

International Budget Project  
**OPEN BUDGET QUESTIONNAIRE**

# **ECUADOR**

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<b>Section One: The Availability of Budget Documents .....</b>	<b>5</b>
Table 1. Budget Year of Documents Used in Completing the Questionnaire .....	6
Table 2. Internet Links for Key Budget Documents.....	7
Table 3. Distribution of Documents Related to the Executive’s Budget Proposal.....	8
Table 4. Distribution of the Enacted Budget and Other Reports .....	9
<b>Section Two: The Executive’s Budget Proposal .....</b>	<b>10</b>
Estimates for the Budget Year and Beyond.....	11
Estimates for Years Prior to the Budget Year.....	23
Comprehensiveness.....	35
The Budget Narrative & Performance Monitoring.....	42
Additional Key Information for Budget Analysis & Monitoring .....	46
<b>Section Three: The Budget Process.....</b>	<b>53</b>
Executive’s Formulation of the Budget .....	54
Legislative Approval of the Budget.....	59
Executive’s Implementation of the Budget.....	64
Executive’s Year-End Report and the Supreme Audit Institution.....	74



## **Section One: The Availability of Budget Documents**

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

*Please indicate the budget year of the document used to complete the questionnaire. If the document is not available to the public, please state, "Not Available."*

<b>Budget Documents Used in Completing the Questionnaire</b>	
<i>As explained in the guide to the questionnaire, documents from a variety of fiscal years are referred to throughout the questionnaire. Please indicate below for which fiscal year responses to questions relating to each report or experience were based on.</i>	
	Budget Year Used
Pre-Budget Statement	Not Available
Budget Summary	2006
Executive's Budget Proposal	2005
Supporting Budget Documents	2005
Citizens Budget	Not Available
Enacted Budget	2004, 2005
In-Year Reports	2004, 2005
Mid-Year Report	Not Available
Year-End Report	2003
Audit Report	Not Available

## Table 2. Internet Links for Key Budget Documents

*Please provide the Internet link for the document, or indicate one of these three answers: “Not Produced,” “Produced, But Not Available to the Public,” “Publicly Available, But Not on the Internet.”*

Budget Document	Website
Pre-Budget Statement	Produced but not available to the public.
Budget Summary	<a href="http://www.mef.gov.ec/Proforma2006/Presentacionproforma2006.pdf">http://www.mef.gov.ec/Proforma2006/Presentacionproforma2006.pdf</a>
Executive’s Budget Proposal	<a href="http://www.sigef.gov.ec/index.php?option=com_content&amp;task=view&amp;id=41&amp;Itemid=61">http://www.sigef.gov.ec/index.php?option=com_content&amp;task=view&amp;id=41&amp;Itemid=61</a> <a href="http://www.mef.gov.ec/Proforma2006/Presentacionproforma2006.pdf">http://www.mef.gov.ec/Proforma2006/Presentacionproforma2006.pdf</a>
Supporting Budget Documents	<a href="http://www.ec-gov.net/docs/catalogo/Clas2005.pdf">http://www.ec-gov.net/docs/catalogo/Clas2005.pdf</a> <a href="http://www.mef.gov.ec/docs/subpresupuesto.htm">http://www.mef.gov.ec/docs/subpresupuesto.htm</a> <a href="http://www.ec-gov.net/docs/Presupuesto2006/DIRECTRICESPROFORMA2006.pdf">http://www.ec-gov.net/docs/Presupuesto2006/DIRECTRICESPROFORMA2006.pdf</a>
Citizens Budget	Not Produced
Enacted Budget	<a href="http://www.ec-gov.net/docs/presupuesto2005.htm">http://www.ec-gov.net/docs/presupuesto2005.htm</a>
In-Year Reports	<a href="http://www.sigef.gov.ec/index.php?option=com_content&amp;task=view&amp;id=33&amp;Itemid=59">http://www.sigef.gov.ec/index.php?option=com_content&amp;task=view&amp;id=33&amp;Itemid=59</a> <a href="http://www.ec-gov.net/docs/ejecucion04.htm">http://www.ec-gov.net/docs/ejecucion04.htm</a> <a href="http://www.ec-gov.net/docs/ejecucion05.htm">http://www.ec-gov.net/docs/ejecucion05.htm</a>
Mid-Year Review	Not Produced
Year-End Report	<a href="http://www.ec-gov.net/docs/inf2003/acuerdo_2003.pdf">http://www.ec-gov.net/docs/inf2003/acuerdo_2003.pdf</a> <a href="http://www.mef.gov.ec/docs/Acuerdo%20324.pdf">http://www.mef.gov.ec/docs/Acuerdo%20324.pdf</a>
Audit Report	Produced, But Not Available to the Public.
Other Documents	Performance Audit <a href="http://www.ec-gov.net/docs/Auditoria2003.pdf">http://www.ec-gov.net/docs/Auditoria2003.pdf</a> (Although this document is on the website, it is seldom known, quoted or even publicized. <i>IBP editors note: please note that performance audits do not substitute for year end attestation audits of the government’s accounts.</i> )
Relevant Ministries & Departments	Ministerio del Economía y Finanzas <a href="http://www.ec-gov.net">http://www.ec-gov.net</a> <a href="http://www.mef.gov.ec">http://www.mef.gov.ec</a> <a href="http://www.sigef.gov.ec">http://www.sigef.gov.ec</a> Contraloría General del Estado <a href="http://www.contraloria.gov.ec/">http://www.contraloria.gov.ec/</a> Central Bank <a href="http://www.bce.fin.ec">http://www.bce.fin.ec</a>

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

<b>DISTRIBUTION OF BUDGET DOCUMENTS</b>						
<i>For the following reports, place "Yes" in the appropriate row below to indicate if the report is:</i>						
	Pre-budget	<b>Executive's Budget Proposal</b>				Citizens budget
		Main document	Budget summary*	Supporting Document 1	Additional 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		
<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? For each characteristic, mark "Yes" if yes, "No" if no, or "NA" if Not Available.</i>						
	Pre-budget	<b>Executive's Budget</b>				Citizens budget
		Main document	Budget summary*	Supporting Document 1	Additional Document 2	
1. The release date is known at least one month in advance		Yes	Yes	No		
2. Advance notification of release is sent to users, media		Yes	Yes	Yes		
3. Released to public same day as official release to media		Yes	Yes	Yes		
4. Available on the Internet free of charge		Yes	Yes	Yes		
5. Free print copies available, limited distribution		No	No	No		
6. Free print copies available, mass distribution		No	No	No		
7. Readily available outside capital and/or big cities <sup>†</sup>		Yes	Yes	Yes		
8. Written in more than one language		No	No	No		
9. News conference is held to discuss release		No	No	No		

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

<sup>†</sup>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**

<b>DISTRIBUTION OF ENACTED BUDGET AND OTHER REPORTS</b>					
<i>For the following reports, place a “Yes” in the appropriate row below to indicate if the report is:</i>					
	Enacted budget	In-year reports	Mid-year review	Year-end report	Audit report
A. Not produced, even for internal purposes			Yes		
B. Produced for internal purposes, but not available to the public					Yes <sup>1</sup>
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? For each characteristic, mark “Yes” if yes, “No” if no, or “NA” if Not Available.</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	No			No	
2. Advance notification of release sent to users, media	Yes			No	
3. Released to public same day as official release to media	Yes			Yes	
4. Available on the Internet free of charge	Yes <sup>2</sup>			Yes	
5. Free print copies available, limited distribution	No			No	
6. Free print copies available, mass distribution	No			No	
7. Readily available outside capital/big cities <sup>+</sup>	Yes			Yes	
8. Written in more than one language	No			No	
9. News conference is held to discuss release	No			No	

<sup>+</sup>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.

<sup>1</sup> IBP editors note: please note that a performance audit is posted on the website listed in Table 2, however performance audits do not substitute for year end attestation audits of the government’s accounts

<sup>2</sup> The sort of reports that might be available are not comprehensive, and often times they are late. There is not enough detail to them. A comprehensive report for a year or a specific expense could be available two years later.

## **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

*Please mark your answer by placing the appropriate letter in the box to the right of the question. For all answers marked “not applicable/other,” please provide a brief explanation indicating either why the answer choices provided are not applicable or why another response would be more appropriate.*

<b>The Executive’s Budget Proposal</b>	
<b>Estimates for the Budget Year and Beyond</b>	
<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"> <li>a. All expenditures are classified by administrative unit.</li> <li>b. Expenditures are classified by administrative unit, but some small units are not shown separately.</li> <li>c. Expenditures are classified by administrative unit, but a significant number of units are not shown separately.</li> <li>d. No expenditures classified by administrative unit are presented.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u></p> <p><b><u>The researcher’s response to this question was “a.”</u></b> See the <i>Proforma Budget Aggregated by Sector &amp; Institution</i>:  <a href="http://www.sigef.gov.ec/downloads/proforma/2005/pge/pro_pge_con_sect_ins_2005.PDF">http://www.sigef.gov.ec/downloads/proforma/2005/pge/pro_pge_con_sect_ins_2005.PDF</a></p> <p><b><u>Researcher Response to Peer Reviewer:</u></b> The comment is valid for question 4 and the PANN program is part of the Ministry of Social Welfare.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b> A more appropriate response to this question would be “b.” The budget is disaggregated by administrative unit. However, special programs with sometimes very important functions, such as PANN 2000 (a nutritional program) and Literacy for Adults are not found in the budget. In other words, if a program is not created as an “Executing Entity,” it is impossible to determine the money designated to it. Other cases, such as programs to be funded by oil revenue, cannot be identified in the budget since they are grouped within the “bolsa general,” and then funded by the treasury.</p> <p><b><u>IBP Comment:</u></b> IBP editors chose answer “a” to maintain the consistency of the assumptions used in selecting answers across the countries. As long as the expenditure information is classified within an administrative unit including the Treasury, the question can be answered “a.”</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">a</div>

<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> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. All expenditures are classified by functional classification, and the categorization is compatible with international standards.</li> <li>b. All expenditures are classified by functional classification, but the categorization is not compatible with international standards.</li> <li>c. Some, but not all, expenditures are classified by function.</li> <li>d. No expenditures classified by function are presented.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u></p> <p><b>The researcher’s response to this question was “a.”</b> See the <i>Budget Aggregated by Functional and Activity</i>:  <a href="http://www.sigef.gov.ec/downloads/proforma/2005/gobierno_central/Pro_Con_Act_2005.pdf">http://www.sigef.gov.ec/downloads/proforma/2005/gobierno_central/Pro_Con_Act_2005.pdf</a>  <a href="http://www.sigef.gov.ec/downloads/proforma/2005/pge/pro_pge_con_sect_ins_2005.PDF">http://www.sigef.gov.ec/downloads/proforma/2005/pge/pro_pge_con_sect_ins_2005.PDF</a></p> <p><b>Researcher Response to Peer Reviewer:</b> The answer is “a.” The World Bank and the Inter-American Development Bank document is for 2003, and the situation has changed. Please, analyze the links for 2005.</p> <p><b>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</b></p> <p><b>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</b> A more appropriate response to this question would be “b.” The World Bank and IDB document, <i>Creating Fiscal Space for Poverty Reduction: A Fiscal Management and Public Expenditure Review</i>, p. 68.</p> <p><b>IBP Comment:</b> IBP editors chose answer “a” to maintain the consistency of the assumptions used in selecting answers across the countries.</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">a</div>
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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> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. All expenditures are classified by economic classification, and the categorization is compatible with international standards.</li> <li>b. All expenditures are classified by economic classification, but the categorization is not compatible with international standards.</li> <li>c. Some, but not all, expenditures are classified by economic classification.</li> <li>d. No expenditures classified by economic classification are presented.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u></p> <p><b>The researcher’s response to this question was “a.”</b> See the <i>Proforma Budget Expenditures By Sector’s Expense Groups</i>:  <a href="http://www.sigef.gov.ec/downloads/proforma/2005/pge/pro_pge_con_sect_grp_gas_2005.PDF">http://www.sigef.gov.ec/downloads/proforma/2005/pge/pro_pge_con_sect_grp_gas_2005.PDF</a>  <a href="http://www.sigef.gov.ec/downloads/proforma/2005/gobierno_central/Pro_Con_Act_2005.pdf">http://www.sigef.gov.ec/downloads/proforma/2005/gobierno_central/Pro_Con_Act_2005.pdf</a></p> <p><b>Researcher Response to Peer Reviewer:</b> The answer is “a.” The World Bank and Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) document is for 2003, and the situation has changed. Please analyze the links for 2005.</p> <p><b>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</b></p> <p><b>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</b> A more appropriate response to this question would be “b.” See the World Bank and IDB document, <i>Creating Fiscal Space for Poverty Reduction: A Fiscal Management and Public Expenditure Review</i>, p. 68.</p> <p><b>IBP Comment:</b> IBP editors chose answer “a” to maintain the consistency of the assumptions used in selecting answers across the countries.</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">a</div>
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<p>4. Does the executive’s budget or any supporting budget documentation present expenditures for individual programs for the budget year?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Program-level data are presented for all expenditures.</li> <li>Program-level data are presented for at least two-thirds of, but not all, expenditures.</li> <li>Program-level data are presented, but for less than two-thirds of expenditures.</li> <li>No program-level data are presented.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u></p> <p><b>The researcher’s response to this question was “b.”</b> The <i>Proforma Budget</i> is sub-divided by administrative unit and individual program:  <a href="http://www.sigef.gov.ec/downloads/proforma/2005/pge/pro_pge_con_sect_grp_gas_2005.pdf">http://www.sigef.gov.ec/downloads/proforma/2005/pge/pro_pge_con_sect_grp_gas_2005.pdf</a></p> <p><b>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</b> A more appropriate response to this question would be “d.” There is no program-level data; information in this document refers to expenditures’ groups.</p> <p><b>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</b></p> <p><b>IBP Comment:</b> IBP editors chose answer “b” to maintain the consistency of the assumptions used in selecting answers across the countries. Activity spending by agency or function is considered equivalent to program spending, and the level of disaggregation of the budget information is unquestionably higher than that of functional or administrative spending. This level of information is not in the link suggested by the researcher, but can be found in this one, used elsewhere:  <a href="http://www.sigef.gov.ec/downloads/proforma/2005/gobierno_central/Pro_Con_Act_2005.pdf">http://www.sigef.gov.ec/downloads/proforma/2005/gobierno_central/Pro_Con_Act_2005.pdf</a></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">b</div>
<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> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes, multi-year estimates of aggregate expenditure are presented.</li> <li>No, multi-year estimates of aggregate expenditure are not presented.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> A review of the budget proposal reveals that there are no multi-year estimates of expenditures in the budget proposal.</p> <p><b>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</b></p> <p><b>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">b</div>

