

International Budget Project  
**OPEN BUDGET QUESTIONNAIRE**

# **GUATEMALA**

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# International Budget Project OPEN BUDGET QUESTIONNAIRE GUATEMALA

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## **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	2005
Executive's Budget Proposal	2005
Supporting Budget Documents	2005
Citizens budget	Not Available
Enacted Budget	2005
In-Year Reports	2005
Mid-Year Report	Not Available
Year-End Report	2004
Audit Report	2004

## 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.minfin.gob.gt/biblioteca/presu2005/doc03.pdf">http://www.minfin.gob.gt/biblioteca/presu2005/doc03.pdf</a> <a href="http://www.minfin.gob.gt/biblioteca/presu2005/doc05.pdf">http://www.minfin.gob.gt/biblioteca/presu2005/doc05.pdf</a>
Executive's Budget Proposal	<a href="http://www.minfin.gob.gt/archivos/presu2005.htm">http://www.minfin.gob.gt/archivos/presu2005.htm</a>
Supporting Budget Documents	<a href="http://www.minfin.gob.gt/archivos/presu2005.htm">http://www.minfin.gob.gt/archivos/presu2005.htm</a>
Citizens Budget	Not Produced
Enacted Budget	<a href="http://www.minfin.gob.gt/archivos/presua2005.htm">http://www.minfin.gob.gt/archivos/presua2005.htm</a>
In-Year Reports	<a href="http://www.minfin.gob.gt/biblioteca/liquidacion/cuatrimstral2005/index.htm">http://www.minfin.gob.gt/biblioteca/liquidacion/cuatrimstral2005/index.htm</a>
Mid-Year Review	Not Produced
Year-End Report	<a href="http://www.minfin.gob.gt/biblioteca/liquidacion/cierre2004/index.htm">http://www.minfin.gob.gt/biblioteca/liquidacion/cierre2004/index.htm</a>
Audit Report	Publicly Available, But Not on the Internet

Other Documents	<p>Tax Exemptions (fiscal expenses) Exenciones fiscales (gasto fiscal) <a href="http://www.minfin.gob.gt/biblioteca/presu2005/doc07.pdf">http://www.minfin.gob.gt/biblioteca/presu2005/doc07.pdf</a></p> <p>Multi annual budget Presupuesto Multianual <a href="http://www.minfin.gob.gt/biblioteca/presu2005/doc28.pdf">http://www.minfin.gob.gt/biblioteca/presu2005/doc28.pdf</a></p> <p>Budget and Other Legislature Legislación en el tema presupuestario y otras <a href="http://www.minfin.gob.gt/archivos/leyes.htm">http://www.minfin.gob.gt/archivos/leyes.htm</a></p> <p>Budgetary Manuals Manuales presupuestarios <a href="http://www.minfin.gob.gt/archivos/manualesp.htm">http://www.minfin.gob.gt/archivos/manualesp.htm</a></p> <p>Fiscal Transparency Portal Portal de Transparencia Fiscal <a href="http://transparencia.minfin.gob.gt/transparenciaF2004/">http://transparencia.minfin.gob.gt/transparenciaF2004/</a></p> <p>SICOIN – Integrated Accounting System SICOIN - Sistema de Contabilidad Integrado <a href="http://sicoin.minfin.gob.gt">http://sicoin.minfin.gob.gt</a></p> <p>Snip <a href="http://sistemas.segeplan.gob.gt/sinip/html/portal/index.htm">http://sistemas.segeplan.gob.gt/sinip/html/portal/index.htm</a></p> <p>SiafSag <a href="http://www.siafsag.gob.gt/">http://www.siafsag.gob.gt/</a> <a href="http://transparencia.minfin.gob.gt/transparenciaf2004/">http://transparencia.minfin.gob.gt/transparenciaf2004/</a></p>
Relevant Ministries & Departments	<p>Ministry of Public Finance Ministerio de Finanzas Públicas <a href="http://www.minfin.gob.gt">http://www.minfin.gob.gt</a></p> <p>Planning and Presidential Programming Secretariat Secretaría de Planificación y Programación of the Presidencia <a href="http://www.segeplan.gob.gt">http://www.segeplan.gob.gt</a></p> <p>Public Health and Social Assistance Ministry Ministerio de Salud Pública y Asistencia Social <a href="http://www.mspas.gob.gt">http://www.mspas.gob.gt</a></p> <p>National Defense Ministry Ministerio of the Defensa Nacional <a href="http://www.mindef.mil.gt">www.mindef.mil.gt</a></p> <p>Communications, Infrastructure and Housing Ministry Ministerio de Comunicaciones, Infraestructura y Vivienda <a href="http://www.civ.gob.gt">http://www.civ.gob.gt</a></p> <p>Education Ministry Ministerio de Educación <a href="http://www.mineduc.gob.gt">http://www.mineduc.gob.gt</a></p> <p>Government Ministry Ministerio de Gobernación <a href="http://www.mingob.gob.gt">http://www.mingob.gob.gt</a></p> <p>Segeplan <a href="http://www.segeplan.gob.gt/">http://www.segeplan.gob.gt/</a></p>

**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	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	NA	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	NA
2. Advance notification of release is sent to users, media	NA	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	NA
3. Released to public same day as official release to media	NA	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	NA
4. Available on the Internet free of charge	NA	Yes. All the documents although there could be a delay of a day or two.	Yes. All the documents although there could be a delay of a day or two.	Yes. All the documents although there could be a delay of a day or two.	Yes. All the documents although there could be a delay of a day or two.	NA
5. Free print copies available, limited distribution	NA	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	NA
6. Free print copies available, mass distribution	NA	No	No	No	No	NA
7. Readily available outside capital and/or big cities <sup>†</sup>	NA	Yes, via Internet.	Yes, via Internet.	Yes, via Internet.	Yes, via Internet.	NA
8. Written in more than one language	NA	No	No	No	No	NA
9. News conference is held to discuss release	NA	Sí	Sí	Sí	Sí	NA

\*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					
C. Produced and available to the public, but only on request					Yes
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	Yes	Yes	NA	Yes	Yes
2. Advance notification of release sent to users, media	Yes	No	NA	Yes	Yes
3. Released to public same day as official release to media	No	No	NA	No	No
4. Available on the Internet free of charge	Yes	Yes	NA	Yes	No
5. Free print copies available, limited distribution	Yes	No	NA	Yes	Yes
6. Free print copies available, mass distribution	No	No	NA	No	No
7. Readily available outside capital/big cities <sup>+</sup>	Yes	Sí	NA	Yes	No
8. Written in more than one language	No	No	NA	No	No
9. News conference is held to discuss release	Yes	No	NA	Yes	Yes

<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.

## **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> Even though expenditures are broken down by Ministry, expenditures are not broken down for the Executive’s secretariats and other dependencies, or the institutions to which contributions are made through the Obligations of the Treasury.</p> <p>There is little disaggregation in social funds and secretariats. Both are under the President of the Republic, even though they have no participation in the Government’s Cabinet. What has happened in Guatemala is that since the end of the last decade this figure was often used to implement projects that were difficult to implement through the Ministries, because the legal structure was too rigid. At the same time, the Ministries have not been able to fully recover their sectarian roles, thus roles that could be assigned to the Ministry of Communications, Infrastructure and Housing, for example, are performed by the Social Investment Fund without having to look at the policies introduced by the Ministry.</p> <p>Sources: Page 7 Section on Global Charts for the General Income and Expenditures Budget Project for the 2005 Fiscal Exercise.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b> The issue, in my opinion, is still the same as the information IS produced and even though it is not made available to the public, at least legislators and high government officials, in general, have access to each and every one of the expenditures made, not only by the Executing Unit but also by budgetary entry, via Siaf-Sag.</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>2. Does the executive’s budget or any supporting budget documentation present expenditures for the budget year that are classified by functional classification?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All expenditures are classified by functional classification, and the categorization is compatible with international standards.</li> <li>All expenditures are classified by functional classification, but the categorization is not compatible with international standards.</li> <li>Some, but not all, expenditures are classified by function.</li> <li>No expenditures classified by function are presented.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> Yes the budget is shown by functional classification. The classification is a response to the International Monetary Fund’s budgetary manuals. Compatibility with international standards was started in the year 1997, and Manual GFSM 1986 is used. Sources: General Income and Expenditures Budget for the State for the 2005 Fiscal Year and chapter: “Regional Issues in Macroeconomic Statistics” written by Lorraine Ocampos for the International Monetary Fund’s document called “Central América: Global Integration and Regional Cooperation”, located on IMF’s page: <a href="http://www.imf.org">www.imf.org</a>. Interview with: Edwin Martinez, Subdirector of the Technical Budget Office of the Ministry of Public Finance.</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;">a</div>
<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>All expenditures are classified by economic classification, and the categorization is compatible with international standards.</li> <li>All expenditures are classified by economic classification, but the categorization is not compatible with international standards.</li> <li>Some, but not all, expenditures are classified by economic classification.</li> <li>No expenditures classified by economic classification are presented.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> Yes the budget is shown by economic classification. The classification is a response to the International Monetary Fund’s budgetary manuals. Compatibility with international standards was started in the year 1997, and Manual GFSM 1986 is used. Sources: General Income and Expenditures Budget for the State for the 2005 Fiscal Year and chapter: “Regional Issues in Macroeconomic Statistics” written by Lorraine Ocampos for the International Monetary Fund’s document called “Central América: Global Integration and Regional Cooperation”, located on IMF’s page: <a href="http://www.imf.org">www.imf.org</a>. Interview with: Edwin Martinez, Subdirector of the Technical Budget Office of the Ministry of Public Finance.</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;">a</div>

<p>4. Does the executive’s budget or any supporting budget documentation present expenditures for individual programs for the budget year?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Program-level data are presented for all expenditures.</li> <li>b. Program-level data are presented for at least two-thirds of, but not all, expenditures.</li> <li>c. Program-level data are presented, but for less than two-thirds of expenditures.</li> <li>d. No program-level data are presented.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> Even though a constitutional mandate to make the Budgetary structure programmatic exists, that same Political Constitution of the Republic and other laws establish how many resources can be transferred to an institution according to a determined percentage of revenues, without the need to be assigned to a specific program. It is also the case that they are a contribution to international or regional entities or organisms.</p> <p>The principal amount of the before mentioned obligations is assigned to the State Obligations of the Treasury, which is the line through which said assignments are made. Within this obligation, classification 99 “entries not assignable to programs” holds 100% of the resources available to this entity for the 2005 budgetary year. It is divided in subprograms that respond to a functional classification that is then assigned to a classification that can be administrative, financing source and programmatic. This section holds 31.3% of the Budget.</p> <p>Taking into account that the rest of the entities described in the Budget (debt service was not taken into account); the “entries not assignable to programs” total 32.91% of the Total Budget.</p> <p>Source: Own calculation with the General Income and Expenditures Budget Project for the 2005 Fiscal Exercise.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b> Every expenditure considered in the budget for Central Government, Decentralized Entities and similar ones is specified by program and budget entry (which makes it even more specific). What is not presented are the contributions established by the Political Constitution of the Republic as obligatory and charged to the National Budget (which is the case of the Judicial Organism, San Carlos University, the municipalities etc.) and other contributions to autonomous and decentralized entities as it the case of the Fuel Tax and VAT of which a part goes to the municipalities,</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>5. In the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation, are estimates of the aggregate level of expenditure presented for a multi-year period (at least two years beyond the budget year)?</p> <p>a. Yes, multi-year estimates of aggregate expenditure are presented.  b. No, multi-year estimates of aggregate expenditure are not presented.  c. Not applicable/other (please comment).</p> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> Two years are forecasted.  In the case of Guatemala, a document is generated whose focus is to forecast budgetary behavior for the next two years; it is called Multiannual Budget 2005-2007. In reference to forecasted revenues, they depend on the macroeconomic estimates done by the Bank of Guatemala and the tax forecasts carried out by the Ministry of Public Finances. In reference to estimated expenditures, these are derived from legislation, public debt service and the cost of monetary policy. In reality the expenditures are not derived from the budgetary needs required for program continuation.  Sources: Page 12, Mutiannual Budget Section of the General Income and Expenditures Budget Project for the 2005 Fiscal Exercise  <a href="http://www.minfin.gob.gt/biblioteca/presu2005/doc28.pdf">http://www.minfin.gob.gt/biblioteca/presu2005/doc28.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;">a</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> <p>a. Yes, multi-year expenditure estimates are presented for all individual programs, and for one or more expenditure classification (such as functional, economic, or administrative).  b. Yes, multi-year estimates are presented for one or more expenditure classification (such as functional, economic, or administrative), but only for some individual programs.  c. Yes, multi-year estimates are presented, but only for a portion of one or more of the expenditure classifications (such as some functions, or some administrative units) and/or for only some individual programs.  d. No, multi-year estimates are presented for aggregate expenditure only, or they are not presented at all.  e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</p> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> There is a certain amount of detail in the forecasted financial classification, but it is not exhaustive. There is no projection based on another type of classification.  Sources: Page 12, Mutiannual Budget Section of the General Income and Expenditures Budget Project for the 2005 Fiscal Exercise.  <a href="http://www.minfin.gob.gt/biblioteca/presu2005/doc28.pdf">http://www.minfin.gob.gt/biblioteca/presu2005/doc28.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;">c</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>All sources of tax revenue are identified individually.</li> <li>Sources of tax revenue amounting to at least two-thirds of, but not all, tax revenues are identified individually.</li> <li>Sources of tax revenue amounting to less than two-thirds of all tax revenues are identified individually.</li> <li>No sources of tax revenue are identified individually.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> Classification 10.1.90 and 10.2.90 mentions "other taxes" which are not shown in detail. As an example, nothing about the coffee and banana tax is shown in detail. The amount not disaggregated does not surpass 5% of the tax revenues. Sources: Page 2 and 3, Budgetary Income Project of the General Income and Expenditures Budget Project for the 2005 Fiscal Exercise.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b> The Budgetary Project probably does not go into that level of detail, but according to constitutional norm (art. 240) the Ministry of Finances, more specifically the Technical Budget Office, has details on taxes, the income perceived from taxes and the destination of those funds. As a matter of fact, the answer to question 10 was 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>
<p>8. Does the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation identify the different sources of non-tax revenue (such as grants, property income, and sales of goods and services) for the budget year?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All sources of non-tax revenue are identified individually.</li> <li>Sources of non-tax revenue amounting to at least two-thirds of, but not all, non-tax revenues are identified individually.</li> <li>Sources of non-tax revenues amounting to less than two-thirds of all non-tax revenue are identified individually.</li> <li>No sources of non-tax revenues are identified individually.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> Classification 11.1.90, 11.2.90, 11.4.90, 11.6.90, 11.7.90 and 10.9.90 mention "other" revenues not shown in detail. The amount not disaggregated and it does not exceed 20% of the tax revenues. Sources: Page 3, Budgetary Income Project of the General Income and Expenditures Budget Project for the 2005 Fiscal Exercise.</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>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> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, multi-year estimates of aggregate revenue are presented.</li> <li>b. No, multi-year estimates of aggregate revenue are not presented.</li> <li>c. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> Two years are forecasted. Sources: Page 6 and 7, Mutiannual Budget Section of the General Income and Expenditures Budget Project for the 2005 Fiscal Exercise.</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>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> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, multi-year revenue estimates are presented for individual sources of revenue, and by revenue classification (such as tax and non-tax).</li> <li>b. 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>c. Yes, multi-year estimates are presented, but only for some individual sources of revenue.</li> <li>d. No, multi-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> The expenditures for tax and non-tax revenues are classified, including the expected external and internal financing needs. However, all the sources of revenue are not shown in detail; many of the taxes, for example, are aggregated even though the most important taxes are disaggregated. Sources: Page 6, 7 and 12, Mutiannual Budget Section of the General Income and Expenditures Budget Project for the 2005 Fiscal Exercise.</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>11. Does the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation present data on the total government debt outstanding for the budget year?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. 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>b. Yes, the data reflect the outstanding debt at the end of the budget year.</li> <li>c. Yes, the data reflect the outstanding debt at the start of the budget year.</li> <li>d. No, data on the outstanding debt are not presented.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> The balance shown belongs to year BY-2 and the forecast of how BY-1 will end is presented, showing the debt requirements for year BY. Sources: Public Debt Service Section of the General Income and Expenditures Budget Project for the 2005 Fiscal Exercise.</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>12. Does the executive's budget or any supporting budget documentation present interest payments on the debt for the budget year?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, interest payments on the debt are presented.</li> <li>b. No, interest payments on the debt are not presented.</li> <li>c. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> Sources: Page 7, Public Debt Service Section of the General Income and Expenditures Budget Project for the 2005 Fiscal Exercise.</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>

