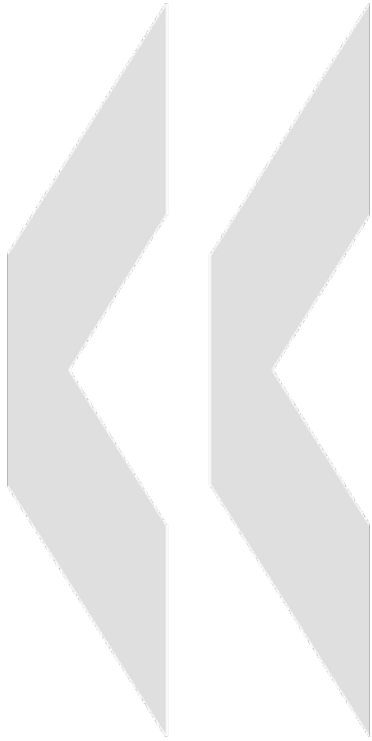




OCDE ORGANISATION DE COOPÉRATION ET
DE DÉVELOPPEMENT ÉCONOMIQUES



Budgeting in OECD Countries:

Results and Concepts from the
OECD Budget Practices and
Procedures Database

**Presentation to the annual meeting
of Senior Budget Officials 2009,
Paris**

**Ian Hawkesworth, Budgeting and Public
Expenditures Division, GOV**

Agenda

- Purpose of database
- Coverage and content of database
- 2009 Publication
- Selected topics
- Next steps

