:

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

14b. Based on the response to Question 14, check the box(es) to identify which elements of the composition of the total debt outstanding are presented in the Executive's Budget Proposal:

Answer:

Whether the debt is domestic or external
Information beyond the core elements (please specify)

Source:

Information contains domestic and external element, and also additional information regarding structure of the debt, Note to the budget law (Nota informativă la proiectul legii bugetului de stat pe anul 2019) pages 12, 15-17 (<http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/proiectul-hot%C4%83r%C3%A2rii-guvernului-privind-approbarea-proiectului-legii-bugetului-de-stat-0>).

Comment:

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

15. "Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present information on the macroeconomic forecast upon which the budget projections are based?"

(The core information must include a discussion of the economic outlook with estimates of nominal GDP level, inflation rate, real GDP growth, and interest rates.)"

GUIDELINES:

Question 15 focuses on the macroeconomic forecast that underlies the budget's revenue and expenditure estimates, asking whether "core" information related to the economic assumptions is presented. These core components include a discussion of the economic outlook as well as estimates of the following:

- *nominal GDP level;*
- *inflation rate;*
- *real GDP growth; and*
- *interest rates.*

While the core macroeconomic information should be a standard feature of the Executive's Budget Proposal, the importance of some types of macroeconomic assumptions may vary from country to country. For example, the budget estimates of some countries are particularly affected by changes in the price of oil and other commodities.

Beyond these core elements, some governments also provide additional information related to the economic outlook, including for instance: short and long-term interest rates; rate of employment and unemployment; GDP deflator; price of oil and other commodities; current account; exchange rate; and composition of GDP growth.

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present all of the core information related to the macroeconomic forecast as well as some additional information beyond the core elements. To answer "b," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present all of the core components noted above. Answer "b" is also accepted if one of the core elements is not presented but additional information beyond the core elements is presented. A "c" answer applies if some information related to the macroeconomic forecast is presented, but some of the core pieces of information are not included. Answer "d" applies if no information on the macroeconomic forecast is presented.

Answer:

c. Yes, information is presented, but it excludes some core elements.

Source:

Core information is presented, except the interest rates, in the Information Note (Nota informativă la proiectul legii bugetului de stat pe anul 2019) of the budget law (pages 3-7), and annexed Table 1 (from archived document "Tabelele 1-11"). (<http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/proiectul-hot%C4%83r%C3%Aerii-guvernului-privind-aprobarea-proiectului-legii-bugetului-de-stat-0>)

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: information is generic and does not present a clear vision or forecast, and how the data lie at the foundation of the EBP.

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

15b. Based on the response to Question 15, check the box(es) to identify which elements of the macroeconomic forecast are included in the Executive's Budget Proposal:

Answer:

Nominal GDP level

Inflation rate

Real GDP growth

Information beyond the core elements (please specify)

Source:

Core information is presented, except the interest rates, in the Information Note (Nota informativă la proiectul legii bugetului de stat pe anul 2019) of the budget law (pages 3-7), and annexed Table 1 (from archived document "Tabelele 1-11"). (<http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/proiectul-hot%C4%83r%C3%Aerii-guvernului-privind-aprobarea-proiectului-legii-bugetului-de-stat-0>). Also, EBP contains estimates regarding export-import, exchange rate and other important information regarding macroeconomic outlook.

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

16. "Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation show the impact of different macroeconomic assumptions (i.e., sensitivity analysis) on the budget?"

(The core information must include estimates of the impact on expenditures, revenue, and debt of different assumptions for the inflation rate, real GDP growth, and interest rates.)"

GUIDELINES:

Question 16 focuses on the issue of whether the Executive's Budget Proposal shows how different macroeconomic assumptions affect the budget estimates (known as a "sensitivity analysis"). It asks whether "core" information related to a sensitivity analysis is presented, estimating the impact on expenditures, revenue, and debt of different assumptions for:

· *inflation rate;*

- real GDP growth; and
- interest rates.

A sensitivity analysis shows the effect on the budget of possible changes in some macroeconomic assumptions, and is important for understanding the impact of the economy on the budget; for instance, what would happen to revenue collections if GDP growth were slower than what is assumed in the budget proposal? Or what would happen to expenditure if inflation were higher than estimated? Or how will revenue be affected by a decrease in the price of oil?

As noted for Question 15, changes in certain macroeconomic assumptions, such as the price of oil and other commodities, can have a significant impact on the budget estimates. As a result, some sensitivity analyses may also examine the impact on the budget estimates of changes in assumptions such as the price of oil that are beyond the core elements of the inflation rate, real GDP growth, and interest rates.

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present all of the core information related to a "sensitivity analysis" as well as some additional information beyond the core elements. To answer "b," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present all of the core components noted above. Answer "b" is also accepted if one of the core elements is not presented but additional information beyond the core elements is presented. A "c" answer applies if some information related to a "sensitivity analysis" is presented, but some of the core pieces of information are not included. Answer "d" applies if no information on "sensitivity analysis" is presented.

Answer:

d. No, information related to different macroeconomic assumptions is not presented.

Source:

No information related to different macroeconomic assumptions is presented in EBP documents.
(<http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/proiectul-hot%C4%83r%C3%AEEii-guvernului-privind- aprobarea-proiectului-legii-bugetului-de-stat-0>)

Comment:

In the EBP supporting documents there is a document with macroeconomic risk analysis, but it contains only the risk evaluation without quantitative impact on the budget revenues and expenditure.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: the risk analysis is simplistic and does not evaluate potential impact on public finance.

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

17. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present information for at least the budget year that shows how new policy proposals, as distinct from existing policies, affect expenditures?

GUIDELINES:

Questions 17 and 18 ask about new policy proposals in the budget. In any given year, most of the expenditures and revenues in the budget reflect the continuation of existing policies. However, much of the attention during the budget debate is focused on new proposals – whether they call for eliminating an existing program, introducing a new one, or changing an existing program at the margins. Typically, these new proposals are accompanied by an increase, a decrease, or a shift in expenditures or revenues. Because these changes may have different impacts on people's lives, the budget proposal should present sufficient detail about new policies and their budgetary impact.

Question 17 asks about new expenditure policies, and Question 18 asks about new revenue policies. To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present both estimates of how all new policy proposals affect expenditures (for Question 17) or revenues (for Question 18) and a narrative discussion of the impact of these new policies. To answer "b" for either question, the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present estimates that show the impact of all new policy proposals, but no narrative discussion is included. A "c" response applies if the presentation includes only a narrative discussion, or if it includes estimates that show the impact of only some, but not all, policy proposals (regardless of whether it also includes a narrative discussion). Answer "d" applies if no information is presented on the impact of new policy proposals.

Answer:

c. Yes, information that shows how some but not all new policy proposals affect expenditure is presented.

Source:

Information regarding how new policies affect the expenditures is presented only for some policies throughout the Information Note (Nota informativă la proiectul legii bugetului de stat pe anul 2019) to the budget (pages 40-92), but it is not comprehensive.
(<http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/proiectul-hot%C4%83r%C3%AEEii-guvernului-privind- aprobarea-proiectului-legii-bugetului-de-stat-0>)

Comment:

In some particular cases the information is quite clear (for instance page 43 regarding expenditure due to a new modifications in particular law), but in generally it is missing clear statements about new policies and costs, and also the total costs of all new policies per functional groups.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

18. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present information for at least the budget year that shows how new policy proposals, as distinct from existing policies, affect revenues?

GUIDELINES:

Questions 17 and 18 ask about new policy proposals in the budget. In any given year, most of the expenditures and revenues in the budget reflect the continuation of existing policies. However, much of the attention during the budget debate is focused on new proposals – whether they call for eliminating an existing program, introducing a new one, or changing an existing program at the margins. Typically, these new proposals are accompanied by an increase, a decrease, or a shift in expenditures or revenues. Because these changes may have different impacts on people's lives, the budget proposal should present sufficient detail about new policies and their budgetary impact.

Question 17 asks about new expenditure policies, and Question 18 asks about new revenue policies. To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present both estimates of how all new policy proposals affect expenditures (for Question 17) or revenues (for Question 18) and a narrative discussion of the impact of these new policies. To answer "b" for either question, the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present estimates that show the impact of all new policy proposals, but no narrative discussion is included. A "c" response applies if the presentation includes only a narrative discussion, or if it includes estimates that show the impact of only some, but not all, policy proposals (regardless of whether it also includes a narrative discussion). Answer "d" applies if no information is presented on the impact of new policy proposals.

Prior-year information constitutes an important benchmark for assessing the proposals for the upcoming budget year. Estimates of prior years should be presented in the same formats (in terms of classification) as the budget year to ensure that year-to-year comparisons are meaningful. For example, if the budget proposes shifting responsibility for a particular program from one administrative unit to another – such as shifting responsibility for the training of nurses from the health department to the education department – the prior-year figures must be adjusted before year-to-year comparisons of administrative budgets can be made.

Typically, when the budget proposal is submitted, the year prior to the budget year (BY-1), also known as the current year, has not ended, so the executive will provide estimates of the anticipated outcome for BY-1. The soundness of these estimates is directly related to the degree to which they have been updated to reflect actual expenditures to date, legislative changes that have occurred, and anticipated changes in macroeconomic, caseload, and other relevant factors for the remainder of the year.

The first year that can reflect actual outcomes, therefore, is generally two years before the budget year (BY-2). Thus the OECD recommends that data covering at least two years before the budget year (along with two years of projections beyond the budget year) are provided in order to assess fully the trends in the budget.

Answer:

c. Yes, information that shows how some but not all new policy proposals affect revenues are presented.

Source:

The Information Note (Nota informativă la proiectul legii bugetului de stat pe anul 2019) to the budget law contains new policies and how they affect revenues (pages 32-39), but not for all. For instance, it is not mentioned how the exemption from excise duty on some petroleum products from the import will affect the revenues (page 35) (<http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/proiectul-hot%C4%83r%C3%Aerii-guvernului-privind-aprobarea-proiectului-legii-bugetului-de-stat-0>).

Comment:

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Disagree
Suggested Answer:

d. No, information that shows how new policy proposals affect revenues is not presented.

Comments: although the memos refer to that, the impact of new policy proposals is not properly evaluated and/or described. assessing the quality of the information presented we cannot state that the information properly describe how new policy will affect revenues.

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Disagree
Suggested Answer:

b. Yes, estimates that show how all new policy proposals affect revenues are presented, but a narrative discussion is not included.

Comments: We do not agree. We suggest modifying the answer from c) to b). • The Information Note (Nota informativă la proiectul legii bugetului de stat pe anul 2019) to the budget law contains new policies and how they affect revenues (pages 33-39), but a narrative discussion is not included (<http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/proiectul-hot%C4%83r%C3%Aerii-guvernului-privind-aprobarea-proiectului-legii-bugetului-de-stat-0>).

Researcher Response

The Information Note (Nota informativă la proiectul legii bugetului de stat pe anul 2019) to the budget law contains only a few new policies and how they affect revenues, but not all. So, it could not be the answer (b), and due the fact that at least some policies were mentioned, it could not be the answer (d) - "No, information that shows how new policy proposals affect revenues is not presented". The answer remains (c).

19. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present expenditures for the year preceding the budget year (BY-1) by any of the three expenditure classifications (by administrative, economic, or functional classification)?

GUIDELINES:

Question 19 asks if expenditure estimates for the year prior to the budget year (BY-1) are presented by one of the three expenditure classifications – by administrative, economic, and functional classifications. Each of the classifications answers a different question: administrative unit indicates who spends the money; functional classification shows for what purpose is the money spent; and economic classification displays what the money is spent on. (See Questions 1-5 above.)

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation must present expenditure estimates for BY-1 by all three of the expenditure classifications. To answer "b," expenditure estimates for BY-1 must be presented by two of these three classifications. A "c" answer applies if expenditure estimates for BY-1 are presented by one of the three classifications. Answer "d" applies if expenditure estimates for BY-1 are not presented by any of the three classifications.

Answer:

a. Yes, expenditure estimates for BY-1 are presented by all three expenditure classifications (by administrative, economic, and functional classification).

Source:

Expenditure estimates for BY-1 are presented by two of the three expenditure classifications: economic in Tables 4 and 7; functional in Table 6 (from archived document "Tabelele 1-11"). (<http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/proiectul-hot%C4%83r%C3%Aerii-guvernului-privind-aprobarea-proiectului-legii-bugetului-de-stat-0>)

Comment:

Also, the Tables 2 and 3 presents expenditure by economic and functional classifications of general budget of the country. (from archived document "Tabelele 1-11"). (<http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/proiectul-hot%C4%83r%C3%Aerii-guvernului-privind-aprobarea-proiectului-legii-bugetului-de-stat-0>)

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Disagree

Suggested Answer:

a. Yes, expenditure estimates for BY-1 are presented by all three expenditure classifications (by administrative, economic, and functional classification).

Comments: The Table nr.8 presents expenditures for BY-1 by administrative and programs classifications <http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/proiectul-hot%C4%83r%C3%Aerii-guvernului-privind-aprobarea-proiectului-legii-bugetului-de-stat-0> (from archived document "Tabelele 1-11").

Researcher Response

Yes, the Table nr. 8 presents expenditures for BY-1 by administrative and programs classifications, but the information presented in BY and BY-1 are consistent by programs and not consistent by organisations. So, the expenditure assigned to the organizations for BY and BY-1 are not comparable for all administrative units. The answer is b.

IBP Comment

IBP agrees with the comment of the researcher; the expenditure presented in BY and BY-1 is not consistent by organizations. However, since our indicator does not assess whether the BY and BY-1 administrative classifications are consistent, we revise the answer from "b" to "a", as suggested by the government reviewer.

20. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present expenditures for individual programs for the year preceding the budget year (BY-1)?

GUIDELINES:

Question 20 asks if expenditure estimates for the year before the budget year (BY-1) are presented by program. There is no standard definition for the term "program," and the meaning can vary from country to country. However, for the purposes of answering the questionnaire, researchers should understand the term "program" to mean any level of detail below an administrative unit, such as a ministry or department. For example, the Ministry of Health's budget could

be broken down into several subgroups, such as "primary health care," "hospitals," or "administration." These subgroups should be considered programs even if they could be, but are not, broken down into smaller, more detailed units.

A note for francophone countries: "Program" level detail is sometimes referred to as *le plan comptable* or *le plan comptable detaille*. (These data are typically coded in the financial management database, following the chart of budgetary accounts, so that they can be organized by administrative and functional classification.)

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation must present expenditures for all individual programs, accounting for all expenditures, for BY-1. To answer "b," the programs shown individually in the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation must account for at least two-thirds of all expenditures for BY-1. A "c" answer applies if the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation presents programs that account for only less than two-thirds of expenditures. Answer "d" applies if expenditures are not presented by program.

Answer:

a. Yes, programs accounting for all expenditures are presented for BY-1.

Source:

Expenditure estimates accounting for all expenditure for BY-1 are presented by programs in Table nr 8 (from archived document "Tabelele 1-11"). (<http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/proiectul-hot%C4%83r%C3%A0Erii-guvernului-privind-aprobarea-proiectului-legii-bugetului-de-stat-0>)

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: agree.

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

21. In the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation, have expenditure estimates of the year prior to the budget year (BY-1) been updated from the original enacted levels to reflect actual expenditures?

GUIDELINES:

Question 21 asks whether the expenditure estimates for the year before the budget year (BY-1) have been updated from the original enacted levels. Updates can reflect actual experience to date; revised estimates due to shifting of funds by the executive, as permitted under the law; enactment of supplemental budgets; and revised assumptions regarding macroeconomic conditions, caseload, and other relevant factors for the remainder of the year.

Answer "a" applies if the estimates have been updated; answer "b" applies if the original estimates are still being used.

Answer:

a. Yes, expenditure estimates for BY-1 have been updated from the original enacted levels.

Source:

Yes, expenditure estimates for BY-1 have been updated from the original enacted levels: Tables 4 and 6 (from archived document "Tabelele 1-11"). (<http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/proiectul-hot%C4%83r%C3%A0Erii-guvernului-privind-aprobarea-proiectului-legii-bugetului-de-stat-0>)

Comment:

Also, the Tables 2 and 3 presents updated expenditure for BY-1 of general budget of the country. (from archived document "Tabelele 1-11"). (<http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/proiectul-hot%C4%83r%C3%A0Erii-guvernului-privind-aprobarea-proiectului-legii-bugetului-de-stat-0>)

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

22. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present estimates of expenditure for more than one year prior to the budget year (that is, BY-2 and prior years) by any of the three expenditure classifications (by administrative, economic, or functional classification)?

GUIDELINES:

Question 22 asks if expenditure estimates for more than one year prior to the budget year (BY-2 and prior years) are presented by any of the three expenditure classifications – by administrative, economic, and functional classifications. Each of the classifications answers a different question: administrative unit indicates who spends the money; functional classification shows for what purpose is the money spent; and economic classification displays what the money is spent on. (See Questions 1-5 above.)

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation must present expenditure estimates for BY-2 and prior years by all three of the expenditure classifications. To answer "b," expenditure estimates for BY-2 and prior years must be presented by two of these three classifications. A "c" answer applies if expenditure estimates for BY-2 and prior years are presented by one of the three classifications. Answer "d" applies if expenditure estimates for BY-2 and prior years are not presented by any of the three classifications

Answer:

a. Yes, expenditure estimates for BY-2 and prior years are presented by all three expenditure classifications (by administrative, economic, and functional classification).

Source:

Expenditure estimates for BY-2 are presented by two of the three classifications: economic in Tables 4 and 7; functional in Table 6 (from archived document "Tabelele 1-11"). (<http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/proiectul-hot%C4%83r%C3%Aerii-guvernului-privind-aprobarea-proiectului-legii-bugetului-de-stat-0>)

Comment:

Also, the Tables 2 and 3 presents expenditure for BY-2 by economic and functional classifications of general budget of the country. (from archived document "Tabelele 1-11"). (<http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/proiectul-hot%C4%83r%C3%Aerii-guvernului-privind-aprobarea-proiectului-legii-bugetului-de-stat-0>)

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Disagree

Suggested Answer:

a. Yes, expenditure estimates for BY-2 and prior years are presented by all three expenditure classifications (by administrative, economic, and functional classification).

Comments: The Table nr. 8 presents expenditures for BY-2 by administrative and programs classifications <http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/proiectul-hot%C4%83r%C3%Aerii-guvernului-privind-aprobarea-proiectului-legii-bugetului-de-stat-0> (from archived document "Tabelele 1-11").

Researcher Response

Yes, the Table nr. 8 presents expenditures for BY-2 by administrative and programs classifications, but the information presented in BY and BY-2 are consistent by programs and not consistent by organisations. So, the expenditure assigned to the organizations for BY and BY-2 are not comparable for all administrative units. The answer is b.

IBP Comment

IBP agrees with the comment of the researcher; the expenditure presented in BY and BY-2 is not consistent by organizations. However, since our indicator does not assess whether the BY and BY-2 administrative classifications are consistent, we revise the answer from "b" to "a", as suggested by the government reviewer.

22b. Based on the response to Question 22, check the box(es) to identify which expenditure classifications have estimates for more than one year prior to the budget year in the Executive Budget Proposal:

Answer:

Economic classification
Functional classification
Administrative classification

Source:

Expenditure estimates for BY-2 are presented by two of the three classifications: economic in Tables 4 and 7; functional in Table 6 (from archived document "Tabelele 1-11"). (<http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/proiectul-hot%C4%83r%C3%Aerii-guvernului-privind-aprobarea-proiectului-legii-bugetului-de-stat-0>)

Comment:

Also, the Tables 2 and 3 presents expenditure for BY-2 by economic and functional classifications of general budget of the country. (from archived document "Tabelele 1-11"). (<http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/proiectul-hot%C4%83r%C3%Aerii-guvernului-privind-aprobarea-proiectului-legii-bugetului-de-stat-0>)

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Disagree

Suggested Answer:

Comments: The Table nr.8 presents expenditures for BY-2 by administrative and programs classifications <http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/proiectul-hot%C4%83r%C3%AEEii-guvernului-privind-aprobarea-proiectului-legii-bugetului-de-stat-0> (from archived document "Tabelele 1-11").

Researcher Response

Yes, the Table nr. 8 presents expenditures for BY-2 by administrative and programs classifications, but the information presented in BY, BY-1 and BY-2 are consistent by programs and not consistent by organizations. So, the expenditure assigned to the organizations for BY, BY-1 and BY-2 are not comparable for all administrative units.

IBP Comment

IBP agrees with the comment of the researcher; the expenditure presented in BY and BY-2 is not consistent by organizations. However, since our indicator does not assess whether the BY and BY-2 administrative classifications are consistent, we revise the answer to include administrative classifications, as suggested by the government reviewer.

23. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present expenditures for individual programs for more than one year preceding the budget year (that is, BY-2 and prior years)?

GUIDELINES:

Question 23 asks if expenditure estimates for more than one year before the budget year (BY-2 and prior years) are presented by program. There is no standard definition for the term "program," and the meaning can vary from country to country. However, for the purposes of answering the questionnaire, researchers should understand the term "program" to mean any level of detail below an administrative unit, such as a ministry or department. For example, the Ministry of Health's budget could be broken down into several subgroups, such as "primary health care," "hospitals," or "administration." These subgroups should be considered programs even if they could be, but are not, broken down into smaller, more detailed units.

A note for francophone countries: "Program" level detail is sometimes referred to as le plan comptable or le plan comptable detaille. (These data are typically coded in the financial management database, following the chart of budgetary accounts, so that they can be organized by administrative and functional classification.)

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation must present expenditures for all individual programs, accounting for all expenditures, for BY-2 and prior years. To answer "b," the programs shown individually in the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation must account for at least two-thirds of all expenditures for BY-2 and prior years. A "c" answer applies if the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation presents programs that account for only less than two-thirds of expenditures. Answer "d" applies if expenditures are not presented by program.

Answer:

a. Yes, programs accounting for all expenditures are presented for BY-2 and prior years.

Source:

Yes, programs accounting for all expenditures are presented for BY-2 in Table 8 (from archived document "Tabelele 1-11"). (<http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/proiectul-hot%C4%83r%C3%AEEii-guvernului-privind-aprobarea-proiectului-legii-bugetului-de-stat-0>)

Comment:

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

24. In the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation, what is the most recent year presented for which all expenditures reflect actual outcomes?

GUIDELINES:

Question 24 asks for which year the actual outcomes for expenditures are shown. In most cases, the most recent year for which budget data on actual outcomes are available will be BY-2, as BY-1 is generally not yet finished when the budget proposal is drafted. So a government that has updated all its expenditure data for BY-2 to reflect what actually occurred, as opposed to estimating the outcome for that year, shows good public financial management practice.

For an "a" answer, a country must meet the good practice of having the figures for BY-2 reflect actual outcomes.

Answer:

a. Two years prior to the budget year (BY-2).

Source:

The most recent year presented for which all expenditures reflect actual outcomes is BY-2: Tables 4, 6-8, (from archived document "Tabelele 1-11"). (<http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/proiectul-hot%C4%83r%C3%Aerii-guvernului-privind-aprobarea-proiectului-legii-bugetului-de-stat-0>)

Comment:

Also, Tables 2 and 3 for general budget of the country. (from archived document "Tabelele 1-11"). (<http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/proiectul-hot%C4%83r%C3%Aerii-guvernului-privind-aprobarea-proiectului-legii-bugetului-de-stat-0>)

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

25. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present revenue by category (such as tax and non-tax) for the year preceding the budget year (BY-1)?

GUIDELINES:

Questions 25 through 30 cover the same topics about prior-year information as the previous six questions, only they ask about information provided for revenues rather than expenditures.

Answer:

a. Yes, revenue estimates for BY-1 are presented by category.

Source:

Yes, revenue estimates for BY-1 are presented by category: Tables 4 and 5 (from archived document "Tabelele 1-11"). (<http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/proiectul-hot%C4%83r%C3%Aerii-guvernului-privind-aprobarea-proiectului-legii-bugetului-de-stat-0>)

Comment:

Also, for the general budget of the country in Tables 2 and 3 (from archived document "Tabelele 1-11"). (<http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/proiectul-hot%C4%83r%C3%Aerii-guvernului-privind-aprobarea-proiectului-legii-bugetului-de-stat-0>)

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

26. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present individual sources of revenue for the year preceding the budget year (BY-1)?

GUIDELINES:

Questions 25 through 30 cover the same topics about prior-year information as the previous six questions, only they ask about information provided for revenues rather than expenditures.

Answer:

a. Yes, individual sources of revenue accounting for all revenue are presented for BY-1.

Source:

Yes, individual sources of revenue accounting for all revenue are presented for BY-1: Table 5 (from archived document "Tabelele 1-11"). (<http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/proiectul-hot%C4%83r%C3%Aerii-guvernului-privind-aprobarea-proiectului-legii-bugetului-de-stat-0>)

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

27. In the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation, have the original estimates of revenue for the year prior to the budget year (BY-1) been updated to reflect actual revenue collections?

GUIDELINES:

Questions 25 through 30 cover the same topics about prior-year information as the previous six questions, only they ask about information provided for revenues rather than expenditures.

Answer:

a. Yes, revenue estimates for BY-1 have been updated from the original enacted levels.

Source:

Yes, revenue estimates for BY-1 have been updated from the original enacted levels: Table 5 (from archived document "Tabelele 1-11"). (<http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/proiectul-hot%C4%83r%C3%Aerii-guvernului-privind-aprobarea-proiectului-legii-bugetului-de-stat-0>)

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

28. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present revenue estimates by category (such as tax and non-tax) for more than one year prior to the budget year (that is, BY-2 and prior years)?

GUIDELINES:

Questions 25 through 30 cover the same topics about prior-year information as the previous six questions, only they ask about information provided for revenues rather than expenditures.

Answer:

a. Yes, revenue estimates for BY-2 and prior years are presented by category.

Source:

Yes, revenue estimates for BY-2 are presented by category: Table 4 and 5 (from archived document "Tabelele 1-11"). (<http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/proiectul-hot%C4%83r%C3%Aerii-guvernului-privind-aprobarea-proiectului-legii-bugetului-de-stat-0>)

Comment:

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

29. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present individual sources of revenue for more than one year prior to the budget year (that is, BY-2 and prior years)?

GUIDELINES:

Questions 25 through 30 cover the same topics about prior-year information as the previous six questions, only they ask about information provided for revenues rather than expenditures.

Answer:

a. Yes, individual sources of revenue accounting for all revenue are presented for BY-2 and prior years.

Source:

Yes, individual sources of revenue accounting for all revenue are presented for BY-2: Table 5 (from archived document "Tabelele 1-11"). (<http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/proiectul-hot%C4%83r%C3%AExii-guvernului-privind-aprobarea-proiectului-legii-bugetului-de-stat-0>)

Comment:

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

30. In the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation, what is the most recent year presented for which all revenues reflect actual outcomes?

GUIDELINES:

Questions 25 through 30 cover the same topics about prior-year information as the previous six questions, only they ask about information provided for revenues rather than expenditures.

Answer:

a. Two years prior to the budget year (BY-2).

Source:

The most recent year presented for which all revenues reflect actual outcomes is BY-2: Table 5 (from archived document "Tabelele 1-11"). (<http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/proiectul-hot%C4%83r%C3%AExii-guvernului-privind-aprobarea-proiectului-legii-bugetului-de-stat-0>)

Comment:

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

31. "Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present information on government borrowing and debt, including its

composition, for the year preceding the budget year (BY-1)?

(The core information must include the total debt outstanding at the end of BY-1; the amount of net new borrowing required during BY-1; interest payments on the debt; interest rates on the debt instruments; maturity profile of the debt; and whether it is domestic or external debt.)"

GUIDELINES:

Question 31 focuses on prior-year debt information, rather than on prior-year expenditures or revenues, asking whether "core" information is provided on government borrowing and debt, including its composition, for the year preceding the budget year (BY-1).

The "core" information includes:

- *total debt outstanding at the end of BY-1;*
- *amount of net new borrowing required during BY-1;*
- *interest payments on the debt;*
- *interest rates on the debt instruments;*
- *maturity profile of the debt; and*
- *whether it is domestic or external debt.*

This core information for BY-1 is consistent with the budget year information for borrowing and debt, which is examined in Questions 13 and 14.

In addition, some governments provide information beyond the core elements, such as gross new borrowing required during BY-1; currency of the debt; whether the debt carries a fixed or variable interest rate; whether it is callable; a profile of the creditors (bilateral institutions, multilateral institutions, commercial banks, Central Bank, etc.); where appropriate, what the debt is being used to finance.

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present all of the core information related to government borrowing and debt, including its composition, for BY-1 as well as some additional information beyond the core elements. To answer "b," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present all of the core components noted above. Answer "b" is also accepted if one of the core elements is not presented but additional information beyond the core elements is presented. A "c" answer applies if some information related to government borrowing and debt, including its composition, but some of the core pieces of information are not included. Answer "d" applies if no information is presented on government borrowing and debt for BY-1.

Answer:

c. Yes, information is presented, but it excludes some core elements.

Source:

The information on government borrowing and debt, including its composition, for the year preceding the budget year (BY-1) is presented in the Information Note to the budget law (Nota informativă la proiectul legii bugetului de stat pe anul 2019, pages 12, 15-17) and Table 4 and Table 7 (from archived document "Tabelele 1-11") at <http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/proiectul-hot%C4%83r%C3%Aerii-guvernului-privind-aprobarea-proiectului-legii-bugetului-de-stat-0>. But not for all core elements. The missing information is interest rates on the debt instruments and maturity profile of the debt.

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

32. In the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation, what is the most recent year presented for which the debt figures reflect actual outcomes?

GUIDELINES:

Question 32 asks for which year the actual outcome for debt is shown. In most cases, the most recent year for which budget data on actual outcomes are available will be BY-2, as BY-1 is generally not yet finished when the budget proposal is drafted. So a government that has updated its debt data for BY-2 to reflect what actually occurred, as opposed to estimating the outcome for that year, shows good public financial management practice.

For an "a" answer, a country must meet the good practice of having the figures for BY-2 reflect actual outcomes.

It is essential that all government activities that may have an impact on the budget – in the current budget year or in future budget years – be fully disclosed to the legislature and the public in budget documents. In some countries, for instance, entities outside central government (such as public corporations) undertake fiscal activities that could affect current and future budgets. Similarly, activities that can have a significant impact on the budget, such as payment arrears and contingent liabilities, sometimes are not properly captured by the regular presentations of expenditure, revenue, and debt.

Answer:

a. Two years prior to the budget year (BY-2).

Source:

The most recent year for which the debt figures reflect actual outcomes is BY-2, the Information Note to the budget law (Nota informativă la proiectul legii bugetului de stat pe anul 2019, page 15) at <http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/proiectul-hot%C4%83r%C3%Aerii-guvernului-privind-aprobarea-proiectului-legii-bugetului-de-stat-0>.

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

33. "Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present information on extra-budgetary funds for at least the budget year?

(The core information must include a statement of purpose or policy rationale for the extra-budgetary fund; and complete income, expenditure, and financing data on a gross basis.)"

GUIDELINES:

Question 33 focuses on extra-budgetary funds, asking whether "core" information related to these funds, which exist outside the budget, are presented. These core components include:

- *a statement of purpose or policy rationale for the extra-budgetary fund (i.e., why was a particular fund set up? what is it used for?); and*
- *estimates of its income, expenditure, and financing. (These estimates should be presented on a gross basis so that it is possible to tell how much money flows through each extra-budgetary fund.)*

In most countries, governments engage in certain budgetary activities that are not included in the central government's budget. Known as extra-budgetary funds, they can range in size and scope. For example, countries frequently set up pension and social security programs as extra-budgetary funds, where the revenues collected and the benefits paid are recorded in a separate fund outside the budget. Another example of an extra-budgetary fund can be found in countries dependent on hydrocarbon/mineral resources, where revenues from producing and selling those resources are channeled through systems outside the annual budget.

In some cases, the separation engendered by an extra-budgetary fund serves a legitimate political purpose, and the finances and activities of these funds are well documented. In other cases, however, this structure is used for obfuscation, and little or nothing is known about a fund's finances and activities.

The availability of information related to extra-budgetary funds is essential for a comprehensive understanding of the government's true fiscal position. In addition to the core information, other information about extra-budgetary funds is also desirable. Such information includes a discussion of the risks associated with the extra-budgetary fund; expenditures classified by economic, functional, or administrative unit; and the rules and procedures that govern the operations and management of the extra-budgetary fund.

For more information about extra-budgetary funds, see the Guide to Transparency in Public Finances: Looking Beyond the Core Budget (<http://internationalbudget.org/wp-content/uploads/Looking-Beyond-the-Budget.pdf>) and Principle 2.1.1 of the IMF's Fiscal Transparency Handbook (2018) (<https://www.elibrary.imf.org/view/IMF069/24788-9781484331859/24788-9781484331859/24788-9781484331859.xml>).

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present all of the core information related to extra-budgetary funds as well as some additional information beyond the core elements. A "b" answer applies if the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation presents all of the core information. Answer "b" is also accepted if one of the core elements is not presented but additional information beyond the core elements is presented. A "c" answer applies if some information related to extra-budgetary funds is presented, but some of the core pieces of information are not included. Answer "d" applies if no information is presented on extra-budgetary funds.

Answer:

c. Yes, information is presented, but it excludes some core elements or some extra-budgetary funds.

Source:

In the Republic of Moldova there are 2 extra-budgetary funds (i) Budget for social security fund (Bugetul asigurărilor sociale de stat) and (ii) Health care compulsory fund (Fondurile asigurării obligatorii de asistență medicală) that are managed by the Central Government. Both have their own procedures for elaboration and approval. Information Note to the budget law (Nota informativă la proiectul legii bugetului de stat pe anul 2019) contains information about both funds, including the relationships between all General Budget (pages 28-29 and 91-92). But, at the same time there

is missing a statement of purpose or policy rationale information regarding these funds. (<http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/proiectul-hot%C4%83r%C3%Aerii-guvernului-privind-aprobarea-proiectului-legii-bugetului-de-stat-0>).

Comment:

The Republic of Moldova there is no extra-budgetary fund for education sector.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Disagree

Suggested Answer:

a. Yes, information beyond the core elements is presented for all extra-budgetary funds.

Comments: As both funds have their own budget law, comprehensive information on Social security budget and Health care compulsory funds is presented in the budget proposals and supporting budget information to the respective laws. Official Government site, Government meeting

08.11.2018 https://gov.md/sites/default/files/document/attachments/intr51_4.pdf

https://gov.md/sites/default/files/document/attachments/intr50_4.pdf Official Parliament site

<http://parlament.md/ProcesulLegislativ/Proiectedeacteleislative/tabid/61/LegislativId/4450/language/ro-RO/Default.aspx>

<http://parlament.md/ProcesulLegislativ/Proiectedeacteleislative/tabid/61/LegislativId/4451/language/ro-RO/Default.aspx>

Researcher Response

According to the OBS methodology the evaluation is based only on the documents and information presented in EBP or supporting documents. The documents mentioned by government reviewer are not part of EBP 2019 or supporting documents.

34. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present central government finances (both budgetary and extra-budgetary) on a consolidated basis for at least the budget year?

GUIDELINES:

Question 34 asks whether the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documents present the finances of the central government on a consolidated basis, showing both its budgetary and extra-budgetary activities. Virtually all of the questions in the OBS questionnaire focus on budgetary central government – the activities of the ministries, departments, or agencies of central government. In addition, Question 33 asks about extra-budgetary funds, such as social security funds that are not included in the budget.

Coverage is an important aspect of fiscal reporting. Budget documents should cover the full scope of government's financial activity. In many countries, extra-budgetary activities are substantial, and can represent a sizable share of the central government's activities. To get a full picture of the central government's finances, therefore, it is necessary to examine both activities that are included in the budget and those that are extra-budgetary. This question asks whether such a consolidated presentation of central government finances is provided.

The central government is only one component of the overall public sector. The public sector also includes other levels of government, such as state and local government, and public corporations. (See Box 2.1 under Principle 1.1.1 of the IMF's Fiscal Transparency Handbook (2018): <https://www.elibrary.imf.org/view/IMF069/24788-9781484331859/24788-9781484331859/24788-9781484331859.xml>. For the purpose of answering this question, please consider only the central government level.

In order to answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present central government finances (both budgetary and extra-budgetary) on a consolidated basis for at least the budget year.

Answer:

b. No, central government finances are not presented on a consolidated basis.

Source:

No, central government finances are not presented on a consolidated basis. Though, the supporting documents to the EBP presents the consolidated finance on General Budget in the information note to the budget law (Nota informativă la proiectul legii bugetului de stat pe anul 2019), pages 12-31 and Table 2 an 3 (from archived document "Tabelele 1-11") on <http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/proiectul-hot%C4%83r%C3%Aerii-guvernului-privind-aprobarea-proiectului-legii-bugetului-de-stat-0>.

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Disagree

Suggested Answer:

a. Yes, central government finances are presented on a consolidated basis.

Comments: Information on the Central Government finances is presented on the Ministry of Finance website: <http://mf.gov.md/ro/buget/bugetul-public-na%C8%9Bional> Given hat the three components (Central Budget, the Mandatory Health Insurance Fund, and the State Social Insurance Budget) are approved separately, it is true that the information is not structured in one single document. However, the central government finances

are available at a click's distance from one another: Central Budget: <http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/bugetul-de-stat-2019> Mandatory Health Insurance Fund: <http://mf.gov.md/ro/buget/bugetul-public-na%C8%9Bional/fondul-asigurarilor-obligatorii-de-asistenta-medicala> State Social Insurance Budget: <http://mf.gov.md/ro/buget/bugetul-public-na%C8%9Bional/bugetul-asigurarilor-sociale-de-stat> Given the above, it can be considered that the central government finances are presented on a consolidated basis.

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Disagree

Suggested Answer:

a. Yes, central government finances are presented on a consolidated basis.

Comments: General Budget is presented by all its components: central government (state budget, Social security budget and Health care compulsory funds) and consolidated local budgets.

Researcher Response

According to the OBS methodology the evaluation is based only on the documents and information presented in EBP or supporting documents. The documents mentioned by reviewers are not part of EBP 2019 or supporting documents.

35. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present estimates of intergovernmental transfers for at least the budget year?

GUIDELINES:

Question 35 asks about intergovernmental transfers. In many cases, the central government supports the provision of a good or service by a lower level of government through an intergovernmental transfer of funds. This is necessary because, independent from the level of administrative decentralization that exists in a given country, the capacity for revenue collection of a local government is unlikely to be sufficient to pay for all its expenses. However, because the activity is not being undertaken by an administrative unit of the central government, it is unlikely to receive the same level of review in the budget. Thus it is important to include in the budget proposal a statement that explicitly indicates the amount and purposes of these transfers.

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present for at least the budget year both estimates covering all intergovernmental transfers and a narrative discussing these transfers. If a narrative discussion is not included, but estimates for all intergovernmental transfers are presented, then a "b" answer is appropriate. A "c" response applies if the presentation includes estimates covering only some, but not all, intergovernmental transfers (regardless of whether it also includes a narrative discussion). Answer "d" applies if no estimates of intergovernmental transfers are presented.

Answer:

a. Yes, estimates of all intergovernmental transfers are presented, along with a narrative discussion.

Source:

The information is presented in Annex 7 (from archived document "Anexele 1-9") to the budget law and in information note to the budget law (Nota informativă la proiectul legii bugetului de stat pe anul 2019), pages 82-91, and Table 7 (from archived document "Tabelele 1-11") on <http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/proiectul-hot%C4%83r%C3%A2rii-guvernului-privind-aprobarea-proiectului-legii-bugetului-de-stat-0>

Comment:

Also, information regarding transfers to sub-national governments is presented for education sector, along with a narrative discussion.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

36. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present alternative displays of expenditures (such as by gender, by age, by income, or by region) to illustrate the financial impact of policies on different groups of citizens, for at least the budget year?

GUIDELINES:

Question 36 asks about "alternative displays" of expenditures that highlight the financial impact of policies on different groups of citizens. As discussed above, expenditures are typically presented by at least one of three classifications – administrative, functional, and economic classifications (see Questions 1-5) – and by individual program (Question 6). In addition, governments can provide alternative displays to emphasize different aspects of expenditure policies and to show who benefits from these expenditures.

For the purpose of answering this question, the alternative presentation must differ from the presentations (such as administrative, functional, or economic classifications or presentation by program) used to answer other questions. The alternative display can cover all expenditures or only a portion of expenditures. For instance, it can show how all expenditures are distributed according to geographic region or it can show how selected expenditures (such as

the health budget or the agriculture budget) are distributed to different regions. But such a geographic display must be something different than the presentation of intergovernmental transfers used to answer question 35. One exception is when a country includes a special presentation of all policies intended to benefit the most impoverished populations (and is used to answer Question 52) then that can be considered an alternative display for purposes of answering this question as well. Finally, brief fact sheets showing how proposals in the budget benefit particular groups would be insufficient; only more detailed presentations would be considered.

The IBP Budget Brief, "How Transparent are Governments When it Comes to Their Budget's Impact on Poverty and Inequality?" (<https://www.internationalbudget.org/wp-content/uploads/government-transparency-of-budgets-impact-on-poverty-inequality-ibp-2019.pdf>) includes a discussion of the importance of alternative displays of budget information and provides a number of examples. For instance,

- Bangladesh in its 2017-18 Budget included a detailed supplementary Gender Budgeting Report, which presents the spending dedicated to advancing women across various departments. (<https://mof.portal.gov.bd/site/page/3bb14732-b5b1-44df-9921-efedf1496295>).
- The UK's 2017 budget included a supplementary analysis that provided a distributional analysis of the budget by households in different income groups (see https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/661465/distributional_analysis_autumn_budget_2017.pdf).
- South Africa's 2017 Budget Review goes beyond the standard presentation of intergovernmental transfers, discussing the redistribution that results from national revenue flowing to the provinces and municipalities and presenting the allocations on a per capita basis (see chapter 6, <http://www.treasury.gov.za/documents/national%20budget/2017/review/FullBR.pdf>).

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must include at least three different presentations that illustrate the financial impact of policies on different groups of citizens for at least the budget year. To answer "b," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must include at least two different alternative displays of expenditures. A "c" applies is only one type of alternative display of expenditure is presented. Answer "d" applies if no alternative display of expenditure is presented.

Answer:

d. No, alternative displays of expenditures are not presented to illustrate the financial impact of policies on different groups of citizens.

Source:

No alternative display of expenditures are presented to illustrate the financial impact of policies on different groups of citizens. (<http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/proiectul-hot%C4%83r%C3%AEEii-guvernului-privind-aprobarea-proiectului-legii-bugetului-de-stat-0>)

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: no alternative displays are being presented.

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

36b. Based on the response to Question 36, select the box(es) below to identify which types of alternative displays are included in the Executive's Budget Proposal:

Answer:

None of the above

Source:

No alternative display of expenditures are presented to illustrate the financial impact of policies on different groups of citizens. (<http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/proiectul-hot%C4%83r%C3%AEEii-guvernului-privind-aprobarea-proiectului-legii-bugetului-de-stat-0>)

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

37. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present estimates of transfers to public corporations for at least the budget year?

GUIDELINES:

Question 37 asks about transfers to public corporations. It is often the case that governments have a stake in enterprises that manage resources that are particularly relevant for the public good (such as electricity, water, and oil). While these public corporations can operate independently, in some cases the government will provide direct support by making transfers to these corporations, including to subsidize capital investment and operating expenses.

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present for at least the budget year both estimates covering all transfers to public corporations and a narrative discussing the purposes of these transfers. If a narrative discussion is not included, but estimates for all transfers to public corporations are presented, then a "b" answer is appropriate. A "c" response applies if the presentation includes estimates covering only some, but not all, transfers to public corporations (regardless of whether it also includes a narrative discussion). Answer "c" also applies if estimates of transfers to public corporations are presented as a single line item. Answer "d" applies if no estimates of transfers to public corporations are presented.

Answer:

c. Yes, estimates of some but not all transfers to public corporations are presented.

Source:

No estimates of transfers to public corporations are presented for BY2019. Annexed to the Information Note contain only an Analytical Note regarding the results of monitoring of public companies for 2017 and half year for 2018, (Nota monitoring IS_0) on:

<http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/proiectul-hot%C4%83r%C3%Aerii-guvernului-privind-aprobarea-proiectului-legii-bugetului-de-stat-0>

Comment:

No information regarding transfers to public corporations from education sector is presented.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: in the last years this practice has been eliminated.

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Disagree

Suggested Answer:

b. Yes, estimates of all transfers to public corporations are presented, but a narrative discussion is not included.

Comments: All transfers to public corporations for BY 2019 are included in category "Subsidies" by economic classification. The information is presented in Table 7 to the Information Note (from archived document "Tabelele 1-11") <http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/proiectul-hot%C4%83r%C3%Aerii-guvernului-privind-aprobarea-proiectului-legii-bugetului-de-stat-0>

Researcher Response

Partially agree. Modified answer is (c). The EBP 2019 or any supporting budget documentation doesn't present exhaustive information regarding transfers to public corporations. For this situation the OBS methodology provide explicitly the answer (c) - "Answer "c" also applies if estimates of transfers to public corporations are presented as a single line item".

38. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present information on quasi-fiscal activities for at least the budget year?

(The core information must include a statement of purpose or policy rationale for the quasi-fiscal activity and the intended beneficiaries.)

GUIDELINES:

Question 38 focuses on quasi-fiscal activities, asking whether "core" information related to such activities is presented. These core components include:

- A statement of purpose or policy rationale for the quasi-fiscal activity (i.e., what is the reason for engaging in this activity?);
- The identification of intended beneficiaries of the quasi-fiscal activity.

The term "quasi-fiscal activities" refers to a broad range of activities that are fiscal in character and could be carried out through the regular budget process but are not. For example, a quasi-fiscal activity could take place if, instead of providing a direct subsidy through the budget for a particular activity, a public financial institution provides an indirect subsidy by offering loans at below-market rates for that activity. Similarly, it is a quasi-fiscal activity when an enterprise provides goods or services at prices below commercial rates to certain individuals or groups to support the government's policy goals.

The above examples are policy choices that may be approved by the government and legislature. However, quasi-fiscal activities can also involve activities that violate or circumvent a country's budget process laws or are not subject to the regular legislative approval process for expenditures. For example, the

executive may issue an informal order to a government entity, such as a public commercial enterprise, to provide the executive with goods and services that normally would have to be purchased with funding authorized by the legislature. All quasi-fiscal activities should be disclosed to the public and subject to public scrutiny.

Beyond the core information, some governments may also provide other information about quasi-fiscal activities, including for example: the anticipated duration of the quasi-fiscal activity; a quantification of the activity and the assumptions that support these estimates; and a discussion of the fiscal significance and potential risks associated with the activity, including the impact on the entity carrying out the activity. Principle 3.3.2 of the IMF's Fiscal Transparency Handbook (2018) (<https://www.elibrary.imf.org/view/IMF069/24788-9781484331859/24788-9781484331859/24788-9781484331859.xml>) provides examples of quasi-fiscal activities that can be consulted as needed. And more details on quasi-fiscal activities can be found in the Guide to Transparency in Public Finances: Looking Beyond the Core Budget (<http://internationalbudget.org/wp-content/uploads/Looking-Beyond-the-Budget.pdf>).

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present all of the core information related to all quasi-fiscal activities for at least the budget year as well as some additional information beyond the core elements. To answer "b," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present all of the core components noted above. Answer "b" is also accepted if one of the core elements is not presented but additional information beyond the core elements is presented. A "c" answer applies if some information related to quasi-fiscal activities is presented, but some of the core pieces of information are not included. Answer "d" applies if no information is presented on quasi-fiscal activities.

If quasi-fiscal activities do not represent a significant problem in your country, please mark "e." However, please exercise caution in answering this question.

Answer:

d. No, information related to quasi-fiscal activities is not presented.

Source:

No information related to quasi-fiscal activities is presented. (<http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/proiectul-hot%C4%83r%C3%A0rii-guvernului-privind-aprobarea-proiectului-legii-bugetului-de-stat-0>)

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: No information related to quasi-fiscal activities is presented, although in reality it does exist, for example through promoting PPPs on controversial projects without stating them in the budget initially.

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Disagree

Suggested Answer: e. Not applicable/other (please comment).

Comments: We have no quasi-fiscal operations

Researcher Response

The Ministry of Finance or other institution does not analyze this subject and as consequence the real situation is not clear. At the same time the state owned corporations are working in a quite nontransparent way, including the usage of the public property. The answer is (d).

39. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present information on financial assets held by the government for at least the budget year?

(The core information must include a listing of the assets, and an estimate of their value.)

GUIDELINES:

Question 39 focuses on financial assets held by the government, asking whether "core" information related to these assets is presented. These core components include:

- A listing of the financial assets; and
- An estimate of their value.

Governments own financial assets such as cash, bonds, or equities. Unlike private sector businesses, however, few governments maintain balance sheets that show the value of their assets and liabilities.

Beyond the core information, some governments may also provide other information about financial assets, including for example: a discussion of their purpose; historical information on defaults; differences between reported values and market values; and a summary of financial assets as part of the government's balance sheet.

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present for at least the budget year all of the core information related to all financial assets held by the government as well as some additional information beyond the core elements. To answer "b," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present all of the core components noted above. Answer "b" is also accepted if one of the core elements is not presented but additional information beyond the core elements is presented. A "c" answer applies if some information related to financial assets is presented, but some of the core pieces of information are not included. Answer "d" applies if no information is presented on financial assets held by the government.

Answer:

c. Yes, information is presented, but it excludes some core elements or some financial assets.

Source:

Some information regarding equities is presented in Information Note to the budget law (Nota informativă la proiectul legii bugetului de stat pe anul 2019, for ex. page 45), and also in Note Analytical Note regarding the results of monitoring of public companies for 2017 and half year for 2018, (Nota monitoring IS_0), without list of assets on:
<http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/proiectul-hot%C4%83r%C3%Aerii-guvernului-privind-aprobarea-proiectului-legii-bugetului-de-stat-0>

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

40. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present information on nonfinancial assets held by the government for at least the budget year?

(The core information must include a listing of the assets by category.)

GUIDELINES:

Question 40 focuses on nonfinancial assets held by the government, asking whether "core" information related to these assets is presented. The core information is a listing of nonfinancial assets, grouped by the type (or category) of asset.

Nonfinancial assets are things of value that the government owns or controls (excluding financial assets) such as land, buildings, and machinery. The valuation of public nonfinancial assets can be problematic, particularly in cases where the asset is not typically available on the open market (such as a government monument). In these cases, it is considered acceptable to provide summary information in budget documents from a country's register of assets. But, in some cases, governments are able to value their nonfinancial assets; some present a summary of nonfinancial assets as part of their balance sheets. For an example of how nonfinancial assets are presented in one of the many supporting documents to the New Zealand Executive's Budget Proposal, see the Forecast Financial Statement 2011, Notes to the Financial Statements (Continued), Note 14, accessible here: <https://treasury.govt.nz/sites/default/files/2011-05/befu11-pt6of8.pdf>.

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present for at least the budget year a listing by category of all nonfinancial assets held by the government as well as some additional information beyond the core elements. To answer "b," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present all of the core components noted above. Answer "b" is also accepted if one of the core elements is not presented but additional information beyond the core elements is presented. A "c" answer applies if some information related to nonfinancial assets is presented, but some nonfinancial assets are not included. Answer "d" applies if no information is presented on nonfinancial assets held by the government.

Answer:

d. No, information related to nonfinancial assets is not presented.

Source:

No information related to non-financial assets is presented. (<http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/proiectul-hot%C4%83r%C3%Aerii-guvernului-privind-aprobarea-proiectului-legii-bugetului-de-stat-0>)

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

41. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present estimates of expenditure arrears for at least the budget year?

GUIDELINES:

Question 41 asks about estimates of expenditure arrears, which arise when government has entered into a commitment to spend funds but has not made the payment when it is due. (For more information see sections 3.49-3.50 of the IMF's GFS Manual 2001, <http://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/gfs/manual/pdf/all.pdf> (page 29)). Though equivalent to borrowing, this liability is often not recorded in the budget, making it difficult to assess fully a government's financial position. Moreover, the obligation to repay this debt affects the government's ability to pay for other activities.

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present for at least the budget year both estimates covering all expenditure arrears and a narrative discussing the arrears. If a narrative discussion is not included, but estimates for all expenditure arrears are presented, then a "b" answer is appropriate. A "c" response applies if the presentation includes estimates covering only some, but not all, expenditure arrears (regardless of whether it also includes a narrative discussion). Answer "d" applies if no estimates of expenditure arrears are presented.

If expenditure arrears do not represent a significant problem in your country, please mark "e." However, please exercise caution in answering this question. Public expenditure management laws and regulations often will allow for reasonable delays, perhaps 30 or 60 days, in the routine payment of invoices due. Expenditure arrears impacting a small percentage of expenditure that are due to contractual disputes should not be considered a significant problem for the purpose of answering this question.

Answer:

d. No, estimates of expenditure arrears are not presented.

Source:

No estimates of expenditure arrears are presented. (<http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/proiectul-hot%C4%83r%C3%A2rii-guvernului-privind-aprobarea-proiectului-legii-bugetului-de-stat-0>)

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

42. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present information on contingent liabilities, such as government loan guarantees or insurance programs, for at least the budget year?

(The core information must include a statement of purpose or policy rationale for each contingent liability; the new guarantees or insurance commitments proposed for the budget year; and the total amount of outstanding guarantees or insurance commitments (the gross exposure) at the end of the budget year.)

GUIDELINES:

Question 42 focuses on contingent liabilities, asking whether "core" information related to these liabilities is presented. These core components include:

- a statement of purpose or policy rationale for each contingent liability;
- the new contingent liabilities for the budget year, such as new guarantees or insurance commitments proposed for the budget year; and
- the total amount of outstanding guarantees or insurance commitments at the end of the budget year. This reflects the gross exposure of the government in the case that all guarantees or commitments come due (even though that may be unlikely to occur).

Contingent liabilities are recognized under a cash accounting method only when the contingent event occurs and the payment is made. An example of such liabilities is the case of loans guaranteed by the central government, which can include loans to state-owned banks and other state-owned commercial enterprises, subnational governments, or private enterprises. Under such guarantees, government will only make a payment if the borrower defaults. Thus a key issue for making quantitative estimates of these liabilities is assessing the likelihood of the contingency occurring.

In the budget, according to the OECD, "[w]here feasible, the total amount of contingent liabilities should be disclosed and classified by major category reflecting their nature; historical information on defaults for each category should be disclosed where available. In cases where contingent liabilities cannot be quantified, they should be listed and described."

Beyond the core information, some governments may also provide other information about contingent liabilities, including for example: historical default rates for each program, and likely default rates in the future; the maximum guarantee that is authorized by law; any special financing associated with the guarantee (e.g., whether fees are charged, whether a reserve fund exists for the purpose of paying off guarantees, etc.); the duration of each guarantee; and an estimate of the fiscal significance and potential risks associated with the guarantees.

For more details on contingent liabilities, see Guide to Transparency in Public Finances: Looking Beyond the Core Budget (<http://internationalbudget.org/wp-content/uploads/Looking-Beyond-the-Budget.pdf>) and page 59 (Box 11) and Principle 3.2.3 of the IMF's Fiscal Transparency Handbook (2018) (<https://www.elibrary.imf.org/view/IMF069/24788-9781484331859/24788-9781484331859/24788-9781484331859.xml>).

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present for at least the budget year all of the core information related to contingent liabilities as well as some additional information beyond the core elements. To answer "b," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present all of the core components noted above. Answer "b" is also accepted if one of the core elements is not presented but additional information beyond the core elements is presented. A "c" answer applies if some information related to contingent liabilities is presented, but some of the core pieces of information are not included. Answer "d" applies if no information is presented on contingent liabilities.

Answer:

c. Yes, information is presented, but it excludes some core elements or some contingent liabilities.

Source:

No information related to contingent liabilities is presented. (<http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/proiectul-hot%C4%83r%C3%Aerii-guvernului-privind-aprobarea-proiectului-legii-bugetului-de-stat-0>)

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Disagree

Suggested Answer:

a. Yes, information beyond the core elements is presented for all contingent liabilities.

Comments: Answer is A. Please see the comments on the next page. Information related to contingent liabilities is presented in the Note related to budgetary-fiscal risks (Notă privind riscurile bugetar-fiscale). (<http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/proiectul-hot%C4%83r%C3%Aerii-guvernului-privind-aprobarea-proiectului-legii-bugetului-de-stat-0>) Comment: For example, in case of central government guarantees for First House Programme there is information about the purpose of the Programme, stock of guarantees at the end of the year and exposure of the government in case guarantees come due (pag. 30). Additionally, there is

Researcher Response

Partially agree. Modified answer is (c). The risks analysis note (Notă privind riscurile bugetar-fiscale) (<http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/proiectul-hot%C4%83r%C3%Aerii-guvernului-privind-aprobarea-proiectului-legii-bugetului-de-stat-0>) presents a statement of purpose or policy rationale for each contingent liability, the total amount of outstanding guarantees or insurance commitments at the end of the budget year (Table nr. 11 in the risks analysis note) and some, but not all new contingent liabilities for the budget year. For example, it's missing estimation (or description) of contingent liabilities related to Public Private Partnerships as stock and related for budget year. The analysis presents only number of PPPs initiated in previous years and some general information about these (page. 31).

43. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present projections that assess the government's future liabilities and the sustainability of its finances over the longer term?

(The core information must cover a period of at least 10 years and include the macroeconomic and demographic assumptions used and a discussion of the fiscal implications and risks highlighted by the projections.)

GUIDELINES:

Question 43 focuses on government's future liabilities and the sustainability of its finances over the longer-term, asking whether "core" information related to these issues is presented. These core components must include:

- Projections that cover a period of at least 10 years.
- The macroeconomic and demographic assumptions used in making the projections.
- A discussion of the fiscal implications and risks highlighted by the projections. Good public financial management calls for budgets to include fiscal sustainability analyses.

The IMF's Fiscal Transparency Handbook (2018) (<https://www.elibrary.imf.org/view/IMF069/24788-9781484331859/24788-9781484331859/24788-9781484331859.xml>) recommends that governments regularly publish the projected evolution of the public finances over the longer term (see Principle 3.1.3.). Future liabilities are a particularly important element when assessing the sustainability of public finances over the long term. Future liabilities are the result of government commitments that, unlike contingent liabilities, are virtually certain to occur at some future point and result in an expenditure. A typical example consists of government obligations to pay pension benefits or cover health care costs of future retirees. Under a cash accounting system, only current payments associated with such obligations are recognized in the budget. To capture the future impact on the budget of these liabilities, a separate statement is required.

Beyond the core information, some governments may also provide other information about the sustainability of their finances, including for example: projections that cover 20 or 30 years; multiple scenarios with different sets of assumptions; assumptions about other factors (such as the depletion of natural resources) that go beyond just the core macroeconomic and demographic data; and a detailed presentation of particular programs that have long time horizons, such as civil service pensions.

For more details on future liabilities, see *Guide to Transparency in Public Finances: Looking Beyond the Core Budget* (<http://internationalbudget.org/wp-content/uploads/Looking-Beyond-the-Budget.pdf>).

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present all of the core information related to future liabilities and the sustainability of government finances over the longer term as well as some additional information beyond the core elements. To answer "b," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present all of the core components noted above. Answer "b" is also accepted if one of the core elements is not presented but additional information beyond the core elements is presented. A "c" answer applies if some information related to future liabilities is presented, but some of the core pieces of information are not included. Answer "d" applies if no information is presented on future liabilities and the sustainability of government's finances

Answer:

d. No, information related to future liabilities and the sustainability of finances over the longer term is not presented.

Source:

No information related to future liabilities and the sustainability of finances over the longer term is presented.
(<http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/proiectul-hot%C4%83r%C3%AEni-guvernului-privind-aprobarea-proiectului-legii-bugetului-de-stat-0>)

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

44. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present estimates of the sources of donor assistance, both financial and in-kind, for at least the budget year?

GUIDELINES:

Question 44 asks about estimates of donor assistance, both financial and in-kind assistance. Such assistance is considered non-tax revenue, and the sources of this assistance should be explicitly identified. In terms of in-kind assistance, the concern is primarily with the provision of goods (particularly those for which there is a market that would allow goods received as in-kind aid to be sold, thereby converting them into cash) rather than with in-kind aid like advisors from a donor country providing technical assistance.

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present for at least the budget year both estimates covering all donor assistance and a narrative discussing the assistance. If a narrative discussion is not included, but estimates for all donor assistance are presented, then a "b" answer is appropriate. A "c" response applies if the presentation includes estimates covering only some, but not all, donor assistance (regardless of whether it also includes a narrative discussion). Answer "c" also applies if the sources of donor assistance are not presented, but the total amount of donor assistance is presented as a single line item. Answer "d" applies if no estimates of donor assistance are presented. Select answer "e" if your country does not receive donor assistance.

Answer:

c. Yes, estimates of some but not all sources of donor assistance are presented.

Source:

Estimates of some but not all sources of donor assistance are presented in Table 10 (from archived document "Tabelele 1-11"), and along with a narrative discussion in the Information Note to the budget law (Nota informativă la proiectul legii bugetului de stat pe anul 2019) pages 32, 33, 37,38 and 47-81). In particular, for the projects financed from external sources (mentioned in Table 10), in the Information Note there are mentioned some of the sources, but not all (for instance, for the project "Suport pentru Programul Transnațional Dunărea").
(<http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/proiectul-hot%C4%83r%C3%AEni-guvernului-privind-aprobarea-proiectului-legii-bugetului-de-stat-0>)

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Disagree

Suggested Answer:

b. Yes, estimates of all sources of donor assistance are presented, but a narrative discussion is not included.

Comments: Even if not all donor assistance of the country is included in the budget proposal (a part being channeled to non-gov. sector), estimates

of all donor assistance included in the budget are presented. Estimates all sources of donor assistance are presented in Table 10 (from archived document "Tabelele 1-11"), (<http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/proiectul-hot%C4%83r%C3%Aerii-guvernului-privind-aprobarea-proiectului-legii-bugetului-de-stat-0>).

Researcher Response

The answer remains (c). Not all sources of donor assistance are presented.

45. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present information on tax expenditures for at least the budget year?

(The core information must include a statement of purpose or policy rationale for each tax expenditure, the intended beneficiaries, and an estimate of the revenue foregone.)

GUIDELINES:

Question 45 focuses on tax expenditures, asking whether "core" information related to these tax preferences is presented. These core components must include for both new and existing tax expenditures:

- a statement of purpose or policy rationale;
- a listing of the intended beneficiaries; and
- an estimate of the revenue foregone.

Tax expenditures arise as a result of exceptions or other preferences in the tax code provided for specified entities, individuals, or activities. Tax expenditures often have the same impact on public policy and budgets as providing direct subsidies, benefits, or goods and services. For example, encouraging a company to engage in more research through a special tax break can have the same effect as subsidizing it directly through the expenditure side of the budget, as it still constitutes a cost in terms of foregone revenues. However, expenditure items that require annual authorization are likely to receive more scrutiny than tax breaks that are a permanent feature of the tax code.

Beyond the core information, some governments may also provide other information about tax expenditures, including for example: the intended beneficiaries by sector and income class (distributional impact); a statement of the estimating assumptions, including the definition of the benchmark against which the foregone revenue is measured; and a discussion of tax expenditures as part of a general discussion of expenditures for those program areas that receive both types of government support (in order to better inform policy choices). For more details on tax expenditures, see Guide to Transparency in Public Finances: Looking Beyond the Core Budget (<http://internationalbudget.org/wp-content/uploads/Looking-Beyond-the-Budget.pdf>) and Principle 1.1.4 of the IMF's Fiscal Transparency Handbook (2018) (<https://www.elibrary.imf.org/view/IMF069/24788-9781484331859/24788-9781484331859/24788-9781484331859.xml>).

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present, for at least the budget year, all of the core information related to tax expenditures as well as some additional information beyond the core elements. To answer "b," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present all of the core components noted above. Answer "b" is also accepted if one of the core elements is not presented but additional information beyond the core elements is presented. A "c" answer applies if some information related to tax expenditures is presented, but some of the core pieces of information are not included. Answer "d" applies if no information is presented on tax expenditures.

Answer:

d. No, information related to tax expenditures is not presented.

Source:

No information related to the tax expenditures is presented. (<http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/proiectul-hot%C4%83r%C3%Aerii-guvernului-privind-aprobarea-proiectului-legii-bugetului-de-stat-0>)

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: No information linked to tax expenditure was found in the EBP or in any supporting documentation.

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

46. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present estimates of earmarked revenues for at least the budget year?

GUIDELINES:

Question 46 asks about estimates of earmarked revenues, which are revenues that may only be used for a specific purpose (for example, revenues from a tax on fuel that can only be used for building roads). This information is important in determining which revenues are available to fund the government's general expenses, and which revenues are reserved for particular purposes.

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present for at least the budget year both estimates covering all earmarked revenues and a narrative discussing the earmarks. If a narrative discussion is not included, but estimates for all earmarked revenues are presented, then a "b" answer is appropriate. A "c" response applies if the presentation includes estimates covering only some, but not all, earmarked revenues (regardless of whether it also includes a narrative discussion). Answer "d" applies if no estimates of earmarked revenues are presented. An "e" response applies if revenue is not earmarked or the practice is disallowed by law or regulation.

Answer:

c. Yes, estimates of some but not all earmarked revenues are presented.

Source:

Estimates for some but not all earmarked revenues are presented. Annex nr. 3.2 (from archived document "Anexele 1-9") to the budget, and in the Information Note of the law (Nota informativă la proiectul legii bugetului de stat pe anul 2019), pages 47-81. (<http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/proiectul-hot%C4%83r%C3%Aerii-guvernului-privind- aprobarea-proiectului-legii-bugetului-de-stat-0>)

Comment:

For the purpose of this evaluation the expenditure financed from collected revenues (resurse colectate) are considered as earmarked revenues, because they are collected directly by institutions and could be used only by those institutions. The government doesn't present information by individual sources of collected revenues.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: Estimates of some earmarked revenues are presented, with a narrative discussion. Information Note (nota informativa) pp. 46-80 <http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/proiectul-hot%C4%83r%C3%Aerii-guvernului-privind- aprobarea-proiectului-legii-bugetului-de-stat-0>

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Disagree

Suggested Answer:

a. Yes, estimates of all earmarked revenues are presented, along with a narrative discussion.

Comments: For the purpose of this evaluation the expenditure financed from collected revenues (resurse colectate) are considered as earmarked revenues, because they are collected directly by institutions and could be used only by those institutions. The government doesn't present information by individual sources of collected revenues. Estimates for all earmarked revenues are presented. Annex nr. 3.2 (from archived document "Anexele 1-9") to the budget, and in the Information Note of the law (Nota informativă la proiectul legii bugetului de stat pe anul 2019), pages 21, 38-39. (<http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/proiectul-hot%C4%83r%C3%Aerii-guvernului-privind- aprobarea-proiectului-legii-bugetului-de-stat-0>)

Researcher Response

The answer remains (c). The information on some earmarked revenues is presented, but not all. The government doesn't present information by individual sources of collected revenues, only the institution that collects them.

47. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present information on how the proposed budget (both new proposals and existing policies) is linked to government's policy goals for the budget year?

GUIDELINES:

Questions 47 and 48 ask about information that shows how the budget (both new proposals and existing policies) is linked to the government's policy goals. The budget is the executive's main policy document, the culmination of the executive's planning and budgeting processes. Therefore, it should include a clear description of the link between policy goals and the budget – that is, an explicit explanation of how the government's policy goals are reflected in its budget choices. For an example of a discussion of a government's policy goals in the budget, see pages 13-18 of New Zealand's 2011 Statement of Intent (<http://www.treasury.govt.nz/publications/abouttreasury/soi/2011-16>), one of the many documents supporting its budget.

In some countries the government prepares strategic/development plans. These plans include all the policies the government is planning to implement for the budget year and very often cover a multi-year perspective. In some cases, these plans do not match the budget documentation, and it is possible that they are completely disconnected from the Executive's Budget Proposal. So the question is examining whether government policy plans are "translated" into revenue and expenditure figures in the actual budget documents.

Question 47 asks about the information covering the budget year, and Question 48 asks about the period at least two years beyond the budget year. To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present both estimates of how the budget is linked to government's policy goals for the budget year (for Question 47) or for a multi-year period beyond the budget year (for Question 48) and a narrative discussion of how these policy goals are reflected in the budget. To answer "b" for either question, the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present estimates that show how the budget is linked to government's policy goals, but no narrative discussion is included. A "c" response applies if the presentation includes only a narrative discussion, or if it includes estimates that show how the budget is linked to some, but not all, of the government's policy goals (regardless of whether it also includes a narrative discussion). Answer "d" applies if no information is presented on how the budget is linked to government's policy goals.

Answer:

c. Yes, information that shows how the proposed budget is linked to some but not all of the government's policy goals for the budget year is presented.

Source:

The Information Note (Nota informativă la proiectul legii bugetului de stat pe anul 2019) to the budget presents information that shows how the proposed budget is linked to some but not all of the government's policy goals. The document listed the government's goals, but the link with budget allocations are not disclosed for all of them. At the same time, for each of functional groups there is detailed information regarding the factors that lead to increasing or decreasing of allocations. (<http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/proiectul-hot%C4%83r%C3%Aerii-guvernului-privind-aprobarea-proiectului-legii-bugetului-de-stat-0>)

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: I agree. the document lists only few of government's goals and only random explanations for budget allocations' link to policy goals.

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

48. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present information on how the proposed budget (both new proposals and existing policies) is linked to government's policy goals for a multi-year period (for at least two years beyond the budget year)?