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:

**Researcher's answer to this question was "b."** The interest amount and the internal and external debt classification can be found. What is not found are: interest rates, maturity profile of the debt and the currency denomination of the debt. However, information of the currency denomination of the debt, the purpose of the debt and the executing unit can be found on the Ministry of Finance's Transparency website on [www.transparencia.minfin.gob.gt](http://www.transparencia.minfin.gob.gt)  
Sources: Multiannual Budget Section of the General Income and Expenditures Budget Project for the 2005 Fiscal Exercise.

**Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:**

**Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:** The comment seems to contradict the response. In fact every public debt is acquired through a decree from Congress and as such, access to the details indicated is public.

**IBP Comment:** IBP editors see no contradiction. The question is trying to assess what information, *specifically*, is included in the budget or supporting budget documents.

b

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

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

c

Citation and/or comment:

**Researcher's answer to this question was "c."** However, the interest rate and type of exchange assumptions are not included, as well as other variables that have an important effect on the national budget and economy such as the price of oil and international interest rates. It could be due to the fact that the Monetary Board determines monetary, exchange and credit policy approximately one month after Congress approves the budget. The absence of the before mentioned variables, the fact that possible macroeconomic scenarios are not established and that macroeconomic assumptions have not been sufficiently analyzed lead to the assigned classification.

Sources: Multiannual Budget Section 2005-2007 and Section on the Presentation of Main Reasons of the General Income and Expenditures Budget Project for the 2005 Fiscal Exercise.

**Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:**

**Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:** On one hand in accordance with article 132 of the Constitution, the Minister of Finances is a leading member – with voice and vote – of the Monetary Board whose macro price forecasts and main macroeconomic variables give rise to the technical process (tax revenue forecasts and maximum year expenditures forecast) for the elaboration of the General Budget of the Nation. Frankly I am not sure if the data is properly included on the document but the law is clear on how and based on what the elaboration process begins. On the other hand, the President of the Bank of Guatemala (central bank, where the Monetary Board operates, besides being multi sectarian is also corporative but not participatory) presents Congress a report that includes a comparison between its macro variable forecasts and the results obtained in the Nation's General Budget (as one of the main macroeconomic vectors).

**IBP Comment:** IBP editors see no contradiction. Question is trying to assess what information, *specifically*, is included in the budget or supporting budget documents.

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)?

- a. Yes, extensive information on the impact of macroeconomic assumptions on the budget is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates.
- b. Yes, information is presented, highlighting the impact of the major macroeconomic assumptions, but some details are excluded.
- c. Yes, some information is presented, but it lacks important details.
- d. No, information on the impact of different macroeconomic assumptions on the budget is not presented.
- e. Not applicable/other (please comment).

Citation and/or comment: A sensibility analysis or scenarios do not exist within the Budget or its supporting documents.

**Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:**

**Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:** On one hand, this comment contradicts the comment made to question 60. On the other hand, I do not know how to explain it: The pre project stage for the creation of the budget starts, in its technical stage, with a notification from the Monetary Board to the Executive that includes the main macro variable forecasts for the next year (basis on which tax revenue and maximum expenditures are calculated). The other stage, the social one, begins with pre investment forecasts from the Development Councils in which, like the Monetary Board, various sectors of organized civil groups participate. I am not sure if the budget document presented to Congress explicitly includes this discussion, but it is the center of its contents (in fact, the district deputies also form part of the Department Councils).

**IBP Comment:** IBP editors see no contradiction. Question is trying to assess what information, *specifically*, is included in the budget or supporting budget documents.

d

<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> There is a description of the policies that the government is trying to launch through its Economic and Social Reactivation Program, VAMOS GUATEMALA. It establishes the parameters, components, specific projects, programs, and amounts assigned for in comparison to BY and BY-1. The budget documents only mention the name of the projects, but they do not describe their objectives or where to find detailed information that provides a comparison between what will be done in BY versus what was done in BY-1 to find out why there is a difference in the amounts. Sources: Pages 21-24 Global Charts Section and Presentation of General Motives Section of the General Income and Expenditures Budget Project for the 2005 Fiscal Exercise. Global Charts <a href="http://www.minfin.gob.gt/biblioteca/presu2005/doc05.pdf">http://www.minfin.gob.gt/biblioteca/presu2005/doc05.pdf</a></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b> As a matter of fact, as a legal requisite, that and more should be included in the Annual Operative Plan –POA – contained in the budget of EACH EXECUTING UNIT. Also, it is one of the main requisites for the pre investment approval of any work. (see Public Investment System-SIP- on <a href="http://www.segeplan.gob.gt">www.segeplan.gob.gt</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>
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<p>17. Does the executive’s budget or any supporting budget documentation present information for at least the budget year that shows how policy proposals in the budget, as distinct from existing policies, affect revenues?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <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> There is a general description of the differences between the policies carried out the previous year and their effect, to strengthen existing policies. There is not enough detail shown on how or why they will be strengthened, regardless of their strengthening, a reduction in the collection of several taxes is expected. Sources: Pages 5-7 Presentation of General Motives Section of the General Income and Expenditures Budget Project for the 2005 Fiscal Exercise.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b> Ibid.</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">c</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> <ul 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> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> Even though the expenditures are broken down by Ministry, the expenditures for the Executive’s secretariats and other dependencies or the institutions to which contributions are made through the Treasury’s Obligations are not broken down. Sources: Page 7 Global Charts Section of the General Income and Expenditures Budget Project for the 2005 Fiscal Exercise.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b> I am not sure that the document presented before Congress has it, but the information is generated by SIAF in real time and online.</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">c</div>

<p>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?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. All expenditures are classified by functional classification for BY-1, and the categorization is compatible with international standards.</li> <li>b. All expenditures are classified by functional classification for BY-1, but the categorization is not compatible with international standards.</li> <li>c. Some, but not all, expenditures are classified by function for BY-1.</li> <li>d. No expenditures classified by function are presented for BY-1.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> Yes, the budget is shown by functional classifications for the year BY-1. The classification is a response to the International Monetary Fund’s budgetary manuals. Compatibility with international standards was started in the year 1997, and GFSM Manual 1986 is used. Sources: General Income and Expenditures Budget for the State for the 2005 Fiscal Year and chapter: “Regional Issues in Macroeconomic Statistics” written by Lorraine Ocampos for the International Monetary Fund’s document called “Central América: Global Integration and Regional Cooperation”, located on IMF’s page: <a href="http://www.imf.org">www.imf.org</a>. Interview with: Edwin Martinez, Sub director of the Technical Budget Office of the Ministry of Public Finance.</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>
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<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> Yes, the budget is presented by functional classifications for the year BY-1. The classification is a response to the International Monetary Fund’s budgetary manuals. Compatibility with international standards was started in the year 1997, and Manual GFSM 1986 is used. Sources: General Income and Expenditures Budget for the State for the 2005 Fiscal Year and chapter: “Regional Issues in Macroeconomic Statistics” written by Lorraine Ocampos for the International Monetary Fund’s document called “Central América: Global Integration and Regional Cooperation”, located on IMF’s page: <a href="http://www.imf.org">www.imf.org</a>. Interview with: Edwin Martinez, Subdirector of the Technical Budget Office of the Ministry of Public Finance.</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>
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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> <ol 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> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> Even though a constitutional mandate to make the Budgetary structure programmatic exists, that same Political Constitution of the Republic and other laws establish how many resources can be transferred to an institution according to a determined budget percentage, without the need to be assign them to a specific program. It is also the case that they are contributions to international or regional entities or organisms. Taking into account all the “entries not assignable to programs” for the year BY-1, these totaled 35.8% of the total Budget. Source: own calculation with the General Income and Expenditures Budget Project for the 2005 Fiscal Exercise.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b> Ver comentario a la pregunta 4.</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">c</div>
<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>a. All BY-1 estimates have been updated from the original enacted levels to reflect six or more months of actual expenditure.</li> <li>b. All BY-1 estimates have been updated from the original enacted levels, but reflect less than six months of actual expenditure.</li> <li>c. Some BY-1 estimates have been updated from the original enacted levels to reflect actual expenditure.</li> <li>d. The BY-1 estimates have not been updated from the original enacted levels, or no BY-1 estimates are presented.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> No forecasts for year BY-1 expenditures are shown. Only the expenditure approved by congress is shown. Sources: General Income and Expenditures Budget for the State for the 2005 Fiscal Year. Interview with: Edwin Martinez, Sub director of the Technical Budget Office of the Ministry of Public Finance.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b> More than likely the information is not included in the Pre Budget Project Documents, but with all certainty it is in SIAF.</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</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> <p>a. Yes, such prior-year estimates of aggregate expenditure are presented.  b. No, such prior-year estimates of aggregate expenditure are not presented.  c. Not applicable/other (please comment).</p> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> In several charts of the section analyzed there is a global amount for the expenditures for BY, BY-1 and BY-2. For BY-3 or more, it is not available.  Sources: Global Charts Section of the General Income and Expenditures Budget for the State for the 2005 Fiscal 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: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">a</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> <p>a. Yes, such prior-year expenditure estimates are presented for all individual programs, and for one or more expenditure classification (such as functional, economic, or administrative).  b. Yes, such prior-year estimates are presented for one or more expenditure classification (such as functional, economic, or administrative), but only for some individual programs.  c. Yes, such prior-year estimates are presented, but only for a portion of one or more of the expenditure classifications (such as some functions, or some administrative units) and/or for only some individual programs.  d. No, such prior-year estimates are presented for aggregate expenditure only, or they are not presented at all.  e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</p> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> It can be found by financial and institutional classification. The furthest information found is for BY-2. There is information for BY-3 but it’s for a sublist of institutions.  Sources: Global Charts Section of the General Income and Expenditures Budget for the State for the 2005 Fiscal Year.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b> Ibidem.</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">c</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>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 all expenditures 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> The information available, especially the section on Global Charts is for BY-2; however the details are not extensive, beyond the financial and institutional classification. Sources: Global Charts Section of the General Income and Expenditures Budget for the State for the 2005 Fiscal 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: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">a</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>Yes, prior-year data are always adjusted to be comparable to the budget year data.</li> <li>Yes, in most cases, prior-year data are adjusted to be comparable.</li> <li>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>No, prior-year data are not adjusted to be comparable, or no prior-year estimates are presented.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u></p> <p><b><u>Researcher's answer to this question was "c."</u></b> The data and the classification for the years BY and BY-1 are adjusted by virtue of the fact that the data is presented in the budget. However, if one wanted to carry out a modified entry analysis for the previous years, one would have to count with the support of the Technical Budget Office in order to find the information for previous years. Sources: General Income and Expenditures Budget for the State for the 2005 Fiscal Year. Interview with: Edwin Martinez, Sub director of the Technical Budget Office of the Ministry of Public Finance.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b> The comment does not make sense with the contents of answer C. In any case, the information exists but to obtain it a source different from the Budget Project document must be used (albeit the Technical Budget Office or Siaf-Sag).</p> <p><b><u>IBP Comment:</u></b> IBP editors chose answer "c" to maintain consistency with the criteria used for selecting answers across countries.</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">c</div>