<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> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>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).</li> <li>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.</li> <li>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.</li> <li>d. No, multi-year estimates are presented for aggregate expenditure only, or they are not presented at all.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> A review of the budget proposal reveals that there are no multi-year estimates of expenditures in the budget proposal.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>
<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> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. All sources of tax revenue are identified individually.</li> <li>b. Sources of tax revenue amounting to at least two-thirds of, but not all, tax revenues are identified individually.</li> <li>c. Sources of tax revenue amounting to less than two-thirds of all tax revenues are identified individually.</li> <li>d. No sources of tax revenue are identified individually.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> The <i>Proforma Budget by Revenue Source</i> includes tax revenue identified by source. See:  <a href="http://www.sigef.gov.ec/downloads/proforma/2005/pge/pro_pge_con_itm_ing_2005.PDF">http://www.sigef.gov.ec/downloads/proforma/2005/pge/pro_pge_con_itm_ing_2005.PDF</a></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">a</div>

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?

- 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).

b

Citation and/or comment:

**The researcher's response to this question was "a."** Article 2 of Law 2055-4: *Reformatory to the Law of Organic Responsibility, Stabilization, and Fiscal Transparency*, Official registration No. 69 of 27/07/2005, established that all oil revenues covered by CEREPS (example: FEIREP-Fondo de Estabilización, Inversión Social, y Reducción del Endeudamiento Publico, in English Oil Stabilization and Debt Reduction Fund) are part of the budget, and all sources of non-tax revenue are identified individually. See: <http://www.mef.gov.ec/Proforma2006/Presentacionproforma2006.pdf>  
<http://www.mef.gov.ec/docs/subpresupuesto.htm>

**Researcher Response to Peer Reviewer:** The answer is "a." The World Bank and IDB document is for 2003, and the situation has changed. Please, analyze the links for 2005.

**Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:**

**Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:** A more appropriate response to this question would be "b." See the World Bank and IDB document, *Creating Fiscal Space for Poverty Reduction: A Fiscal Management and Public Expenditure Review*, p. 68.

**IBP Comment:** IBP editors chose answer "b" to maintain the consistency of the assumptions used in selecting answers across the countries. It is important to note that the information is included in the 2006 budget. It was not, however, available in 2005 (as suggested by the fact that the law cited was enacted in July 2005). Since some information was already available in 2005, as Peer Reviewer TWO suggests, the IBP editors chose "b." Some of the non-tax revenue sources can be found at:

[http://www.sigef.gov.ec/downloads/proforma/2005/pge/pro\\_pge\\_con\\_itm\\_ing\\_2005.PDF](http://www.sigef.gov.ec/downloads/proforma/2005/pge/pro_pge_con_itm_ing_2005.PDF)

<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> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes, multi-year estimates of aggregate revenue are presented.</li> <li>No, multi-year estimates of aggregate revenue are not presented.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> There are no multi-year estimates for aggregate revenue See the <i>Proforma Budget by Revenue Source</i>: <a href="http://www.sigef.gov.ec/downloads/proforma/2005/pge/pro_pge_con_itm_ing_2005.PDF">http://www.sigef.gov.ec/downloads/proforma/2005/pge/pro_pge_con_itm_ing_2005.PDF</a></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">b</div>
<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> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes, multi-year revenue estimates are presented for individual sources of revenue, and by revenue classification (such as tax and non-tax).</li> <li>Yes, multi-year estimates are presented by revenue classification (such as tax and non-tax), but only for some individual sources of revenue.</li> <li>Yes, multi-year estimates are presented, but only for some individual sources of revenue.</li> <li>No, multi-year estimates are presented for aggregate revenue only, or they are not presented at all.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> There are no multi-year estimates for aggregate revenue. Interview with Olga Nuñez, the Sub-Secretary for the Budget (Ministry of Economics and Finance), June 29, 2005.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>

<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"> <li>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).</li> <li>Yes, the data reflect the outstanding debt at the end of the budget year.</li> <li>Yes, the data reflect the outstanding debt at the start of the budget year.</li> <li>No, data on the outstanding debt are not presented.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> The document, <i>Presentación de Proforma 2006</i>, provides data on the outstanding debt. Pp. 10, 33, and 39. See: <a href="http://www.mef.gov.ec/Proforma2006/Presentacionproforma2006.pdf">http://www.mef.gov.ec/Proforma2006/Presentacionproforma2006.pdf</a> Details about the debt are released by the Central Bank to Congress and the public (via the Internet) while the Executive's Budget Proposal is before the Congress. Interview with Budget Sub-Secretary Olga Nuñez, June 29, 2005. <a href="http://www.bce.fin.ec/documentos/PublicacionesNotas/Notas/Proforma/proforma2005.pdf">http://www.bce.fin.ec/documentos/PublicacionesNotas/Notas/Proforma/proforma2005.pdf</a></p> <p><b>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</b> While this information is not clearly presented in the budget, there is enough information in it for the necessary construction of net debt. The user of the information would need to make its own inferences, and the Central Bank information would be a crucial part of this. It must be noted that the Central Bank macroeconomic forecast documents are indeed supporting budget documents to be considered as part of the executive's presentation. The Ministry would always take into account the Central Bank's forecast.</p> <p><b>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</b> The document published by the Central Bank can be considered a legitimate part of the executive presentation to the Congress. It is autonomous, therefore the only entity that has the technical capacity to implement studies of this nature. For this reason, the data used to develop the budget are produced by the Central Bank.</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">a</div>
<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"> <li>Yes, interest payments on the debt are presented.</li> <li>No, interest payments on the debt are not presented.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> See the <i>Proforma Budget by Expenditures Sector/Item</i>: <a href="http://www.sigef.gov.ec/downloads/proforma/2005/pge/pro_pge_con_sect_grp_gas_2005.PDF">http://www.sigef.gov.ec/downloads/proforma/2005/pge/pro_pge_con_sect_grp_gas_2005.PDF</a> The document, <i>Presentación de Proforma 2006</i>, provides data on the outstanding debt. Pp. 10, 33, and 39. See: <a href="http://www.mef.gov.ec/Proforma2006/Presentacionproforma2006.pdf">http://www.mef.gov.ec/Proforma2006/Presentacionproforma2006.pdf</a></p> <p><b>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</b></p> <p><b>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">a</div>

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 and/or comment:

**The researcher's response to this question was "b."** The executive's budget includes only payments on the public debt; see the *Proforma Budget Aggregated by Expenditures Sector/Item*.  
[http://www.sigef.gov.ec/downloads/proforma/2005/pge/pro\\_pge\\_con\\_sect\\_grp\\_gas\\_2005.pdf](http://www.sigef.gov.ec/downloads/proforma/2005/pge/pro_pge_con_sect_grp_gas_2005.pdf)

**Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:** A more appropriate response would be "c." A more appropriate response to this question would be that the only additional information provided is whether the debt is domestic or external. However, interest rates, maturity profile, currency or currency exchange rates or others are not provided.

**Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:** A more appropriate response would be "b." Even if it is possible to find details on the debt (for example creditor, internal or external nature, etc.) it is difficult for citizens to obtain information on interest, expiration profile or rate of return.

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

c

14. Does the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation present the macroeconomic forecast upon which the budget projections are based?
- 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.
  - Yes, the macroeconomic forecast is discussed and most of the key assumptions are stated explicitly, but some details are excluded.
  - Yes, there is some discussion of the macroeconomic forecast (and/or the presentation of key assumptions), but it lacks important details.
  - No, information related to the macroeconomic forecast is not presented.
  - Not applicable/other (please comment).

Citation and/or comment:

**The researcher's response to this question was "b."** In the document, *Presentación de Proforma 2006*, pp. 4-9 there are the macroeconomic program and the macroeconomic forecast. See: <http://www.mef.gov.ec/Proforma2006/Presentacionproforma2006.pdf>  
A review of the executive's budgets shows some macroeconomic forecast information, such as GDP growth, inflation, and oil barrel price.

Some macroeconomic information is available from the Central Bank and should be considered supporting budget documentation.

See:

<http://www.bce.fin.ec/documentos/PublicacionesNotas/Notas/Proforma/proforma2005.pdf>

**Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:**

**Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:** A more appropriate response to this question would be "c." Generally the analysis is limited to descriptions of what has happened in the past. Quantitative analyses are few and their methodologies, sources and assumptions are not discussed publicly.

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

b

<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"> <li>a. Yes, extensive information on the impact of macroeconomic assumptions on the budget is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates.</li> <li>b. Yes, information is presented, highlighting the impact of the major macroeconomic assumptions, but some details are excluded.</li> <li>c. Yes, some information is presented, but it lacks important details.</li> <li>d. No, information on the impact of different macroeconomic assumptions on the budget is not presented.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u></p> <p><b><u>The researcher’s response to this question was “c.”</u></b> In the document <i>Presentación de Proforma 2006</i>, pp. 4-9, there are the macroeconomic program and the macroeconomic forecast. See:  <a href="http://www.mef.gov.ec/Proforma2006/Presentacionproforma2006.pdf">http://www.mef.gov.ec/Proforma2006/Presentacionproforma2006.pdf</a></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b> A more appropriate response to this question would be “e,” N/A. The reason for this answer is that there is no sensitivity analysis regarding the impact of different macroeconomic assumptions on the budget, nor is there enough clarity on how some of those assumptions were made and stated. It might be that the original answer was made in relation to the macroeconomic forecasts; however, they do not show any sensitivity analysis. The executive is obligated by internal regulations to work on simulations and to define budget limits at the beginning of the second quarter of each year. Unfortunately, this information is not available to the public</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b> A more appropriate response to this question would be “c.” Quantitative analyses are few and their methodologies, sources and assumptions are not discussed publicly.</p> <p><b><u>IBP Comment:</u></b> IBP editors chose answer “c” to maintain the consistency of the assumptions used in selecting answers across the countries.</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">c</div>
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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"> <li>a. Yes, extensive information on the impact of policy proposals on expenditures is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates.</li> <li>b. Yes, information is presented, highlighting the impact of key policy proposals on expenditures, but some details are excluded.</li> <li>c. Yes, some information is presented, but it lacks important details.</li> <li>d. No, information on the impact of policy proposals on expenditures is not presented.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> Interview with the Sub-Secretary for Budgets, Olga Nuñez, June 29, 2005.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>
<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"> <li>a. Yes, extensive information on the impact of policy proposals on revenues is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates.</li> <li>b. Yes, information is presented, highlighting the impact of key policy proposals on revenues, but some details are excluded.</li> <li>c. Yes, some information is presented, but it lacks important details.</li> <li>d. No, information on the impact of policy proposals on revenues is not presented.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> A review of the budget shows there is no discussion of policy in the document.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>

<b>Estimates for Years Prior to the Budget Year</b>	
<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"> <li>a. All expenditures are classified by administrative unit for BY-1.</li> <li>b. Expenditures are classified by administrative unit for BY-1, but some small units are not shown separately.</li> <li>c. Expenditures are classified by administrative unit for BY-1, but a significant number of units are not shown separately.</li> <li>d. No expenditures classified by administrative unit are presented for BY-1.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u></p> <p><b>The researcher’s response to this question was “a.”</b> See the <i>Proforma Budget by Sector &amp; Institution</i> which includes the prior year’s originally requested budget:  <a href="http://www.sigef.gov.ec/downloads/proforma/2005/pge/pro_pge_con_sect_ins_2005.PDF">http://www.sigef.gov.ec/downloads/proforma/2005/pge/pro_pge_con_sect_ins_2005.PDF</a></p> <p><b>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</b> The following should be added to the comment section above: “The information about the preceding year (BY-1) is twofold: there is one column on the budget proposal and there is another column based on the enacted budget for the first semester plus a projection for the second semester.”</p> <p><b>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</b> A more appropriate response to this question would be “b.” The same limitations described in question 1 apply to this question.</p> <p><b>IBP Comment:</b> IBP editors chose answer “a” to maintain the consistency of the assumptions used in selecting answers across the countries. As long as the expenditure information is classified within an administrative unit including the Treasury, the question can be answered “a.”</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">a</div>

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?

- a. All expenditures are classified by functional classification for BY-1, and the categorization is compatible with international standards.
- b. All expenditures are classified by functional classification for BY-1, but the categorization is not compatible with international standards.
- c. Some, but not all, expenditures are classified by function for BY-1.
- d. No expenditures classified by function are presented for BY-1.
- e. Not applicable/other (please comment).

