

THE
FOA
PROJECT

FISCAL OPENNESS ACCELERATOR
Fiscal Transparency for Public Participation
for Better Use of Public Resources



FOA Learning Activity: International Experiences on Pre-Budget Consultations

June 11, 2021 | Friday | 1:30 PM, Pretoria Time
Via Zoom Teleconference



US Department of State

Objectives of the Learning Activity:

1. Discuss and present relevant international experiences on mainstreaming public participation in pre-budget consultations; and
2. Facilitate international benchmarking and exchange on lessons, challenges and practical areas/ entry points to mainstream public participation in the Pre-Budget Consultations/Workshops in South Africa

Programme

Time	Activity
1:30 - 1:40 PM	Welcome Remarks and introductions around the table (10 minutes) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Raquel Ferreira, GIFT Coordination Team• Representative from the SA National Treasury
1:40 - 2:40 PM	Presentation on the International Experience of Public Consultations on Fiscal Policy (GIFT/IBP) (1 hour) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Marianne Fabian, GIFT Coordination Team• Suad Hasan, International Budget Partnership
2: 40 - 3:25 PM	Open Discussion (45 minutes)
3:25 - 3:30 PM	Closing Remarks and Next Steps (GIFT/IBP)

- Launch and celebration of signed MOUs held in March 2020 in Pretoria, South Africa
- The main objective of the FOA project is **to establish effective mechanisms to allow public participation in fiscal processes** at national level in **Benin, Liberia, Nigeria, Senegal and South Africa**, through peer learning, knowledge sharing and technical collaboration.

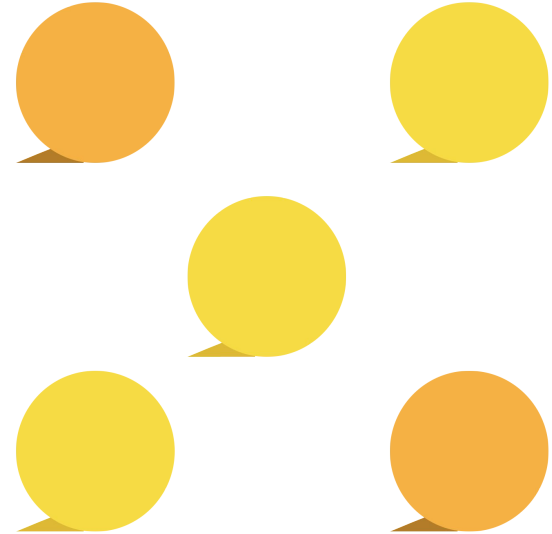


Advisory Groups





In each FOA country, Advisory groups were established to:

- Ensure that the public participation mechanisms are discussed, designed, selected and implemented in a manner that is participatory and inclusive
- Provide feedback and recommendations on the Ministries of Finance's selection, design and implementation of the participation mechanism
- Submit proposals, comments, suggestions, and create working groups, as well as keep records (minutes, documentation), and maintain communications and hold meetings with the GIFT/IBP teams

But in all cases, final selection and implementation of pilot FOA projects corresponds to the Ministries of Finance.



Where are we in the FOA process?

Activities	2020	Jan 2021	Feb 2021	Mar 2021	Apr 2021	May 2021	Jun 2021	July 2021 - onwards
Step 1. Finalization of AG TOR								Liberia and Senegal
Step 2. Revamping Phase								Nigeria
Step 3. Project Selection Workshop								
Step 4. Process Documentation								
Step 5. Outreach and Consultation								South Africa
Step 6. Draft Action Plan								Benin
Step 7. Consultation of Action Plan								
Step 8. Submission of Final Proposal to MoF and Approval								
Step 9. Implementation								

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International Experiences on Pre-Budget Consultations: The Philippines

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US Department of State

Pre-Budget Consultations in the Philippines

- Open Government Regional Consultations/Townhall Meetings on selected government priorities led by the Department of Budget and Management
- Pre-Budget Consultations through Regional Development Councils (RDC) to Identify Local and Regional Priorities

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Open Government Consultations



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Budget Policy and Reform Consultations

- Usually entails presentation of on-going and planned budget reforms and policies, among other good governance initiatives
- Topics identified and programme finalized in consultation with CSO partners at the national and local level
- Spearheaded by the OGP unit in the Budget Strategy and Policy Group in the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) in cooperation with DBM regional offices, Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), and Presidential Communications Operations Office (PCOO)

Legal and Institutional Framework

- The 1987 Philippine Constitution
- Endorsement of the Participatory Governance Cluster Cabinet Cluster
- Endorsement of the Philippine Open Government Partnership Steering Committee

