

International Budget Partnership
OPEN BUDGET QUESTIONNAIRE
Ecuador, September 2009

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International Budget Partnership OPEN BUDGET QUESTIONNAIRE

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Section One: The Availability of Budget Documents

Table 1. Budget Year of Documents Used in Completing the Questionnaire

Budget Documents Used in Completing the Questionnaire	
	Budget Year Used
Pre-Budget Statement	Not Available
Budget Summary	2008
Executive's Budget Proposal	2008
Supporting Budget Documents	2008
Citizens Budget	Not Available
Enacted Budget	2008
In-Year Reports	2009
Mid-Year Report	Not Available
Year-End Report	2008
Audit Report	Not Available

Table 2. Key Budget Documents Used: Full Titles and Internet Links*

Budget Document	Full Title, Date, and Internet Link
Pre-Budget Statement	Not Available to the Public
Budget Summary	<p>“Presentación proforma 2008” (Proposed 2008 budget submission), Date submitted to Congress June 6, 2007 http://mef.gov.ec/pls/portal/docs/PAGE/MINISTERIO_ECONOMIA_FINANZAS_ECUADOR/ARCHIVOS_INFORMACION_IMPORTANTE/PRES.%20MIN.PROFORMA%202008%20CONGRESO.PDF</p>
Executive’s Budget Proposal	<p>“Proforma Presupuestaria 2008” (2008 Budget proposal) 2007/09/4 http://mef.gov.ec/portal/page?_pageid=37,44820&_dad=portal&_schema=PORTAL</p> <p>Peer Reviewer One Comment: http://mef.gov.ec/PROFORMA_2008/PROFORMADELPGE2008.htm This information, together with http://mef.gov.ec/pls/portal/docs/PAGE/MINISTERIO_ECONOMIA_FINANZAS_ECUADOR/SUBSECRETARIAS/SUBSECRETARIA_DE_PRESUPUESTOS/PROFORMA2008/PRESENTACION_PROFORMA.PDF make up the proposal of the state.</p> <p>Peer Reviewer Two Comment: A more accurate breakdown of the proposed budget is found at the link below. http://mef.gov.ec/PROFORMA_2008/PROFORMADELPGE2008.htm</p>
Budget Document One in Support of the Executive’s Budget Proposal	NA
Budget Document Two in Support of the Executive’s Budget Proposal	NA
Budget Document Three in Support of the Executive’s Budget Proposal	<p>“Justificativo de Ingresos” (Justification of Revenue) http://mef.gov.ec/pls/portal/docs/PAGE/MINISTERIO_ECONOMIA_FINANZAS_ECUADOR/SUBSECRETARIAS/SUBSECRETARIA_DE_PRESUPUESTOS/PROFORMA2008/1-13.PDF</p>
Citizens Budget	Not produced
Enacted Budget	<p>http://mef.gov.ec/pls/portal/docs/PAGE/MINISTERIO_ECONOMIA_FINANZAS_ECUADOR/SUBSECRETARIAS/SUBSECRETARIA_GENERAL_DE_COORDINACION/COORDINACION_DE_COMUNICACION_SOCIAL/ARCHIVOS/INFORME_DEUDA/ARCHIVOS/15.PDF; 6/05/09</p>

	<p>“Presupuesto 2008” (2008 Budget) http://mef.gov.ec/PRESUPUESTO_2008/PRESUPUESTODELPGE2008.htm</p>
In-Year Reports	<p>In-year budget information: Reportes http://mef.gov.ec/portal/page?_pageid=37,92752&_dad=portal&_schema=PORTAL Updated monthly Example: Ejecucion. “Anticipos de Inversion - Detalle Mensual – Sectorial” (Preview Execution of Investment – Monthly breakdown) (2009, central government, all) Cumulative Jan-Aug 2009 Available at: http://eapp40.esigef.mef.gov.ec:7778/discoverer/app/grid?bi_dv2=2&dv_shf=&bi_dv0=1&bi_dt=&bi_cPath=&bi_slice=&bi_dv1=0&bi_layer=&partialTargets=&bi_edge=&bi_origin=&bi_col=&bi_row=&event=bi_page&partial=&source=dv&stateStr=eNqFUIFv2yAQ%2FjPYL2iRoVm1PjBSlwpU5pGS7tXCwNZSLBxgRrbv37nJNXcKepeOL7Td999d4DCyR08iuhctIVwECN636qiP0rLFVcmulvSJPkO2VftiiqiJIHUsLAWfntgdOY2fsFZ9y%2FMX1ld8AmwN5J7o1VTM%24WzDO8Nar2Ef0G3d51hyvzqpuDnGBCutlSOM5VA0ZqfJGZOCG3nFTGejUwMfHCTADmnmknJ%2F3o%2F%2FpIVrKx2r5OqvcVgK7SExv0ho0d0%24KfbfQfd%2FfZjOrDCm8t%2FEFyvGW%2FYczoLsOPpvaHyWi3Kv6%24KL0XwrXSAomcHx6O7vSVFBpD1oGNIZBZEvCp70SLszYEANwNgX4Nfddw3AIhHPvuKfYah4EHN6%24wX7mmp%2F%2FEKj68INDX%2FZdqZz2Y%24AHM4qeNa%2FJ45kyqrfjtyQkIRE3hxEiXqO45T51rYh5fUr5vmCEEiQaNA64h%24Eg6ktwl1DzSxRjGsmu0Sh2TRrXRsg0lq2sfRo7zzwgawyAUPqUosYqqfIf%24eJlsXraZJvn1WK1fdoVy7xYbX7IP3eQLQA9Z%24t1Xjzmm91Lto7oA0kQ932DWiWdth8ACZkd2w%3D%3D&bi_LovUpdate_F=&bi_dp=#</p> <p>“Boletines de Coyuntura Economica” (Economic Outlook bulletins), each month: http://mef.gov.ec/portal/page?_pageid=1647,175186&_dad=portal&_schema=PORTAL Most recent: June-July 2009, available here: http://mef.gov.ec/pls/portal/docs/PAGE/MINISTERIO_ECONOMIA_FINANZAS_ECUADOR/PUBLICACIONES/BOLETINES_COYUNTURA/COYUNTURA/BOLETIN_COYUNTURA_JUN_JUL_2009.PDF</p> <p>“Módulos de Ejecucion Presupuestaria” (Modules of Budget Execution) http://mef.gov.ec/portal/page?_pageid=37,100657&_dad=portal&_schema=PORTAL</p>
Mid-Year Review	Produced but not available to the public.
Year-End Report	<p>“Informe de Transparencia y Rendición de Cuentas” (Transparency and Accountability Report) http://mef.gov.ec/portal/page?_pageid=1647,180438&_dad=portal&_schema=PORTAL</p>
Audit Report	Produced but not available to the public

Other Documents	<p>“Módulo de Información de Finanzas Públicas” (Public Finance Information Module) http://mef.gov.ec/stgcPortal</p> <p>“Relatos Fiscales” (Fiscal Reports) http://mef.gov.ec/portal/page?_pageid=37,108927&_dad=portal&_schema=PORTAL</p> <p>“Informe trimestral de actividades” (Quarterly Activities Report) http://mef.gov.ec/Informe_Actividades/Boletin.html</p> <p>“Directrices para el cierre del año fiscal 2008” (Guidelines for close of FY 2008), 10/12/08 http://mef.gov.ec/pls/portal/url/ITEM/5DAE982E8503CCD2E040007F01001336</p> <p>“Programa económico 2007-2011” (Economic Program), 26/04/08 : http://mef.gov.ec/pls/portal/url/ITEM/5963F37F602F419DE040007F01001FFD</p> <p>“Anuncia Publicación de boletín de transparencia 5 de Marzo de 2008” (Announcement publication of transparency bulletin, March 5, 2008) http://mef.gov.ec/pls/portal/docs/PAGE/MINISTERIO_ECONOMIA_FINANZAS_ECUADOR/SUBSECRETARIAS/SUBSECRETARIA_GENERAL_DE_COORDINACION/COORDINACION_DE_COMU</p> <p>“Módulo de Reportes” (Reports Module) http://mef.gov.ec/portal/page?_pageid=37,92752&_dad=portal&_schema=PORTAL</p> <p>“Glosario de Términos” (Glossary of Terms) http://mef.gov.ec/pls/portal/docs/PAGE/MINISTERIO_ECONOMIA_FINANZAS_ECUADOR/REPORTES_OBI/ARCHIVOS/GLOSARIO%20GENERAL.PDF</p>
Relevant Ministries & Departments	<p>www.bce.fin.ec www.contraloria.gov.ec</p>

*** Government Comments for Table 2 are available at the end of the Questionnaire**

Table 3. Distribution of Documents Related to the Executive’s Budget Proposal

DISTRIBUTION OF BUDGET DOCUMENTS						
	Pre-budget	Executive’s Budget Proposal				Citizens budget
		Main document	Budget summary*	Supporting Document 1	Supporting Document 2	
A. Not produced, even for internal purposes						Yes
B. Produced for internal purposes, but not available to the public	Yes					
C. Produced and available to the public, but only on request						
D. Produced and distributed to the public (for example, in libraries, posted on the Internet.)		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
<i>For budget reports that are produced and distributed to the public, what steps does the executive take to distribute these reports and to promote interest in them?</i>						
	Pre-budget	Executive’s Budget Proposal				Citizens budget
		Main document	Budget summary*	Supporting Document 1	Supporting Document 2	
1. The release date is known at least one month in advance	NA	Yes	No	No	No	NA
2. Advance notification of release is sent to users, media	NA	Yes	No	No	No	NA
3. Released to public same day as official release to media	NA	Yes	Yes	No	No	NA
4. Available on the Internet free of charge	NA	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	NA
5. Free print copies available, limited distribution	NA	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	NA
6. Free print copies available, mass distribution	NA	No	No	No	No	NA
7. Readily available outside capital and/or big cities ⁺	NA	Yes	Yes	No	No	NA
8. Written in more than one language	NA	No	No	No	No	NA
9. News conference is held to discuss release	NA	No	Yes	No	No	NA

*A budget summary should be a stand-alone document, which could include a budget speech or a separately published executive summary.

⁺Mark “Yes” if access by mail order or by Internet, if Internet service is readily available outside the capital and/or big cities.

Table 4. Distribution of the Enacted Budget and Other Reports

DISTRIBUTION OF ENACTED BUDGET AND OTHER REPORTS					
	Enacted budget	In-year reports	Mid-year review	Year-end report	Audit report
A. Not produced, even for internal purposes					
B. Produced for internal purposes, but not available to the public			Yes		Yes
C. Produced and available to the public, but only on request					
D. Produced and distributed to the public (for example, in libraries, posted on the Internet.)	Yes	Yes		Yes	
<i>For budget reports that are produced and distributed to the public, what steps does the executive take to distribute these reports and to promote interest in them?</i>					
	Enacted budget	In-year reports	Mid-year review	Year-end report	Audit report
1. The release date is known at least one month in advance	Yes	Yes	NA	Yes	NA
2. Advance notification of release sent to users, media	Yes	No	NA	No	NA
3. Released to public same day as official release to media	Yes	Yes	NA	Yes	NA
4. Available on the Internet free of charge	Yes	Yes	NA	Yes	NA
5. Free print copies available, limited distribution	Yes	Yes	NA	Yes	NA
6. Free print copies available, mass distribution	No	No	NA	No	NA
7. Readily available outside capital/big cities ⁺	Yes	Yes	NA	Yes	NA
8. Written in more than one language	No	No	NA	No	NA
9. News conference is held to discuss release	Yes	No	NA	No	NA

⁺Mark "Yes" if access is available by mail order or by Internet, if Internet service is readily available outside the capital and/or big cities.

Section Two: The Executive's Budget Proposal

Notes on abbreviations:

BY = budget year (year for which the budget proposals are being made)

BY+1 = one year beyond the budget year

BY-1 = one year before the budget year

Note 1: The Open Budget Survey research process was carried out over a 12-month period and the final version of the Open Budget Questionnaires reflect decisions made after multiple rounds of discussions between Survey researchers, peer reviewers, and the International Budget Partnership (IBP) (in several countries these decisions also considered comments received from governments). When peer reviewers or governments agreed with the answers provided by researchers, they often provided no comment. Thus for many questions, the section in the questionnaire that should contain peer reviewer comments is left blank. However, if the government did not provide any comments to a question (because it did not dispute the answer), the section within the questionnaire that is meant to reflect government comments specifies the answer that the government agreed with (by default).

Since the IBP continued its discussions with the researchers even after receiving peer reviewer and government comments, for some questions these discussions resulted in a mutual decision to change the answers, even if the peer reviewers and governments agreed with the original answer provided by the researcher. Such changes may have happened as a result of:

1. A more consistent application of the Survey methodology;
2. New information identified by the researcher or by IBP that had a bearing on the answer for a particular question; or
3. Decisions made to ensure cross-country comparability of answers.

For more information on these changes for any question please write to info@internationalbudget.org.

The Executive's Budget Proposal	
Estimates for the Budget Year and Beyond	
<p>1. Does the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation present expenditures for the budget year that are classified by administrative unit (that is, by ministry, department, or agency)?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> All expenditures are classified by administrative unit. Expenditures are classified by administrative unit, but some small units are not shown separately. Expenditures are classified by administrative unit, but a significant number of units are not shown separately. No expenditures classified by administrative unit are presented. Not applicable/other (please comment). <p><u>Citation:</u> "Presentación de la Proforma 2008" http://mef.gov.ec/pls/portal/docs/PAGE/MINISTERIO_ECONOMIA_FINANZAS_ECUADOR/SUBSECRETARIAS/SUBSECRETARIA_DE_PRESUPUESTOS/PROFORMA2008/PRESENTACION_PROFORMA.PDF Pro forma Presupuestaria 2008 http://mef.gov.ec/PROFORMA_2008/PROFORMADELPGE2008.htm Submission of 2008 Proposed Budget Sep/4/2007</p> <p>http://mef.gov.ec/pls/portal/docs/PAGE/MINISTERIO_ECONOMIA_FINANZAS_ECUADOR/SUBSECRETARIAS/SUBSECRETARIA_GENERAL_DE_COORDINACION/COORDINACION_DE_COMUNICACION_SOCIAL/PRODUCTOS_COMUNICACION_PRENSA/ARCHIVOS_2007/FINAL_4SEP07.PDF</p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p>Peer Reviewer One Comment: A more appropriate response to this question would be "a." The above cited links are correct; this link is the most appropriate one: http://mef.gov.ec/PROFORMA_2008/PGE2008/pdfs/GC/Cuadro_1_4.pdf</p> <p>Peer Reviewer Two Comment: Also see: http://mef.gov.ec/PROFORMA_2008/PGE2008/pdfs/GC/Cuadro_1_4.pdf Regarding supporting document n.3 (Justification of Revenue): The exact date the document was released is not known. However, in keeping with the responsibilities of the Office of the Sub Secretariat of Budget, as provided in its Annual Operations Plan, submission thereof must be during the third quarter of the year, that is, prior to submission of the Executive's Budget Proposal. http://mef.gov.ec/pls/portal/docs/PAGE/MINISTERIO_ECONOMIA_FINANZAS_ECUADOR/INFORMACION_PUBLICA/ARCHIVOS_INFORMACION_ACTIVIDADES_SERVICIOS/PLANES_PROGRAMAS/ARCHIVOS_2007/SUB.PRESUPUESTOS.PDF)</p> <p>Government Comment: Government did not dispute researcher's answer.</p>	a

<p>2. Does the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation present expenditures for the budget year that are classified by functional classification?</p> <p>a. All expenditures are classified by functional classification, and the categorization is compatible with international standards.</p> <p>b. All expenditures are classified by functional classification, but the categorization is not compatible with international standards.</p> <p>c. Some, but not all, expenditures are classified by function.</p> <p>d. No expenditures classified by function are presented.</p> <p>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</p> <p><u>Citation:</u> Executive Budget Presentation 2008 http://mef.gov.ec/pls/portal/docs/PAGE/MINISTERIO_ECONOMIA_FINANZAS_ECUADOR/SUBSECRETARIAS/SUBSECRETARIA_DE_PRESUPUESTOS/PROFORMA2008/PRESENTACION_PROFORMA.PDF</p> <p>Presentación de la Proforma Sep/4/2007 http://mef.gov.ec/pls/portal/docs/PAGE/MINISTERIO_ECONOMIA_FINANZAS_ECUADOR/SUBSECRETARIAS/SUBSECRETARIA_GENERAL_DE_COORDINACION/COORDINACION_DE_COMUNICACION_SOCIAL/PRODUCTOS_COMUNICACION_PRENSA/ARCHIVOS_2007/FINAL_4SEP07.PDF</p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p>Peer Reviewer One Comment: A more appropriate response to this question would be "a." The above-cited links are correct; this link is the most appropriate one: http://mef.gov.ec/PROFORMA_2008/PGE2008/pdfs/GC/Cuadro_1_7.pdf</p> <p>Peer Reviewer Two Comment: See: http://mef.gov.ec/PROFORMA_2008/PGE2008/pdfs/GC/Cuadro_1_7.pdf</p> <p>Government Comment: Government did not dispute researcher's answer.</p>	a
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<p>3. Does the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation present expenditures for the budget year that are classified by economic classification?</p> <p>a. All expenditures are classified by economic classification, and the categorization is compatible with international standards.</p> <p>b. All expenditures are classified by economic classification, but the categorization is not compatible with international standards.</p> <p>c. Some, but not all, expenditures are classified by economic classification.</p> <p>d. No expenditures classified by economic classification are presented.</p> <p>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</p> <p><u>Citation:</u> Executive Budget Presentation 2008 http://mef.gov.ec/pls/portal/docs/PAGE/MINISTERIO_ECONOMIA_FINANZAS_ECUADOR/SUBSECRETARIAS/SUBSECRETARIA_DE_PRESUPUESTOS/PROFORMA2008/PRESENTACION_PROFORMA.PDF</p> <p>Presentación de la Proforma Sep/4/2007 http://mef.gov.ec/pls/portal/docs/PAGE/MINISTERIO_ECONOMIA_FINANZAS_ECUADOR/SUBSECRETARIAS/SUBSECRETARIA_GENERAL_DE_COORDINACION/COORDINACION_DE_COMUNICACION_SOCIAL/PRODUCTOS_COMUNICACION_PRENSA/ARCHIVOS_2007/FINAL_4SEP07.PDF Submission of Proposal Sept/4/2007</p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p>Peer Reviewer One Comment: A more appropriate response to this question would be "a." The above-cited links are correct; this link is the most appropriate one: http://mef.gov.ec/PROFORMA_2008/PGE2008/pdfs/GC/Cuadro_1_4.pdf</p> <p>Peer Reviewer Two Comment: See: http://mef.gov.ec/PROFORMA_2008/PGE2008/pdfs/GC/Cuadro_1_4.pdf</p> <p>Government Comment: Government did not dispute researcher's answer.</p>	a
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4. Does the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation present expenditures for individual programs for the budget year?
- Program-level data are presented for all expenditures.
 - Program-level data are presented for at least two-thirds of, but not all, expenditures.
 - Program-level data are presented, but for less than two-thirds of expenditures.
 - No program-level data are presented.
 - Not applicable/other (please comment).