<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> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All tax revenues are identified individually for BY-1.</li> <li>Tax revenues amounting to at least two-thirds of, but not all, tax revenue for BY-1 are identified individually.</li> <li>Tax revenues amounting to less than two-thirds of all tax revenues for BY-1 are identified individually.</li> <li>No tax revenues are identified individually for BY-1.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> Classifications 10.1.90 and 10.2.90 mention “other taxes” that are not detailed. For example, no detail is given about the existent coffee and banana tax. The amount not disaggregated does not exceed 5% of the tax revenues. Sources: Pages 2 and 3 General Income and Expenditures Budget for the State for the 2005 Fiscal Year.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b> Ibid. Question 7.</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">b</div>
<p>28. Does the executive’s budget or any supporting budget documentation identify the different sources of non-tax revenue (such as grants, property income, and sales of goods and services) for the year preceding the budget year (BY-1)?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All non-tax revenues are identified individually for BY-1.</li> <li>Non-tax revenues amounting to at least two-thirds of, but not all, non-tax revenue for BY-1 are identified individually.</li> <li>Non-tax revenues amounting to less than two-thirds of all non-tax revenues for BY-1 are identified individually.</li> <li>No non-tax revenues are identified individually for BY-1.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> Classifications 11.1.90, 11.2.90, 11.4.90, 11.6.90, 11.7.90 and 10.9.90 mention “other” revenues that are not broken down. The amount not disaggregated does not exceed 25% of tax revenues. Sources: Page 3, Income Budget Project of the General Income and Expenditures Budget Project for the State for the 2005 Fiscal Year.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b> Ibidem. The information is probably not included in the budget document but the Technical Budget Office and Siaf must have it. Also, the comment makes reference to 25% of the tax revenues which exceeds the proportion represented by non tax revenues (in relation to total revenues). Perhaps only during the 1997 and 1998 with privatizations the non tax revenues were close to being as important.</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">b</div>

<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> No forecasts for BY-1 revenues are presented. Only the revenues approved by congress are presented. Sources: General Income and Expenditures Budget for the State for the 2005 Fiscal Year. Interview with: Edwin Martinez, Sub director of the Technical Budget Office of the Ministry of Public Finance.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b> Ibid. See Siaf, Fiscal Transparency and Sicoi.</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</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> Total revenues for year BY-2 are shown. Sources: Page 1 of the Global Charts Sections of the Project for the General Income and Expenditures Budget for the State for the 2005 Fiscal 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: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">a</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> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>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>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>Yes, such prior-year estimates are presented, but only for some individual sources of revenue.</li> <li>No, such prior-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> Financial classifications are shown; however not very disaggregated. The oldest information that exists is for BY-2. Sources: Page 5 of the Global Charts Sections of the Project for the General Income and Expenditures Budget for the State for the 2005 Fiscal 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: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">b</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> <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 all revenues 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> Sources: Page 5 of the Global Charts Sections of the Project for the General Income and Expenditures Budget for the State for the 2005 Fiscal 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: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">a</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>Researcher’s answer to this question was “d.”</b> Only debt requirements are shown, but not the global amount. Sources: Debt Service Section of the Project for the General Income and Expenditures Budget for the State for the 2005 Fiscal Year.</p> <p><b>Researcher Response to Peer Reviewer:</b> In fact, the balance also appears and the amount shown is broken down at: <a href="http://www.minfin.gob.gt/archivos/presu2005/doc24.pdf">http://www.minfin.gob.gt/archivos/presu2005/doc24.pdf</a></p> <p><b>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</b> A more appropriate response to this question would be B. Information relating to the debt of the year preceding the budget year is presented in the document “Servicios of the deuda publica” <a href="http://www.minfin.gob.gt/biblioteca/presu2006/doc24.pdf">http://www.minfin.gob.gt/biblioteca/presu2006/doc24.pdf</a>.</p> <p><b>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</b> See Siaf. Fiscal Transparency and Sicoín.</p> <p><b>IBP Comment:</b> IBP editors chose answer “d” to maintain consistency with the criteria used for selecting answers across countries. The question asks about debt for the preceding year (BY-1).</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">d</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> Sources: Page 5 Debt Service Section of the Project for the General Income and Expenditures Budget for the State for the 2005 Fiscal Year.</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>

<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> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes, extensive information on extra-budgetary funds is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates.</li> <li>Yes, information is presented, highlighting key extra-budgetary funds, but some details are excluded.</li> <li>Yes, some information is presented, but it lacks important details.</li> <li>No, information on extra-budgetary funds is not presented.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> Since extraordinary budget funds are managed independently and separately from the central government's budget, as is the case for decentralized and autonomous entities, they are not included in the State's Income and Expenditures Budget presented by the Executive to Congress. What is included are the contribution the Government makes to the before mentioned entities. However, the global amount to the resources that the before mentioned entities collect by themselves or the use of the mentioned funds is not included. However, the before mentioned entities are obligated to present Congress their budgets using the methodology prepared by the Ministry of Finances. However, a document consolidating the information or presenting a summary of the total state structure does not exist. Sources: General Income and Expenditures Budget for the State for the 2005 Fiscal Year Interview with: Edwin Martinez, Sub director of the Technical Budget Office of the Ministry of Public Finance.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b> Article 134 of the Constitution obliges all public entities, even the autonomous and decentralized ones, to INFORM but incorporate their budgets to the Nation's General Budget.</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> Information about the amount approved for the year BY-1 and the amount allocated for the year AP is presented, however not much depth is given about the information. Example: the contributions made to the Municipalities, the Executive Branch, and the Judicial Branch etc. However, the before mentioned entities must present to Congress their budget using the methodology prepared by the Ministry of Finance. On the other hand, the information given on the transfers made, only shows the contribution and the amount, the final use of the resources is not provided. For more information the budget that the entity presents before Congress must be accessed. Sources: General Income and Expenditures Budget for the State for the 2005 Fiscal Year. Budget transfers:<a href="http://www.minfin.gob.gt/archivos/transfer2.htm">http://www.minfin.gob.gt/archivos/transfer2.htm</a></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b> The problem is that the transfers for operations are internally approved by the Executive. The others HAVE TO BE APPROVED BY CONGRESS. In both cases, they are registered in Siaf and Sicoín.</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">c</div>
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<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> Information about the amount approved for year BY-1 and the amount assigned for year BY is presented, however not much detail is presented. Example: the contributions made by the Ministry of Communications, Infrastructure and Housing to the Champerico National Harbor Company and Guatemala's Railroad Company. However, said companies must present their budget before Congress using the methodology prepared by the Ministry of Finances. Sources: General Income and Expenditures Budget for the State for the 2005 Fiscal Year.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b> Ibidem.</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">c</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></p> <p><b><u>Researcher's answer to this question was "c."</u></b> In general, certain information exists about quasi fiscal operations, such as the Central Bank's losses. However, besides this information nothing is generated. Interview with: Edwin Martinez, Sub director of the Technical Budget Office of the Ministry of Public Finance.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b> According to Article B of Central Bank's or the Bank of Guatemala's Organic Law, its operative losses (quasi fiscal deficit) ARE PAID WITH RESOURCES FROM THE NATION'S GENERAL BUDGET. The response, at least beginning year 2002, could be "a."</p> <p><b><u>IBP Comment:</u></b> IBP editors chose answer "c" to maintain consistency with the criteria used for selecting answers across countries.</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">c</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>Citation and/or comment: Only the decrease of specific financial assets used to finance the fiscal deficit is mentioned. Sources: Page 5 of the Income Project Section of the Project for the General Income and Expenditures Budget for the State for the 2005 Fiscal Year.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b> See Siaf, Fiscal Transparency and Sicoi.</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>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> No detailed information is given about the situation of the Government's non-financial assets.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b> See Siaf, Fiscal Transparency and Sicoi.</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> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, extensive information on expenditure arrears is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates.</li> <li>b. Yes, information is presented, highlighting key expenditure arrears, but some details are excluded.</li> <li>c. Yes, some information is presented, but it lacks important details.</li> <li>d. No, information on expenditure arrears is not presented.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> During the year 2003 (BY-2) expenses not exercised (or compromises without a yield or floating debt, as it is known in Guatemala) represented close to 0.6% of the GDP. However, said amount was not taken into account by the government when it calculated the fiscal deficit, but the possibility of knowing said information did exist. Currently, problems with the expenses not exercised are not known, and if there were, a document or a section dedicated to the analysis of this entry does not exist. Interview with: Hugo Maul member of the Technical Commission for the Fiscal Pact</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b> See Siaf, Fiscal Transparency and Sicoín. Also, by law Floating Debt cannot pass from one fiscal year to the next (otherwise, the IMF would not approve the official amount of the deficit published).</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 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> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, extensive information on contingent liabilities is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates.</li> <li>b. Yes, information is presented, highlighting key contingent 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 contingent liabilities is not presented.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> No information was found.</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>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> No information was found.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b> Civil service does not have a pension system. The only one in existence, in the public sector, is the Seguro Social (Social Security) which does not cover more than 30% of the active PEA and does not include public sector employees. Several autonomous and decentralized state entities have their own pension funds that do not depend on budget funds to function, reason why they do not appear on the budget.</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 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> Sources: The Income Budget Project has a section dedicated to describing the individual origin of the donations received by the Government. In the Project for the General Income and Expenditures Budget for the State for the 2005 Fiscal 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: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">a</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> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes, extensive information on tax expenditures is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates.</li> <li>Yes, information is presented, highlighting key tax expenditures, but some details are excluded.</li> <li>Yes, some information is presented, but it lacks important details.</li> <li>No, information on tax expenditures is not presented.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> Even though there is a description of the global amounts nothing is mentioned about the methodology used, and they are not itemized so the impact of each exemption, exoneration or privilege can be understood. Sources: Tax Expenditures Section of the Project for the General Income and Expenditures Budget for the State for the 2005 Fiscal 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: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">c</div>
<p>46. Does the executive’s budget or any supporting budget documentation identify all earmarked revenues?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All earmarked revenues are identified individually.</li> <li>At least two-thirds of, but not all, earmarked revenues are identified individually.</li> <li>Less than two-thirds of earmarked revenues are identified individually.</li> <li>No earmarked revenues are identified individually.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> In the budget the only “earmarked revenues” described are those revenues labled by the Constitution of the Republic and from the value added tax that is destined to Social Funds. However, on the budget several earmarked taxes are not identified, for example: current revenues destined for the Superintendence of Tax Administration; revenue from property taxes destined for the Municipalities, revenues from the Value Added Tax not destined to Social Funds, Taxes from Vehicle circulation with several destinations; tax revenues destined for CONALFA, etc. Source: Page 18 of the Global Charts Sections of the Project for the General Income and Expenditures Budget for the State for the 2005 Fiscal 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: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">c</div>

<p>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?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. One percent or less of expenditure is dedicated to secret items.</li> <li>b. Three percent or less, but more than one percent, of expenditure is dedicated to secret items.</li> <li>c. Eight percent or less, but more than three percent, of expenditure is dedicated to secret items.</li> <li>d. More than eight percent of expenditure is dedicated to secret items, or the percentage is not available to the public.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> Before, the total amount given to the Ministry of Defense was considered secret expenditure, the amount was not revealed because it was considered a State secret. Currently, due to the judgment given by the Constitutional Court on what applies as a secret in the case of the military, the court limited the confidentiality to uncompleted military operations and the acquisition of arms. Interview with: Lionel Lira, Advisor to Deputy Nineth Montenegro Interview with: Hugo Maul Figueroa, Presidential Commissioner for Transparency and Against Corruption.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b> However, it was only this year that the Army made its purchases through bids. I believe that the response should have been at least B.</p> <p><b><u>IBP Comment:</u></b> IBP editors chose answer “a” to maintain consistency with the criteria used for selecting answers across 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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## The Budget Narrative & Performance Monitoring

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?

- 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.
- b. Yes, information is presented, highlighting the link between major policy goals and the budget, but some details are excluded.
- c. Yes, some information is presented, but it lacks important details.
- d. No, information on the link between the budget and the government's stated policy goals is not presented.
- e. Not applicable/other (please comment).

c

Citation and/or comment:

**Researcher's answer to this question was "c."** Only the topic that is to be supported is presented, the program involved and the change in budget between year BY-1 and BY. Details about the change in objectives and non financial assets are not included. However, when the programs within each institution are analyzed a very general quantitative description is found of the goals to be reached by the programs.  
Source: Pages 21-24 Section on Global Charts on the Project for the General Income and Expenditures Budget for the State for the 2005 Fiscal Year.