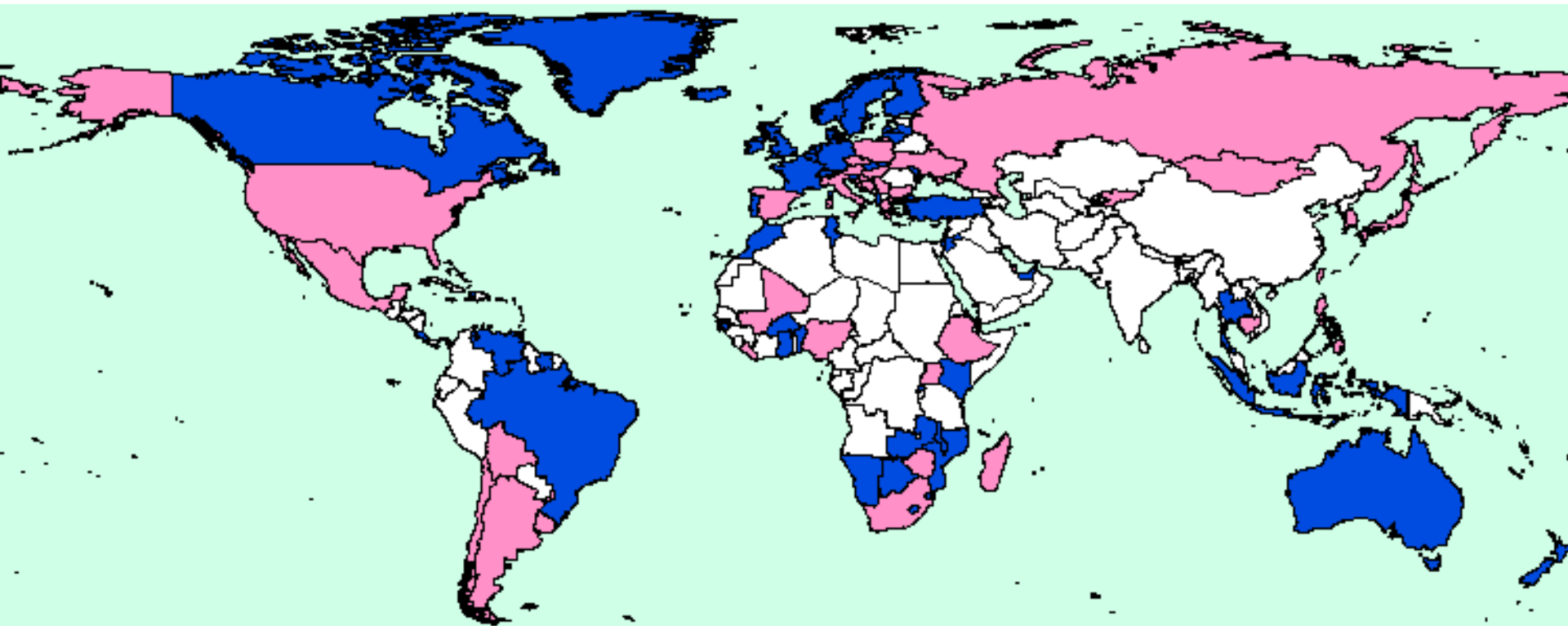
Purpose of database

- To allow budget practitioners, academics and civil society to compare and contrast national budget practices and procedures
- To learn from peers and share innovations

Rich data for cross-country learning

- Produced by the OECD, e.g.
 - OECD Budget and Public Sector Reviews (various years)
 - Fiscal futures, budget reforms and their effects: What can be learned (Anderson and Sheppard, 2009)
 - The legislature's budget role: No longer fully dependent, not yet independent (Schick, 2009)
 - Value of a nonpartisan, independent, objective analytic unit to the legislative role in budget preparation (Anderson, 2008)
- Used by other institutions, e.g.
 - Creative accounting, fiscal transparency and sovereign risk premia (European Central Bank, Netherlands National Bank)
 - Budget Institutions and Fiscal Outcomes: Ten years of enquiry on fiscal matters at the research department (IADB)
 - Public Finances in the EMU (European Commission)

Coverage of database



■ Senior Civil Servant
■ Political Appointee
□ No Data

Q. 2. Who is the head of the Central Budget Authority (i.e. the highest official whose primary responsibility is the budget?)

Data available on www.oecd.org/gov/budget/database

Content of database

- **30 OECD countries + 67 non-members from the rest of the world**
- **89 questions covering the budget cycle**
- **Data is “owned” by member countries**
- **Available on-line free of charge**

Database timeline

Jan-Apr: Data collected on-line in English, French, Spanish

Initial data cleaning

May: Follow up at SBO (w/ additional verification of responses in Summer 2007)

Sept: Publication of the results on-line (in English)

Jan-Oct: CABRI/OECD and World Bank/OECD surveys of non-OECD member countries

Dec: Start of second wave of data cleaning in connection with 2009 publication (draft, questions)

Jan-Apr: Clarification of countries responses to 2007 survey

June: Finalisation of countries responses : **deadline 15 June**

Fall: New 2007 results published online

Release of publication

A publication describing the results for the 30 OECD member countries will be published in the fall

- Ch 1. Institutional framework
- Ch 2. Budget formulation
- Ch 3. Performance information in the budget process
- Ch 4. Budget approval
- Ch 5. Budget execution, flexibility & autonomy
- Ch 6. Reporting & audit