Citation and/or comment:

**The researcher's response to this question was "a."** See the *Proforma Budget by Sector & Institution* which includes the prior year's originally requested budget:  
[http://www.sigef.gov.ec/downloads/proforma/2005/pge/pro\\_pge\\_con\\_sect\\_ins\\_2005.PDF](http://www.sigef.gov.ec/downloads/proforma/2005/pge/pro_pge_con_sect_ins_2005.PDF)

**Researcher Response to Peer Reviewer:** The answer is "a." The World Bank and IDB document is for 2003 and the situation has changed. Please, analyze the links for 2005.

**Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:**

**Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:** A more appropriate response to this question would be "b." See the World Bank and IDB document, *Creating Fiscal Space for Poverty Reduction: A Fiscal Management and Public Expenditure Review*, p. 68.

**IBP Comment:** IBP editors chose answer "a" to maintain the consistency of the assumptions used in selecting answers across the countries. The information can be found, however, in a link different than the one suggested by the researcher but used elsewhere. At:  
[http://www.sigef.gov.ec/downloads/proforma/2005/gobierno\\_central/Pro\\_Con\\_Act\\_2005.pdf](http://www.sigef.gov.ec/downloads/proforma/2005/gobierno_central/Pro_Con_Act_2005.pdf)

a

<p>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?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. All expenditures are classified by economic classification for BY-1, and the categorization is compatible with international standards.</li> <li>b. All expenditures are classified by economic classification for BY-1, but the categorization is not compatible with international standards.</li> <li>c. Some, but not all, expenditures are classified by economic classification for BY-1.</li> <li>d. No expenditures classified by economic classification are presented for BY-1.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u></p> <p><b>The researcher’s response to this question was “a.”</b> See the <i>Proforma Budget by Sector &amp; Institution</i> which includes the prior year’s originally requested budget:  <a href="http://www.sigef.gov.ec/downloads/proforma/2005/gobierno_central/Pro_Con_Act_2005.pdf">http://www.sigef.gov.ec/downloads/proforma/2005/gobierno_central/Pro_Con_Act_2005.pdf</a>  <a href="http://www.sigef.gov.ec/downloads/proforma/2005/pge/pro_pge_con_sect_ins_2005.PDF">http://www.sigef.gov.ec/downloads/proforma/2005/pge/pro_pge_con_sect_ins_2005.PDF</a></p> <p><b>Researcher Response to Peer Reviewer:</b> The answer is “a.” The World Bank and IDB document is for 2003, and the situation has changed. Please, analyze the links for 2005.</p> <p><b>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</b></p> <p><b>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</b> A more appropriate response to this question would be “b.” The World Bank and IDB document, <i>Creating Fiscal Space for Poverty Reduction: A Fiscal Management and Public Expenditure Review</i>, p. 68.</p> <p><b>IBP Comment:</b> IBP editors chose answer “a” to maintain the consistency of the assumptions used in selecting answers across the countries. The information can be found, however, in a link different than the one suggested by the researcher but used elsewhere. At:  <a href="http://www.sigef.gov.ec/downloads/proforma/2005/pge/pro_pge_con_sect_grp_gas_2005.pdf">http://www.sigef.gov.ec/downloads/proforma/2005/pge/pro_pge_con_sect_grp_gas_2005.pdf</a></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">a</div>
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<p>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)?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Program-level expenditure data are presented for all expenditures for BY-1.</li> <li>b. Program-level expenditure data are presented for at least two-thirds of, but not all, expenditures for BY-1.</li> <li>c. Program-level expenditure data are presented, but for less than two-thirds of expenditures for BY-1.</li> <li>d. No program-level expenditure data are presented for BY-1.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u></p> <p><b>The researcher’s response to this question was “a.”</b> See the <i>Proforma Budget by Activity</i> which includes prior year’s originally requested budget:  <a href="http://www.sigef.gov.ec/downloads/proforma/2005/pge/pro_pge_con_act_2005.PDF">http://www.sigef.gov.ec/downloads/proforma/2005/pge/pro_pge_con_act_2005.PDF</a></p> <p><b>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</b> A more appropriate response to this question would be “a,” and we could quote:  <a href="http://www.ec-gov.net/PRESUPUESTO2006/PGE2006/pdfs/GC/Cuadro_1_7.pdf">http://www.ec-gov.net/PRESUPUESTO2006/PGE2006/pdfs/GC/Cuadro_1_7.pdf</a></p> <p><b>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</b> A more appropriate response to this question would be “b.” The same limitations described in question 1 apply to this question.</p> <p><b>IBP Comment:</b> IBP editors chose answer “b” to maintain the consistency of the assumptions used in selecting answers across the countries. Activity spending by agency or function is considered equivalent to program spending, and the level of disaggregation of the budget information is unquestionably higher than that of functional or administrative spending. This level of information is not in the link suggested by the researcher, but can be found in this one, used elsewhere:  <a href="http://www.sigef.gov.ec/downloads/proforma/2005/gobierno_central/Pro_Con_Act_2005.pdf">http://www.sigef.gov.ec/downloads/proforma/2005/gobierno_central/Pro_Con_Act_2005.pdf</a></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">b</div>
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<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> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All BY-1 estimates have been updated from the original enacted levels to reflect six or more months of actual expenditure.</li> <li>All BY-1 estimates have been updated from the original enacted levels, but reflect less than six months of actual expenditure.</li> <li>Some BY-1 estimates have been updated from the original enacted levels to reflect actual expenditure.</li> <li>The BY-1 estimates have not been updated from the original enacted levels, or no BY-1 estimates are presented.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u></p> <p><b>The researcher's response to this question was "b."</b> The data given for the preceding year's budget is the amount originally requested. See the <i>Proforma Budget by Expenditures Sector/Item</i>:  <a href="http://www.sigef.gov.ec/downloads/proforma/2005/pge/pro_pge_con_sect_grp_gas_2005.pdf">http://www.sigef.gov.ec/downloads/proforma/2005/pge/pro_pge_con_sect_grp_gas_2005.pdf</a></p> <p><b>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</b> A more appropriate response to this question is "a." The citation is not correct. The information about the preceding year (BY-1) is <b>normally</b> twofold: there is one column on the budget proposal and there is another column based on the enacted budget for the first semester plus a projection for the second semester. If the expert was referring to pro forma 2005, then this included originally requested budget only for the year 2004. However, if the reference now is pro forma 2006, the information given is the original enacted budget for 2005 and not originally requested budget. See:  <a href="http://www.ec-gov.net/PRESUPUESTO2006/PGE2006/pdfs/GC/Cuadro_1_7.pdf">http://www.ec-gov.net/PRESUPUESTO2006/PGE2006/pdfs/GC/Cuadro_1_7.pdf</a></p> <p><b>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</b> A more appropriate response to this question would be "b." The budget for BY is developed according to the modified budget of June BY-1, which incorporates all of the budget modifications during the first semester of BY-1.</p> <p><b>IBP Comment:</b> IBP editors chose answer "b" to maintain the consistency of the assumptions used in selecting answers across the countries.</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">b</div>
<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> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes, such prior-year estimates of aggregate expenditure are presented.</li> <li>No, such prior-year estimates of aggregate expenditure are not presented.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> A review of the proposed budget documents reveals that they only contain one year prior.</p> <p><b>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</b></p> <p><b>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">b</div>

<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"> <li>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).</li> <li>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.</li> <li>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.</li> <li>d. No, such prior-year estimates are presented for aggregate expenditure only, or they are not presented at all.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> A review of the budget shows that such prior-year estimates are not presented.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>
<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"> <li>a. Two years prior to the budget year (BY-2).</li> <li>b. Three years prior to the budget year (BY-3).</li> <li>c. Before BY-3.</li> <li>d. No actual data for all expenditures are presented in the budget or supporting budget documentation.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> The budget documents only contain the requested budget for each administrative unit or program for the preceding budget year. See the <i>Proforma Budget by Activity</i>:  <a href="http://www.sigef.gov.ec/downloads/proforma/2005/pge/pro_pge_con_act_2005.pdf">http://www.sigef.gov.ec/downloads/proforma/2005/pge/pro_pge_con_act_2005.pdf</a></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>

<p>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?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, prior-year data are always adjusted to be comparable to the budget year data.</li> <li>b. Yes, in most cases, prior-year data are adjusted to be comparable.</li> <li>c. Yes, in some cases, prior-year data are adjusted to be comparable, but significant deviations between prior-year and budget-year classifications exist.</li> <li>d. No, prior-year data are not adjusted to be comparable, or no prior-year estimates are presented.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u></p> <p><b><u>The researcher’s response to this question was “a.”</u></b> Prior-year data are always adjusted to be comparable to the budget-year data. See the <i>Proforma Budget by Activity</i>: <a href="http://www.sigef.gov.ec/downloads/proforma/2005/pge/pro_pge_con_act_2005.PDF">http://www.sigef.gov.ec/downloads/proforma/2005/pge/pro_pge_con_act_2005.PDF</a></p> <p><b><u>Researcher Response to Peer Reviewer:</u></b> The answer is “a,” since in 2001 the data are comparable in terms of classification and presentation.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b> A more appropriate response to this question is “c.” The citation in this question is not correct because there have indeed been changes in classifications from one year to the other, and they are not necessarily all comparable and adjusted. If one tried to compare specific expenditure in a multi-year period, it would not be possible all the time.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>IBP Comment:</u></b> IBP editors chose answer “a” to maintain the consistency of the assumptions used in selecting answers across the countries.</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">a</div>
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<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"> <li>a. All tax revenues are identified individually for BY-1.</li> <li>b. Tax revenues amounting to at least two-thirds of, but not all, tax revenue for BY-1 are identified individually.</li> <li>c. Tax revenues amounting to less than two-thirds of all tax revenues for BY-1 are identified individually.</li> <li>d. No tax revenues are identified individually for BY-1.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> The <i>Proforma Budget by Revenue Source</i> includes the sources of tax revenue for the prior year.  <a href="http://www.sigef.gov.ec/downloads/proforma/2005/pge/pro_pge_con_itm_ing_2005.PDF">http://www.sigef.gov.ec/downloads/proforma/2005/pge/pro_pge_con_itm_ing_2005.PDF</a></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">a</div>
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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)?

- 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).

b

Citation and/or comment:

**The researcher's response to this question was "a."** Art 2 of Law 2055-4: *Reformatory to the Law of Organic Responsibility, Stabilization, and Fiscal Transparency*, Official registration No. 69 of 27/07/2005, established that all oil revenues covered by CEREPS (for example FEIREP) are part of the budget.

All types of non-tax revenues are identified individually. You can see in the links:

<http://www.mef.gov.ec/Proforma2006/Presentacionproforma2006.pdf>

<http://www.mef.gov.ec/docs/subpresupuesto.htm>

**Researcher Response to Peer Reviewer:** The answer is "a." The World Bank and IDB document is for 2003 and the situation has changed. Please, analyze the links.

**Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:**

**Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:** A more appropriate response to this question would be "b." The World Bank and IDB document, *Creating Fiscal Space for Poverty Reduction: a Fiscal Management and Public Expenditure Review*, p. 68.

**IBP Comment:** IBP editors chose answer "b" to maintain the consistency of the assumptions used in selecting answers across the countries. It is important to note that the information is included in the 2006 budget. It was not, however, available in 2005 (as suggested by the fact that the law cited was enacted in July 2005). Since some information was already available in 2005, as Peer Reviewer TWO suggests, the IBP editors chose "b." Some of the non-tax revenue sources can be found at:

[http://www.sigef.gov.ec/downloads/proforma/2005/pge/pro\\_pge\\_con\\_itm\\_ing\\_2005.PDF](http://www.sigef.gov.ec/downloads/proforma/2005/pge/pro_pge_con_itm_ing_2005.PDF)

<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> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All BY-1 estimates have been updated from the original estimates to reflect six or more months of actual revenue collections.</li> <li>All BY-1 estimates have been updated from the original estimates, but reflect less than six months of actual revenue collections.</li> <li>Some BY-1 estimates have not been updated from the original estimates to reflect actual revenue collections.</li> <li>The BY-1 estimates have not been updated from the original estimates or no BY-1 estimates are presented.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u></p> <p><b><u>The researcher’s response to this question was “b.”</u></b> The BY-1 estimates have been updated from the original estimate, but reflect less than six months of actual revenue collections. See the <i>Proforma Budget by Revenue Sources</i>:  <a href="http://www.sigef.gov.ec/downloads/proforma/2005/pge/pro_pge_con_itm_ing_2005.PDF">http://www.sigef.gov.ec/downloads/proforma/2005/pge/pro_pge_con_itm_ing_2005.PDF</a></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b> A more appropriate response to this question is “a.” The citation is not correct. The information about the preceding year (BY-1) is twofold: there is one column on the budget proposal and there is another column based on the enacted budget for the first semester plus a projection for the second semester. Also see comment for question 22.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b> A more appropriate response to this question would be “b.” The BY budget is developed according to June’s modified budget BY-1, which includes all of the budget modifications in the first semester.</p> <p><b><u>IBP Comment:</u></b> IBP editors chose answer “b” to maintain the consistency of the assumptions used in selecting answers across the countries.</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">b</div>
<p>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)?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes, such prior-year estimates of aggregate revenue are presented.</li> <li>No, such prior-year estimates of aggregate revenue are not presented.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> The <i>Proforma Budget</i> and all other budget documents only include data for the preceding year.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">b</div>