Citation:

Executive Budget Presentation 2008

http://mef.gov.ec/pls/portal/docs/PAGE/MINISTERIO_ECONOMIA_FINANZAS_ECUADOR/SUBSECRETARIAS/SUBSECRETARIA_DE_PRESUPUESTOS/PROFORMA2008/PRESENTACION_PROFORMA.PDF

Proforma 2008

http://mef.gov.ec/PROFORMA_2008/PROFORMADELPGE2008.htm

Presentación de la Proforma Sep/4/2007

http://mef.gov.ec/pls/portal/docs/PAGE/MINISTERIO_ECONOMIA_FINANZAS_ECUADOR/SUBSECRETARIAS/SUBSECRETARIA_GENERAL_DE_COORDINACION/COORDINACION_DE_COMUNICACION_SOCIAL/PRODUCTOS_COMUNICACION_PRENSA/ARCHIVOS_2007/FINAL_4SEP07.PDF

Submission of Proposal Sept/4/2007

Comment:

Peer Reviewer One Comment: A more appropriate response to this question would be "a." The above-cited links are correct; this link is the most appropriate one:

http://mef.gov.ec/PROFORMA_2008/PGE2008/pdfs/GC/Cuadro_1_9.pdf

Peer Reviewer Two Comment: See:

http://mef.gov.ec/PROFORMA_2008/PGE2008/pdfs/GC/Cuadro_1_9.pdf

Government Comment: Government did not dispute researcher's answer.

a

<p>5. In the executive’s budget or any supporting budget documentation, are estimates of the aggregate level of expenditure presented for a multi-year period (at least two years beyond the budget year)?</p> <p>a. Yes, multi-year estimates of aggregate expenditure are presented. b. No, multi-year estimates of aggregate expenditure are not presented. c. Not applicable/other (please comment).</p> <p><u>Citation:</u></p> <p><u>Comment:</u> A review of the Executive’s Budget Proposal reveals that there are no multi-year estimates of expenditures in the budget proposal.</p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Government Comment:</u> Government did not dispute researcher’s answer.</p>	b
<p>6. In the executive’s budget or any supporting budget documentation, is more detail than just the aggregate level presented for expenditure estimates that cover a multi-year period (for at least two years beyond the budget year)?</p> <p>a. Yes, multi-year expenditure estimates are presented for all individual programs, and for one or more expenditure classification (such as functional, economic, or administrative). b. Yes, multi-year estimates are presented for one or more expenditure classification (such as functional, economic, or administrative), but only for some individual programs. c. Yes, multi-year estimates are presented, but only for a portion of one or more of the expenditure classifications (such as some functions, or some administrative units) and/or for only some individual programs. d. No, multi-year estimates are presented for aggregate expenditure only, or they are not presented at all. e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</p> <p><u>Citation:</u> “Pro forma Presupuestaria 2008” (2008 budget proposal) http://mef.gov.ec/PROFORMA_2008/PROFORMADELPGE2008.htm</p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u> The 2008 Executive’s Budget Proposal (and its respective supporting documents) does not have this type of analysis. Only as of 2009, under the new Constitution, the Executive will be required to submit multi-year budgets. The appropriate answer would be “d.”</p> <p><u>Government Comment:</u> Government did not dispute researcher’s answer.</p>	d

<p>7. Does the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation identify the different sources of tax revenue (such as income tax or VAT) for the budget year?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. All sources of tax revenue are identified individually. b. Sources of tax revenue amounting to at least two-thirds of, but not all, tax revenues are identified individually. c. Sources of tax revenue amounting to less than two-thirds of all tax revenues are identified individually. d. No sources of tax revenue are identified individually. e. Not applicable/other (please comment). <p><u>Citation:</u> See http://mef.gov.ec/pls/portal/docs/PAGE/MINISTERIO_ECONOMIA_FINANZAS_ECUADOR/SUBSECRETARIAS/SUBSECRETARIA_DE_PRESUPUESTOS/PROFORMA2008/PRESENTACION_PROFORMA.PDF</p> <p>Also see http://mef.gov.ec/pls/portal/docs/PAGE/MINISTERIO_ECONOMIA_FINANZAS_ECUADOR/SUBSECRETARIAS/SUBSECRETARIA_DE_PRESUPUESTOS/PROFORMA2008/1-13.PDF</p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p>Peer Reviewer One Comment: A more appropriate response to this question would be "a." The above-cited links are correct; this link is the most appropriate one. http://mef.gov.ec/PROFORMA_2008/PGE2008/pdfs/GC/Cuadro_1_2.pdf</p> <p>Peer Reviewer Two Comment: See also: http://mef.gov.ec/PROFORMA_2008/PGE2008/pdfs/GC/Cuadro_1_2.pdf</p> <p>Government Comment: Government did not dispute researcher's answer.</p>	a
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<p>8. Does the executive’s budget or any supporting budget documentation identify the different sources of non-tax revenue (such as grants, property income, and sales of goods and services) for the budget year?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. All sources of non-tax revenue are identified individually. b. Sources of non-tax revenue amounting to at least two-thirds of, but not all, non-tax revenues are identified individually. c. Sources of non-tax revenues amounting to less than two-thirds of all non-tax revenue are identified individually. d. No sources of non-tax revenues are identified individually. e. Not applicable/other (please comment). <p><u>Citation:</u> See http://mef.gov.ec/pls/portal/docs/PAGE/MINISTERIO_ECONOMIA_FINANZAS_ECUADOR/SUBSECRETARIAS/SUBSECRETARIA_DE_PRESUPUESTOS/PROFORMA2008/PRESENTACION_PROFORMA.PDF</p> <p>Also see http://mef.gov.ec/pls/portal/docs/PAGE/MINISTERIO_ECONOMIA_FINANZAS_ECUADOR/SUBSECRETARIAS/SUBSECRETARIA_DE_PRESUPUESTOS/PROFORMA2008/1-13.PDF</p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p>Peer Reviewer One Comment: A more appropriate response to this question would be “a.” The above-cited links are correct; this link is the most appropriate one. http://mef.gov.ec/PROFORMA_2008/PGE2008/pdfs/GC/Cuadro_1_2.pdf.</p> <p>Peer Reviewer Two Comment: Also see: http://mef.gov.ec/PROFORMA_2008/PGE2008/pdfs/GC/Cuadro_1_2.pdf.</p> <p>Government Comment: Government did not dispute researcher’s answer.</p>	a
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<p>9. In the executive’s budget or any supporting budget documentation, are estimates of the aggregate level of revenue presented for a multi-year period (at least two years beyond the budget year)?</p> <p>a. Yes, multi-year estimates of aggregate revenue are presented. b. No, multi-year estimates of aggregate revenue are not presented. c. Not applicable/other (please comment).</p> <p><u>Citation:</u> There are no multi-year estimates for aggregate revenue.</p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u> The 2008 Executive’s Budget Proposal (and its respective supporting documents) do not have this type of analysis. Only as of 2009, under the new Constitution, the Executive is required to submit multi-annual budgets. The appropriate answer would be “b.”</p> <p><u>Government Comment:</u> Government did not dispute researcher’s answer.</p>	b
<p>10. In the executive’s budget or any supporting budget documentation, is more detail than just the aggregate level presented for revenue estimates that cover a multi-year period (for at least two years beyond the budget year)?</p> <p>a. Yes, multi-year revenue estimates are presented for individual sources of revenue, and by revenue classification (such as tax and non-tax). b. Yes, multi-year estimates are presented by revenue classification (such as tax and non-tax), but only for some individual sources of revenue. c. Yes, multi-year estimates are presented, but only for some individual sources of revenue. d. No, multi-year estimates are presented for aggregate revenue only, or they are not presented at all. e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</p> <p><u>Citation:</u></p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u> A more appropriate response to this question would be “d.” There were no multi-annual estimates for the 2008 Executive’s Budget Proposal.</p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u> This type of revenue forecast was not made (at least for FY 2008). Current law requires revenue forecasts based on multi-year programming. The answer should be “d.”</p> <p><u>Government Comment:</u> Please read the LORETYF (Organic Law of Accountability, Stability and Fiscal Transparency), as multi-year programming is covered in it and was in force before approval of the constitution.</p>	d

<p>11. Does the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation present data on the total government debt outstanding for the budget year?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Yes, the data reflect the outstanding debt both at the start of the budget year and at the end of the budget year (and thereby reflect the net borrowing requirement of the budget). Yes, the data reflect the outstanding debt at the end of the budget year. Yes, the data reflect the outstanding debt at the start of the budget year. No, data on the outstanding debt are not presented. Not applicable/other (please comment). <p><u>Citation:</u></p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p>Peer Reviewer One Comment: A more appropriate response to this question would be "c." Only debt balances for the start of the budget year appear.</p> <p>Peer Reviewer Two Comment: See pages 41 -44 of the 2008 Executive's Budget Proposal: http://mef.gov.ec/pls/portal/docs/PAGE/MINISTERIO_ECONOMIA_FINANZAS_ECUADOR/SUBSECRETARIAS/SUBSECRETARIA_GENERAL_DE_COORDINACION/COORDINACION_DE_COMUNICACION_SOCIAL/PRODUCTOS_COMUNICACION_PRENSA/ARCHIVOS_2007/FINAL_4SEP07.PDF The suggested response is "C," since this information pertains to public debt balances at the beginning of the budget year.</p> <p>Government Comment: Government did not dispute researcher's answer.</p>	C
<p>12. Does the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation present interest payments on the debt for the budget year?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Yes, interest payments on the debt are presented. No, interest payments on the debt are not presented. Not applicable/other (please comment). <p><u>Citation:</u></p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</p> <p>Peer Reviewer Two Comment: See pgs 41 – 44 of the 2008 Executive's Budget Proposal: http://mef.gov.ec/pls/portal/docs/PAGE/MINISTERIO_ECONOMIA_FINANZAS_ECUADOR/SUBSECRETARIAS/SUBSECRETARIA_GENERAL_DE_COORDINACION/COORDINACION_DE_COMUNICACION_SOCIAL/PRODUCTOS_COMUNICACION_PRENSA/ARCHIVOS_2007/FINAL_4SEP07.PDF</p> <p>Government Comment: Government did not dispute researcher's answer.</p>	a

13. Does the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation present information related to the composition of government debt (such as interest rates on the debt, maturity profile of the debt, currency denomination of the debt, or whether it is domestic and external debt) for the budget year?

- a. Yes, extensive information related to the composition of government debt is presented.
- b. Yes, key additional information is presented, but some details are excluded.
- c. Yes, some additional information is presented, but it lacks important details.
- d. No, additional information related to the composition of government debt is not presented.
- e. Not applicable/other (please comment).

Citation:

Comment:

Researcher Response to this Question was "a"

Peer Reviewer One Comment: A more appropriate response to this question would be "c." In the reports (<http://mef.gov.ec/stgcPortal/inicio.jsp?page=/faces/common/resumenEjecutivo.jsp&id=90>) basic information is provided that does not take into account important terms and conditions of taking on debt such as the interest rate, maturity profile, use, among other things. Those reports are not part of the EBP itself. However, information is available in public database, so I'm assuming these documents like "any supporting budget documentation."

Peer Reviewer Two Comment: The MEF (Ministry of the Economy and Finance) maintains an historical series on Public Debt: (<http://mef.gov.ec/stgcPortal/inicio.jsp?page=/faces/common/resumenEjecutivo.jsp&id=90>), with documents up-to-date until November 2009. In these documents there is a breakdown of levels of public debt by debtor, currency denomination, among other things. However, the references point to information that does not appear either in the EBP or in the supporting documents.

Researcher Response:

IBP Comment: Both peer reviewers agree that the reports mentioned are not part of the Executive's Budget Proposal. We acknowledge the fact that those documents are publicly available throughout the year. However, since they do not form part of the executive's budget proposal package that is presented to the Legislature, the appropriate answer in this case is "d."

Government Comment: Government did not dispute answer "d" that was modified by IBP for consistency purposes.

d

14. Does the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation present the macroeconomic forecast upon which the budget projections are based?

- a. Yes, an extensive discussion of the macroeconomic forecast is presented, and key assumptions (such as inflation, real GDP growth, unemployment rate, and interest rates) are stated explicitly.
- b. Yes, the macroeconomic forecast is discussed and most of the key assumptions are stated explicitly, but some details are excluded.
- c. Yes, there is some discussion of the macroeconomic forecast (and/or the presentation of key assumptions), but it lacks important details.
- d. No, information related to the macroeconomic forecast is not presented.
- e. Not applicable/other (please comment).

Citation:

http://mef.gov.ec/pls/portal/docs/PAGE/MINISTERIO_ECONOMIA_FINANZAS_ECUADOR/SUBSECRETARIAS/SUBSECRETARIA_GENERAL_DE_COORDINACION/COORDINACION_DE_COMUNICACION_SOCIAL/PRODUCTOS_COMUNICACION_PRENSA/ARCHIVOS_2007/FINAL_4SEP07.PDF

The document "Justificativo de Ingresos" has the macroeconomic figures http://mef.gov.ec/pls/portal/docs/PAGE/MINISTERIO_ECONOMIA_FINANZAS_ECUADOR/SUBSECRETARIAS/SUBSECRETARIA_DE_PRESUPUESTOS/PROFORMA2008/1-13.PDF

Comment:

Researcher Response to this Question was "b"

Peer Reviewer One Comment: A more appropriate response to this question would be "d." The MEF draws up some estimates but they are not released to the public. The referenced documents are descriptive in nature without any type of analysis of macroeconomic forecasts.

Peer Reviewer Two Comment:

Researcher Response:

IBP Comment: Given the comment left by PR1, it seems that the type of information included in the cited reports can support, at most, a "c" answer.

Government Comment: Government did not dispute answer "c" that was modified by IBP for consistency purposes.

C

<p>15. Does the executive’s budget or any supporting budget documentation show the impact of different macroeconomic assumptions (i.e., sensitivity analysis) on the budget (including expenditures, revenues, and debt)?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Yes, extensive information on the impact of macroeconomic assumptions on the budget is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates. b. Yes, information is presented, highlighting the impact of the major macroeconomic assumptions, but some details are excluded. c. Yes, some information is presented, but it lacks important details. d. No, information on the impact of different macroeconomic assumptions on the budget is not presented. e. Not applicable/other (please comment). <p><u>Citation:</u> MEF works internally on simulations with different macroeconomic assumptions and define budget limits. But this information is not available to the public.</p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u> Information on scenarios and potential impact are not regularly provided in the reports that are released. However, the MEF does engage in this type of analysis for internal use. The response should be “d.”</p> <p><u>Government Comment:</u> Government did not dispute researcher’s answer.</p>	<p>d</p>
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<p>16. Does the executive’s budget or any supporting budget documentation present information for at least the budget year that shows how policy proposals in the budget, as distinct from existing policies, affect expenditures?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Yes, extensive information on the impact of policy proposals on expenditures is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates. b. Yes, information is presented, highlighting the impact of key policy proposals on expenditures, but some details are excluded. c. Yes, some information is presented, but it lacks important details. d. No, information on the impact of policy proposals on expenditures is not presented. e. Not applicable/other (please comment). <p><u>Citation:</u> “Pro forma Presupuestaria 2008” (2008 Budget proposal) http://mef.gov.ec/PROFORMA_2008/PROFORMADELPGE2008.htm</p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u> Information on scenarios and potential impact are not regularly provided in the reports that are released. However, the MEF does engage in this type of analysis for internal use. The response should be “d.”</p> <p><u>Government Comment:</u> Government did not dispute researcher’s answer.</p>	<p>d</p>
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<p>17. Does the executive’s budget or any supporting budget documentation present information for at least the budget year that shows how policy proposals in the budget, as distinct from existing policies, affect revenues?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Yes, extensive information on the impact of policy proposals on revenues is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates. b. Yes, information is presented, highlighting the impact of key policy proposals on revenues, but some details are excluded. c. Yes, some information is presented, but it lacks important details. d. No, information on the impact of policy proposals on revenues is not presented. e. Not applicable/other (please comment). <p><u>Citation:</u></p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u> Information on scenarios and potential impact are not regularly provided in the reports that are released. However, the MEF does engage in this type of analysis for internal use. The response should be “d.”</p> <p><u>Government Comment:</u> Government did not dispute researcher’s answer.</p>	<p>d</p>
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Estimates for Years Prior to the Budget Year	
<p>18. Does the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation present expenditures for the year preceding the budget year (BY-1) that are classified by administrative unit (that is, by ministry, department, or agency)?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. All expenditures are classified by administrative unit for BY-1. b. Expenditures are classified by administrative unit for BY-1, but some small units are not shown separately. c. Expenditures are classified by administrative unit for BY-1, but a significant number of units are not shown separately. d. No expenditures classified by administrative unit are presented for BY-1. e. Not applicable/other (please comment). <p><u>Citation:</u></p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u> See: http://mef.gov.ec/portal/page?_pageid=37,1&_dad=portal&_schema=PORTAL After choosing in the upper righthand submenu: "presupuesto" then "proformas" then "2005" or "2006" or "2007", you can gain access to information classified by administrative unit.</p> <p><u>Government Comment:</u> Government did not dispute researcher's answer.</p>	a

19. Does the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation present expenditures for the year preceding the budget year (BY-1) that are classified by functional classification?
- All expenditures are classified by functional classification for BY-1, and the categorization is compatible with international standards.
 - All expenditures are classified by functional classification for BY-1, but the categorization is not compatible with international standards.
 - Some, but not all, expenditures are classified by function for BY-1.
 - No expenditures classified by function are presented for BY-1.
 - Not applicable/other (please comment).

Citation:

Comment:

Researcher Response to this Question was "a"

Peer Reviewer One Comment:

Peer Reviewer Two Comment: See:

http://mef.gov.ec/portal/page?_pageid=37,1&_dad=portal&_schema=PORTAL

After choosing in the upper righthand submenu: "presupuesto" then "proformas" then "2005" or "2006" or "2007", you can gain access to information classified by functional classification. However, the references lead to information that does not appear in the Executive's Budget Proposal or in its supporting documents.

Researcher Response: We find that the documents below indicate that these figures were indeed submitted to the Congress; it should be "b."

http://mef.gov.ec/pls/portal/docs/PAGE/MINISTERIO_ECONOMIA_FINANZAS_ECUADOR/ARCHIVOS_IMPORTANTE/TAB138898/TAB190900/PRES.%20MIN.PROFORMA%202008%20CONGRESO.PDF

The document below contains a comprehensive comparison of 2007 and 2008 forecasts.

http://mef.gov.ec/PRESUPUESTO_2008/PGE2008/PAGINAS/GOBIERNO%20CENTRAL.htm

IBP Comment: IBP editors chose answer "d" because the information is not part of the executive's budget proposal package that is presented to the legislature. The documents mentioned in the Researcher response do not have any date, so it is not possible to see whether they were part of the executive's budget proposal or not. In absence of this information, "d" is still the most appropriate answer.

Government Comment: It is not considered an indispensable requirement, but that information is available, and therefore the answer should be "a."

d

20. Does the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation present expenditures for the year preceding the budget year (BY-1) that are classified by economic classification?
- a. All expenditures are classified by economic classification for BY-1, and the categorization is compatible with international standards.
 - b. All expenditures are classified by economic classification for BY-1, but the categorization is not compatible with international standards.
 - c. Some, but not all, expenditures are classified by economic classification for BY-1.
 - d. No expenditures classified by economic classification are presented for BY-1.
 - e. Not applicable/other (please comment).

Citation:

Comment:

Researcher Response to this Question was "a"

Peer Reviewer One Comment:

Peer Reviewer Two Comment: See:

http://mef.gov.ec/portal/page?_pageid=37,1&_dad=portal&_schema=PORTAL

After choosing in the upper righthand submenu: "presupuesto" then "proformas" then "2005" or "2006" or "2007", you can gain access to information classified by economic classification. However, the references lead to information that does not appear in the Executive's Budget Proposal or in its supporting documents.

Researcher Response: Idem 19; should be "b."

IBP Comment: IBP editors chose answer "d" because the information is not part of the executive's budget proposal package that is presented to the legislature. See explanation under question 19.

Government Comment: We do not considered it to be an indispensable requirement, but that information is available and, therefore, the answer should be "a."

d

21. Does the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation present expenditures for individual programs for the year preceding the budget year (BY-1)?
- a. Program-level expenditure data are presented for all expenditures for BY-1.
 - b. Program-level expenditure data are presented for at least two-thirds of, but not all, expenditures for BY-1.
 - c. Program-level expenditure data are presented, but for less than two-thirds of expenditures for BY-1.
 - d. No program-level expenditure data are presented for BY-1.
 - e. Not applicable/other (please comment).

Citation:

Comment:

Researcher Response to this Question was "a"

Peer Reviewer One Comment:

Peer Reviewer Two Comment:

Go to:

http://mef.gov.ec/portal/page?_pageid=37,1&_dad=portal&_schema=PORTAL

After choosing in the upper righthand submenu: "presupuesto" then "proformas" then "2005" or "2006" or "2007", you can gain access to information classified by program. However, the references lead to information that does not appear in the proposal or in its supporting documents. luego escoger en el submenú superior derecho: "presupuesto" luego "proformas" luego "2005" o "2006" o "2007." Se puede acceder a información calasificada por programa. Sin embargo, las referencias conducen a información que no consta ni en la propuesta ni en sus documentos de soporte.

Researcher Response: Idem 19; should be "b."

IBP Comment: IBP editors chose answer "d" because the information is not part of the executive's budget proposal package that is presented to the legislature. See explanation under question 19.