Budgeting in OECD Countries



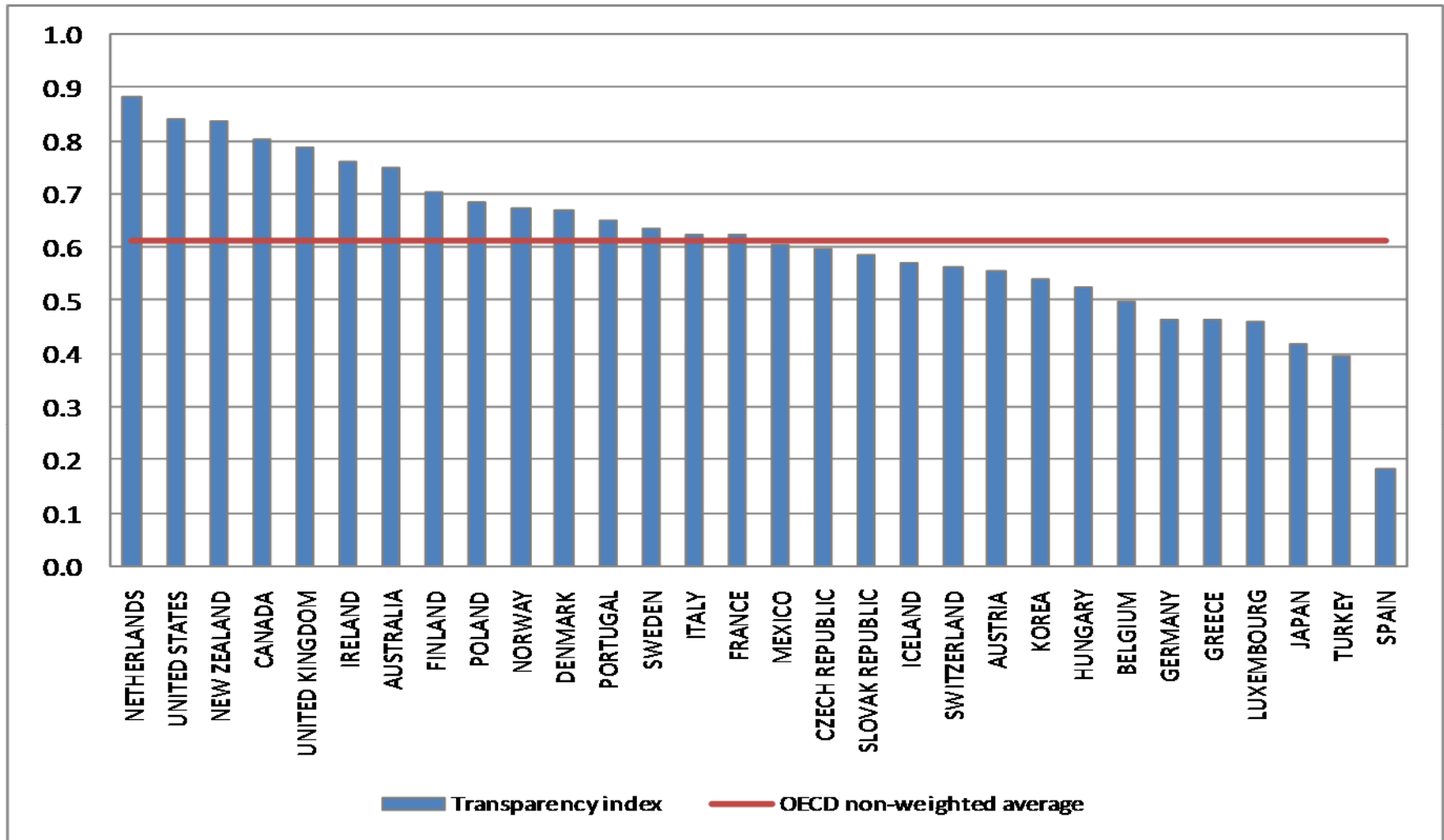
Budgeting in OECD Countries

Selected topics

- **Institutional arrangements perceived to further sound budget outcomes**
 - Transparency
 - Medium term perspectives
 - More autonomy to managers
 - A strengthened focus on the use of performance information
- **Presented in the budgeting publication, also replicated in Government at a Glance**
- **Indexes represents calculations by OECD staff members with the purpose of furthering discussion**
- **One size does not fit all**