Objectives

1. To enable public to understand, rationalize and implement national government programs and projects based on area-specific realities;
2. To strengthen consultation mechanisms to ensure effective implementation of programs and projects; and
3. To propose policies, programs and projects that would foster participatory governance

Nature of Consultations

- 2018: 6 Regional Consultations
- 2019: 16 Regional Consultations (also livestreamed on social media)
- 2020: 9 Online Consultations
- 2021: planned Online Consultations on Devolution of Government Powers, Resources, and Functions

Depending on the activity design, can last for ½ day (for online events) to 1-3 days (for in person events)

Sample topics: Budget Reform Bill, Tax Reform Bill, and other concerned Budget Memoranda/Policies

Timing of Consultations

2018: January to March

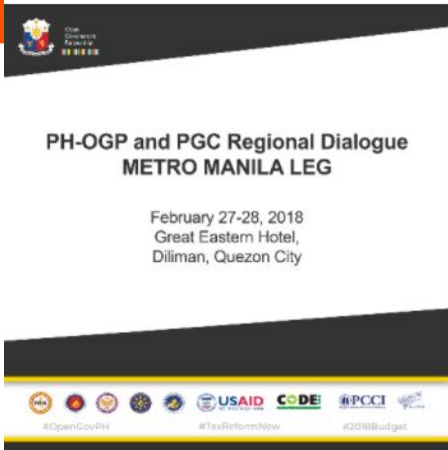
2019: July to September

2020: September to December





Search Facebook

**PH-OGP and PGC Regional Dialogue
METRO MANILA LEG**

February 27-28, 2018
Great Eastern Hotel,
Diliman, Quezon City

#OpenGovPH #TaxReformNow #2018Budget



"We need the clamor from the civil society. We need the clamor from the Local Government Units na para ito po ay maging ganap na bahas (FOI)... Let's work together. We really need your help."

Secretary Martin Andanan
Presidential Communications Operations Office

Open Government and Participatory Governance Regional Dialogues

#OpenGovPH #TaxReformNow #2018Budget



"Ensure that the people are not just heard but are actual partners in the march for good governance. We will become one cohesive entity whose ultimate goal is to make our government more transparent, participative and responsive to the real needs of our people."

OIC-Secretary Eduardo Año
Department of Interior and Local Government

Open Government and Participatory Governance Regional Dialogues

#OpenGovPH #TaxReformNow #2018Budget



Philippine Open Government Partnership
April 6, 2018

"Where is the country after all of those important reforms? The economy today is 3 times richer and the average Filipino is twice as rich, because we instituted important reforms in the fiscal area... Without the VAT reform, it will be unthinkable to see infrastructures spending grow five times compared to 15 years ago."

USec. Karl Kendrick Chua
Strategic, Economic and Assets Group, Department of Finance

Open Government and Participatory Governance Regional Dialogues

#OpenGovPH #TaxReformNow #2018Budget



"99 out of 112 state Universities and colleges have FOIs already. Posted on their website approved by the Board of Regents. So that's 88 percent compliance. We will make sure it's 100 percent compliance by the middle of this year."

OIC-Chair Prospero De Vera
Commission on Higher Education

Open Government and Participatory Governance Regional Dialogues

#OpenGovPH #TaxReformNow #2018Budget



"Through various citizen engagement programs, we are making sure that governance is not limited to government alone. We are opening up government by providing citizens with a seat at the policy table and giving them a legitimate voice and vote in what government does and plans to do in the years to come."

Secretary Benjamin Diokno
Phil OGP and PGC Chair, Department of Budget and Management

Open Government and Participatory Governance Regional Dialogues

#OpenGovPH #TaxReformNow #2018Budget



"We look forward to working alongside our Philippine Government counterparts as we collectively pursue a transformative agenda for the more ambitious, receptive, accountable and people-centric governance."

Mr. Jeffrey Lehr
United States Agency for International Development (USAID)

Open Government and Participatory Governance Regional Dialogues

#OpenGovPH #TaxReformNow #2018Budget



"Aside from promoting transparency and accountability, there is a need for us to be involved because of our perspective and know-how of the local economy. There is a need to ensure that we will not be aggrieved by the reforms and that the economic benefits will be experienced in all sectors."

Ms. Alegria Sibal Limjoco
Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry

Open Government and Participatory Governance Regional Dialogues

#OpenGovPH #TaxReformNow #2018Budget

DAGYAW

OPEN GOVERNMENT PARTNERSHIP

VIRTUAL TOWN HALL MEETINGS



USAPANG STIMULUS:
Bayanihan para sa ReCHARGE, Pilipinas!