Government Comment: We do not considered it to be an indispensable requirement, but that information is available and, therefore, the answer should be "a."

d

<p>22. In the executive’s budget or any supporting budget documentation, how many months of actual data are reflected in the expenditure estimates of the year prior to the budget year (BY-1)?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. All BY-1 estimates have been updated from the original enacted levels to reflect six or more months of actual expenditure. b. All BY-1 estimates have been updated from the original enacted levels, but reflect less than six months of actual expenditure. c. Some BY-1 estimates have been updated from the original enacted levels to reflect actual expenditure. d. The BY-1 estimates have not been updated from the original enacted levels, or no BY-1 estimates are presented. e. Not applicable/other (please comment). <p><u>Citation:</u></p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u> Generally, the EBP is built on the codified budget from June (which may incorporate amendments to the budget) and on the forecast of the rest of the fiscal year. The appropriate response would be “b.”</p> <p><u>Government Comment:</u> Government did not dispute researcher’s answer.</p>	b
<p>23. In the executive’s budget or any supporting budget documentation, are estimates of the aggregate level of expenditure presented for years that precede the budget year by more than one year (that is, BY-2 and prior years)?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Yes, such prior-year estimates of aggregate expenditure are presented. b. No, such prior-year estimates of aggregate expenditure are not presented. c. Not applicable/other (please comment). <p><u>Citation:</u></p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u> This type of information is not released in the EBP or in the supporting documents.</p> <p><u>Government Comment:</u> Government did not dispute researcher’s answer.</p>	b

<p>24. In the executive’s budget or any supporting budget documentation, is more detail than just the aggregate level presented for expenditure estimates that cover years preceding the budget year by more than one year (that is, BY-2 and prior years)?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Yes, such prior-year expenditure estimates are presented for all individual programs, and for one or more expenditure classification (such as functional, economic, or administrative). b. Yes, such prior-year estimates are presented for one or more expenditure classification (such as functional, economic, or administrative), but only for some individual programs. c. Yes, such prior-year estimates are presented, but only for a portion of one or more of the expenditure classifications (such as some functions, or some administrative units) and/or for only some individual programs. d. No, such prior-year estimates are presented for aggregate expenditure only, or they are not presented at all. e. Not applicable/other (please comment). <p><u>Citation:</u></p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u> This type of information is not released in the EBP or in the supporting documents thereof.</p> <p><u>Government Comment:</u> Government did not dispute researcher’s answer.</p>	d
<p>25. In the executive’s budget or any supporting budget documentation, what is the most recent year presented for which all expenditures reflect actual outcomes?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Two years prior to the budget year (BY-2). b. Three years prior to the budget year (BY-3). c. Before BY-3. d. No actual data for all expenditures are presented in the budget or supporting budget documentation. e. Not applicable/other (please comment). <p><u>Citation:</u></p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u> This type of information is not released in the EBP or in the supporting documents thereof.</p> <p><u>Government Comment:</u> Government did not dispute researcher’s answer.</p>	d

26. Are the expenditure estimates for the years prior to the budget year adjusted, as needed, to be comparable with the budget-year estimates in terms of classification and presentation?

- a. Yes, prior-year data are always adjusted to be comparable to the budget year data.
- b. Yes, in most cases, prior-year data are adjusted to be comparable.
- c. Yes, in some cases, prior-year data are adjusted to be comparable, but significant deviations between prior-year and budget-year classifications exist.
- d. No, prior-year data are not adjusted to be comparable, or no prior-year estimates are presented.
- e. Not applicable/other (please comment).

Citation:

In the website of MEF, 2004-2007 estimates of expenditure are presented. See: <http://mef.gov.ec/stgcPortal> then select "Presupuesto", select "Proforma", select "Gastos", select "Resumen Agregado", select "Consolidado", "Gobierno Central" and "2004" or "2005" or "2006" or "2007" ; then click "consultar."

Comment:

Researcher Response to this Question was "a"

Peer Reviewer One Comment: A more appropriate response to this question would be "b." There is some adjustment of expenditures, which makes it impossible to conduct year-to-year comparisons. This occurred, for example, with a change in the classification of the type of expenditure: current and capital.

Peer Reviewer Two Comment: The references lead to information that does appear in the proposal or in the supporting documents thereof.

Researcher Response: I believe that Peer Reviewer One is more objective. Nonetheless, at the time of this review the link that I mentioned is undergoing maintenance, but it was available previously. The following document compares FY 2007 and 2008 projected estimates.

http://mef.gov.ec/PRESUPUESTO_2008/PGE2008/PAGINAS/GOBIERNO%20CENTRAL.htm

For example, public health expenditures:

http://mef.gov.ec/PRESUPUESTO_2008/PGE2008/Pdfs/1%20GOBIERNO%20CENTRAL/037.%20Cuadro%201.pdf

IBP Comment: IBP editors chose answer "d" for consistency with the comment made by peer reviewer two. Also, the documents cited in the Researcher Response do not have a date, so it is not possible to see whether they were part of the Executive's Budget Proposal 2008 presented to the Congress in the fall 2007.

Government Comment: To the extent possible, an attempt is made to adjust estimates of expenditures and only in instances when changes to the functional classification cannot be compared. The response should be "b."

d

<p>27. Does the executive’s budget or any supporting budget documentation identify the different sources of tax revenue (such as income tax or VAT) for the year preceding the budget year (BY-1)?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. All tax revenues are identified individually for BY-1. b. Tax revenues amounting to at least two-thirds of, but not all, tax revenue for BY-1 are identified individually. c. Tax revenues amounting to less than two-thirds of all tax revenues for BY-1 are identified individually. d. No tax revenues are identified individually for BY-1. e. Not applicable/other (please comment). <p><u>Citation:</u> The document “Justificación de Ingresos” explains detailed information http://mef.gov.ec/pls/portal/docs/PAGE/MINISTERIO_ECONOMIA_FINANZAS_ECUADOR/SUBSECRETARIAS/SUBSECRETARIA_DE_PRESUPUESTOS/PROFORMA2008/1-13.PDF</p> <p>The document “Presentación del Presupuesto 2008” Pages 18-24 explains the income sources -tax related. See http://mef.gov.ec/pls/portal/docs/PAGE/MINISTERIO_ECONOMIA_FINANZAS_ECUADOR/SUBSECRETARIAS/SUBSECRETARIA_DE_PRESUPUESTOS/PROFORMA2008/PRESENTACION_PROFORMA.PDF</p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Government Comment:</u> Government did not dispute researcher’s answer.</p>	<p>a</p>
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<p>28. Does the executive’s budget or any supporting budget documentation identify the different sources of non-tax revenue (such as grants, property income, and sales of goods and services) for the year preceding the budget year (BY-1)?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. All non-tax revenues are identified individually for BY-1. b. Non-tax revenues amounting to at least two-thirds of, but not all, non-tax revenue for BY-1 are identified individually. c. Non-tax revenues amounting to less than two-thirds of all non-tax revenues for BY-1 are identified individually. d. No non-tax revenues are identified individually for BY-1. e. Not applicable/other (please comment). <p><u>Citation:</u> The document “Justificación de Ingresos” explains the concept http://mef.gov.ec/pls/portal/docs/PAGE/MINISTERIO_ECONOMIA_FINANZAS_ECUADOR/SUBSECRETARIAS/SUBSECRETARIA_DE_PRESUPUESTOS/PROFORMA2008/1-13.PDF</p> <p>The document “Presentación del Presupuesto 2008” Pages 45-46 explains the income sources non-tax related. See http://mef.gov.ec/pls/portal/docs/PAGE/MINISTERIO_ECONOMIA_FINANZAS_ECUADOR/SUBSECRETARIAS/SUBSECRETARIA_DE_PRESUPUESTOS/PROFORMA2008/PRESENTACION_PROFORMA.PDF</p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Government Comment:</u> Government did not dispute researcher’s answer.</p>	<p>a</p>
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<p>29. In the executive’s budget or any supporting budget documentation, how many months of actual data are reflected in the revenues estimates of the year prior to the budget year (BY-1)?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. All BY-1 estimates have been updated from the original estimates to reflect six or more months of actual revenue collections. b. All BY-1 estimates have been updated from the original estimates, but reflect less than six months of actual revenue collections. c. Some BY-1 estimates have not been updated from the original estimates to reflect actual revenue collections. d. The BY-1 estimates have not been updated from the original estimates or no BY-1 estimates are presented. e. Not applicable/other (please comment). <p><u>Citation:</u></p> <p><u>Comment:</u> All BY-1 estimates have been updated from the original estimates to reflect six or more months of actual revenue collections.</p> <p><u>Researcher Response to this Question was “a”</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></p> <p><u>IBP Comment:</u> IBP editors chose answer “b” to maintain consistency of assumptions in selecting answers across countries. See question 22.</p> <p><u>Government Comment:</u> Government did not dispute researcher’s original answer “a” that was modified by IBP for consistency purposes.</p>	<p>b</p>
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30. In the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation, are estimates of the aggregate level of revenues presented for years that precede the budget year by more than one year (that is, BY-2 and prior years)?

- a. Yes, such prior-year estimates of aggregate revenue are presented.
- b. No, such prior-year estimates of aggregate revenue are not presented.
- c. Not applicable/other (please comment).

Citation:

The document "Justificación de Ingresos" explains the concept
http://mef.gov.ec/pls/portal/docs/PAGE/MINISTERIO_ECONOMIA_FINANZAS_ECUADOR/SUBSECRETARIAS/SUBSECRETARIA_DE_PRESUPUESTOS/PROFORMA2008/1-13.PDF

Also see:

The document "Presentación del Presupuesto 2008". See
http://mef.gov.ec/pls/portal/docs/PAGE/MINISTERIO_ECONOMIA_FINANZAS_ECUADOR/SUBSECRETARIAS/SUBSECRETARIA_DE_PRESUPUESTOS/PROFORMA2008/PRESENTACION_PROFORMA.PDF

Comment:

Researcher Response to this Question was "a"

Peer Reviewer One Comment: A more appropriate response to this question would be "b." Only statistics from previous years are provided; however, it cannot be assured that these statistics will be used for preparation of the 2008 EBP.

Peer Reviewer Two Comment:

Researcher Response: The documents are available in the WEB. I believe that "a" is more appropriate response; but the "b" is OK.

IBP Comment: Given the comment left by Peer Reviewer One, it seems that a "b" answer may also be appropriate.

Government Comment: Government did not dispute researcher's original answer.

b

31. In the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation, is more detail than just the aggregate level presented for revenue estimates that cover years preceding the budget year by more than one year (that is, BY-2 and prior years)?

- a. Yes, such prior-year revenue estimates are presented for individual sources of revenue, and by revenue classification (such as tax and non-tax).
- b. Yes, such prior-year estimates are presented by revenue classification (such as tax and non-tax), but only for some individual sources of revenue.
- c. Yes, such prior-year estimates are presented, but only for some individual sources of revenue.
- d. No, such prior-year estimates are presented for aggregate revenue only, or they are not presented at all.
- e. Not applicable/other (please comment).

Citation:

The document "Justificación de Ingresos" explains the concept
http://mef.gov.ec/pls/portal/docs/PAGE/MINISTERIO_ECONOMIA_FINANZAS_ECUADOR/SUBSECRETARIAS/SUBSECRETARIA_DE_PRESUPUESTOS/PROFORMA2008/1-13.PDF

See also:

The document "Presentación del Presupuesto 2008" Pages 45-46 explains the income sources non-tax related. See
http://mef.gov.ec/pls/portal/docs/PAGE/MINISTERIO_ECONOMIA_FINANZAS_ECUADOR/SUBSECRETARIAS/SUBSECRETARIA_DE_PRESUPUESTOS/PROFORMA2008/PRESENTACION_PROFORMA.PDF

Comment:

Researcher Response to this Question was "a"

Peer Reviewer One Comment: A more appropriate response to this question would be "d." The cited documents are not relevant to the question- In the cited documents, certain figures are mentioned, but they are basic and aggregate.

Peer Reviewer Two Comment:

Researcher Response: I suggest the answer should remain as I indicated in the questionnaire "a."

IBP Comment: IBP editors chose answer "c" in light of Peer Reviewer One Comment.

Government Comment: Government did not dispute researcher's answer.

C

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

- a. Two years prior to the budget year (BY-2).
- b. Three years prior to the budget year (BY-3).
- c. Before BY-3.
- d. No actual data for all revenues are presented in the budget or supporting budget documentation.
- e. Not applicable/other (please comment).

Citation:

The document "Justificación de Ingresos" explains the concept
http://mef.gov.ec/pls/portal/docs/PAGE/MINISTERIO_ECONOMIA_FINANZAS_ECUADOR/SUBSECRETARIAS/SUBSECRETARIA_DE_PRESUPUESTOS/PROFORMA2008/1-13.PDF

See Also

The document "Presentación del Presupuesto 2008" Pages 45-46 explains the income sources non-tax related. See
http://mef.gov.ec/pls/portal/docs/PAGE/MINISTERIO_ECONOMIA_FINANZAS_ECUADOR/SUBSECRETARIAS/SUBSECRETARIA_DE_PRESUPUESTOS/PROFORMA2008/PRESENTACION_PROFORMA.PDF

Comment:

Researcher Response to this Question was "a"

Peer Reviewer One Comment: The cited documents are irrelevant to the question.

Peer Reviewer Two Comment: After reviewing the first reference cited by the consultant, I suggest also that the response should be "a." Pages 8 and 9 of the document titled "Justifictivo de Ingresos" [Justification of Revenue] (which was attached to the 2008 proposed budget) includes a table in which information on actual ["efectivos"] revenue up to the end of the first half of 2007 was provided.

IBP Comment: The citation shows information for BY-1, but not previous years. Therefore the appropriate answer must be "d."

Government Comment: Government did not dispute researcher's original answer "a" that was modified by IBP for consistency purposes.

d

<p>33. Does the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation present information related to the government debt for the year preceding the budget year?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Yes, extensive information is presented on the level and composition of government debt for the year preceding the budget year. Yes, information on the level of debt is presented, but some important details about the composition of the debt are excluded. Yes, but only information on the level of debt is presented. No, information related to the government debt for BY-1 is not presented. Not applicable/other (please comment). <p><u>Citation:</u></p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u> On page 45 of the document "Presentación de la Proforma por parte del Ministro" (http://mef.gov.ec/pls/portal/docs/PAGE/MINISTERIO_ECONOMIA_FINANZAS_ECUADOR/ARCHIVOS_IMPORTANTE/TAB138898/PRES.%20MIN.PROFORMA%202008%20CONGRESO.PDF), an historical series (2000-2007) of levels of public debt classified by principal and interest is included in the supporting documents to the budget proposal. The answer should be "c," since at least one of the supporting documents disseminates information on debt, but does not do so to an adequate extent. The level of detail is limited to classifying the amount of debt in terms of principle and interest.</p> <p><u>Government Comment:</u> Government did not dispute researcher's answer.</p>	C
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<p>34. In the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation, what is the most recent year presented for which the debt figures reflect actual outcomes?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Two years prior to the budget year (BY-2). Three years prior to the budget year (BY-3). Before BY-3. No actual data for government debt are presented in the budget or supporting budget documentation. Not applicable/other (please comment). <p><u>Citation:</u></p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u> On page 45 of the document "Presentación de la Proforma por parte del Ministro" (http://mef.gov.ec/pls/portal/docs/PAGE/MINISTERIO_ECONOMIA_FINANZAS_ECUADOR/ARCHIVOS_INFORMACION_IMPORTANTE/TAB138898/PRES.%20MIN.PROFORMA%202008%20CONGRESO.PDF), an historical series (2000-2007) of levels of public debt classified by principal and interest is included in the supporting documents to the budget proposal. The information specifies that up until 2005 the series provides data on actual execution of debt (that is "actual outcomes"); as of 2006, the information is based on proposed budget estimates. The appropriate answer would be "b" (BY-3).</p> <p><u>Government Comment:</u> Government did not dispute researcher's answer.</p>	<p>b</p>
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Comprehensiveness	
<p>35. Does the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation present information for at least the budget year on extra-budgetary funds?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Yes, extensive information on extra-budgetary funds is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates. Yes, information is presented, highlighting key extra-budgetary funds, but some details are excluded. Yes, some information is presented, but it lacks important details. No, information on extra-budgetary funds is not presented. Not applicable/other (please comment). <p><u>Citation:</u> The document "Justificación de Ingresos" explains the concept http://mef.gov.ec/pls/portal/docs/PAGE/MINISTERIO_ECONOMIA_FINANZAS_ECUADOR/SUBSECRETARIAS/SUBSECRETARIA_DE_PRESUPUESTOS/PROFORMA2008/1-13.PDF The document "Presentación del Presupuesto 2008" Pages 45-46 explains the income sources non-tax related. See http://mef.gov.ec/pls/portal/docs/PAGE/MINISTERIO_ECONOMIA_FINANZAS_ECUADOR/SUBSECRETARIAS/SUBSECRETARIA_DE_PRESUPUESTOS/PROFORMA2008/PRESENTACION_PROFORMA.PDF</p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Researcher Response to this Question was "b"</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u> A more appropriate response to this question would be "e." Ecuadorean law does not permit extra-budgetary resources. The cited documents are irrelevant to the question.</p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u> The 2008 Oil Resources Use Recovery and Debt Processes Administrative Streamlining Law (Official Register No 308 of April 3, 2008), the oil funds (FEP, CEREPS, FAC) were resources that were managed outside of the budget. Under this law, these funds and trusts were eliminated and their resources were incorporated into the budget. Answer "b" is considered appropriate.</p> <p><u>IBP Comment:</u> The comment by peer reviewer one is appropriate. However, the law dealing with this issue was implemented when the BY2008 had already started, and the Executive's Budget Proposal analyzed refers to the BY 2008, at which point the legislation on extra-budgetary funds applied was still the old one. No changes in the answer are required.</p> <p><u>Government Comment:</u> Because these are extra-budgetary funds, they are not included in the budget, because they are allocated during execution. The answer should be "d."</p>	b

<p>36. Does the executive’s budget or any supporting budget documentation present information for at least the budget year on intergovernmental transfers?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Yes, extensive information on intergovernmental transfers is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates. b. Yes, information is presented, highlighting key intergovernmental transfers, but some details are excluded. c. Yes, some information is presented, but it lacks important details. d. No, information on intergovernmental transfers is not presented. e. Not applicable/other (please comment). <p><u>Citation:</u> See: http://mef.gov.ec/Sissec/faces/index.jspx Then select “Transferencias”, select “Annual”, select “Base Devengado” or “Directas Banco Central.”</p> <p>Also see: http://mef.gov.ec/portal/page?_pageid=37,58678&_dad=portal&_schema=PORTAL</p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u> The references show that the information on transfers to sectional governments does exist, and is widely disaggregated. However, it is also true that this information is not part of the packet of documents associated with the EBP.</p> <p><u>Government Comment:</u> Government did not dispute researcher’s answer.</p>	<p>d</p>
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37. Does the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation present information for at least the budget year on transfers to public corporations?

- a. Yes, extensive information on transfers to public corporations is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates.
- b. Yes, information is presented, highlighting key transfers to public corporations, but some details are excluded.
- c. Yes, some information is presented, but it lacks important details.
- d. No, information on transfers to public corporations is not presented.
- e. Not applicable/other (please comment).

Citation:

Please see Page 79 and others

http://mef.gov.ec/pls/portal/docs/PAGE/MINISTERIO_ECONOMIA_FINANZAS_ECUADOR/SUBSECRETARIAS/SUBSECRETARIA_DE_PRESUPUESTOS/PROFORMA2008/PRESENTACION_PROFORMA.PDF

Comment:

Researcher Response to this Question was "b"

Peer Reviewer One Comment: A more appropriate response to this question would be "c." Only aggregated information on transfers to public corporations (such as Petroecuador and IEES) is shown, but no details are discussed.

Peer Reviewer Two Comment: See:

http://mef.gov.ec/PROFORMA_2008/PGE2008/pdfs/descentralizadas/Cuadro_2_11.pdf; The appropriate answer is "b", because even though there is quantitative information on transfers to decentralized entities, the information could be much more detailed.

Researcher Response: I choose to keep my answer "b." The response selected is in keeping with the assessment.

IBP Comment: IBP editors chose answer "b" to maintain the consistency of the assumptions used in selecting answers across the countries.

Government Comment: Government did not dispute researcher's answer.

b

<p>38. Does the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation present information for at least the budget year on quasi-fiscal activities?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Yes, extensive information on quasi-fiscal activities is presented, including both a narrative discussion and, where possible, quantitative estimates. b. Yes, information is presented, highlighting key quasi-fiscal activities, but some details are excluded. c. Yes, some information is presented, but it lacks important details. d. No, information on quasi-fiscal activities is not presented. e. Not applicable/other (please comment). <p><u>Citation:</u></p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Government Comment:</u> Government did not dispute researcher's answer.</p>	d
<p>39. Does the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation present information on financial assets held by the government?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Yes, extensive information on financial assets is presented, including a listing of the assets, a discussion of their purpose, and an estimate of their market value. b. Yes, information is presented, highlighting key information, but some details are excluded. c. Yes, some information is presented, but it lacks important details. d. No, information on financial assets is not presented. e. Not applicable/other (please comment). <p><u>Citation:</u></p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u> Based on the classification system used in the methodology of the Open Budget Survey, this information is not available either in the EBP or in the supporting documents to it. The appropriate answer would be "d."</p> <p><u>Government Comment:</u> Government did not dispute researcher's answer.</p>	d

<p>40. Does the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation present information on non-financial assets held by the government?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Yes, extensive information on non-financial assets is presented, including a listing of the assets, and (where possible) an estimate of their market value. b. Yes, information is presented, highlighting key information, but some details are excluded. c. Yes, some information is presented, but it lacks important details. d. No, information on non-financial assets is not presented. e. Not applicable/other (please comment). <p><u>Citation:</u> There are important information on non-financial assets: http://mef.gov.ec/PRESUPUESTO_2008/PGE2008/Pdfs/CAIF/CAIF(gc2).pdf Also see: http://mef.gov.ec/PRESUPUESTO_2008/PGE2008/Pdfs/CAIF/CAIF(ss).pdf and http://mef.gov.ec/PROFORMA_2008/PGE2008/pdfs/P_G_E/CAIF_Consolidado.pdf</p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p>Peer Reviewer One Comment: A more appropriate response to this question would be "d." The above-cited document is about the savings investment financing account and is not a description of non-financial assets.</p> <p>Peer Reviewer Two Comment: The information appearing in the references is not a description of "non-financial assets." This information is not regularly released. We suggest that the answer is "d."</p> <p>Government Comment: Government did not dispute researcher's answer.</p>	<p>d</p>
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41. Does the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation present information for at least the budget year on expenditure arrears?