Budget transparency

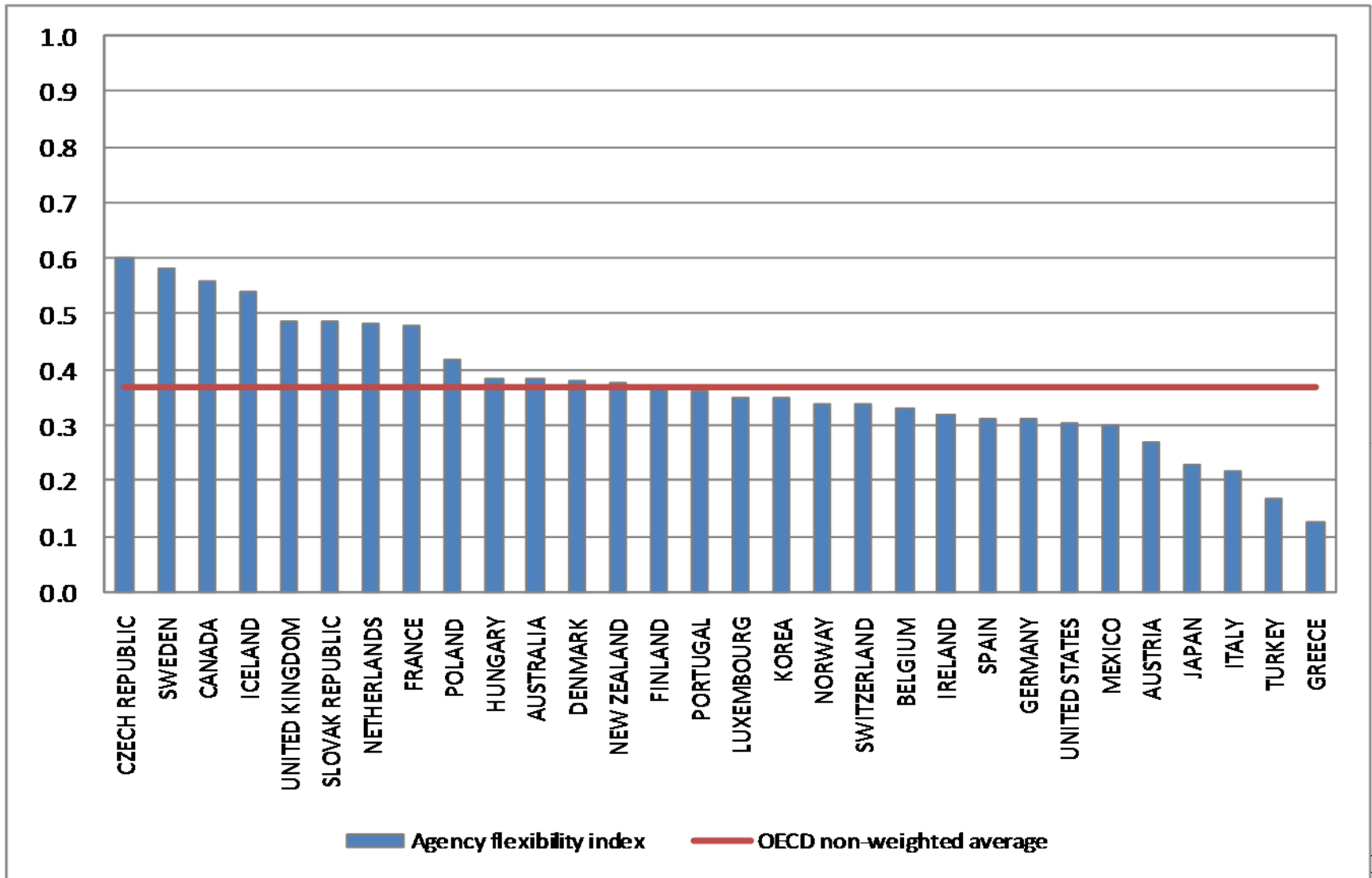
Degree to which all relevant fiscal information is disclosed in a timely & systematic manner in the budget documentation



Index represents calculations by staff members with the purpose of furthering discussion. Consequently results may change in light of input from member countries.