<p>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)?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, such prior-year revenue estimates are presented for individual sources of revenue, and by revenue classification (such as tax and non-tax).</li> <li>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.</li> <li>c. Yes, such prior-year estimates are presented, but only for some individual sources of revenue.</li> <li>d. No, such prior-year estimates are presented for aggregate revenue only, or they are not presented at all.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> No such prior-year estimates are presented in any form.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>
<p>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?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Two years prior to the budget year (BY-2).</li> <li>b. Three years prior to the budget year (BY-3).</li> <li>c. Before BY-3.</li> <li>d. No actual data for all revenues are presented in the budget or supporting budget documentation.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> All of the revenue figures in the budget are the prior year’s initial budget request.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>

<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"> <li>Yes, extensive information is presented on the level and composition of government debt for the year preceding the budget year.</li> <li>Yes, information on the level of debt is presented, but some important details about the composition of the debt are excluded.</li> <li>Yes, but only information on the level of debt is presented.</li> <li>No, information related to the government debt for BY-1 is not presented.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u></p> <p><b>The researcher’s response to this question was “b.”</b> The document, <i>Presentación de Proforma 2006</i>, provide data on the outstanding debt, but some details are excluded. Pp. 10, 33, and 39. See:  <a href="http://www.mef.gov.ec/Proforma2006/Presentacionproforma2006.pdf">http://www.mef.gov.ec/Proforma2006/Presentacionproforma2006.pdf</a></p> <p><b>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</b> A more appropriate response would be “b.” The only additional information provided is whether the debt is domestic or external. However, interest rates, maturity profile, currency or currency exchange rates or others are not provided.</p> <p><b>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</b></p> <p><b>IBP Comment:</b> IBP editors chose answer “c” to maintain the consistency of the assumptions used in selecting answers across the countries. Also refer to question 13, which seeks similar information for the BY.</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">c</div>
<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"> <li>Two years prior to the budget year (BY-2).</li> <li>Three years prior to the budget year (BY-3).</li> <li>Before BY-3.</li> <li>No actual data for government debt are presented in the budget or supporting budget documentation.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> No actual data for government debt are present in the budget.</p> <p><b>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</b></p> <p><b>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>

<b>Comprehensiveness</b>	
<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> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, extensive information on extra-budgetary funds is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates.</li> <li>b. Yes, information is presented, highlighting key extra-budgetary funds, but some details are excluded.</li> <li>c. Yes, some information is presented, but it lacks important details.</li> <li>d. No, information on extra-budgetary funds is not presented.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>
<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"> <li>a. Yes, extensive information on intergovernmental transfers is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates.</li> <li>b. Yes, information is presented, highlighting key intergovernmental transfers, but some details are excluded.</li> <li>c. Yes, some information is presented, but it lacks important details.</li> <li>d. No, information on intergovernmental transfers is not presented.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> The document <i>Presentación de Proforma 2006</i> provides information on intergovernmental transfers, page 37 and Annexes 5 and 6, page 60. See:  <a href="http://www.mef.gov.ec/Proforma2006/Presentacionproforma2006.pdf">http://www.mef.gov.ec/Proforma2006/Presentacionproforma2006.pdf</a></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">a</div>

<p>37. Does the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation present information for at least the budget year on transfers to public corporations?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes, extensive information on transfers to public corporations is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates.</li> <li>Yes, information is presented, highlighting key transfers to public corporations, but some details are excluded.</li> <li>Yes, some information is presented, but it lacks important details.</li> <li>No, information on transfers to public corporations is not presented.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u></p> <p><b>The researcher's response to this question was "c."</b> There are transfers to public corporations, such as water enterprises and the public oil company (Petroecuador) which are not included in the budget, but which are considered pre-allocated expenses. See: <a href="http://www.mef.gov.ec/Proforma2006/Presentacionproforma2006.pdf">http://www.mef.gov.ec/Proforma2006/Presentacionproforma2006.pdf</a></p> <p><b>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</b> A more appropriate response to this question is "d." There are transfers to public corporations, such as electric energy enterprises, the public oil company (Petroecuador) which are not included in the central government budget, but which are considered pre-allocated expenses, which means they have been previously decided upon by law. See: <a href="http://www.mef.gov.ec/Proforma2006/Presentacionproforma2006.pdf">http://www.mef.gov.ec/Proforma2006/Presentacionproforma2006.pdf</a></p> <p><b>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</b> A more appropriate response to this question would be "c." Transfers to Petroecuador and the Ecuadorian Institute of Social Security are made by the central government.</p> <p><b>IBP Comment:</b> IBP editors chose answer "d" to maintain the consistency of the assumptions used in selecting answers across the countries.</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>
<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> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes, extensive information on quasi-fiscal activities is presented, including both a narrative discussion and, where possible, quantitative estimates.</li> <li>Yes, information is presented, highlighting key quasi-fiscal activities, but some details are excluded.</li> <li>Yes, some information is presented, but it lacks important details.</li> <li>No, information on quasi-fiscal activities is not presented.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> Interview with Olga Nuñez, Sub-Secretary for the Budget, June 29, 2005.</p> <p><b>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</b></p> <p><b>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>

<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"> <li>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.</li> <li>b. Yes, information is presented, highlighting key information, but some details are excluded.</li> <li>c. Yes, some information is presented, but it lacks important details.</li> <li>d. No, information on financial assets is not presented.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> See page 3 of the <i>Proforma Budget by Revenues</i> which includes revenues generated by public corporations and interest payments the government receives:  <a href="http://www.sigef.gov.ec/downloads/proforma/2005/pge/pro_pge_con_itm_ing_2005.PDF">http://www.sigef.gov.ec/downloads/proforma/2005/pge/pro_pge_con_itm_ing_2005.PDF</a></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">c</div>
<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"> <li>a. Yes, extensive information on non-financial assets is presented, including a listing of the assets, a discussion of their purpose, and (where possible) an estimate of their market value.</li> <li>b. Yes, information is presented, highlighting key information, but some details are excluded.</li> <li>c. Yes, some information is presented, but it lacks important details.</li> <li>d. No, information on non-financial assets is not presented.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> Interview with Olga Nuñez, Sub-Secretary for the Budget, June 29, 2005.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>

<p>41. Does the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation present information for at least the budget year on expenditure arrears?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes, extensive information on expenditure arrears is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates.</li> <li>Yes, information is presented, highlighting key expenditure arrears, but some details are excluded.</li> <li>Yes, some information is presented, but it lacks important details.</li> <li>No, information on expenditure arrears is not presented.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> Interview with Olga Nuñez, Sub-Secretary for the Budget, June 29, 2005. The document <i>Presentación de Proforma 2006</i>, provides some information of expenditure arrears, page 51. See: <a href="http://www.mef.gov.ec/Proforma2006/Presentacionproforma2006.pdf">http://www.mef.gov.ec/Proforma2006/Presentacionproforma2006.pdf</a></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">c</div>
<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"> <li>Yes, extensive information on contingent liabilities is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates.</li> <li>Yes, information is presented, highlighting key contingent liabilities, but some details are excluded.</li> <li>Yes, some information is presented, but it lacks important details.</li> <li>No, information on contingent liabilities is not presented.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> Interview with Olga Nuñez, Sub-Secretary for the Budget, June 29, 2005.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>

<p>43. Does the executive’s budget or any supporting budget documentation present information on future liabilities, such as civil service pensions?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, extensive information on future liabilities is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates.</li> <li>b. Yes, information is presented, highlighting key future liabilities, but some details are excluded.</li> <li>c. Yes, some information is presented, but it lacks important details.</li> <li>d. No, information on future liabilities is not presented.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> Interview with Olga Nuñez, Sub-Secretary for the Budget, June 29, 2005.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>
<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"> <li>a. All sources of donor assistance are identified individually.</li> <li>b. At least two-thirds of, but not all, sources of donor assistance, are identified individually.</li> <li>c. Less than two-thirds of sources of donor assistance are identified individually.</li> <li>d. No sources of donor assistance are identified individually.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> Throughout the budget there are several line items listing donations but neither the source nor any detail about the donations is given. Interview with Olga Nuñez, Sub-Secretary for the Budget, June 29, 2005.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>

<p>45. Does the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation present information for at least the budget year on tax expenditures?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, extensive information on tax expenditures is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates.</li> <li>b. Yes, information is presented, highlighting key tax expenditures, but some details are excluded.</li> <li>c. Yes, some information is presented, but it lacks important details.</li> <li>d. No, information on tax expenditures is not presented.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> Interview with Olga Nuñez, Sub-Secretary for the Budget, June 29, 2005.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>
<p>46. Does the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation identify all earmarked revenues?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. All earmarked revenues are identified individually.</li> <li>b. At least two-thirds of, but not all, earmarked revenues are identified individually.</li> <li>c. Less than two-thirds of earmarked revenues are identified individually.</li> <li>d. No earmarked revenues are identified individually.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> The document <i>Presentación de Proforma 2006</i> provides information on earmarked revenues, pp. 52-53 and Annex #1. See: <a href="http://www.mef.gov.ec/Proforma2006/Presentacionproforma2006.pdf">http://www.mef.gov.ec/Proforma2006/Presentacionproforma2006.pdf</a> In the document, <i>Justificativo de la Proforma del Presupuesto General del Estado 2006</i>, pp. 120-121 137-142. See: <a href="http://www.mef.gov.ec/docs/subpresupuesto.htm">http://www.mef.gov.ec/docs/subpresupuesto.htm</a></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">a</div>

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 and/or comment:

**The researcher's response to this question was "e."** There are no longer secret spending items and the budget for national security and military intelligence is subsumed into the defense and police spending. Defense and police spending accounts for more than 8% of the total budget. Interview with Olga Nuñez, Sub-Secretary for the Budget, June 29, 2005.

**Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:** A more appropriate response to this question would be "d." There are no longer secret spending items funded by the central budget. However, the budget for national security and military intelligence are subsumed into the Defense and Police spending. Total Defense and Police budget accounts for more than 8% of the central government budget, however it is not possible to determine the specific amount for national security and military intelligence. Answer D is appropriate in the sense that the exact percentage is not available to the public, and there are no audits of these expenditures.

**Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:**

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

d

<b>The Budget Narrative &amp; Performance Monitoring</b>	
<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> <p>a. 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.</p> <p>b. Yes, information is presented, highlighting the link between major policy goals and the budget, but some details are excluded.</p> <p>c. Yes, some information is presented, but it lacks important details.</p> <p>d. No, information on the link between the budget and the government's stated policy goals is not presented.</p> <p>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</p> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> A review of the budget shows it does not include any policy discussion.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b> A more appropriate response to this question would be to clarify that the budget documentation includes policy goals in a broad sense, but that it does not state goals by each administrative unit.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>
<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> <p>a. 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.</p> <p>b. Yes, information is presented, highlighting the major policy goals, but some details are excluded.</p> <p>c. Yes, some information is presented, but it lacks important details.</p> <p>d. No, information on the link between the budget and the government's stated policy goals over a multi-year period is not presented.</p> <p>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</p> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> Policy goals are not made public but the government does have a plan of development. Interview with Olga Nuñez, Sub-Secretary for the Budget, June 29, 2005.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>

<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"> <li>Non-financial data are presented for all programs.</li> <li>Non-financial data are presented for programs representing at least two-thirds of, but not all, expenditures.</li> <li>Non-financial data are presented for programs representing less than two-thirds of expenditure.</li> <li>No non-financial data are presented.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> The Technical Secretary for the Social Front maintains these numbers and they are published but not as part of the budget process. Interview with Olga Nuñez, Sub-Secretary for the Budget, June 29, 2005.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b> The answer “d” is correct; however, we do not agree with the comment. This specific Secretariat does not produce non-financial data about beneficiaries in relation to budget, neither does it do so in relation to any programs and administrative units. Its role is not necessarily related to budget or program monitoring. In a different context, it must be mentioned that each administrative unit provides the Ministry of Finance with program beneficiary information, but this is not used to monitor programs in a systematic way.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>
<p>51. Are the non-financial data presented useful for assessing how an expenditure program is performing?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The non-financial data are very useful for assessing program performance.</li> <li>The non-financial data are mostly useful for assessing program performance.</li> <li>The non-financial data are somewhat useful for assessing program performance.</li> <li>No non-financial data are provided or they are not useful for assessing program performance.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> No non-financial data are provided.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>

<p>52. Does the executive’s budget or any supporting budget documentation contain performance indicators for expenditure programs?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Performance indicators are presented for all programs.</li> <li>b. Performance indicators are presented for programs representing at least two-thirds of, but not all, expenditures.</li> <li>c. Performance indicators are presented for programs representing less than two-thirds of expenditures.</li> <li>d. No performance indicators are presented.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> A review of the budget shows there are no performance indicators.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>
<p>53. Are the performance indicators sufficiently well designed, such that one can assess whether there has been progress toward meeting policy goals?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. All performance indicators are well designed.</li> <li>b. Most performance indicators are well designed.</li> <li>c. Some performance indicators are well designed, but most are not.</li> <li>d. No programs have performance indicators, or they are not well designed.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> There are no program performance indicators.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>
<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"> <li>a. All performance indicators are used in conjunction with performance targets.</li> <li>b. Most performance indicators are used in conjunction with performance targets.</li> <li>c. Some performance indicators are used in conjunction with performance targets, but most are not.</li> <li>d. No performance indicators are used in conjunction with performance targets.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> There are no program performance indicators in the budget.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>