GUIDELINES:

Questions 47 and 48 ask about information that shows how the budget (both new proposals and existing policies) is linked to the government's policy goals. The budget is the executive's main policy document, the culmination of the executive's planning and budgeting processes. Therefore, it should include a clear description of the link between policy goals and the budget – that is, an explicit explanation of how the government's policy goals are reflected in its budget choices. For an example of a discussion of a government's policy goals in the budget, see pages 13-18 of New Zealand's 2011 Statement of Intent (<http://www.treasury.govt.nz/publications/abouttreasury/soi/2011-16>), one of the many documents supporting its budget.

In some countries the government prepares strategic/development plans. These plans include all the policies the government is planning to implement for the budget year and very often cover a multi-year perspective. In some cases, these plans do not match the budget documentation, and it is possible that they are completely disconnected from the Executive's Budget Proposal. So the question is examining whether government policy plans are "translated" into revenue and expenditure figures in the actual budget documents.

Question 47 asks about the information covering the budget year, and Question 48 asks about the period at least two years beyond the budget year. To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present both estimates of how the budget is linked to government's policy goals for the budget year (for Question 47) or for a multi-year period beyond the budget year (for Question 48) and a narrative discussion of how these policy goals are reflected in the budget. To answer "b" for either question, the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present estimates that show how the budget is linked to government's policy goals, but no narrative discussion is included. A "c" response applies if the presentation includes only a narrative discussion, or if it includes estimates that show how the budget is linked to some, but not all, of the government's policy goals (regardless of whether it also includes a narrative discussion). Answer "d" applies if no information is presented on how the budget is linked to government's policy goals.

Answer:

d. No, information on the link between the budget and the government's stated policy goals for a multi-year period is not presented.

Source:

No information on the link between the budget and the government's policy goals for a multi-year period is presented. (<http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/proiectul-hot%C4%83r%C3%Aerii-guvernului-privind-aprobarea-proiectului-legii-bugetului-de-stat-0>)

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Disagree

Suggested Answer:

c. Yes, information that shows how the proposed budget is linked to some but not all of the government's policy goals for a multi-year period is presented.

Comments: For example, at p. 74 of the Information Note, the information on how the proposed budget is linked to multi-year government's policy goals is presented: the spendings or allocations for Education were decided based on "strategic priorities of the sectors" and an enumeration/description of these priorities follows.

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Researcher Response

The answer remains (d). Yes, the document contains some sector's priorities, but the link with budget allocations is not disclosed.

49. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present nonfinancial data on inputs to be acquired for at least the budget year?

GUIDELINES:

Question 49 asks about the availability of nonfinancial data on inputs for the budget year. (Nonfinancial data on outputs and outcomes are addressed in Question 50.)

The budget should disclose not only the amount of money that is being allocated on a program but also any information needed to analyze that expenditure. Nonfinancial data and performance targets associated with budget proposals are used to assess the success of a given policy. For example, even when allocated funds are spent according to plan, there remains the question of whether the policy delivered the results that it aimed to achieve.

Nonfinancial data can include information on:

Inputs - These are the resources assigned to achieve results. For example, in regards to education, nonfinancial data on inputs could include the number of books to be provided to each school or the materials to be used to build or refurbish a school.

Outputs - These are products and services delivered as a result of inputs. For example, the number of pupils taught every year; the number of children that received vaccines; or the number of beneficiaries of a social security program.

Outcomes - These are the intended impact or policy goals achieved. For example, an increase in literacy rates among children under 10, or a reduction in rates of maternal mortality.

In addition, governments that set performance targets must use nonfinancial data for outputs and outcomes to determine if these targets have been met.

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present, for at least the budget year, nonfinancial data on inputs for each individual program within all administrative units (ministries, departments, and agencies). It is also acceptable if nonfinancial data on inputs for each individual program is organized by functions. To answer "b," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present nonfinancial data on inputs for all administrative units or all functions, but not for each individual program (or even for any programs) within those administrative units or functions. A "c" response applies if nonfinancial data on inputs are presented only for some programs and/or some administrative units or some functions. Answer "d" applies if no nonfinancial data on inputs is presented.

Answer:

c. Yes, nonfinancial data on inputs are presented for some programs and/or some administrative units (or functions).

Source:

Nonfinancial data on inputs are presented for some programs and/or some administrative units (or functions), in the Information Note as part of explanations of the allocations for functional groups. There is no comprehensive approach for providing the nonfinancial data for inputs. The budget has been elaborated by programs, but the government didn't publish programs with EBP for FY2019. (<http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/proiectul-hot%C4%83r%C3%Aerii-guvernului-privind-aprobarea-proiectului-legii-bugetului-de-stat-0>)

Comment:

For education sector it has been presented some nonfinancial data on inputs on page 76 in the information note.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: The nonfinancial data on inputs is presented scarcely, randomly and only for some programs - as for example, p. 80 of the Information Note (spendings for social protection), regarding two programs financed from external financial sources, only for one of the programs is presented any nonfinancial data on inputs (ex: survey for 2200 households).

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

50. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present nonfinancial data on results (in terms of outputs or outcomes) for at least the budget year?

GUIDELINES:

Question 50 asks about the availability of nonfinancial data on results for the budget year. Nonfinancial data on results can include data on both outputs and outcomes, but not on inputs (which are addressed in Question 49).

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present, for at least the budget year, nonfinancial data on results for each individual program within all administrative units (ministries, departments, and agencies). It is also acceptable if nonfinancial data on results for each individual program is organized by functional classification. To answer "b," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present nonfinancial data on results for all administrative units or all functional classifications, but not for each individual program (or even for any programs) within those administrative units or functions. A "c" response applies if nonfinancial data on results are presented only for some programs and/or some administrative units or some functions. Answer "d" applies if no nonfinancial data on results is presented.

Answer:

c. Yes, nonfinancial data on results are presented for some programs and/or some administrative units (or functions).

Source:

Nonfinancial data on results are presented for some programs and/or some administrative units (or functions), in the Information Note as part of explanations of the allocations for functional groups, especially for the projects from external resources. For example, on page 63, the project "Purchase of locomotives and railway infrastructure restructuring" envisages the rehabilitation of the railway infrastructure on the Bender - Basarabasca - Etulia - Giurgiulesti route with a length of 250 km and the acquisition of 8-15 locomotives. But, there is no comprehensive approach for providing the nonfinancial data for results. The budget has been elaborated by programs, but programs weren't published with EBP for FY2019. (<http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/proiectul-hot%C4%83r%C3%AExii-guvernului-privind-aprobarea-proiectului-legii-bugetului-de-stat-0>)

Comment:

For education sector no information regarding results is presented.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

51. Are performance targets assigned to nonfinancial data on results in the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation?

GUIDELINES:

Question 51 asks about performance targets assigned to nonfinancial data on results for the budget year. The question applies to those nonfinancial results shown in the budget, and that were identified for purposes of Question 50.

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must assign performance targets to all nonfinancial data on results shown in the budget for at least the budget year. To answer "b," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must assign performance targets to a majority (but not all) of the nonfinancial data on results shown in the budget. A "c" response applies performance targets are assigned only to less than half of the nonfinancial data on results. Answer "d" applies if no performance targets are assigned to nonfinancial data on results shown in the budget, or the budget does not present nonfinancial results.

Answer:

c. Yes, performance targets are assigned to some nonfinancial data on results.

Source:

Performance targets are assigned to some nonfinancial data on results. For some projects or programs it was mentioned result indicators, and a few targets (for example "border crossing capability improved at 3 customs offices" see page 51, Information Note (Nota informativă la proiectul legii bugetului de stat pe anul 2019) to the budget law). The budget has been elaborated by programs, but programs weren't published with EBP for FY2019, as they were in OBS 2017, when they were published as supported documents to EBP. (<http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/proiectul-hot%C4%83r%C3%AExii-guvernului-privind-aprobarea-proiectului-legii-bugetului-de-stat-0>)

Comment:

For education sector no performance targets are assigned.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

52. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present estimates of policies (both new proposals and existing policies) that are intended to benefit directly the country's most impoverished populations in at least the budget year?

GUIDELINES:

Question 52 asks whether the budget highlight policies, both new and existing, that benefit the poorest segments of society. This question is intended to assess only those programs that directly address the immediate needs of the poor, such as through cash assistance programs or the provision of housing, rather than indirectly, such as through a stronger national defense. This information is of particular interest to those seeking to bolster government's commitment to anti-poverty efforts. For purposes of answering this question, a departmental budget (such for the Department of Social Welfare) would not be considered acceptable. In general, this question is asking whether the EBP includes a special presentation that pulls together estimates of all the relevant policies in one place. However, if the country uses "program budgeting," where programs are presented as expenditure categories with specific and identified objectives, and it identifies anti-poverty programs within each administrative unit, then that is also acceptable for this question.

The IBP Budget Brief, "How Transparent are Governments When it Comes to Their Budget's Impact on Poverty and Inequality?"

(<https://www.internationalbudget.org/wp-content/uploads/government-transparency-of-budgets-impact-on-poverty-inequality-ibp-2019.pdf>) includes a discussion of countries that have provided information on how its policies affect the poor.

For instance, Pakistan provides a detailed breakdown of pro-poor expenditure as part of its 2017-18 budget proposal. In one document, the government sets out policy priorities, expected outputs, and estimates of past and future spending for several programs aimed at poverty alleviation. Another supporting document provides a comprehensive overview of ongoing policies, including a chapter on social safety nets, covering both financial and performance information of poverty alleviation schemes over a period of eight years. (http://www.finance.gov.pk/budget/mtbf_2018_21.pdf and http://www.finance.gov.pk/survey_1718.html).

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must for at least the budget year both present estimates covering all policies that are intended to benefit the most impoverished populations and include a narrative discussion that specifically addresses these policies. (For countries using program budgeting that breaks out individual anti-poverty programs, there should be a separate narrative associated with each such program.) Answer "b" if a narrative discussion is not included, but estimates for all policies that are intended to benefit the most impoverished populations are presented. Answer "c" if the presentation includes estimates covering only some, but not all, policies that are intended to benefit the most impoverished populations (regardless of whether it also includes a narrative discussion). Answer "d" if no estimates of policies that are intended to benefit the most impoverished populations are presented.

Answer:

c. Yes, estimates of some but not all policies that are intended to benefit directly the country's most impoverished populations are presented.

Source:

The Information Note (Nota informativă la proiectul legii bugetului de stat pe anul 2019) to the budget law contains estimates related with social allocations are presented (pages 78-81, for example, "providing families with the minimum necessary goods for childbirth - 64,0 million lei" and "support for orphaned children: 32,2 million lei" on page 78). But it is missing the comprehensive approach to show estimates of all policies that are intended to benefit directly the country's most impoverished populations. (<http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/proiectul-hot%C4%83r%C3%Aerii-guvernului-privind-aprobarea-proiectului-legii-bugetului-de-stat-0>)

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Disagree

Suggested Answer:

a. Yes, estimates of all policies that are intended to benefit directly the country's most impoverished populations are presented, along with a narrative discussion.

Comments: The informative note to the draft law of the state budget for the year 2019, besides the arguments set out for the answer to the letter c.), point 52, also contains other estimates of the measures of policies aimed at the socially vulnerable persons such as (pages 78-79): - implementation of programs with special purpose in the field of social assistance and financing of the minimum package of social services from the means of the Fund to support the population - 86.1 million lei - increase of the aid amount for the cold period of the year by 35 lei - 27.9 million lei; - increase to 10% the pensions paid from the state budget, the amount of which is lower than the minimum of existence - 122.2 million lei; - increase of the multiplier for the minimum guaranteed monthly income, used to establish the right to aid for the cold period of the year from 1.6 to 1.95 - 70.0 million lei <http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/proiectul-hot%C4%83r%C3%Aerii-guvernului-privind-aprobarea-proiectului-legii-bugetului-de-stat-0>

Researcher Response

Due to the fact that in the budget documentation is missing a comprehensive approach regarding the estimates of policies that are intended to benefit directly the country's most impoverished populations, it is impossible to conclude if all policies are presented. Also, even in presented example "increase of the aid amount for the cold period of the year by 35 lei - 27,9 million lei" is only the amount of increase, but not the cost of the policy for budget year. The answer remains (c).

53. Does the executive release to the public its timetable for formulating the Executive's Budget Proposal (that is, a document setting deadlines for submissions from other government entities, such as line ministries or subnational government, to the Ministry of Finance or whatever central government agency is in charge of coordinating the budget's formulation)?

GUIDELINES:

Question 53 asks about the budget timetable. An internal timetable is particularly important for the executive's management of the budget preparation process, in order to ensure that the executive accounts for the views of the different departments and agencies in the proposed budget. The timetable would, for instance, set deadlines for submissions from other government entities, such as line ministries or subnational government, to the Ministry of Finance or whatever central government agency is in charge of coordinating the budget's formulation. So that civil society is aware of the various steps in the budget formulation process, and when opportunities may exist to engage the executive, it is essential that this timetable be made available to the public.

To answer "a," the executive must prepare a detailed budget timetable and release it to the public. A "b" answer applies if the timetable is made public, but some details are not included. A "c" response applies if the timetable is made public, but many important details are excluded, reducing its value for those outside government. Answer "d" applies if no timetable is made available to the public. As long as a timetable for formulating the Executive's Budget Proposal is released, answer "a," "b," or "c" may be selected, even if the Executive's Budget Proposal is not made publicly available.

Answer:

c. Yes, a timetable is released, but it lacks important details.

Source:

The law on public finance (nr 181/2014) contains the general timetable for the budget process (art 47, <http://lex.justice.md/index.php?action=view&view=doc&lang=1&id=354213>). Also, Ministry of Finance issued the methodological set regarding the elaboration, approval and modification of the budget (<http://lex.justice.md/md/362652/>), which contains a detailed timetable regarding steps and stages of the budgetary process. To meet the agenda stipulated in the law, the Ministry of Finance issued annually instructions (Circulara Bugetara (RO)) for both central government (APC) and local authorities (APL) and published them on the MoF website (<http://mf.gov.md/ro/buget/circulara-bugetar%C4%83>). These documents contain one deadline for all central authorities and several deadlines for local authorities. But, it is missing the detailed timetable which correspond to the particular year (usually there are significant differences between what is stipulated in above documents and actual agenda), including when Government intend to publish EBP and approve it.

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Disagree

Suggested Answer:

b. Yes, a timetable is released, but some details are excluded.

Comments: Suggested answer b. The detailed timetable related to formulating the Executive's Budget Proposal is included in the Law on public finance and in the Methodological Set regarding the elaboration, approval and modification of the budget

Researcher Response

The answer remains (c). In order to achieve the provisions of the budgetary calendar stipulated in Law on public finance (nr 181/2014), the Ministry of Finance has developed a more detailed timetable in the Methodological Set regarding the elaboration, approval and modification of the budget (approved by MoF decision nr. 209 of 24.12.2015. But, it is missing the detailed timetable which correspond to the particular year (usually there are significant differences between what is stipulated in above documents and actual agenda). In last period of time there are significant deviations from the mentioned timetable. In this case, the published timetable is useful only for mentioning the delay, but it does not give any information when the next event will occur.

54. Does the Pre-Budget Statement present information on the macroeconomic forecast upon which the budget projections are based?

(The core information must include a discussion of the economic outlook with estimates of nominal GDP level, inflation rate, real GDP growth, and interest rates.)

GUIDELINES:

Question 54 focuses on the macroeconomic forecast that underlies the Pre-Budget Statement, asking whether "core" information related to the economic assumptions is presented. These core components include a discussion of the economic outlook as well as estimates of the following:

- nominal GDP level;
- inflation rate;
- real GDP growth; and
- interest rates.

Beyond these core elements, some governments also provide additional information related to the economic outlook, including for instance: short- and long-term interest rates; the rate of employment and unemployment; GDP deflator; price of oil and other commodities; current account; exchange rate; and composition of GDP growth.

To answer "a," the Pre-Budget Statement must present all of the core information related to the macroeconomic forecast as well as some additional information beyond the core elements. To answer "b," the Pre-Budget Statement must present all of the core components noted above. Answer "b" is also accepted if one of the core elements is not presented but additional information beyond the core elements is presented. A "c" answer applies if some information related to the macroeconomic forecast is presented, but some of the core pieces of information are not included. Answer "d" applies if no information on the macroeconomic forecast is presented.

Answer:

c. Yes, information is presented, but it excludes some core elements.

Source:

Core information is presented in MTBF 2019-2021 (cadrul bugetar 2019-2021, pages 8-11 and annex 1), but it excludes interest rates. (<https://mf.gov.md/sites/default/files/documente%20relevante/CBTM%20%282019-2021%29%20-%20ro.pdf>, or at <http://lex.justice.md/index.php?action=view&view=doc&lang=1&id=377401>)

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: The "core" information is presented on pp. 8-11 and annex 1, excepting the one linked to interest rate.

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

55. Does the Pre-Budget Statement present information on the government's expenditure policies and priorities that will guide the development of detailed estimates for the upcoming budget?

(The core information must include a discussion of expenditure policies and priorities and an estimate of total expenditures.)

GUIDELINES:

Question 55 focuses on the government's expenditure policies and priorities in the Pre-Budget Statement, asking whether "core" information related to these policies is presented. These core components include:

- a discussion of expenditure policies and priorities; and
- an estimate of total expenditures.

Although a Pre-Budget Statement is unlikely to include detailed programmatic proposals (such detailed information is typically only presented in the budget itself), it should include a discussion of broad policy priorities and a projection of at least total expenditures associated with these policies for the budget year. The Pre-Budget Statement can include some detail, for instance, estimates provided by any of the three expenditure classifications – by administrative, economic, and functional classifications.

To answer "a," the Pre-Budget Statement must present for the upcoming budget year all of the core information related to the government's expenditure policies and priorities as well as some additional information beyond the core elements. To answer "b," the Pre-Budget Statement must present all of the core components noted above for the upcoming budget year. Answer "b" is also accepted if one of the core elements is not presented but additional information beyond the core elements is presented. A "c" answer applies if some information related to the government's expenditure policies and priorities is presented, but some of the core pieces of information are not included. Answer "d" applies if no information on the government's expenditure policies and priorities is presented.

Answer:

a. Yes, information beyond the core elements is presented for the government's expenditure policies and priorities.

Source:

The PBS presents core elements and information beyond the core elements, like investments, current expenditure, also estimates for general budget and all components of general budget (pages 22-26, 30-49 and Annexes). (<https://mf.gov.md/sites/default/files/documente%20relevante/CBTM%20%282019-2021%29%20-%20ro.pdf>)

Comment:

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

56. Does the Pre-Budget Statement present information on the government's revenue policies and priorities that will guide the development of detailed estimates for the upcoming budget?

(The core information must include a discussion of revenue policies and priorities and an estimate of total revenues.)

GUIDELINES:

Question 56 focuses on the government's revenue policies and priorities in the Pre-Budget Statement, asking whether "core" information related to these policies is presented. These core components include:

- *a discussion of revenue policies and priorities; and*
- *an estimate of total revenue.*

Although a Pre-Budget Statement is unlikely to include detailed revenue proposals, it should include a discussion of broad policy priorities and a projection of at least the total revenue associated with these policies for the budget year. The Pre-Budget Statement can also include more detail, for instance, with estimates provided by revenue category – tax and non-tax – or some of the major individual sources of revenue, such as the Value Added Tax or the income tax.

To answer "a," the Pre-Budget Statement must present for the upcoming budget year all of the core information related to the government's revenue policies and priorities as well as some additional information beyond the core elements. To answer "b," the Pre-Budget Statement must present all of the core components noted above for the upcoming budget year. Answer "b" is also accepted if one of the core elements is not presented but additional information beyond the core elements is presented. A "c" answer applies if some information related to the government's revenue policies and priorities is presented, but some of the core pieces of information are not included. Answer "d" applies if no information on the government's revenue policies and priorities is presented.

Answer:

a. Yes, information beyond the core elements is presented for the government's revenue policies and priorities.

Source:

The PBS presents core elements and information beyond the core elements regarding revenues, like detailed information about revenue estimations, information regarding general budget and all components of general budget (pages 15-22 and Annexes).
(<https://mf.gov.md/sites/default/files/documente%20relevante/CBTM%20%282019-2021%29%20-%20ro.pdf>)

Comment:

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Comments: The PBS covers the information on government's policies, priorities, an estimation of total revenues and beyond.

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

57. Does Pre-Budget Statement present three estimates related to government borrowing and debt: the amount of net new borrowing required during the budget year; the total debt outstanding at the end of the budget year; and interest payments on the debt for the budget year?

GUIDELINES:

Question 57 asks whether the Pre-Budget Statement includes three key estimates related to borrowing and debt:

- *the amount of net new borrowing needed in the upcoming budget year;*
- *the central government's total debt burden at the end of the upcoming budget year; and*
- *the interest payments on the outstanding debt for the upcoming budget year.*

Debt is the accumulated amount of money that the government borrows. The government can borrow from its citizens, banks, and businesses within the country (domestic debt) or from creditors outside the country (external debt). External debt is typically owed to private commercial banks, other governments, or international financial institutions such as the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund.

Net new borrowing is the additional amount of new borrowing that is required for the budget year to finance expenditures in the budget that exceed available revenues. Net new borrowing adds to the accumulated debt. It is distinct from gross borrowing, which also includes borrowing needed to repay existing debt that matured during the budget year; debt that is replaced (or rolled over) does not add to the total of accumulated debt.

Interest payments on the debt (or debt service costs) are typically made at regular intervals, and these payments must be made on a timely basis in order to avoid defaulting on the debt obligation. Interest payments are separate from the repayment of principal, which occurs only when the loan has matured and must be paid back in full.

To answer "a," the Pre-Budget Statement must present all three estimates of borrowing and debt for at least the upcoming budget year. For a "b" answer, the Pre-Budget Statement must present two of those three estimates. For a "c" answer, the PBS must present one of the three estimates. Answer "d" applies if no information on borrowing and debt is presented in the PBS.

Answer:

a. Yes, all three estimates related to government borrowing and debt are presented.

Source:

All three estimates related to government borrowing and debt are presented (pages 26-30 and Annex 2.2.1).
(<https://mf.gov.md/sites/default/files/documente%20relevante/CBTM%20%282019-2021%29%20-%20ro.pdf>)

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: The three key estimates linked to borrowing and debt are included in the PBS (pp. 27-30)

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

58. Does the Pre-Budget Statement present estimates of total expenditures for a multi-year period (at least two-years beyond the budget year)?

GUIDELINES:

Question 58 asks about multi-year expenditure estimates in the Pre-Budget Statement.

To answer "a," expenditure estimates for at least two years beyond the upcoming budget year must be presented. The estimates must be for at least total expenditures, but could include more detail than just the aggregate total.

Answer:

a. Yes, multi-year expenditure estimates are presented.

Source:

Yes, multi-year expenditure estimates are presented (Annexes, except Annex 1).
(<https://mf.gov.md/sites/default/files/documente%20relevante/CBTM%20%282019-2021%29%20-%20ro.pdf>)

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

59. Does the Enacted Budget present expenditure estimates by any of the three expenditure classifications (by administrative, economic, or functional

classification)?

GUIDELINES:

Question 59 asks if expenditure estimates in the Enacted Budget are presented by any one of the three expenditure classifications – by administrative, economic, and functional classifications – which were addressed in Questions 1-5 above. Each of the classifications answers a different question: administrative unit indicates who spends the money; functional classification shows for what purpose is the money spent; and economic classification displays what the money is spent on. Unlike classification by administrative unit, which tends to be unique to each country, functional and economic classifications for government budgeting have been developed and standardized by international institutions. Cross-country comparisons are facilitated by adherence to these international classification standards.

To answer “a,” the Enacted Budget must present expenditure estimates by all three of the expenditure classifications. To answer “b,” expenditure estimates must be presented by two of the three classifications. A “c” answer applies if expenditure estimates are presented by one of the three classifications. Answer “d” applies if expenditure estimates are not presented by any of the three classifications.

Answer:

b. Yes, the Enacted Budget presents expenditure estimates by two of the three expenditure classifications.

Source:

The Enacted Budget presents expenditure estimates by two of the three expenditure classifications: by administrative (in Annex 3 to the annual budget law for 2019) and by functional classification (Annex 4). (<http://lex.justice.md/index.php?action=view&view=doc&lang=1&id=378600> or <http://parlament.md/ProcesulLegislativ/Proiectedeactelegislative/tabid/61/LegislativId/4455/language/en-US/Default.aspx>)

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: The Enacted Budget presents expenditures estimates based on 2 expenditure classifications: administrative (Annex 3) and functional (Annex 4).

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

59b. Based on the response to Question 59, check the box(es) to identify which expenditure classifications are included in the Enacted Budget:

Answer:

Administrative classification

Functional classification

Source:

The Enacted Budget presents expenditure estimates by administrative (in Annex 3 to the annual budget law for 2019) and by functional classification (Annex 4). (<http://lex.justice.md/index.php?action=view&view=doc&lang=1&id=378600>) or (<http://parlament.md/ProcesulLegislativ/Proiectedeactelegislative/tabid/61/LegislativId/4455/language/en-US/Default.aspx>)

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

60. Does the Enacted Budget present expenditure estimates for individual programs?

GUIDELINES:

Question 60 asks if expenditure estimates in the Enacted Budget are presented by program. There is no standard definition for the term “program,” and the

meaning can vary from country to country. However, for the purposes of answering the questionnaire, researchers should understand the term "program" to mean any level of detail below an administrative unit, such as a ministry or department.

A note for francophone countries: "Program" level detail is sometimes referred to as le plan comptable or le plan comptable detaillé. (These data are typically coded in the financial management database, following the chart of budgetary accounts, so that they can be organized by administrative and functional classification.)

To answer "a," the Enacted Budget must present all programs, which account for all expenditures, in the budget year. To answer "b," the Enacted Budget must present expenditures for individual programs that when combined account for at least two-thirds of expenditures, but not all expenditures. A "c" answer applies if the Enacted Budget presents programs that account for less than two-thirds of expenditures. Answer "d" applies if expenditures are not presented by program in the Enacted Budget.

Answer:

a. Yes, the Enacted Budget presents estimates for programs accounting for all expenditures.

Source:

The Annex 3 to the annual budget law for 2019 contains information regarding the individual programs, but it should be calculated to obtain the data by programs. (The amount allocated for the particular program is not stipulated directly in the document, as final figure. But, all data necessary to calculate these amounts, for all programs and subprograms are in the Annex 3.1.)

(<http://lex.justice.md/index.php?action=view&view=doc&lang=1&id=378600>) or

(<http://parlament.md/ProcesulLegislativ/Proiectedeacteleislative/tabid/61/LegislativId/4455/language/en-US/Default.aspx>)

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: The Enacted Budget presents information that can be used to obtain the expenditure estimates for programs.

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

61. Does the Enacted Budget present revenue estimates by category (such as tax and non-tax)?

GUIDELINES:

Question 61 asks whether revenue estimates in the Enacted Budget are presented by "category" – that is, whether tax and non-tax sources of revenue are shown separately.

To answer "a," the Enacted Budget must present revenue estimates classified by category.

Answer:

a. Yes, the Enacted Budget presents revenue estimates by category.

Source:

The Enacted Budget presents revenue estimates by category (Annex 2 to the annual budget law for 2019).

(<http://lex.justice.md/index.php?action=view&view=doc&lang=1&id=378600>) or

(<http://parlament.md/ProcesulLegislativ/Proiectedeacteleislative/tabid/61/LegislativId/4455/language/en-US/Default.aspx>)

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: The Annex 2 of the Budget Law 2019 - presents the revenue estimates by category.

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

62. Does the Enacted Budget present individual sources of revenue?

GUIDELINES:

Question 62 asks whether revenue estimates for individual sources of revenue are presented in the Enacted Budget. The question applies to both tax and non-tax revenue.

To answer "a," the Enacted Budget must present all individual sources of revenue, and "other" or "miscellaneous" revenue must account for three percent or less of all revenue. To answer "b," the Enacted Budget must present individual sources of revenue that when combined account for at least two-thirds of all revenue, but not all revenue. A "c" answer applies if the Enacted Budget presents individual sources of revenue that account for less than two-thirds of revenues. Answer "d" applies if individual sources of revenue are not presented.

Answer:

b. Yes, the Enacted Budget presents individual sources of revenue accounting for at least two-thirds of, but not all, revenue.

Source:

The Enacted Budget presents revenue estimates by individual sources of revenue accounting for revenue (Annex 2 to the annual budget law for 2019), but not for all sources.

(<http://lex.justice.md/index.php?action=view&view=doc&lang=1&id=378600>) or

(<http://parlament.md/ProcesulLegislativ/Proiectedeactelegislative/tabid/61/LegislativId/4455/language/en-US/Default.aspx>)

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Disagree

Suggested Answer:

a. Yes, the Enacted Budget presents individual sources of revenue accounting for all revenue.

Comments: We do not agree. We suggest modifying the answer from b) to a). Annex 2 of the EB presents a comprehensive list of all sources/categories of revenue, including individual sources (taxes and non-taxes), and grants received from international organizations and from Governments of other countries.

Researcher Response

Yes, Annex nr 2 presents individual sources of income, but the sum of all the values mentioned in the lines Other (revenues, taxes etc, 4) constitute over 3% of the budget. According to the OBS methodology it means that not all individual sources are presented.

63. Does the Enacted Budget present three estimates related to government borrowing and debt: the amount of net new borrowing required during the budget year; the total debt outstanding at the end of the budget year; and interest payments on the debt for the budget year?

GUIDELINES:

Question 63 asks about three key estimates related to borrowing and debt:

- the amount of net new borrowing required during the budget year;
- the total debt outstanding at the end of the budget year;
- the interest payments on the outstanding debt for the budget year.

Debt is the accumulated amount of money that the government borrows. The government can borrow from its citizens, banks, and businesses within the country (domestic debt) or from creditors outside the country (external debt). External debt is typically owed to private commercial banks, other governments, or international financial institutions such as the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund.

Net new borrowing is the additional amount of new borrowing that is required for the budget year to finance expenditures in the budget that exceed available revenues. Net new borrowing adds to the accumulated debt. It is distinct from gross borrowing, which also includes borrowing needed to repay existing debt that matured during the budget year; debt that is replaced (or rolled over) does not add to the total of accumulated debt.

Interest payments on the debt (or debt service costs) are typically made at regular intervals, and these payments must be made on a timely basis in order to avoid defaulting on the debt obligation. Interest payments are separate from the repayment of principal, which occurs only when the loan has matured and must be paid back in full.

To answer "a," the Enacted Budget must present all three estimates of borrowing and debt. For a "b" answer, the Enacted Budget must present two of those three estimates. For a "c" answer, the Enacted Budget must present one of the three estimates. Answer "d" applies if no information on borrowing and debt is presented in the Enacted Budget.

Answer:

a. Yes, all three estimates related to government borrowing and debt are presented.

Source:

All three estimates related to government borrowing and debt are presented:

the amount of net new borrowing required during the budget year, - in the Annexes 1 and 2 of the budget law, the total debt outstanding at the end of the budget year, - in the Art. 7 of the budget law, and the interest payments on the outstanding debt for the budget year, - Annexes 3 and 4.

(<http://lex.justice.md/index.php?action=view&view=doc&lang=1&id=378600>) or

(<http://parlament.md/ProcesulLegislativ/Proiectedeactele legislative/tabid/61/LegislativId/4455/language/en-US/Default.aspx>)

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Disagree

Suggested Answer:

b. Yes, two of the three estimates related to government borrowing and debt are presented.

Comments: Two estimates linked to government borrowing and debt are present in the Enacted Budget. The amount of net new borrowing required during the budget year - Annex 1 and Annex 2 (budget law for 2019) The total debt outstanding at the end of the budget year - Annex 1 and article 7.

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Researcher Response

The interest payments on the outstanding debt for the budget year is presented in the Annex 4 at line with code 017 (Serviciul datoriei).

64. What information is provided in the Citizens Budget?

(The core information must include expenditure and revenue totals, the main policy initiatives in the budget, the macroeconomic forecast upon which the budget is based, and contact information for follow-up by citizens.)

GUIDELINES:

Question 64 focuses on the content of the Citizens Budget, asking whether "core" information is presented. These core components include:

- *expenditure and revenue totals;*
- *the main policy initiatives in the budget;*
- *the macroeconomic forecast upon which the budget is based; and*
- *contact information for follow-up by citizens.*

To answer "a," the Citizens Budget or supporting documentation must present all of the above core information as well as some additional information beyond the core elements. To answer "b," the Citizens Budget must present all of the core components noted above. Answer "b" is also accepted if one of the core elements is not presented but additional information beyond the core elements is presented. A "c" answer applies if the Citizens Budget includes some of the core components above, but other core pieces of information are not included. Answer "d" applies if a Citizens Budget is not published.

Answer:

c. The Citizens Budget provides information, but it excludes some core elements.

Source:

The Citizens Budget provides information, but it excludes some core elements. It contains three core elements, and other information beyond core elements, but it doesn't contain contact information for follow-up by citizens. (<http://mf.gov.md/sites/default/files/Buget%20Cetateni%202018.pdf>)

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

65. How is the Citizens Budget disseminated to the public?

GUIDELINES:

Question 65 asks how the Citizens Budget is disseminated to the public. Citizens Budgets should be made available to a variety of audiences. Therefore paper versions and an Internet posting of a document might not be sufficient.

To answer "a," the executive must use three or more different types of creative media tools to reach the largest possible share of the population, including those who otherwise would not normally have access to budget documents or information. Dissemination would also be pursued at the very local level, so that the coverage is targeted both by geographic area and population group (e.g., women, elderly, low income, urban, rural, etc.). Option "b" applies if significant dissemination efforts are made through a combination of two means of communications, for instance, both posting the Citizens Budget on the executive's official website and distributing printed copies of it. Option "c" applies if the Citizens Budget is disseminated through only posting on the executive's official website. Option "d" applies when the executive does not publish a Citizens Budget.

Answer:

c. A Citizens Budget is disseminated only by using one means of dissemination.

Source:

A Citizens Budget is disseminated only by using one means of dissemination: the Ministry of Finance web page. No other evidences, like social media or distribution of printed materials has been identified.

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

66. Has the executive established mechanisms to identify the public's requirements for budget information prior to publishing the Citizens Budget?

GUIDELINES:

Question 66 asks whether the executive has established mechanisms to identify the public's requirements for budget information before publishing a Citizens Budget. What the public wants to know about the budget might differ from the information the executive includes in technical documents that comprise the Executive's Budget Proposal or the Enacted Budget; similarly, different perspectives might exist on how the budget should be presented, and this may vary depending on the context. For this reason the executive should consult with the public on the content and presentation of the Citizens Budget.

To answer "a," the executive must have established mechanisms to consult with the public, and these mechanisms for consultation are both accessible and widely used by the public. Such mechanisms can include focus groups, social networks, surveys, hotlines, and meetings/events in universities or other locations where people gather to discuss public issues. In countries where Citizens Budgets are consistently produced and released, it may be sufficient for the government to provide the public with contact information and feedback opportunities, and subsequently use the feedback to improve its management of public resources.