Medium-term perspective

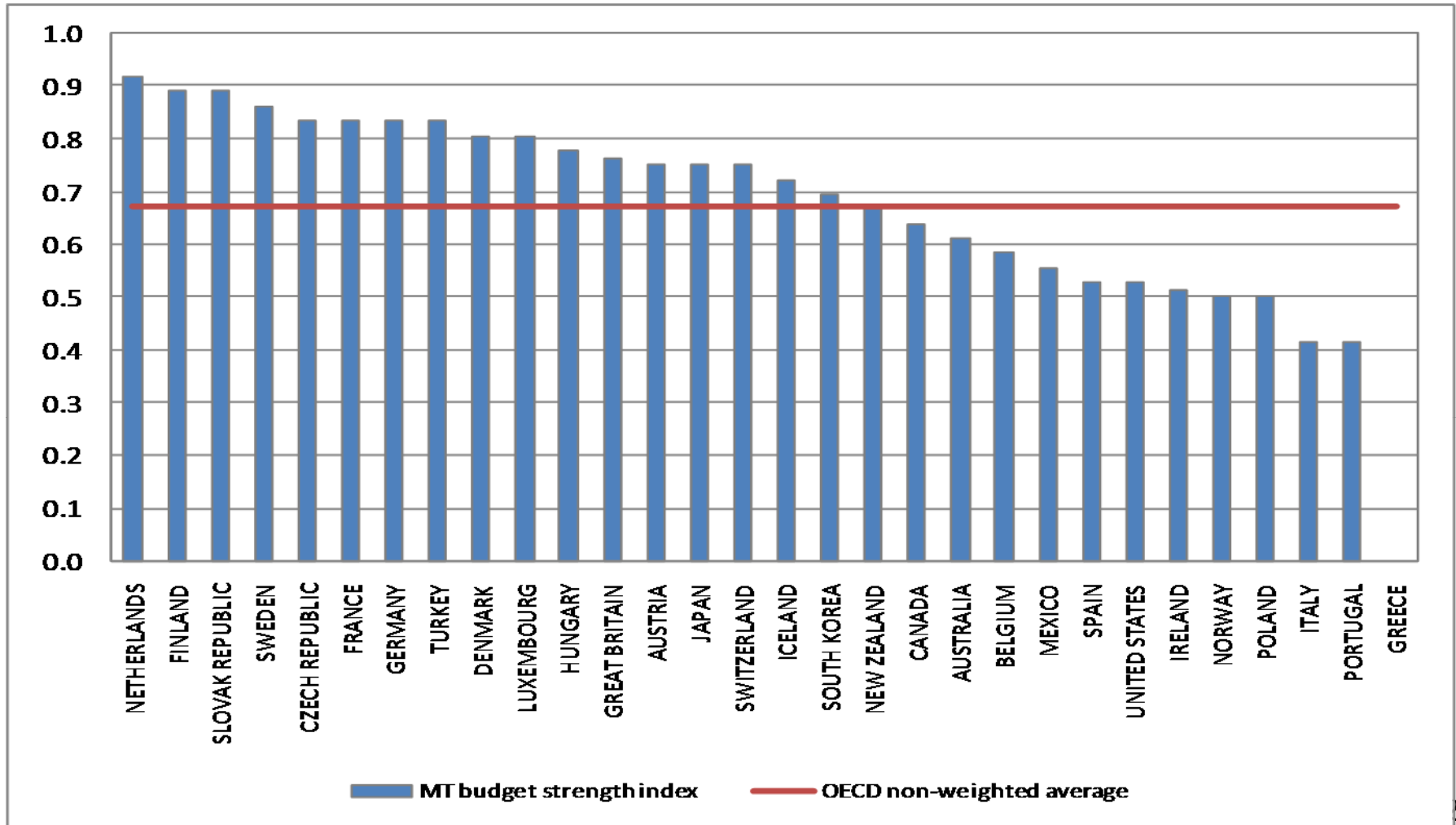
The strength of the medium-term perspective used in OECD countries



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Executive agency flexibility index