<p>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?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, extensive information on policies intended to alleviate poverty is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates.</li> <li>b. Yes, information is presented, highlighting the impact of key policies intended to alleviate poverty, but some details are excluded.</li> <li>c. Yes, some information is presented, but it lacks important details.</li> <li>d. No, information on policies intended to alleviate poverty is not presented.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u></p> <p><b><u>The researcher’s response to this question was “c.”</u></b> Interview with Jaime Carrera, Technical Secretary of Observatory of Fiscal Policy, June 10, 2005. The document <i>Presentación de Proforma 2006</i> provides information of social expenditures, pp. 8 - 9. See:  <a href="http://www.mef.gov.ec/Proforma2006/Presentacionproforma2006.pdf">http://www.mef.gov.ec/Proforma2006/Presentacionproforma2006.pdf</a></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b> A more appropriate response to this question would be “d.” Information presented is on social expenditure in general, which does not necessarily benefit the poorest populations in the country.</p> <p><b><u>IBP Comment:</u></b> IBP editors chose answer “c” to maintain the consistency of the assumptions used in selecting answers across the countries.</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">c</div>
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<b>Additional Key Information for Budget Analysis &amp; Monitoring</b>	
<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?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, extensive information on tax rates and fee schedules is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates.</li> <li>b. Yes, information is presented, highlighting the rates and fees for major revenue sources, but some details are excluded.</li> <li>c. Yes, some information is presented, but it lacks important details.</li> <li>d. No, information is not presented.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u></p> <p><b>The researcher's response to this question was "a."</b> The information is contained in the <i>Justificativo de Los Ingresos del Presupuesto del Gobierno Central</i> (Interview with Olga Nuñez, Sub-Secretary for the Budget, June 29, 2005).  <a href="http://www.mef.gov.ec/docs/subpresupuesto.htm">http://www.mef.gov.ec/docs/subpresupuesto.htm</a></p> <p><b>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</b> A more appropriate response to this question is "b."</p> <p><b>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</b> A more appropriate response to this question would be "b."</p> <p><b>IBP Comment:</b> IBP editors chose answer "a" to maintain the consistency of the assumptions used in selecting answers across the countries.</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">a</div>
<p>57. Does the executive make available to the public an analysis of the distribution of the tax burden?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, a detailed analysis of the distribution of the tax burden is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates.</li> <li>b. Yes, an analysis is presented, highlighting key aspects of the distribution, but some details are excluded.</li> <li>c. Yes, some analysis is presented, but it lacks important details.</li> <li>d. No analysis on the distribution of the tax burden is presented.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> Interview with Jaime Carrera, Technical Secretary of Observatory of Fiscal Policy, June 10, 2005.</p> <p><b>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</b></p> <p><b>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>

<p>58. Does the executive make available to the public an explanation of the conditions associated with assistance from international financial institutions (IFI)?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes, extensive information on conditions associated with IFI assistance is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates.</li> <li>Yes, information is presented, but some details are excluded.</li> <li>Yes, some information is presented, but it lacks important details.</li> <li>No, information on conditions associated with IFI assistance is not presented.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> The memorandum of understanding between Ecuador and the International Monetary Fund is available, but some information of others IFIs is not presented, but the government will not disclose key issues from others negotiation with IFIs.</p> <p><a href="http://www.ec-gov.net/docs/monetario.htm">http://www.ec-gov.net/docs/monetario.htm</a>  <a href="http://www.mef.gov.ec/docs/monet0e.htm">http://www.mef.gov.ec/docs/monet0e.htm</a></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b> The government will not disclose key issues from the different negotiations with IFIs. Some general documents might be available from other sources. (World Bank Country Strategy, for example).</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: auto; text-align: center; line-height: 30px;">c</div>
<p>59. Does the executive make available to the public an explanation of the conditions associated with assistance from donor countries?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes, extensive information on conditions associated with donor country assistance is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates.</li> <li>Yes, information is presented, but some details are excluded.</li> <li>Yes, some information is presented, but it lacks important details.</li> <li>No, information on conditions associated with donor country assistance is not presented.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> In the document, <i>Justificativo de la Proforma del Presupuesto General del Estado 2006</i>, page 139.  <a href="http://www.mef.gov.ec/docs/subpresupuesto.htm">http://www.mef.gov.ec/docs/subpresupuesto.htm</a>  On the website of the Ministry of External Relations, some information is presented but it lacks important details. See:  <a href="http://www.mmree.gov.ec/ineci/perfiles/indice.asp">http://www.mmree.gov.ec/ineci/perfiles/indice.asp</a></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: auto; text-align: center; line-height: 30px;">c</div>

<p>60. Does the executive make available to the public a summary that describes the budget and its proposals?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, it provides a summary that is very informative.</li> <li>b. Yes, it provides a summary that is somewhat informative.</li> <li>c. Yes, but the summary is not very informative.</li> <li>d. No, it does not provide a summary.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u></p> <p><b><u>The researcher’s response to this question was “a.”</u></b> The document <i>Presentación de Proforma 2006</i> provides a summary that is very informative. See: <a href="http://www.mef.gov.ec/Proforma2006/Presentacionproforma2006.pdf">http://www.mef.gov.ec/Proforma2006/Presentacionproforma2006.pdf</a></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b> A more appropriate response to this question would be “b.” The objectives in the summary are very general. The summary does not describe the way in which these objectives will be achieved, how the initiatives will be funded and by whom.</p> <p><b><u>IBP Comment:</u></b> IBP editors chose answer “b” to maintain the consistency of the assumptions used in selecting answers across the countries.</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">b</div>
<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> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, it publishes a citizens budget that is very informative.</li> <li>b. Yes, it publishes a citizens budget that is somewhat informative.</li> <li>c. Yes, but the citizens budget is not very informative.</li> <li>d. No, it does not publish a citizens budget.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> Interview with Jaime Carrera, Technical Secretary of Observatory of Fiscal Policy, June 10, 2005.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>

<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"><li>a. Yes, thorough definitions of budget terms are provided.</li><li>b. Yes, definitions are provided, but some details are excluded.</li><li>c. Yes, some definitions are provided, but it lacks important details.</li><li>d. No, definitions are not provided.</li><li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li></ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> Interview with Jaime Carrera, Technical Secretary of Observatory of Fiscal Policy, June 10, 2005. However, a general glossary of terms frequently used in public finance was found in the SIGEF (Sistema Integrado de Gestión Financiera-in English integrated system of financial management) Website, but the definitions are very technical. <a href="http://www.sigef.gov.ec/index.php?option=com_content&amp;task=section&amp;id=4&amp;Itemid=54">http://www.sigef.gov.ec/index.php?option=com_content&amp;task=section&amp;id=4&amp;Itemid=54</a></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">b</div>
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<p>63. Does the executive make available to the public a summary of the budget process?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, it includes a summary of the budget process that is very informative.</li> <li>b. Yes, it includes a summary of the budget process that is somewhat informative.</li> <li>c. Yes, but the summary of the budget process is not very informative.</li> <li>d. No, it does not include a summary of the budget process.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u></p> <p><b>The researcher’s response to this question was “a.”</b> The executive include a very informative summary of the budget process. See:  <a href="http://www.sigef.gov.ec/downloads/leyes/2000/acuerdo182.pdf">http://www.sigef.gov.ec/downloads/leyes/2000/acuerdo182.pdf</a></p> <p><b>Researcher Response to Peer Reviewer:</b> The <i>Proforma</i> presentation documents do not refer to budget process, the correct link is:  <a href="http://www.sigef.gov.ec/downloads/leyes/2000/acuerdo182.pdf">http://www.sigef.gov.ec/downloads/leyes/2000/acuerdo182.pdf</a> and the answer is “a.”</p> <p><b>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</b> A more appropriate response to this question would be “c.” Although there is a Manual of Procedures at the Ministry of Finance, available on the Internet, (<a href="http://1sissec.mef.gov.ec/productosMEF/documents/MANUAL-PROCESO-34101.pdf">http://1sissec.mef.gov.ec/productosMEF/documents/MANUAL-PROCESO-34101.pdf</a>) the purpose of this guide is not to make the general public aware of or knowledgeable about the budget process. There is more civil society information produced on the budget process than official documents for the general public. The <i>Proforma</i> presentation documents do not refer to budget process.</p> <p><b>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</b> A more appropriate response to this question would be “c.” The information on the budget process is insufficient.</p> <p><b>IBP Comment:</b> IBP editors chose answer “c” to maintain the consistency of the assumptions used in selecting answers across the countries.</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">c</div>
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<p>64. Do citizens have the right in law to access government information, including budget information?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes, the right has been codified into law, and citizens are generally able in practice to obtain government information, including budget information.</li> <li>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.</li> <li>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.</li> <li>No, the right to access government information has not been codified into law, or this right does not include access to budget information.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> The right to public access to government information is guaranteed by Art. 81 of the Constitution, as well as Art. 18 of the <i>Law of Organic Responsibility, Stabilization, and Fiscal Transparency</i> which provides that citizens have free access to budget documents; and the <i>Law for Transparency and Public Access to Information</i> (LOTAIP).</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">b</div>
<p>65. 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)?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In practice, highly disaggregated information is available to the public for all programs except those considered related to national security or military intelligence.</li> <li>In practice, highly disaggregated information is available to the public for programs representing at least two-thirds of, but not all, expenditures.</li> <li>In practice, highly disaggregated information is available to the public for programs representing less than two-thirds of expenditures.</li> <li>In practice, no highly disaggregated expenditure information is available.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> Interview with Jaime Carrera, Technical Secretary of Observatory of Fiscal Policy, June 10, 2005.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>

<p>66. 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?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>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.</li> <li>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.</li> <li>c. In practice, highly disaggregated non-financial information is available to the public for programs representing less than two-thirds of expenditures.</li> <li>d. In practice, no highly disaggregated non-financial expenditure information is available.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> Interview with Jaime Carrera, Technical Secretary of Observatory of Fiscal Policy, June 10, 2005.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>
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## **Section Three: The Budget Process**

<b>The Budget Process</b>	
<b>Executive's Formulation of the Budget</b>	
<p>67. How far in advance of the release of the budget is the day of its release known?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. The release date is set in permanent law.</li> <li>b. The executive announces the release date at least two months in advance.</li> <li>c. The executive announces the release date less than two months but more than two weeks in advance.</li> <li>d. The executive announces the release date two weeks or less before the release, or makes no announcement.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> Article 258 of the Constitution states 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>The actual release date is usually the last day possible, August 31. Interview with Jaime Carrera, Technical Secretary of Observatory of Fiscal Policy, June 10, 2005.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: 30px; margin: 0 auto;">a</div>

68. Does the executive release to the public its timetable for its budget preparation process?

- 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).

d

Citation and/or comment:

**The researcher's response to this question was "a."** The *Organic Law of Responsibility, Stabilization, and Fiscal Transparency* (LOREYTF) requires the executive to release the pre-budget document, *Directrices Presupuestarias*, by April 30 (Art. 33) and for the individual administrative units to submit their budget requests to the Ministry by June 30 (Art. 35). The executive's budget proposal must be submitted to Congress by September 1 (Art. 258 of the Constitution). See page 20 of *Directrices Presupuestarias*:

<http://www.ec-gov.net/docs/Presupuesto2006/DIRECTRICESPROFORMA2006.pdf>

**Researcher Response to Peer Reviewer:** The answer is "a." The document *Directrices Presupuestarias* is a public timetable.

**Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:** A more appropriate response to this question would be "d." While there is a specific legal obligation, including set dates, this does not mean that the government informs the public about specific dates for the budget preparation in a systematic way. The document "*Directrices Presupuestarias*" could not be considered a public timetable.

**Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:** As stated by the investigator, the chronogram of the budgeting process is regulated by LOREYTF.

**IBP Comment:** IBP editors chose answer "d" to maintain the consistency of the assumptions used in selecting answers across the countries. Although the sources cited by the researcher do establish some deadlines, as do all laws and budgetary guideline documents, there is no general nor easily accessible timetable available to the public.