Option "b" applies if the executive has established mechanisms for consultation that are accessible to the public, but that the public nonetheless does not use frequently. That is, the public does not typically engage with the executive on the content of the Citizens Budget, even though the executive has created opportunities for such consultation. Option "c" applies if the executive has established mechanism for consultation with the public, but they are poorly designed and thus not accessible to the public. Option "d" applies if the executive has not created any mechanisms to seek feedback from the public on the content of the Citizens Budget.

Answer:

d. No, the executive has not established any mechanisms to identify the public's requirements for budget information in the Citizen's Budget.

Source:

The government hasn't established any mechanisms to identify the public's requirements for budget information in the Citizen's Budget.

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

67. Are "citizens" versions of budget documents published throughout the budget process?

GUIDELINES:

Question 67 asks if "citizens" versions of budget documents are published throughout the budget process. While the Citizens Budget was initially conceived as a simplified version of the Executive's Budget Proposal or the Enacted Budget, good practice is now evolving and suggests that a "citizens" version of key budget documents should be produced during each of the four phases of the budget cycle. This would serve to inform citizens of the state of public financial management throughout the entire budget cycle.

To answer "a," a citizens version of at least one budget document is published for each of the four stages of the budget process (budget formulation, enactment, execution, and audit) – for a total of at least four citizens budget documents throughout the process. Option "b" applies if a citizens version of a budget document is published for at least two of the four stages of the budget process. Option "c" applies if a citizens version of a budget document is published for at least one of the four stages of the budget process. Select option "d" if no "citizens" version of budget documents is published.

Answer:

b. A citizens version of budget documents is published for at least two of the four stages of the budget process.

Source:

A citizens version of budget documents is published for EBP 2018 (<http://mf.gov.md/sites/default/files/Buget%20Cetateni%202018.pdf>) and for YER 2017 (<http://mf.gov.md/sites/default/files/RAPORT%20PENTRU%20CETATENI%202017.pdf>).

Comment:

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

68. Do the In-Year Reports present actual expenditures by any of the three expenditure classifications (by administrative, economic, or functional classification)?

GUIDELINES:

Question 68 asks if expenditure estimates in In-Year Reports are presented by any one of the three expenditure classifications – by administrative, economic, and functional classifications – which were addressed in Questions 1-5 above.

Each of the classifications answers a different question: administrative unit indicates who spends the money; functional classification shows for what purpose is the money spent; and economic classification displays what the money is spent on. Unlike classification by administrative unit, which tends to be unique to each country, functional and economic classifications for government budgeting have been developed and standardized by international institutions. Cross-country comparisons are facilitated by adherence to these international classification standards.

To answer "a," In-Year Reports must present actual expenditures by all three of the expenditure classifications. To answer "b," actual expenditures must be presented by two of these three classifications. A "c" answer applies if actual expenditures are presented by one of the three classifications. Answer "d" applies if actual expenditures are not presented by any of the three classifications in In-Year Reports.

Answer:

c. Yes, the In-Year Reports present actual expenditures by only one of the three expenditure classifications.

Source:

The In-Year Reports (monthly reports, ex. "Raport privind executarea bugetului de stat la situația din 31 martie 2018") present actual expenditures by only one classification (functional). (<http://mf.gov.md/ro/trezorerie/rapoarte-privind-executarea-bugetului/rapoarte-lunare>)

Comment:

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Comments: We agree. At the same time, it is mentioned that in the half-year report on the execution of the national public budget and its components are included all three classifications of expenditures: - Administrative -Economic - Functional <http://mf.gov.md/ro/trezorerie/rapoarte-privind-executarea-bugetului/rapoarte-semianuale>

68b. Based on the response to Question 68, check the box(es) to identify which expenditure classifications are included in the In-Year Reports:

Answer:

Functional classification

Source:

The In-Year Reports (monthly reports, ex. "Raport privind executarea bugetului de stat la situația din 31 martie 2018") present actual expenditures by only one classification (functional). (<http://mf.gov.md/ro/trezorerie/rapoarte-privind-executarea-bugetului/rapoarte-lunare>)

Comment:

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Comments: We agree. At the same time, it is mentioned that in the half-year report on the execution of the national public budget and its components are included all three classifications of expenditures: - Administrative -Economic - Functional <http://mf.gov.md/ro/trezorerie/rapoarte-privind-executarea-bugetului/rapoarte-semianuale>

69. Do the In-Year Reports present actual expenditures for individual programs?

GUIDELINES:

Question 69 asks if expenditure estimates in In-Year Reports are presented by program. There is no standard definition for the term "program," and the meaning can vary from country to country. However, for the purposes of answering the questionnaire, researchers should understand the term "program" to mean any level of detail below an administrative unit, such as a ministry or department.

A note for francophone countries: "Program" level detail is sometimes referred to as le plan comptable or le plan comptable detaillé. (These data are typically coded in the financial management database, following the chart of budgetary accounts, so that they can be organized by administrative and functional classification.)

To answer "a," In-Year Reports must present actual expenditures for all individual programs, accounting for all expenditures. To answer "b," In-Year Reports must present actual expenditures for individual programs that when combined account for at least two-thirds of expenditures, but not all expenditures. A "c" answer applies if In-Year Reports present actual expenditures for programs that account for less than two-thirds of expenditures. Answer "d" applies if actual expenditures are not presented by program in In-Year Reports.

Answer:

d. No, the In-Year Reports do not present actual expenditures by program.

Source:

The In-Year Reports (monthly reports) do not present actual expenditure by program. (<http://mf.gov.md/ro/trezorerie/rapoarte-privind-executarea-bugetului/rapoarte-lunare>)

Comment:

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Comments: We agree. At the same time, we mention that the semiannual report on the execution of the national public budget and its components presents expenditures at the program level (Annex 4 to the report) <http://mf.gov.md/ro/trezorerie/rapoarte-privind-executarea-bugetului/rapoarte-semianuale>

70. Do the In-Year Reports compare actual year-to-date expenditures with either the original estimate for that period (based on the enacted budget) or the same period in the previous year?

GUIDELINES:

Question 70 asks whether In-Year Reports compare actual expenditures to-date with either the enacted levels or actual expenditures for the same period in the previous year.

The OECD recommends that the reports contain the total year-to-date expenditures in a format that allows for a comparison with the budget's forecast expenditures (based on enacted levels) for the same period.

To answer "a," comparisons must be made for expenditures presented in the In-Year Reports

Answer:

a. Yes, comparisons are made for expenditures presented in the In-Year Reports.

Source:

Comparisons have been made (with the same period of previous year, with initially approved and modified budgets) for expenditures presented in the In-Year Reports. The In-Year Reports are monthly reports, ex. "Raport privind executarea bugetului de stat la situația din 31 martie 2018". (<http://mf.gov.md/ro/trezorerie/rapoarte-privind-executarea-bugetului/rapoarte-lunare>)

Comment:

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

71. Do In-Year Reports present actual revenue by category (such as tax and non-tax)?

GUIDELINES:

Questions 71 asks whether In-Year Reports present actual revenues by "category"— that is, whether tax and non-tax sources of revenue are shown separately.

To answer "a," In-Year Reports must present revenue estimates classified by category.

Answer:

a. Yes, In-Year Reports present actual revenue by category.

Source:

In-Year Reports present actual revenue by category (ex. "Raport privind executarea bugetului de stat la situația din 31 martie 2018", (<http://mf.gov.md/ro/trezorerie/rapoarte-privind-executarea-bugetului/rapoarte-lunare>))

Comment:

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

72. Do In-Year Reports present the individual sources of revenue for actual revenues collected?

GUIDELINES:

Question 72 asks whether In-Year Reports present actual collections of individual sources of revenue (such as income taxes, VAT, etc.). The question applies to both tax and non-tax revenue.

To answer "a," In-Year Reports must present actual collections for all individual sources of revenue, and "other" or "miscellaneous" revenue must account for three percent or less of all revenue. To answer "b," In-Year Reports must present actual collections for individual sources of revenue that when combined account for at least two-thirds of all revenue collected, but not all revenue. A "c" answer applies if In-Year Reports present individual sources of actual revenue that account for less than two-thirds of all revenue collected. Answer "d" applies if individual sources of actual revenue are not presented.

Answer:

b. Yes, In-Year Reports present individual sources of actual revenue accounting for at least two-thirds of, but not all, revenue.

Source:

In-Year Reports present individual sources of actual revenue for at least two-thirds of, but not all, revenue (ex. "Raport privind executarea bugetului de stat la situația din 31 martie 2018", <http://mf.gov.md/ro/trezorerie/rapoarte-privind-executarea-bugetului/rapoarte-lunare>)

Comment:

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Disagree
Suggested Answer:

a. Yes, In-Year Reports present individual sources of actual revenue accounting for all revenue.

Comments: In-Year Reports present individual sources of actual revenue for all revenue (ex. "Raport privind executarea bugetului de stat", <http://mf.gov.md/ro/trezorerie/rapoarte-privind-executarea-bugetului/rapoarte-lunare>) We propose to modify the answer from b) to a) because in the State Budget Execution Report on 31.03.2018 other unidentified income and income (economic code 145) accounts for 0.07% of the total income. Under the economic code 14 Other income is divided by revenue: -revenues from property (141) - revenues from the sale of goods and services (142) - fines and penalties (143) - voluntary donations (144)

Researcher Response

Individual sources of revenue are presented at the level of 4 digits (not 3 digits) of aggregation. At this level there are several lines with Other revenues, taxes etc, that constitute over 3% of the total actual budget revenue. According to the OBS methodology it means that not all individual sources are presented.

73. Do the In-Year Reports compare actual year-to-date revenues with either the original estimate for that period (based on the enacted budget) or the same period in the previous year?

GUIDELINES:

Question 73 asks whether In-Year Reports compare actual revenues to-date with either the enacted levels or actual revenues for the same period in the previous year.

The OECD recommends that the reports contain the total year-to-date revenues in a format that allows for a comparison with the budget's forecast revenues (based on enacted levels) for the same period.

To answer "a," comparisons must be made for revenues presented in the In-Year Reports.

Answer:

a. Yes, comparisons are made for revenues presented in the In-Year Reports.

Source:

Comparisons have been made for revenues presented in the In-Year Reports (with the same period of previous year, with initially approved and modified budgets), ex. "Raport privind executarea bugetului de stat la situația din 31 martie 2018". (<http://mf.gov.md/ro/trezorerie/rapoarte-privind->

executarea-bugetului/rapoarte-lunare)

Comment:

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

74. Do In-Year Reports present three estimates related to actual government borrowing and debt: the amount of net new borrowing; the total debt outstanding; and interest payments?

GUIDELINES:

Question 74 asks about three key estimates related to borrowing and debt:

- *the amount of net new borrowing so far during the year;*
- *the central government's total debt burden at that point in the year; and*
- *the interest payments to-date on the outstanding debt.*

Debt is the accumulated amount of money that the government borrows. The government can borrow from its citizens and banks and businesses within the country (domestic debt) or from creditors outside the country (external debt). External debt is typically owed to private commercial banks, other governments, or international financial institutions such as the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund.

Net new borrowing is the additional amount of new borrowing that is required for the budget year to finance expenditures in the budget that exceed available revenues. Net new borrowing adds to the accumulated debt. It is distinct from gross borrowing, which also includes borrowing needed to repay existing debt that matured during the budget year; debt that is replaced (or rolled over) does not add to the total of accumulated debt.

Interest payments on the debt (or debt service costs) are typically made at regular intervals, and these payments must be made on a timely basis in order to avoid defaulting on the debt obligation. Interest payments are separate from the repayment of principal, which occurs only when the loan has matured and must be paid back in full.

To answer "a," In-Year Reports must present all three estimates of borrowing and debt. For a "b" answer, In-Year Reports must present two of those three estimates. For a "c" answer, IYRs must present one of the three estimates. Answer "d" applies if no information on borrowing and debt is presented in In-Year Reports.

Answer:

a. Yes, all three estimates related to government borrowing and debt are presented.

Source:

In-Year Reports present all three estimates related to actual government borrowing and debt: the amount of net new borrowing; the total debt outstanding; and interest payments. (<https://mf.gov.md/ro/datoria-sectorului-public/rapoarte/datoria-de-stat>, ex "Buletin Noiembrie 2018" and also additionally <https://mf.gov.md/ro/datoria-sectorului-public/rapoarte/datoria-de-stat/datoria-de-stat-intern%C4%83> and <https://mf.gov.md/ro/datoria-sectorului-public/rapoarte/datoria-de-stat/datoria-de-stat-extern%C4%83>)

Comment:

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

75. Do In-Year Reports present information related to the composition of the total actual debt outstanding?

(The core information must include interest rates on the debt instruments; maturity profile of the debt; and whether it is domestic or external debt.)

GUIDELINES:

Question 75 focuses on the composition of government debt, asking whether "core" information related to its composition is presented. These core components include:

- interest rates on the debt;
- maturity profile of the debt; and
- whether the debt is domestic or external.

The interest rates affect the amount of interest that must be paid to creditors. The maturity profile indicates the final payment date of the loan, at which point the principal (and all remaining interest) is due to be paid; government borrowing typically includes a mix of short-term and long-term debt. As discussed in Question 74, domestic debt is held by a country's citizens and banks and businesses, while external debt is held by foreigners. These factors related to the composition of the debt give an indication of the potential vulnerability of the country's debt position, and ultimately whether the cost of servicing the accumulated debt is affordable.

Beyond these core elements, a government may also provide additional information related to the composition of its debt, including for instance: whether interest rates are fixed or variable; whether debt is callable; the currency of the debt; a profile of the creditors (bilateral institutions, multilateral institutions, commercial banks, Central Bank, etc.); an analysis of the risk associated with the debt; and where appropriate, what the debt is being used to finance.

To answer "a," In-Year Reports must present all of the core information related to the composition of government debt to-date as well as some additional information beyond the core elements. To answer "b," In-Year Reports must present all of the core components noted above. Answer "b" is also accepted if one of the core elements is not presented but additional information beyond the core elements is presented. A "c" answer applies if some information related to the composition of government debt is presented, but some of the core pieces of information are not included. Answer "d" applies if no information is presented on the composition of the debt outstanding in In-Year Reports.

Answer:

a. Yes, information beyond the core elements is presented for the composition of the total actual debt outstanding.

Source:

The information beyond the core elements is presented for the composition of the total actual debt outstanding (composition by: instruments, creditors, currency). (<https://mf.gov.md/ro/datoria-sectorului-public/rapoarte/datoria-de-stat>, ex „Buletin Noiembrie 2018” and also additionally <https://mf.gov.md/ro/datoria-sectorului-public/rapoarte/datoria-de-stat/datoria-de-stat-intern%C4%83> and <https://mf.gov.md/ro/datoria-sectorului-public/rapoarte/datoria-de-stat/datoria-de-stat-extern%C4%83>)

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

76. Does the Mid-Year Review of the budget include an updated macroeconomic forecast for the budget year underway?

GUIDELINES:

Question 76 asks whether the Mid-Year Review includes an updated macroeconomic forecast for the budget year, and provides an explanation of the update.

Refer to Question 15 for the components of the macroeconomic forecast presented in the Executive's Budget Proposal.

To answer "a," the Mid-Year Review must include an updated macroeconomic forecast and explain all of the differences between the initial forecast presented in the Executive's Budget Proposal and the updated forecast. The explanation must include at least estimates of all differences; a narrative discussion is desirable but not required if estimates of all the differences are provided. To answer "b," the macroeconomic forecast must be updated, but only some of the differences between the initial and updated forecasts are explained. The explanation would be more limited, such as only a narrative discussion of the differences or estimates covering only some of the differences. A "c" response applies if the Mid-Year Review includes an updated macroeconomic forecast, but does not provide an explanation for the revisions. A "d" response applies if the macroeconomic forecast has not been updated.

Answer:

d. No, the estimates for macroeconomic forecast have not been updated.

Source:

The estimates for macroeconomic forecast have not been updated. The report contains actual information regarding macroeconomic indicators, but it doesn't contain the updated macroeconomic estimates for the budget year underway. (<https://mf.gov.md/ro/trezorerie/rapoarte-privind-executarea-bugetului/rapoarte-semianuale>) "Raport semianual privind executarea bugetului public național și a componentelor acestuia pe anul 2018 (18.09.2018)"

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: The MYR of the budget includes only information about the state of the public finance in the first semester and in no way looks forward to the second semester.

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

77. Does the Mid-Year Review of the budget include updated expenditure estimates for the budget year underway?

GUIDELINES:

Question 77 asks whether the Mid-Year Review includes updated estimates of expenditure for the budget year, and provides an explanation of the update.

To answer "a," the Mid-Year Review must include updated expenditure estimates and explain all of the differences between the initial levels presented in the Executive's Budget Proposal (or the Enacted Budget) and the updated estimates. The explanation must include at least estimates of all differences; a narrative discussion is desirable but not required if estimates of all the differences are provided. The expenditure estimates must be updated, but only some of the differences between the initial and updated estimates are explained. The explanation would be more limited, such as only a narrative discussion of the differences or estimates covering only some of the differences. A "c" response applies if the Mid-Year Review includes updated expenditure estimates, but does not provide an explanation for the revisions. A "d" response applies if the expenditure estimates have not been updated.

Answer:

d. No, expenditure estimates have not been updated.

Source:

No updates on expenditures estimates were carried out for 2018. The report contains actual information regarding expenditures for first 6 months of the BY, but it doesn't contain the updated expenditure estimates for the budget year underway. (<https://mf.gov.md/ro/trezorerie/rapoarte-privind-executarea-bugetului/rapoarte-semianuale>) "Raport semianual privind executarea bugetului public național și a componentelor acestuia pe anul 2018 (18.09.2018)"

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: Expenditures estimates in MYR have not been updated, however the budget was amended in may 2018, with both expenditure and revenue estimates being updated. <https://capital.market.md/ro/content/bugetul-2018-prima-rectificare-venituri-mai-mari-cheltuieli-si-mai-mari>

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

78. Does the Mid-Year Review of the budget present expenditure estimates for the budget year underway by any of the three expenditure classifications (by administrative, economic, or functional classification)?

GUIDELINES:

Question 78 asks if expenditure estimates in the Mid-Year Review are presented by any one of the three expenditure classifications – by administrative, economic, and functional classifications – which were addressed in Questions 1-5 above. Each of the classifications answers a different question: administrative unit indicates who spends the money; functional classification shows for what purpose is the money spent; and economic classification displays what the money is spent on. Unlike classification by administrative unit, which tends to be unique to each country, functional and economic classifications for government budgeting have been developed and standardized by international institutions. Cross-country comparisons are facilitated by adherence to these international classification standards.

To answer "a," the Mid-Year Review must present expenditure estimates by all three of the expenditure classifications. To answer "b," expenditure estimates must be presented by two of these three classifications. A "c" answer applies if expenditure estimates are presented by one of the three classifications. Answer "d" applies if expenditure estimates are not presented by any of the three classifications in the Mid-Year Review.

Answer:

d. No, the Mid-Year Review does not present expenditure estimates by any expenditure classification.

Source:

No updates on expenditures estimates were carried out for 2018. The report contains actual information regarding expenditures for first 6 months of the BY, but it doesn't contain the updated expenditure estimates for the budget year underway. (<https://mf.gov.md/ro/trezorerie/rapoarte-privind-executarea-bugetului/rapoarte-semianuale>) "Raport semianual privind executarea bugetului public național și a componentelor acestuia pe anul 2018 (18.09.2018)"

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: Expenditures estimates in MYR have not been updated, however the budget was amended in may 2018, with both expenditure and revenue estimates being updated. <https://capital.market.md/ro/content/bugetul-2018-prima-rectificare-venituri-mai-mari-cheltuieli-si-mai-mari>

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Researcher Response

Yes, no updates on expenditures estimates were carried out for 2018 in MYR, even the budget was amended in May 2018.

78b. Based on the response to Question 78, check the box(es) to identify which expenditure classifications are included in the Mid-Year Review:

Answer:

None of the above

Source:

No updates on expenditures estimates were carried out for 2018. The report contains actual information regarding expenditures for first 6 months of the BY, but it doesn't contain the updated expenditure estimates for the budget year underway. (<https://mf.gov.md/ro/trezorerie/rapoarte-privind-executarea-bugetului/rapoarte-semianuale>) "Raport semianual privind executarea bugetului public național și a componentelor acestuia pe anul 2018 (18.09.2018)"

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: the MYR itself does not include any of the expenditure classifications, despite the fact that the budget was reviewed in may 2018 where these have been adjusted.

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Researcher Response

Yes, no updates on expenditures estimates were carried out for 2018 in MYR, even the budget was amended in May 2018.

79. Does the Mid-Year Review of the budget present expenditure estimates for the budget year underway for individual programs?

GUIDELINES:

Question 79 asks if expenditure estimates in the Mid-Year Review are presented by program. There is no standard definition for the term "program," and the meaning can vary from country to country. However, for the purposes of answering the questionnaire, researchers should understand the term "program" to mean any level of detail below an administrative unit, such as a ministry or department.

A note for francophone countries: "Program" level detail is sometimes referred to as le plan comptable or le plan comptable detaillé. (These data are typically coded in the financial management database, following the chart of budgetary accounts, so that they can be organized by administrative and functional classification.)

To answer "a," the Mid-Year Review must present expenditures for all individual programs, accounting for all expenditures. To answer "b," the Mid-Year Review must present expenditures for individual programs that when combined account for at least two-thirds of expenditures, but not all expenditures. A "c" answer applies if the Mid-Year Review presents programs that account for less than two-thirds of expenditures. Answer "d" applies if expenditures are not presented by program in the Mid-Year Review.

Answer:

d. No, the Mid-Year Review does not present expenditure estimates by program.

Source:

No updates on expenditures estimates were carried out for 2018. The report contains actual information regarding expenditures for first 6 months of the BY, but it doesn't contain the updated expenditure estimates for the budget year underway. (<https://mf.gov.md/ro/trezorerie/rapoarte-privind-executarea-bugetului/rapoarte-semianuale>) "Raport semianual privind executarea bugetului public național și a componentelor acestuia pe anul 2018 (18.09.2018)"

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: The MYR only looks at the first 6 months and provides a backward looking analysis. The MYR does not have any updates for any expenditure estimates for the second semester of 2018 despite the fact that the budget for 2018 was reviewed by Parliament in May 2018.

<https://capital.market.md/ro/content/bugetul-2018-prima-rectificare-venituri-mai-mari-cheltuieli-si-mai-mari>

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

80. Does the Mid-Year Review of the budget include updated revenue estimates for the budget year underway?

GUIDELINES:

Question 80 asks whether the Mid-Year Review includes updated estimates of revenue for the budget year, and provides an explanation of the update.

To answer "a," the Mid-Year Review must include updated revenue estimates and explain all of the differences between the initial levels presented in the Executive's Budget Proposal (or the Enacted Budget) and the updated estimates. The explanation must include at least estimates of all differences; a narrative discussion is desirable but not required if estimates of all the differences are provided. To answer "b," the revenue estimates must be updated, but only some of the differences between the initial and updated estimates are explained. The explanation would be more limited, such as only a narrative discussion of the differences or estimates covering only some of the differences. A "c" response applies if the Mid-Year Review includes updated revenue estimates, but no explanation for the revisions is provided. A "d" response applies if the revenue estimates have not been updated.

Answer:

d. No, revenue estimates have not been updated.

Source:

No updates on revenue estimates were carried out for 2018. The report contains actual information regarding revenues for first 6 months of the BY, but it doesn't contain the updated revenue estimates for the budget year underway. (<https://mf.gov.md/ro/trezorerie/rapoarte-privind-executarea-bugetului/rapoarte-semianuale>) "Raport semianual privind executarea bugetului public național și a componentelor acestuia pe anul 2018 (18.09.2018)"

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: The MYR only looks at the first 6 months and provides a backward looking analysis. The MYR does not have any updates for any expenditure estimates for the second semester of 2018 despite the fact that the budget for 2018 was reviewed by Parliament in May 2018.

Expenditures estimates in MYR have not been updated. <https://capital.market.md/ro/content/bugetul-2018-prima-rectificare-venituri-mai-mari-cheltuieli-si-mai-mari>

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

81. Does the Mid-Year Review of the budget present revenue estimates for the budget year underway by category (such as tax and non-tax)?

GUIDELINES:

Question 81 asks whether revenue estimates in the Mid-Year Review are presented by "category"— that is, whether tax and non-tax sources of revenue are shown separately.

To answer "a," the Mid-Year Review must present revenue estimates classified by category.

Answer:

b. No, the Mid-Year Review does not present revenue estimates by category.

Source:

No updates on revenue estimates were carried out for 2018. The report contains actual information regarding revenues for first 6 months of the BY, but it doesn't contain the updated revenue estimates for the budget year underway. (<https://mf.gov.md/ro/trezorerie/rapoarte-privind-executarea-bugetului/rapoarte-semianuale>) "Raport semianual privind executarea bugetului public național și a componentelor acestuia pe anul 2018 (18.09.2018)"

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: Revenues estimates in MYR has not been updated, despite the fact that the budget was amended in may 2018, with both expenditure and revenue estimates being updated. Just like the case of expenditures side, the MYR does not have any updates for the revenue estimates for the second semester of 2018. The MYR only looks at the first 6 months, and not at the second semester. <https://capital.market.md/ro/content/bugetul-2018-prima-rectificare-venituri-mai-mari-cheltuieli-si-mai-mari>

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Researcher Response

Yes, no updates on revenue estimates were carried out for 2018 in MYR, even the budget was amended in May 2018.

82. Does the Mid-Year Review of the budget present individual sources of revenue for the budget year underway?

GUIDELINES:

Question 82 asks whether revenue estimates for individual sources of revenue are presented in the Mid-Year Review. The question applies to both tax and non-tax revenue.

To answer "a," the Mid-Year Review must present all sources of revenue individually, accounting for all revenues, and "other" or "miscellaneous" revenue must account for three percent or less of all revenue. To answer "b," the Mid-Year Review must present individual sources of revenue that when combined account for at least two-thirds of all revenue, but not all revenue. A "c" answer applies if the Mid-Year Review presents estimates of individual revenue sources that account for less than two-thirds of revenue. Answer "d" applies if individual sources of revenue are not presented in the Mid-Year Review.

Answer:

d. No, the Mid-Year Review does not present individual sources of revenue.

Source:

No updates on revenue estimates were carried out for 2018. The report contains actual information regarding revenues for first 6 months of the BY, but it doesn't contain the updated revenue estimates for the budget year underway. (<https://mf.gov.md/ro/trezorerie/rapoarte-privind-executarea-bugetului/rapoarte-semianuale>) "Raport semianual privind executarea bugetului public național și a componentelor acestuia pe anul 2018 (18.09.2018)"

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: Revenues estimates in MYR has not been updated, despite the fact that the budget was amended in may 2018, with both expenditure and revenue estimates being updated. Just like the case of expenditures side, the MYR does not have any updates for the revenue estimates for the second semester of 2018. The MYR only looks at the first 6 months, and not at the second semester. <https://capital.market.md/ro/content/bugetul-2018-prima-rectificare-venituri-mai-mari-cheltuieli-si-mai-mari>

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Researcher Response
Yes, no updates on revenue estimates were carried out for 2018 in MYR.

83. Does the Mid-Year Review of the budget include updated estimates of government borrowing and debt, including its composition, for the budget year underway?

GUIDELINES:

Question 83 asks whether the Mid-Year Review includes updated estimates of borrowing and debt, including its composition, for the budget year, and provides an explanation of the update.

Refer to Question 13 for details on estimates in the Executive's Budget Proposal of borrowing and debt. Key estimates related to borrowing and debt include:

- *The amount of net new borrowing required during the budget year;*
- *The central government's total debt burden at the end of the budget year; and*
- *The interest payments on the outstanding debt for the budget year.*

Refer to Question 14 for details on estimates in the Executive's Budget Proposal related to the composition of the debt. Core information related to the composition of government debt include:

- *interest rates on the debt;*
- *maturity profile of the debt; and*
- *whether the debt is domestic or external.*

To answer "a," the Mid-Year Review must include an updated estimates of borrowing and debt, including its composition, and explain all of the differences between the initial estimates presented in the Executive's Budget Proposal (or Enacted Budget) and the updated estimates. The explanation must include at least estimates of all differences; a narrative discussion is desirable but not required if estimates of all the differences are provided. To answer "b," the estimates of borrowing and debt must be updated, but only some of the differences between the initial and updated estimates are explained. The explanation would be more limited, such as only a narrative discussion of the differences or estimates covering only some of the differences. A "c" response applies if the Mid-Year Review includes updated estimates, but no explanation for the revisions is provided. A "d" response applies if the estimates of borrowing and debt have not been updated.

Answer:

d. No, estimates of government borrowing and debt have not been updated.

Source:

No updates on estimates of government borrowing and debt were carried out for 2018. The report contains actual information regarding borrowing and debt for first 6 months of the BY, but it doesn't contain the updated estimates for the budget year underway.
(<https://mf.gov.md/ro/trezorerie/rapoarte-privind-executarea-bugetului/rapoarte-semianuale>) "Raport semianual privind executarea bugetului public național și a componentelor acestuia pe anul 2018 (18.09.2018)"

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: Estimates of the government borrowing debt have not been updated in the MYR itself, however the budget was amended in May 2018 where this has also been reviewed. <https://capital.market.md/ro/content/bugetul-2018-prima-rectificare-venituri-mai-mari-cheltuieli-si-mai-mari>

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

84. Does the Year-End Report present the differences between the enacted levels (including in-year changes approved by the legislature) and the actual outcome for expenditures?

GUIDELINES:

Question 84 asks whether the Year-End Report includes estimates of the differences between the enacted levels and actual expenditures for the year, and

whether these estimates are accompanied by a narrative discussion.

To answer "a," the Year-End Report must present estimates of the differences between the enacted levels and the actual outcome for all expenditures, along with a narrative discussion. Answer "b" if estimates of the differences for all expenditures are presented, but a narrative discussion is not included. Answer "c" if estimates of the differences are presented for some, but not all expenditures, regardless of whether a narrative discussion is included. Answer "d" if no estimates of the differences are presented in the Year-End Report

Answer:

a. Yes, estimates of the differences between the enacted levels and the actual outcome for all expenditures are presented, along with a narrative discussion.

Source:

Estimates of the differences between the enacted levels and the actual outcome for all expenditures are presented, along with a narrative discussion.

(<http://parlament.md/ProcesulLegislativ/Proiectedeactele legislative/tabid/61/LegislativId/4217/language/ro-RO/Default.aspx>) in the document "173.2018.raport_bugetului.pdf", pages 50-88, Annexes 5 -6 (pages 95-96), Formularul nr 1, Formularul nr 3 and Formularul nr 6.

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: We agree. With fill to source: <http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/raport-privind-executarea-bugetului-de-stat-in-anul-2017-1>

85. Does the Year-End Report present expenditure estimates by any of the three expenditure classifications (by administrative, economic, or functional classification)?

GUIDELINES:

Question 85 asks if expenditure estimates in the Year-End Report are presented by any one of the three expenditure classifications – by administrative, economic, and functional classifications – which were addressed in Questions 1-5 above. Each of the classifications answers a different question: administrative unit indicates who spends the money; functional classification shows for what purpose is the money spent; and economic classification displays what the money is spent on. Unlike classification by administrative unit, which tends to be unique to each country, functional and economic classifications for government budgeting have been developed and standardized by international institutions. Cross-country comparisons are facilitated by adherence to these international classification standards.

To answer "a," the Year-End Report must present expenditure estimates by all three of the expenditure classifications. Answer "b" if expenditure estimates are presented by two of these three classifications. Answer "c" if expenditure estimates are presented by one of the three classifications. Answer "d" if expenditure estimates are not presented by any of the three classifications in the Year-End Report.

Answer:

a. Yes, the Year-End Report presents expenditure estimates by all three expenditure classifications (by administrative, economic, and functional classification).

Source:

The Year-End Report presents expenditure estimates by all three expenditure classifications.

(<http://parlament.md/ProcesulLegislativ/Proiectedeactele legislative/tabid/61/LegislativId/4217/language/ro-RO/Default.aspx>) in the document "173.2018.raport_bugetului.pdf", functional classification in Annex 5 (page 95), economic in Annex 6 (page 96) and Formularul nr 6, administrative in Formularul nr 3.

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

85b. Based on the response to Question 85, check the box(es) to identify which expenditure classifications are included in the Year-End Report:

Answer:

Administrative classification
Economic classification
Functional classification

Source:

The Year-End Report presents expenditure estimates by all three expenditure classifications. (<http://parlament.md/ProcesulLegislativ/Proiectedeactele legislative/tabid/61/LegislativId/4217/language/ro-RO/Default.aspx>) in the document "173.2018.raport_bugetului.pdf", functional classification in Annex 5 (page 95), economic in Annex 6 (page 96) and Formularul nr 6, administrative in Formularul nr 3.

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: We agree. With fill to source: <http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/raport-privind-executarea-bugetului-de-stat-in-anul-2017-1>

86. Does the Year-End Report present expenditure estimates for individual programs?

GUIDELINES:

Question 86 asks if expenditure estimates in the Year-End Report are presented by program. There is no standard definition for the term "program," and the meaning can vary from country to country. However, for the purposes of answering the questionnaire, researchers should understand the term "program" to mean any level of detail below an administrative unit, such as a ministry or department.

A note for francophone countries: "Program" level detail is sometimes referred to as le plan comptable or le plan comptable detaillé. (These data are typically coded in the financial management database, following the chart of budgetary accounts, so that they can be organized by administrative and functional classification.)

To answer "a," the Year-End Report must present expenditure estimates for all individual programs, accounting for all expenditures. Answer "b" if the Year-End Report presents expenditures for individual programs that when combined account for at least two-thirds of expenditures, but not all expenditures. Answer "c" if the Year-End Report presents programs that account for only less than two-thirds of expenditures. Answer "d" if expenditures are not presented by program in the Year-End Report.

Answer:

a. Yes, the Year-End Report presents estimates for programs accounting for all expenditures.

Source:

The Year-End Report presents expenditure estimates by program for all expenditures. (<http://parlament.md/ProcesulLegislativ/Proiectedeactele legislative/tabid/61/LegislativId/4217/language/ro-RO/Default.aspx>) in the document "173.2018.raport_bugetului.pdf", Formularul nr 3.

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: We agree. With fill to source: <http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/raport-privind-executarea-bugetului-de-stat-in-anul-2017-1>

87. Does the Year-End Report present the differences between the enacted levels (including in-year changes approved by the legislature) and the actual outcome for revenues?

GUIDELINES:

Question 87 asks whether the Year-End Report includes estimates of the differences between the enacted levels and actual revenues for the year, and whether these estimates are accompanied by a narrative discussion.