- a. Yes, extensive information on expenditure arrears is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates.
- b. Yes, information is presented, highlighting key expenditure arrears, but some details are excluded.
- c. Yes, some information is presented, but it lacks important details.
- d. No, information on expenditure arrears is not presented.
- e. Not applicable/other (please comment).

Citation:

http://mef.gov.ec/pls/portal/docs/PAGE/MINISTERIO_ECONOMIA_FINANZAS_ECUADOR/SUBSECRETARIAS/SUBSECRETARIA_DE_PRESUPUESTOS/ARCHIVOS_2008/05MAYO/4.PDF

Also you have information on:

http://mef.gov.ec/pls/portal/docs/PAGE/MINISTERIO_ECONOMIA_FINANZAS_ECUADOR/PUBLICACIONES/COYUNTURA/MF-UNICEF-BOLETINTRANSPARENCIA.PDF

Comment:

Researcher Response to this Question was "a"

Peer Reviewer One Comment: A more appropriate response to this question would be "d." No information of this type is presented. The above-cited documents are not responsive to the question.

Peer Reviewer Two Comment:

Researcher Response: I suggest the answer should remain as I indicated in the questionnaire, "a."

IBP Comment: IBP editors chose answer "d" in light of Peer Reviewer One comment.

Government Comment: Government did not dispute researcher's answer.

d

<p>42. Does the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation present information on contingent liabilities (such as government loan guarantees)?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Yes, extensive information on contingent liabilities is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates. Yes, information is presented, highlighting key contingent liabilities, but some details are excluded. Yes, some information is presented, but it lacks important details. No, information on contingent liabilities is not presented. Not applicable/other (please comment). <p><u>Citation:</u> http://mef.gov.ec/pls/portal/docs/PAGE/MINISTERIO_ECONOMIA_FINANZAS_ECUADOR/SUBSECRETARIAS/AUDITORIA_INTERNA/ARCHIVOS2008/INF.%20AI-08-02-06.PDF</p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u> The above referenced information is not about contingent liabilities. Generally, no information of this type is released. The response should be "d."</p> <p><u>Government Comment:</u> Government did not dispute researcher's answer.</p>	d
<p>43. Does the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation present information on future liabilities, such as civil service pensions?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Yes, extensive information on future liabilities is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates. Yes, information is presented, highlighting key future liabilities, but some details are excluded. Yes, some information is presented, but it lacks important details. No, information on future liabilities is not presented. Not applicable/other (please comment). <p><u>Citation:</u></p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u> Based on the classification system used in the methodology of the Open Budget Survey, this information is not available either in the executive budget proposal or in the supporting documents.</p> <p><u>Government Comment:</u> Government did not dispute researcher's answer.</p>	d

<p>44. Does the executive’s budget or any supporting budget documentation provide details on the sources of donor assistance, both financial and in-kind?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. All sources of donor assistance are identified individually. b. At least two-thirds of, but not all, sources of donor assistance, are identified individually. c. Less than two-thirds of sources of donor assistance are identified individually. d. No sources of donor assistance are identified individually. e. Not applicable/other (please comment). <p><u>Citation:</u></p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u> Based on the classification system used in the methodology of the Open Budget Survey, this information is not available either in the executive budget proposal or in the supporting documents. An appropriate answer would be “d.”</p> <p><u>Government Comment:</u> Government did not dispute researcher’s answer.</p>	<p>d</p>
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45. Does the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation present information for at least the budget year on tax expenditures?
- a. Yes, extensive information on tax expenditures is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates.
 - b. Yes, information is presented, highlighting key tax expenditures, but some details are excluded.
 - c. Yes, some information is presented, but it lacks important details.
 - d. No, information on tax expenditures is not presented.
 - e. Not applicable/other (please comment).

Citation:

Page 24 - 25

http://mef.gov.ec/pls/portal/docs/PAGE/MINISTERIO_ECONOMIA_FINANZAS_ECUADOR/SUBSECRETARIAS/SUBSECRETARIA_DE_PRESUPUESTOS/PROFORMA2008/PRESENTACION_PROFORMA.PDF

Comment:

Researcher Response to this Question was "b"

Peer Reviewer One Comment: A more appropriate response to this question would be "c." The above-cited document is about another subject. A more appropriate reference is the following:

<http://www.sri.gov.ec/sri/estadisticas/gen--020622.pdf>. See refunds by tax type. Those reports are not part of the EBP itself. But information is available in public database, so I'm assuming these documents like "any supporting budget documentation.

Peer Reviewer Two Comment:

Researcher Response:

IBP Comment: Given that the information is not included in the executive's budget proposal package that is presented to the legislature, even if the information is publicly available, the appropriate answer for this question, as per the OBI methodology, must be "d."

Government Comment: Government did not dispute researcher's answer.

d

<p>46. Does the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation identify all earmarked revenues?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. All earmarked revenues are identified individually. b. At least two-thirds of, but not all, earmarked revenues are identified individually. c. Less than two-thirds of earmarked revenues are identified individually. d. No earmarked revenues are identified individually. e. Not applicable/other (please comment). <p><u>Citation:</u> The document "Justificación de Ingresos" explains the concept http://mef.gov.ec/pls/portal/docs/PAGE/MINISTERIO_ECONOMIA_FINANZAS_ECUADOR/SUBSECRETARIAS/SUBSECRETARIA_DE_PRESUPUESTOS/PROFORMA2008/1-13.PDF</p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u> The Document "Justificativo de Ingresos" (pages 163-168) does have detailed information on earmarked revenues. This being so, the suggested answer is "a."</p> <p><u>Government Comment:</u> Government did not dispute researcher's answer.</p>	<p>a</p>
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47. What percentage of expenditure in the budget year is dedicated to spending on secret items relating to, for instance, national security and military intelligence?

- a. One percent or less of expenditure is dedicated to secret items.
- b. Three percent or less, but more than one percent, of expenditure is dedicated to secret items.
- c. Eight percent or less, but more than three percent, of expenditure is dedicated to secret items.
- d. More than eight percent of expenditure is dedicated to secret items, or the percentage is not available to the public.
- e. Not applicable/other (please comment).

Citation:

Comment:

There are no longer secret spending items and the budget for national security and military intelligence are subsumed into the defense and police spending. Defense and police spending accounts for more than 8% of the total budget.

Peer Reviewer One Comment:

Peer Reviewer Two Comment: Ever since the so-called "classified funds" (Fondos Reservados) were eliminated in the late 1990's, the executive's budget proposal has not been reporting "secret" items, about which information is not included in the documents submitted to the legislature. Recently, there has been debate about the appropriateness of once again having "classified" budgets or "pesupuestos reservados" for the funding of areas of military strategy and national security. The appropriate response is "e."

Perhaps I am misinterpreting the question but I believe that the meaning of it is clear when clarification of "secret items" is asked for. In light of the fact that defining "secret items" in the budget is prohibited by law, the response would be "e." In any case, if I were mistaken in my judgment, I would say that based on the 2008 budget proposal, the "security" budget (national defense sector + internal affairs sector) accounted for nearly 17% of the Budget of the Central Government.

Government Comment: Government did not dispute researcher's answer.

e

The Budget Narrative & Performance Monitoring	
<p>48. Does the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation explain how the proposed budget is linked to government's stated policy goals, by administrative unit (or functional category), for the budget year?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Yes, extensive information on the link between the budget and the government's stated policy goals, by administrative unit (or functional category) is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates. Yes, information is presented, highlighting the link between major policy goals and the budget, but some details are excluded. Yes, some information is presented, but it lacks important details. No, information on the link between the budget and the government's stated policy goals is not presented. Not applicable/other (please comment). <p><u>Citation:</u> In the document "Presentacion de la Proforma Presupuestaria del 2008", information is presented, highlighting the link between major policy goals and the Budget. See http://mef.gov.ec/pls/portal/docs/PAGE/MINISTERIO_ECONOMIA_FINANZAS_ECUADOR/SUBSECRETARIAS/SUBSECRETARIA_DE_PRESUPUESTOS/PROFORMA2008/PRESENTACION_PROFORMA.PDF</p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Researcher Response to this Question was "b"</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u> A more appropriate response to this question would be "c." The budget has a more administrative as opposed to an outcome-oriented focus. Therefore, it contains very little information linking objectives and budget.</p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u> For the most part, the EBP coordinates policy objectives with budget allocation levels. However, this coordination is general and not very detailed. Response "b" is recommended</p> <p><u>Researcher Response:</u> The right answer is "b."</p> <p><u>IBP Comment:</u> IBP editors chose answer "c" to maintain consistency of assumptions across countries.</p> <p><u>Government Comment:</u> In the EBP, entities report the most notable goals and link them with the budget, and therefore the response should be "b."</p>	C

<p>49. Does the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation explain how the proposed budget is linked to government's stated policy goals for a multi-year period (for at least two years beyond the budget year)?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Yes, extensive information on the link between the budget and the government's stated policy goals over a multi-year period is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates. Yes, information is presented, highlighting the major policy goals, but some details are excluded. Yes, some information is presented, but it lacks important details. No, information on the link between the budget and the government's stated policy goals over a multi-year period is not presented. Not applicable/other (please comment). <p><u>Citation:</u></p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u> The 2008 EBP (and respective supporting documents) did not contain this type of analysis. Only as of 2009, under the new constitution, the Executive is required to submit multi-year budgets. The appropriate answer would be "d."</p> <p><u>Government Comment:</u> Government did not dispute researcher's answer.</p>	d
<p>50. Does the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation present non-financial data, such as the number of beneficiaries, for expenditure programs?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Non-financial data are presented for all programs. Non-financial data are presented for programs representing at least two-thirds of, but not all, expenditures. Non-financial data are presented for programs representing less than two-thirds of expenditure. No non-financial data are presented. Not applicable/other (please comment). <p><u>Citation:</u> There are several samples on this matter: See http://www.miduvi.gov.ec/Default.aspx?tabid=280 Explains housing progrmas for the poor people Or http://www.miduvi.gov.ec/Default.aspx?tabid=178 Or http://www.miduvi.gov.ec/Portals/0/docs/Documentos%20Subsecretar% C3%ADa% Other programs Social assistance for example: http://www.pps.gov.ec/PPS/PPS/Recursos/Excel/Presupuesto.xls Or http://www.pps.gov.ec/PPS/PPS/BDH/ESTADISTICAS/Canton.aspx</p>	d

Comment:

Researcher Response to this Question was "d"

Peer Reviewer One Comment: A more appropriate response to this question would be "d." Neither the EBP nor the supporting documents provide any type of non-financial information.

Peer Reviewer Two Comment: Actually, many social programs release information on their beneficiaries. However, this information is not included in public budget-related documents.

Researcher Response: The following documents explain the methodology for preparing the budget: 1) "Budget Preparation seminar: Budget Formulation Training Guide" (Seminario de elaboración del presupuesto: Formulación Presupuestaria): This guide shows that each entity must achieve its particular objectives and goals for the following year, prepare its own expenditure and investment budget. This should be considered as supporting documents to the EBP.

http://mef.gov.ec/pls/portal/docs/PAGE/MINISTERIO_ECONOMIA_FINANZAS_ECUADOR/SUBSECRETARIAS/SIGEF/ARCHIVOS_2007/05MAYO/UE1.PDF

2) "Planning Guide" (Guía de Planificación)

"2007-2009 Planning of SENPLADES (National Secretariat of Planning and Development)" (Senplades Planificación 2007 2009)

http://www.senplades.gov.ec/c/document_library/get_file?uuid=ac9d772c-8ba0-44c3-9e69-76c13839b2af&groupId=18607

Conclusion: The way the process is designed shows that budget preparation involves all levels of participation, even though it may be that, in the general budget, non financial data justifying the EBP may not specified in every case. On the other hand, it is evident that each entity must use those data as the basis for the objectives they must fulfill. Those documents are undoubtedly supporting documents in budget formulation.

I chose to keep my initial answer "a."

IBP Comment: IBP editors chose answer "d" because, although the documentation provided by the researcher indicates what each institution should do, the question is asking whether the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation includes non-financial data on expenditure programs. And this is not the case, given that no such information has been found in the Executive's budget proposal or its supporting documents.

Government Comment: Government did not dispute researcher's answer.

51. Are the non-financial data presented useful for assessing how an expenditure program is performing?
- The non-financial data are very useful for assessing program performance.
 - The non-financial data are mostly useful for assessing program performance.
 - The non-financial data are somewhat useful for assessing program performance.
 - No non-financial data are provided or they are not useful for assessing program performance.
 - Not applicable/other (please comment).

Citation:

Comment:

Researcher Response to this Question was "d"

Peer Reviewer One Comment: A more appropriate response to this question would be "d." Neither the EBP nor the supporting documents present any type of non-financial information.

Peer Reviewer Two Comment: Actually, many social programs release information on their beneficiaries. However, this information is not included in the documents related to the public budget.

Researcher Response: Same as 50

IBP Comment: IBP editors chose answer "d" because although the documentation provided by the researcher indicates what each institution should do, the question is asking whether the non-financial data included in the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documents is useful. This is not the case, given that no such information has been found in the Executive's budget proposal or its supporting documents.

Government Comment: Government did not dispute researcher's answer.

d

<p>52. Does the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation contain performance indicators for expenditure programs?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Performance indicators are presented for all programs. Performance indicators are presented for programs representing at least two-thirds of, but not all, expenditures. Performance indicators are presented for programs representing less than two-thirds of expenditures. No performance indicators are presented. Not applicable/other (please comment). <p><u>Citation:</u> There are no performance indicators, but there is Transparency Report with the accountability of the Government performance http://mef.gov.ec/pls/portal/docs/PAGE/MINISTERIO_ECONOMIA_FINANZAS_ECUADOR/ARCHIVOS_INFORMACION_IMPORTANTE/PRESEN- WEB.PDF</p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p>Peer Reviewer One Comment: A more appropriate response to this question would be "d." The above-cited link is not relevant to the question at hand.</p> <p>Peer Reviewer Two Comment: In general, information of this nature does not exist or is not released. The appropriate answer is "d."</p> <p>Government Comment: Government did not dispute researcher's answer.</p>	d
<p>53. Are the performance indicators sufficiently well designed, such that one can assess whether there has been progress toward meeting policy goals?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> All performance indicators are well designed. Most performance indicators are well designed. Some performance indicators are well designed, but most are not. No programs have performance indicators, or they are not well designed. Not applicable/other (please comment). <p><u>Citation:</u> There are no performance indicators, but there is Transparency Report with the accountability of the Government performance http://mef.gov.ec/pls/portal/docs/PAGE/MINISTERIO_ECONOMIA_FINANZAS_ECUADOR/ARCHIVOS_INFORMACION_IMPORTANTE/PRESEN- WEB.PDF</p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p>Peer Reviewer One Comment: A more appropriate response to this question would be "d." The link cited above is not relevant to the question at hand.</p> <p>Peer Reviewer Two Comment: In general, information of this nature does not exist or is not released. The appropriate answer is "d."</p> <p>Government Comment: Government did not dispute researcher's answer.</p>	d

<p>54. Are performance indicators used in conjunction with performance targets presented in the executive’s budget or any supporting budget documentation?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. All performance indicators are used in conjunction with performance targets. b. Most performance indicators are used in conjunction with performance targets. c. Some performance indicators are used in conjunction with performance targets, but most are not. d. No performance indicators are used in conjunction with performance targets. e. Not applicable/other (please comment). <p><u>Citation:</u> There are no performance indicators, but there is Transparency Report with the accountability of the Government performance http://mef.gov.ec/pls/portal/docs/PAGE/MINISTERIO_ECONOMIA_FINANZAS_ECUADOR/ARCHIVOS_INFORMACION_IMPORTANTE/PRESENWEB.PDF</p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Researcher Response to this Question was “b”</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u> A more appropriate response to this question would be “d.” The link cited above is not relevant to the question at hand.</p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u> In general, information of this nature does not exist or is not released. The appropriate answer is “d.”</p> <p><u>IBP Comment:</u> IBP editors chose answer “d”, given both peer reviewers comments, and to maintain consistency in applying the methodology in all surveyed countries.</p> <p><u>Government Comment:</u> Government did not dispute researcher’s answer.</p>	<p>d</p>
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55. Does the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation present information on policies (both proposals and existing commitments) in at least the budget year that are intended to benefit directly the country's most impoverished populations?

- a. Yes, extensive information on policies intended to alleviate poverty is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates.
- b. Yes, information is presented, highlighting the impact of key policies intended to alleviate poverty, but some details are excluded.
- c. Yes, some information is presented, but it lacks important details.
- d. No, information on policies intended to alleviate poverty is not presented.
- e. Not applicable/other (please comment).

Citation:

Comment:

Researcher Response to this Question was "b"

Peer Reviewer One Comment: A more appropriate response to this question would be "c." The above referenced document is macroeconomic budget directives.

Peer Reviewer Two Comment: The link to the document '2008 Budget Directives' is:
http://mef.gov.ec/pls/portal/docs/PAGE/MINISTERIO_ECONOMIA_FINANZAS_ECUADOR/SUBSECRETARIAS/SUBSECRETARIA_DE_PRESUPUESTOS/PRESU_GEN_EST_2008/ARCHIVOS_2007/05MAYO/DIREC_PRESUP_2008.PDF

The document defines the macroeconomic policy guidelines (pgs. 1-9) that will guide budget administration. Nonetheless, the document does not offer a very broad analysis and only describes the legal framework that shall shape implementation of these policies. We believe that the response should be "c."

IBP Comment: IBP editors chose answer "c", given both peer reviewers comments, and to maintain consistency in applying the methodology in all surveyed countries.

Government Comment: Government did not dispute researcher's answer.

C

Additional Key Information for Budget Analysis & Monitoring	
<p><i>Please note that the questions in this section ask about information that is generally available to the public. The information need not be included in the executive's budget proposal or supporting documents, but may be found in other documents issued by the executive.</i></p>	
<p>56. Does the executive make available to the public a description of the tax rate or fee schedule for all revenue sources, including commercial projects involving the private sector?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Yes, extensive information on tax rates, fees, royalties and other revenues sources is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates. Yes, information is presented, highlighting the rates and fees for major revenue sources, but some details are excluded. Yes, some information is presented, but it lacks important details. No, information is not presented. Not applicable/other (please comment). <p><u>Citation:</u> In the document "Directrices presupuestarias 2008", information is presented, highlighting the major policy goals, but some details are excluded. See: http://mef.gov.ec/pls/portal/docs/PAGE/MINISTERIO_ECONOMIA_FINANZAS_ECUADOR/SUBSECRETARIAS/SUBSECRETARIA_DE_PRESUPUESTOS/PROFORMA2008/1-13.PDF</p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Researcher Response to this Question was "b"</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u> A more appropriate response to this question would be "c." There is no information on other fees charged by the government, nor on royalties or concessions with private companies, except for the oil industry for which the information is very general.</p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u> The document is: "Justificativo de Ingresos" 2008. However, it is only one part of the full document, which can be found at: http://mef.gov.ec/portal/page?_afz=portal&_afz_schema=PORTAL. Here you can find a great deal of the information on revenue (taxes 16-19, oil, pgs. 66-70, etc.). Notwithstanding, this information could be even more detailed.</p> <p><u>Researcher Response:</u> Response "b" is appropriate.</p> <p><u>IBP Comment:</u> IBP editors chose answer "c," to maintain consistency of assumptions across countries, in light of both peer reviewers' comments.</p> <p><u>Government Comment:</u> Government did not dispute researcher's answer.</p>	C

<p>57. Does the executive make available to the public an analysis of the distribution of the tax burden?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Yes, a detailed analysis of the distribution of the tax burden is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates. b. Yes, an analysis is presented, highlighting key aspects of the distribution, but some details are excluded. c. Yes, some analysis is presented, but it lacks important details. d. No analysis on the distribution of the tax burden is presented. e. Not applicable/other (please comment). <p><u>Citation:</u></p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Researcher Response to this Question was "b"</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u> A more appropriate response to this question would be "c." The information provided here is descriptive and does not contain any type of qualitative analysis nor a narrative.</p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u> See: http://www.sri.gov.ec/sri/portal/searchForms/stats.do We could find information on the amounts collected as taxes, but the information could be more detailed.</p> <p><u>Researcher Response:</u> I chose to keep my answer "b."</p> <p><u>IBP Comment:</u> IBP editors chose answer "c," to maintain consistency of assumptions across countries, in light of both peer reviewers' comments.</p> <p><u>Government Comment:</u> Government did not dispute researcher's answer.</p>	<p>C</p>
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58. Does the executive make available to the public an explanation of the conditions associated with assistance from international financial institutions (IFI)?

- a. Yes, extensive information on conditions associated with IFI assistance is presented, including a narrative discussion and any quantitative targets related to both macro-economic conditionality and project-specific conditionality.
- b. Yes, information is presented, but some details are excluded.
- c. Yes, some information is presented, but it lacks important details.
- d. No, information on conditions associated with IFI assistance is not presented.
- e. Not applicable/other (please comment).