Presidential Communications



17:22 / 2:56:02



14

2 Comments 6.8K Views

Comment

Comments

Hide

Most Relevant



Philippine Open Government Partnership · 37:30

Mga ka-Dagyaw! Kung mayroon kayong mga katanungan, inaanyayahan namin kayo na i-post ito sa comment section ng ating live stream at amin pong ipapaabot ito sa ating mga speakers! Mangyari lamang na isama ninyo ang inyong lokasyon, trabaho at organisasy...
[See More](#)

Reply · Commented on by **Ro Bin** · [See Translation](#) · 28w



Sis Vie Gen · 56:00
Sir Bertito Laganson

Reply · Message · 28w



Comment as Philippine O...



Philippine Open Government Partnership's albums

[SUMMARY REPORT] Usapang Stimulus

Narito na po ang naging resulta ng ating talakayan tungkol sa USAPANG STIMULUS, BAYANIHAN PARA SA RECHARGE, PILIPINAS! Maraming, maraming salamat sa lahat ng mga nakaisa sa isa na namang makabuluhang Dagyawan!

Asahan niyong kami ay patuloy na magiging bukas upang tumugon sa inyong mga katanungan, mga ka-Dagyaw!

#DagyawOnline #opengovPH #goodgovPH #dagyaw2020

Published by Ro Bin · January 14 ·

Add Photos/Videos

Like Comment Share

Meaningful Conversation between the Government and the People

- 23 national government agencies have been represented in *Dagyaw*
- 225 issues, concerns and questions from the participants have been clarified and answered

Impact

- Documented feedback from citizens and responses from government on public issues
- Direct response to concerns and resolution of issues and concerns on local projects and initiatives
- Provision and inclusion of citizen inputs in the draft Budget Reform Bill
- Inclusion of citizen inputs in the enacted Tax Reform Law and other proposed legislation
 - **The Comprehensive Tax Reform Package introduced new sections on** substantial increases in sin taxes were introduced and used to significantly expand health coverage.

11,175 participants have attended the *Dagyaw 2019*.



Recurring Issues, Concerns and Question addressed to DBM

- Schedule of release, and possibility of increase, of IRA.
- Issues on the procurement delay.
- Clarification on the 10% SK Funds.
- How can the government institutionalize participation in planning, implementation and procurement?
- Source of funds of projects related to healthcare.

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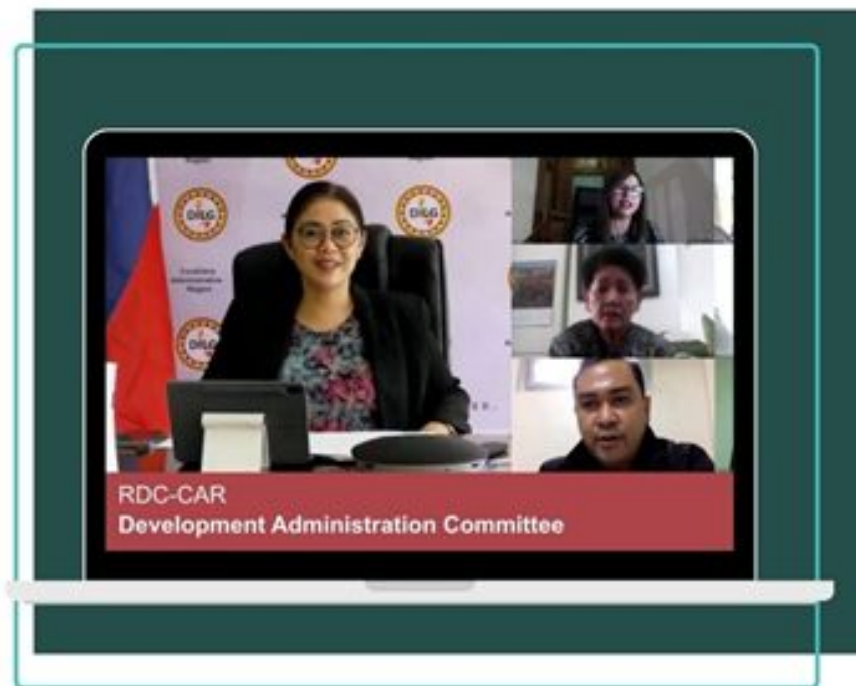
Pre-Budget Consultations through Regional Development Councils



US Department of State

Citizen Participation in Local Development Councils and Regional Development Councils

Both the national and local governments continued to engage with the non-government sector by providing them the opportunity to participate in meetings identifying local budget priorities and regional priority programs.