To answer "a," the Year-End Report must present estimates of the differences between the enacted levels and the actual outcome for all revenues, along with a narrative discussion. Answer "b" if estimates of the differences for all revenues are presented, but a narrative discussion is not included. Answer "c" if estimates of the differences are presented for some, but not all revenues, regardless of whether a narrative discussion is included. Answer "d" if no estimates of the differences are presented in the Year-End Report.

Answer:

a. Yes, estimates of the differences between the enacted levels and the actual outcome for all revenues are presented, along with a narrative discussion.

Source:

Estimates of the differences between the enacted levels and the actual outcome for all revenues are presented, along with a narrative discussion. (<http://parlament.md/ProcesulLegislativ/Proiectedeacteleislative/tabid/61/LegislativId/4217/language/ro-RO/Default.aspx>) in the document "173.2018.raport_bugetului.pdf", pages 39-50, Formularul nr 1 and Formularul nr 2.

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: We agree. With fill to source: <http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/raport-privind-executarea-bugetului-de-stat-in-anul-2017-1>

88. Does the Year-End Report present revenue estimates by category (such as tax and non-tax)?

GUIDELINES:

Question 88 asks whether revenue estimates in the Year-End Report are presented by "category" – that is, whether tax and non-tax sources of revenue are shown separately.

To answer "a," the Year-End Report must present revenue estimates classified by category.

Answer:

a. Yes, the Year-End Report presents revenue estimates by category.

Source:

The Year-End Report presents revenue estimates by category. (<http://parlament.md/ProcesulLegislativ/Proiectedeacteleislative/tabid/61/LegislativId/4217/language/ro-RO/Default.aspx>) in the document "173.2018.raport_bugetului.pdf", Formularul nr 2.

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: We agree. With fill to source: <http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/raport-privind-executarea-bugetului-de-stat-in-anul-2017-1>

89. Does the Year-End Report present individual sources of revenue?

GUIDELINES:

Question 89 asks whether revenue estimates for individual sources of revenue are presented in the Year-End Report. The question applies to both tax and non-tax revenue.

To answer "a," the Year-End Report must present all sources of revenue individually, accounting for all revenue, and "other" or "miscellaneous" revenue must account for three percent or less of all revenue. Answer "b" if the Year-End Report presents individual sources of revenue that when combined account for at least two-thirds of all revenue, but not all revenue. Answer "c" if the Year-End Report presents estimates of individual revenue sources that account for less than two-thirds of revenue. Answer "d" if individual sources of revenue are not presented in the Year-End Report.

Answer:

b. Yes, the Year-End Report presents individual sources of revenue accounting for at least two-thirds of, but not all, revenue.

Source:

The Year-End Report presents individual sources of revenue accounting for at least two-thirds of, but not all, revenue. (<http://parlament.md/ProcesulLegislativ/Proiectedeactele legislative/tabid/61/LegislativId/4217/language/ro-RO/Default.aspx>) in the document "173.2018.raport_bugetului.pdf", Formularul nr 2.

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Disagree

Suggested Answer:

a. Yes, the Year-End Report presents individual sources of revenue accounting for all revenue.

Comments: We do not agree. The Year-End Report presents individual sources of revenue accounting for all, revenue (<http://parlament.md/ProcesulLegislativ/Proiectedeactele legislative/tabid/61/LegislativId/4217/language/ro-RO/Default.aspx>) in the document "173.2018.raport_bugetului.pdf", Formularul nr 2. We suggest changing the answer from b) to a). Form 2 contains other unidentified income and income - economic code 145 which accounts for 0.06% of total revenue. Under the economic code 14 Other income is divided by revenue: - revenues from property (141) - revenues from the sale of goods and services (142) - fines and penalties (143) - voluntary donations (144) The State Budget Implementation Report for 2017 (narrative description) contains information on revenue accruing from sources of origin. the link: <http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/raport-privind-executarea-bugetului-de-stat-in-anul-2017-1>

Researcher Response

Individual sources of income are presented at the level of 4 digits (not at 3 level) of aggregation. At this level there several lines with Other revenues, taxes etc (in Formularul 2 in lines with codes 1146, 1156, and 145. These constitute over 3% of the total executed budget revenue in 2017. According to the OBS methodology it means that not all individual sources of revenue are presented.

90. Does the Year-End Report present the differences between the original estimates of government borrowing and debt, including its composition, for the fiscal year and the actual outcome for that year?

GUIDELINES:

Question 90 asks whether the Year-End Report includes estimates of the differences between the original estimates and the actual outcome for the fiscal year for borrowing and debt, including its composition, and whether these estimates are accompanied by a narrative discussion.

Refer to Question 13 for details on estimates in the Executive's Budget Proposal of borrowing and debt. Key estimates related to borrowing and debt include:

- the amount of net new borrowing required during the budget year;
- the central government's total debt burden at the end of the budget year; and
- the interest payments on the outstanding debt for the budget year.

Refer to Question 14 for details on estimates in the Executive's Budget Proposal related to the composition of the debt. Core information related to the composition of government debt include:

- interest rates on the debt;
- maturity profile of the debt; and
- whether the debt is domestic or external.

To answer "a," the Year-End Report must include estimates of the differences between all of the original estimates of borrowing and debt, including its composition, for the fiscal year and the actual outcome for that year, including a narrative discussion. Answer "b" if the Year-End Report presents estimates of the differences between all of the original estimates of borrowing and debt for the fiscal year and the actual outcome for that year, but does not include a narrative discussion. Answer "c" if estimates of the differences between some but not all of the original estimates of borrowing and debt for the fiscal year and the actual outcome for that year are presented, regardless of whether a narrative discussion is included. A "d" response applies if estimates of the

differences are not presented.

Answer:

c. Yes, estimates of the differences between some but not all of the original estimates of government borrowing and debt for the fiscal year and the actual outcome for that year are presented.

Source:

Estimates of the differences between some but not all of the original estimates of government borrowing and debt for the fiscal year and the actual outcome for that year are presented. It's missing the differences between original estimates and actual values of interest rates and maturity profile. (<http://parlament.md/ProcesulLegislativ/Proiectedeactele legislative/tabid/61/LegislativId/4217/language/ro-RO/Default.aspx>) in the document "173.2018.raport_bugetului.pdf", pages 55-60, Formularul nr 1, Formularul 2, Formularul 6. Also, comprehensive information regarding the debt and borrowing has been presented in the annual report on debt (https://mf.gov.md/sites/default/files/Raport%202018_0.pdf), but it doesn't contain the differences between original estimates and actual values.

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: https://gov.md/sites/default/files/document/attachments/intr36_17.pdf Annex 8, p.101 pp. 55-59 Estimates of the differences between some but not all of the original estimates of government borrowing and debt

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

90b. Based on the response to Question 90, check the box(es) to identify which estimates of government borrowing and debt, including its composition, have the differences between the original forecast and the actual outcome for the year presented in the Year-End Report:

Answer:

The amount of net new borrowing required during the budget year
The central government's total debt burden at the end of the budget year
The interest payments on outstanding debt for the budget year
Whether the debt is domestic or external

Source:

(<http://parlament.md/ProcesulLegislativ/Proiectedeactele legislative/tabid/61/LegislativId/4217/language/ro-RO/Default.aspx>) in the document "173.2018.raport_bugetului.pdf", the amount of net new borrowing required during the budget year (p.58, and Formularul nr 1, Formularul nr 2), the central government's total debt burden at the end of the budget year (p.55), the interest payments on outstanding debt for the budget year (p.60, and Formularul 6), whether the debt is domestic or external (p.55). Also, comprehensive information regarding the debt and borrowing has been presented in the annual report on debt (https://mf.gov.md/sites/default/files/Raport%202018_0.pdf), but it doesn't contain the differences between original estimates and actual values.

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

91. Does the Year-End Report present the differences between the original macroeconomic forecast for the fiscal year and the actual outcome for that year?

GUIDELINES:

Question 91 asks whether the Year-End Report includes estimates of the differences between the original macroeconomic forecast for the fiscal year and the actual outcome for that year, and whether these estimates are accompanied by a narrative discussion.

Refer to Question 15 for the components of the macroeconomic forecast in the Executive's Budget Proposal. Core components include estimates of the nominal GDP level, inflation rate, real GDP growth, and interest rates, although the importance of other macroeconomic assumptions, such as the price of oil, can vary from country to country.

To answer "a," the Year-End Report must include estimates of the differences between all of the original macroeconomic assumptions for the fiscal year and the actual outcome for that year, including a narrative discussion. Answer "b" if the Year-End Report presents estimates of the differences between all of the original macroeconomic assumptions for the fiscal year and the actual outcome for that year, but does not include a narrative discussion. Answer "c" if estimates of the differences between some but not all of the original macroeconomic assumptions for the fiscal year and the actual outcome for that year are presented, regardless of whether a narrative discussion is included. A "d" response applies if estimates of the differences are not presented.

Answer:

c. Yes, estimates of the differences between some but not all of the original macroeconomic assumptions for the fiscal year and the actual outcome for that year are presented.

Source:

Estimates of the differences between some but not all of the original macroeconomic assumptions for the fiscal year and the actual outcome for that year are presented, it's missing the information regarding the interest rate.

(<http://parlament.md/ProcesulLegislativ/Proiectedeacteleislative/tabid/61/LegislativId/4217/language/ro-RO/Default.aspx>) in the document "173.2018.raport_bugetului.pdf", pages 7-8.

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: Estimates of the differences between some but not all of the original macroeconomic assumptions for the fiscal year and the actual outcome for that year are presented - the information linked to real GDP growth, and interest rates is missing (https://gov.md/sites/default/files/document/attachments/intr36_17.pdf, pp. 7-8), although it contains other information, line exchange rate, exports, imports, agriculture production etc.

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

91b. Based on the response to Question 91, check the box(es) to identify which elements of the macroeconomic forecast have the differences between the original forecast and the outcome for the year presented in the Year-End Report:

Answer:

Nominal GDP level

Inflation rate

Real GDP growth

Information beyond the core elements

Source:

Estimates of the differences between some but not all of the original macroeconomic assumptions for the fiscal year and the actual outcome for that year are presented, it's missing the information regarding the interest rate. Also, report contains estimates on import-export, exchange rate and other important information.

(<http://parlament.md/ProcesulLegislativ/Proiectedeacteleislative/tabid/61/LegislativId/4217/language/ro-RO/Default.aspx>) in the document "173.2018.raport_bugetului.pdf", pages 7-8.

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Disagree

Suggested Answer: Nominal GDP level Inflation rate Information beyond the core elements

Comments: The year-end report offers information about the elements indicated in the original answer except for the Real GDP Growth. Please see: https://gov.md/sites/default/files/document/attachments/intr36_17.pdf (pp.7-8)

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Researcher Response

Real GDP growth is presented in mentioned source, in the Table at line "față de anul precedent". So, for 2017 in the EBP -2017 it was expected 3% of

real GDP growth, but actual was 4.5%. But it should be mentioned that in the name of this line there is a technical mistake, it actually is "față de anul precedent in prețuri comparabile". In the core text of the Report (page 6) there is a discussion about real GDP growth in 2017 and the main factors that contributed.

92. Does the Year-End Report present the differences between the original estimates of nonfinancial data on inputs and the actual outcome?

GUIDELINES:

Question 92 asks whether the Year-End Report includes estimates of the differences between the original estimates of nonfinancial data on inputs and the actual outcome for the year, and whether these estimates are accompanied by a narrative discussion.

Refer to Question 49 for the nonfinancial data on inputs included in the Executive's Budget Proposal.

To answer "a," the Year-End Report must include estimates of the differences between all of the original estimates of nonfinancial data on inputs and the actual outcome, including a narrative discussion. Answer "b" if the Year-End Report presents estimates of the differences between all of the original estimates of nonfinancial data on inputs and the actual outcome, but does not include a narrative discussion. Answer "c" if estimates of the differences between some but not all of the original estimates of nonfinancial data on inputs and the actual outcome are presented, regardless of whether a narrative discussion is included. A "d" response applies if estimates of the differences are not presented.

Answer:

c. Yes, estimate of the differences between some but not all of the original estimates of nonfinancial data on inputs and the actual outcome are presented.

Source:

Estimate of the differences between some but not all of the original estimates of nonfinancial data on inputs and the actual outcome are presented. (<http://parlament.md/ProcesulLegislativ/Proiectedeacteleislative/tabid/61/LegislativId/4217/language/ro-RO/Default.aspx>) in the document 173.2018.raport_bugetului.pdf pages 50-88. The report contains only isolated information on non financial data for inputs, for ex. page 73 regarding regional development projects for environment.

Comment:

For education sector estimates of the differences between the original estimates of nonfinancial data on inputs and the actual outcome are not presented.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

93. Does the Year-End Report present the differences between the original estimates of nonfinancial data on results and the actual outcome?

GUIDELINES:

Question 93 asks whether the Year-End Report includes estimates of the differences between the original estimates of nonfinancial data on results and the actual outcome for the year, and whether these estimates are accompanied by a narrative discussion. Nonfinancial data on results can include data on both outputs and outcomes, but not on inputs (which are addressed in Question 92).

Refer to Question 50 for the nonfinancial data on results included in the Executive's Budget Proposal.

To answer "a," the Year-End Report must include estimates of the differences between all of the original estimates of nonfinancial data on results and the actual outcome, including a narrative discussion. Answer "b" if the Year-End Report presents estimates of the differences between all of the original estimates of nonfinancial data on results and the actual outcome, but does not include a narrative discussion. Answer "c" if estimates of the differences between some but not all of the original estimates of nonfinancial data on results and the actual outcome are presented, regardless of whether a narrative discussion is included. A "d" response applies if estimates of the differences are not presented.

Answer:

d. No, estimates of the differences between the original estimates of nonfinancial data on results and the actual outcome are not presented.

Source:

The estimates of the differences between the original estimates of nonfinancial data on results and the actual outcome are not presented. (<http://parlament.md/ProcesulLegislativ/Proiectedeacteleislative/tabid/61/LegislativId/4217/language/ro-RO/Default.aspx>) in the document

173.2018.raport_bugetului.pdf pages 50-88.

Comment:

For education sector estimates of the differences between the original estimates of nonfinancial data on results and the actual outcome are not presented.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

94. Does the Year-End Report present the differences between the enacted level of funds for policies (both new proposals and existing policies) that are intended to benefit directly the country's most impoverished populations and the actual outcome?

GUIDELINES:

Question 94 asks whether the Year-End Report includes estimates of the differences between the enacted level of funds for policies that are intended to benefit directly the country's most impoverished populations and the actual outcome for the year, and whether these estimates are accompanied by a narrative discussion.

Refer to Question 52 for assistance to the most impoverished populations in the Executive's Budget Proposal.

To answer "a," the Year-End Report must present estimates of the differences between the enacted level for all policies that are intended to benefit the country's most impoverished populations and the actual outcome, including a narrative discussion. Answer "b" if the Year-End Report presents estimates of the differences between the enacted level for all policies that are intended to benefit the country's most impoverished populations and the actual outcome, but does not include a narrative discussion. Answer "c" if estimates of the differences between the enacted level for some but not all of the policies that are intended to benefit the country's most impoverished populations and the actual outcome are presented, regardless of whether a narrative discussion is included. A "d" response applies if estimates of the differences are not presented.

Answer:

c. Yes, estimates of the differences between the enacted level for some but not all of the policies that are intended to benefit directly the country's most impoverished populations and the actual outcome are presented.

Source:

The estimates of the differences between the enacted level for some but not all of the policies that are intended to benefit directly the country's most impoverished populations and the actual outcome are presented. (<http://parlament.md/ProcesulLegislativ/Proiectedeacteleislative/tabid/61/LegislativId/4217/language/ro-RO/Default.aspx>) in the document "173.2018.raport_bugetului.pdf" pages 14-15, 85-88.

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: https://gov.md/sites/default/files/document/attachments/intr36_17.pdf (pp. 85-88)

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

95. Does the Year-End Report present the differences between the original estimates of extra-budgetary funds and the actual outcome?

GUIDELINES:

Question 95 asks whether the Year-End Report presents estimates of the differences between the original estimates of extra-budgetary funds and the actual outcome for the year, and whether these estimates are accompanied by a narrative discussion.

Refer to Question 33 for estimates of extra-budgetary funds in the Executive's Budget Proposal.

To answer "a," the Year-End Report must include estimates of the differences between all of the original estimates of extra-budgetary funds and the actual outcome, including a narrative discussion. Answer "b" if the Year-End Report presents estimates of the differences between all of the original estimates of

extra-budgetary funds and the actual outcome, but does not include a narrative discussion. Answer "c" if estimates of the differences between some but not all of the original estimates of extra-budgetary funds and the actual outcome are presented, regardless of whether a narrative discussion is included. A "d" response applies if estimates of the differences are not presented

Answer:

c. Yes, estimates of the differences between some but not all of the original estimates of extra-budgetary funds and the actual outcome are presented.

Source:

Estimates of the differences between some but not all of the original estimates of extra-budgetary funds and the actual outcome are presented. (<http://parlament.md/ProcesulLegislativ/Proiectedeactelegislative/tabid/61/LegislativId/4217/language/ro-RO/Default.aspx>) in the document "173.2018.raport_bugetului.pdf" page 18-38. It's missing discussions regarding the approved and actually implemented policies.

Comment:

In the Republic of Moldova there are 2 extra-budgetary funds (i) Budget for social security fund (Bugetul asigurărilor sociale de stat) and (ii) Health care compulsory fund (Fondurile asigurării obligatorii de asistență medicală) that are managed by the Central Government. There is no extra-budgetary for education sector.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: https://gov.md/sites/default/files/document/attachments/intr36_17.pdf (pp. 27-28) Estimates of the differences between some but not all of the original estimates of extra-budgetary funds and the actual outcome are presented: budget for social security fund and health care fund.

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Disagree

Suggested Answer: a. Yes, estimates of the differences between all of the original estimates of extra-budgetary funds and the actual outcome are presented, along with a narrative discussion.

Comments: We do not agree. We propose to modify the answer from c) to a). According to the provisions of art.26 of the Public Finance Act and the fiscal-fiscal responsibility no.181 / 2014, the state social insurance budget and the mandatory health insurance funds are the components of the national public budget and can not be called extra-budgetary funds. In Form no.11 The report on the execution of the national public budget for 2017 presents the differences between the initial estimates and their actual result. It is also a description in the narrative report. At the same time, according to the provisions of art.73 (1), the annual reports on the execution of the state social security budget and of the mandatory health insurance funds are drawn up by the administrators of the respective budgets (CNAS and CNAM) and submitted to the Government and afterwards to the Parliament for approval . Annual reports are placed on CNAS and CNAM sites: -<http://www.cnas.md/doc.php?l=ro&idc=439&id=4701&t=/Rapoarte/Rapoarte-privind-executarea-BASS/Rapoarte-anuale-privind-executarea-bugetului-asigurarilor-sociale-de-stat/Raportul-privind-executarea-bugetului-asigurarilor-sociale-de-stat-pe-anul-2017-analitic> - <http://www.cnam.md/?page=131&>

Researcher Response

Annual reports on the execution of the state social security budget and of the mandatory health insurance funds are not part of the EYR 2017 and do not make part from the supporting documentation to the EYR -2017. According OBS methodology only information included in relevant budgetary documents or supporting documentation could be taken into consideration during the evaluation.

96. Is a financial statement included as part of the Year-End Report or released as a separate report?

GUIDELINES:

Question 96 asks whether a financial statement is included as part of the Year-End Report, or whether it is released as a separate report. The financial statement can include some or all of the following elements: a cash flow statement, an operating statement, a balance sheet, and notes on accounting. For purposes of responding to this question, the financial statement in question does not need to be audited. For an example of a financial statement, see the document "Financial Statements of the Government of New Zealand 2013" (<https://treasury.govt.nz/sites/default/files/2013-10/fsgnz-year-jun13.pdf>)

To answer "a," a financial statement must either be included in the Year-End Report or must be released as a separate report. Answer "a" applies if a financial statement is released as a separate report, even if the Year-End Report is not publicly available. Answer "b" applies if no financial statement is released either as part of the Year-End Report or as a separate report.

Answer:

a. Yes, a financial statement is part of the Year-End Report or is released as a separate report.

Source:

A financial statement is released as part of the Year-End Report. (<http://parlament.md/ProcesulLegislativ/Proiectedeactelegislative/tabid/61/LegislativId/4217/language/ro-RO/Default.aspx>) in the document "173.2018.raport_bugetului.pdf" page 91 and Formularul nr 10 (Balance sheet).

Comment:

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree
Comments: https://gov.md/sites/default/files/document/attachments/intr36_17.pdf (p. 91)

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

97. What type of audits (compliance, financial, or performance) has the Supreme Audit Institution (SAI) conducted and made available to the public?

GUIDELINES:

Question 97 asks about the types of audits conducted by the Supreme Audit Institution (SAI). There are three basic types of audits:

- *Financial audits are intended to determine if an entity's financial information is accurate (free from errors or fraud) and presented in accordance with the applicable financial reporting and regulatory framework. See ISSAI 200 (<http://www.issai.org/issai-framework/3-fundamental-auditing-principles.htm>) for more detail.*
- *Compliance audits look at the extent to which the relevant regulations and procedures have been followed. See ISSAI 400 (<http://www.issai.org/issai-framework/3-fundamental-auditing-principles.htm>) for more details.*
- *Performance audits assess whether activities are adhering to the principles of economy, efficiency, and effectiveness. See ISSAI 300 (<http://www.issai.org/issai-framework/3-fundamental-auditing-principles.htm>) for more details. ≈*

Financial and compliance audits are more common than performance audits, which usually occur only once a performance framework has been agreed upon. In some countries, the SAI's mandate limits the type of audit it can conduct.

To answer "a," the SAI must have conducted all three types of audit – financial, compliance, and performance – and made all of them available to the public. A "b" response applies if the SAI has conducted two of the three audit types, and a "c" applies if it has conducted only one type of audit. Answers "b" and "c" may be selected even if the Audit Report is not publicly available, as long as the SAI has conducted compliance or performance audits and made them available to the public. A "d" response applies if the SAI has not conducted any of the three types of audits, or has not made them available to the public.

Answer:

a. The SAI has conducted all three types of audits (compliance, financial, or performance) and made them available to the public.

Source:

The SAI has conducted all three types of audits (compliance, financial, or performance) and made them available to the public. Annual Report 2017, (<http://ccrm.md/storage/upload/reports/postari/171/pdf/02e16a02e032b3dcf95da072a88c1704.pdf>) page 20. All audit reports for 2017 are available on <http://ccrm.md/hotariri-si-rapoarte-1-95?year=2017>

Comment:

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree
Comments: The Court of Accounts has conducted compliance, financial and performance audits - see the activity report - <http://ccrm.md/storage/upload/reports/postari/171/pdf/02e16a02e032b3dcf95da072a88c1704.pdf> (p. 20)

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

98. What percentage of expenditures within the mandate of the Supreme Audit Institution (SAI) has been audited?

GUIDELINES:

Question 98 focuses on the coverage of audits by the Supreme Audit Institution (SAI), asking what percentage of expenditures within the SAI's mandate has been audited.

The SAI's mandate is typically defined in statute. Only expenditures related to budgetary central government (ministries, departments, and agencies) that are within the SAI's mandate should be considered for this question. (Question 99 addresses audits of extra-budgetary funds.) Further, the question does not apply to "secret programs" (for example, security-related expenditures that are confidential). Further, if the mandate gives the SAI the authority to outsource some audits, then those audits count for purposes of this question.

Only the Audit Report identified in Section 1 should be used to answer this question. Financial audits and compliance audits, or a hybrid of the two, can be taken

into account to answer this question. Performance audits should not be considered for this question.

To answer "a," all expenditures within the SAI's mandate must be audited. A "b" response applies if at least two-thirds, but not all, expenditures within the SAI's mandate have been audited. A "c" response is appropriate when less than two-thirds of expenditures within the SAI's mandate have been audited. A "d" response applies when no expenditures have been audited.

Answer:

b. Expenditures representing at least two-thirds of, but not all, expenditures within the SAI's mandate have been audited.

Source:

Court of Accounts covers 100% in terms of auditing the treasure accounts but in terms of real expenditure auditing it covers at least two-thirds, but not 100%.

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

99. What percentage of extra-budgetary funds within the mandate of the Supreme Audit Institution (SAI) has been audited?

GUIDELINES:

Question 99 focuses on audits of extra-budgetary funds, asking what percentage of extra-budgetary funds within the mandate of the Supreme Audit Institution (SAI) has been audited. These funds, although technically outside the budget, are governmental in nature and thus should be subject to the same audit requirement as other government programs.

The SAI's mandate is typically defined in statute. Only expenditures related to extra-budgetary funds within the SAI's mandate should be considered for this question. (Question 98 addresses audits of budgetary central government.) Further, if the mandate gives the SAI the authority to outsource some audits, then those audits count for purposes of this question.

To answer "a," all extra-budgetary funds within the SAI's mandate must be audited. A "b" response applies if extra-budgetary funds accounting for at least two-thirds of, but not all, expenditures associated with extra-budgetary funds within the SAI's mandate have been audited. A "c" response applies if extra-budgetary funds accounting for less than two-thirds of expenditures associated with extra-budgetary funds within the SAI's mandate have been audited. A "d" response applies if extra-budgetary funds have not been audited.

Answer:

a. All extra-budgetary funds within the SAI's mandate have been audited.

Source:

The SAI has been audited both extra-budgetary funds. Annual Report 2017, (<http://ccrm.md/storage/upload/reports/postari/171/pdf/02e16a02e032b3dcf95da072a88c1704.pdf>) page 83 and (<http://ccrm.md/storage/upload/reports/postari/173/pdf/978a7b4c13ee713ba310578448c4ff21.pdf>) pages 78-82.

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: <http://ccrm.md/storage/upload/reports/postari/171/pdf/02e16a02e032b3dcf95da072a88c1704.pdf>, p.83 - CCRM (Court of Accounts audited both extra-budgetary funds (on conformity, financial and performance): the social security fund and the health insurance fund.

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

100. Does the annual Audit Report(s) prepared by the Supreme Audit Institution (SAI) include an executive summary?

GUIDELINES:

Question 100 asks whether the annual Audit Report includes an executive summary. Only the Audit Report identified in Section 1 should be used to answer this question. The Audit Report can be a fairly technical document, and an executive summary of the report's findings can help make it more accessible to the media and the public.

To answer "a," the Audit Report must include at least one executive summary summarizing the report's content. Answer "b" applies if the Audit Report does not include an executive summary, or the Audit Report is not made publicly available.

Answer:

b. No, the annual Audit Report(s) does not include an executive summary.

Source:

The Audit Report (Raportul auditului financiar al Raportului Guvernului privind executarea bugetului de stat pe anul 2017) does not include an executive summary. (<http://ccrm.md/hotariri-si-rapoarte-1-95?idh=909>), document "RO_5574_HCC_24_2018_R_ro.docx"

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: The Audit report contains no executive summary.

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

101. Does the executive make available to the public a report on what steps it has taken to address audit recommendations or findings that indicate a need for remedial action?

GUIDELINES:

Question 101 asks whether the executive reports to the public on the steps it has taken to address audit recommendations made by the Supreme Audit Institution (SAI). The ultimate purpose of audits is to verify that the budget was executed in a manner consistent with existing law, and to hold the government accountable for this execution and its future improvement. The extent to which audits achieve the latter depends on whether there is adequate and timely follow-up on the recommendations provided in the SAI's audit reports.

To answer "a," the executive must report publicly on the steps it has taken to address all audit findings. A "b" response applies if the executive reports publicly on the steps it has taken to address most, but not all, audit findings. A "c" response applies if the executive reports publicly on the steps it has taken to address only some audit findings. As long as the executive reports publicly on the steps it has taken to address audit finding, answer "a," "b," or "c" may be selected, even if the Audit Report is not made publicly available. A "d" response applies if the executive does not report at all on its steps to address audit findings.

Answer:

c. Yes, the executive reports publicly on some audit findings.

Source:

The Year-End Report contains a chapter regarding the steps the government has been taken for the implementation of the Court of Accounts recommendations, but there were only regarding recommendations issued by the Court of Accounts in previous AR. (<http://parlament.md/ProcesulLegislativ/Proiectedeactelegislative/tabid/61/LegislativId/4217/language/ro-RO/Default.aspx>) in the document "173.2018.raport_bugetului.pdf" page 92.

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: <http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/raport-privind-executarea-bugetului-de-stat-in-anul-2017-1> (pp.93-94)

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

102. Does either the Supreme Audit Institution (SAI) or legislature release to the public a report that tracks actions taken by the executive to address audit recommendations?

GUIDELINES:

Question 102 asks whether the Supreme Audit Institution (SAI) or the legislature track actions by the executive to address audit recommendations. After audit results and recommendations are discussed and validated by the legislature, the executive is normally asked to take certain actions to address the audit findings. For accountability purposes, the public needs to be informed about the status of those actions, and steps the executive has taken to address audit recommendations. In addition to the executive reporting on its actions (see Question 101), the SAI and legislature – as the key oversight institutions – have a responsibility to keep the public informed by tracking the executive's progress in addressing audit recommendations.

To answer "a," the SAI or legislature must report publicly on what steps the executive has taken to address all audit findings. A "b" response applies if the SAI or legislature reports publicly on what steps the executive has taken to address most, but not all, audit findings. A "c" response applies if the SAI or legislature reports publicly on what steps the executive has taken to address only some audit findings. As long as the SAI or legislature reports publicly on the steps the executive has taken, answer "a," "b," or "c" may be selected, even if the Audit Report is not made publicly available. A "d" response applies if neither the SAI nor the legislature reports on the executive's steps to address audit findings.

Answer:

c. Yes, the SAI or legislature reports publicly on some audit recommendations.

Source:

Audit Report on the administration and utilization of public property and financial resources (Annual Report 2015) (Raportului asupra administrării și întrebuințării resurselor financiare publice și patrimoniului public (Raportul anual 2015)), pages 58-60. (<http://ccrm.md/storage/upload/reports/postari/173/pdf/978a7b4c13ee713ba310578448c4ff21.pdf>) The report contains only a summary of total recommendations and steps taken by government.

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: Audit Report on the administration and utilization of public property and financial resources (Annual Report 2017) - pp. 58-60, lists only the number (and %) of recommendations that were totally or partially implemented or realized and the number of those that were not implemented at all. It lists also the results/outcomes following the implementation of the recommendations.

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

103. Is there an Independent Fiscal Institution (IFI) that conducts budget analyses for the budget formulation and/or approval process?

GUIDELINES:

Question 103 examines whether an Independent Fiscal Institution (IFI) exists that contributes budget analyses to the budget formulation and/or approval process. According to the Principles for Independent Fiscal Institutions, adopted by the OECD Council in 2014, "independent fiscal institutions are publicly funded, independent bodies under the statutory authority of the executive or the legislature which provide non-partisan oversight and analysis of, and in some cases advice on, fiscal policy and performance", and with "a forward-looking ex ante diagnostic task". In practice, they come in two main forms:

- Parliamentary budget offices (also known as PBOs) such as the Congressional Budget Office in the United States (<https://www.cbo.gov/>), the Parliamentary Budget Office in South Africa (<https://www.parliament.gov.za/parliamentary-budget-office>), and the Center for Public Finance Studies in Mexico (Centro de Estudios de las Finanzas Públicas, <http://www.cefp.gob.mx/>); or
- Fiscal councils such as the Office for Budget Responsibility in the United Kingdom (<https://obr.uk/>), the Fiscal Policy Council in Sweden (Finanspolitiska Rådet, <http://www.finanspolitiskaradet.com/>), and the High Council for Public Finances in France (Haut Conseil des finances publiques, <https://www.hcfp.fr/>).

For more information, see von Trapp et al. 'Principles for Independent Fiscal Institutions and Case Studies', OECD Journal on Budgeting 15:2 (special issue, 2016), <https://doi.org/10.1787/budget-15-5jm2795tv625>.

To answer "a," there must be an IFI, and its independence must be set in law. In addition, it must have sufficient staffing and resources, including funding, to carry out its tasks. Answer "b" applies if an IFI exists, but either its independence is not set in law or its staffing and resources are insufficient to carry out its tasks. Answer "c" applies if an IFI exists, but its independence is not set in law and it lacks sufficient staffing and resources. Answer "d" applies if no IFI exists.

If the answer is "a," "b," or "c," please specify in the comments the name and type of IFI that exists (e.g., parliamentary budget office or fiscal council). If the answer is "a" or "b," identify the law that guarantees its independence, and provide evidence in support of the assessment of the adequacy of its staffing and

resources. This can include the IFI's total budget allocation over recent years, any press reports that discuss perceived funding shortfalls, assessments by international organizations, and/or information from interviews with staff of the IFI.

Answer:

d. No, there is no IFI.

Source:

Comment:

Moldova has no IFI.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

104. Does the Independent Fiscal Institution (IFI) publish macroeconomic and/or fiscal forecasts?

GUIDELINES:

Question 104 assesses whether an Independent Fiscal Institution (IFI) has a role in producing the macroeconomic forecast (e.g., GDP growth, inflation, interest rates, etc.) and/or the fiscal forecast (revenues, expenditure, deficits, and debt), and if so, what kind of role it has. Macroeconomic and/or fiscal forecasting is a typical core function across IFIs, but their role in forecasting takes several forms (von Trapp et al. 2016, p. 17 and Table 2). Some IFIs produce just a macroeconomic forecast, while others produce a complete fiscal forecast (which also typically requires an underlying macroeconomic forecast). In some cases, the fiscal forecast reflects continuation of current budget policies; such forecasts can be used by the legislature, the media, or the public to assess the projections in the executive's budget reflecting the government's policy proposals.

Some IFIs produce the official macroeconomic and fiscal forecasts used in the executive's budget. In other cases, IFIs do not prepare their own independent forecasts, but rather produce an assessment of the official estimates, or provide an opinion on, or endorsement of, the government's forecasts. Some others have no role at all in forecasting.

To answer "a", there must be an IFI that publishes both its own macroeconomic AND fiscal forecasts. Answer "b" applies if an IFI publishes its own macroeconomic OR fiscal forecast (but not both). Answer "c" applies if the IFI does not publish a macroeconomic or fiscal forecast, but rather publishes an assessment of the official forecasts produced by the executive and used in the budget. Choose option "d" if there is no IFI; or if there is an IFI that neither publishes its own macroeconomic and/or fiscal forecasts, nor a commentary on the official forecasts for the budget.

Macroeconomic forecasts may include indicators relating to economic output and economic growth, inflation, and the labor market, amongst others. Fiscal forecasts may include estimates of revenues, expenditures, the budget balance, and debt. If the answer is "a" or "b," please specify which indicators and estimates are included in the forecasts and whether the forecast is used by government as the official forecast. If the answer is "c," please describe the nature and depth of the assessment (e.g., the length of the commentary, or whether it covers both economic and fiscal issues).

Answer:

d. No, there is no IFI; or the IFI neither publishes its own macroeconomic and/or fiscal forecasts, nor a commentary on the official forecasts produced by the executive.

