

# Public Management

# Public Management

## Budget Practices and Procedures

### Purpose

The goal of this survey is the regular updating of a database on Budget Practices and Procedures in over 60 countries (including all OECD countries) to meet the mandate of the GOV Committee and of the Senior Budget Officials group. The data collected will enable these groups to compare and contrast national practices and provide for well-informed analysis and quantitative measures. It will lead to a better understanding of budget practices and aid in the development of common practices or standards. The data collected will allow the OECD as well as other interested parties to carry out substantial analyses of budgeting issues.

### Objectives and outputs

The database provides comparable information on nearly 300 aspects of the budget formulation, approval, implementation and audit phases in each OECD member country. The database is a fundamental resource that forms the basis for the OECD's analytical work. The collection of this data is unique. Apart from some targeted and limited country surveys, for the most part this data does not exist. The budget database provides a unique and comprehensive resource for government practitioners, Parliaments, academics, international organisations and non-government organisations, ranging from international associations to advocacy and grassroots groups. The data collected will enable these groups to compare and contrast national practices and provide for well-informed analysis and quantitative measures. It will lead to a better understanding of budget practices and aid in the development of common practices or standards. The data collected will allow the OECD as well as other interested parties to carry out substantial analyses of budgeting issues.

### Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Argentina, Asia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Korea, Mexico, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Other, Peru, Portugal, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, United Kingdom, United States, Uruguay, Venezuela

### Databases

Budget Practice and Procedure Survey

### Main Developments for 2006

#### General aspects:

The database is currently being revised and updated. Preliminary results will be provided in the course of 2006 and will be made available to the public on the OECD web site.

# Public Management

## E-Government

### Purpose

The purpose of the activity is to help strengthen statistical capacity in support to the e-government project areas of work and to the preparation of the e-government peer reviews.

### Objectives and outputs

The objective of the activity is to support the statistical analysis in the area of e-government statistics, monitoring and evaluating e-government and the business case for e-government. In particular, the activity aims to assess the existence of a correlation between agency and ministry characteristics (i.e. size, existence of an e-government plan, indicated priorities) and the level of progress in implementing e-government initiatives.

### Databases

OECD E-government Database

### Main Developments for 2006

#### General aspects:

Updated questionnaire and use for a larger sample of countries.

# Public Management

## Management in Government

### Purpose

To assess the feasibility of developing comparable data and indicators of good government and efficient public services, and to provide robust empirics with which to assess the impact of public management reforms, and progress made in their implementation.

### Objectives and outputs

The project feasibility report was presented to the Public Governance Committee in November 2005. The report recommends a phased approach towards gathering better data on efficient government and public administration. It proposes publishing all available data in annual working papers in 2006, 2007 and 2008, building towards the suggested first publication of "Government at a Glance" in late 2009.

A set of key indicators of good government and efficient public services would provide easy access to data for OECD member countries, which would allow:

- empirically grounded assessment of national reforms and other countries' reforms;
- more specific measurement of the changes introduced;
- assessment of the internal consistency of public management reforms;
- greater focus in public management discussions;
- improvements in policy design and evaluation.

GOV would utilise these data in its own work programme by improving the quality and depth of its peer reviews, ensuring that budget, regulatory, territorial and HRM reviews are informed by relevant metrics and facilitating the movement towards an integrated set of public management or governance reviews.

An initial assessment of available data has been undertaken, supported by a comprehensive literature review. Using the Quality Framework for OECD statistical activities, the review of existing data has assessed the major sources of cross-country data concerned with inputs, processes, outputs and outcomes in government (central/federal government, state governments and local governments) at the whole-of-government level, in key sectors (education, health care, law and order and public administration) and in some central agencies.

Sources include GOV's own databases, National Accounts, OECD-wide databases such as the Labour Force Surveys, Health and Education, and other sources outside the OECD. The initial assessment served to determine which data could be appropriate and to engage in a dialogue with data owners. A modest set of new data has been identified which would complement the available data at low cost.

The project has been reviewed thoroughly within the OECD, and GOV has held preliminary discussions with national statisticians and sectoral specialists in public management in a number of countries and with Eurostat. Over time, some aspects of the work might also take into account the

interest of the IMF and the World Bank in ensuring consistency in key metrics between OECD member countries and non-member countries.

## **Main Developments for 2006**

### **General aspects:**

In 2006 the work will continue in preparing data for Working Paper 1 edition.

An informal Government Indicators Editorial Group, comprising members of the PGC, interested government officials and senior researchers, and representatives of other OECD Directorates, with special interest subgroups to provide technical guidance concerning the proposed discussion of output and outcome measurements, has been created to offer guidance on the Working Papers and on the eventual contents of "Government at a Glance".

# Public Management

## Public Sector Employment, Pay and Salaries

### Purpose

Collect statistical data on public sector employment, pay and salaries for member countries.

### Objectives and outputs

Assemble statistical data regarding public sector employment, pay and salaries on a biennial basis, in order to elaborate the main indicators and to gain a comprehensive overview of the evolution of the public sector.

### Databases

Public Sector Employment, Pay and Salaries

### Main Developments for 2006

#### General aspects:

A new survey will be launched.