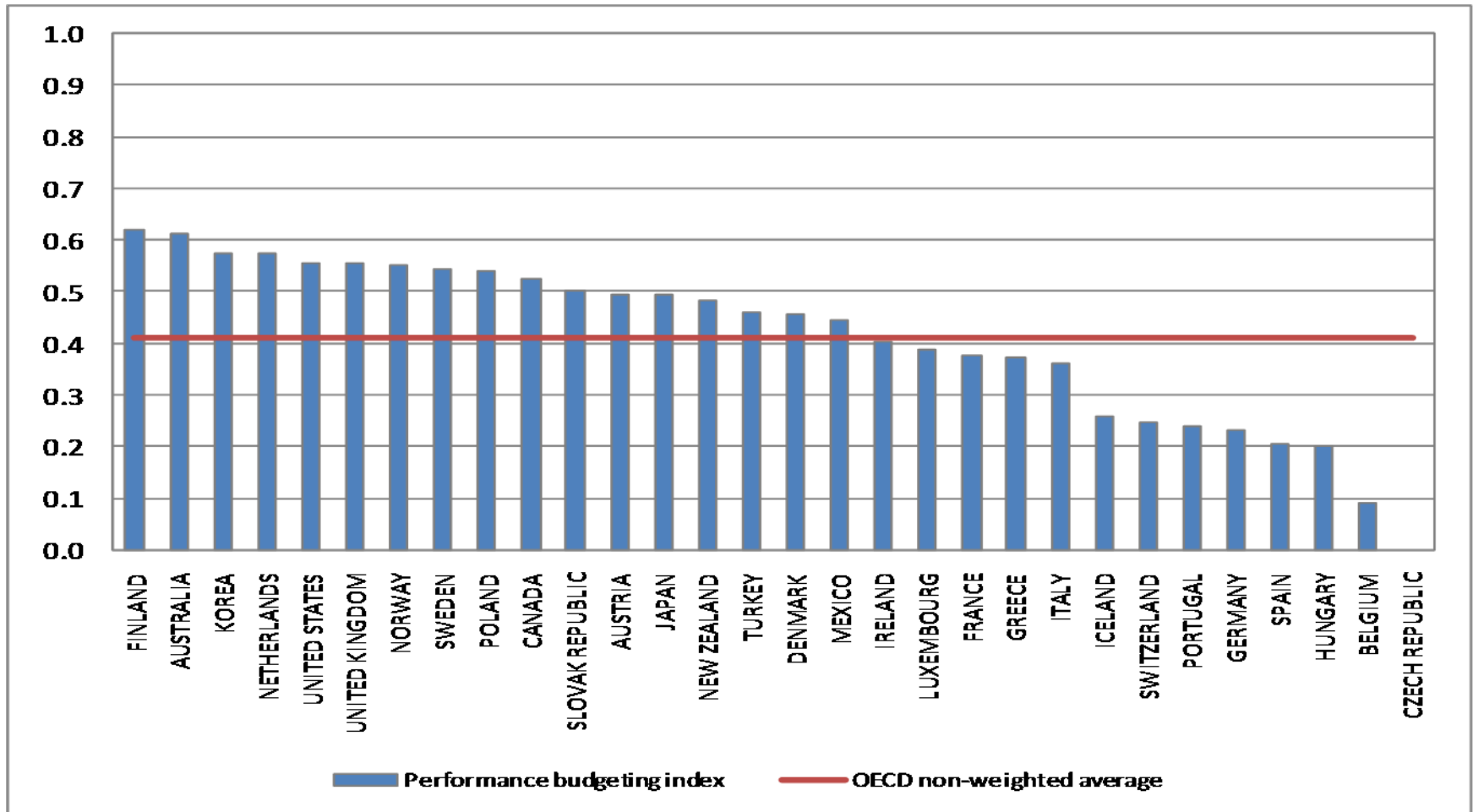
Degree of managerial flexibility in deciding on how to use various inputs in pursuit of mandated goals



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Performance information

Degree to which countries have established government-wide systems & frameworks for the development & use of performance information in the budget process



Index represents calculations by staff members with the purpose of furthering discussion. Consequently results may change in light of input from member countries.

Next steps

- Finalising publication with updated information
- Changed data regarding 2007 will be updated on line (i.e. database 2007 version 2)
- New iterations of OECD budget survey, frequency to be determined
- Surveys on selected budgetary topics