Source:

Comment:

Moldova has no IFI

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

105. Does the Independent Fiscal Institution (IFI) publish its own costings of new policy proposals, to assess their impact on the budget?

GUIDELINES:

Question 105 assesses whether an Independent Fiscal Institution (IFI) has a costing function that involves assessing the budgetary implications of new policy proposals for both revenues and expenditures, and if so, what kind of role it has. Many IFIs have a costing role, but with substantial diversity in the nature and extent of this work (von Trapp et al 2016, pp. 17-18 and Table 2). Some assess virtually all new policy proposals, while others cost only a selection of new policy proposals. Others only publish opinions on, or scrutinize the costings of, budget measures produced by the executive.

To answer "a," the IFI must publish its own costings of all (or virtually all) new policy proposals. Answer "b" applies if the IFI publishes its own costings, but only for major new policy proposals – for instance, only those proposals that cost or save above a certain amount. Answer "c" applies if the IFI publishes its own costings, but only on a limited number of proposals. This could occur, for instance, if the IFI lacked the capacity to assess proposals dealing with certain sectors. Instead of producing a cost estimate, it can also publish an assessment of the estimates produced by the executive. Answer "d" applies if there is no IFI; or if the IFI does not publish its own costings of new policy proposals or provide an assessment of the official costings of new policy proposals.

Answer:

d. No, there is no IFI; or the IFI does not publish its own costings of new policy proposals.

Source:

Comment:

Moldova has no IFI

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

106. In the past 12 months, how frequently did the head or a senior staff member of the Independent Fiscal Institution (IFI) take part and testify in hearings of a committee of the legislature?

GUIDELINES:

Question 106 concerns the interaction between two important oversight actors and assesses how frequently the Independent Fiscal Institution (IFI) made high-level inputs to the work of legislative committees. Almost all IFIs interact with the legislature in some form (von Trapp et al 2016, p. 18), but the intensity of the interaction varies. This question assesses this aspect by asking, with reference to the past 12 months, how frequently the head or a senior staff member of the IFI took part and testified in hearings of a committee of the legislature. The intent is to assess the extent to which the IFI staff member in question was not only present at a meeting of a legislative committee, but was an active participant (as opposed to a passive observer, serving only as a resource when called upon). As evidence to support your answer, you can refer to official records of legislative committees, websites and annual reports of the IFI, press releases and media coverage, for example. Choose answer "a" if this occurred five times or more; "b" for three times or more, but less than five times; and "c" for once or twice. Answer "d" should be selected if the head or a senior staff member of the IFI never took part and testified in hearings of a committee of the legislature, or if there is no IFI.

Answer:

d. Never, or there is no IFI.

Source:

Comment:

Moldova has no IFI

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

107. Does the full legislature and/or a legislative committee debate budget policy prior to the tabling of the Executive's Budget Proposal?

GUIDELINES:

Question 107 asks whether the legislature debates budget policies prior to the tabling of the Executive's Budget Proposal. In general, prior to discussing the Executive's Budget Proposal for the coming year, the legislature should have an opportunity to review the government's broad budget priorities and fiscal parameters. Often times this information is laid out in a Pre-Budget Statement, which the executive presents to the legislature for debate. (See Questions 54-58.)

A number of countries conduct a pre-budget debate in the legislature around six months before the start of the budget year. In some cases, they adopt laws that guide the upcoming budget, for example the Budget Guidelines Law in Brazil and the Spring Fiscal Policy Bill in Sweden. A pre-budget debate can serve two main purposes: 1) to allow the executive to inform the legislature of its fiscal policy intentions by presenting updated reports on its annual and medium-term budget strategy and policy priorities; and 2) to establish "hard" multi-year fiscal targets or spending ceilings, which the government must adhere to when preparing its detailed spending estimates for the upcoming budget year.

To answer "a," the full legislature must debate budget policy prior to the tabling of the Executive's Budget Proposal and approve recommendations for the upcoming budget.

Answer "b" applies if a legislative committee (but not the full legislature) debates budget policy prior to the tabling of the Executive's Budget Proposal, and approves recommendations for the budget. Option "b" also applies if, in addition to the action by the committee, the full legislature also debates budget policy in advance of the budget, but does not approve recommendations.

Answer "c" applies if the full legislature and/or a legislative committee debates budget policy prior to the tabling of the Executive's Budget Proposal, but does not approve recommendations for the budget. Answer "d" applies if neither the full legislature nor any legislative committee debate budget policy prior to the tabling of the Executive's Budget Proposal.

In your comment, please indicate the dates of the budget debate, and if both the full legislature and a legislative committee held a debate. Note that a debate does not need to be open to the public, but a public record of the meeting or a public notice that the meeting occurred is required. In addition, please indicate whether the budget debate was focused on a Pre-Budget Statement published by the Executive. If the Executive did not publish a Pre-Budget Statement, then please indicate what served as the focus of the legislature's debate (for instance, a report released by an IFI or some other institution).

Answer:

d. No, neither the full legislature nor any legislative committee debate budget policy prior to the tabling of the Executive's Budget Proposal.

Source:

There is no evidence for such debates in the legislature or budget committee.

Comment:

The conclusion was made by checking the agenda of the budget committee and legislature. According to the law on public finance nr 181/2014 (art 48, (1), <http://lex.justice.md/index.php?action=view&view=doc&lang=1&id=354213>), annually, according to the budget schedule, the Government approves the medium-term budgetary framework (PBS) and submits it to Parliament for information.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: No debates regarding the budget policy prior to the tabling of the Executive's Budget Proposal were found on the Parliament or budget committee agenda. Among the responsibilities of the Parliament described in art 18 of the law on public finance nr. 181/2014 are the : adoption of the legislative acts in linked to public finances; adoption of annual budget laws and laws modifying the budgets; analyze of the mid-term report on the execution of the public budget; approval of the annual reports regarding the execution of the state budget, state social insurance budget and the health insurance funds.

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

108. How far in advance of the start of the budget year does the legislature receive the Executive's Budget Proposal?

GUIDELINES:

Question 108 examines how far in advance of the start of the budget year the legislature receives the Executive's Budget Proposal. International good practice recommends that the Executive's Budget Proposal should be submitted to the legislature far enough in advance to allow the legislature time to review it properly, or at least three months prior to the start of the fiscal year. (See, for instance, Principle 2.2.2 of the IMF's Fiscal Transparency Handbook (2018) (<https://www.elibrary.imf.org/view/IMF069/24788-9781484331859/24788-9781484331859/24788-9781484331859.xml>).

For the purposes of responding to this question, if – and only if – the most recent budget submission occurred later than usual as a result of a particular event, such as an election, please use a more normal year as the basis for the response. If, however, delays have been observed for more than one budget year, and the legislature has not received the Executive's Budget Proposal in a timely manner on more than one occasion in the last three years, then "d" will be the appropriate answer.

To answer "a," the legislature must receive the Executive's Budget Proposal at least three months in advance of the start of the budget year. Answer "b" applies if the legislature receives the Executive's Budget Proposal at least two months, but less than three months, before the start of the budget year. Answer "c" applies if the legislature receives the Executive's Budget Proposal at least one month, but less than two months, before the start of the budget year. Answer

"d" applies if the legislature does not receive the Executive's Budget Proposal at least one month prior to the start of the budget year, or does not receive it at all.

Answer:

c. The legislature receives the Executive's Budget Proposal at least one month, but less than two months, before the start of the budget year.

Source:

The legislative received the EBP-2019 on 13 November 2018,
<http://parlament.md/ProcesulLegislativ/Proiectedeactelegislative/tabid/61/LegislativId/4455/language/en-US/Default.aspx>

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: The Executive's Budget Proposal was received and registered by the Parliament on 13th of November 2018.

<http://parlament.md/ProcesulLegislativ/Proiectedeactelegislative/tabid/61/LegislativId/4455/language/en-US/Default.aspx>

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

109. When does the legislature approve the Executive's Budget Proposal?

GUIDELINES:

Question 109 examines when the legislature approves the Executive's Budget Proposal. International good practice recommends that the Executive's Budget Proposal should be approved by the legislature before the start of the fiscal year the budget proposal refers to. This gives the executive time to implement the budget in its entirety, particularly new programs and policies.

In some countries, the expenditure and revenue estimates of the Executive's Budget Proposal are approved separately; for purposes of this question, at least the expenditure estimates must be approved. Further, approval of the budget implies approval of the full-year budget, not just a short-term continuation of spending and revenue authority.

To answer "a," the legislature must approve the Executive's Budget Proposal at least one month before the start of the budget year. Answer "b" applies if the legislature approves the Executive's Budget Proposal less than one month in advance of the start of the budget year, but at least by the start of the budget year. Answer "c" applies if the legislature approves the Executive's Budget Proposal less than one month after the start of the budget year. Answer "d" applies if the legislature approves the Executive's Budget Proposal more than one month after the start of the budget year, or does not approve the budget.

Answer:

a. The legislature approves the budget at least one month in advance of the start of the budget year.

Source:

The legislature approved the budget on 30 November.
<http://parlament.md/ProcesulLegislativ/Proiectedeactelegislative/tabid/61/LegislativId/4455/language/en-US/Default.aspx>
<http://lex.justice.md/index.php?action=view&view=doc&lang=1&id=378600>

Comment:

The legislature approved the budget on 30 November and published it on 22 December 2018.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: The Parliament approved the EBP on 30th of November 2018, during the second reading.

<http://parlament.md/ProcesulLegislativ/Proiectedeactelegislative/tabid/61/LegislativId/4455/language/en-US/Default.aspx>

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

110. Does the legislature have the authority in law to amend the Executive's Budget Proposal?

GUIDELINES:

Question 110 examines the legislature's power to amend—as opposed to simply accept or reject—the budget proposal presented by the executive. This question is about legal authority rather than actions the legislature takes in practice. The legislature's powers to amend the budget can vary substantially across countries.

The "a" response is appropriate only if there are no restrictions on the right of the legislature to modify the Executive's Budget Proposal, including its right to change the size of the proposed deficit or surplus. The "b" response would be appropriate if, for instance, the legislature is restricted from changing the deficit or surplus, but it still has the power to increase or decrease funding and revenue levels. The more limited "c" response would apply if, for instance, the legislature can only re-allocate spending within the totals set in the Executive's Budget Proposal or can only decrease funding levels or increase revenues. Finally, response "d" would apply if the legislature may not make any changes (or only small technical changes), or if amendments must first be approved by the executive. In these cases, the legislature is essentially only able to approve or reject the budget as a whole. If the answer is "b" or "c", please indicate the nature of the amendment powers available to the Parliament and how they are limited.

Answer:

c. Yes, the legislature has authority in law to amend the Executive's Budget Proposal, but its authority is very limited.

Source:

According to law on public finance nr 181/2014 (art 54, (4) <http://lex.justice.md/index.php?action=view&view=doc&lang=1&id=354213>), the amendments proposed by the Parliament to the EBP shall comply with the principles and the budgetary-fiscal rules established by the present law.

Comment:

At the same time in the Constitution (Art 131, (4), http://lex.justice.md/document_rom.php?id=44B9F30E:7AC17731) stipulate that any legislative proposal or amendment that increases or decreases budget revenues, debt, or budget expenditures should be adopted only after they are accepted by the Government. According to this article, the power of the legislative on the modifications of the budget law is limited by the acceptance of the Government.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Disagree

Suggested Answer:

b. Yes, the legislature has authority in law to amend the Executive's Budget Proposal, with some limitations.

Comments: More than 50 % of the deputy's amendments at the draft state budget law 2019 was accepted by the Government. "Hotărârea Guvernului cu privire la aprobarea Avizului asupra amendamentelor la proiectul Legii bugetului de stat pentru anul 2019" <http://lex.justice.md/index.php?action=view&view=doc&lang=1&id=378317>

Researcher Response

According to the Constitution any legislative proposal or amendment that increases or decreases budget revenues, debt, or budget expenditures should be adopted only after they are accepted by the Government. The legislative can not amend the budget proposal without Government acceptance. This is considered that legislative authority is very limited. The expression itself "More than 50 % of the deputy's amendments at the draft state budget law 2019 was accepted by the Government." shows this. It is not about how many initiatives the Government approved, but in the fact that Parliament cannot amend EBP without acceptance from the Government.

111. During the most recent budget approval process, did the legislature use its authority in law to amend the Executive's Budget Proposal?

GUIDELINES:

Question 111 assesses whether any formal authority of the legislature to amend the Executive's Budget Proposal is used in practice. The responses to this question should be determined based on action by the legislature related to the Enacted Budget used in the OBS. Choose answer "a" if the legislature used its authority in law to amend the Executive's Budget Proposal during the most recent budget approval process, and amendments were adopted (all, or at least some of them). Answer "a" also applies if the legislature used its authority in law to amend the Executive's Budget Proposal, but the amendments were rejected by executive veto. Answer "b" applies if the legislature used its authority in law to propose amendments to the Executive's Budget Proposal, but none of these amendments were adopted. Answer "c" applies if the legislature has the authority in law to amend the budget, but no amendments were proposed during its consideration. Answer "d" applies when the legislature does not have any authority to amend the budget (that is, Question 110 is answered "d").

If the answer is "a" or "b", please specify in the comments the number of amendments introduced by the legislature (and in the case of an "a" response, the number adopted, or if applicable, information about an executive veto) and describe their nature. For example, did the amendments result in an increase or decrease of the deficit? What were the most significant amendments to revenues and to expenditures in terms of the sums involved? How did amendments affect the composition of expenditures? If the answer is "a," please specify which amendments were adopted, and provide evidence for it.

Answer:

a. Yes, the legislature used its authority in law to amend the Executive's Budget Proposal, and (at least some of) its amendments were adopted.

Source:

The legislature used its authority to amend the EBP and some of the amendments were approved by the Parliament. The document titled "393.2018.raport2.CEB" <http://parlament.md/ProcesulLegislativ/Proiectedeacteleislative/tabid/61/LegislativId/4455/language/en-US/Default.aspx> contains the proposed amendments. Some of them were approved by the Parliament.

Comment:

At the same time, the Parliament follows the practice according to all proposed amendments should be endorsed by the Government before approval in the Parliament.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: Some amendments were proposed by the deputies and approved by the Parliament. The amendments are listed in the Report on EBP drafted by the Economic, Budget and Finance Committee of the Parliament.

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

112. During the last budget approval process, did a specialized budget or finance committee in the legislature examine the Executive's Budget Proposal?

GUIDELINES:

Question 112 assesses the role of a specialized budget or finance committee during the budget approval stage. Effective committee involvement is an essential condition for legislative influence in the budget process. Specialized committees provide opportunities for individual legislators to gain relevant expertise, and to examine budgets and policy in depth. Yet, the involvement of committees differs across legislatures. Some legislatures have separate committees to examine spending and tax proposals, while others have a single finance committee. Not all legislatures have a specialized budget or finance committee to examine the budget. In addition, there can be differences in the time available for the committee's analysis of the budget.

A report with the committee's findings and recommendations is intended to inform the debate in the full legislature, therefore it must be published before the legislature has adopted the budget.

Response "a" requires that, in the last budget approval process, a specialized budget or finance committee had one month or more to examine the Executive's Budget Proposal, and it published a report with findings and recommendations prior to the budget being adopted. Response "b" applies where such a committee examined the draft budget and published a report, but within a shorter timeframe of less than one month. Response "c" applies if a committee examined the budget (without regard to the time period), but did not publish a report prior to the adoption of the budget. Response "d" applies where a specialized budget or finance committee did not examine the Executive's Budget Proposal.

Please specify in your comment the name of the committee and the number of days it had available to examine the budget and to publish a report. For bicameral legislatures where one house or chamber has greater constitutional authority in budgetary matters, the question applies to the house or chamber (usually the upper or second one) that is decisive. For bicameral legislatures with co-equal houses or chambers, the question should be answered with reference to the one that achieves the higher score for this question. In the case of bicameral legislatures, please note the relevant arrangements in each house or chamber. If applicable, provide a copy of the report. Please note also if a report is published, but only after the budget has been adopted.

Answer:

b. Yes, a specialized budget or finance committee had less than one month to examine the Executive's Budget Proposal, and it published a report with findings and recommendations prior to the budget being adopted.

Source:

The reports of the specialized budget committee could be found on <http://parlament.md/ProcesulLegislativ/Proiectedeacteleislative/tabid/61/LegislativId/4455/language/en-US/Default.aspx>; the first report of the commission: <http://parlament.md/LegislationDocument.aspx?id=445d73a9-3c25-4b0c-ab89-7cae8306d507> titled "Raport asupra proiectului Legii bugetului de stat pentru anul 2019 (nr.393 din 13.11.2018)" and the second: <http://parlament.md/LegislationDocument.aspx?id=b2858f05-9f2d-4274-8504-5aeb7eb64b7c>.

Comment:

The name of the specialized committee is "Comisia economie, buget și finanțe". The reports had been presented in the legislature, they were available online for the public at the moment when they were discussed in the Parliament. The registration date of the EBP 2019 is 13.11.2018 and the first meeting of the commission was at 21.11.2018 and second on 30.11.2018 (the when the budget was approved by the Legislature).

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: The specialized committee on Economy, Budget and Finance had less than a month to examine the EBP and draft a report based on it. <http://parlament.md/ProcesulLegislativ/Proiectedeacteleislative/tabid/61/LegislativId/4455/language/en-US/Default.aspx>

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

113. During the last approval process, did legislative committees, responsible for particular sectors (e.g., health, education, defense, etc.), examine spending in the Executive's Budget Proposal related to the sector for which they are responsible?

GUIDELINES:

Question 113 assesses the role of committees of the legislature that are responsible for particular sectors (e.g., health, education, defense, etc.) during the budget approval stage. The role of sectoral committees differs across legislatures. Some legislatures do not involve them in the budget approval process, while others do. In addition, the time available for committee analysis differs.

A report with the committee's findings and recommendations is intended to inform the debate in the full legislature, so therefore must be published before the legislature has adopted the budget. Response "a" requires that sector committees had one month or more to examine the Executive's Budget Proposal, and published a report with findings and recommendations prior the budget being adopted. Response "b" applies where such committees examined the draft budget and published a report, but within a shorter timeframe of less than one month. Response "c" applies if sectoral committees examined the budget (without regard to the time period), but did not publish a report prior to the adoption of the budget. Response "d" applies where sectoral committees did not examine the Executive's Budget Proposal.

Please provide in the comments a brief overview of the committee structure and specify the number of days that sectoral committees had available to examine the budget and to publish their reports. For bicameral legislatures where one house or chamber has greater constitutional authority in budgetary matters, the question applies to the house or chamber (usually the upper or second one) that is decisive. For bicameral legislatures with co-equal houses or chambers, the question should be answered with reference to the one that achieves the higher score for this question. In the case of bicameral legislatures, please note the relevant arrangements in each house or chamber. If applicable, provide a sample copy of at least one of the reports. Please note if a report is published, but only after the budget has been adopted.

For purposes of responding to this question, use those sectoral committees that are best performing – that is, the ones that examine the budget the longest and that publish reports.

Answer:

b. Yes, sector committees had less than one month to examine the Executive's Budget Proposal, and they published reports with findings and recommendations prior to the budget being adopted.

Source:

Several sector committees "Comisia protecție socială, sănătate și familie" (Social protection), "Comisia cultură, educație, cercetare, tineret, sport și mass-media" (education, culture, youth and research), and "Comisia agricultură și industrie alimentară" (agriculture and food industry) examined the EBP

<http://parlament.md/ProcesulLegislativ/Proiectedeactelegislative/tabid/61/LegislativId/4455/language/en-US/Default.aspx>

Comment:

Sector committees examined the Executive's Budget Proposal, and they published reports with findings and recommendations for first lecture prior to the budget being adopted. The registration date of the EBP 2019 is 13.11.2018 and the budget was approved on 30.11.2018.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Disagree

Suggested Answer:

c. Yes, sector committees examined the Executive's Budget Proposal, but they did not publish reports with findings and recommendations prior to the budget being adopted.

Comments: 4 sector committees had several weeks to examine the EBP, but no reports were drafted, that would contain findings and recommendations. The only published report containing findings and recommendations is that of the specialized committee - on Economy, Budget and Finance ("Comisia economie, buget si finante")

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Researcher Response

According to the Parliament Regulation (Law nr. 797 of 02 April 1996, (<http://lex.justice.md/index.php?action=view&view=doc&lang=1&id=322831>)) for each legislative act is appointed one permanent commission that is responsible for this act. This commission is responsible for organising of the consultation process, collect endorsements (avize) from other permanent commissions, elaborate a report and present it in Parliament. All mentioned commissions held deliberates on the EBP and presented to the Budget and Finance commission (responsible for this legislative act) their decisions regarding the EBP, and recommended it to be deliberated in the session of the Parliament. All this documents were published before the law was approved. The budget law should be adopted by Parliament in two readings, in the first reading the Parliament approve only general parameterises of the budget law, and in the second, it is discussing particular issues (voting each particular proposal) and vote the entire legislative act. During the second readings, the commission responsible for the legislative act collect all proposals from the members of Parliament, permanent commissions, also from Government, Juridical Department, etc, and elaborates and publish a Report before the debates in second reading starts. All particular proposals for the permanent commissions are published in the Report prepared by Budget and Finance commission. For example, the permanent commission of national security, defence and public security presented its proposals and they appear in this report (in the annex). The legal framework does not provide other way, where the permanent commissions could come with proposals.

114. In the past 12 months, did a committee of the legislature examine in-year implementation of the Enacted Budget during the relevant budget execution period?

GUIDELINES:

Question 114 is about legislative oversight of budget execution. It assesses whether and how often a committee examined the implementation of the budget during the budget execution period (i.e., financial year) for which it was approved, and whether this resulted in an official report with findings and recommendations. This question does not apply to the ex post review of implementation following the end of the budget year as part of the audit stage, which is assessed separately. Nor does it apply to the legislature's review of the budget that it may undertake as part of the process of considering a supplemental budget during the year. In-year monitoring by the legislature will be affected by the frequency that the executive publishes In-Year Reports.

To answer "a," a committee must have examined in-year implementation of the Enacted Budget at least three times during the course of the relevant budget year and published reports with findings and recommendations. Answer "b" applies where this occurred only once or twice during the year.

Exception: If a legislature is in session only twice during the year, and it examines the implementation of the budget during both sessions, then it would be eligible for an "a" response.

Choose "c" if a committee examined in-year implementation (without regard to frequency), but did not publish any report with findings and recommendations. Answer "d" applies where no committee examined in-year implementation.

If the answer is "a" or "b," please specify the name of the committee and when it reviewed budget implementation, and provide a copy of its report(s). If the answer is "c," please specify the name of the committee and when it reviewed budget implementation.

For purposes of responding to this question, if more than one committee holds in-year reviews of the budget, use the committee that is best performing – that is, the one that examines in-year implementation the most times and that publishes a report.

Answer:

d. No, a committee did not examine in-year implementation.

Source:

The committee was informed by the Ministry of Finance regarding the in-year budget implementation, but there is no evidence regarding the examination by the committee and no reports (or other evidences) were issued by the committee.

Comment:

Also, according to art.47 letter c) of Law no.181/2014 (<http://lex.justice.md/index.php?action=view&view=doc&lang=1&id=354213>): The Government submits to the Parliament the semi-annual report on the execution of the national public budget and its components for the current budgetary year - until 15 September.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

115. Does the executive seek approval from the legislature prior to shifting funds between administrative units that receive explicit funding in the Enacted Budget, and is it legally required to do so?

GUIDELINES:

Question 115 examines whether the executive seeks approval from the legislature prior to shifting funds between administrative units, and whether it is legally required to do so.

In some countries, the executive has the power in law to adjust funding levels for specific appropriations during the execution of the budget. This question examines rules around shifting funds between administrative units (ministries, departments, or agencies) or whatever funding unit (or "vote") is specified in the Enacted Budget.

The conditions under which the executive may exercise its discretion to shift funds should be clearly defined in publicly available regulations or law. In addition, the amount of funds that the executive is allowed to transfer between administrative units should not be so excessive as to undermine the accountability of the executive to the legislature.

To answer "a," the executive is required by law or regulation to obtain prior legislative approval before shifting funds between administrative units, and it does so in practice. Answer "b" applies if the executive obtains legislative approval before shifting funds between administrative units, but is not legally required to do so. Answer "c" applies if the executive is legally required to receive legislative approval before shifting funds, but does not do so in practice. Answer "d"

applies if legislative approval is not legally required for the executive to shift funds between administrative units and the executive does not obtain legislative approval in practice. Answer "d" also applies if the executive is authorized to shift an amount considered so excessive as to undermine accountability (roughly equal to 3 percent of total budgeted expenditures). A "d" response applies if the legislature only approves the shifting of funds after it has already occurred.

In the comments, please indicate any law or regulation that provides the executive with standing authority to shift funds between administrative units and, if so, describe that authority. Similarly, legislative approval for shifting funds between administrative units typically occurs with the adoption of legislation such as a supplemental budget. But if other formal procedures for gaining approval from the legislature exist, then please provide information about that approval process.

Answer:

d. There is no law or regulation requiring the executive to obtain approval from the legislature prior to shifting funds between administrative units, and in practice the executive shifts funds between administrative units before obtaining approval from the legislature.

Source:

Law on public finance no. 181/2014, art. 60 (<http://lex.justice.md/index.php?action=view&view=doc&lang=1&id=354213>). During the fiscal year, Government can redistribute between the central authorities and between programs authority, up to 10 percent of the approved budget allocations. But, according to the guidelines answer "d" also applies if the executive is authorized to shift an amount considered so excessive as to undermine accountability (roughly equal to 3 percent of total budgeted expenditures).

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

116. Does the executive seek approval from the legislature prior to spending excess revenue (that is, amounts higher than originally anticipated) that may become available during the budget execution period, and is it legally required to do so?

GUIDELINES:

Question 116 examines whether the executive receives approval from the legislature prior to spending excess revenue, and whether it is legally required to do so. Good practice requires the legislature to approve changes in revenue or expenditure relative to the Enacted Budget. For example, if additional revenue is collected unexpectedly during the year, which often happens in oil/mineral-dependent countries, and it was not accounted for in the Enacted Budget, there should be a procedure in place to ensure that the legislature approves any proposed use of these "new" funds. If such requirements are not in place, the executive might deliberately underestimate revenue in the budget proposal it submits to the legislature, in order to have additional resources to spend at the executive's discretion, with no legislative control.

To answer "a," the executive is required by law or regulation to obtain prior legislative approval before spending any funds resulting from higher-than-expected revenues, and it does so in practice. Answer "b" applies if the executive obtains legislative approval before spending excess revenue, but is not legally required to do so. Answer "c" applies if the executive is legally required to receive legislative approval before spending excess revenue, but does not do so in practice. Answer "d" applies if prior legislative approval is not legally required for the executive to spend excess revenue and the executive does not obtain legislative approval in practice. A "d" response applies if the legislature only approves the additional spending after it has already occurred.

Typically, legislative approval of additional spending beyond what was reflected in the Enacted Budget would occur with the adoption of a supplemental budget. But other formal procedures for getting approval from the legislature in advance of it adopting the supplemental budget may exist. If that is the case, then please provide information about that approval process.

Answer:

a The executive is required by law or regulation to obtain approval from the legislature prior to spending excess revenues, and it does so in practice.

Source:

The Law on public finance no 181/2014 Art. 16, para (1) and (2) (<http://lex.justice.md/index.php?action=view&view=doc&lang=1&id=354213>). (1) The level of the budget balance is established through the law, which provide, as appropriate, sources of financing the budget deficit or how the budget surplus should be spent. (2) Any amendments to the budget balance is adopted only by law amending the budget.

Comment:

For instance, modifications provided by the law nr. 101/07.06.2018 in the budget for 2018 (<http://lex.justice.md/md/375948/>).

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: art 16. of the Law on public finances.

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

117. Does the executive seek approval from the legislature prior to reducing spending below the levels in the Enacted Budget in response to revenue shortfalls (that is, revenues lower than originally anticipated) or other reasons during the budget execution period, and is it legally required to do so?

GUIDELINES:

Question 117 examines whether the executive receives approval from the legislature prior to cutting spending below the levels in the Enacted Budget in response to revenue shortfalls or for any other reason, and whether it is legally required to do so. Good practice requires the legislature to approve changes in revenue or expenditure relative to the Enacted Budget. For example, if less revenue is collected unexpectedly during the year, the legislature should approve or reject any proposed reductions in expenditures that are implemented as a result. If such requirements are not in place, the executive might substantially change the composition of the budget at the executive's discretion, with no legislative control.

Typically, legislative approval of proposals to reduce spending below the levels reflected in the Enacted Budget would occur as part of the supplemental budget. But other formal procedures for getting approval from the legislature in advance of it adopting the supplemental budget may exist. If that is the case, then please provide information about that approval process.

To answer "a," the executive is required by law or regulation to obtain prior legislative approval before implementing spending cuts in response to revenue shortfalls or for other reasons, and it does so in practice. Answer "b" applies if the executive received legislative approval before implementing such cuts, but is not legally required to do so. Answer "c" applies if the executive is legally required to obtain legislative approval before implementing such cuts, but does not do so in practice. Answer "d" applies if legislative approval is not legally required for the executive to implement such cuts and the executive does not obtain such approval in practice. A "d" response applies if the legislature only approves the spending cuts after they have already occurred.

Answer:

a. The executive is required by law or regulation to obtain approval from the legislature prior to reducing spending below the enacted levels in response to revenue shortfalls or other reasons, and it does so in practice.

Source:

The Law on public finance no 181/2014 (<http://lex.justice.md/index.php?action=view&view=doc&lang=1&id=354213>) Art. 16, para (1) and (2): (1) The level of the budget balance is established through the law, which provide, as appropriate, sources of financing the budget deficit or budget surplus targets, (2) Any amendments to the budget balance is adopted only by law amending the budget. Also, according to Art. 61 (1) If during the year there are trends to worsening of the budget balance and / or there are needs to review spending, budget administrator launches procedure for amending the budget law accordingly.

Comment:

Over the past 2 years, changes in annual budget laws have been aimed at increasing revenue and spending.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: The provisions of the Law on public finances (art.16) demand so.

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

118. Did a committee of the legislature examine the Audit Report on the annual budget produced by the Supreme Audit Institution (SAI)?

GUIDELINES:

Question 118 is about ex post oversight following the implementation of the budget. It probes whether a committee examined the Audit Report on the annual budget produced by the Supreme Audit Institution (SAI), and whether this resulted in an official report with findings and recommendations. A key issue is how soon after the SAI releases the report does it legislature review it. This question does not apply to the legislative scrutiny of in-year implementation of the Enacted Budget during the relevant budget execution period, which is assessed separately. Also, the question is asking specifically about the SAI's annual report on the execution of the budget, not about other audit reports that the SAI may produce. (This is the Audit Report used for responding to Question 98.)

To answer "a," a legislative committee must have examined the annual Audit Report within three months of it being released by the SAI, and then published a report (or reports) with findings and recommendations. (Note that the three-month period should only take into account time when the legislature is in session.)

Answer "b" applies when the committee examines it within six months of it being released (but more than three months), and then published a report with its findings and recommendations. Choose "c" if a committee examined the annual Audit Report more than six months after it became available or it did not publish any report with findings and recommendations. Answer "d" applies where no committee examined the annual Audit Report.

If the answer is "a" or "b," please specify the name of the committee and when it reviewed the Audit Report, and provide a copy of its report(s). If the answer is "c," please specify the name of the committee and when it reviewed budget implementation. Answers "a," "b," or "c" may be selected if the Audit Report is produced by the SAI but not made publicly available.

Answer:

a. Yes, a committee examined the Audit Report on the annual budget within three months of its availability, and it published a report with findings and recommendations.

Source:

The AR on the annual budget 2017 was approved by the Court of Accounts on 28 May 2018, and the specialized committee in Parliament discussed it on 11 July 2018. Agenda: <http://www.parlament.md/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=w0RLyIMuLME%3d&tabid=84&mid=486&language=ro-RO>
Document flow page: <http://parlament.md/ProcesulLegislativ/Proiectedeactelegiative/tabid/61/LegislativId/4217/language/ro-RO/Default.aspx>
Report of the commission: <http://parlament.md/LegislationDocument.aspx?Id=37cd0596-b8bb-4725-aa25-a09a184ae4b6>

Comment:

The commission examined the AR 2017 and YER 2017 in the same meeting on 11 July 2018. Please see last paragraph on page 8 and page 9.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: The Court of Auditor's AR was examined by the specialized committee ("Comisia Economie, Buget si Finante") on 11th July 2018. (<http://www.parlament.md/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=w0RLyIMuLME%3d&tabid=84&mid=486&language=ro-RO>), the AR being approved on 28th of May 2018. The specialized committee drafted a report based on AR.

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

119. Was the process of appointing (or re-appointing) the current head of the SAI carried out in a way that ensures his or her independence?

GUIDELINES:

Question 119 concerns the appointment process of the current head of the Supreme Audit Institution (SAI). Appointment procedures vary greatly across countries, as well as across different types of SAIs. Moreover, conventions and informal practices can greatly affect the de facto independence of the head of the SAI. While these factors make it difficult to devise a single metric against which all SAIs can be assessed with regard to this particular aspect, this question focuses on whether the legislature or judiciary must appoint or approve the appointment of the head of the SAI as a way to ensure the SAI's independence from the executive. However, if the appointment is carried out in another way that nonetheless ensures the independence of the SAI head, then that approach could be also considered.

To answer "a," the legislature or judiciary must appoint (or re-appoint) the head of the SAI, or approve the recommendation of the executive, as a way that ensure his or her independence from the executive. (As noted above, alternative approaches may also be acceptable.) Choose "b" if the appointment process does not ensure the independence of the head of the SAI, e.g. the executive may appoint the head of the SAI without the final consent of the legislature or judiciary.

Irrespective of which answer you selected, provide a description of how the head of the SAI is appointed.

Answer:

a. Yes, the head of the SAI may only be appointed by the legislature or judiciary, or the legislature or judiciary must give final consent before the appointment takes effect.

Source:

The Law on Court of Accounts, nr 260/2017, Art. 17 (1) The President of the Court of Accounts shall be appointed by the Parliament for a term of five years at the proposal of the President of the Parliament, on the basis of a public competition with the vote of the majority of the elected deputies (<http://lex.justice.md/md/373596/>).

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

120. Must a branch of government other than the executive (such as the legislature or the judiciary) give final consent before the head of the Supreme Audit Institution (SAI) can be removed from office?

GUIDELINES:

Question 120 covers the manner in which the head or senior members of the SAI may be removed from office. This question draws on best practices identified in the Lima Declaration of Guidelines on Auditing Precepts (<http://internationalbudget.org/wp-content/uploads/LimaDeclaration.pdf>), including measures intended to guarantee the office's independence from the executive.