Citation:

See: in the web site of MEF, extensive information related to the actual data and government debts are presented. Search using the words "Boletines Deuda Externa"
http://mef.gov.ec/portal/page?_pageid=37,56748&_dad=portal&_schema=PORTAL

Comment:

Researcher Response to this Question was "b"

Peer Reviewer One Comment: A more appropriate response to this question would be "c." The information is descriptive, but there is no type of explanation on the conditions or the final use of international financial assistance.

Peer Reviewer Two Comment: See: <http://mef.gov.ec/stgcPortal/inicio.jsp?page=/faces/common/resumenEjecutivo.jsp&id=90>. You can check information on IFI assistance, but not in detailed form. The appropriate answer is "b."

Researcher Response: Response "b" is appropriate because it lacks some important details.

IBP Comment: IBP editors chose to keep answer "b" in consistency with the assumptions used across countries.

Government Comment: Government did not dispute researcher's answer.

b

<p>59. Does the executive make available to the public an explanation of the conditions associated with assistance from donor countries?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Yes, extensive information on conditions associated with donor country assistance is presented, including a narrative discussion and any quantitative targets related to both macro-economic conditionality and project-specific conditionality. b. Yes, information is presented, but some details are excluded. c. Yes, some information is presented, but it lacks important details. d. No, information on conditions associated with donor country assistance is not presented. e. Not applicable/other (please comment). <p><u>Citation:</u> In the website of “Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores” (Ministry of Foreign Relations”), some information is presented but it lacks important details. See: http://www.mmree.gov.ec/ineci/perfiles/indice.asp</p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Researcher Response to this Question was “c”</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u> A more appropriate response to this question would be “d.” It only provides the list of donor countries and their area of work. There is no additional information.</p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></p> <p><u>IBP Comment:</u> IBP editors chose answer “d” consistent with peer reviewer one comment. Only the list of donors and their areas of work are published: this does not correspond to the conditions associated with donor countries.</p> <p><u>Government Comment:</u> Government did not dispute researcher’s answer.</p>	<p>d</p>
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<p>60. Does the executive make available to the public a summary that describes the budget and its proposals?</p> <p>a. Yes, it provides a summary that is very informative. b. Yes, it provides a summary that is somewhat informative. c. Yes, but the summary is not very informative. d. No, it does not provide a summary. e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</p> <p><u>Citation:</u> Presentación Proforma 2008 http://mef.gov.ec/pls/portal/docs/PAGE/MINISTERIO_ECONOMIA_FINANZAS_ECUADOR/SUBSECRETARIAS/SUBSECRETARIA_DE_PRESUPUESTOS/PROFORMA2008/PRESENTACION_PROFORMA.PDF</p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u> The 'Submission of the Proposed Budget' (above cited linked document) is pretty much a summarized analysis of the EBP, which unquestionably could be more detailed. The recommended response would be "b."</p> <p><u>Government Comment:</u> Government did not dispute researcher's answer.</p>	b
<p>61. Does the executive publish a "citizens budget" or some non-technical presentation intended for a wide audience that describes the budget and its proposals?</p> <p>a. Yes, it publishes a citizens budget that is very informative. b. Yes, it publishes a citizens budget that is somewhat informative. c. Yes, but the citizens budget is not very informative. d. No, it does not publish a citizens budget. e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</p> <p><u>Citation:</u> This is a new report. They are starting to build a "citizens Budget" http://mef.gov.ec/portal/page?_pageid=37,108927&_dad=portal&_schema=PORTAL</p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u> A more appropriate response to this question would be "d." The 'relatos fiscales' (Fiscal reports) do not discuss the current budget nor the policy objectives thereof.</p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u> The above-mentioned report does not constitute a Citizens Budget document, according to the specifications of the <i>Guide to the Open Budget Questionnaire</i>. The Fiscal Reports are a first-time attempt to make some public finance terms understandable to citizens. Therefore, the most suitable response to this question is "d."</p> <p><u>Government Comment:</u> Government did not dispute researcher's answer.</p>	d

<p>62. Does the executive make available to the public non-technical definitions of terms used in the budget and other budget-related documents (for instance, in a glossary)?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Yes, thorough definitions of budget terms are provided. b. Yes, definitions are provided, but some details are excluded. c. Yes, some definitions are provided, but it lacks important details. d. No, definitions are not provided. e. Not applicable/other (please comment). <p><u>Citation:</u></p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u> Actually, the series “Relatos Fiscales” (‘fiscal reports’) represents an effort to define public finance-related terminology for citizens: Expenditures, Revenue, Budget, etc. Moreover, the glossary of terms available on the MEF (Ministry of Economics and Finance) web page is quite comprehensive. The suggested answer is “a.”</p> <p><u>Government Comment:</u> Government did not dispute researcher’s answer.</p>	<p>a</p>
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63. Do citizens have the right *in law* to access government information, including budget information?
- Yes, the right has been codified into law, and citizens are generally able in practice to obtain government information, including budget information.
 - Yes, the right has been codified into law, but it is sometimes not possible for citizens in practice to obtain government information, including budget information.
 - Yes, the right has been codified into law, but it is frequently or always impossible in practice to obtain access to government information, including budget information.
 - No, the right to access government information has not been codified into law, or this right does not include access to budget information.
 - Not applicable/other (please comment).

Citation:

The right to public access to government information is guaranteed by the Constitution, as well as by Art. 18 of the Law of Organic Responsibility, Stabilization, and Fiscal Transparency ensure that citizens have free access to budget documents; and the Law for Transparency and Public Access to Information (LOTAIP).

Comment:

Researcher Response to this Question was "a"

Peer Reviewer One Comment: A more appropriate response to this question would be "b." Despite the fact that the law provides for the right to public information, in practice, it is sometimes impossible to find up-to-date and complete information.

Peer Reviewer Two Comment: Additionally, Article 1 of the Organic Law for Transparency and Public Access to Information (LATAIP) establishes that is a right of individuals to have access to public information. Moreover, Article 7, section g, provides that annual budgets of public institutions must be released on a permanent basis. The suggested answer is "a."

IBP Comment: IBP editors chose answer "b" consistent with the responses to Questions 64 and 65.

Government Comment: Government did not dispute researcher's answer.

b

64. Are citizens able in practice to obtain financial information on expenditures for individual programs in a format that is more highly disaggregated than that which appears in the executive's budget proposal if they request it (for example, from a ministry or agency)?

- a. In practice, highly disaggregated information is available to the public for all programs except those considered related to national security or military intelligence.
- b. In practice, highly disaggregated information is available to the public for programs representing at least two-thirds of, but not all, expenditures.
- c. In practice, highly disaggregated information is available to the public for programs representing less than two-thirds of expenditures.
- d. In practice, no highly disaggregated expenditure information is available.
- e. Not applicable/other (please comment).

Citation:

In the website of MEF, the citizens in the practice are able to obtain highly disaggregated financial information. Also see <http://mef.gov.ec/stgcPortal> then select "Presupuesto", select "Proforma" or "Ejecución."

Also there is a new WEB option to get updated information thru the link:

In-year budget information: Reports

http://mef.gov.ec/portal/page?_pageid=37,92752&_dad=portal&_schema=PORTAL

Comment:

Peer Reviewer One Comment:

Peer Reviewer Two Comment: Actually, the two links provided above do make it possible to consult information that is quite disaggregated (revenue and expenditures) on programs and executing units, both at the level of the Enacted Budget and at the level of actual budget execution (in real time thanks to eSIGEF¹). It is also possible to gain access to this information through formal requests to the Ministry of the Economy and Finance (MEF).

Government Comment: Government did not dispute researcher's answer.

b

¹ SIGEF [Sistema Integrado de Gestión Financiera Pública] is the Integrated Public Finance Management System

65. Are citizens able in practice to obtain non-financial information related to expenditures (for example, number of beneficiaries, number of persons employed by the program, etc.) for individual programs in a format that is more highly disaggregated than that which appears in the executive's budget proposal if they request it from a ministry or agency?

- a. In practice, highly disaggregated non-financial information is available to the public for all programs except those considered related to national security or military intelligence.
- b. In practice, highly disaggregated non-financial information is available to the public for programs representing at least two-thirds of, but not all, expenditures.
- c. In practice, highly disaggregated non-financial information is available to the public for programs representing less than two-thirds of expenditures.
- d. In practice, no highly disaggregated non-financial expenditure information is available.
- e. Not applicable/other (please comment).

Citation:

There several websites with non-financial information. By Law each government institution has to have a website with related non-financial information. The institutions of the social area have that information. For example:

Housing Programs:

<http://www.miduvi.gov.ec/Default.aspx?tabid=280>

MIDUVI: Beneficiarios del Bono de la Vivienda – Corte Año 2009

<http://www.miduvi.gov.ec/Default.aspx?tabid=280>

MIDUVI: Beneficiarios del Bono de la Vivienda – Corte Año 2008

<http://www.miduvi.gov.ec/Default.aspx?tabid=178>

<http://www.miduvi.gov.ec/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=dRj0znKYC2s%3d&tabid=178>

"MIDUVI: Informe de Gestión Subsecretaría de Vivienda Años 2008 y 2009 hasta mayo 2009" (MIDUVI: Management Report Sub Secretariat of Housing 2008 and 2009 until May 2009)

[http://www.miduvi.gov.ec/Portals/0/docs/Documentos%20Subsecretar%
C3%ADa%](http://www.miduvi.gov.ec/Portals/0/docs/Documentos%20Subsecretar%C3%ADa%20)

"MIDUVI: Informe de Gestión Subsecretaría de Vivienda Años 2008 y 2009 hasta mayo 2009 – Beneficiarios" (MIDUVI: Management Report Sub Secretariat of Housing 2008 and 2009 until May 2009 - Beneficiaries)

<http://www.pps.gov.ec/PPS/PPS/Recursos/Excel/Presupuesto.xls>

"Bono de Desarrollo Humano – Programa de Protección Social" (Social Programs: Welfare for the poor people)

– 31/08/2009

More.

Comment:

Peer Reviewer One Comment:

Peer Reviewer Two Comment:

Government Comment: Government did not dispute researcher's answer.

b

Section Three: The Budget Process

<p>The Budget Process</p>	
<p>Executive’s Formulation of the Budget</p>	
<p>66. How far in advance of the release of the budget is the day of its release known?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The release date is set in permanent law. b. The executive announces the release date at least two months in advance. c. The executive announces the release date less than two months but more than two weeks in advance. d. The executive announces the release date two weeks or less before the release, or makes no announcement. e. Not applicable/other (please comment). <p><u>Citation:</u> Article 258 of the old Constitution stated that the executive’s budget proposal must be released by September 1 (unless it is an election year) but the precise release date varies and is normally announced a few days in advance.</p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u> The deadlines for submitting the EBP are set forth in Article 295 of the new constitution. It provides that it must be submitted 90 days prior to the beginning of the first fiscal year that the Executive is in office and (then) 60 days prior (in subsequent years). Even though 2009 was the year that the current government came into office (its second term), the 2010 EBP and the attendant multi-year program were submitted on November 10, 2009. In other words, in this particular instance, the deadline for submitting the 2010 Proposed Budget was 60 days prior to the start of the fiscal year (10 days late, from the deadline of November 1 to the date of submission, November 10).</p> <p><u>Government Comment:</u> Government did not dispute researcher’s answer.</p>	<p>a</p>

67. Does the executive release to the public its timetable for preparation of 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 what ever central government agency is in charge of coordinating the budget's formulation)?

- a. Yes, a detailed timetable is released to the public.
- b. Yes, a timetable is released, but some details are excluded.
- c. Yes, a timetable is released, but it lacks important details.
- d. No, a timetable is not issued to the public.
- e. Not applicable/other (please comment).

Citation:

"Normativa del Sistema de Administración Financiera" (Regulations of the Financial Administration System)

http://mef.gov.ec/pls/portal/docs/PAGE/MINISTERIO_ECONOMIA_FINANZAS_ECUADOR/SUBSECRETARIAS/SUBSECRETARIA_DE_CONTABILIDAD_GUBERNAMENTAL/PRODUCTOS/ARCHIVOS_2008/1.%20NORMSAFI.PDF

Comment:

The Law of Accountability, Stabilization and Fiscal Transparency establishes that the Ministry of the Economy and Finance must prepare the following documents: budget Directives, manuals for application of the Government Accounting System, Budget Catalogues and Ceilings, within specific time periods. Based on these documents, the different executing units draft their annual operations plans. The process of formulation of the proposal depends on the Schedule for Preparation of the Executive Proposed Budget. Page 13 of the document "Normativa del Sistema de Administración Financiera" discusses the power of the Sub Secretariat of Budget to prepare this timetable.

Peer Reviewer One Comment:

Peer Reviewer Two Comment:

Government Comment: The researcher's comment at the end of the first paragraph ('The process of formulation of the proposal depends on the Schedule for Preparation of the Executive Proposed Budget') is not correct. The process cannot be adjusted to a schedule, the schedule must adjusted to the rule.

a

<p>68. Does the executive adhere to its timetable for the preparation and release of the budget?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The executive adheres to the dates in its timetable. b. The executive adheres to most of the key dates in its timetable. c. The executive has difficulty adhering to most of the dates in its timetable. d. The executive does not adhere to the dates in its timetable, or it does not release to the public its timetable. e. Not applicable/other (please comment). <p><u>Citation:</u></p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Researcher Response to this Question was "b"</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u> A more appropriate response to this question would be "a." The timetable was adhered to for the EBP that was analyzed (2008).</p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u> Generally speaking, the timetables for formulating and submitting the proposed budget are respected. However, for example, in 2009 the EBP was submitted 10 days late (November 10, 2009). Moreover, the argument cannot be made that the Executive always respects the established deadlines for budget formulation. We believe however that the appropriate response should be "b", since traditionally most of the deadlines of the process are respected.</p> <p><u>Researcher Response:</u> The analysis is of 2008. The response should be "a."</p> <p><u>IBP Comment:</u> IBP editors chose answer "a" to maintain consistency of assumptions across countries.</p> <p><u>Government Comment:</u> For the most part, deadlines for formulating and submitting the proposed budget are respected. (They have always been met. Should they not be met, it would lead to impeachment proceedings against the Minister.)</p>	<p>a</p>
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<p>69. Does the executive hold consultations with members of the legislature as part of its process of determining budget priorities?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Yes, the executive holds extensive consultations with a wide range of legislators. b. Yes, the executive holds consultations with a range of legislators, but some key members are excluded. c. Yes, the executive holds very limited consultations, involving only a few members of the legislature. d. No, the executive does not typically consult with members of the legislature as part of the budget preparation process. e. Not applicable/other (please comment). <p><u>Citation:</u></p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u> A more appropriate response to this question would be “d.”</p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u> We do not have any evidence that consultations of this type are held. In practice, no formal mechanism has been established for consultation with the legislature on priorities that should be reflected in the budget preparation and EBP, beyond specific situations for which the Executive has defined certain guidelines together with the block of members of its party in the legislative Assembly.</p> <p><u>Government Comment:</u> Government did not dispute researcher’s answer.</p>	<p>d</p>
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70. Does the executive hold consultations with the public as part of its process of determining budget priorities?

- a. Yes, the executive holds extensive consultations with a wide range of constituencies.
- b. Yes, the executive holds consultations with a range of constituencies, but some key constituencies are excluded.
- c. Yes, the executive holds very limited consultations, involving only a few constituencies.
- d. No, the executive does not typically consult with the public as part of the budget preparation process.
- e. Not applicable/other (please comment).

Citation:

The executive does not typically consult with the public as part of the budget preparation process.

Commernt:

Peer Reviewer One Comment: A more appropriate response to this question would be "d."

Peer Reviewer Two Comment: In practice, no formal mechanism of consultation with the public has been adequately established. It must be stressed that significant efforts are being made by the Executive, through the National Secretariat of Planning and Development to make the planning and, indirectly, the process of budget formulation, more participatory (by means of dialogue committees (mesas de diálogo) in the context of the National Plan of Good Living (Plan Nacional del Buen Vivir). Despite the foregoing, we suggest that the response be "d."

Government Comment: Government did not dispute researcher's answer.

d

<p>71. When does the executive release a pre-budget statement to the public?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The executive releases a pre-budget statement at least four months in advance of the start of the budget year. b. The executive releases a pre-budget statement at least two months (but less than four months) in advance of the start of the budget year. c. The executive releases a pre-budget statement, but it is released less than two months before the start of the budget year. d. The executive does not release a pre-budget statement. e. Not applicable/other (please comment). <p><u>Citation:</u></p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Researcher Response to this Question was "d"</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u> A more appropriate response to this question would be "d." The Pre-Budget Statement is not available to the public.</p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u> Actually, in our opinion there is no Pre-Budget Statement that is available to the broader public. The Budget Directives document could be considered a Pre-Budget Statement, but perhaps it does not fulfill the requirements of a document of this nature. The response in this instance would be "d."</p> <p><u>IBP Comment:</u> IBP editors chose answer "d" in light of the two peer reviewers' comments and the correct use of the OBI methodology.</p> <p><u>Government Comment:</u> Government did not dispute answer "d" which was selected by the IBP in light of the peer reviewers' comments and the correct application of the OBI methodology.</p>	<p>d</p>
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<p>72. Does the pre-budget statement describe the government’s macroeconomic and fiscal framework?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Yes, an extensive explanation of the government’s fiscal and macroeconomic policy is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates. b. Yes, an explanation is presented, highlighting key aspects of the fiscal and macroeconomic framework, but some details are excluded. c. Yes, some explanation is presented, but it lacks important details. d. No, an explanation is not presented, or the executive does not release to the public a pre-budget statement. e. Not applicable/other (please comment). <p><u>Citation:</u></p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Researcher Response to this Question was “d”</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u> A more appropriate response to this question would be “d.”</p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u> Actually, in our opinion there is no Pre-Budget Statement that is available to the broader public. The Budget Directives document could be considered a Pre-Budget Statement, but perhaps it does not fulfill the requirements of a document of this nature. The response in this instance would be “d.”</p> <p><u>IBP Comment:</u> IBP editors chose answer “d” in light of the two peer reviewers’ comments and the correct use of the OBI methodology.</p> <p><u>Government Comment:</u> Government did not dispute answer “d” which was selected by the IBP in light of the peer reviewers’ comments and the correct application of the OBI methodology.</p>	<p>d</p>
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<p>73. Does the pre-budget statement describe the government’s policies and priorities that will guide the development of detailed estimates for the upcoming budget?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Yes, an extensive explanation of the government’s budget policies and priorities is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates. b. Yes, an explanation is presented, highlighting key aspects of the government’s budget policies and priorities, but some details are excluded. c. Yes, some explanation is presented, but it lacks important details. d. No, an explanation is not presented, or the executive does not release to the public a pre-budget statement. e. Not applicable/other (please comment). <p><u>Citation:</u></p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Researcher Response to this Question was “b”</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u> A more appropriate response to this question would be “d.”</p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u> Actually, in our opinion there is no Pre-Budget Statement that is available to the broader public. The Budget Directives document could be considered a Pre-Budget Statement, but perhaps it does not fulfill the requirements of a document of this nature. The response in this instance would be “d.”</p> <p><u>IBP Comment:</u> IBP editors chose answer “d” in light of the two peer reviewers’ comments and the correct use of the OBI methodology.</p> <p><u>Government Comment:</u> Government did not dispute answer “d” which was selected by the IBP in light of the peer reviewers’ comments and the correct application of the OBI methodology.</p>	<p>d</p>
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Legislative Approval of the Budget	
<p>74. How far in advance of the start of the budget year does the legislature receive the budget?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The legislature receives the budget at least three months before the start of the budget year. b. The legislature receives the budget at least six weeks, but less than three months, before the start of the budget year. c. The legislature receives the budget less than six weeks before the start of the budget year. d. The legislature does not receive the budget before the start of the budget year. e. Not applicable/other (please comment). <p><u>Citation:</u></p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Researcher Response to this Question was "b"</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u> A more appropriate response to this question would be "a." Pursuant to the constitution in force for the 2008 budget, Congress should have received the EBP by September 1.</p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u> The law (Article 295 of the Constitution) provides that the EBP must be submitted 90 days prior to the beginning of the first fiscal year that the Executive is in office and (then) 60 days prior (in subsequent years). Although the proposed budget was received on November 10, the law is clear in this regard. Therefore, the answer should be "b."</p> <p><u>IBP Comment:</u> The Executive's Budget Proposal considered in this Survey is the 2008 proposal. Therefore, we are using the legislation implemented at the time in which the 2008 proposal was presented and discussed. Consequently a more appropriate answer will be "a."</p> <p><u>Government Comment:</u> Government did not dispute researcher's answer.</p>	<p>a</p>

75. Does a legislative committee (or committees) hold public hearings on the macroeconomic and fiscal framework presented in the budget in which testimony from the executive branch and the public is heard?
- Yes, public hearings are held on the macroeconomic and fiscal framework in which testimony is heard from the executive branch and a wide range of constituencies.
 - Yes, hearings are held in which testimony is heard from the executive branch and some constituencies.
 - Yes, hearings are held in which testimony from the executive branch is heard, but no testimony from the public is heard.
 - No, public hearings are not held on the macroeconomic and fiscal framework in which testimony from the executive branch and the public is heard.
 - Not applicable/other (please comment).