**Researcher Response to Peer Reviewer:** Certain information is presented in the Budget documents. However, since there is no access to POA (the effort to make them public, along with the budgets is recent), it is not possible to conclude that there is an explanation of the objectives and the budget by the executing unit. Also, it must be noted that the effort in this direction is recent (it became consistent in 2005) and there are still many problems needed to be resolved in order for there to be consistency between the global objectives, the executing unit objectives and their budgets.

It is worth noting that the 2006 budget has improved substantially even though there is still a long way to go.

**Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:**

**Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:** A more appropriate response to this question would be "b" EVERY implementing unit must generate a POA and this must correspond to the sector's POA.

**IBP Comment:** IBP editors chose answer "c" to maintain consistency with the criteria used for selecting answers across countries.

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)?

- 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.
- b. Yes, information is presented, highlighting the major policy goals, but some details are excluded.
- c. Yes, some information is presented, but it lacks important details.
- d. No, information on the link between the budget and the government's stated policy goals over a multi-year period is not presented.
- e. Not applicable/other (please comment).

Citation and/or comment:

**Researcher's answer to this question was "d."** Even though some numbers have been projected for the next two years, they are not tied to any objective or policy.

Sources: Page 12, Multi Annual Section of the Project for the General Income and Expenditures Budget for the State for the 2005 Fiscal Year.

**Researcher Response to Peer Reviewer:** There is a difference in the interpretation of "policy goals" with the peer reviewer. Our interpretation is the goals that can be achieved based on the expenditure and government investment, which in some way excludes macroeconomic objectives known as "conditions" or "parameters" taken into account by the Budget. In other words, said macroeconomic objectives are inputs and not budgetary objectives.

**Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:** A more appropriate response to this question would be "c." In the document "Exposicion General de Motivos del Proyecto del Presupuesto General de Ingresos y Egresos del Estado para el Ejercicio Fiscal de 2006"

<http://www.minfin.gob.gt/biblioteca/presu2006/doc24.pdf>

there are references made to macroeconomic goals.

**Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:** As a matter of fact it is legally prohibited to program for more than one year except in the case of qualified investment and debt payment.

**IBP Comment:** IBP editors chose answer "d" to maintain consistency with the criteria used for selecting answers across countries.

d

<p>50. Does the executive’s budget or any supporting budget documentation present non-financial data, such as the number of beneficiaries, for expenditure programs?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Non-financial data are presented for all programs.</li> <li>b. Non-financial data are presented for programs representing at least two-thirds of, but not all, expenditures.</li> <li>c. Non-financial data are presented for programs representing less than two-thirds of expenditure.</li> <li>d. No non-financial data are presented.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u></p> <p><b><u>Researcher’s answer to this question was “c.”</u></b> In each institution’s program description, non-financial data is available to understand the impact they look to achieve. However, it is less than two thirds. Sources: Project for the General Income and Expenditures Budget for the State for the 2005 Fiscal Year.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b> If Health, Education and Security cover half of the expenditures; YES the estimated population goals are explicit. The answer should have been “b.”</p> <p><b><u>IBP Comment:</u></b> IBP editors chose answer “c” to maintain consistency with the criteria used for selecting answers across 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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51. Are the non-financial data presented useful for assessing how an expenditure program is performing?

- a. The non-financial data are very useful for assessing program performance.
- b. The non-financial data are mostly useful for assessing program performance.
- c. The non-financial data are somewhat useful for assessing program performance.
- d. No non-financial data are provided or they are not useful for assessing program performance.
- e. Not applicable/other (please comment).

d

Citation and/or comment:

**Researcher's answer to this question was "d."** There are several obstacles making it difficult to issue an opinion on the non financial data that is presented: 1) there isn't a historical analysis to be able to judge the goals and the budgets that said programs have had before, to determine if they are using efficiently the resources, or if the goals proposed for the next period; 2) there is no information to determine the benefits for this period; 3) the real benefits perceived by the population in previous periods are not known; 4) there are no guidelines as far as quality of the goals sought.

The focus of the non financial data concentrates more on determining inputs, but not benefits. Sources: Project for the General Income and Expenditures Budget for the State for the 2005 Fiscal Year.

Interview with: Lionel Lira, consultant of the Diputada Nineth Montenegro.

Interview with: Zoyla Chen, consultant of the Comisión de Finanzas Públicas y Moneda del Congreso de la República.

**Researcher Response to Peer Reviewer:** The main problem to highlight is that, even if it is assumed that the non financial information is adequately carried out (which is not the case), there is an additional problem: there is no data to be able to know how the programs have performed or are performing in relation to such financial information. The Budget documents do not have information regarding the degree of compliance with "tangible" goals for the previous periods. This does not allow an analysis of the program's performance.

**Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:**

**Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:** A more appropriate response to this question would be "b." Especialy when dealing with programs that provide tangible services (i.e. : vaccination campaigns from the Health Ministry)

**IBP Comment:** IBP editors chose answer "d" to maintain consistency with the criteria used for selecting answers across countries. Researchers are correct in pointing out the reasons that make available information unreliable or useless.

<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></p> <p><b><u>Researcher’s answer to this question was “c.”</u></b> Taking into account the programs that do not have performance goals, or those budget items without a program, the amount of expenditures without performance goals is as high as 38% of the total expenditures. Sources: Our own calculations based on the Budget Project for the General Income and Expenditures Budget for the State for the 2005 Fiscal Year</p> <p><b><u>Researcher Response to Peer Reviewer:</u></b> Although there is no evaluation to measure the compliance of performance indicators, there are some indexes but for less than 2/3 the total of the resources budgeted.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b> Ibid.</p> <p><b><u>IBP Comment:</u></b> IBP editors chose answer “c” to maintain consistency with the criteria used for selecting answers across countries.</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">c</div>
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53. Are the performance indicators sufficiently well designed, such that one can assess whether there has been progress toward meeting policy goals?

- a. All performance indicators are well designed.
- b. Most performance indicators are well designed.
- c. Some performance indicators are well designed, but most are not.
- d. No programs have performance indicators, or they are not well designed.
- e. Not applicable/other (please comment).

c

Citation and/or comment: There are several obstacles in the non financial data presented that do not allow for an analysis: 1) there is no historical analysis to be able to judge the goals and the budgets that said programs have had before, to determine if they are or are not using efficiently the resources, or the goals proposed for the next period; 2) there is no information to determine the benefits for this period; 3) the real benefits perceived by the population in previous periods are not known; 4) there are no guidelines in as far as quality requirements for the goals that they seek.

Example of ill designed indicators for the “Ministerio de Energía y Minas” (Ministry of Mines and Energy):

- In program 11 of “exploración y explotación petrolera” (oil exploration and exploitation) they have stated that the way to measure “the supervision of service of (gas) stations” is via “125 documents.”
- In program 13 the “promoción y fiscalización de las fuentes energéticas” (promotion and supervision of energy sources) they set that the way to measure “quality control of liquid gas cylinders” is via “1,000 documents.”

Example of ill designed indicators for the Ministerio de Finanzas Públicas (Ministry of Public Finance):

- In program 11 the “administración del patrimonio del Estado” (Management of the State’s patrimony) they have established the that way to measure “training and orientation in managing the sole municipal tax on property” is through “1,023 events.”

Example of ill designed indicators for the Ministerio de Agricultura y Ganadería y Alimentación (Minsitry of Agriculture and Farming and Feeding):

- In program 11 the “commercial and productive development” they have set that the way to measure the “distribution of organic fertilizer” is through “156,368 kilograms.”
- In program 12 the “protection and regulation of produce farming and cattleraising patrimony” they have set that the way to measure “monitoring fito-zoogenetic and fito-zoosanitary diseases” is via “6,092 documents.”

Currently a pilot project is underway with five institutions. Such seeks to unify the planning and budget, which has meant the changing of forms, in order to be able to directly incorporate strategic objectives with operational ones, the programs with their actions and budgets for each. As per the personal criteria of the personnel involved with this change, current performance indicators are well designed in less than 10% of the cases.

Sources: Project for the General Income and Expenditures Budget for the State for the 2005 Fiscal Year.

Interview with : Lionel Lira, asesor of the Diputada Nineth Montenegro.

Interview with : Zoyla Chen, consultant of the Comisión de Finanzas Públicas y Moneda del Congreso de la República.

Interview with : Fredy Gómez, Director of the Dirección de Política Económica y Social of the Secretaría General de Planificación y Programación of the Presidencia –SEGEPLAN-.

<p><b><u>Researcher Response to Peer Reviewer:</u></b> In general, it cannot be argued that said management indicators are well designed, in the measure that the system does not allow monitoring its adequate accomplishment. Important deficiencies exist in the statistical information that the State manages, which does not allow assurance that, although important efforts are being made, an evaluation exists that allows to determine (annual or at list bi-annually) the fulfillment of the goals</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b> Although these examples are valid and point to support the response given, it seems interesting that they do not mention the cases that even have international monitoring (such as Health and Education) and everything that has to do with the Human Development index and the compliance with the millenium goals that surely are several times more significant in terms of the total expenditure than the examples presented.</p>	
<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> "The goals" set in the budget were considered as a performance indicator. As goals, the objectives expected to be the result of the programs where taken into account. However, as in the response to the the previous question, they are not necessarily adequately designed. And in this case, the management indicators are set inadequately in relation to the goals. Source: General Income and Expenditures Budget for the State for the 2005 Fiscal 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;">c</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> Only the issue they wish to support is presented, the program involved and the change in budget line item between the year BY-1 and BY. No detail is included in the goal changes or non-financial resources. However, analyzing the programs within each institution, there are very general quantitative descriptions of the goals to be reached by the programs. Sources: Pages 8-12 of the Section on the Presentation of General Motives and Pages 21-23 of the Section of General Charts of the Budget Project for the General Income and Expenditures Budget for the State for the 2005 Fiscal Year</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b> Until fiscal year 2004, the investment was set within the framework of the so called “Strategy for Poverty Reduction” and the Plan for Fulfilling the Millennium Goals, which was advised by and monitored by the UNDP. Probably this response is valid as of the 2005 budget that was totally elaborated by the incumbent government.</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>	
<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>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> Consult:  <a href="http://portal.sat.gob.gt/portal/index.php?option=com_docman&amp;task=view_category&amp;Itemid=37&amp;subcat=1&amp;catid=14&amp;limitstart=0&amp;limit=20">http://portal.sat.gob.gt/portal/index.php?option=com_docman&amp;task=view_category&amp;Itemid=37&amp;subcat=1&amp;catid=14&amp;limitstart=0&amp;limit=20</a>  Here there is certain information on the subject of tax rates and activities. Perhaps, what stands out the most is that the tax system is not as simple which means there are possibilities for exploiting tax exemptions, not clarifying adequately the payment of taxes.</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>57. Does the executive make available to the public an analysis of the distribution of the tax burden?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <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> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> There are problems in the way the data was gathered, that is why the information is presented in an aggregate manner and one cannot establish the impact of taxes with different characteristics. For example: companies withhold ISR for workers, but the company presents it. Sin embargo, only until the end of the year, when the worker submits their declaration does one find out that the tax presented was paid by the worke.  The work team tried to access this document through the Superintendence of Tax Administration, but the document was never sent, in spite of several attempts during a two-month period.  Interview with: Hugo Maul member of the “Comisión Técnica del Pacto Fiscal” (technical commission on the Fiscal Pact).  The document was requested from the Superintendence of Tax Administration. At the time this questionnaire was sent in, the document was still being generated. That is to say, this information is not issued as normal paperwork, but rather on a per request basis. However, keeping in mind the information given by the interviewed, we realize that there are important restrictions, not so much in delivering the information, but rather in the way that it is processed and obtained.</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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58. Does the executive make available to the public an explanation of the conditions associated with assistance from international financial institutions (IFI)?
- a. Yes, extensive information on conditions associated with IFI assistance is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates.
  - b. Yes, information is presented, but some details are excluded.
  - c. Yes, some information is presented, but it lacks important details.
  - d. No, information on conditions associated with IFI assistance is not presented.
  - e. Not applicable/other (please comment).

Citation and/or comment:

**Researcher's answer to this question was "d."** The conditions associated with IFI's assistant are not explained.

Sources: Budget Project for the General Income and Expenditures Budget for the State for the 2005 Fiscal Year

**Researcher Response to Peer Reviewer:** Here there was difference between the original questionnaire in English and the translation to Spanish. The answer given came from answering the question as it was translated into Spanish, where they explicitly ask if the information is contained in the budget or in budgetary documents. This is clearly different to the question posed in English.

**Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:**

**Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:** The commitments with the IMF are public and the documents may be obtained through the internet. In the case of loans and other programs of, for example, the World Bank and the IDB, the corresponding agreements are approved by a legislative decree from congress and they are published in an official diary and they may be "downloaded" from the Congress' web page ([www.congreso.gob.gt](http://www.congreso.gob.gt)), the most precise answer is "b."

**IBP Comment:** IBP editors chose answer "b" to maintain consistency with the criteria used for selecting answers across countries. IBP is trying to assess whether conditions documents can be accessed by different means, not necessarily in the Budget or supplementary budget documents.

b

59. Does the executive make available to the public an explanation of the conditions associated with assistance from donor countries?

- a. Yes, extensive information on conditions associated with donor country assistance is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates.
- b. Yes, information is presented, but some details are excluded.
- c. Yes, some information is presented, but it lacks important details.
- d. No, information on conditions associated with donor country assistance is not presented.
- e. Not applicable/other (please comment).

b

Citation and/or comment:

**Researcher's answer to this question was "d."** The conditions associated with the assistance of donating countries are not explained.