<p>69. Does the executive adhere to its timetable for the preparation and release of the budget?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The executive adheres to the dates in its timetable.</li> <li>The executive adheres to most of the key dates in its timetable.</li> <li>The executive has difficulty adhering to most of the dates in its timetable.</li> <li>The executive does not adhere to the dates in its timetable, or it does not release to the public its timetable.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> The executive adheres to the dates in its timetable. The only exception was for fiscal year 2006, the Palacio administration, which took office at the end of April, released the <i>Directrices</i> on May 26, 2005 and pushed back the deadline for departmental budget requests to July 15, 2005.</p> <p>The deadline is adhered to in most years. It was only in this particular fiscal year that the budget timetable was not adhered to because of a new administration.  <a href="http://www.sigef.gov.ec/index.php?option=com_content&amp;task=view&amp;id=8&amp;Itemid=2">http://www.sigef.gov.ec/index.php?option=com_content&amp;task=view&amp;id=8&amp;Itemid=2</a></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>IBP Comment:</u></b> IBP editors chose answer “d” to maintain the consistency of the assumptions used in selecting answers across the countries</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>
<p>70. Does the executive hold consultations with members of the legislature as part of its process of determining budget priorities?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes, the executive holds extensive consultations with a wide range of legislators.</li> <li>Yes, the executive holds consultations with a range of legislators, but some key members are excluded.</li> <li>Yes, the executive holds very limited consultations, involving only a few members of the legislature.</li> <li>No, the executive does not typically consult with members of the legislature as part of the budget preparation process.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> Interview with Jaime Carrera, Technical Secretary of Observatory of Fiscal Policy, June 10, 2005.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>

<p>71. Does the executive hold consultations with the public as part of its process of determining budget priorities?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes, the executive holds extensive consultations with a wide range of constituencies.</li> <li>Yes, the executive holds consultations with a range of constituencies, but some key constituencies are excluded.</li> <li>Yes, the executive holds very limited consultations, involving only a few constituencies.</li> <li>No, the executive does not typically consult with the public as part of the budget preparation process.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> Interview with Jaime Carrera, Technical Secretary of Observatory of Fiscal Policy, June 10, 2005.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>
<p>72. When does the executive release a pre-budget statement to the public?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The executive releases a pre-budget statement at least four months in advance of the start of the budget year.</li> <li>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.</li> <li>The executive releases a pre-budget statement, but it is released less than two months before the start of the budget year.</li> <li>The executive does not release a pre-budget statement.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u></p> <p><b><u>The researcher’s response to this question was “a.”</u></b> According to Article 33 of the Organic Law of Responsibility, Stabilization, and Fiscal Transparency (LOREYTF), the executive must release the pre-budget document, <i>Directrices Presupuestarias</i>, by April 30. For fiscal year 2006, the document’s release was delayed by almost one month.  <a href="http://www.ec-gov.net/docs/Presupuesto2006/oficio601449.pdf">http://www.ec-gov.net/docs/Presupuesto2006/oficio601449.pdf</a></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b> A more appropriate response to this question would be “d.” The citation above refers to the legal obligation of a document, not a statement, which is not made public but mostly used internally. Although the citation above is correct, it refers more to budget guidelines than to a pre-budget statement.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>IBP Comment:</u></b> IBP editors chose answer “d” to maintain the consistency of the assumptions used in selecting answers across the countries</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>

<p>73. Does the pre-budget statement describe the government’s macroeconomic and fiscal framework?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, an extensive explanation of the government’s fiscal and macroeconomic policy is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates.</li> <li>b. Yes, an explanation is presented, highlighting key aspects of the fiscal and macroeconomic framework, but some details are excluded.</li> <li>c. Yes, some explanation is presented, but it lacks important details.</li> <li>d. No, an explanation is not presented, or the executive does not release to the public a pre-budget statement.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u></p> <p><b>The researcher’s response to this question was “c.”</b> The pre-budget statement is very general and does not describe the macroeconomic or fiscal framework. Interview with Jaime Carrera, Technical Secretary of Observatory of Fiscal Policy, June 10, 2005.</p> <p><b>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</b> This answer is not consistent with the previous one. In our view, the correct answer must make a difference between pre-budget statement and pre-budget documents. The pre-budget document (the <i>Directrices Presupuestarias</i>) includes this information, but it is not a statement intended for the public.</p> <p><b>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</b></p> <p><b>IBP Comment:</b> IBP editors chose answer “d” to maintain the consistency of the assumptions used in selecting answers across the countries</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>
<p>74. 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> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, an extensive explanation of the government’s budget policies and priorities is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates.</li> <li>b. Yes, an explanation is presented, highlighting key aspects of the government’s budget policies and priorities, but some details are excluded.</li> <li>c. Yes, some explanation is presented, but it lacks important details.</li> <li>d. No, an explanation is not presented, or the executive does not release to the public a pre-budget statement.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> The pre-budget statement is very general and does not describe the government’s policies and priorities.</p> <p><b>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</b> A more appropriate response to this question would be to mention that there is no pre-budget statement made available to the public.</p> <p><b>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>

<b>Legislative Approval of the Budget</b>	
<p>75. How far in advance of the start of the budget year does the legislature receive the budget?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. The legislature receives the budget at least three months before the start of the budget year.</li> <li>b. The legislature receives the budget at least six weeks, but less than three months, before the start of the budget year.</li> <li>c. The legislature receives the budget less than six weeks before the start of the budget year.</li> <li>d. The legislature does not receive the budget before the start of the budget year.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> According to Article 258 of the Constitution, Congress must receive the budget by Sept. 1; the fiscal year begins on Jan. 1. For fiscal year 2005, Congress received the budget on Aug. 31.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">a</div>
<p>76. 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?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. 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.</li> <li>b. Yes, hearings are held in which testimony is heard from the executive branch and some constituencies.</li> <li>c. Yes, hearings are held in which testimony from the executive branch is heard, but no testimony from the public is heard.</li> <li>d. No, public hearings are not held on the macroeconomic and fiscal framework in which testimony from the executive branch and the public is heard.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> The Congressional Committee responsible for the budget, the Tax, Fiscal and Banking Committee, holds meetings with diverse groups and interests regarding the <i>Proforma</i> budget but the meetings are not public. Interview with Jaime Carrera, Technical Secretary of Observatory on Fiscal Politics, June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2005.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>

<p>77. 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?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes, extensive public hearings are held on the budgets of administrative units in which testimony from the executive branch is heard.</li> <li>Yes, hearings are held, covering key administrative units, in which testimony from the executive branch is heard.</li> <li>Yes, a limited number of hearings are held in which testimony from the executive branch is heard.</li> <li>No, public hearings are not held on the budgets of administrative units in which testimony from the executive branch is heard.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> The president of the Tax, Fiscal and Banking Committee called the minister of economics to appear and explain the budget to Congress. <i>Déficit Preocupa a Comisión Legislativa, Universo</i>, September 8, 2004. The hearing was not public and focused on general themes like revenue and oil production rather than particulars. Interview with Jaime Carrera, Observatory of Fiscal Policy, June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2005.</p> <p>Hearings are only held if the unit requests one or if the Congress decides to hold a hearing. Interview with Olga Nuñez, Sub-Secretary for the Budget, June 29, 2005.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>
<p>78. 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> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes, extensive public hearings are held on the budgets of administrative units in which testimony from the public is heard.</li> <li>Yes, hearings are held, covering key administrative units, in which testimony from the public is heard.</li> <li>Yes, a limited number of hearings are held in which testimony from the public is heard.</li> <li>No, public hearings are not held on the budgets of administrative units in which testimony from the public is heard.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> No public hearings are held. Interview with Jaime Carrera, Technical Secretary of Observatory of Fiscal Policy, June 10, 2005.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>

<p>79. Do the legislative committees that hold public hearings release reports to the public on these hearings?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, the committees release very informative reports, which include all written testimony presented at the hearings.</li> <li>b. Yes, the committees release reports, but some details are excluded.</li> <li>c. Yes, the committees release reports, but they are not very informative.</li> <li>d. No, the committees do not release reports or do not hold public hearings.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> No public hearings are held and no reports about the hearings are released to the public. Interview with Jaime Carrera, Technical Secretary of Observatory of Fiscal Policy, June 10, 2005.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>
<p>80. Does the executive present more details or provide a better explanation of any budget proposal, if members of the legislature (including from minority parties) request such information?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. The executive responds to such legislative requests, and it generally provides an appropriate and timely response.</li> <li>b. The executive responds to such legislative requests, but its responses are sometimes not appropriate or timely.</li> <li>c. The executive responds to such legislative requests, but its responses are typically not appropriate or timely.</li> <li>d. The executive responds selectively or ignores such legislative requests.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> The Ministry of Economy and Finance (MEF) responds to and explains such legislative requests of the budget year, and it generally provides an appropriate and timely response.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b> The executive would comply with any requests as timely as possible before the approval.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">a</div>

<p>81. Is the legislature (or the appropriate legislative committee) given information for the budget year on the spending of secret items relating to, for instance, national security and military intelligence?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, the legislature is provided extensive information on all spending on secret items.</li> <li>b. Yes, the legislature is provided information on spending on secret items, but some details are excluded.</li> <li>c. Yes, the legislature is provided some information on spending on secret items, but it lacks important details.</li> <li>d. No, the legislature is provided no information on secret items.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u></p> <p><b><u>The researcher’s response to this question was “e.”</u></b> Congress is provided no information on secret spending. Interview with Jaime Carrera, Technical Secretary of Observatory of Fiscal Policy, June 10, 2005. Secret items in the budget no longer exist. Interview with Olga Nuñez, Sub-Secretary for the Budget, June 29, 2005.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b> A more appropriate response to this question would be “d.” The information is not provided. There might be private sessions to discuss issues like this one, and some information might be released confidentially by the Ministry of Defense.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>IBP Comment:</u></b> IBP editors chose answer “d” to maintain the consistency of the assumptions used in selecting answers across the countries.</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>
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<p>82. Does the legislature have authority to amend the budget presented by the executive?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes, the legislature has unlimited authority to amend the budget.</li> <li>Yes, the legislature has authority to amend the budget, with some limitations.</li> <li>Yes, the legislature has authority to amend the budget, but its authority is very limited.</li> <li>No, the legislature does not have any authority to amend the budget.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u></p> <p><b>The researcher’s response to this question was “c.”</b> According to Article 258 of the Constitution, the legislature can not increase the spending or income amount set by the president’s budget proposal.</p> <p><b>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</b></p> <p><b>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</b> A more appropriate response to this question would be “b.” The only restriction that the legislature faces concerns increasing revenue or expenditure. It can change the composition of the expenditure and modify designations between economic sectors.</p> <p><b>IBP Comment:</b> IBP editors chose answer “c” to maintain the consistency of the assumptions used in selecting answers across the countries.</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto;">c</div>
<p>83. What is the most detail provided in the appropriation (expenditure budget) approved by the legislature?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The approved budget includes program-level detail.</li> <li>The approved budget includes departmental totals and some additional details (for instance, sub-department totals or major programs).</li> <li>The approved budget includes only departmental totals.</li> <li>The approved budget includes less information than departmental totals.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u></p> <p><b>The researcher’s response to this question was “a.”</b> See <a href="http://www.ec-gov.net/docs/Presupuesto2005/Descentralizadas/Consolidado/Pre_Con_Desc_Sec_Ins_2005.pdf">http://www.ec-gov.net/docs/Presupuesto2005/Descentralizadas/Consolidado/Pre_Con_Desc_Sec_Ins_2005.pdf</a></p> <p><b>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</b></p> <p><b>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</b> A more appropriate response to this question would be “b.” The comments relating to question 1 apply to this question.</p> <p><b>IBP Comment:</b> IBP editors chose answer “a” to maintain the consistency of the assumptions used in selecting answers across the countries. The information, however, is presented in a different website than the one indicated by the researcher, at: <a href="http://www.minfinanzas.ec-gov.net/docs/Presupuesto2005/Descentralizadas/Agregado/Pre_Agr_Desc_Act_2005.PDF">http://www.minfinanzas.ec-gov.net/docs/Presupuesto2005/Descentralizadas/Agregado/Pre_Agr_Desc_Act_2005.PDF</a></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto;">a</div>

<b>Executive's Implementation of the Budget</b>	
<p>84. 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"> <li>a. In-year reports on actual expenditure are released at least every month.</li> <li>b. In-year reports on actual expenditure are released at least every quarter.</li> <li>c. In-year reports on actual expenditure are released at least semi-annually.</li> <li>d. In-year reports on actual expenditure are not released.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u></p> <p><b>The researcher's response to this question was "b."</b> In the MEF page, the executive releases to the public in-year reports on actual expenditure at least every quarter. See: <a href="http://www.mef.gov.ec/docs/INFORMEejecucion2005.htm">http://www.mef.gov.ec/docs/INFORMEejecucion2005.htm</a>  <a href="http://www.mef.gov.ec/docs/INFORMES_2005EJECUCIONPGE/III_TRIMESTRE_2005_PDFS/CUADRO_2.8.pdf">http://www.mef.gov.ec/docs/INFORMES_2005EJECUCIONPGE/III_TRIMESTRE_2005_PDFS/CUADRO_2.8.pdf</a>  <a href="http://www.mef.gov.ec/docs/INFORMES_2005EJECUCIONPGE/III_TRIMESTRE_2005_PDFS/CUADRO_2.9.pdf">http://www.mef.gov.ec/docs/INFORMES_2005EJECUCIONPGE/III_TRIMESTRE_2005_PDFS/CUADRO_2.9.pdf</a></p> <p><b>Researcher Response to Peer Reviewer:</b> For the year 2005, in-year reports on actual expenditure are released at least every quarter. The answer is "b."</p> <p><b>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</b> A more appropriate comment would exclude paragraphs in pink. While there was indeed a signing of an agreement, it is just a valid document for a specific NGO and the Ministry, it does not refer to a policy to release to the public in general monthly reports. Also, it must be mentioned that <i>there are not monthly statistics or reports for the year 2004 as the expert reports</i>. See <a href="http://www.ec-gov.net/Pags_web/ejecu_2004.htm">http://www.ec-gov.net/Pags_web/ejecu_2004.htm</a></p> <p><b>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</b> A more appropriate response to this question would be "a." The reports on the budget's execution are published monthly, not quarterly.</p> <p><b>IBP Comment:</b> IBP editors chose answer "b" to maintain the consistency of the assumptions used in selecting answers across the countries.</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">b</div>

<p>85. What share of expenditure is covered by in-year reports on actual expenditure (organized by administrative unit, economic classification and/or function)?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes, in-year reports cover all expenditures.</li> <li>Yes, in-year reports cover at least two-thirds, but not all, of expenditures.</li> <li>Yes, in-year reports cover less than two-thirds of expenditures.</li> <li>No in-year reports are released to the public.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> The in-year reports cover all of the expenditures which are included in the budget. Art. 2 of the Law 2055-4: “Reformatory to the Law of Organic Responsibility, Stabilization, and Fiscal Transparency”, RO. No. 69 of 27/07/2005, established that all oil revenues covered by CEREPS (ex-FEIREP) are part of the budget.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">a</div>
<p>86. 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> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes, comparisons are made for all expenditures.</li> <li>Yes, comparisons are made for at least two-thirds, but not all, of expenditures.</li> <li>Yes, but comparisons are made for less than two-thirds of expenditures.</li> <li>No, comparisons are not made, or no in-year reports are released to the public.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> The in-year reports for fiscal year 2005 list the initial budget request, the amount approved by the budget and the amount spent to date. <a href="http://www.ec-gov.net/docs/ejecucion05.htm">http://www.ec-gov.net/docs/ejecucion05.htm</a></p> <p>The in-year quarterly reports for fiscal year 2004 compare the quarter’s expenditures to expenditures for that quarter in fiscal year 2003. <a href="http://www.ec-gov.net/docs/ejecucion04(Informe1erSemestre).htm">http://www.ec-gov.net/docs/ejecucion04(Informe1erSemestre).htm</a></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b> All of the information contained in the in-year reports is compared to the budget initially approved by the Congress, in each of its items.</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">a</div>

