

3RD ANNUAL GLOBAL NETWORK OF PARLIAMENTARY BUDGET OFFICES ASSEMBLY
OTTAWA, CANADA, 7-12 JUNE 2015

SESSION 5 – REPORT ON THE 7TH ANNUAL MEETING
OF OECD PARLIAMENTARY BUDGET OFFICIALS AND
INDEPENDENT FISCAL INSTITUTIONS HELD IN VIENNA,
16-17 APRIL 2015

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OECD SBO Network of Parliamentary Budget Officials & Independent Fiscal Institutions (PBO)

Who

The PBO is a diverse network of specialised professional staff from:

- Independent fiscal institutions (independent parliamentary budget offices and fiscal councils)
- in-house parliamentary budget research units
- parliamentary budget or finance committees

Academics and representatives from other international organisations (IMF, WB) also participate in PBO discussions.

Our Work

Overview

The PBO network focuses on improving scrutiny of the budget process and the evolving role of independent fiscal institutions (IFIs). The PBO:

- Debates substantive budgeting issues.
- Shares practical experiences on working methods.
- Profiles new institutions and significant changes in the mandates of older institutions.
- Identifies good practices and contributes to standard setting (e.g. the OECD Principles for Independent Fiscal Institutions).



The Global Network of Parliamentary Budget Officers

Who

- Established in June 2013, the GNPBO is envisioned to be a community of practitioners that brings together staff of PBOs, parliamentary secretariat, and external research units doing budget analysis and supporting parliamentary engagement in the budget process.
- Also open to individuals and institutions that have an interest in strengthening the capacity of PBOs (e.g. knowledge experts, and international organizations like the World Bank and OECD)

Our Work

- Convene and share knowledge around the design, functions, and practices of PBOs
- Help members to successfully implement tools, methods and practices that have been implemented successfully in other countries in their own jurisdiction



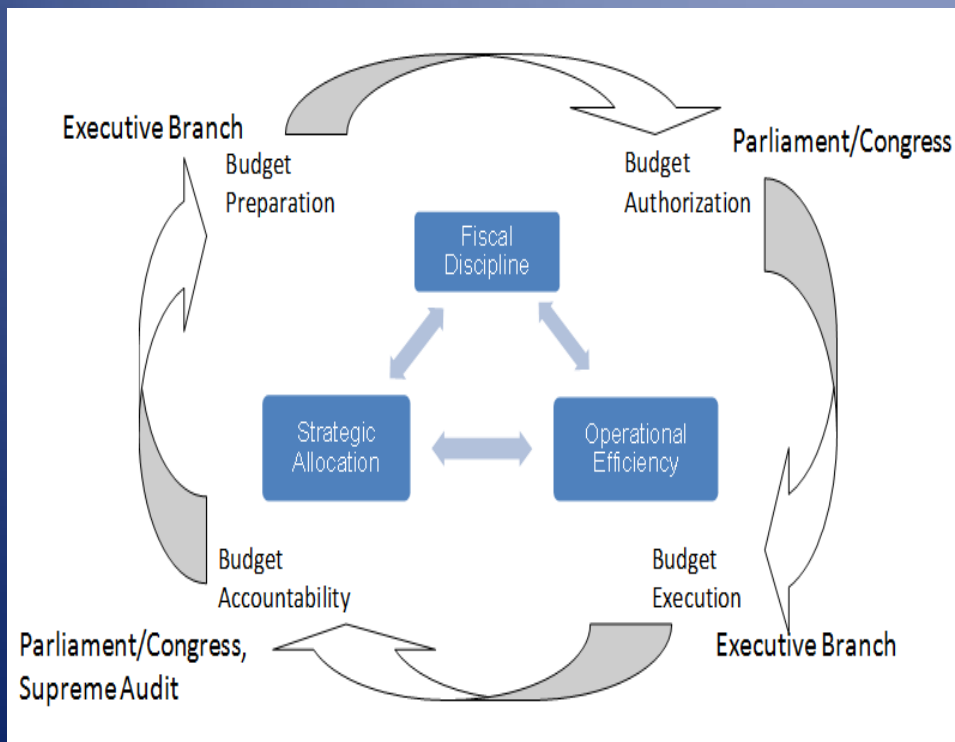
The ties that bind



All countries have common budget institutions: processes, organizations, norms and traditions

All GNPBO member office have

- Similar mandate and responsibilities
- Common expected outputs
- Same issues and challenges:
 - ✓ Political pressures
 - ✓ Staff capacity: recruitment, training, attrition problems
 - ✓ Resource shortfalls
 - ✓ Information asymmetry
- Same determination and sense of solidarity





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Meetings

The PBO network meets annually and is typically hosted by a member country parliament.

2009 - Italian Chamber of Deputies

2010 – Swiss Parliament

2011 – Swedish Parliament

2012 – OECD Headquarters

2013 – Canadian Parliamentary Budget Office

2014 – Israeli Knesset

2015 – Austrian Parliament

Agendas and documents for PBO meetings are available at: www.oecd.org/gov/budget/pbo



7th Annual OECD PBO Network Meeting
Vienna, 16-17 April 2015

Topics Discussed in OECD PBO-IFI Meetings

- Evaluating the Performance of Independent Fiscal Institutions
- Performance Budgeting and Parliamentary Oversight
- PBO-IFI Relations with other Official Institutions
- Government Debt and Fiscal Frameworks
- IFIs and Medium-term Budgetary Frameworks

Topics Discussed in OECD PBO-IFI Meetings (cont.)

- Developing Operational Principles for EU IFIs
- Developing a first framework for Evaluating IFIs
- Role of IFIs in Policy Costing
- Fiscal Risks: New Approaches to Identification, Management and Mitigation
- Data Visualization
- OECD PBO Network Web Portal

Value of Peer Learning

- increase our confidence in performing our functions through the validation of our peers
- continuously improve performance by learning from one another, and
- identify common challenges and issues that peers can address together.

Moving Forward

- Peer Learning: How do we move it forward?
- GN-PBO Web Portal
- OECD PBO/IFIs – GNPBO Networking

Thank you.