

Strengthening technical capabilities of civil society organisations on budget process and documentation



A transparent budget system contributes to effective and equitable public financial management. However, transparency alone is not enough to improve accountability. How does transparency facilitate a more effective accountability? There is already strong evidence showing that participation fosters better accountability. This workshop will look at the relationship between transparency and participation with the aim of improving accountability in Guinea. The involvement of civil society organisations (CSOs) is important for budget allocation, oversight and budget monitoring as well as for budget auditing and evaluation. In other African countries, the Ministry of Finance and the National Assembly work with CSOs throughout the budget cycle. What are the required capacities for CSOs to be partners in the budget process?

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4 March 2019

08:30 – 09:00	Registration and Coffee
09:00 – 09:30	<p>Welcome Remarks</p> <p>Mr. Ismaël DIOUBATÉ (Minister of Budget, Republic of Guinea)</p> <p>Michael Castro, CABRI</p>
<p>Session 1</p> <p>09:30 – 10:45</p>	<p>Transparency, participation, and accountability: Why is it important to collaborate with CSOs?</p> <p>Political will to improve budget transparency, accessibility of budget documents, and citizen engagement offer different stakeholders an opportunity to work towards a common goal.</p> <p><i>Objective: By the end of the session, participants will better understand why transparency, accountability, and participation are important to improve governance, service delivery, efficient resource allocation.</i></p> <p>Facilitator: Michael Castro, CABRI</p> <p>Panellists:</p> <p>Abraham KAMANO, Director, Budget Directorate, Republic of Guinea</p> <p>Mireille CODJOVI, Budget Directorate, Benin</p> <p>Dieudonné HONSOU, Social Watch Benin</p> <p>Nicholas A Lekule, Manager, Policy and Budget Analysis, Policy Forum, Tanzania</p>
10:45 – 11:15	Tea break and group photo
<p>Session 2</p> <p>11:15 – 13:00</p>	<p>Budget formulation and execution: the budget process in Guinea</p> <p>Objective: By the end of the session, participants will better understand the importance of a well-capacitated civil society to improve accountability and participation in Guinea.</p>

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	Presentation: Abdoulaye BARRY, Budget Directorate, Guinea
13:00 - 14:00	Lunch
Session 3 14:00 – 16:50	<p>How can CSOs work with the Ministry of Finance and the Legislature: the case of Benin</p> <p>The Budget Directorate of Benin will present their ongoing efforts to improve the accessibility of budget documents and participation in Benin.</p> <p>Objective: By the end of the session, participants will better understand the importance of a well-capacitated civil society to improve accountability and participation in Benin.</p> <p>Presentation: Mireille Codjovi, Budget Directorate of Benin and Dieudonné HONSOU, Social Watch Benin</p> <p><i>Tea break during the session</i></p>
16:50 – 17:00	<p>Closing of first day</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Summary of discussions (Michael Castro, CABRI)

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5 March 2019

08:30 – 09 :00	Coffee
09:00 – 09:15	Recap of first day (Michael Castro, CABRI)
Session 4 09:15 – 11:00	<p>How can CSOs work with the Ministry of Finance and the Legislature: the case of Tanzania</p> <p><i>Objective: By the end of the session, participants will better understand the history of this civil society network, how can CSOs work with a Ministry of Finance and Legislature, and how can CSOs start working on budget issues.</i></p> <p>Presentation: Nicholas A Lekule, Manager, Policy and Budget Analysis, Policy Forum, Tanzania</p>
11:00 – 11:30	Tea break
Session 5 11:30 – 13:15	<p>Communication Strategies: Tools and Challenges for governments and civil society</p> <p><i>Objective: By the end of the session, participants will possess tools to improve communication between the government, civil society and the general public.</i></p> <p>Presentation and Facilitation: Ludovic Froget, CABRI</p>
13 :15 – 14:15	Lunch
Session 6 14:15 – 17:00	<p>Budget documents: budget cycle, content and how to analyse budget documents</p> <p>During the session, CSOs will better understand the budget cycle, contents of budget documents, and how they can use this information</p> <p>Facilitator: Michael Castro, CABRI</p> <p><i>Tea break during the session</i></p>

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6 mars 2019

08:30 – 09 :00	Coffee
09:00 – 09:15	Recap of second day (Ludovic Froget, CABRI)
Session 7 09:15 – 12:00	<p>Information Needs: How to improve budget documents</p> <p>This session is meant to better understand what civil society would like to understand from the budget. Participants will review the Citizen’s Guide to the Budget and other budget documents to determine if the information supplied by the government is in line with they require. Both the government and civil society will identify actions to improve budget documentation and robust relationship between the government and civil society.</p> <p>Moderator : Michael Castro (CABRI) et la Direction Nationale du Budget</p> <p><i>Tea break during the session</i></p>
12:00 – 12:30	Closing of workshop and Lunch

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