<p>87. How often does the executive release to the public in-year reports on actual revenue collections by source of revenue?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. In-year reports on actual revenue collections by source of revenue are released at least every month.</li> <li>b. In-year reports on actual revenue collections are released at least every quarter.</li> <li>c. In-year reports on actual revenue collections are released at least semi-annually.</li> <li>d. In-year reports on actual revenue collections by source of revenue are not released.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u></p> <p><b>The researcher’s response to this question was “a.”</b> In-year reports on actual revenue were released monthly and quarterly for fiscal year 2005 and 2004. See <a href="http://www.ec-gov.net/docs/ejecucion05.htm">http://www.ec-gov.net/docs/ejecucion05.htm</a> and <a href="http://www.ec-gov.net/docs/ejecucion05primer%20trimestre%20b.htm">http://www.ec-gov.net/docs/ejecucion05primer%20trimestre%20b.htm</a></p> <p><b>Researcher Response to Peer Reviewer:</b> The answer is “a.” Please, see the link: <a href="http://www.ec-gov.net/docs/ejecucion05.htm">http://www.ec-gov.net/docs/ejecucion05.htm</a></p> <p><b>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</b> A more appropriate response to this question would be “d.” The appropriate comment should be: “In-year reports on actual revenue were released quarterly for fiscal years 2005 and 2004. There is now monthly information available for 2006 only.” See <a href="http://www.ec-gov.net/docs/ejecucion05.htm">http://www.ec-gov.net/docs/ejecucion05.htm</a> and <a href="http://www.ec-gov.net/docs/ejecucion05primer%20trimestre%20b.htm">http://www.ec-gov.net/docs/ejecucion05primer%20trimestre%20b.htm</a></p> <p><b>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</b></p> <p><b>IBP Comment:</b> IBP editors chose answer “a” to maintain the consistency of the assumptions used in selecting answers across the countries.</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">a</div>
<p>88. What share of revenue is covered by the in-year reports on actual revenue collections?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. In-year reports cover the actual revenue collections of all sources of revenue.</li> <li>b. In-year reports cover the actual revenue collections of at least two-thirds of, but not all, sources of revenue.</li> <li>c. In-year reports cover actual revenue collections of less than two-thirds of revenue sources.</li> <li>d. In-year reports on actual revenue collections are not released to the public.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u></p> <p><b>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</b></p> <p><b>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">a</div>

89. 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?

- 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).

a

Citation and/or comment:

**The researcher's response to this question was "a."** All reports for fiscal year 2005 compare year-to-date revenues with the original requested budget amount and the enacted budget amount for the current fiscal year. <http://www.ec-gov.net/docs/ejecucion05.htm> The quarterly reports for fiscal year 2004 compared spending to that quarter in 2003. [http://www.ec-gov.net/docs/ejecucion04\(Informe1erSemestre\).htm](http://www.ec-gov.net/docs/ejecucion04(Informe1erSemestre).htm) In the document "Informe sobre la ejecución del presupuesto del Gobierno Central correspondiente al Segundo trimestre del año 2005," some comparisons are made for at least two-thirds of, but not all, revenue sources. See: [http://www.mef.gov.ec/docs/INFORMES\\_2005EJECUCIONPGE/I\\_SEMESTRE\\_2005\\_PDF\\_S/Inf.Ejec.2do%20trimestre-I%20semestre\\_2005.pdf](http://www.mef.gov.ec/docs/INFORMES_2005EJECUCIONPGE/I_SEMESTRE_2005_PDF_S/Inf.Ejec.2do%20trimestre-I%20semestre_2005.pdf)

**Researcher Response to Peer Reviewer:** The answer is "a" because all reports for fiscal year 2005 compare year-to-date revenues with the original requested budget amount and the enacted budget amount for the current fiscal year.

**Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:** A more appropriate response to this question would be "d." there are neither the enacted vs. requested amounts, nor the previous year vs. current year same period. Also the citations above, in our view, do not refer directly to the question.

**Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:** A more appropriate response to this question would be "a." All of the information contained in the in-house report is compared to the budget initially approved by the Congress, in each of its items.

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

<p>90. Does the executive release to the public in-year reports on actual borrowing?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes, in-year reports on actual borrowing are released at least every month.</li> <li>Yes, in-year reports on actual borrowing are released at least every quarter.</li> <li>Yes, in-year reports on actual borrowing are released at least semi-annually.</li> <li>No, in-year reports on actual borrowing are not released.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> In-year reports on actual borrowing are released at least every quarter by MEF and Central Bank. See:  <a href="http://www.mef.gov.ec/CreditoPublico/DeudaExt/Diciembre/01movimientoporacredor.pdf">http://www.mef.gov.ec/CreditoPublico/DeudaExt/Diciembre/01movimientoporacredor.pdf</a>  <a href="http://www.mef.gov.ec/CreditoPublico/DeudaInt/Diciembre/01movimientoporinstrumento.pdf">http://www.mef.gov.ec/CreditoPublico/DeudaInt/Diciembre/01movimientoporinstrumento.pdf</a>  <a href="http://www.bce.fin.ec/docs.php?path=/home1/estadisticas/bolmensual/IEMensual.jsp">http://www.bce.fin.ec/docs.php?path=/home1/estadisticas/bolmensual/IEMensual.jsp</a></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">b</div>
<p>91. 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?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes, extensive information related to the composition of government debt is presented.</li> <li>Yes, key additional information is presented, but some details are excluded.</li> <li>Yes, some additional information is presented, but it lacks important details.</li> <li>No, additional information related to the composition of government debt is not presented, or such in-year reports on borrowing are not released.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u></p> <p><b><u>The researcher’s response to this question was “a.”</u></b> Extensive information related to the composition of government debt is presented in the “Boletín de Deuda Pública” of MEF.  <a href="http://www.mef.gov.ec/CreditoPublico/DeudaExt/Diciembre/12prestamoscontratados.pdf">http://www.mef.gov.ec/CreditoPublico/DeudaExt/Diciembre/12prestamoscontratados.pdf</a></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b> A more appropriate response to this question is “c.” See comment to question 13</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>IBP Comment:</u></b> IBP editors chose answer “c” to maintain the consistency of the assumptions used in selecting answers across the countries. The information in the link presented by the researcher cannot be considered part of an in-year report. The little information that is presented is incorporated in the quarterly reports presented by the Ministry, see, e.g.  <a href="http://www.mef.gov.ec/docs/INFORMES_2005EJECUCIONPGE/I_SEMESTRE_2005_PDF_S/Inf.Ejec.2do%20trimestre-I%20semestre_2005.pdf">http://www.mef.gov.ec/docs/INFORMES_2005EJECUCIONPGE/I_SEMESTRE_2005_PDF_S/Inf.Ejec.2do%20trimestre-I%20semestre_2005.pdf</a></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">c</div>

<p>92. 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)?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Reports are released 1 month or less after the end of the period.</li> <li>b. Reports are released 2 months or less (but more than 1 month) after the end of the period.</li> <li>c. Reports are released more than 2 months after the end of the period.</li> <li>d. In-year reports are not released.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> The report for the first quarter of fiscal year 2005 (which ends March 31) was released in July although monthly reports were released within 30 days. Reports are supposed to be released within 45 days of the reporting period but in practice reports are usually issued 3 months later. Interview with Jaime Carrera, Technical Secretary of Observatory of Fiscal Policy (OPF, June 10, 2005. In the MEF page, on actual expenditure are released to the public at least after the end of the period. See: <a href="http://www.mef.gov.ec/docs/ejecucion05.htm">http://www.mef.gov.ec/docs/ejecucion05.htm</a></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">a</div>
<p>93. 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?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. 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.</li> <li>b. Yes, the mid-year review includes a discussion of the economy, but it lacks some details.</li> <li>c. Yes, the mid-year review includes a discussion of the economy, but it lacks important details.</li> <li>d. 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.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> There is no mid-year review.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>

<p>94. 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"> <li>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.</li> <li>b. Yes, the mid-year review includes updated estimates of expenditure, but some details on why estimates have changed are not provided.</li> <li>c. Yes, the mid-year review includes updated estimates of expenditure, but important details on why estimates have changed are not provided.</li> <li>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.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> There is no mid-year review.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>
<p>95. What is the most detail provided in the mid-year review for expenditures?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. The mid-year review includes program-level detail for expenditures.</li> <li>b. The mid-year review includes departmental totals (or functional totals) and some additional details (for instance, sub-department totals or major programs).</li> <li>c. The mid-year review includes only departmental totals (or functional totals).</li> <li>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.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> There is no mid-year review.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>

<p>96. 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"> <li>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.</li> <li>b. Yes, the mid-year review includes updated estimates of revenue, but some details on why estimates have changed are not provided.</li> <li>c. Yes, the mid-year review includes updated estimates of revenue, but important details on why estimates have changed are not provided.</li> <li>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.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> There is no mid-year review.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>
<p>97. Does the executive seek input from the legislature when the executive shifts funds between administrative units (except when the amounts are below a certain level, as specified in law or regulation)?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, the executive seeks approval from the legislature before shifting funds between administrative units.</li> <li>b. Yes, the executive advises the legislature before shifting funds, giving the legislature an opportunity to block or modify the proposed adjustment.</li> <li>c. Yes, the executive seeks legislative approval, but only after the shift of funds has been implemented.</li> <li>d. No, the executive shifts funds between administrative units without seeking input from the legislature.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> Interview with Jaime Carrera, Technical Secretary of OPF June 10, 2005.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>

<p>98. 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> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. There were no credible reported instances of procurement failing to follow an open and competitive process in practice during the past year.</li> <li>b. The procurement of goods and services frequently followed an open and competitive process in practice, but there were some reported instances of irregularities.</li> <li>c. The procurement of goods and service followed an open and competitive process in many instances, but there were significant reported examples of irregularities.</li> <li>d. No, the procurement process was not open and competitive in practice.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> The procurement of goods and service followed an open and competitive process in many instances, but there were significant reported examples of irregularities. Public Expenditure Review (refer to page 69, point 16) <a href="http://wbln0018.worldbank.org/LAC/LAC.nsf/0/35E53D82C4EFF4FF85256F80004E0C8A?Opendocument">http://wbln0018.worldbank.org/LAC/LAC.nsf/0/35E53D82C4EFF4FF85256F80004E0C8A?Opendocument</a></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">c</div>
<p>99. When does the legislature typically approve supplemental budgets?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Supplemental budgets are approved before the funds are expended, or the executive rarely proposes a supplemental budget (please specify).</li> <li>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).</li> <li>c. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> The executive implements supplemental budgets without ever receiving approval from the legislature. Interview with Jaime Carrera, Technical Secretary of OPF.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">b</div>

<p>100. In most years, how large are supplemental budget requests relative to the size of the original budget?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supplemental budgets are generally equal to 2 percent or less of the original budget.</li> <li>Supplemental budgets are generally equal to more than 2 percent, but less than 5 percent, of the original budget.</li> <li>Supplemental budget are generally equal to more than 5 percent, but less than 10 percent, of the original budget.</li> <li>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.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> The executive implements supplemental budgets without ever receiving approval from the legislature. Interview with Jaime Carrera, Technical Secretary of OPF.  <a href="http://www.mef.gov.ec/docs/Presupuesto2005/Gob.%20Central/Consolidado/Pre_Con_Sec_Grp_gas_2005.pdf">http://www.mef.gov.ec/docs/Presupuesto2005/Gob.%20Central/Consolidado/Pre_Con_Sec_Grp_gas_2005.pdf</a></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">c</div>
<p>101. 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"> <li>Expenditures are approved before the funds are expended, or contingency funds or other funds with no specific purposes are not included in the budget.</li> <li>Expenditures are approved after the funds are expended, but before the end of the fiscal year.</li> <li>Expenditures are approved after the end of the fiscal year, for example in the next budget.</li> <li>Such expenditure takes place without legislative approval.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> The president implements contingency fund spending without congressional approval. Interview with Jaime Carrera, Technical Secretary of OPF, June 10, 2005.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>