Sources: Budget Project for the General Income and Expenditures Budget for the State for the 2005 Fiscal Year

**Researcher Response to Peer Reviewer:** Here there was difference between the original questionnaire in English and the translation to Spanish. The answer given came from answering the question as it was translated into Spanish, where they explicitly request if the information is contained in the budget or in budgetary documentation. This clearly is different from the question posed in English.

**Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:**

**Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:** The official assistance responds to what is contained in the respective agreement between the States that had to be approved by legislative decree in Congress and its contents are public since it is a law of the republic. The most precise answer is "b."

**IBP Comment:** IBP editors chose answer "b" to maintain consistency with the criteria used for selecting answers across countries. IBP is trying to assess whether conditions documents can be accessed by different means, not necessarily in the Budget or supplementary budget documents.

<p>60. Does the executive make available to the public a summary that describes the budget and its proposals?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes, it provides a summary that is very informative.</li> <li>Yes, it provides a summary that is somewhat informative.</li> <li>Yes, but the summary is not very informative.</li> <li>No, it does not provide a summary.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> The summary includes a good summary of the external and internal conditions that may affect budget performance at a macro economic level. Additionally, the main political policies that will guide public spending are presentd. However, the evolution of public spending was not mentioned nor were the goals that had been achieved to date. The focus is mainly the increase in inputs for programs. However, much of the information is contained in tables and graphs in another section of the document. Also the information does not have the adequate comments which does not make the executive summary very informative or as informative as it could be, especially when comparing revenues and expenditures from year to year and the main changes in the allocation of resources for the different programs.</p> <p>Source: Section on the Presentation of General Motives of the Budget Project for the General Income and Expenditures Budget for the State for the 2005 Fiscal Year See Charts section: <a href="http://www.minfin.gob.gt/biblioteca/presu2005/doc05.pdf">http://www.minfin.gob.gt/biblioteca/presu2005/doc05.pdf</a></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b> See Fiscal Transparency and Sicoín.</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 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> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes, it publishes a citizens budget that is very informative.</li> <li>Yes, it publishes a citizens budget that is somewhat informative.</li> <li>Yes, but the citizens budget is not very informative.</li> <li>No, it does not publish a citizens budget.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> Such document is not published. Sources: General Income and Expenditures Budget for the State for the 2005 Fiscal Year Interview with: Edwin Martines of the Technical Budget Office of the Ministry of Public Finances.</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>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> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes, thorough definitions of budget terms are provided.</li> <li>Yes, definitions are provided, but some details are excluded.</li> <li>Yes, some definitions are provided, but it lacks important details.</li> <li>No, definitions are not provided.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> This document is published and a budget Classification manual for Guatemala's Público Sector, where each account class is described along with the terms employed, can be found in the Ministry of Finance's page. On the other hand, there are some definitions on the Ministry of Finance's website on fiscal transparency: <a href="http://transparencia.minfin.gob.gt/transparenciaF2004/">http://transparencia.minfin.gob.gt/transparenciaF2004/</a>. However, they are not thorough or clear, and it does not go through all the possible classifications for expenditures.</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>63. Does the executive make available to the public a summary of the budget process?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes, it includes a summary of the budget process that is very informative.</li> <li>Yes, it includes a summary of the budget process that is somewhat informative.</li> <li>Yes, but the summary of the budget process is not very informative.</li> <li>No, it does not include a summary of the budget process.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> The summary of the budget process may be obtained through a request filed with the Tehcnical Budget Office inside the Ministry of Public Finance. The summary includes tables of the sub sequent processes and enables one to have a general idea of how the budget is finally structured. However, the focus of the document is geared to public officials involved in the project; therefore it does not necessarily explain all the details that a citizen requires, but rather those that a public official would require. Sources: Strategy for the Formulation of theGeneral Income and Expenditures Budget for the State for the 2005 Fiscal Year</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b> All of this is included in the Law and the regulations that generate it.</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">b</div>

64. Do citizens have the right in law to access government information, including budget information?

- a. Yes, the right has been codified into law, and citizens are generally able in practice to obtain government information, including budget information.
- b. 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.
- c. 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.
- d. No, the right to access government information has not been codified into law, or this right does not include access to budget information.
- e. Not applicable/other (please comment).

c

Citation and/or comment: In relation to the access of government information, such is stated in the constitution as follows:

- **ARTICLE 30. Publicity of administrative acts.** All administrative acts are public. Those interested have a right to obtain, at anytime, reports, copies, reproductions and certifications that are requested and the exhibition of the files the they wish to query, except for those that deal with military or diplomatic affairs pertaining to national security, or data supplied by individuals with the assurance the they are be confidential.

In relation to budget information action, such right is stipulated in article 237 of the Constitution, second to last paragraph that states: “The budget of income and expenditures of the State and its execution are public documents, accessible to any citizen that wishes to query them. To comply with this the Ministry of Public Finances will make copies available at the National Library, in the General Central American Archive and in the libraries of the nation’s universities. All state institutions and decentralized and autonomous institutions that manage their own budgets shall do the same. It shall be deemed a penal crime for a public official to impede or obstruct the query.”

However, such principle has not been developed in Guatemalan legislation beyond what appears on the constitutional norm.

Currently it is possible to find Budget information of the Central Government, since there are reports and publications on the Internet. However for the Municipalities, the autonomous institutions and the decentralized ones it is very complicated to find information

**Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:**

**Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:** The current government issued a Governmental Agreement that regulates the practical application of the constitutional precept mentioned. As a matter of fact, during the previous government several representatives - then in the opposition – had access to ample information through the use of legal resources before the Court. However, this shows that the system does not work by itself.

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)?

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

a

Citation and/or comment: It is possible to find information at the beginning of the budget year, for example, the name of the contractor and other information. Before, during the formulation and discussion it was not possible to obtain a greater level of detail.

A way of getting information with greater detail is by writing to the Accounting Office of the State. Telephones: 22485190-22485196, they can make information available, although it takes some time, depending on the type of information that one requests and the availability in terms of time that the office has available at the time. This means was used before by the CIEN, now INTERNET is used.

It is possible to get the information almost in real time, with the Financial Administration Integration System that may be queried on line. However, since some training is required, it is necessary to request a training course from the Ministry of Public Finances to be able to use it. It is not difficult to get the Ministry to collaborate with the individual. The website is: <http://sico.in.minfin.gob.gt> and one logs in with username: "prensa" and password: "prensa." This user allows information on the financial movements that the central government has made to be seen with a greater level of detail than the one presented in the budget.

Interview with: Lionel Lira, advisor to Deputy Nineth Montenegro.

Interview with: Zoyla Chen, advisor to the Comition on Public Finances and Currency for the Congress of the Republic.

Interview with: Ardón de Rosales, Director for Social Communications of the Ministry of Public Finances.

Interview with : Marco Tulio Coronado, Sub Director for the Modernization of the Congreso of the Republic and former Coordinator for the Legislative Support Program – PAL of the CIEN

**Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:**

**Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:** In addition, there is a system (on the Internet) called SIP designed exclusively to follow up on investment projects from the pre-investment stage.

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?

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

Citation and/or comment:

**Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:**

**Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:**

c

## **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> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The release date is set in permanent law.</li> <li>The executive announces the release date at least two months in advance.</li> <li>The executive announces the release date less than two months but more than two weeks in advance.</li> <li>The executive announces the release date two weeks or less before the release, or makes no announcement.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> The political Constitution of the Republic, in article 171, literal b) stipulates that: “the Executive will send a the budget project to Congress one hundred and twenty days before the beginning of the fiscal year” Source: Political Constitution of the Republic of Guatemala.</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>68. Does the executive release to the public its timetable for its budget preparation process?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes, a detailed timetable is released to the public.</li> <li>Yes, a timetable is released, but some details are excluded.</li> <li>Yes, a timetable is released, but it lacks important details.</li> <li>No, a timetable is not issued to the public.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> The timetable is contained in the document Strategy for the Formulation of the the General Income and Expenditures Budget Project of the State, which may be obtained through a request made to the Ministry of Finances. This document details the objectives seeked during the fiscal year, legal reference framework, a description of the institutions that are responsible and a schedule of activities, the parties responsible and the starting and ending dates. Sources: Strategy for the fourmulation of the General Income and Expenditures Budget Project of the State for the 2005 Budget Year. Interview with: Fredy Gómez, Director of the Political Economy and Social Office of of the General Planning and Pogramming Secretariat of the Presidency – SEGEPLAN-. Interview with: Edwin Martínez, Sub Director of the Technical Budget Office of the Ministry of Public Finance</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>69. Does the executive adhere to its timetable for the preparation and release of the budget?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. The executive adheres to the dates in its timetable.</li> <li>b. The executive adheres to most of the key dates in its timetable.</li> <li>c. The executive has difficulty adhering to most of the dates in its timetable.</li> <li>d. The executive does not adhere to the dates in its timetable, or it does not release to the public its timetable.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> The Executive complies with the delivery period to the Congress of the Republic. However, inwards of the delivery date, a few of the Executive’s institutions suffer from delays with the times stipulated by the Ministry of Public Finance.</p> <p>Interview with: Fredy Gómez, Director of the Political Economy and Social Office of of the General Planning and Porgramming Secretariat of the Presidency – SEGEPLAN-.</p> <p>Interview with: Edwin Martínez, Sub Director of the Technical Budget Office of the Ministry of Public Finance.</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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70. Does the executive hold consultations with members of the legislature as part of its process of determining budget priorities?

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

c

Citation and/or comment:

**Researcher's answer to this question was "c."** The executive does not hold direct meetings with members of Parliament to determine budget priorities. They are invited to see the details of how the budgetary process will be carried out, for example, the delivery of budgetary norms and the ceilings per institution.

However, indirectly and on a very reduced scale, they have a certain level of participation through the Development Councils, of which they form part of on a departmental level, and determine less 3% of the budget. District deputies can participate in these Councils (80% of congress). The mayors and several citizen sectors do hold a vote to decide the projects.

However, the deputies do not have a right to vote in the Departmental Development Councils which leads to a poor assistance and they prefer to determine the works within Congress and not in the Councils.

Finally, the Deputies can pressure to change the investment on certain programs when the Budget Project goes for approval.

Source: Project for the General Income and Expenditures Budget of the State for the 2005 Fiscal Year.

Interview with: Fredy Gómez, Director of the Political Economy and Social Office of of the General Planning and Programming Secretariat of the Presidency – SEGEPLAN-.

Interview with: Edwin Martínez, Sub Director of the Technical Budget Office of the Ministry of Public Finance.

**Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:**

**Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:** That is precisely why I think the answer should have been "a."

**IBP Comment:** IBP editors chose answer "c" to maintain consistency with the criteria used for selecting answers across countries.

<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>a. Yes, the executive holds extensive consultations with a wide range of constituencies.</li> <li>b. Yes, the executive holds consultations with a range of constituencies, but some key constituencies are excluded.</li> <li>c. Yes, the executive holds very limited consultations, involving only a few constituencies.</li> <li>d. No, the executive does not typically consult with the public as part of the budget preparation process.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u></p> <p><b>Researcher’s answer to this question was "c."</b> In reality the budget priorities answer to political priorities demanded by the country’s legislature and the government’s plan. However, there is certain participation from citizens through the Development Councils, which determine less than 3% of the budget.  Source: General Income and Expenditures Budget Project of the State for the 2005 Fiscal Year.  Interview with: Fredy Gómez, Director of the Political Economy and Social Office of of the General Planning and Pogramming Secretariat of the Presidency – SEGEPLAN-.  Interview with: Edwin Martínez, Sub Director of the Technical Budget Office of the Ministry of Public Finance.</p> <p><b>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</b></p> <p><b>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</b> Ibidem. A more appropriate response to this question would be “b.”</p> <p><b>IBP Comment:</b> IBP editors chose answer "c" to maintain consistency with the criteria used for selecting answers across 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>72. When does the executive release a pre-budget statement to the public?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. The executive releases a pre-budget statement at least four months in advance of the start of the budget year.</li> <li>b. The executive releases a pre-budget statement at least two months (but less than four months) in advance of the start of the budget year.</li> <li>c. The executive releases a pre-budget statement, but it is released less than two months before the start of the budget year.</li> <li>d. The executive does not release a pre-budget statement.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u></p> <p><b><u>Researcher’s answer to this question was "d."</u></b> No preliminary document is disclosed. However, it should be highlighted that four months before the beginning of the fiscal year the budget project is presented before Congress, and is available to the public and the press via the Internet or through the public’s request. Interview with: Edwin Martínez, Sub Director of the Technical Budget Office of the Ministry of Public Finance.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b> The same comment indicates the answer should have been “b.”</p> <p><b><u>IBP Comment:</u></b> IBP editors chose answer "d" to maintain consistency with the criteria used for selecting answers across countries. The document referred to by the researcher and peer reviewer two is not a pre-budget statement.</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>73. Does the pre-budget statement describe the government’s macroeconomic and fiscal framework?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes, an extensive explanation of the government’s fiscal and macroeconomic policy is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates.</li> <li>Yes, an explanation is presented, highlighting key aspects of the fiscal and macroeconomic framework, 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 the executive does not release to the public a pre-budget statement.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u></p> <p><b><u>Researcher’s answer to this question was "d."</u></b> A preliminary document is not generated. See answer 72.</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 “c.”</p> <p><b><u>IBP Comment:</u></b> IBP editors chose answer "d" to maintain consistency with the criteria used for selecting answers across countries. The document referred to by the researcher and peer reviewer two is not a pre-budget statement.</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>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>Yes, an extensive explanation of the government’s budget policies and priorities is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates.</li> <li>Yes, an explanation is presented, highlighting key aspects of the government’s budget policies and priorities, 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 the executive does not release to the public a pre-budget statement.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u></p> <p><b><u>Researcher’s answer to this question was "d."</u></b> A preliminary document is not generated. See answer 72.</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.”</p> <p><b><u>IBP Comment:</u></b> IBP editors chose answer "d" to maintain consistency with the criteria used for selecting answers across countries. The document referred to by the researcher and peer reviewer two is not a pre-budget statement.</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>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> The Executive branch has complied with the constitutional mandate of handing the budget project in within the stipulated term, that is 120 days, or presenting it in before September 3<sup>rd</sup>, as per article 183, literal j)</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>

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?

- 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.
- b. Yes, hearings are held in which testimony is heard from the executive branch and some constituencies.
- c. Yes, hearings are held in which testimony from the executive branch is heard, but no testimony from the public is heard.
- 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.
- e. Not applicable/other (please comment).

b

Citation and/or comment: Between the months of September and October 2004 a series of seminars were conducted to present the contents of the Budget. These meetings were attended by: Deputies from the Commission of Public Finances and Currency, Interested Deputies, Representatives of Citizen Groups invited by the Deputies, Deputy Advisors, journalists, representatives from the Ministry of Public Finances. The representatives of citizen groups that are invited can present their doubts.

Generally, assistance is not permitted for individuals that are interested but not invited. In some activities, this is due to the fact that it is not clear if the general public has access to the hearings. Also, because no effort is made to make such meetings known. They are not transmitted on television or the radio. In addition to the convocations by Congress, there are civil society organizations that promote these activities. For example, in November 2004 the CIEN made a presentation to the Commission of Public Finances and Currency about the budget's macroeconomic impact and the quality of public expenditure. The before mentioned meeting was open to other Deputies and journalists. It was held within the installations of Congress.

Interview with: Lionel Lira, Advisor to Deputy Nineth Montenegro

Interview with: Zoyla Chen, Advisor to the Commission of Public Finances and Currency of the Congress of the Republic

**Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:**

**Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:**

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?

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

b

Citation and/or comment: Between the months of September and October of the year 2004 a series of seminars were held to make the contents of the Budget known, on a macroeconomic level as well as well as the contents of the most important departments that receive large amounts on the budget. Among the departments that stand out are: The Ministry of Public Finances, Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Nutrition, Ministry of Government, Ministry of Communications, Infrastructure and Housing, Ministry of Public Health and Social Assistance, Ministry of Education and the General Planning and Programming Secretariat of the Presidency.

These meetings are attended by: Deputies from the Commission of Public Finance and Currency, Interested Deputies, representatives from the Ministry of Public Finance or authorities from the different State offices that make a contribution to the topic. Representatives of citizen groups that are invited can state their doubts. Generally, assistance is not permitted for individuals that are interested but not invited. In some activities, this is due to the fact that it is not clear if the general public has access to the hearings. Also, because no effort is made to make such meetings known. They are not transmitted on television or the radio.

In addition to the convocations by Congress, there are civil society organizations that promote these activities. For example, in November 2004 the CIEN made a presentation to the Commission of Public Finances and Currency about the budget's macroeconomic impact and the quality of public expenditure. The before mentioned meeting was open to other Deputies and journalists. It was held within the installations of Congress.

Interview with: Lionel Lira, Advisor to Deputy Nineth Montenegro

Interview with: Zoyla Chen, Advisor to the Commission of Public Finances and Currency of the Congress of the Republic

**Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:**

**Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:**

<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 were convened for the general public to actively participate. Interview with: Lionel Lira, Advisor to Deputy Nineth Montenegro Interview with: Zoyla Chen, Advisor to the Commission of Public Finances and Currency of the Congress of the Republic</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> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes, the committees release very informative reports, which include all written testimony presented at the hearings.</li> <li>Yes, the committees release reports, but some details are excluded.</li> <li>Yes, the committees release reports, but they are not very informative.</li> <li>No, the committees do not release reports or do not hold public hearings.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> There are internal financial reports generated for the Committee on Public Finances and Currency in Congress, however such reports are not made public. Interview with: Lionel Lira, Advisor to Deputy Nineth Montenegro. Interview with: Zoyla Chen, Advisor to the Commission of Public Finances and Currency of the Congress of the Republic.</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 Executive itemises the information based on requests presented by the Deputies, which establish the deadline for response. The majority of before mentioned requests are answered, due to the interest that Executive have for Congress to approve (or increase) the amounts established in the budget. According to our experience and the comments we have received from other experts, the main problem is that Congressmen do not know a lot about the budget topic, reason why many of their questions are not geared towards the management of expenditures, which makes many of them of little importance. However, there are deputies that have focused on requesting detailed information to make it known to the public; such is the case of Deputy Nineth Montenegro in the case of the Ministry of Defense.  Interview with: Lionel Lira, Advisor to Deputy Nineth Montenegro  Interview with: Zoyla Chen, Advisor to the Commission of Public Finances and Currency of the Congress of the Republic</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>
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<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> During the presidential period 2000-2003 information about secret expenditures linked to national security was not known. Authorities used this mechanism to avoid giving information. Currently, although there has been a greater transparency and the defense institutions have not employed the before mentioned mechanism (for the execution of expenditures) they have been somewhat unwilling to provide information on the execution of previous years. Reason why it has been necessary to turn to the Constitutional Court to clarify the reach of said secrecy. The result of said consultation has allowed the contents of budget execution necessary for the investigations launched by the Public Ministry and the plaintiff, the Deputy Nineth Montenegro, to be known. Even though the Constitutional Court reduces the potential use of national security secrecy for expenditures, it did not eliminate the problem due to the lack of a mechanism to obtain information about secret expenditures. Interview with: Lionel Lira, advisor to Deputy Nineth Montenegro.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b> It has been like this at least since 1878 when the Nacional Army was founded and not only during one presidencial term. The change, as the comment implies, has not been profound.</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> During the approval process, Congress can modify EVERYTHING that the Executive has sent. However, it has constitutional and legal limitations. For example, the percentage that must be assigned to public universities or to the courts of justice which are the “earmarked revenues.” In the Political Constitution of the Republic, in article 171 literal b) it is established that Congress is responsible for “Approving, modifying or disapprove (...) the State’s Income and Expenditures Budget”. There is no limit established for said proposal, expect for the “earmarked revenues” established by the Constitution and other Laws. Source: Political Constitution of the Republic of Guatemala.</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>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> There is an obligation for the Budget to have a programmatic structure, which is met; there is also the mention of a subprogram, project, activity or work even though there is not a lot of detail given (to the sum, the subprogram level). Fuente: <a href="http://www.minfin.gob.gt/biblioteca/presua2005/doc01.pdf">http://www.minfin.gob.gt/biblioteca/presua2005/doc01.pdf</a> Source: <a href="http://www.minfin.gob.gt/archivos/presua2005.htm">http://www.minfin.gob.gt/archivos/presua2005.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>

<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>In-year reports on actual expenditure are released at least every month.</li> <li>In-year reports on actual expenditure are released at least every quarter.</li> <li>In-year reports on actual expenditure are released at least semi-annually.</li> <li>In-year reports on actual expenditure are not released.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> The reports are prepared on a four monthly basis, as can be seen on the Ministry's website <a href="http://www.minfin.gov.gt">www.minfin.gov.gt</a>. The reports present expenditures organized by: region, expenditure type, finality, function and by administrative unit.</p> <p>However, through the use of the information tool SIAF it is possible to find financial government information in real time using the Internet page <a href="http://www.siafsag.gob.gt">www.siafsag.gob.gt</a>, by requesting a password from the Ministry of Public Finance. The only drawback is that certain knowledge of the tool is needed to generate reports with the information one wants to create.</p> <p>Interview with: Lionel Lira, Advisor to Deputy Nineth Montenegro  Interview with: Zoyla Chen, Advisor to the Commission of Public Finance and Currency of the Congress of the Republic  Interview with: Marco Tulio Coronado, Sub Director of Modernization for the Congress of the Republic and Former Coordinator for the Support Program for the Legislative Organism – PAL of the CIEN.</p> <p><u>Researcher Response to Peer Review:</u> The question explicitly refers to the reports written by the Executive. In the meanwhile, for Peer Reviewer 2 comment it must take into account that the user is the one that would be carrying out the reports via SIAF.</p> <p>About SIAF, each time it has more aspects that are available to the public. Advancements have been made to make the tool more open to the public, but to date have not been available for several reasons. 1) a password is required to enter, which is made more public everytime at least to access basic levels of information 2) it is not easy to use; 3) until recently a campaign was started to make SIAF known in the population, to the point that, in a Transparency forum with experts, I was surprised to know that many of the people there were not aware of the existence of the tool, or how to use it, 4) not all of them have easy access to the Internet.</p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></p> <p><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u> 1. Finally they mention the SIAF – SAG. 2. The information of the budget execution is registered ON LINE IN REAL TIME via said system BUT IT IS NOT AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC except through a request in writing or by judicial order.</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">c</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> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, in-year reports cover all expenditures.</li> <li>b. Yes, in-year reports cover at least two-thirds, but not all, of expenditures.</li> <li>c. Yes, in-year reports cover less than two-thirds of expenditures.</li> <li>d. No in-year reports are released to the public.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> Many times there are delays in the purchase orders; therefore the expenses disbursed by the Central Government are not always completely presented. There are no expense known that are excluded from the reports that are not due to payment orders.  Interview with: Lionel Lira, Advisor to Deputy Nineth Montenegro  Interview with: Zoyla Chen, Advisor to the Commision of Public Finance and Currency of the Congress of the Republic  Interview with: Marco Tulio Coronado, Sub Director of Modernization for the Congress of the Republic and Former Coordinator fo the Support Program for the Legislative Organism – PAL of the CIEN.</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> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, comparisons are made for all expenditures.</li> <li>b. Yes, comparisons are made for at least two-thirds, but not all, of expenditures.</li> <li>c. Yes, but comparisons are made for less than two-thirds of expenditures.</li> <li>d. No, comparisons are not made, or no in-year reports are released to the public.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> Although the level of detail is low in the report; when generating one’s own reports via SICOIN’s Internet page a greater level of detail is possible.  Sources: <a href="http://sicoin.minfin.gob.gt">http://sicoin.minfin.gob.gt</a>  <a href="http://www.minfin.gob.gt/biblioteca/liquidacion/agosto2005/index.htm">http://www.minfin.gob.gt/biblioteca/liquidacion/agosto2005/index.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>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>In-year reports on actual revenue collections by source of revenue are released at least every month.</li> <li>In-year reports on actual revenue collections are released at least every quarter.</li> <li>In-year reports on actual revenue collections are released at least semi-annually.</li> <li>In-year reports on actual revenue collections by source of revenue are not released.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> The information may be obtained via the Superintendence of Tax Administration's Web page –SAT- at <a href="http://www.sat.gob.gt">www.sat.gob.gt</a>, which enables one to see the effective monthly collection. Sources: <a href="http://portal.sat.gob.gt/portal/index.php?option=content&amp;task=category&amp;sectionid=2&amp;id=47&amp;Itemid=129">http://portal.sat.gob.gt/portal/index.php?option=content&amp;task=category&amp;sectionid=2&amp;id=47&amp;Itemid=129</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>88. What share of revenue is covered by the in-year reports on actual revenue collections?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In-year reports cover the actual revenue collections of all sources of revenue.</li> <li>In-year reports cover the actual revenue collections of at least two-thirds of, but not all, sources of revenue.</li> <li>In-year reports cover actual revenue collections of less than two-thirds of revenue sources.</li> <li>In-year reports on actual revenue collections are not released to the public.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> As Attachment I of the four-monthly report the income items are shown (allocated, in force and actual collection for four-month term). However, there are several sources – with a relatively low amount – that is aggregated and not detailed.</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>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?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes, comparisons are made for all revenue sources.</li> <li>Yes, comparisons are made for at least two-thirds of, but not all, revenue sources.</li> <li>Yes, but comparisons are made for less than two-thirds of revenue sources.</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> Although the level of detail is low in the report; when generating one's own reports via SICOIN's Internet page a greater level of detail is possible. Sources: <a href="http://sico.in.minfin.gob.gt">http://sico.in.minfin.gob.gt</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>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> The reports are prepared four-monthly as can be seen in the Ministry's website: <a href="http://www.minfin.gob.gt">www.minfin.gob.gt</a>. One may obtain information via: <a href="http://transparencia.minfin.gob.gt">http://transparencia.minfin.gob.gt</a>, without the need for a password. The reports that the Central bank (Banco de Guatemala) issues weekly and that it discloses via its Internet page, where they communicate the status of the Government's internal and external debt and that of the Banguat (Guatemala's central bank): <a href="http://www.banguat.gob.gt/inc/ver.asp?id=vmc/vmc08&amp;e=566">http://www.banguat.gob.gt/inc/ver.asp?id=vmc/vmc08&amp;e=566</a> Interview with: Zoyla Chen, Advisor to the Commission of Public Finance and Currency of the Congress of the Republic Interview with: Edwin Martinez, Sub Director of the Budget's Technical Office of the Ministry of Public Finance. Budget for the Ministry of Public Finance. <a href="http://www.minfin.gob.gt/biblioteca/liquidacion/agosto2005/index.htm">http://www.minfin.gob.gt/biblioteca/liquidacion/agosto2005/index.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>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> In the very same term reports they only mention the annual debt commitments and their codes. Via the web site <a href="http://transparencia.minfin.gob.gt/transparenciaF2004/">http://transparencia.minfin.gob.gt/transparenciaF2004/</a> one can appreciate, on a daily basis, the payments made to service debt as well as the currency in which the commitment was acquired.</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>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> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reports are released 1 month or less after the end of the period.</li> <li>Reports are released 2 months or less (but more than 1 month) after the end of the period.</li> <li>Reports are released more than 2 months after the end of the period.</li> <li>In-year reports are not released.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> The reports are received regularly before the first fifteen days of the month. Those that are not of the Central Government may have more than a two week delay.</p> <p>Interview with: Zoyla Chen, Advisor to the Commission of Public Finances and Currency of the Congress of the Republic</p> <p>Interview with: Edwin Martinez, Sub Director of the Budget's Technical Office of the Ministry of Public Finance.</p> <p>Interview with: Marco Tulio Coronado, Sub Director of Modernization for the Congress of the Republic and Former Coordinator for the Support Program for the Legislative Organism – PAL of the CIEN.</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>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> <ol 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> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u>  Recently the publication of a mid year analysis was started known as “Public Finances in the First Semester.” When we looked at the report for the year 2005, we noticed that the report does not meet the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o It does not include an up to date forecast of the current fiscal year results and for at least the two following fiscal years.</li> <li>o It does not include an update of the assumptions and financial forecasts.</li> <li>o It does not have detailed information about the government’s financial assets and liabilities, its non financial assets, the obligations associated with the payment of pensions to government employees and contingent liabilities.</li> <li>o It does not show the budgetary impact of governmental decisions or circumstances that could have an effect on the budget.</li> </ul> <p>Reports are published every four months and the closest one is the one for January through August. However, it does not include the before mentioned characteristics.  Interview with: Corina Ardon de Rosales, Director of Social Communications of the Ministry of Public Finance.  Sources: <a href="http://www.minfin.gob.gt/biblioteca/publicaciones/doc01.pdf">http://www.minfin.gob.gt/biblioteca/publicaciones/doc01.pdf</a></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b> See SiafSag, Fiscal Transparency and Sicoín.</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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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?

- a. Yes, the mid-year review includes updated expenditure estimates for the full fiscal year, providing extensive information on why estimates have changed from the original enacted levels.
- b. Yes, the mid-year review includes updated estimates of expenditure, but some details on why estimates have changed are not provided.
- c. Yes, the mid-year review includes updated estimates of expenditure, but important details on why estimates have changed are not provided.
- d. No, the mid-year review does not include updated expenditure estimates for the budget year, or the executive does not release a mid-year review of the budget.
- e. Not applicable/other (please comment).

Citation and/or comment:

**Researcher's answer to this question was "d."**

**Researcher Response to Peer Reviewer:**

- a. The document does not meet the requisites for the "mid-year" review.
- b. Expenditure updates are not generated. The figures approved by the legislature during the period, and the changes made through interinstitutional transfers are maintained. In reality it cannot be called an update of estimated expenses, taking into account that many institutions, even when taking into account transfers, under execute their budget.

**Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:** A more appropriate response to this question would be "c." There is a new document on the Governments website which reports on expenditure estimates for the budget year underway, called "Ejecucion presupuestaria MINFIN 2005"  
<http://www.minfin.gob.gt/biblioteca/publicaciones/doc05.pdf>

**Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:** See SiafSag, Fiscal Transparency and SicoIn.

**IBP Comment:** IBP editors chose answer "d" to maintain consistency with the criteria used for selecting answers across countries. The document referred to by the peer reviewer does not meet the requirements to be considered a Mid-year review.

d

<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></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b> See SiafSag, Fiscal Transparency and Sicoïn.</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></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>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> There is no legal obligation to request approval from Congress to transfer funds among administrative units. The obligation and the practice is only to inform Congress of such transfer.  For the year 2005, the amount of such transfers was: Q.3,227,686,578, which is equal to 9.95% of the approved budget.  Fuente: <a href="http://www.minfin.gob.gt/biblioteca/transferepresu2005/resumen01.pdf">http://www.minfin.gob.gt/biblioteca/transferepresu2005/resumen01.pdf</a>  Fuente: Coalition for Transparency (2004). Transparency and Budget modifications  Interview with: Zoyla Chen, Advisor to the Commission of Public Finances and Currency of the Congress of the Republic  Interview with: Edwin Martinez, Sub Director of the Budget's Technical Office of the Ministry of Public Finance.  Interview with: Marco Tulio Coronado, Sub Director of Modernization for the Congress of the Republic and Former Coordinator for the Support Program for the Legislative Organism – PAL of the CIEN.</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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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?

- a. There were no credible reported instances of procurement failing to follow an open and competitive process in practice during the past year.
- b. The procurement of goods and services frequently followed an open and competitive process in practice, but there were some reported instances of irregularities.
- c. The procurement of goods and service followed an open and competitive process in many instances, but there were significant reported examples of irregularities.
- d. No, the procurement process was not open and competitive in practice.
- e. Not applicable/other (please comment).

b

Citation and/or comment:

**Researcher's answer to this question was "b."** Currently, the Guatecompras system is used, it is an Internet portal into which all the Central Government offices enter the goods/services that they want to acquire and then the criteria through which the option elected was selected. This system was formally started in February 2004 and it is included in the State Purchasing and Hiring Law's regulations. All the purchases exceeding Q30,000.00 must be entered including quote and bid processes.

This system can be accessed through the Internet by individuals and as a matter of fact it is constantly scrutinized by the General Accounts Controller of the Office of the Commissioner for Transparency and Against Corruption, the Construction Chamber and the Chamber of Commerce. Guatecompras currently has a nonconformance module in which comments can be entered about quotes and bids with which they are not in agreement. Currently, the majority of these inconformities relate to the lack of process follow up, especially due to the inadequate use of the tool. On the other hand, it is recognized (even though it cannot be proven) that there is an important amount of operations in which the Central Government does not use Guatecompras, reason why they are divided or other mechanisms are used. However, there are no documented instances of this phenomenon, Interview with: Hugo Maul Figueroa, Presidential Commissioner for Transparency and Against Corruption.

**Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:** A more appropriate response to this question would be "b." There are significant examples of irregularities reported. The line group 500 in the budget (lines 523, 524 etc) are lines for "capital transfers (transferencias de capital)" with different motives, which are valid and legal but without control and external oversight. Of "capital transfers" 13 billion quetzales were executed between the investment and the functioning budget. This is all compiled in the document the "Compendio Financiero of the Obra Publica en Guatemala volumen 7" on the website ([http://www.pasoc.org.gt/documentos\\_es.asp?idtipo\\_documento=6](http://www.pasoc.org.gt/documentos_es.asp?idtipo_documento=6)) The investments made in 2005 which reached a level of 2,800 million quetzales, 2,400 million were executed under the 500 budget lines, which in effect means outside of the control of the procurement norms of the government, i.e. the National Procurement Law and "Guatecompras." <http://www.guatecompras.gob.gt/>

**Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:**

**IBP Comment:** IBP editors chose answer 'b' to maintain consistency with the criteria used for selecting answers across countries.

<p>99. When does the legislature typically approve supplemental budgets?</p> <ul 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> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> The complementary budgets are usually approved due to the debt level increases during the budget execution process or estimates of greater tax revenues are provided. In order to use those additional resources there is need for approval from Congress. There has been a need for budget increases in the years 2002 and 2005.  Interview with: Edwin Martinez, Sub Director of the Technical Budget Office of the Ministry of Public Finances  Interview with: Zoyla Chen, Advisor to the Commission of Public Finances and Currency of the Congress of the Republic.</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>100. In most years, how large are supplemental budget requests relative to the size of the original budget?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Supplemental budgets are generally equal to 2 percent or less of the original budget.</li> <li>b. Supplemental budgets are generally equal to more than 2 percent, but less than 5 percent, of the original budget.</li> <li>c. Supplemental budget are generally equal to more than 5 percent, but less than 10 percent, of the original budget.</li> <li>d. Supplemental budget are generally equal to 10 percent or more of the original budget, or insufficient information is available to the public regarding the amount of supplemental budgets.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> In 2005 the increase has not surpassed 1%, However, during 2002 the increase went beyond 10% of total revenues, as a result of the international sale of peace –Bonds (Bonos-Paz). In general, the complementary budgets are usually not as high. As what happened with the “Bonos-Paz”.  Sources: Settlement of the General Income and Expenditures Budget for the State and Accounting Consolidation for the 2003 and 2004 Financial Exercise.  Interview with: Edwin Martinez, Sub Director of the Technical Budget Office of the Ministry of Public Finances  Interview with: Zoyla Chen, Advisor to the Commission of Public Finances and Currency of the Congress of the Republic.</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>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> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Expenditures are approved before the funds are expended or contingency funds or other funds with no specific purposes are not included in the budget.</li> <li>b. Expenditures are approved after the funds are expended, but before the end of the fiscal year.</li> <li>c. Expenditures are approved after the end of the fiscal year, for example in the next budget.</li> <li>d. Such expenditure takes place without legislative approval.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> All expenses are approved before the funds are expended. Interview with: Edwin Martinez, Sub Director of the Technical Budget Office of the Ministry of Public Finances Interview with: Zoyla Chen, Advisor to the Commission of Public Finances and Currency of the Congress of the Republic.</p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b> Article 237 of the Constitution states: “They can not be included in the State’s General Budget of Income and Expenditure’s confidential expenditures or expenditures that should not be verified or that are not subject to an audit. This disposition applies to the budget of any institution, body, firm or decentralised or autonomous entity.”</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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<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>a. Reports are released six months or less after the end of the fiscal year.</li> <li>b. Reports are released 12 months or less (but more than six months) after the end of the fiscal year.</li> <li>c. Reports are released more than 12 months after the end of the fiscal year.</li> <li>d. The executive does not release a year-end report.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> They comply with what is stipulated in article 241 of the Constitution, which states that the Executive shall present within the first three months of the year to the "Contraloría General de Cuentas" (the highest auditing institution) the settlement (liquidation) of the annual budget. Then, the "Contraloría" (Comptroller) has 2 months to issue a report and an opinion about the settlement (liquidation), with which the report is sent to the nation's Congress.</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: 20px; height: 20px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">a</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>a. Yes, all data on actual outcomes have been audited.</li> <li>b. At least two-thirds, but not all, of the data on actual outcomes have been audited.</li> <li>c. Less than two-thirds of the data on actual outcomes have been audited.</li> <li>d. None of the data on actual outcomes has been audited, or a year-end report is not released.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> An audit sampling technique is used on actual expenditure. It analyzes 65% to 85% of expenses, due to time constraints, limited technical and human resources, and internal audits with deficient processes, which many times just complicate the analysis of the disbursements made. However, in the reports presented by the Executive branch there are no audited figures. This report is usually presented in February. These figures are audited until the General Accounts Controller presents its report on May 31 to Congress. Interview with: Julio García Ruano, Sub Director of the Auditor of the General Accounts Controller.</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: 20px; height: 20px; 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> Differences are shown by operational line items, debt and investment, but there are deficiencies in the explanation.  Source: Settlement of the General Income and Expenditures Budget of the State and the Closing Accountign for the Fiscal Exercise for 2004  <a href="http://www.minfin.gob.gt/biblioteca/liquidacion/cierre2004/index.htm">http://www.minfin.gob.gt/biblioteca/liquidacion/cierre2004/index.htm</a>  It was also useful to exploit a new modality implemented for 2005: Public finances as of December 31<sup>st</sup>/2005  <a href="http://www.minfin.gob.gt/biblioteca/eboletin/preliminar.pdf">http://www.minfin.gob.gt/biblioteca/eboletin/preliminar.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>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> Differences are shown by operational line items, debt and investment, but there are deficiencies in the explanation.  Source: Settlement of the General Income and Expenditures Budget of the State and the Closing Accountign for the Fiscal Exercise for 2004  <a href="http://www.minfin.gob.gt/biblioteca/liquidacion/cierre2004/index.htm">http://www.minfin.gob.gt/biblioteca/liquidacion/cierre2004/index.htm</a>  It was also useful to exploit a new modality implemented for 2005: Public finances as of December 31<sup>st</sup>/2005  <a href="http://www.minfin.gob.gt/biblioteca/eboletin/preliminar.pdf">http://www.minfin.gob.gt/biblioteca/eboletin/preliminar.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>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> <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> Differences are shown by operational line items, debt and investment, but there are deficiencies in the explanation.  Source: Settlement of the General Income and Expenditures Budget of the State and the Closing Accountign for the Fiscal Exercise for 2004  <a href="http://www.minfin.gob.gt/biblioteca/liquidacion/cierre2004/index.htm">http://www.minfin.gob.gt/biblioteca/liquidacion/cierre2004/index.htm</a>  It was also useful to exploit a new modality implemented for 2005: Public finances as of December 31<sup>st</sup>/2005  <a href="http://www.minfin.gob.gt/biblioteca/eboletin/preliminar.pdf">http://www.minfin.gob.gt/biblioteca/eboletin/preliminar.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>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> <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> Source: Settlement of the General Income and Expenditures Budget of the State and the Closing Accountign for the Fiscal Exercise for 2004  <a href="http://www.minfin.gob.gt/biblioteca/liquidacion/cierre2004/index.htm">http://www.minfin.gob.gt/biblioteca/liquidacion/cierre2004/index.htm</a>  It was also useful to exploit a new modality implemented for 2005: Public finances as of December 31<sup>st</sup>/2005  <a href="http://www.minfin.gob.gt/biblioteca/eboletin/preliminar.pdf">http://www.minfin.gob.gt/biblioteca/eboletin/preliminar.pdf</a></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</u></b> At any rate the Ministry of Finances does not do that but rather it is the Monetary Committee through the Central Bank of Guatemala. The minister of Finance is on that board and he has the right to vote.</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> <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> Source: Settlement of the General Income and Expenditures Budget of the State and the Closing Accountign for the Fiscal Exercise for 2004  <a href="http://www.minfin.gob.gt/biblioteca/liquidacion/cierre2004/index.htm">http://www.minfin.gob.gt/biblioteca/liquidacion/cierre2004/index.htm</a>  It was also useful to exploit a new modality implemented for 2005: Public finances as of December 31<sup>st</sup>/2005  <a href="http://www.minfin.gob.gt/biblioteca/eboletin/preliminar.pdf">http://www.minfin.gob.gt/biblioteca/eboletin/preliminar.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;">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> <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> Source: Settlement of the General Income and Expenditures Budget of the State and the Closing Accountign for the Fiscal Exercise for 2004  <a href="http://www.minfin.gob.gt/biblioteca/liquidacion/cierre2004/index.htm">http://www.minfin.gob.gt/biblioteca/liquidacion/cierre2004/index.htm</a>  It was also useful to exploit a new modality implemented for 2005: Public finances as of December 31<sup>st</sup>/2005  <a href="http://www.minfin.gob.gt/biblioteca/eboletin/preliminar.pdf">http://www.minfin.gob.gt/biblioteca/eboletin/preliminar.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;">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> <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> Source: Settlement of the General Income and Expenditures Budget of the State and the Closing Accountign for the Fiscal Exercise for 2004  <a href="http://www.minfin.gob.gt/biblioteca/liquidacion/cierre2004/index.htm">http://www.minfin.gob.gt/biblioteca/liquidacion/cierre2004/index.htm</a>  It was also useful to exploit a new modality implemented for 2005: Public finances as of December 31<sup>st</sup>/2005  <a href="http://www.minfin.gob.gt/biblioteca/eboletin/preliminar.pdf">http://www.minfin.gob.gt/biblioteca/eboletin/preliminar.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>
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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?

- a. Yes, extensive information on the actual outcome for extra-budgetary funds is presented, including both a narrative discussion and quantitative estimates.
- b. Yes, information is presented, highlighting key issues, but some details are excluded.
- c. Yes, some information is presented, but it lacks important details.
- d. No, information is not presented on extra-budgetary funds, or such a report is not released.
- e. Not applicable/other (please comment).

c

Citation and/or comment: Only the amount executed of the allocated amount that the Government destines to these budget items is included, but there is no detail in respect of the goals proposed or reached, or the complete budget for these line items, due to the privative nature that they have. In general, the information is very limited.

Source: Settlement of the General Income and Expenditures Budget of the State and the Closing Accountign for the Fiscal Exercise for 2004

<http://www.minfin.gob.gt/biblioteca/liquidacion/cierre2004/index.htm>

It was also useful to exploit a new modality implemented for 2005: Public finances as of December 31<sup>st</sup>/2005

<http://www.minfin.gob.gt/biblioteca/eboletin/preliminar.pdf>

**Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:**

**Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:** This does not imply that such funds are not audited in accordance to what is stipulated constitutionally (through the National Controller, see corresponding decree)

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?

- a. Final audited accounts are released to the public six months or less after the end of the fiscal year.
- b. Final audited accounts are released 12 months or less (but more than six months) after the end of the fiscal year.
- c. Final audit accounts are released more than 12 months, but within 24 months of the end of the fiscal year.
- d. Final audited accounts are not completed within 24 months after the end of the fiscal year or they are not released to the public.
- e. Not applicable/other (please comment).

a

Citation and/or comment: By the Constitution itself and practice, it is delivered on May 31<sup>st</sup> every year.

Source: Political Constitution of the Republic (Constitución Política de la República).

An audit sampling technique is used on the disbursements executed. It analyzes 65% to 85% of expenses, due to time constraints, limited technical and human resources, and internal audits with deficient processes, which many times complicate the analysis of the disbursements made. However, in the reports presented by the Executive branch there are no audited figures. This report is usually presented in February. These figures are audited until the General Accounts Controller presents its report on May 31 to Congress.

Interview with: Julio García Ruano, Sub Director of the Auditor of the General Accounts Controller.

**Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:**

**Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:** The sampling is one, among many, of the audit techniques and whose use DOES NOT MEAN THAT A FISCAL YEAR HAS NOT BEEN AUDITED. As proposed in the comment it gives the impression that the analyst considers that the fiscal accounting year is not audited, if 100% of the accounts are not reviewed and that would not be true or realistic. At least not in Guatemala.

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?

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

b

Citation and/or comment: An audit sampling technique is used on the disbursements made. It analyzes 65% to 85% of expenses, due to time constraints, limited technical and human resources, and internal audits with deficient processes, which many times complicate the analysis of the disbursements made. The expenditure is evaluated throughout the year via sampling. Not only do they evaluate the accounts settlement, but also, throughout the year the financial processes and the internal audits of the institutions. The step towards evaluating the quality of public spending is still pending.

The audit of the information presented in the report that is handed to the Congress of the Republic is not formally followed. What can occur is that there can be counter-reviews as part of procedure or on a per request basis pursuant to the analysis of specific data or general data of the institution, in the event that there are potential findings. But the end is not to thoroughly analyze the executed budget. Interview with: Julio García Ruano, Sub Director of the Auditor of the General Accounts Controller.

**Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:**

**Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:** Ibid.

<p>114. Do year-end audit reports of departmental expenditure that are released to the public include an executive summary?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All of these audit reports include an executive summary.</li> <li>Most of these reports include an executive summary.</li> <li>Some of these reports include an executive summary.</li> <li>None of these audit reports include an executive summary, or such reports are not released to the public.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> An executive summary is included. In terms of access to the document it is worth mentioning the following. The General Accounts Controller gives a copy of the audits carried out with a letter to the Comptroller's Office for the Comptroller's approval or the approval from the Deputy in charge. This process can take several weeks. Another way to acquire the audit document is through an information request through a letter to the President of the Public Finance and Currency Commission of the Congress of the Republic. Usually the information is given on a CD because of the large amount of information. There is no massive information mechanism, but rather it is through the information that the Finance Commission gives the media. In general, getting a printed version of the document is difficult. A digital version is much easier and is available, even though approval for its acquisition may not immediate. Source: General Accounts Controller (2004), "Audit to the Liquidation of the State's Income and Expenditures Budget, fiscal period from January 1 to December 31, 2004"</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>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> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>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>No, the executive may remove the head of the SAI without the final consent of the judiciary or legislature.</li> <li>Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ol> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> The Political Constitution in article 233 stipulates that the Controller may only be removed by Congress of the Republic in cases of negligence, crime and lack of suitability.</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>116. Does the Supreme Audit Institution release to the public audits of extra-budgetary funds?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, the SAI releases to the public audits of all extra-budgetary funds.</li> <li>b. Yes, the SAI releases audits representing at least two-thirds of, but not all, extra-budgetary funds.</li> <li>c. Yes, the SAI releases audits representing less than two-thirds of all extra-budgetary funds.</li> <li>d. No, the SAI does not release to the public audits of extra-budgetary funds, or it does not audit such funds.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u></p> <p><b>Researcher's answer to this question was "c."</b> There is sampling made of these institutions, both in their financial transfers as well as in their financial processes. The report on the decentralized and autonomous departments (dependencies) is handed in at the same time as the central government's, on May 31<sup>st</sup>.</p> <p><b>Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:</b></p> <p><b>Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:</b> The comment contradicts the answer marked that should be "a."</p> <p><b>IBP Comment:</b> IBP editors chose answer "c" to maintain consistency with the criteria used for selecting answers across countries.</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">c</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> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. The SAI has full discretion to decide which audits it wishes to undertake.</li> <li>b. The SAI has significant discretion, but faces some limitations.</li> <li>c. The SAI has some discretion, but faces considerable limitations.</li> <li>d. The SAI has no discretion to decide which audits it wishes to undertake.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> The audits may be carried upon the request of an interested party on the subject (addressing a letter to the office of the Controller) and awaiting response to such. The other way is acting ex-officio and depends on the discretion of the Controller or the Directors of the Departments in the Controllershship.</p> <p>Interview with: Julio Garcia Ruano, Sub Directors of the Auditing Office of the General Accounts Controller</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>

118. Who determines the budget of the Supreme Audit Institution?

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

c

Citation and/or comment: The organic law of the Controller's Office stipulates that the annual budget of such office may not be less than 0.70% of ordinary state revenue.

Additionally, beyond that amount, the Ministry of Public Finances through the Technical Budget Directorate ("Dirección Técnica del Presupuesto") sets the budget ceiling for said institution. However, the budget in the end is approved by Congress, of the Republic who can increase or cut back the General Controller Account Budget.

Interview with: Zoyla Chen, Advisor to the Commission of Public Finances and Currency of the Congress of the Republic.

Interview with: Julio Garcia Ruano, Sub Directors of the Auditing Office of the General Accounts Controller.

**Diferencias entre el anteproyecto de Presupuesto y el proyecto de Presupuesto  
Millones de Quetzales**

**Differences between the draft project for the Budget and the Budget project in  
Million of Quetzales**

Institution	Requested 2003	Recommended 2003	Percent Difference
Contraloría General de Cuentas	140.7	126.3	10%
	Requested 2005	Recommended 2005	Percent Difference
	160.6	121.8	24%

Source: Elaboración propia con base en datos of the DTP del Ministerio de Finanzas.

Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:

Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:

<p>119. Does a committee of the legislature view and scrutinize the audit reports?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes, all audit reports are scrutinized.</li> <li>b. Yes, most audit reports are scrutinized.</li> <li>c. Yes, some audit reports are scrutinized.</li> <li>d. No, audit reports are not scrutinized.</li> <li>e. Not applicable/other (please comment).</li> </ul> <p><u>Citation and/or comment:</u> Yes, the Commission on Public Finances and Currency formally reviews them, and they are in charge of approving or rejecting the budget execution of each State institution. Besides, the Ethics and Suitability Commission analyzes the findings in Congress if there is evidence of corruption. In relation to the result of these reviews, there is a ruling published in the Diario de Centroamericano press, which is easily accessible.  Interview with: Edwin Martinez, Sub Director of the Technical Buget Office of the Ministry of Finances  Interview with: Lionel Lira, advisor to Deputy Nineth Montenegro.  Interview with: Zoyla Chen, Advisor to the Comission of Public Finances and Currency of the Congress of the Republic.  Interview with: Julio Garcia Ruano, Sub Director of the Auditing Office of the General Accounts Controller</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>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> Each department of the Executive branch only present letters where they show progress based on the audit findings of the Controller. Said letters are sent to the Controller and the Public Finances and Currency Commission of the Congress of the Republic, they are not made public.  Interview with: Zoyla Chen, Advisor to the Comission of Public Finances and Currency of the Congress of the Republic.  Interview with: Julio Garcia Ruano, Sub Directors of the Auditing Office of the General Accounts Controller</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>

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?

- a. Yes, a comprehensive report is released regularly that tracks actions taken by the executive to address audit recommendations.
- b. Yes, a report is released, covering key audit recommendations, but some details are excluded.
- c. Yes, a report is released, but it lacks important details.
- d. No, a report is not produced or it is prepared for internal purposes only (please specify).
- e. Not applicable/other (please comment).

d

Citation and/or comment: There is no public report showing in detail the decisions taken by the Executive to implement the recommendations made by the audit. However, both the Controller and the Commission on Public Finances and Currency of the Congress maintain a record of the audit findings and which have been resolved. The Controller keeps such control because if the finding continues it involves a fine. The commission maintains such control because that determines whether or not they approve the execution of such unit. In respect of this question, the only ruling related to the review of reports is mentioned in question 119. After such report is made, there is no ruling to disclose the solution o the findings.

**Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:**

**Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:**

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).

d

Citation and/or comment: When the existence of secret expenditure has become known these are not reported to legislators. Currently the existence of this type of expenses has not become known.

Source: General Accounts Controller (2004), "Audit to the settlement of the State's Income and Expenditures Budget, fiscal period from January 1 to December 31, 2004"

Interview with: Lionel Lira, advisor to the M.P. (Diputada) Nineth Montenegro.

Interview with: Julio García Ruano, Subdirector de Auditoría of the Contraloría General de Cuentas.

**Researcher Response to Peer Reviewer:** The peer reviewer did not adequately understand the comment. The comment refers to the fact that, when secret expenditures have been disclosed to the public (via the media) including their ill use, the information was not in the hands of legislators prior to the disclosure. But because of that, answer "d" was chosen, since the information regarding such funds was unknown to legislators.

**Peer Reviewer ONE Comment:**

**Peer Reviewer TWO Comment:** The comment is inconsistent with the answer marked (d) and besides it is false: The Constitutional court limited what was considered secret or of national security but did not exclude the existence of such expenditures that, as in the case of weapon purchases or intelligence expenditures, are still secret and are not audited or reported to anyone at any level (Different from the Defense chiefs of staff).