To answer "a," the head of the SAI may only be removed by the legislature or judiciary, or the legislature or judiciary must give final consent before the head of the SAI is removed. For example, the legislature or judiciary may give final consent following a certain external process, such as a criminal proceeding. So while the executive may initiate a criminal proceeding, the final consent of a member of the judiciary – or a judge – is necessary to render a verdict of wrongdoing that may lead to the removal from office of the head of the SAI. Answer "b" applies if the executive may remove the head of the SAI without the final consent of the judiciary or legislature.

Answer:

a. Yes, the head of the SAI may only be removed by the legislature or judiciary, or the legislature or judiciary must give final consent before he or she is removed.

Source:

The president and members of the Court of Accounts can be removed only by the Parliament in conditions stipulated in the Law on Court of Accounts, nr 260/2017, Art. 20. (<http://lex.justice.md/md/373596/>)

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: Law on Court of Auditors, art. 20. The head and the members of "Curtea de Conturi" can be removed by a Parliament decision that was adopted by the vote of 2/3 of the elected deputies.

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

121. Who determines the budget of the Supreme Audit Institution (SAI)?

GUIDELINES:

Question 121 asks who determines the budget of the Supreme Audit Institution (SAI). To ensure objective audits of government budgets, another important component of the SAI's independence from the executive is the extent to which the SAI's budget is determined by a body other than the executive, and whether the SAI has adequate resources to fulfill its mandate.

Answer "a" applies if the funding level is broadly consistent with the resources the SAI needs to fulfill its mandate, AND either the SAI determines its own budget and then submits it to the executive (which accepts it with little or no change) or directly to the legislature, or the budget of the SAI is determined directly by the legislature or judiciary (or some independent body). Answer "b" applies if the SAI's budget is determined by the executive (absent a recommendation from the SAI), and the funding level is broadly consistent with the resources the SAI needs to fulfill its mandate. Answer "c" applies if the legislature or judiciary (or some independent body) determines the SAI's budget, but the funding level is not consistent with the resources the SAI needs to fulfill its mandate. Answer "d" applies if the executive determines the SAI's budget, and the funding level is not consistent with the resources the SAI needs to fulfill its mandate. Please provide evidence in support of the assessment that the funding level is or is not broadly consistent with the resources the SAI needs to fulfill its mandate.

Answer:

a. The SAI determines its own budget (i.e., submits it to the executive, which accepts it with little or no change, or directly to the legislature), or the budget of the SAI is determined by the legislature or judiciary (or some independent body), and the funding level is broadly consistent with the resources the SAI needs to fulfill its mandate.

Source:

The law on Court of Accounts no 260/2017 Art. 4 (<http://lex.justice.md/md/373596/>) and law on public finance no 181/2014, Art 51(prim) (<http://lex.justice.md/index.php?action=view&view=doc&lang=1&id=354213>). The Court of Accounts determines and approve its own budget proposal, the Ministry of Finance issues an statement regarding it, and the budget proposal of the Court of Accounts is submitted (by SAI) to the Government to be included in the EBP (the Government don't have competencies to reject or modify the proposed by the SAI budget). Any disputes

regarding Court of Accounts budget are discussed in the Parliament.

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: The provisions of the Law on Court of Accounts/Auditors nr. 260/2017.

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

122. Does the Supreme Audit Institution (SAI) have the discretion in law to undertake those audits it may wish to?

GUIDELINES:

Question 122 explores the scope of the investigative powers of the Supreme Audit Institution (SAI) as prescribed in law.

Question 97 asks which of the three types of audits – financial, compliance, and performance – the SAI conducts. This question asks if the SAI is constrained by law (rather than by a lack of capacity or an inadequate budget) from undertaking any form of audit or investigating irregularities in any program or activity.

There are numerous examples of limitations. For instance, some SAIs are not permitted by their legal mandate to audit joint ventures or other public-private arrangements. Others are only allowed to undertake financial audits, precluded from conducting performance or value-for-money audits. The SAIs in some countries do not have the legal mandate to review arrangements involving oil or stabilization funds, or other types of special or extra-budgetary funds. The SAI may also not have the ability to audit commercial projects involving the public and private sector.

To answer “a,” the SAI must have full discretion in law to decide which audits to undertake. Answer “b” applies if some limitations exist, but the SAI enjoys significant discretion to undertake those audits it wishes to. Answer “c” applies if the SAI has some discretion, but significant legal limitations exist. Answer “d” applies if the SAI has no power at all to choose which audits to undertake

Consulting the Lima Declaration of Guidelines on Auditing Precepts (<http://internationalbudget.org/wp-content/uploads/LimaDeclaration.pdf>) may be useful in answering this question as its provisions serve to define the appropriate scope of a SAI’s legal mandate and jurisdiction.

Answer:

b. The SAI has significant discretion, but faces some limitations.

Source:

The Court of Accounts has full discretion to decide on the audit program, but with exception on the corporations with less than 50% of public share in the statutory capital. Law on Court of Accounts no 260/2017, Art. 32, (5). (<http://lex.justice.md/md/373596/>)

Comment:

Beyond mentioned limitations regarding the mandate of the audit, Court of Accounts has full discretion to decide which audits to undertake. Law on Court of Accounts no 260/2017, Art. 9. (<http://lex.justice.md/md/373596/>)

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: The Court of Accounts is yet to rule

123. Are the audit processes of the Supreme Audit Institution (SAI) reviewed by an independent agency?

GUIDELINES:

Question 123 assesses whether and to what extent the audit processes of the Supreme Audit Institution (SAI) are subject to review by an independent agency. The latter could be a peer SAI, an international organization, an academic institution with relevant expertise, or an independent domestic agency with quality assurance functions in the area of financial reporting.

To answer “a,” an independent agency must conduct and publish a review of the audit processes of the SAI on an annual basis. Answer “b” applies if a review was carried out within the past five years, and published, but it is not conducted annually, but. Choose answer “c” if the SAI has an internal unit that reviews the

audit processes of the SAI on a regular basis, but an independent agency does not conduct such a review. Answer "d" applies if the audit processes of the SAI are reviewed neither by an independent agency nor by a unit within the SAI.

If the answer is either "a" or "b," please specify the name of the independent agency and when last it conducted such a review, and provide a copy of the published report. If the answer is "c," please specify the name of the unit within the SAI that is tasked with conducting such reviews.

Answer:

c. No, but a unit within the SAI conducts a review of the audit processes of the SAI on a regular basis.

Source:

There is a methodological unit (General Directorate on planning, methodology, quality control and training "Direcția generală planificare, metodologie, controlul calității și instruire profesională (DG PMCCIP)") within the Court of Accounts that conducts a review of the audit processes. <http://ccrm.md/structura-curtii-de-conturi-a-republicii-moldova-1-27>

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: The Court of Accounts is yet to rule

124. In the past 12 months, how frequently did the head or a senior staff member of the Supreme Audit Institution (SAI) take part and testify in hearings of a committee of the legislature?

GUIDELINES:

Question 124 concerns the interaction between two important oversight actors and assesses how frequently the Supreme Audit Institution (SAI) made high-level inputs to the work of legislative committees. Many SAIs interact with the legislature in some form, but the nature and intensity of the interaction varies. This question probes this aspect by asking, with reference to the past 12 months, how frequently the head or a senior staff member of the SAI took part and testified in hearings of a committee of the legislature. The intent is to assess the extent to which the SAI representative in question was not only present at a meeting of a legislative committee, but was an active participant (as opposed to a passive observer, serving only as a resource when called upon). You can refer to official records of legislative committees, websites and annual reports of the SAI, press releases and media coverage, for example. Choose answer "a" if this occurred five times or more; "b" for three times or more, but less than five times; "c" for once or twice, and "d" for never.

Answer:

a. Frequently (i.e., five times or more).

Source:

The head and a senior staff member of Court of Accounts took part and testify in hearings of the specialized committee 10 times. Information confirmed by the committee of Economy, Budget and Finance

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: In 2018, the Court of Accounts representatives participated at 10 meetings of Parliament committees and transmitted 65 reports to the Parliament and its specialized committees. The CA annual activity report, p. 36. (<http://www.ccrm.md/storage/upload/reports/postari/175/pdf/d6d9b7c4a7696aec7641caa2816285e3.pdf>)

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

125. Does the executive use participation mechanisms through which the public can provide input during the formulation of the annual budget (prior to the budget being tabled in parliament)?

GUIDELINES:

This question reflects the GIFT principles on "Inclusiveness" and "Timeliness" and assesses the extent to which the participation mechanism(s) used by the executive are truly interactive and involve a two-way conversation between citizens and the executive.

The drafting of this question and its answers are partially drawn from the IAP2 Spectrum of Public Participation, in particular with regards to the concepts of "involvement" (option "a" in the responses) and "consultation" (option "b"). See:

https://cdn.ymaws.com/www.iap2.org/resource/resmgr/foundations_course/IAP2_P2_Spectrum_FINAL.pdf.

Please consider only participation mechanisms that the Ministry of Finance, lead budget agency, or central coordinating agency designated by the government to implement participation mechanisms ("the executive") is currently using to allow the public to participate in the formulation of the annual budget, including annual pre-budget discussions. Participation mechanisms used only by line ministries should not be used to answer this question. If there is more than one mechanism used by the executive, please select the deepest or most interactive mechanism that reflects the government's efforts to incorporate citizens' input into the formulation of the annual budget. The participation mechanisms can involve a range of different issues, such as spending and tax policy, funding and revenue levels, and macro-fiscal planning.

To answer "a," the executive must use open participation mechanisms that involve the public in the formulation of the annual budget. This means that a public process is in place whereby CSOs and/or individual members of the public and government officials interact, and have the opportunity to express their opinions to each other in what can be considered a public dialogue between them (i.e., in-person and online discussion forums). Additionally, the mechanism should be open to any CSO and/or individual members of the public who wish to participate. By selecting this answer, the researcher must present evidence to support the presence of a public dialogue among citizens and government officials. Examples include public meetings and online deliberative exchanges.

Answer "b" applies if an open consultation mechanism is in place whereby members of the public (i.e., individuals and/or CSOs as well as academics, independent experts, policy think tanks, and business organizations) can provide their input in the formulation of the annual budget. This answer applies if the government is using a mechanism that is structured and well established, and not ad-hoc. The researcher must present evidence to support the presence of consultative processes through which the executive seeks out inputs from citizens. Examples include surveys, focus groups, report cards, published policy consultation exercises, and online platforms that government officials actively manage to solicit inputs.

Answer "c" applies if the executive has established a mechanism or mechanisms to allow citizens to participate in the budget formulation phase, but:

1) The mechanisms are not structured and happen only on ad-hoc basis, or not regularly.

and/or

2) The executive consults with and/or interacts with, citizens, but there is discretion in who is allowed to participate, and the executive determines fully or partially such selection process by inviting specific groups (for example by making an open call but just to experts from a particular sector, or naming specific organizations). While it is not possible for all citizens and/or CSOs to participate in this or other phases of the budget process, options "a" and "b" apply if the government does not exercise any discretion in determining who is allowed to participate. While there is likely going to be self-selection, it is important that the selection is not made by the executive.

In cases where there is discretion in who is allowed to participate, to select answer choice "c", there should be some sort of public record (held in public, minutes of meetings released to public) so that the all CSOs and individual members of the public can have knowledge of the meeting, who participated, and what was discussed.

Examples of mechanisms that might qualify as a "c" response include hotlines, Facebook announcements, and one-off meetings with NGOs in which there is a public record.

The researcher must present evidence to support selection of a "c" response.

Answer "d" applies if the requirements for a "c" response or above are not met or if the executive does not use public participation mechanisms during the budget formulation stage.

Answer:

c. Yes, the executive uses participation mechanisms during the budget formulation phase, but either these mechanisms capture only some ad-hoc views, or the executive invites specific individuals or groups for budget discussions (participation is not, in practice, open to everyone).

Source:

The Ministry of Finance (and Government) has the mechanisms which can be used for participation, but did not use them in the process of elaboration of the EBP 2019. Ministry of Finance uses these mechanisms for all other decision making processes (<http://mf.gov.md/ro/transparen%C8%9Ba-decisional%C4%83/procesul-decisional>). But, in the process of the elaboration of the Mid Term Budget Framework 2019-2021 (PBS 2019), Ministry of Finance did not publish for public consultations draft document. Also, the draft of EBP 2019 was published for consultations on 08.11.2018 (<http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/proiectul-hot%C4%83r%C3%AErii-guvernului-privind-aprobarea-proiectului-legii-bugetului-de-stat-0>), but in the same day was approved by the Government (<http://lex.justice.md/index.php?action=view&view=doc&lang=1&id=377991>).

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Disagree

Suggested Answer:

c. Yes, the executive uses participation mechanisms during the budget formulation phase, but either these mechanisms capture only some ad-hoc views, or the executive invites specific individuals or groups for budget discussions (participation is not, in practice, open to everyone).

Comments: Suggested answer c. The draft law on the state budget 2019 was examined AND SUPPORTED by the members of the National Commission for collective consultations and negotiations. <http://sindicat.md/proiectul-legii-bugetului-de-stat-pentru-anul-2019-este-sustinut-de-membrii-cncnc-si-urmeaza-a-fi-inaintat-spre-approbare-guvernului-republicii-moldova/>

Researcher Response

Agree with Government proposed answer. The answer is c.

IBP Comment

Note that consultations took place on November 7, 2018, and the EBP was submitted to parliament 5 days later on November 13.

126. With regard to the mechanism identified in question 125, does the executive take concrete steps to include vulnerable and under-represented parts of the population in the formulation of the annual budget?

GUIDELINES:

This question reflects the GIFT principle of "Inclusiveness", and examines the executive's effort to actively reach out to citizens who are from socially vulnerable groups and/or underrepresented in national processes. The emphasis here is on the executive's efforts to seek out the views of members of the public from socially vulnerable groups and/or who are underrepresented in the process.

To answer "a," the executive must actively seek out individuals from vulnerable and underrepresented communities and/or civil society organizations representing vulnerable and underrepresented individuals and communities. The researcher must provide evidence to show the government's efforts and actions. The researcher must speak with the relevant government official(s), and subsequently double check with an alternative source, such as representatives of vulnerable/underrepresented groups.

Answer "b" applies if the executive does not take concrete steps to incorporate vulnerable/underrepresented individuals, or organizations representing them, into participation mechanisms or if the executive does not use public participation mechanisms during the budget formulation stage.

Answer:

b. The requirements for an "a" response are not met.

Source:

No evidences (public events, press releases or other information) have been identified that demonstrate concrete steps to include representatives of vulnerable in the budget elaboration process.

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

127. During the budget formulation stage, which of the following key topics does the executive's engagement with citizens cover?

For the purpose of this question, key topics are considered to be:

1. Macroeconomic issues
2. Revenue forecasts, policies, and administration
3. Social spending policies
4. Deficit and debt levels
5. Public investment projects
6. Public services

GUIDELINES:

This question reflects the GIFT principles of "Transparency" and "Timeliness". Please consider all of the mechanisms currently used by the executive to promote public participation during the formulation of the annual budget.

Please note that while the public engagement can/may cover other topics -- and for this reason the other questions assessing the executive's engagement with the public during budget formulation can be answered on the basis of engagement on topics other than the six listed above -- for the purpose of answering this

question, "key topics" are considered to be only the ones listed above. If the executive's engagement with the public covers topics other than the six listed above, please specify these topics in the comments.

Note also that this question assesses only the coverage of public engagement (i.e., "what issues is the public invited to engage on?") and issues related to the depth of engagement or selectivity of engaged are not dealt with by this question.

Answer "d" applies if requirements for a "c" response or above are not met or if the executive does not use public participation mechanisms during the budget formulation stage.

Answer:

c. The executive's engagement with citizens covers at least one (but less than three) of the above-mentioned topics.

Source:

No evidences have been identified that demonstrate the involvement of citizens and/or their representatives in the discussions of mentioned topics.

Comment:

One of the most discussed topic in previous years, - the tax policy was approved by the Parliament as the parliamentary initiative (Law 178/2018 <http://lex.justice.md/md/376849/>).

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

IBP Comment

To clarify in regards to the public participation mechanism noted in Question 125, it looks like there was some discussion of healthcare & health insurance (social spending policies). The answer has been revised up to "c".

128. Does the executive use participation mechanisms through which the public can provide input in monitoring the implementation of the annual budget?

GUIDELINES:

This question reflects the GIFT principles on "Inclusiveness" and "Timeliness" and assesses the extent to which the participation mechanism(s) used by the executive are truly interactive and involve a two-way conversation between citizens and the executive.

The drafting of this question and its answers are partially drawn from the IAP2 Spectrum of Public Participation, in particular with regards to the concepts of "involvement" (option "a" in the responses) and "consultation" (option "b"). See:

https://cdn.ymaws.com/www.iap2.org/resource/resmgr/foundations_course/IAP2_P2_Spectrum_FINAL.pdf.

Please consider only participation mechanisms that the Ministry of Finance, lead budget agency, or central coordinating agency designated by the government to implement participation mechanisms ("the executive") is currently using to allow the public to participate in monitoring the implementation of the annual budget. If the executive has designated a central coordinating agency to implement participation mechanisms throughout the national budget process, researchers may consider these mechanisms. Participation mechanisms used only by line ministries should not be used to answer this question. If there is more than one mechanism used by the executive, please select the deepest or most interactive mechanism that reflects the government's efforts to incorporate citizens' input into the implementation of the annual budget. The participation mechanisms can involve a range of different issues, such as revenue administration, public service delivery, public investment project implementation, including procurement, and the administration of social transfer schemes.

To answer "a," the executive must use open participation mechanisms that involve the public in the implementation of the annual budget. This means that a public process is in place whereby CSOs and/or individual members of the public and government officials interact, and have the opportunity to express their opinions to each other in what can be considered a public dialogue between them (i.e., in-person and online discussion forums). Additionally, the mechanism should be open to any CSO and/or individual members of the public who wish to participate. By selecting this answer, the researcher must present evidence to support the presence of a public dialogue among citizens and government official. Examples include public meetings, online, deliberative exchanges, procurement complaint mechanisms, and social monitoring and dialogue.

Answer "b" applies if an open consultation mechanism is in place whereby members of the public (i.e., individuals and/or CSOs as well as academics, independent experts, policy think tanks, and business organizations) can provide their input on the implementation of the annual budget. This answer applies if the government is using a mechanism that is structured and well established, and not ad-hoc. The researcher must present evidence to support the presence of consultative processes through which the executive seeks out inputs from citizens. Examples include public hearings, surveys, focus groups, report cards, and online platforms that government officials actively manage to solicit inputs.

Answer "c" applies if the executive has established a mechanism or mechanisms to allow citizens to provide input on budget implementation, but:

1) *The mechanisms are not structured, happen only on ad-hoc basis, or not regularly.*

and/or

2) The executive consults with and/or interacts with, citizens, but there is discretion in who is allowed to participate, and the executive determines fully or partially such selection process by inviting specific groups (for example by making an open call but just to experts from a particular sector, or naming specific organizations). While it is not possible for all citizens and/or CSOs to participate in this or other phases of the budget process, options "a" and "b" apply if the government does not exercise any discretion in determining who is allowed to participate. While there is likely going to be self-selection, it is important that the selection is not made by the executive.

In cases where there is discretion in who is allowed to participate, to select answer choice "c", the researcher must have evidence that the government is holding participation mechanisms that have some sort of public record (held in public, minutes of meetings released to public) so that all CSOs and members of the public can have knowledge of the meeting, who participated, and what was discussed.

Examples include hotlines, Facebook announcements, one-off meetings with NGOs in which there is a public record.

The researcher must present evidence to support selection of a "c" response.

Answer "d" applies if the requirements for a "c" response or above are not met or if the executive does not use public participation mechanisms during the budget implementation stage.

Answer:

d. The requirements for a "c" response or above are not met.

Source:

No public participation mechanisms were identified for the implementation stage.

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

129. With regard to the mechanism identified in question 128, does the executive take concrete steps to receive input from vulnerable and underrepresented parts of the population on the implementation of the annual budget?

GUIDELINES:

This question reflects the GIFT principle of "Inclusiveness", and examines the executive's effort to actively reach out to citizens who are from socially vulnerable groups and/or underrepresented in national processes. The emphasis here is on national government's efforts to obtain input from members of the public who are from socially vulnerable groups and/or underrepresented in national processes during the implementation of the annual budget.

To answer "a," the executive must actively seek out individuals from vulnerable and underrepresented community and/or civil society organizations representing vulnerable and underrepresented individuals and communities. The researcher must provide evidence to show the government's efforts and actions. The researcher must speak with the relevant government official(s), and subsequently double check with an alternative source, such as representatives from vulnerable/underrepresented groups.

Answer "b" applies if the national executive does not take concrete steps to incorporate vulnerable/underrepresented individuals, or organizations representing them, into participation mechanisms or if the executive does not use public participation mechanisms during the budget implementation stage.

Answer:

b. The requirements for an "a" response are not met.

Source:

No public participation mechanisms were identified for the implementation stage.

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

130. During the implementation of the annual budget, which of the following topics does the executive's engagement with citizens cover?

For the purpose of this question, key topics are considered to be:

1. Changes in macroeconomic circumstances
2. Delivery of public services
3. Collection of revenue
4. Implementation of social spending
5. Changes in deficit and debt levels
6. Implementation of public investment projects

GUIDELINES:

This question reflects the GIFT principles of "Transparency" and "Timeliness". Please consider all of the mechanisms currently used by the executive to promote public participation during the implementation of the annual budget.

Please note that while the public engagement can/may cover other topics -- and for this reason the other questions assessing the executive's engagement with the public during budget implementation can be answered on the basis of engagement on topics other than the six listed above -- for the purpose of answering this question, "key topics" are considered to be ONLY the ones listed above. If the executive's engagement with the public covers topics other than the six listed above, please specify these topics in the comments.

Note also that this question assesses only the coverage of public engagement (i.e., "what issues is the public invited to engage on?") and issues related to the depth of engagement or selectivity of engaged are not dealt with by this question.

Answer "d" applies if requirements for a "c" response or above are not met or if the executive does not use public participation mechanisms during the budget implementation stage.

Answer:

d. The requirements for a "c" response or above are not met.

Source:

No public participation mechanisms were identified for the implementation stage.

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

131. When the executive engages with the public, does it provide comprehensive prior information on the process of the engagement, so that the public can participate in an informed manner?

Comprehensive information must include at least three of the following elements:

1. Purpose
2. Scope
3. Constraints
4. Intended outcomes
5. Process and timeline

GUIDELINES:

This question relates to the GIFT principle of "Openness," and addresses whether the executive provides relevant information on the process of the engagement before public participation takes place, in order to help citizens engage effectively. The question addresses whether the "rules of the public engagement" are clearly spelled out, in advance and in detail, so that those members of the public who want to engage know how to do so, in terms of when they can do so, what they are expected to provide input on, by when, to whom, etc. This question does not cover the substance of the engagement, which is covered by questions 127 and 130.

Non-comprehensive information means that the government provides information that includes at least one but less than three of the elements listed above.

Purpose refers to a brief explanation of why the public engagement is being undertaken, including the executive's objectives for its engagement with the public.

Scope refers to what is within the subject matter of the engagement as well as what is outside the subject matter of the engagement. For example, the scope may include how a current policy is administered but exclude the specifics of the policies themselves.

Constraints refers to whether there are there any explicit limitations on the engagement. An example of a constraint could be that any policy changes must not cost (or forgo revenue) more than a specific amount or have no net fiscal cost.

Intended outcomes refers to what the executive hopes to achieve as a result of the engagement. Examples of intended outcomes could be revising a policy to better reflect citizen or service-user views or to improve the way in which a particular program is administered.

Process refers to the methods by which the public engagement will take place and the discrete steps in the process. For example, the process may simply be a one-off Internet-based consultation, with a summary published of public inputs and the official response. The process may involve simultaneous or overlapping steps, and may be conducted in one round or in two or more rounds of engagement.

Timeline refers to the specific dates on which the discrete steps in the process will take place, or during which they will be completed, and clear start and end dates for the overall engagement.

Answer "d" applies if the executive does not use public participation mechanisms during the budget implementation or formulation stage.

Answer:

d. The requirements for a "c" response or above are not met.

Source:

No public participation mechanisms were identified for the budgetary documents.

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

IBP Comment

To clarify in regards to the public participation mechanism noted in Question 125, we have no evidence that the executive provided the public with comprehensive prior information on the process of the engagement. We agree with the answer of "d" here.

132. With regard to the mechanism identified in question 125, does the executive provide the public with feedback on how citizens' inputs have been used in the formulation of the annual budget?

GUIDELINES:

This question reflects the GIFT principles of "Transparency" and "Sustainability", and examines the extent to which the executive provides information to citizens on which public inputs were received, which ones are used in the formulation of the annual budget, and how/why.

By "written record", we mean a document that is produced and released by the lead budget agency (Ministry of Finance, Treasury) that has set up and holds the participation activity.

Answer "a" applies when the executive provides a written document with:

- *The inputs (e.g., a written transcript) received from the public and*
- *A detailed report on how the inputs were used or not used (such report should include information on which inputs were used or not used, why, and how)*

Answer "b" applies when the executive provides a written document that includes:

- *The inputs (e.g., a written transcript) received from the public and*
- *A not-so-detailed report, such as a document with a few paragraphs, on how public inputs were used or not used. This document only gives a general idea on how those inputs were used or not used.*

Answer "c" applies when the executive provides a written document that includes:

- *The inputs (e.g., a written transcript) received from the public or*
- *A report (being it detailed or not-so-detailed) on how public inputs have been used or not used.*

Answer "d" applies if the requirements for a "c" response or above are not met or if the executive does not use public participation mechanisms during the budget formulation stage.

Answer:

d. The requirements for a "c" response or above are not met.

Source:

The Ministry of Finance has in place some mechanisms that can be used for citizen engagement, but they were not used for the elaboration EBP 2019. The Ministry of Finance did not publish for public consultations the draft of the Mid Term Budget Framework 2019-2021 (PBS 2019) and the draft of EBP 2019 was published for consultations on 08.11.2018 (<http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/proiectul-hot%C4%83r%C3%A0Erii-guvernului-privind-aprobarea-proiectului-legii-bugetului-de-stat-0>), but in the same day was approved by the Government (<http://lex.justice.md/index.php?action=view&view=doc&lang=1&id=377991>).

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

IBP Comment

To clarify in regards to the public participation mechanism noted in Question 125, we have no evidence that the executive provided the public with feedback on how citizens' inputs were used in the formulation of the budget. We agree with the answer of "d" here.

133. With regard to the mechanism identified in question 128, does the executive provide the public with information on how citizens' inputs have been used to assist in monitoring the implementation of the annual budget?

GUIDELINES:

This question reflects the GIFT principles of "Transparency" and "Sustainability", and examines the extent to which the executive provides information to citizens on which public inputs were received during the implementation of the annual budget, which ones are take into account to improve budget monitoring, and how/why.

By "written record", we mean a document that is produced and released by the lead budget agency (Ministry of Finance, Treasury) that has set up and holds the participation activity.

Answer "a" applies when the executive provides a written document with:

- *The inputs (e.g., a written transcript) received from the public and*
- *A detailed report on how the inputs were used or not used (such report should include information on which inputs were used or not used, why, and how)*

Answer "b" applies when the executive provides a written document that includes:

- *The inputs received (e.g., a written transcript) from the public and*
- *A not-so-detailed report, such as a document with a few paragraphs, on how public inputs were used or not used. This document only gives a general idea on how those inputs were or were not taken into account by the executive during budget monitoring.*

Answer "c" applies when the executive provides a written document that includes:

- *The inputs (e.g., a written transcript) received from the public or*
- *A report (being it detailed or not-so-detailed) on how public inputs have been used or not used.*

Answer "d" applies if the requirements for a "c" response or above are not met or if the executive does not use public participation mechanisms during the budget implementation stage.

Answer:

d. The requirements for a "c" response or above are not met.

Source:

No public participation mechanisms were identified for the implementation stage

Comment:

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

134. Are participation mechanisms incorporated into the timetable for formulating the Executive's Budget Proposal?

GUIDELINES:

This question reflects the GIFT principles on "Sustainability," "Timeliness" and "Complementarity" and addresses whether the executive is able to link participation mechanisms to the administrative processes that are used to create the annual budget.

Please note that "timetable" refers to a document setting deadlines for submissions from other government entities, such as line ministries or subnational government, to the Ministry of Finance or whatever central government agency is in charge of coordinating the budget's formulation. This document is sometimes referred to as the budget calendar and is the same document referenced in Question 53.

Answer "a" applies if the national executive establishes a clear set of guidelines that enable citizens and civil servants to understand when participation mechanisms should be used to enable citizen inputs to be incorporated into the annual budget. For answer choice "a", the timetable must be available to the public prior to the budget preparation process beginning.

Answer "b" applies if the executive does not establish a clear set of guidelines that enable citizens and civil servants to understand when participation mechanisms should be used to enable citizen inputs to be incorporated into the annual budget or if the executive does not use public participation mechanisms during the budget formulation or implementation stage.

Answer:

b. The requirements for an "a" response are not met.

Source:

Ministry of Finance doesn't incorporate participation into its timetable for formulating the EBP 2019. At the same time, according to the law no. 239/2008 regarding transparency in decision making process (<http://lex.justice.md/md/329849/>, art 11, paragraph 2 second) "the announcement regarding the organization of public consultations and related materials are made public at least 15 days before finalizing the draft decision". But, the provisions of this law are not sufficient for ensuring an appropriate participation of the citizens in the EBP elaboration process. Also, regarding to budgetary documents Government does not meet these requirements.

Comment:

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

135. Do one or more line ministries use participation mechanisms through which the public can provide input during the formulation or implementation of the annual budget?

GUIDELINES

While questions 125 – 135 focus only on participation mechanisms that the Ministry of Finance, lead budget agency, or central coordinating agency currently use to allow the public to participate in the national budget process, this question asks about participation mechanisms used by line ministries to allow the public to participate in national budget processes. Thus, participation mechanisms used by the Ministry of Finance, lead budget agency, or central coordinating agency should not be used to answer this question. If there is more than one mechanism used by a line ministry or if multiple line ministries use participation mechanisms, please select the deepest or most interactive mechanism that reflects the government's efforts to incorporate citizens' input into the formulation and/or implementation of the annual budget.

This question reflects the GIFT principles on "Inclusiveness" and "Timeliness" and assesses the extent to which the participation mechanism(s) used by the

executive are truly interactive and involve a two-way conversation between citizens and the executive.

The drafting of this question and its answers are partially drawn from the IAP2 Spectrum of Public Participation, in particular with regards to the concepts of "involvement" (option "a" in the responses) and "consultation" (option "b"). See:

https://cdn.ymaws.com/www.iap2.org/resource/resmgr/foundations_course/IAP2_P2_Spectrum_FINAL.pdf

To answer "a," a line ministry must use open participation mechanisms that involve the public in the formulation or implementation of the annual budget. This means that a public process is in place whereby CSOs and/or individual members of the public and government officials interact, and have the opportunity to express their opinions to each other in what can be considered a public dialogue between them (i.e., in-person and online discussion forums). Additionally, the mechanism should be open to any CSO and/or individual members of the public who wish to participate. By selecting this answer, the researcher must present evidence to support the presence of a public dialogue among citizens and government official. Examples include public meetings and online deliberative exchanges.

Answer "b" applies if an open consultation mechanism is in place whereby members of the public (i.e., individuals and/or CSOs as well as academics, independent experts, policy think tanks, and business organizations) can provide their input in the formulation or implementation of the annual budget. This answer applies if the government is using a mechanism that is structured and well established, and not ad-hoc. The researcher must present evidence to support the presence of consultative processes through which a line ministry seeks out inputs from citizens. Examples include surveys, focus groups, report cards, published policy consultation exercises, and online platforms that government officials actively manage to solicit inputs.

Answer "c" applies if a line ministry has established a mechanism or mechanisms to allow citizens to participate in the budget formulation phase, but:

1) The mechanisms are not structured and happen only on ad-hoc basis, or not regularly.

and/or

2) A line ministry consults with and/or interacts with, citizens, but there is discretion in who is allowed to participate, and the line ministry determines fully or partially such selection process by inviting specific groups (for example by making an open call but just to experts from a particular sector, or naming specific organizations). While it is not possible for all citizens and/or CSOs to participate in this or other phases of the budget process, options "a" and "b" apply if the government does not exercise any discretion in determining who is allowed to participate. While there is likely going to be self-selection, it is important that the selection is not made by the executive.

In cases where there is discretion in who is allowed to participate, to select answer choice "c", there should be some sort of public record (held in public, minutes of meetings released to public) so that the all CSOs and individual members of the public can have knowledge of the meeting, who participated, and what was discussed.

The researcher must present evidence to support selection of a "c" response.

Examples of mechanisms that might qualify as a "c" response include hotlines, Facebook announcements, and one-off meetings with NGOs in which there is a public record.

Answer:

d. The requirements for a "c" response or above are not met.

Source:

No evidence has been identified of the use by at least one line ministry of participation mechanisms for the formulation of budget documents. The Ministry of Finance published EBP-2019 at <http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/proiectul-hot%C4%83r%C3%Aerii-guvernului-privind-aprobarea-proiectului-legii-bugetului-de-stat-0>

Comment:

At the same time, ministries use public events and other participation mechanisms in the process of elaboration of other policy documents.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

136. Does the legislature or the relevant legislative committee(s) hold public hearings and/or use other participation mechanisms through which the public can provide input during its public deliberations on the formulation of the annual budget (pre-budget and/or approval stages)?

GUIDELINES:

This question reflects the GIFT principle on "Sustainability," "Transparency," and "Complementarity" and assesses the extent to which the participation mechanism(s) used by the legislative are interactive and involve a two-way conversation between citizens and the legislature, rather than being limited to allowing the public to attend or hear public budget deliberations.

Please consider participation mechanisms that the legislature (both in its whole institution or its relevant budget/public accounts/finance committees) has put

in place and is using to allow the public to participate in their deliberations on the annual budget. This includes deliberations during the pre-budget phase (i.e., when the executive is still in the process of formulating the draft budget) and the budget discussions after the budget has been tabled to parliament and before it is approved. In the comment box, please specify during which stage of the budget cycle the legislature has put in place a public participation mechanism.

Mechanisms through which members of the public reach out to individual Members of Parliament as opposed to the legislature (both in its whole institution or its relevant budget/public accounts/finance committees) or unofficial hearings organized by a subset of committee members should not be considered in answering this question.

If there is more than one mechanism, please select a mechanism that best shows/reflects the legislature's efforts to incorporate citizens into the formulation of the annual budget. The participation mechanisms can involve a range of different issues, such as revenues, policy selection, and macro-fiscal planning (please note that the issue of coverage is covered in a subsequent question).

To answer "a," the legislature must hold public hearings where citizens are allowed to testify. This answer applies only if the legislature does not exercise discretion in determining which citizens and/or CSOs can testify (for example, participation takes place on a first-come-first-served basis).