<b>Executive's Year-End Report and the Supreme Audit Institution</b>	
<p>102. How long after the end of the budget year does the executive release to the public a year-end report or another document that discusses the budget's actual outcome for the year?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reports are released six months or less after the end of the fiscal year.</li> <li>Reports are released 12 months or less (but more than six months) after the end of the fiscal year.</li> <li>Reports are released more than 12 months after the end of the fiscal year.</li> <li>The executive does not release a year-end report.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> According to Art. 66 of the Public Sector Budget Law, the year-end report is due by March 31 of the following fiscal year (three months after the end of the fiscal year). <a href="http://www.mef.gov.ec/docs/Acuerdo%20324.pdf">http://www.mef.gov.ec/docs/Acuerdo%20324.pdf</a></p> <p>However, year-end reports are released more than three months after the end of the fiscal year. Interview with Jaime Carrera, Technical Secretary of OPF. The year-end report for fiscal year 2003 was released on May 11, 2004. <a href="http://www.ec-gov.net/docs/inf2003/acuerdo_2003.pdf">http://www.ec-gov.net/docs/inf2003/acuerdo_2003.pdf</a></p> <p>The year-end report for fiscal year 2004 was released on 24/08/05. <a href="http://www.mef.gov.ec/docs/Ejecucion%2004/ACUER_184_LIQ_2004.pdf">http://www.mef.gov.ec/docs/Ejecucion%2004/ACUER_184_LIQ_2004.pdf</a></p> <p><b>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</b> While it has varied from year to year, it is more consistent to say that a full year report will be issued between 6-12 months.</p> <p><b>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</b> According to the "Observations" on the ministerial agreement No. 184, the report meant to be published at the end of 2004 was implemented in August because institutions had not turned in information in a timely manner.</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">b</div>
<p>103. In the year-end report, or another document released to the public by the executive (please specify below), have the data on the actual outcomes been audited?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes, all data on actual outcomes have been audited.</li> <li>At least two-thirds, but not all, of the data on actual outcomes have been audited.</li> <li>Less than two-thirds of the data on actual outcomes have been audited.</li> <li>None of the data on actual outcomes has been audited, or a year-end report is not released.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> Year-end reports are not audited. Interview with Jaime Carrera, Technical Secretary of OPF, June 10, 2005.</p> <p><b>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</b> A more appropriate comment would also mention that if audits completed, it is several years after the period and their finding are seldom known to the public.</p> <p><b>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>

<p>104. Does the year-end report, or another document released to the public by the executive (please specify below), 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"> <li>Yes, an extensive explanation of the differences is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates.</li> <li>Yes, an explanation is presented, highlighting key differences, but some details are excluded.</li> <li>Yes, some explanation is presented, but it lacks important details.</li> <li>No, an explanation is not presented, or such a report is not released.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> No such explanation is presented in the year-end report. See: <a href="http://www.ec-gov.net/docs/inf2003/acuerdo_2003.pdf">http://www.ec-gov.net/docs/inf2003/acuerdo_2003.pdf</a></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>
<p>105. 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, or another document released to the public by the executive (please specify below)?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The explanation of the differences between the enacted expenditure levels and the actual outcome focuses on the program level.</li> <li>The explanation focuses on departmental totals (or functional totals) or some lower level of detail (but not the program level in all cases).</li> <li>The explanation focuses on a higher level of aggregation than departmental totals (or functional totals).</li> <li>No explanation of the differences is provided, or such a report is not released.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u></p> <p><b><u>The researcher’s response to this question was “b.”</u></b> In the 2004 year-end reports: <a href="http://www.sigef.gov.ec/index.php?option=com_content&amp;task=view&amp;id=119&amp;Itemid=58">http://www.sigef.gov.ec/index.php?option=com_content&amp;task=view&amp;id=119&amp;Itemid=58</a>  <a href="http://www.mef.gov.ec/docs/LIQ_2004/consolidados/gastos/actividad.PDF">http://www.mef.gov.ec/docs/LIQ_2004/consolidados/gastos/actividad.PDF</a>  <a href="http://www.sigef.gov.ec/downloads/liquidacion/2004/agregados/gastos/sec-ins-gr.PDF">http://www.sigef.gov.ec/downloads/liquidacion/2004/agregados/gastos/sec-ins-gr.PDF</a></p> <p><b><u>Researcher Response to Peer Reviewer:</u></b> The answer is “b.” See: <a href="http://www.sigef.gov.ec/index.php?option=com_content&amp;task=view&amp;id=119&amp;Itemid=58">http://www.sigef.gov.ec/index.php?option=com_content&amp;task=view&amp;id=119&amp;Itemid=58</a></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b> A more appropriate response to this question would be “d,” there is no explanation and therefore there is no specific level of detail.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b> A more appropriate response to this question would be “d.”</p> <p><b><u>IBP Comment:</u></b> IBP editors chose answer “d” to maintain the consistency of the assumptions used in selecting answers across the countries.</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>

<p>106. Does the year-end report, or another document released to the public by the executive (please specify below), explain the difference between the enacted levels (including in-year changes approved by the legislature) and the actual outcome for revenues?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, an extensive explanation of the differences is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates.</li> <li>b. Yes, an explanation is presented, highlighting key differences, but some details are excluded.</li> <li>c. Yes, some explanation is presented, but it lacks important details.</li> <li>d. No, an explanation is not presented, or such a report is not released.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> No such explanation is presented. See: <a href="http://www.ec-gov.net/docs/inf2003/acuerdo_2003.pdf">http://www.ec-gov.net/docs/inf2003/acuerdo_2003.pdf</a></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>
<p>107. Does the year-end report, or another document released to the public by the executive (please specify below), explain the difference between the original macroeconomic forecast for the fiscal year and the actual outcome for that year?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, an extensive explanation of the differences is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates.</li> <li>b. Yes, an explanation is presented, highlighting key differences, but some details are excluded.</li> <li>c. Yes, some explanation is presented, but it lacks important details.</li> <li>d. No, an explanation is not presented, or such a report is not released.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> No such explanation is presented.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>

<p>108. Does the year-end report, or another document released to the public by the executive (please specify below), explain the difference between the original estimates of non-financial data and the actual outcome?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, an extensive explanation of the differences is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates.</li> <li>b. Yes, an explanation is presented, highlighting key differences, but some details are excluded.</li> <li>c. Yes, some explanation is presented, but it lacks important details.</li> <li>d. No, an explanation is not presented, or such a report is not released.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> No such explanation is presented.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>
<p>109. Does the year-end report, or another document released to the public by the executive (please specify below), explain the difference between the original performance indicators and the actual outcome?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, an extensive explanation of the differences is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates.</li> <li>b. Yes, an explanation is presented, highlighting key differences, but some details are excluded.</li> <li>c. Yes, some explanation is presented, but it lacks important details.</li> <li>d. No, an explanation is not presented, or such a report is not released.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> The budget does not include performance indicators.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>

<p>110. Does the year-end report, or another document released to the public by the executive (please specify below), explain the difference between the enacted level of funds intended to benefit directly the country’s most impoverished populations and the actual outcome?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes, an extensive explanation of the differences is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates.</li> <li>Yes, an explanation is presented, highlighting key differences, but some details are excluded.</li> <li>Yes, some explanation is presented, but it lacks important details.</li> <li>No, an explanation is not presented, or such a report is not released.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> No, an explanation is not presented.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>
<p>111. Does the year-end report, or another document released to the public by the executive (please specify below), present the actual outcome for extra-budgetary funds?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes, extensive information on the actual outcome for extra-budgetary funds is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates.</li> <li>Yes, information is presented, highlighting key issues, but some details are excluded.</li> <li>Yes, some information is presented, but it lacks important details.</li> <li>No, information is not presented on extra-budgetary funds, or such a report is not released.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u></p> <p><b><u>The researcher’s response to this question was “e.”</u></b> Art 2 of the Law 2055-4: “Reformatory to the Law of Organic Responsibility, Stabilization, and Fiscal Transparency,” Official Registration No. 69 of 27/07/2005, established that all oil revenues covered by CEREPS (ex – FEIREP) are part of the budget.</p> <p><b><u>Researcher Response to Peer Reviewer:</u></b> The answer is “e” because there are not other extra-budgetary funds, which are not included in a year- end report.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b> A more appropriate response to this question would be “d.” There are extra-budgetary funds other that CEREPS, which are not included in a year-end report.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>IBP Comment:</u></b> IBP editors chose answer “d” to maintain the consistency of the assumptions used in selecting answers across the countries.</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>

<p>112. How long after the end of the fiscal year are the final expenditures of national departments audited and (except for secret programs) released to the public?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Final audited accounts are released to the public six months or less after the end of the fiscal year.</li> <li>Final audited accounts are released 12 months or less (but more than six months) after the end of the fiscal year.</li> <li>Final audit accounts are released more than 12 months, but within 24 months of the end of the fiscal year.</li> <li>Final audited accounts are not completed within 24 months after the end of the fiscal year or they are not released to the public.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> Audits are not released to the public. Interview with Jaime Carrera, Technical Secretary of OPF, June 10, 2005.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b> A comment to be made is that there is no certainty that there are general audits of the budget, even though there is a legal obligation to do so.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>
<p>113. Two years after the completion of a fiscal year, what percentage of expenditure has been audited and (except for secret programs) the reports released to the public?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All expenditures have been audited and the reports released to the public.</li> <li>Expenditures representing at least two-thirds of, but not all, expenditure have been audited.</li> <li>Expenditures representing less than two-thirds of expenditure have been audited.</li> <li>No expenditures have been audited, or the reports have not been released to the public.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> Audits are not released to the public. Interview with Jaime Carrera, Technical Secretary of OPF, June 10, 2005.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>

<p>114. Do year-end audit reports of departmental expenditure that are released to the public include an executive summary?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. All of these audit reports include an executive summary.</li> <li>b. Most of these reports include an executive summary.</li> <li>c. Some of these reports include an executive summary.</li> <li>d. None of these audit reports include an executive summary, or such reports are not released to the public.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> Audits are not released to the public. Interview with Jaime Carrera, Technical Secretary of OPF, June 10, 2005.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>
<p>115. 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?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>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.</li> <li>b. No, the executive may remove the head of the SAI without the final consent of the judiciary or legislature.</li> <li>c. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> Congress has the power to remove the Comptroller General, not the President. The Comptroller General is selected by Congress to serve for a fixed period from 3 nominees submitted by the President. Interview with Jaime Carrera, Technical Secretary of OPF, June 10, 2005.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">a</div>

<p>116. Does the Supreme Audit Institution release to the public audits of extra-budgetary funds?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes, the SAI releases to the public audits of all extra-budgetary funds.</li> <li>Yes, the SAI releases audits representing at least two-thirds of, but not all, extra-budgetary funds.</li> <li>Yes, the SAI releases audits representing less than two-thirds of all extra-budgetary funds.</li> <li>No, the SAI does not release to the public audits of extra-budgetary funds, or it does not audit such funds.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> No audits are made public. Interview with Olga Nuñez, Sub-Secretary for the Budget, June 29, 2005.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>
<p>117. Beyond the established year-end attestation audits, does the Supreme Audit Institution (SAI) have discretion in law to undertake those audits it may wish to?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The SAI has full discretion to decide which audits it wishes to undertake.</li> <li>The SAI has significant discretion, but faces some limitations.</li> <li>The SAI has some discretion, but faces considerable limitations.</li> <li>The SAI has no discretion to decide which audits it wishes to undertake.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> Art. 2 of the “Ley Orgánica de la Contraloría General del Estado” established that the <i>Contraloria</i> has full discretion to decide which audits it wishes to undertake for all public resources.  <a href="http://www.contraloria.gov.ec/fundamentolegal.htm">http://www.contraloria.gov.ec/fundamentolegal.htm</a></p> <p>The <i>Contraloria</i> conducts the audits included in the annual plan, which is not published, and will audit any administrative unit upon request.</p> <p>The <i>Contraloria</i> conducted a performance audit for fiscal year 2003.  <a href="http://www.ec-gov.net/docs/Auditoria2003.pdf">http://www.ec-gov.net/docs/Auditoria2003.pdf</a></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">a</div>

<p>118. Who determines the budget of the Supreme Audit Institution?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>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.</li> <li>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.</li> <li>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.</li> <li>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.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> The <i>Contraloria</i> submits its budget wish-list to the executive, who can modify the request before submitting it to Congress. Congress can also modify the budget. Interview with Olga Nuñez, Sub-Secretary for the Budget, June 29, 2005.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>
<p>119. Does a committee of the legislature view and scrutinize the audit reports?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes, all audit reports are scrutinized.</li> <li>Yes, most audit reports are scrutinized.</li> <li>Yes, some audit reports are scrutinized.</li> <li>No, audit reports are not scrutinized.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> The audits are presented to Congress but Congress does not scrutinize them. Interview with Jaime Carrera, Technical Secretary of OPF, June 10, 2005.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b> A more appropriate comment would be to say that the audit must be presented to the Congress once a year, but this does not necessarily happen. Once again, audits are presented several years after the period, and there is not a systematic follow-up to this sort of reports from the Congress.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>

<p>120. 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"> <li>a. Yes, the executive reports publicly on what steps it has taken to address audit findings.</li> <li>b. Yes, the executive reports publicly on most audit findings.</li> <li>c. Yes, the executive reports publicly on some audit findings.</li> <li>d. No, the executive does not report on steps it has taken to address audit findings.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> Interview with Jaime Carrera, Technical Secretary of OPF, June 10, 2005.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>
<p>121. 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"> <li>a. Yes, a comprehensive report is released regularly that tracks actions taken by the executive to address audit recommendations.</li> <li>b. Yes, a report is released, covering key audit recommendations, but some details are excluded.</li> <li>c. Yes, a report is released, but it lacks important details.</li> <li>d. No, a report is not produced or it is prepared for internal purposes only (please specify).</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> Interview with Olga Nuñez, Sub-Secretary for the Budget, June 29, 2005.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b> A report is not produced, as opposed to not being prepared for internal purposes only.</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</div>

122. Are audit reports related to national security and other secret programs provided to the legislature (or relevant committee)?

- a. Yes, legislators are provided with detailed audit reports related to national security 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).

Citation and/or comment:

**The researcher's response to this question was "e."** Interview with Jaime Carrera, Technical Secretary of the Observatory of Fiscal Policy, June 10, 2005.

**Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:** A more appropriate response to this question would be "d." There is not an audit of secret programs funding, and even less any news of the legislature discussing these issues.

**Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:**

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

d