Citation:

Public hearings are not held on the macroeconomic and fiscal framework in which testimony from the executive branch and the public is heard

Comment:

Researcher Response to this Question was "d"

Peer Reviewer One Comment: A more appropriate response to this question would be "c." The Committee on Banking Economy and Finance" only hears the testimony of Central Bank and Ministry of Economy officials. Below is a link to where a newspaper analyzed the Central Bank's 2008 report and it was showed to a congressional committee, cited by OPF (Observatorio de Política Fiscal or 'Fiscal Policy Observatory'). Maybe this is evidence of a media attended public hearing. <http://www.observatoriodofiscal.org/documentos/noticias-de-prensa/la-hora/1206.html>

d

Peer Reviewer Two Comment: Historically, the National Congress and its committees have held hearings with members of the Ministry of Finance and the Internal Revenue Service. There is no way of proving with concrete evidence that these processes took place during the 2007 and 2008 fiscal years. We have not found any reports pertaining to these hearings. However, it is known that the hearings are held and that reports are generated as a result of them.

IBP Comment: IBP editors chose answer "d" because even if, as Peer Reviewer mentions, the economic and financial committee in the Legislature heard testimony from public officials working at the MoF:

- Those hearings were not broadcasted while they were happening (media representatives might have attended, but the public got to know about them only through the press, with a time lag);
- The general public was allowed to attend;
- They do not refer to the discussion of the national budget, but only to a Central Bank report.

Government Comment: Review the Organic Law of Legislative Function, Authority and Powers of the National Assembly; and the old law also established those powers and authority.

76. Do legislative committees hold public hearings on the individual budgets of central government administrative units (that is, ministries, departments, and agencies) in which testimony from the executive branch is heard?

- a. Yes, extensive public hearings are held on the budgets of administrative units in which testimony from the executive branch is heard.
- b. Yes, hearings are held, covering key administrative units, in which testimony from the executive branch is heard.
- c. Yes, a limited number of hearings are held in which testimony from the executive branch is heard.
- d. No, public hearings are not held on the budgets of administrative units in which testimony from the executive branch is heard.
- e. Not applicable/other (please comment).

Citation:

A limited number of hearings are held in which testimony from the executive branch is heard. Hearings are only held if the unit requests one or if the Congress decides to hold a hearing.

Comment:

Researcher Response to this Question was "c"

Peer Reviewer One Comment: A more appropriate response to this question would be "d." There are no hearings on individual budgets of ministries or agencies.

Peer Reviewer Two Comment: Historically, the National Congress and its committees have held hearings with members of the Ministry of Finance and the Internal Revenue Service. There is no way of proving with concrete evidence that these processes took place during the 2007 and 2008 fiscal years. It must be noted that in the context of the discussion on the 2010 EBP, the Committee on Economic and Tax Rules of the National Assembly heard members of the Consortium of Provincial Councils (CONCOPE) of the Association of Municipalities of Ecuador (AME), UNICEF, Ministers of Finance, Ecuadorean Central Bank managers, Directors of the Internal Revenue Service, economic experts, among others.

Researcher Response: The response comports with the facts. There are hearings, so "c" is correct.

IBP Comment: If the hearings were not broadcasted and/or if the general public could not physically attend those hearings, then the most appropriate answer would be "d."

Government Comment: Review the Organic Law of Legislative Function, Authority and Powers of the National Assembly; and the old law also established those powers and authority. Government did not dispute answer "c" that was modified by IBP in light of peer reviewers' comments, and for consistency purposes.

d

<p>77. Does a legislative committee (or committees) hold public hearings on the individual budgets of central government administrative units (that is, ministries, departments, and agencies) in which testimony from the public is heard?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Yes, extensive public hearings are held on the budgets of administrative units in which testimony from the public is heard. b. Yes, hearings are held, covering key administrative units, in which testimony from the public is heard. c. Yes, a limited number of hearings are held in which testimony from the public is heard. d. No, public hearings are not held on the budgets of administrative units in which testimony from the public is heard. e. Not applicable/other (please comment). <p><u>Citation:</u> Public hearings are not held on the budgets of administrative units in which testimony from the public is heard.</p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u> Historically, the National Congress and its committees have held hearings with members of the Ministry of Finance and the Internal Revenue Service. There is no way of proving with concrete evidence that these processes took place during the 2007 and 2008 fiscal years. We have not found any reports pertaining to these hearings. However, it is known that the hearings are held and that reports are generated as a result of them.</p> <p><u>Government Comment:</u> Government did not dispute researcher’s answer.</p>	<p>d</p>
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78. Do the legislative committees that hold public hearings release reports to the public on these hearings?

- a. Yes, the committees release very informative reports, which include all written testimony presented at the hearings.
- b. Yes, the committees release reports, but some details are excluded.
- c. Yes, the committees release reports, but they are not very informative.
- d. No, the committees do not release reports or do not hold public hearings.
- e. Not applicable/other (please comment).

Citation:

A limited number of hearings are held in which testimony from the legislative is heard.

Comment:

Researcher Response to this Question was "c"

Peer Reviewer One Comment: A more appropriate response to this question would be "d." There are no reports on the public hearings.

Peer Reviewer Two Comment: Historically, the National Congress and its committees have held hearings with members of the Ministry of Finance and the Internal Revenue Service. There is no way of proving with concrete evidence that these processes took place during the 2007 and 2008 fiscal years. We have not found any reports pertaining to these hearings. However, it is known that the hearings are held and that reports are generated as a result of them.

IBP Comment: The question is asking whether the Legislature releases reports on the public hearings, not, as the researcher mentions in his comment, whether there are hearings where the legislative is heard. From both peer reviewers comments there is no sufficient evidence that the reports that may be generated (see PR2) are actually released. In the absence of further evidence, IBP editors chose answer "d" to maintain consistency of assumptions across countries.

Government Comment: We believe that the correct answer is "c."

d

79. Is the legislature (or the appropriate legislative committee or members of the legislature) given full information for the budget year on the spending of all secret items relating to, for instance, national security and military intelligence?

- a. Yes, the appropriate legislative committee or members of the legislature is provided extensive information on all spending on secret items, which includes detailed, line item descriptions of all expenditures.
- b. No, the legislature is provided information on spending on secret items, but some details are excluded, or some categories are presented in an aggregated manner, or the legislature is provided no information on secret items.
- c. Not applicable/other (please comment).

Citation:

Comment:

Peer Reviewer One Comment: A more appropriate response to this question would be "c." There are no secret expenditures under Ecuadorean law.

Peer Reviewer Two Comment: Ever since the so-called "Fondos Reservados" (classified funds) were eliminated in the late 1990's, the Executive's Budget Proposal has not been reporting "secret" items, about which information is not included in the documents submitted to the legislature. Recently, there has been debate, in the context of the Law of Public Security, about the appropriateness of once again having "classified" budgets or "pesupuestos reservados" for the funding of areas of military strategy and national security. The appropriate response is "c."

Government Comment: Government did not dispute researcher's answer.

C

80. Does the legislature have authority *in law* to amend the budget presented by the executive?

- a. Yes, the legislature has unlimited authority *in law* to amend the budget.
- b. Yes, the legislature has authority *in law* to amend the budget, with some limitations.
- c. Yes, the legislature has authority *in law* to amend the budget, but its authority is very limited.
- d. No, the legislature does not have any authority *in law* to amend the budget.
- e. Not applicable/other (please comment).

Citation:

Comment:

Researcher Response to this Question was "c"

Peer Reviewer One Comment: A more appropriate response to this question would be "b." According to the constitution in force for approval of the 2008 budget, the requirements to amend the budget were less rigid than those set forth in the new constitution.

Peer Reviewer Two Comment: Actually, Article 295 of the Constitution regulates the ability of the Legislature to amend the EBP. The Assembly has very little time to discuss and even maybe make observations on the EBP (30 days) and in the event that it makes observations on it, it must have a three quarters majority to ratify said observations in quite a short period of time (10 days) as well. Based on this verification, we suggest that "c" be the answer.

IBP Comment: IBP editors chose answer "c" for consistency in the interpretation of this question (see OBI 2008). The same question was answered "c" in the PBO 2008 when the old Constitution was still in place.

Government Comment: The powers have been maintained; no substantial changes have be made in this area of authority.

C

<p>81. What is the most detail provided in the appropriation (expenditure budget) approved by the legislature?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The approved budget includes program-level detail. The approved budget includes departmental totals and some additional details (for instance, sub-department totals or major programs). The approved budget includes only departmental totals. The approved budget includes less information than departmental totals or the approved budget is not released to the public. Not applicable/other (please comment). <p><u>Citation:</u> Executive budget 2009 http://mef.gov.ec/portal/page?_pageid=37,64682&_dad=portal&_schema=PORTAL</p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Government Comment:</u> Government did not dispute researcher's answer.</p>	a
Executive's Implementation of the Budget	
<p>82. How often does the executive release to the public in-year reports on actual expenditure (organized by administrative unit, economic classification and/or function)?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> In-year reports on actual expenditure are released at least every month. In-year reports on actual expenditure are released at least every quarter. In-year reports on actual expenditure are released at least semi-annually. In-year reports on actual expenditure are not released. Not applicable/other (please comment). <p><u>Citation:</u> http://mef.gov.ec/portal/page?_pageid=37,100657&_dad=portal&_schema=PORTAL</p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Government Comment:</u> Government did not dispute researcher's answer.</p>	a

<p>83. What share of expenditure is covered by in-year reports on actual expenditure (organized by administrative unit, economic classification and/or function)?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Yes, in-year reports cover all expenditures. b. Yes, in-year reports cover at least two-thirds, but not all, of expenditures. c. Yes, in-year reports cover less than two-thirds of expenditures. d. No in-year reports are released to the public. e. Not applicable/other (please comment). <p><u>Citation:</u> http://mef.gov.ec/portal/page?_pageid=37,100657&_dad=portal&_schema=PORTAL</p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Government Comment:</u> Government did not dispute researcher’s answer.</p>	<p>a</p>
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84. What is the most detail provided in the in-year reports on actual expenditures organized by *administrative unit*?

- a. The in-year reports on actual expenditures organized by administrative unit contain program-level detail.
- b. The in-year reports on actual expenditures organized by administrative unit contain departmental totals and some additional details (for instance, sub-department totals or major programs).
- c. The in-year reports on actual expenditures organized by administrative unit contain only departmental totals.
- d. The in-year reports on actual expenditures organized by administrative unit are not released to the public, not produced, or contain less information than departmental totals.
- e. Not applicable/other (please comment).

Citation:

http://mef.gov.ec/portal/page?_pageid=37,100657&_dad=portal&_schema=PORTAL

Comment:

Researcher Response to this Question was "a"

Peer Reviewer One Comment: A more appropriate response to this question would be "c." See:

http://mef.gov.ec/portal/page?_pageid=1647,175045&_dad=portal&_schema=PORTAL

Peer Reviewer Two Comment:

Researcher Response: PR2 indicates the link to the data that contains the information being sought. This module of reports is very comprehensive. We insist on "a."

IBP Comment: IBP editors chose answer "c" because the link provided by the researcher does not work, while the link provided by Peer Reviewer One shows only information by departmental totals and it does not even show every single administrative entity (i.e. all ministries).

Government Comment: Government did not dispute researcher's answer.

C

<p>85. Do the in-year reports released to the public compare actual year-to-date expenditure with either the original estimate for that period (based on the enacted budget) or the same period in the previous year?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Yes, comparisons are made for all expenditures.b. Yes, comparisons are made for at least two-thirds, but not all, of expenditures.c. Yes, but comparisons are made for less than two-thirds of expenditures.d. No, comparisons are not made, or no in-year reports are released to the public.e. Not applicable/other (please comment). <p><u>Citation:</u> http://mef.gov.ec/portal/page?_pageid=37,92752&_dad=portal&_schema=PORTAL</p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Researcher Response to this Question was "a"</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></p> <p><u>IBP Comment:</u> Comparisons are not made against original estimates for the period or the previous year. The answer is "d."</p> <p><u>Government Comment:</u> Government did not dispute researcher's original answer "a" that was modified by IBP for consistency purposes.</p>	d
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<p>86. How often does the executive release to the public in-year reports on actual revenue collections by source of revenue?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. In-year reports on actual revenue collections by source of revenue are released at least every month. b. In-year reports on actual revenue collections are released at least every quarter. c. In-year reports on actual revenue collections are released at least semi-annually. d. In-year reports on actual revenue collections by source of revenue are not released. e. Not applicable/other (please comment). <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> “Boletines de Coyuntura Economica” (Economic Outlook Bulletins), each month: http://mef.gov.ec/portal/page?_pageid=1647,175186&_dad=portal&_sc_hema=PORTAL</p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></p> <p><u>IBP Comment:</u> IBP editors agreed with answer “a” because at the time in which the research was completed the <i>Boletines de Coyuntura Economica</i> were available to the public. However it must be noted that no such document has been released in the first six months of 2010 (but since this is happening after the cutoff date of September 15, 2009, this worsening cannot be recorded in the Survey).</p> <p><u>Government Comment:</u> Government did not dispute the original answer “d” that was modified by IBP in light of new information provided by the researcher.</p>	<p>a</p>
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<p>87. What share of revenue is covered by the in-year reports on actual revenue collections?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. In-year reports cover the actual revenue collections of all sources of revenue. b. In-year reports cover the actual revenue collections of at least two-thirds of, but not all, sources of revenue. c. In-year reports cover actual revenue collections of less than two-thirds of revenue sources. d. In-year reports on actual revenue collections are not released to the public. e. Not applicable/other (please comment). <p><u>Citation:</u> In-year reports cover the actual revenue collections of all sources of revenue. "Boletines de Coyuntura Economica" (Economic Outlook Bulletins), each month: http://mef.gov.ec/portal/page?_pageid=1647,175186&_dad=portal&_sc_hema=PORTAL</p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Government Comment:</u> Government did not dispute the original answer "d" that was modified by IBP in light of new information provided by the researcher.</p>	<p>a</p>
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<p>88. Do the in-year reports released to the public compare actual year-to-date revenue collections with either the original estimate for that period (based on the enacted budget) or the same period in the previous year?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Yes, comparisons are made for all revenue sources. b. Yes, comparisons are made for at least two-thirds of, but not all, revenue sources. c. Yes, but comparisons are made for less than two-thirds of revenue sources. d. No, comparisons are not made, or no in-year reports are released to the public. e. Not applicable/other (please comment). <p><u>Citation:</u> "Boletines de Coyuntura Economica" (Economic Outlook Bulletins), each month: http://mef.gov.ec/portal/page?_pageid=1647,175186&_dad=portal&_sc_hema=PORTAL</p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Government Comment:</u> Government did not dispute the original answer "d" that was modified by IBP in light of new information provided by the researcher.</p>	<p>a</p>
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<p>89. Does the executive release to the public in-year reports on actual borrowing?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Yes, in-year reports on actual borrowing are released at least every month. b. Yes, in-year reports on actual borrowing are released at least every quarter. c. Yes, in-year reports on actual borrowing are released at least semi-annually. d. No, in-year reports on actual borrowing are not released. e. Not applicable/other (please comment). <p><u>Citation:</u> “Boletines de Coyuntura Economica” (Economic Outlook Bulletins), each month: http://mef.gov.ec/portal/page?_pageid=1647,175186&_dad=portal&_sc_hema=PORTAL</p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Government Comment:</u> Government did not dispute the original answer “d” that was modified by IBP in light of new information provided by the researcher.</p>	<p>a</p>
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90. Do in-year reports released to the public on actual borrowing present information related to the composition of government debt (such as interest rates on the debt, maturity profile of the debt, and currency denomination of the debt) for the budget year?
- a. Yes, extensive information related to the composition of government debt is presented.
 - b. Yes, key additional information is presented, but some details are excluded.
 - c. Yes, some additional information is presented, but it lacks important details.
 - d. No, additional information related to the composition of government debt is not presented, or such in-year reports on borrowing are not released.
 - e. Not applicable/other (please comment).

Citation:

http://mef.gov.ec/portal/page?_pageid=1647,175186&_dad=portal&_sc_hema=PORTAL

Comment:

C

Researcher Response to this Question was "a"

Peer Reviewer One Comment: A more appropriate response to this question would be "c." Only basic statistical information, such as quantity and lender, is released, but important details are left out.

Peer Reviewer Two Comment:

Researcher Response: It is fair to recognize that this information is available.

IBP Comment: IBP editors chose answer "c" to maintain consistency of assumptions across countries, and in light of the analysis of the cited document.

Government Comment: Government did not dispute the original answer "d" that was modified by IBP in light of new information provided by the researcher.

91. For in-year reports on actual expenditure released to the public by the executive, how much time typically elapses between the end of the reporting period and when the report is released (e.g., are quarterly reports released less than 4 weeks after the end of the quarter)?
- a. Reports are released 1 month or less after the end of the period.
 - b. Reports are released 2 months or less (but more than 1 month) after the end of the period.
 - c. Reports are released more than 2 months after the end of the period.
 - d. In-year reports are not released.
 - e. Not applicable/other (please comment).

Citation:

In the MEF Page, the executive realize to the public in-year reports on actual expenditure are released 1 month or less after the end of the period. See:

http://mef.gov.ec/portal/page?_pageid=1647,175186&_dad=portal&_sc_hema=PORTAL

Comment:

Researcher Response to this Question was "a"

Peer Reviewer One Comment: A more appropriate response to this question would be "c." During 2009, there were serious delays in the release of information.

Peer Reviewer Two Comment:

IBP Comment: IBP editors chose answer "b" given that by the time the research was made, the latest available Report was that for June-July 2009, therefore released within 2 months from the end of the reporting period.

Government Comment: Government did not dispute the original answer "d" that was modified by IBP in light of new information provided by the researcher.

b

92. Does the executive release to the public a mid-year review of the budget that discusses the changes in economic outlook since the budget was enacted?
- Yes, the mid-year review includes an extensive discussion of the economy that includes a revised forecast for the full fiscal year and its effects on the budget.
 - Yes, the mid-year review includes a discussion of the economy, but it lacks some details.
 - Yes, the mid-year review includes a discussion of the economy, but it lacks important details.
 - No, the mid-year review does not include a discussion of the economy, or the executive does not release a mid-year review of the budget.
 - Not applicable/other (please comment).

Citation:

There are several public documents talking about the estate of the execution of the budget.

For example:

Monthly the MEF release a document called "Coyuntura. See at http://mef.gov.ec/portal/page?_pageid=37,108894&_dad=portal&_schema=PORTAL

INEC: National Statistics Institute release the Ecuadorian economic and demographic numbers. See at <http://www.eltiempo.com.ec/noticias-cuenca/20535-inec-ecuador-preva-cerrar-aa-o-con-una-inflacia-n-del-4-por-ciento/>

In the MEF Page, the executive realize to the public in-year reports on actual expenditure are released 1 month or less after the end of the period. See:

http://mef.gov.ec/portal/page?_pageid=37,100657&_dad=portal&_schema=PORTAL

Comment:

Peer Reviewer One Comment: A more appropriate response to this question would be "d." The above-cited documents are not a Mid-Year Review. This document is not available.

Peer Reviewer Two Comment: However, Mid-Year Reviews are not prepared, as they are defined in Open Budget Survey methodology. The response should be "d." We are aware that the information is available in the eSIGEF whereby public budget execution can be tracked.