Answer "b" should be selected if the following applies:

- *The legislature holds public hearings on the budget;*
- *Testimony is not allowed from members of the public or CSOs; but*
- *There are other means used by the legislature to receive and collect views from citizens and CSOs on the budget, and the legislature does not exercise discretion in determining which citizens and/or CSOs can provide input. The researcher must provide evidence to support the presence of those alternative processes through which the legislature seeks inputs from citizens. For example, there should be a public record indicating that views from citizens and the public were sought.*

Answer "c" should be selected if the following applies:

- *The legislature holds public hearings on the budget;*
- *Testimony is not allowed from members of the public or CSOs;*
- *No other means are used by the legislature to receive and collect views/input from citizens and CSOs on the budget, but*
- *The legislature invites a few individuals/groups to provide input (through public hearings or elsewhere)*

Answer "d" applies if the requirements for a "c" response or above are not met or if the legislature does not use public participation mechanisms during its deliberations on the annual budget

Answer:

d. The requirements for a "c" response or above are not met.

Source:

The meetings of the Economy, Budget and Finance Commission are public and the agenda of the Commission meetings with all subjects to be examined is published on Parliament's site, and non-governmental organizations, media and other interested institutions can attend the Commission's meetings (<http://parlament.md/StructuraParlamentului/Comisiipermanente/tabid/84/CommissionId/1/actId/6/language/ro-RO/Default.aspx>). But, this meeting was not a public hearing. This was not a meeting in which the Commission consult the opinion of citizens, associations or other interested parties, but where the executive authorities presented EBP 2019 to the members of the Commission (<https://www.privesc.eu/arhiva/84440/Sedinta-Comisiei-economie-buget-si-finante-din-21-noiembrie-2018>).

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

137. During the legislative deliberations on the annual budget (pre-budget or approval stages), which of the following key topics does the legislature's (or relevant legislative budget committee) engagement with citizens cover?

For the purpose of this question, key topics are considered to be:

1. Macroeconomic issues
2. Revenue forecasts, policies, and administration
3. Social spending policies
4. Deficit and debt levels
5. Public investment projects
6. Public services

GUIDELINES:

This question reflects the GIFT principles of "Transparency" and "Timeliness". Please consider the range of mechanisms currently used by the legislature to promote public participation during legislative deliberations on the annual budget.

Please note that while the public engagement can/may cover other topics, for the purpose of answering this question, "key topics" are considered to be only the ones listed above. If the legislature's engagement with the public covers topics other than the six listed above, please specify these topics in the comments.

Note also that this question assesses only the coverage of public engagement (i.e., "what issues is the public invited to engage on?") and issues related to the depth of engagement or selectivity of engaged are not dealt with by this question.

Answer "d" applies if the requirements for a "c" response or above are not met or if the legislature does not use public participation mechanisms during its deliberations on the annual budget.

Answer:

d. The requirements for a "c" response or above are not met.

Source:

There is no evidence that Legislative seeks feedback for any of the above mentioned topics. <http://www.parlament.md/Home/tabid/37/language/ro-RO/Default.aspx>

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

138. Does the legislature provide feedback to the public on how citizens' inputs have been used during legislative deliberations on the annual budget?

GUIDELINES:

This question reflects the GIFT principles of "Transparency" and "Sustainability", and examines the extent to which the legislature provides information to citizens on which public inputs were received and how inputs were used during legislative deliberations (please note that these deliberations can refer to the pre-budget and approval phases). By "written record" in this question, we mean a document that is produced and released by the legislature.

Answer "a" applies when the legislature provides a written document with:

- *The inputs received from the public (e.g., a written transcript) and*
- *A detailed report on how the inputs were used or not used (such report should include information on which inputs were used or not used, why, and how).*

Answer "b" applies when the legislature provides a written document that includes:

- *The inputs received from the public (e.g., a written transcript) and*
- *A not-so-detailed report on how public inputs were used or not used. This document only gives a general idea on how those inputs were used or not used in legislative deliberations on the annual budget (please note that these deliberations refer to the pre-budget and approval phases).*

Answer "c" applies when the legislature provides a written document that includes:

- *The inputs received from the public (e.g., a written transcript) or*
- *A report (being it detailed or not-so-detailed) on how public inputs have been used or not used.*

Answer "d" applies if the requirements for a "c" response or above are not met or if the legislature does not use public participation mechanisms during its deliberations on the annual budget.

Answer:

d. The requirements for a "c" response or above are not met.

Source:

There is no evidence that legislative or Economy, budget and finance committee provided written record of the inputs from the public. The economy, budget and finance commission provided written records of the inputs, but all inputs were from legislative members and authorities.

(<http://parlament.md/LegislationDocument.aspx?id=b2858f05-9f2d-4274-8504-5aeb7eb64b7c>)

Comment:

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

139. Does the legislature hold public hearings and/or use other participation mechanisms through which the public can provide input during its public deliberations on the Audit Report?

GUIDELINES:

This question reflects the GIFT principle on "Sustainability," "Transparency," and "Complementarity" and assesses the extent to which the participation mechanism(s) used by the legislature are interactive and involve a two-way conversation between citizens and the legislature, rather than being limited to allowing the public to attend or hear public budget deliberations.

A key constitutional role of the legislature in almost all countries is to oversee the government's management of public resources. While the Supreme Audit Institution is responsible for checking the government's accounts and publishing the outcome of their audits, for accountability purposes it is essential that the legislature reviews and scrutinizes those reports, and checks on whether the executive is taking the appropriate corrective actions based on the Supreme Audit Institution's recommendations.

Holding public hearings to review audit findings allows the public to learn more about how the government has managed its resources for the budget years that have ended, and demand accountability in case of mismanagement and irregularities. Reviewing and discussing those reports in public is therefore a key responsibility of a legislature.

Please note that by "Audit Report" we refer to the same audit report assessed in the transparency section of this Survey, i.e., one of the eight key budget documents that all governments (in this case, the Supreme Audit Institution) must produce, according to best practice.

Please consider participation mechanisms that the legislature (both in its whole institution or its relevant budget/public accounts/finance committees) have put in place and using to allow the public to participate in their deliberations on the Audit Report.

Mechanisms through which members of the public reach out to individual members of parliament as opposed to the legislature (both in its whole institution or its relevant budget/public accounts/finance committees) or unofficial hearings organized by a subset of committee members should not be considered in answering this question.

To answer "a," the national legislature must hold public hearings where citizens are allowed to testify. This answer applies only if the legislature does not exercise discretion in determining which citizens and/or CSOs can testify (for example, participation takes place on a first-come-first-served basis).

Answer "b" should be selected if the following applies:

- *The legislature holds public hearings on the budget;*
- *No testimony is allowed from the public; BUT*
- *There are other means used by the legislature to receive and collect views from citizens and CSOs on the budget, and the legislature does not exercise discretion in determining which citizens and/or CSOs can provide input. The researcher must provide evidence to support the presence of those alternative processes through which the legislature seeks inputs from citizens. For example, there should be a public record indicating that views from citizens and the public were sought.*

Answer "c" should be selected if the following applies:

- *The legislature holds public hearings on the budget;*
- *No testimony is allowed from the public;*
- *No other means are used by the legislature to receive and collect views/input from citizens and CSOs on the budget, BUT*
- *The legislature invites a few individuals/groups to provide input (through public hearings or elsewhere)*

Answer "d" applies if the requirements for a "c" response or above are not met or if the legislature does not use public participation mechanisms during its deliberations on the Audit Report.

Answer:

d. The requirements for a "c" response or above are not met.

Source:

The deliberations of the AR in the legislature (or in the Economy, budget and finance commission) are public. But, the legislature did not use for AR 2017 some mechanisms to seek inputs from the public and the commission's report does not contain inputs from the public

(<http://parlament.md/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=w0RLyIMuLME%3d&tabid=130&mid=507&language=ro-RO> ;
<http://parlament.md/LegislationDocument.aspx?Id=37cd0596-b8bb-4725-aa25-a09a184ae4b6>).

Comment:

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

140. Does the Supreme Audit Institution (SAI) maintain formal mechanisms through which the public can suggest issues/topics to include in the SAI's audit program (for example, by bringing ideas on agencies, programs, or projects that could be audited)?

GUIDELINES:

This question assesses whether the Supreme Audit Institution (SAI) has established mechanisms through which the public can provide suggestions on issues/topics to be included in its audit program. When deciding its audit agenda, the SAI may undertake audits for a sample of agencies, projects, and programs in the country; and such a selection could be based on complaints and suggestions made by members of the public. To receive such suggestions, the SAI may create formal mechanisms, like setting up a website, hotline, or office (or assigning staff to liaise with the public).

Answer:

b. The requirements for an "a" response are not met.

Source:

No formal mechanisms are established (<http://ccrm.md/>)

Comment:

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Disagree
Suggested Answer:

a. Yes, the SAI maintains formal mechanisms through which the public can suggest issues/topics to include in its audit program.

Comments: <http://ccrm.md/>. <http://www.ccrm.md/storage/upload/legal/postari/200/ab7cc91f1f5a4c26fb338a8de785cc81.pdf>. Internal regulations regarding the planning of the audit activity program. There are announcements on the web site regarding the start of the process to plan the annual Audit Program for the next year. See the example in Romanian below Anunț: Solicitare de propuneri pentru tematici de audit 24.06.2019 Curtea de Conturi a Republicii Moldova (CCRM) anunță demararea procesului de planificare a Programului activității de audit pe anul 2020.

Researcher Response

Agree on existing such internal Regulation. But before 31 December 2018 there is no evidence that it was used for public engagement in planning of Court of Accounts' audit program.

141. Does the Supreme Audit Institution (SAI) provide the public with feedback on how citizens' inputs have been used to determine its audit program?

GUIDELINES:

This question reflects the GIFT principles of "Transparency" and "Sustainability", and examines the extent to which the Supreme Audit Institution provides information to citizens on which public inputs were received, which ones are used to determine the Supreme Audit Institution's audit program. By "written record" in this question, we mean a document that is produced and released by the Supreme Audit Institution.

Answer "a" applies when the Supreme Audit Institution provides a written document with:

- The inputs received from the public and
- A detailed report on how the inputs were used or not used (such report should include information on which inputs were used or not used, why, and how).

Answer "b" applies when the SAI provides a written document that includes:

- The inputs received from the public and
- A not-so-detailed report on how public inputs were used or not used. This document only gives a general idea on how those inputs were used or not used to determine the SAI's annual audit program.

Answer "c" applies when the SAI provides a written document that includes:

- The received from the public or
- A report (being it detailed or not-so-detailed) on how public inputs have been used or not used.

Answer "d" applies if requirements for a "c" response or above are not met or if maintain formal mechanisms through which the public can suggests issues/topics to include in the SAI's audit program.

Answer:
d. The requirements for a "c" response or above are not met.

Source:
No formal mechanisms are established. (<http://ccrm.md/>)

Comment:

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

142. Does the Supreme Audit Institution (SAI) maintain formal mechanisms through which the public can contribute to audit investigations (as respondents, witnesses, etc.)?

GUIDELINES:

This question mirrors question 140, but instead of covering public assistance in formulating the SAI's audit program, it focuses on whether the Supreme Audit Institution has established mechanisms through which the public can participate in audit investigations. In addition to seeking public input to determine its audit agenda, the SAI may wish to provide formal opportunities for the public and civil society organizations to participate in the actual audit investigations, as witnesses or respondents.

Answer:
b. The requirements for an "a" response are not met.

Source:
No formal mechanisms are established. (<http://ccrm.md/>)

Comment:

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree
Comments: The Court of Accounts is yet to rule

S0. Are you participating in the Sector Budget Transparency Module pilot?

Please select "Yes" to this question if you have confirmed your participation in the Sector Budget Transparency Module pilot, and S1-S20 related to sector budget transparency will become available for you to complete.

For all others, please select "No," and you will be directed to the last page of the Open Budget Survey questionnaire.

Answer:

a. Yes

Source:

The Sector Budget Transparency Module for Moldova is Education.

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

S1. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal present revenue earmarked for the sector and/or the sector's expenditure associated with this earmarked revenue?

Answer:

c. Yes, the Executive's Budget Proposal presents *at least the total* amount of revenues earmarked for the sector or the total sector's expenditure associated with the earmarked revenue.

Source:

The Executive's Budget Proposal presents the total amount of revenues earmarked for the sector. Note to the budget law (Nota informativă la proiectul legii bugetului de stat pe anul 2019) page 75 (<http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/proiectul-hot%C4%83r%C3%A2rii-guvernului-privind-aprobarea-proiectului-legii-bugetului-de-stat-0>).

Comment:

For the purpose of this evaluation the expenditure financed from collected revenues (resurse colectate) are considered as earmarked for the sector, because they are collected directly by institutions and could be used only by those institutions and for dedicated targets. The government doesn't present information by individual sources of collected revenues.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: "Nota informativa"/Information Note for the Project law for the state budget for 2019 (p.74) - presents the the sum of revenues earmarked for the Education sector and lists several specific expenditures (when an increase of expenditures exists compared to the previous year). (<https://mf.gov.md/ro/content/proiectul-hot%C4%83r%C3%A2rii-guvernului-privind-aprobarea-proiectului-legii-bugetului-de-stat-0>)

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

S2. Does the Year-End Report (or the final In-Year Report) present revenue earmarked for the sector and/or the sector's expenditure associated with this earmarked revenue?

Answer:

c. Yes, the Year-End Report (or the final In-Year Report) presents *at least the total amount* of revenues earmarked for the sector or the total sector's expenditure associated with the earmarked revenue.

Source:

The Year-End Report presents the total amount of revenues earmarked for the sector.

(<http://parlament.md/ProcesulLegislativ/Proiectedeactele legislative/tabid/61/LegislativId/4217/language/ro-RO/Default.aspx>) in the document 173.2018.raport_bugetului.pdf, page 81 and at Formularul 3.

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: The Year-End Report contains the total amount of revenues earmarked for the Education sector.

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Disagree

Suggested Answer:

b. Yes, the Year-End Report (or the final In-Year Report) presents either all individual sources of revenue earmarked for the sector or the specific sector's expenditure associated with each source of earmarked revenue.

Comments: We do not agree. We propose the modification of the answer from c) to b), Form no.3 contains data on central public authorities at the level of functions with expenditures and non-financial assets in total but the resources are based on: • -General resources • collected revenue • - profits of projects funded from external sources. The state budget (narrative) budget report also contains data on total expenditure items and the above-described divided resources.

Researcher Response

For answer (b) the EYR should present either all individual sources of revenue earmarked for the sector or the specific sector's expenditure associated with each source of earmarked revenue. In mentioned documents under "venituri colectate" no individual sources are disclosed. The answer remains (c).

S3. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal present donor assistance for the sector and/or the sector's expenditure associated with this donor assistance?

Answer:

d. No, the Executive's Budget Proposal does not present total donor assistance for the sector or the total sector's expenditure associated with donor assistance.

Source:

The Executive's Budget Proposal does not present total donor assistance for the sector. It has been presented the information regarding donor assistance only for projects with external assistance (Table 10 (from archived document „Tabelele 1-11”). (<http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/proiectul-hot%C4%83r%C3%Aerii-guvernului-privind-aprobarea-proiectului-legii-bugetului-de-stat-0>).

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: Information Note (<http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/proiectul-hot%C4%83r%C3%Aerii-guvernului-privind-aprobarea-proiectului-legii-bugetului-de-stat-0>), pp. 76 -77 lists several projects financed from external sources. No information linked to total donor assistance for the sector was found.

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Disagree

Suggested Answer:

Comments: Answer „a” would be correct, as the amount of each source of donor assistance for the sectoral projects matches the expenditure amount included in the budget proposal. (Table 10, column 4 (from archived document „Tabelele 1-11”). (<http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/proiectul-hot%C4%83r%C3%Aerii-guvernului-privind-aprobarea-proiectului-legii-bugetului-de-stat-0>).

Researcher Response

Table nr. 10 presents only projects financed from external sources, but not all donor support. The Table nr. 10 includes only 731921,6 thousands lei from total amount of 1960,2 million lei included in the budget (Table 2) as Grants received from external sources. The answer remains (d).

S4. Does the Year-End Report (or the final In-Year Report) present expenditure by a functional classification (first-level functional) that is consistent with the first-level functional classification presented in the Executive's Budget Proposal and/or the Enacted Budget?

Answer:

a. Yes, the Year-End Report (or the final In-Year Report) presents expenditure by a functional classification that is consistent with the classification presented in both the Executive's Budget Proposal and the Enacted Budget.

Source:

The Year-End Report presents expenditure by a functional classification ((<http://parlament.md/ProcesulLegislativ/Proiectedeacteleislative/tabid/61/LegislativId/4217/language/ro-RO/Default.aspx>) in the document 173.2018.raport_bugetului.pdf annex 5 (page 98) and Formularul nr 3) that is consistent with the classification presented in both the Executive's Budget Proposal (http://old.mf.gov.md/lege_BS_2017 in annex 3) and the Enacted Budget (<http://lex.justice.md/index.php?action=view&view=doc&lang=1&id=368094> in annex 3).

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

S5. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal and/or the Enacted Budget present the sector's expenditure by a subfunctional classification (second-level functional)?

Answer:

a. Yes, the Executive's Budget Proposal and/or the Enacted Budget present(s) the sector's expenditure by a subfunctional classification. (Please note in the comments in which document(s) the second-level functional classification is presented.)

Source:

The Executive's Budget Proposal and the Enacted Budget present the sector's expenditure by a subfunctional classification. The second-level functional classification is presented in annex 4 for EB (<http://lex.justice.md/index.php?action=view&view=doc&lang=1&id=378600>) and in EBP 2019 in annex 4 to the budget law (from archived document „Anexele 1-9”) and table 6 as annex to the information note (from archived document „Tabelele 1-11”) (<http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/proiectul-hot%C4%83r%C3%Aerii-guvernului-privind-aprobarea-proiectului-legii-bugetului-de-stat-0>)

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: Subfunctional classification - p. 2, Annex 4 of the Law 303/208 for the state budget for 2019. (<http://lex.justice.md/index.php?action=view&view=doc&lang=1&id=378600>)

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

S6. Does the Year-End Report (or the final In-Year Report) present the sector's expenditure by a subfunctional classification (second-level functional) that is consistent with the subfunctional classification presented in the Executive's Budget Proposal and/or the Enacted Budget?

Answer:

a. Yes, the Year-End Report (or the final In-Year Report) presents the sector's expenditure by a subfunctional classification that is consistent with the classification presented in both the Executive's Budget Proposal and the Enacted Budget.

Source:

The Year-End Report presents expenditure by subfunctional classification ((<http://parlament.md/ProcesulLegislativ/Proiectedeacteleislative/tabid/61/LegislativId/4217/language/ro-RO/Default.aspx>) in the document 173.2018.raport_bugetului.pdf at Formularul nr 3) that is consistent with the classification presented in both the Executive's Budget Proposal

(http://old.mf.gov.md/lege_BS_2017 in annex 3) and the Enacted Budget (<http://lex.justice.md/index.php?action=view&view=doc&lang=1&id=368094> in annex 3).

Comment:

Budgetary classification contains link between program (subprogram) and functional classification at second level, the information presented in Annex 3 contains at the same time information regarding subfunctional level and programs.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

S7. Does the Year-End Report (or the final In-Year Report) present expenditure by an administrative classification that is consistent with the administrative classification presented in the Executive's Budget Proposal and/or the Enacted Budget?

Answer:

a. Yes, the Year-End Report (or the final In-Year Report) presents expenditure by an administrative classification that is consistent with the administrative classification presented in both the Executive's Budget Proposal and the Enacted Budget.

Source:

The Year-End Report presents expenditure by an administrative classification (<http://parlament.md/ProcesulLegislativ/Proiectedeactelegislative/tabid/61/LegislativId/4217/language/ro-RO/Default.aspx>) in the document 173.2018.raport_bugetului.pdf at Formularul nr 3) that is consistent with the classification presented in both the Executive's Budget Proposal (http://old.mf.gov.md/lege_BS_2017 in annex 3) and the Enacted Budget (<http://lex.justice.md/index.php?action=view&view=doc&lang=1&id=368094> in annex 3).

Comment:

Also, the Ministry of Finance presents the execution for all sub-national budgets, by administrative classification monthly, and the report for December contains annual data, (<http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/catalogul-de-date-deschise-al-mf-pentru-anul-2018#overlay-context=ro/ministerul-finan%25C8%259Belor/catalogul-de-date-deschise-al-ministerului-finan%25C8%259Belor-2018>) at "Date despre executarea bugetelor autorităților publice locale" for "decembrie 2018".

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: Year-End Report presents expenditure by an administrative classification consistent with the administrative classification presented in both the Executive's Budget Proposal and the Enacted Budget.

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

S8. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal and/or the Enacted Budget present the sector's expenditure by program?

Answer:

a. Yes, the Executive's Budget Proposal and/or the Enacted Budget present(s) the sector's expenditure by program. (Please note in the comments in which document(s) programs are presented)

Source:

The Executive's Budget Proposal and/or the Enacted Budget present the sector's expenditure by program. The sector expenditure by programs (subprograms), including education sector are presented in EBP 2019 in annex 3.1 to the budget law (from archived document „Anexele 1-9”) the Table nr. 8 (from archived document „Tabelele 1-11”) to the Information Note of the law (<http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/proiectul-hot%C4%83r%C3%A1rii-guvernului-privind-aprobarea-proiectului-legii-bugetului-de-stat-0>)

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: The EBP present the sector's expenditures by programs. (ex: annex 3.1 of the budget law 2019 - <http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/proiectul-hot%C4%83r%C3%AEnii-guvernului-privind-aprobarea-proiectului-legii-bugetului-de-stat-0>)

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

S9. Does the Year-End Report (or the final In-Year Report) present the sector's expenditure by program consistent with sector programs presented in the Executive's Budget Proposal and/or the Enacted Budget?

Answer:

a. Yes, the Year-End Report (or the final In-Year Report) presents the sector's expenditure by program that is consistent with sector programs presented in both the Executive's Budget Proposal and the Enacted Budget.

Source:

The Year-End Report presents the sector's expenditure by program (<http://parlament.md/ProcesulLegislativ/Proiectedeactelegislative/tabid/61/LegislativId/4217/language/ro-RO/Default.aspx>) in the document 173.2018.raport_bugetului.pdf at Formularul nr 3) that is consistent with with sector programs presented in both the Executive's Budget Proposal (http://old.mf.gov.md/lege_BS_2017 in annex 3) and the Enacted Budget (<http://lex.justice.md/index.php?action=view&view=doc&lang=1&id=368094> in annex 3).

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: The Year-End Report presents the sector's expenditure by program that is consistent with sector programs presented in both the Executive's Budget Proposal and the Enacted Budget.

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

S10. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal and/or the Enacted Budget present the sector's expenditure by administrative or program classification, showing details below the second level of the classification's hierarchy?

Answer:

a. Yes, the Executive's Budget Proposal and/or the Enacted Budget present(s) the sector's expenditure by administrative or program classification, showing details below the second level of the classification's hierarchy. (Please note in the comments the document and the type of classification.)

Source:

The Executive's Budget Proposal and the Enacted Budget present the sector's expenditure by program classification, showing details for the second level of the classification's hierarchy in EBP 2019 in annex 3.1 to the budget law (from archived document „Anexe 1-9”) the Table nr. 8 (from archived document „Tabelele 1-11”) to the Information Note of the law (<http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/proiectul-hot%C4%83r%C3%AEnii-guvernului-privind-aprobarea-proiectului-legii-bugetului-de-stat-0>)

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: The Executive's Budget Proposal and/or the Enacted Budget present(s) the sector's expenditure by administrative or program classification, showing details below the second level of the classification's hierarchy

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

S11. Does the Year-End Report (or the final In-Year Report) present the sector's expenditure by administrative or program classification, showing details below the second level of the classification's hierarchy?

Answer:

a. Yes, the Year-End Report (or the final In-Year Report) presents the sector's expenditure by administrative or program classification, showing details below the second level of the classification's hierarchy. (Please note in the comments the document and the type of classification.)

Source:

The Year-End Report presents sector's expenditure by program classification, showing details for the second level of the classification's hierarchy (<http://parlament.md/ProcesulLegislativ/Proiectedeactelegislative/tabid/61/LegislativId/4217/language/ro-RO/Default.aspx>) in the document 173.2018.raport_bugetului.pdf at Formularul nr 3).

Comment:

Also, the Ministry of Finance presents the execution for all sub-national budgets by administrative and economic classification monthly, and the report for December contains annual data, (<http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/catalogul-de-date-deschise-al-mf-pentru-anul-2018#overlay-context=ro/ministerul-finan%25C8%259Belor/catalogul-de-date-deschise-al-ministerului-finan%25C8%259Belor-2018>) at "Date despre executarea bugetelor autorităților publice locale" for "decembrie 2018".

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

S12. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal present an economic classification for the sector's expenditure (organized by functional, administrative, or program classification)?

Answer:

b. No, the Executive's Budget Proposal does not present an economic classification for the sector's expenditure.

Source:

The Executive's Budget Proposal does not present an economic classification for the sector's expenditure. (<http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/proiectul-hot%C4%83r%C3%AERii-guvernului-privind-aprobarea-proiectului-legii-bugetului-de-stat-0>)

Comment:

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

S13. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal present a geographic distribution of the sector's expenditure (organized by functional classification, administrative classification, or program)? (For the purposes of this question, the sector's expenditure must include spending beyond just intergovernmental transfers.)

Answer:

b. No, the Executive's Budget Proposal does not present a geographic distribution of the sector's expenditure.

Source:

The Executive's Budget Proposal does not present a geographic distribution of the sector's expenditure. (<http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/proiectul-hot%C4%83r%C3%Aerii-guvernului-privind-aprobarea-proiectului-legii-bugetului-de-stat-0>)

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: The EB does not present a geographic distribution of the sector's expenditure. (<http://lex.justice.md/md/378600/>)

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

S14. Does the Year-End Report (or the final In-Year Report) present intergovernmental transfers to the sector?

Answer:

a. Yes, the Year-End Report (or the final In-Year Report) presents intergovernmental transfers to the sector, with detail showing all individual transfers to all units of subnational government across all levels of subnational government.

Source:

The Ministry of Finance presents the execution for all sub-national budgets, by administrative and economic classification (including transfers for each sub-national budget) monthly, and the report for December contains annual data, (<http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/catalogul-de-date-deschise-al-mf-pentru-anul-2018#overlay-context=ro/ministerul-finan%25C8%259Belor/catalogul-de-date-deschise-al-ministerului-finan%25C8%259Belor-2018>) at "Date despre executarea bugetelor autorităților publice locale" for "decembrie 2018".

The Year-End Report (or the final In-Year Report) presents intergovernmental transfers to the sector, with detail showing all individual transfers to all levels of subnational government. (<http://parlament.md/ProcesulLegislativ/Proiectedeacteleislative/tabid/61/LegislativId/4217/language/ro-RO/Default.aspx>) in the document 173.2018.raport_bugetului.pdf at Formularul nr 5 and Formularul 5.1).

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: The Year-End Report (or the final In-Year Report) presents intergovernmental transfers to the sector, with detail showing all individual transfers to all units of subnational government across all levels of subnational government.

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

S15. Does the Executive Budget Proposal present expenditure for individual front-line service delivery units for the sector?

Answer:

b. No, the Executive's Budget Proposal does not present expenditure for individual front-line service delivery units for the sector.

Source:

The Executive's Budget Proposal does not present expenditure for individual front-line service delivery units for the education sector. (<http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/proiectul-hot%C4%83r%C3%Aerii-guvernului-privind-aprobarea-proiectului-legii-bugetului-de-stat-0>)

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: The EBP (<http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/proiectul-hotărîrii-guvernului-privind-aprobarea-proiectului-legii-bugetului-de-stat-0>, annex. 4 and pp.74-77 of the Information Note) doesn't contain any information regarding the expenditure for individual front-line service delivery units for the education sector.

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

S16. Does the Year-End Report (or the final In-Year Report) present expenditure for individual front-line service delivery units for the sector?

Answer:

b. No, the Year-End Report (or the final In-Year Report) does not present expenditure for individual front-line service delivery units for the sector.

Source:

The Year-End Report (or the final In-Year Report) does not present expenditure for individual front-line service delivery units for education sector. (<http://parlament.md/ProcesulLegislativ/Proiectedeacteleislative/tabid/61/LegislativId/4217/language/ro-RO/Default.aspx>).

Comment:

But, yearly, the Government is publishing BOOST (pivot table document) with all expenditure at the level of individual front-line service delivery units for local and central levels, including for education. (<https://mf.gov.md/ro/content/analiza-cheltuielilor-2014-2017>)

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: <http://parlament.md/ProcesulLegislativ/Proiectedeacteleislative/tabid/61/LegislativId/4217/language/ro-RO/Default.aspx> - no data regarding expenditure for individual front-line service delivery units for education sector.

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

S17. Does the Year-End Report (or the final In-Year Report) present the differences between the original estimates of transfers to public corporations in the sector and the actual outcome?

Answer:

d. No, the Year-End Report (or the final In-Year Report) does not present the differences between the original estimates of transfers to public corporations in the sector and the actual outcome.

Source:

The Year-End Report (or the final In-Year Report) does not present the differences between the original estimates of transfers to public corporations in the sector and the actual outcome. (<http://parlament.md/ProcesulLegislativ/Proiectedeacteleislative/tabid/61/LegislativId/4217/language/ro-RO/Default.aspx>).

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: The year-end report doesn't list the differences between the original estimates of transfers to public corporations in the sector and the (actual outcome. <http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/raport-privind-executarea-bugetului-de-stat-in-anul-2017-0>
<http://parlament.md/ProcesulLegislativ/Proiectedeacteleislative/tabid/61/LegislativId/4217/language/ro-RO/Default.aspx>)

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

S18. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal present a narrative explaining the objectives for the sector's expenditure, and show the expenditure associated with achieving the objectives?

Answer:

c. Yes, the Executive's Budget Proposal presents a narrative explaining the objectives for the sector's expenditure but does not show how expenditure is associated with achieving the objectives.

Source:

The Executive's Budget Proposal presents a narrative explaining the objectives for the sector's expenditure but does not show how expenditure is associated with achieving the objectives. Information note to the budget law (Nota informativă la proiectul legii bugetului de stat pe anul 2019) page 75 (<http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/proiectul-hot%C4%83r%C3%AEEii-guvernului-privind-aprobarea-proiectului-legii-bugetului-de-stat-0>).

Comment:

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: Information Note, pp.74-77, EBP shortly presents some objectives for the expenditures in education sector (however it is not shown how how expenditure is associated with achieving the objectives)- <http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/proiectul-hot%C4%83r%C3%AEEii-guvernului-privind-aprobarea-proiectului-legii-bugetului-de-stat-0>.

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

S19. Is subnational expenditure in the sector (including expenditure financed from own-source revenues) reported in *central*/government budget formulation documents (Executive's Budget Proposal or Enacted Budget) or budget execution documents (In-Year Reports or Year-End Report)?

Answer:

b. Yes, the sector's subnational expenditure for some (but not all) levels of subnational government is included in at least one central government budget formulation document and at least one budget execution document.

Source:

The sector's subnational expenditure for some (but not all) levels of subnational government is included in central government budget formulation document (in General Government Budget, Table nr 3 (from archived document „Tabelele 1-11”) to the Information Note of annual budget law (<http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/proiectul-hot%C4%83r%C3%AEEii-guvernului-privind-aprobarea-proiectului-legii-bugetului-de-stat-0>), in the budget execution in year reports (for ex. Raport privind executarea bugetului public național la situația din 31 octombrie 2018 (monthly reports, for October 2018) on (<https://mf.gov.md/ro/trezorerie/rapoarte-privind-executarea-bugetului/rapoarte-lunare>), and in Year-End report (<http://parlament.md/ProcesulLegislativ/Proiectedeacteleislative/tabid/61/LegislativId/4217/language/ro-RO/Default.aspx>) in the document 173.2018.raport_bugetului.pdf at Formularul 1. In both, central government budget formulation documents and in the execution documents there is information on Local level (local consolidated budget) for education sector, but it is missing the information on local authorities from level one and level two.

Comment:

Also, the Ministry of Finance presents the execution for all sub-national budgets, by administrative and economic classification monthly, and the report for December contains annual data, (<http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/catalogul-de-date-deschise-al-mf-pentru-anul-2018#overlay-context=ro/ministerul-finan%25C8%259Belor/catalogul-de-date-deschise-al-ministerului-finan%25C8%259Belor-2018>) at "Date despre executarea bugetelor autorităților publice locale" for "decembrie 2018".

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Disagree

Suggested Answer: a. Yes, the sector's subnational expenditure for all levels of subnational government is included in at least one central government budget formulation document and at least one budget execution document.

Comments: Report on transfers with special destination from state budget to local budget for 2017 (Form 5.1 of the Year-End report (<http://parlament.md/ProcesulLegislativ/Proiectedeacteleislative/tabid/61/LegislativId/4217/language/ro-RO/Default.aspx>) contains information

on subnational expenditure in the education sector. (both level I and level II). The EBP (<http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/proiectul-hotărîrii-guvernului-privind-aprobarea-proiectului-legii-bugetului-de-stat-0>), see the annex 7, contains information on subnational expenditure in the education sector (both level I and level II). So we can conclude that the subnational expenditure for all levels (I and II) in the education sector is reported in central government budget formulation documents and budget execution documents. The information is included for all subnational government of level II, but not for all subnational governments of level I (some are missing).

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Researcher Response

The question S19 asks if in the mentioned budget documentation there is information about how much subnational authorities spend in the sector from all sources (including their own resources), but not only about transfers in the sector made from state budget to subnational authorities. The answer remains (b).

S20. Does the central government make publicly available on a website or portal at least one of the key budget documents (Executive's Budget Proposal, Enacted Budget, In-Year Reports, or Year-End Report) prepared by subnational governments?

Answer:

a. Yes, the sector's subnational expenditure for all levels of subnational government is included in at least one central government budget formulation document and at least one budget execution document.

Source:

The Ministry of Finance presents the execution for all sub-national budgets, by administrative and economic classification monthly, and the report for December contains annual data, (<http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/catalogul-de-date-deschise-al-mf-pentru-anul-2018#overlay-context=ro/ministerul-finan%25C8%259Belor/catalogul-de-date-deschise-al-ministerului-finan%25C8%259Belor-2018>) at "Date despre executarea bugetelor autorităților publice locale" for "decembrie 2018".

Comment:

Also, yearly, the Government is publishing BOOST (pivot table document) with all expenditure at the level of end user units for local and central levels. (<https://mf.gov.md/ro/content/analiza-cheltuielilor-2014-2017>)

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Comments: <http://mf.gov.md/ro/content/catalogul-de-date-deschise-al-mf-pentru-anul-2018#overlay-context=ro/ministerul-finan%25C8%259Belor/catalogul-de-date-deschise-al-ministerului-finan%25C8%259Belor-2018> The execution of sub-national budgets, by administrative and economic classification are published by the Ministry of finance monthly. The December report includes the annual information.

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree