Sources of International Budget Transparency Standards

IBP’s Open Budget Survey

IMF’s Code of Good Practices on Fiscal Transparency

Public Expenditure and Finance Accountability (PEFA) Initiative (Secretariat hosted at World Bank)

OECD’s Best Practices for Fiscal Transparency
KEY BUDGET TRANSPARENCY PRINCIPLES

**COMPREHENSIVENESS:**
8 key budget documents
Required content for each document

**TIMELINESS:**
Time frame within which each document should be released to the public

**PUBLIC AVAILABILITY:**
How is the document made available to the public
COMPREHENSIVENESS: 8 KEY BUDGET DOCUMENTS

- Pre-Budget Statement
- Executive’s Budget Proposal
- Enacted Budget
- Citizens Budget
- In-Year Report
- Mid-Year Review
- Year-End Report
- Audit Report

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# Timeliness: Time Frame for Public Release

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Budget Document</th>
<th>Acceptable time frame for publication</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pre-Budget Statement</td>
<td>At least 1 month before the Executive’s Budget Proposal is submitted to the legislature</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Executive’s Budget Proposal</td>
<td>While the legislature is still considering it and before it is approved / enacted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enacted Budget</td>
<td>No later than 3 months after approval by the legislature</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Citizens Budget</td>
<td>Same time frame as the document that it corresponds to</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In-Year Report</td>
<td>No later than 3 months after the reporting period ends</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mid-Year Review</td>
<td>No later than 3 months after the reporting period ends (i.e., 3 months after the mid-point of the fiscal year)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year-End Report</td>
<td>No later than 12 months after the end of the fiscal year to which it corresponds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Audit Report</td>
<td>No later than 18 months after the end of the fiscal year to which it corresponds</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
PUBLIC AVAILABILITY DEFINED

Documents that are:

- Published on the website of the public agency issuing the document
- Within the time frame specified by international standards
- Available to all citizens free of charge

If document meets all criteria, it is considered publicly available (transparency gold standard)
OTHER RATINGS OF PUBLIC AVAILABILITY

- Document is produced and made available to the public
- But not within the required timeframe
- Document is produced for internal use only
- And not made available to the public
- Document is produced and made available to the public within the timeframe
- But only in hard copy (or in soft copy but not online)
- Document is not produced

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