We also are aware that some ministries generate reports on execution of their budget (the most representative example is the report generated by the Ministry of Coordination and Social Development on the way resources are executed in the social area and the report that is released by the Ministry of Economy and Finance (MEF) and the Ministry of Coordination and Social Development with the support of UNICEF on social investment). We assume that the MEF generates Mid-Year Reports for different executing units of the public sector, but these are definitely not made available to the public formally or systematically. Despite all of this, the law establishes that periodical reports

d

<p>must be submitted by the Executive, and the requirement is reaffirmed in Article 295 of the new constitution which establishes that: "The Executive shall submit every six months to the National Assembly the report on budget execution." We believe that based on current circumstances, the appropriate answer would be "produced but not available."</p> <p>Government Comment: At the aggregate level. Government did not dispute researcher's original answer.</p>	
<p>93. Does the executive release to the public a mid-year review of the budget that includes updated expenditure estimates for the budget year underway?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Yes, the mid-year review includes updated expenditure estimates for the full fiscal year, providing extensive information on why estimates have changed from the original enacted levels. b. Yes, the mid-year review includes updated estimates of expenditure, but some details on why estimates have changed are not provided. c. Yes, the mid-year review includes updated estimates of expenditure, but important details on why estimates have changed are not provided. d. No, the mid-year review does not include updated expenditure estimates for the budget year, or the executive does not release a mid-year review of the budget. e. Not applicable/other (please comment). <p><u>Citation:</u></p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</p> <p>Peer Reviewer Two Comment: Mid-Year Reviews are not prepared as defined in the methodology of Open Budget Survey. The response should be "d."</p> <p>Government Comment: Government did not dispute researcher's answer.</p>	<p>d</p>

<p>94. What is the most detail provided in the mid-year review for expenditures?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The mid-year review includes program-level detail for expenditures. b. The mid-year review includes departmental totals (or functional totals) and some additional details (for instance, sub-department totals or major programs). c. The mid-year review includes only departmental totals (or functional totals). d. The mid-year review includes less information than departmental totals (or functional totals) for expenditures, or the executive does not release a mid-year review of the budget. e. Not applicable/other (please comment). <p><u>Citation:</u></p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u> Mid-Year Reviews are not prepared as defined in the methodology of Open Budget Survey. The response should be "d."</p> <p><u>Government Comment:</u> Government did not dispute researcher's answer.</p>	d
<p>95. Does the executive release to the public a mid-year review of the budget that includes updated revenue estimates for the budget year underway?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Yes, the mid-year review includes updated revenue estimates for the full fiscal year, providing extensive information on why estimates have changed from the original enacted levels. b. Yes, the mid-year review includes updated estimates of revenue, but some details on why estimates have changed are not provided. c. Yes, the mid-year review includes updated estimates of revenue, but important details on why estimates have changed are not provided. d. No, the mid-year review does not include updated revenue estimates for the budget year, or the executive does not release a mid-year review of the budget. e. Not applicable/other (please comment). <p><u>Citation:</u></p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u> Mid-Year Reviews are not prepared as defined in the methodology of Open Budget Survey. The response should be "d."</p> <p><u>Government Comment:</u> Government did not dispute researcher's answer.</p>	d

<p>96. Does the executive seek input from the legislature when the executive shifts funds between administrative units (except when the amounts are below a certain <i>minimal</i> level specified in law or regulation)?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Yes, the executive seeks approval from the legislature before shifting funds between administrative units. b. Yes, the executive gives prior notification to the legislature before shifting funds, giving the legislature an opportunity to block or modify the proposed adjustment. c. Yes, the executive seeks legislative approval, but only after the shift of funds has been implemented. d. No, the executive shifts funds between administrative units without seeking input from the legislature, or the amount allowed under the law or by regulation is significantly large enough to undermine public scrutiny and accountability (please describe arrangements below). e. Not applicable/other (please comment). <p><u>Citation:</u></p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u> Article 44 of the Law of Stabilization, Accountability and Transparency reaffirms the so-called Rules of Budget Modifications, for reallocation over the course of budget execution. The provision does not clearly define the role of the Legislature in that process (the legislature is limited to receive execution reports based on a pre-established timetable). This being the case, the powers of the Legislature to have any input into potential amendments to programs are limited.</p> <p><u>Government Comment:</u> The power of budget execution does not lie in the Legislature. It lies in the Executive because it is the executor of Public Policy through the General Budget of the State. The Legislature may make suggestions, but does have the authority to change the budget. Government did not dispute researcher's original answer.</p>	<p>d</p>
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<p>97. During the past year, have there been credible reported instances in which the procurement of goods and services has not followed an open and competitive process in practice?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. There were no credible reported instances of procurement failing to follow an open and competitive process in practice during the past year. b. The procurement of goods and services frequently followed an open and competitive process in practice, but there were some reported instances of irregularities. c. The procurement of goods and service followed an open and competitive process in many instances, but there were significant reported examples of irregularities. d. No, the procurement process was not open and competitive in practice. e. Not applicable/other (please comment). <p><u>Citation:</u> The procurement of goods and services frequently followed an open and competitive process in practice. See: http://www.compraspublicas.gov.ec</p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u> The web page of the National Public Procurement System maintains a base of resolutions of Termination of Contracts (http://www.compraspublicas.gov.ec/index.php?option=com_docman&task=cart_view&qid=101&Itemid=128) and a data base of providers who have not fulfilled the terms of contracts entered into by them with the State: (http://www.compraspublicas.gov.ec/ProcesoContratacion/app/webroot/compras/Empresa/EmpReporteIncumplidos.php).</p> <p><u>Government Comment:</u> Government did not dispute researcher’s answer.</p>	<p>b</p>
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<p>98. When does the legislature typically approve supplemental budgets?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Supplemental budgets are approved before the funds are expended, or the executive rarely proposes a supplemental budget (please specify). b. Supplemental budgets are approved after the funds are expended, or the executive implements supplemental budgets without ever receiving approval from the legislature (please specify). c. Not applicable/other (please comment). <p><u>Citation:</u> Article 44 of the Law of Stabilization, Accountability and Transparency</p> <p><u>Comment:</u> The Executive implements supplemental budgets without ever receiving approval from the legislature.</p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u> Article 44 of the Law of Stabilization, Accountability and Transparency reaffirms the so-called Rules of Budget Modifications, for reallocation over the course of budget execution. The provision does not clearly define the role of the Legislature in that process (the legislature is limited to receive execution reports based on a pre-established timetable). This being the case, the powers of the Legislature to have any input into potential amendments to programs are limited.</p> <p><u>Government Comment:</u> The power of budget execution does not lie in the Legislature; it lies in the Executive because it is the executor of Public Policy through the General Budget of the State. The Legislature may make suggestions, but does have the authority to change the budget. Government did not dispute researcher's original answer.</p>	<p>b</p>
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99. In most years, how large are supplemental budget requests relative to the size of the original budget?

- a. Supplemental budgets are generally equal to 2 percent or less of the original budget.
- b. Supplemental budgets are generally equal to more than 2 percent, but less than 5 percent, of the original budget.
- c. Supplemental budget are generally equal to more than 5 percent, but less than 10 percent, of the original budget.
- d. Supplemental budget are generally equal to 10 percent or more of the original budget, or insufficient information is available to the public regarding the amount of supplemental budgets.
- e. Not applicable/other (please comment).

Citation:

Due to the worldwide economic crisis there is no opportunity to request supplemental budgets. They are less than 5 percent.

Comment:

Researcher Response to this Question was "b"

Peer Reviewer One Comment: A more appropriate response to this question would be "b." According public finance statistics that are found on the webpage of the Ministry of Finance, even though starting in 2007 additional expenditure has been over 10%, as compared to Enacted Budget at the beginning of year.

Peer Reviewer Two Comment: In 2008, the change between the Enacted Budget of the fiscal year and the executed budget of the Central Government reached 37%

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Researcher Response: Response "b" is in line with the assessment.

<p><u>IBP Comment:</u> IBP editors chose answer “d” to maintain consistency of assumptions across countries. See Peer Reviewer Two’s Comment. The last years taken into consideration were exceptional for all the other countries included in the Survey, therefore and exception cannot be made for Ecuador.</p> <p><u>Government Comment:</u> Review the Law of Recovery of Hydrocarbons. Constitutional mandate. The law allows budget increases of up to 15%, but there have been changes of 5% to 10%, and therefore the response should be “c.”</p>	
<p>100. When does the legislature approve the expenditure of contingency funds or other funds for which no specific purpose was identified in the budget?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Expenditures are approved before the funds are expended, or contingency funds or other funds with no specific purposes are not included in the budget. b. Expenditures are approved after the funds are expended, but before the end of the fiscal year. c. Expenditures are approved after the end of the fiscal year, for example in the next budget. d. Such expenditure takes place without legislative approval. e. Not applicable/other (please comment). <p><u>Citation:</u></p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u> Under the Law of Accountability, Stabilization and Transparency the Savings and Contingency Fund (FAC) is created as part of a special account for “Production and social Reactivation of Scientific, Technological and Fiscal Stabilization Development” (see Article 15.6). The resources in this fund are used to stabilize oil revenues and address any emergencies that may be declared. No approval of the Legislature was required to use it. It must be mentioned that as of April 2008, with the enactment of the Law for Recovery of the Use of Oil Resources of the State, this fund was eliminated and its resources were moved into the General Budget of the State.</p> <p><u>Government Comment:</u> Government did not dispute researcher’s answer.</p>	d

Executive's Year-end Report and the Supreme Audit Institution	
<p>101. How long after the end of the budget year does the executive release to the public a year-end report that discusses the budget's actual outcome for the year?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The report is released six months or less after the end of the fiscal year. The report is released 12 months or less (but more than six months) after the end of the fiscal year. The report is released more than 12 months after the end of the fiscal year. The executive does not release a year-end report. Not applicable/other (please comment). <p><u>Citation:</u> 2008 Report on Transparency and Accountability Informe de Transparencia y Rendición de Cuentas 2008 http://mef.gov.ec/portal/page?_pageid=1647,180438&_dad=portal&_sc_hema=PORTAL</p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u> The 2008 Report on Transparency and Accountability was submitted in April 2009 (4 months after the end of the fiscal year). The document mainly refers to annual management of the Economy and Finance Ministry (MEF), with a look at the country's economic performance in macroeconomic terms and a review of how principal fiscal variables evolved.</p> <p><u>Government Comment:</u> Government did not dispute researcher's answer.</p>	a

<p>102. In the year-end report have the data on the actual outcomes been audited?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Yes, all data on actual outcomes have been audited. At least two-thirds, but not all, of the data on actual outcomes have been audited. Less than two-thirds of the data on actual outcomes have been audited. None of the data on actual outcomes has been audited, or a year-end report is not released. Not applicable/other (please comment). <p><u>Citation:</u> Year end reports are not audited.</p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Government Comment:</u> Government did not dispute researcher’s answer.</p>	d
<p>103. Does the year-end report explain the difference between the enacted levels (including in-year changes approved by the legislature) and the actual outcome for expenditures?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Yes, an extensive explanation of the differences is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates. Yes, an explanation is presented, highlighting key differences, but some details are excluded. Yes, some explanation is presented, but it lacks important details. No, an explanation is not presented, or such a report is not released. Not applicable/other (please comment). <p><u>Citation:</u> 2008 Report on Transparency and Accountability, Chapter 5 http://mef.gov.ec/pls/portal/docs/PAGE/MINISTERIO_ECONOMIA_FINANZAS_ECUADOR/SUBSECRETARIAS/SUBSECRETARIA_GENERAL_DE_COORDINACION/COORDINACION_DE_COMUNICACION_SOCIAL/ARCHIVOS/INFORME_DEUDA/ARCHIVOS/CAP5.PDF</p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u> According to Chapter 5 of the 2008 Report on Transparency and Accountability, we can state that no clear explanations on the differences between the approved and executed budget and actual outcome of expenditures are provided.</p> <p><u>Government Comment:</u> Government did not dispute researcher’s answer.</p>	d

104. What level of detail is the focus of the explanation of the differences between the enacted levels and the actual outcome for expenditures presented in the year-end report?

- a. The explanation of the differences between the enacted expenditure levels and the actual outcome focuses on the program level.
- b. The explanation focuses on departmental totals (or functional totals) or some lower level of detail (but not the program level in all cases).
- c. The explanation focuses on a higher level of aggregation than departmental totals (or functional totals).
- d. No explanation of the differences is provided, or such a report is not released.
- e. Not applicable/other (please comment).

Citation:

"Informe de Transparencia y Rendición de Cuentas 2008" (2008 Report on Transparency and Accountability)

http://mef.gov.ec/pls/portal/docs/PAGE/MINISTERIO_ECONOMIA_FINANZAS_ECUADOR/SUBSECRETARIAS/SUBSECRETARIA_GENERAL_DE_COORDINACION/COORDINACION_DE_COMUNICACION_SOCIAL/ARCHIVOS/INFORME_DEUDA/ARCHIVOS/CAP5.PDF

Comment:

Researcher Response to this Question was "b"

Peer Reviewer One Comment: A more appropriate response to this question would be "c." Except for social sectors, the information is not disaggregated by departmental levels.

Peer Reviewer Two Comment: Based on chapter 5 of the 2008 Report on Transparency and Accountability, we can say that partial (and not so extensive) explanations provided are on some differences at the sector level between what was approved and executed.

Researcher Response: This level of detail does exist.

IBP Comment: IBP editors chose answer "c" to maintain consistency of assumptions across countries. No information explaining the different between the enacted and the actuals are presented at departmental level is presented.

Government Comment: Government did not dispute researcher's answer.

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<p>105. Does the year-end report explain the difference between the enacted levels (including in-year changes approved by the legislature) and the actual outcome for revenues?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Yes, an extensive explanation of the differences is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates. Yes, an explanation is presented, highlighting key differences, but some details are excluded. Yes, some explanation is presented, but it lacks important details. No, an explanation is not presented, or such a report is not released. Not applicable/other (please comment). <p><u>Citation:</u> "Informe de Transparencia y Rendición de Cuentas 2008" (2008 Report on Transparency and Accountability) http://mef.gov.ec/portal/page?_pageid=1647,180438&_dad=portal&_schema=PORTAL</p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u> No clear explanations are provided on the differences between what was executed and actual outcome for revenues.</p> <p><u>Government Comment:</u> Government did not dispute researcher's answer.</p>	d
<p>106. Does the year-end report explain the difference between the original macroeconomic forecast for the fiscal year and the actual outcome for that year?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Yes, an extensive explanation of the differences is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates. Yes, an explanation is presented, highlighting key differences, but some details are excluded. Yes, some explanation is presented, but it lacks important details. No, an explanation is not presented, or such a report is not released. Not applicable/other (please comment). <p><u>Citation:</u></p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u> We believe that in order to maintain consistency with the previous questions we should assume that the Year-End Report is the 2008 Report on Transparency and Accountability (http://mef.gov.ec/portal/page?_pageid=1647,180438&_dad=portal&_schema=PORTAL). No explanations are provided on the differences between macroeconomic forecasts and actual outcome of these variables.</p> <p><u>Government Comment:</u> Government did not dispute researcher's answer.</p>	d

<p>107. Does the year-end report explain the difference between the original estimates of non-financial data and the actual outcome?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Yes, an extensive explanation of the differences is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates. Yes, an explanation is presented, highlighting key differences, but some details are excluded. Yes, some explanation is presented, but it lacks important details. No, an explanation is not presented, or such a report is not released. Not applicable/other (please comment). <p><u>Citation:</u> "Informe de Transparencia y Rendición de Cuentas 2008" (2008 Report on Transparency and Accountability) http://mef.gov.ec/portal/page?_pageid=1647,180438&_dad=portal&_sc_hema=PORTAL</p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p>Peer Reviewer One Comment: A more appropriate response to this question would be "d." No type of non-financial or program performance data is provided.</p> <p>Peer Reviewer Two Comment: We believe that in order to maintain consistency with the previous questions we should assume that the Year-End Report is the 2008 Report on Transparency and Accountability. No information of this type is presented.</p> <p>Government Comment: Government did not dispute researcher's answer.</p>	d
<p>108. Does the year-end report explain the difference between the original performance indicators and the actual outcome?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Yes, an extensive explanation of the differences is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates. Yes, an explanation is presented, highlighting key differences, but some details are excluded. Yes, some explanation is presented, but it lacks important details. No, an explanation is not presented, or such a report is not released. Not applicable/other (please comment). <p><u>Citation:</u> The budget does not include performance indicators.</p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p>Peer Reviewer One Comment: A more appropriate response to this question would be "d." No type of non-financial or program performance data is provided.</p> <p>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</p> <p>Government Comment: Government did not dispute researcher's answer.</p>	d

<p>109. Does the year-end report explain the difference between the enacted level of funds intended to benefit directly the country’s most impoverished populations and the actual outcome?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Yes, an extensive explanation of the differences is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates.b. Yes, an explanation is presented, highlighting key differences, but some details are excluded.c. Yes, some explanation is presented, but it lacks important details.d. No, an explanation is not presented, or such a report is not released.e. Not applicable/other (please comment). <p><u>Citation:</u> No, an explanation is not presented.</p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u> No comparative data are presented.</p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Government Comment:</u> Government did not dispute researcher’s answer.</p>	d
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<p>110. Does the year-end report present the actual outcome for extra-budgetary funds?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Yes, extensive information on the actual outcome for extra-budgetary funds is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates. b. Yes, information is presented, highlighting key issues, but some details are excluded. c. Yes, some information is presented, but it lacks important details. d. No, information is not presented on extra-budgetary funds, or such a report is not released. e. Not applicable/other (please comment). <p><u>Citation:</u> There are no extra-budgetary funds.</p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Researcher Response to this Question was "e"</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u> We believe that in order to maintain consistency with the previous questions we should assume that the Year-End Report is the 2008 Report on Transparency and Accountability. Page 39 of said document presents balances of the oil funds and trusts that are incorporated into the budget as a function of the Law for Recovery of the Use of Oil Funds. However, this information is not detailed enough. The suggested answer in this case is "c."</p> <p><u>IBP Comment:</u> IBP editors chose answer "c" because the legislation eliminating extra-budgetary funds was passed when the budget 2008 had already been approved and was being executed. Therefore the Year-End Report referring to BY 2008 does include some information on extra-budgetary funds (see Peer Reviewer Two comment).</p> <p><u>Government Comment:</u> Government did not dispute researcher's answer.</p>	<p>C</p>
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The Independence and Performance of the Supreme Audit Institution	
<p>111. How long after the end of the fiscal year are the final annual expenditures of national departments audited and (except for secret programs) released to the public?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Final audited accounts are released to the public six months or less after the end of the fiscal year. Final audited accounts are released 12 months or less (but more than six months) after the end of the fiscal year. Final audit accounts are released more than 12 months, but within 24 months of the end of the fiscal year. Final audited accounts are not completed within 24 months after the end of the fiscal year or they are not released to the public. Not applicable/other (please comment). <p><u>Citation:</u> You have to require it by writing.</p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Researcher Response to this Question was "c"</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u> A more appropriate response to this question would be "d." The document is not available to the public.</p> <p><u>Peer Reviwer Two Comment:</u> The executing units of the public sector regularly conduct internal auditing processes. One can gain access to them through formal requests or in some cases through their webpage. These reports are usually produced on an annual basis and are released during the second quarter of the following year. The external control of the budgets of the public institutions that is carried out by the General Comptroller's Office of the State is of a "selective nature" as provided in Article 50 of the Public Sector Budget Law (systematic audits of the entire budget are not conducted). Usually, the summary of findings of these external audits is published in the Institutional Reports of the Nation, which are issued during the first half of the year following the audit period. From what we have seen, to be able to answer this question one must understand that these reports include partial audit findings on the budgets of a limited number of public institutions. Under this premise we recommend response "e."</p> <p>The Annual Report of Activities of the General Comptroller's Office reveals that during 2008, the entity prepared and approved 681 internal audit reports through which nearly \$9.4 billion dollars were audited (the Budget of the Central Government totaled \$10.359 billion dollars). This would appear to suggest broad control coverage over public budget. Nonetheless, as was pointed out earlier, the Annual Auditing Plan pertains to the reviews of several different fiscal years simultaneously (not just 2008), and therefore it is complex to quantify in percentages the amount audited versus the total budget. In the 2009 Report to the Nation, the Comptroller General said: As a response to the institutional policy that was implemented, we can sum up that so far this year, up to October 2009, we audited USD\$24,735,465,55.86 worth of resources, from the five years subject to control, and this amount is 50% higher than the</p>	d

General Budget of the Nation, which helps directly and decisively to improve public management of 1,584 audited entities.² We believe that the selective nature of the Annual Auditing Plan does not precisely ensure coverage of the budget by the auditing.

Researcher Response: It is very important to mention that on this date (March 2010), the Comptroller's information becomes available to the public through the web page. It is no longer necessary to submit a written request for it. The effort of the entity to make it public should be recognized.

IBP Comment: IBP editors chose answer "d" because the audit reports released by the SAI do not comply with the criteria of the OBI methodology. The SAI does not produce an annual audit of the general public accounts, but only selective audits of specific sectors. Those reports do not qualify as "audit report", according to the description in the OBI methodology, as well as in the OECD Best Practices. All questions concerning the availability and content of the Audit Report will be assigned the response "d."

Government Comment: Government did not dispute researcher's answer.

² "Presentación del Informe a la Nación 2009" (Submission of the 2009 Report to the Nation) (Pg. 2):
<http://www.contraloria.gov.ec/documentos/informes/2009/Presentaci%C3%B3n.pdf>

112. Two years after the completion of a fiscal year, what percentage of annual expenditures has been audited and (except for secret programs) the report(s) released to the public?

- a. All expenditures have been audited and the reports released to the public.
- b. Expenditures representing at least two-thirds of, but not all, expenditure have been audited.
- c. Expenditure representing less than two-thirds of expenditure have been audited.
- d. No expenditures have been audited, the reports have not been released to the public, or was released more than 24 months after the end of the fiscal year.
- e. Not applicable/other (please comment).

Citation:

You must have to request it by writing.

Comment:

Researcher Response to this Question was "c"

Peer Reviewer One Comment: A more appropriate response to this question would be "d." The document is not available to the public.

Peer Reviewer Two Comment: The external control of the budgets of the public institutions that is carried out by the General Comptroller's Office of the of the State is of a "selective nature" as provided in Article 50 of the Public Sector Budget Law, in other words, no systematic audits of the entire budget are conducted. Furthermore, the Annual Auditing Plan pertains to the reviews of several different fiscal years simultaneously and, therefore it is complex to quantify in percentages the amount audited versus the total budget. We believe that the appropriate answer would be "c."

Researcher Response: Idem for question 111.

IBP comment: IBP editors chose answer "d" to maintain consistency of interpretation and assumptions across countries.

Government Comment: Government did not dispute researcher's answer.

d

<p>113. Does the annual audit report(s) that is released to the public include an executive summary?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The annual audit report(s) includes one or more executive summaries summarizing the report's content. b. No, the audit report(s) does not include an executive summary, or such reports are not released to the public, or was released more than 24 months after the end of the fiscal year. c. Not applicable/other (please comment). <p><u>Citation:</u> You must have to request it by writing.</p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Researcher Response to this Question was "b"</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u> A more appropriate response to this question would be "b." The document is not available to the public.</p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u> Usually, the summary of the audit process findings is published in the Institutional Reports to the Nation that the Office of the General Comptroller's Office issues during the first half of the year following the audit period. The reports released by this office from 2003 to 2009 are posted on the web page of the institution (to view them, go to the link http://www.contraloria.gov.ec/informativo.asp?id_SubSeccion=10). The reports to the Nation include a submission by the General Comptroller's Office and some other analysis in which the yearly work of the institution is summarized. In this instance we recommend response "a," provided that these reports are considered as Annual Audit Reports.</p> <p><u>IBP comment:</u> IBP editors chose answer "b" to maintain consistency of interpretation and assumptions across countries.</p> <p><u>Government Comment:</u> Government did not dispute researcher's answer.</p>	<p>b</p>
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114. 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?

- 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 they are removed.
- b. No, the executive may remove the head of the SAI without the final consent of the judiciary or legislature.
- c. Not applicable/other (please comment).

Citation:

The National Assembly has the power to remove the General Comptroller's Office, not the President. The General Comptroller's Office is selected by the National Assembly to serve for a fixed period from 3 nominees submitted by the President.

Comment:

Peer Reviewer One Comment: A more appropriate response to this question would be "a." The appropriate article is 131, which pertains to removal of the Comptroller, while 208 pertains to his/her appointment.

Peer Reviewer Two Comment: The appropriate article is 131 of the Constitution, which regulates the removal from office of the Comptroller General. It must also be noted that Article 208 of the new Constitution provides that the supreme audit authority be appointed by the newly created Function of Participation and Social Oversight. The Function of Participation and Social Oversight is designed to be one of the five new branches through which the State is organized; the other four being: the Executive, Legislative, Judicial and Electoral branches. The suggested response is "a."

a

Art. 131.- The national Assembly may institute impeachment proceedings, at the request of at least one fourth of the members and on the grounds of breach of the duties that are assigned to them by the Constitution and the law, against ministers of the state, or the highest ranking authority of the Office of the Solicitor General (Procuraduría General), the General Comptroller's Office, the Office of the Attorney General, Office of the Ombudsman, Office of the Public Defender, Offices of the Superintendents, and the members of the National Electoral Council, the National Electoral Council, the Council of the Judiciary and the Council of Citizen Participation and Social Oversight, and of any other authorities that are set forth by the Constitution, in performance of their office and up to one year after completing. In order to institute proceedings of censure and removal, an absolute majority vote shall be required of the members of the National Assembly, except for the ministers of state and the members of the Electoral Function and the Council of the Judiciary, for whom a two thirds vote shall be required. Censure shall immediately trigger removal from office of the authority. If any evidence of criminal liability emerges from the grounds for censure, it shall be ordered that the matter be heard by the competent authority.

Government Comment: Government did not dispute researcher's answer.

115. Does the Supreme Audit Institution release to the public audits of extra-budgetary funds?

- a. Yes, the SAI releases to the public audits of all extra-budgetary funds.
- b. Yes, the SAI releases audits representing at least two-thirds of, but not all, extra-budgetary funds.
- c. Yes, the SAI releases audits representing less than two-thirds of all extra-budgetary funds.
- d. No, the SAI does not release to the public audits of extra-budgetary funds, or it does not audit such funds, or such a report was released more than 24 months after the end of the fiscal year.
- e. Not applicable/other (please comment).

Citation:

No audits are made public.

Comment:

Researcher Response to this Question was "d"

Peer Reviewer One Comment: A more appropriate response to this question would be "e." According to the law, no extra-budgetary funds are permitted.

Peer Reviewer Two Comment: Usually, the summary of the audit process findings is published in the Institutional Reports to the Nation that the General Comptroller's Office issues during the first half of the year following the audit period. The reports released by this office from 2003 to 2009 are posted on the webpage of the institution (to view them, go to the link: http://www.contraloria.gov.ec/informativo.asp?id_SubSeccion=10). However, we are not aware of any systematic audits of extra-budgetary funds being conducted. The appropriate answer would be "d."

IBP comment: IBP editors chose answer "d" because an audit report as per the OBI methodology is not produced. Moreover, the legislation eliminating the extra-budgetary funds was introduced only when BY2008 had already started (therefore affecting BY2009): so even if an audit report was available, it would not cover such a recent year, but would at most refer to the BY 2008, where the old legislation still applied.

Government Comment: Government did not dispute researcher's answer.

d

<p>116. Beyond the established year-end attestation audits, does the Supreme Audit Institution (SAI) have <i>the discretion in law</i> to undertake those audits it may wish to?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The SAI has full discretion to decide which audits it wishes to undertake. b. The SAI has significant discretion, but faces some limitations. c. The SAI has some discretion, but faces considerable limitations. d. The SAI has no discretion to decide which audits it wishes to undertake. e. Not applicable/other (please comment). <p><u>Citation:</u> Art. 2 of the "Organic Law of the General Comptroller's Office" established that the General Comptroller's Office has full discretion to decide which audits it wishes to undertake for all public resources. http://www.contraloria.gov.ec/fundamentolegal.htm The General Comptroller's Office conducts the audits included in the annual plan, which is not published, and will audit any administrative unit upon request.</p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p>Peer Reviewer One Comment: A more appropriate response to this question would be "a." "Organic Law of the General Comptroller's Office", available here: http://www.contraloria.gov.ec/documentos/normatividad/LEYORGACGEYREFORMAS2009.pdf, The relevant article is Article 19, Chapter 3, section 1 "special examinations."</p> <p>Peer Reviewer Two Comment: The external audits of the budgets of the public institutions that are carried out by the General Comptroller's Office of the State are of a "selective, concurrent and random nature" as provided by Article 50 of the Law of Public Sector Budgets: Art. 50.- Random Control.- The Office of the General Comptroller's Office of the State, in accordance with its powers, shall establish and execute annually a Program of Audits that shall have a selective, concurrent and random nature. The Ministry of Finance and Public Credit and the highest level authority of the entity or respective agencies shall be informed of the findings of said Program. The appropriate response is "a."</p> <p>Government Comment: Government did not dispute researcher's answer.</p>	<p>a</p>
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117. Who determines the budget of the Supreme Audit Institution?

- a. 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.
- b. The budget of the SAI is determined by the executive, and the funding level is broadly consistent with the resources the SAI needs to fulfill its mandate.
- c. The budget of the SAI is determined by the legislature or judiciary (or some independent body), but the funding level is not consistent with the resources the SAI needs to fulfill its mandate.
- d. The budget of the SAI is determined by the executive, but the funding level is not consistent with the resources the SAI needs to fulfill its mandate.
- e. Not applicable/other (please comment).

Citation:

The General Comptroller's Office submits its budget wish-list to the Executive, who can modify the request before submitting it to Congress. Congress can also modify the budget.

Comment:

Researcher Response to this Question was "d"

Peer Reviewer One Comment: A more appropriate response to this question would be "a." See articles 29 & 30 "The Ministry of the Economy and Finance or the agency acting on behalf of it, with regard to the institutions of the State that make up the Central Government, shall transfer mandatorily and on a monthly basis, through the Central Bank of Ecuador, the amount of the five per thousand which belongs to General Comptroller's Office."

<http://www.contraloria.gov.ec/documentos/normatividad/LEYORGACGEyREFORMAS2009.pdf>

Peer Reviewer Two Comment: Pursuant to article 30 of the Organic Law of the General Comptroller's Office of the State: the comptroller's annual budget proposal shall be submitted in a timely fashion to the Ministry of Economy and Finance for its ultimate approval by the National Congress. The appropriate response is "c."

IBP Comment: Given that the last word on the budget comes from the Congress (legislature), the appropriate answer would either be "a" or "c." The issue is whether the level of funding is appropriate or not. From both your initial answer "d" and Peer Reviewer two's comment "c" and answer, it seems that a "c" would be the most appropriate answer.

Government Comment: Government did not dispute researcher's answer.

C

<p>118. Does the Supreme Audit Institution employ designated staff for undertaking audits of the central government agencies pertaining to the security sector (military, police, intelligence services)?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. The SAI employs designated staff, and the staffing levels are broadly consistent with the resources the SAI needs to fulfill its mandate.b. The SAI employs designated staff, but the staffing levels are a cause of some constraints to the SAI in fulfilling its mandate.c. The SAI employs designated staff, but the staffing levels pose a significant constraint on the SAI in fulfilling its mandate.d. The SAI does not employ designated staff for auditing of the security sector, or does not undertake audits of the security sector.e. Not applicable/other (please comment). <p><u>Citation:</u></p> <p><u>Comment:</u> The SAI employs designated staff, but the staffing levels pose a significant constraint on the SAI in fulfilling its mandate.</p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Government Comment:</u> Government did not dispute researcher’s answer.</p>	C
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<p>119. Does the Supreme Audit Institution maintain formal mechanisms of communication with the public to receive complaints and suggestions to assist it in determining its audit program (that is, to identify the agencies, programs, or projects it will audit)?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Yes, the SAI maintains mechanisms of communication with the public, and received more than 100 communications from the public during the past year. b. Yes, the SAI maintains mechanisms of communication with the public, and received less than 100 but more than ten communications from the public during the past year. c. Yes, the SAI maintains mechanisms of communication with the public but it receives very little (less than ten) or no information from the public on potential subjects for audit. d. No, the SAI does not maintain any formal mechanisms of communication with the public. e. Not applicable. <p><u>Citation:</u> The SAI maintains mechanisms of communication with the public, and received 443 communications during 2006. <u>See:</u> http://www.contraloria.gov.ec/informativo.asp?id_SubSeccion=10</p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u> Based on the information appearing on page 6 of the " 2008 Report to the Nation," the entity took in nearly 550 requests for control action and complaints by "public and private institutions and individuals" (http://www.contraloria.gov.ec/documentos/informes/2008/InformeCGE2008AreaControl.PDF). The recommended response is "a."</p> <p><u>Government Comment:</u> Government did not dispute researcher's answer.</p>	<p>a</p>
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<p>120. Does a committee of the legislature view and scrutinize the audit reports?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Yes, all audit reports are scrutinized. b. Yes, most audit reports are scrutinized. c. Yes, some audit reports are scrutinized. d. No, audit reports are not scrutinized. e. Not applicable/other (please comment). <p><u>Citation:</u></p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Researcher Response to this Question was "d"</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u> A more appropriate response to this question would be "c." Some of the audit reports are reviewed by the legislature, especially those dealing with politically sensitive areas such as large procurement of goods or public services, for example procurement from hydroelectric plants. See: http://www.contraloria.gov.ec/consultas.asp?id_SubSeccion=67&opcion=1&listaYears=2008&btnSend.x=22&btnSend.y=7</p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u> The law (Organic Law of the General Comptroller's Office, number 19) establishes that it must submit the findings of its Annual Auditing once a year to the legislature. In practice, the Comptroller General submits a report on the external control of the institution during the first quarter of the following year. However, very little is known about what the legislature does with this information. Response "d" is recommended.</p> <p><u>Researcher Response:</u> I agree with view of Peer Reviewer One.</p> <p><u>IBP Comment:</u> Based on a review of comments, IBP editors chose answer "c."</p> <p><u>Government Comment:</u> Government did not dispute researcher's answer.</p>	<p>C</p>
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<p>121. 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?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Yes, the executive reports publicly on what steps it has taken to address audit findings. b. Yes, the executive reports publicly on most audit findings. c. Yes, the executive reports publicly on some audit findings. d. No, the executive does not report on steps it has taken to address audit findings. e. Not applicable/other (please comment). <p><u>Citation:</u> No, the executive does not report on steps it has taken to address audit findings.</p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Government Comment:</u> Government did not dispute researcher’s answer.</p>	d
<p>122. Does either the Supreme Audit Institution or the legislature release to the public a report that tracks actions taken by the executive to address audit recommendations?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Yes, a comprehensive report is released regularly that tracks actions taken by the executive to address audit recommendations. b. Yes, a report is released, covering key audit recommendations, but some details are excluded. c. Yes, a report is released, but it lacks important details. d. No, a report is not produced or it is prepared for internal purposes only (please specify). e. Not applicable/other (please comment). <p><u>Citation:</u> A report is produced, but it is prepared for internal purposes only.</p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Government Comment:</u> Government did not dispute researcher’s answer.</p>	d

<p>123. Are audit reports of the annual accounts of the security sector (military, police, intelligence services) and other secret programs provided to the legislature (or relevant committee)?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Yes, legislators are provided with detailed audit reports related to the security sector and other secret programs. b. Yes, legislators are provided audit reports on secret items, but some details are excluded. c. Yes, legislators are provided audit reports on secret items, but they lack important details. d. No, legislators are not provided audit reports on secret items, or secret programs are not audited (please specify). e. Not applicable/other (please comment). <p><u>Citation:</u> Legislators are not provided audit reports on secret items.</p> <p><u>Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer One Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer Two Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Government Comment:</u> Government did not dispute researcher's answer.</p>	<p>d</p>
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Section One: Government Comments

Table 2. Key Budget Documents Used: Full Titles and Internet Links

Budget Document	Full Title, Date, and Internet Link
Pre-Budget Statement	Not Available to the Public
Budget Summary	"Presentación proforma 2008" (Proposed 2008 budget submission), Date submitted to Congress June 6, 2007 http://mef.gov.ec/pls/portal/docs/PAGE/MINISTERIO_ECONOMIA_FINANZAS_ECUADOR/ARCHIVOS_INFORMACION_IMPORTANTE/PRES.%20MIN.PROFORMA%202008%20CONGRESO.PDF
Executive's Budget Proposal	"Proforma Presupuestaria 2008" (2008 Budget proposal) 2007/09/4 http://mef.gov.ec/portal/page?_pageid=37,44820&_dad=portal&_schema=PORTAL
Budget Document One in Support of the Executive's Budget Proposal	NA
Budget Document Two in Support of the Executive's Budget Proposal	NA
Budget Document Three in Support of the Executive's Budget Proposal	"Justificativo de Ingresos" (Justification of Revenue) http://mef.gov.ec/pls/portal/docs/PAGE/MINISTERIO_ECONOMIA_FINANZAS_ECUADOR/SUBSECRETARIAS/SUBSECRETARIA_GENERAL_DE_COORDINACION/COORDINACION_DE_COMUNICACION_SOCIAL/ARCHIVOS/INFORME_DEUDA/ARCHIVOS/15.PDF
Citizens Budget	Not produced
Enacted Budget	http://mef.gov.ec/pls/portal/docs/PAGE/MINISTERIO_ECONOMIA_FINANZAS_ECUADOR/SUBSECRETARIAS/SUBSECRETARIA_GENERAL_DE_COORDINACION/COORDINACION_DE_COMUNICACION_SOCIAL/ARCHIVOS/INFORME_DEUDA/ARCHIVOS/15.PDF ; 6/05/09 "Presupuesto 2008" (2008 Budget) http://mef.gov.ec/PRESUPUESTO_2008/PRESUPUESTODELPGE2008.htm

In-Year Reports	<p>In-year budget information: Reportes http://mef.gov.ec/portal/page?_pageid=37,92752&_dad=portal&_schema=PORTAL Updated monthly Example: Ejecucion. "Anticipos de Inversion - Detalle Mensual - Sectorial" (Preview Execution of Investment - Monthly breakdown) (2009, central government, all) Cumulative Jan-Aug 2009 Available at: http://eapp40.esigef.mef.gov.ec:7778/discoverer/app/grid?bi_dv2=2&dv_shf=&bi_dv0=1&bi_dt=&bi_cPath=&bi_slice=&bi_dv1=0&bi_layer=&partialTargets=&bi_edge=&bi_origin=&bi_col=&bi_row=&event=bi_page&partial=&source=dv&stateStr=eNgFUIFv2yAQ%2FjPYL2iRoVm1PjBslwpU5pGS7tXCwNZSLBxgRrbv37nJNXcKepeOL7Td999d4DCyR08iuhctIVwECN636qiP0rLFVcmulvSJKO2VftiiqjIiHUssLawFntgdOY2fsFZ9y%2FMX1ld8AmwN5J7o1VTM%24WzDO8Nar2Ef0G3d51hyvzqpuDnGBCutISOm5VA0ZqfJGZO CG3nFTGejUwMfHCTADmnmknJ%2F3o%2F%2FpIvRkx2r5OqvcVgK7SExv0ho0d0%24KfbfQfd%2FfZjOrDCm8t%2FEFyvGW%2FYcZoLsOPpvaHyWi3Kv6%24KL0XwrXSAomcHx607vSFVBpD1oGNIZBZEvCp70SLSzYEANwNgX4Nfddw3AIhHPvuKfQYah4EHN6%24wX7mmp%2F%2FEKj68INDX%2FZdqZz2Y%24AHM4qeNa%2FJ45kyqrfjtyQkIRE3hxEiXqO45T51rYh5fUr5vmCEEsQaNA64h%24Eg6ktwl1DzSxRjGsmu0Sh2TRrXRsg0lq2sfRo7zzwgawyAUPqUosYqgqfif%24eJlsXraZJvn1WK1fdoVy7xYbX7IP3eQLQA9Z%24t1Xjzmm91Lto7oA0kQ932DWiWDtH8ACZkd2w%3D%3D&bi_LovUpdate_F=&bi_dp=#</p> <p>"Boletines de Coyuntura Economica" (Economic Outlook bulletins), each month: http://mef.gov.ec/portal/page?_pageid=1647,175186&_dad=portal&_schema=PORTAL Most recent: June-July 2009, available here: http://mef.gov.ec/pls/portal/docs/PAGE/MINISTERIO_ECONOMIA_FINANZAS_ECUADOR/PUBLICACIONES/BOLETINES_COYUNTURA/COYUNTURA/BOLETIN_COYUNTURA_JUN_JUL_2009.PDF</p> <p>"Módulos de Ejecucion Presupuestaria" (Modules of Budget Execution) http://mef.gov.ec/portal/page?_pageid=37,100657&_dad=portal&_schema=PORTAL</p>
Mid-Year Review	<p>Not Available</p> <p>Government Comment: The legal basis is set forth in Article 296 of the Constitution.</p>
Year-End Report	<p>"Informe de Transparencia y Rendición de Cuentas" (Transparency and Accountability Report) http://mef.gov.ec/portal/page?_pageid=1647,180438&_dad=portal&_schema=PORTAL Government Comment: It refers to institutional management, not to overall management of the government.</p>
Audit Report	<p>Produced but not available to the public</p>

Other Documents	<p>“Módulo de Información de Finanzas Públicas” (Public Finance Information Module) http://mef.gov.ec/stgcPortal</p> <p>“Relatos Fiscales” (Fiscal Reports) http://mef.gov.ec/portal/page?_pageid=37,108927&_dad=portal&_schema=PORTAL</p> <p>“Informe trimestral de actividades” (Quarterly Activities Report) http://mef.gov.ec/Informe_Actividades/Boletin.html</p> <p>“Directrices para el cierre del año fiscal 2008” (Guidelines for close of FY 2008), 10/12/08 http://mef.gov.ec/pls/portal/url/ITEM/5DAE982E8503CCD2E040007F01001336</p> <p>“Programa económico 2007-2011” (Economic Program), 26/04/08 : http://mef.gov.ec/pls/portal/url/ITEM/5963F37F602F419DE04007F01001FED</p> <p>“Anuncia Publicación de boletín de transparencia 5 de Marzo de 2008” (Announcement publication of transparency bulletin, March 5, 2008) http://mef.gov.ec/pls/portal/docs/PAGE/MINISTERIO_ECONOMIA_FINANZAS_ECUADOR/SUBSECRETARIAS/SUBSECRETARIA_GENERAL_DE_COORDINACION/COORDINACION_DE_COMU</p> <p>“Módulo de Reportes” (Reports Module) http://mef.gov.ec/portal/page?_pageid=37,92752&_dad=portal&_schema=PORTAL</p> <p>“Glosario de Términos” (Glossary of Terms) http://mef.gov.ec/pls/portal/docs/PAGE/MINISTERIO_ECONOMIA_FINANZAS_ECUADOR/REPORTES_OBI/ARCHIVOS/GLOSARIO%20GENERAL.PDF</p>
Relevant Ministries & Departments	<p>www.bce.fin.ec www.contraloria.gov.ec</p>

Additional Government Comments:

The Sub Secretariat of Budgets of the Ministry of Finance conducted a review of the questionnaire and there are some questions for which we believe the answers are wrong. We are putting comments in red for your consideration.