Objective

To ensure that the national budgeting process works for the people across the different regions and provinces, the vertical (between regional and national plans) and horizontal (between various national plans affecting a region) linkages are being strengthened. Agencies should undertake consultations and coordination with the local government units (LGUs) and the Regional Development Councils (RDCs) to ensure that the national priorities are responsive to regional and local needs.

Legal Framework

- The 1987 Philippine Constitution
- Executive Orders
- Annual General Appropriations Act
- Annual National Budget Memoranda/Circulars

Regional Development Council composition

- Local Government Units
- National Government Agencies
- Representatives of the private sector and NGOs based in the region who comprise one fourth (1/4) of the membership of the fully constituted Council. There shall be at least one private sector representative from the labor sector as prescribed under EO no. 384.
- Special Members: The RDC, subject to the concurrence of majority of its regular members, may designate special non-voting members of the Council.
- Co-chaired by local government unit and non-government representative

Nature of consultations

- Face-to-face
- Online RDC meetings (during the pandemic)

When does consultations happen?

- For FY 2022 Budget Preparation, the Pre-Budget Statement (Budget Call) was released in January 7, 2021, which set the RDC and CSO consultations in February 1-28, 2021.
- Deadline of all agency budget proposals were set on May 11, 2021

What specific opportunities for public engagement does the mechanism provide? How did it close feedback loops?

BP FORM C

SUMMARY OF RDC INPUTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS ON AGENCY NEW AND EXPANDED PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS
FY 2022 BUDGET
(In Thousand Pesos)

Department/Agency: _____

PROGRAMS/ACTIVITIES/ PROJECTS	BUDGET ALLOCATION					RDC INPUT/ RECOMMENDATION	ACO FEEDBACK
	TIER 1	TIER 2	Agency Central Office				
			Included in the Budget Proposal	Not included in the Budget Proposal	Total		
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Operations Organizational Outcome 1 PROGRAM 1 SUB-PROGRAM 1 a. Activity 1 CO RO 1 RO 2 b. Project 1 CO RO 1 RO 2							
GRAND TOTAL							
PREPARED BY:						APPROVED BY:	
_____		_____		_____		_____	
Budget Officer		Planning Officer		Head of Office/Agency			

How it works: Institutional Arrangement in the National Government

1. RDC meets and identify regional and local priorities and fills out the form
2. The National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA), as the Secretariat of RDC, facilitates consolidation of inputs to the form and upon review and approval of the RDC, sends it to agency regional offices
3. Agency Regional Offices reviews RDC inputs and forwards it to their Central Office
4. Central Office prepares feedback on the form and submits it as annex to its Agency Budget Proposal to DBM

Impact

- Increase/decrease of funding for agency programs
- Expansion of program coverage
- Re-prioritization of project locations and allocation for infrastructure & agricultural, education, health (etc) initiatives, and other social welfare programs

Example

In the Bicol Region in the Philippines, CSO RDC members shared that 70% of their recommendations/endorsed projects were considered by the national government and made it into the National Expenditure Program (Executive's Budget Proposal).

- The RDC also issued a resolution addressed to concerned national agencies endorsing priority identified locations for the implementation of several centrally managed programs (i.e. Health Facilities Enhancement Program, Construction of Water Systems, Farm to Market Roads, etc).
- During the Technical Budget Review, an State University budget initially proposed the construction of two buildings for the same purpose. To be more efficient, CSOs in the RDC recommended the construction of only 1 building, and this recommendation was adopted by the SUC. Another state university adopted the recommended re-purposing of a proposed Evacuation Facility by another state university.

	Open Government Consultations	RDC Consultations
Nature	Can both be online and offline	Face-to-face (online meetings held only during the pandemic)
Agenda-Setting	Co-designed by national government and CSOs	Co-chaired by local government and CSO/Private Sector Secretariat: National Government
Inclusion	Open to the public and livestreamed on social media	Limited to elected CSO representatives in the RDC
Coverage	Can be platform for dialogue with citizens on any public or budgetary issue of interest	Has specific objective of identifying and regional priorities
Timing	Schedule is prerogative of government	Has specific timeline set by DBM
Impact	Can influence content of policy and proposed legislation Can directly address questions/concerns on policy/program implementation	Can influence actual budget proposal of national government agency
Govt Institutional Arrangement	Involves DBM, DILG, and PCOO	Involves whole of government

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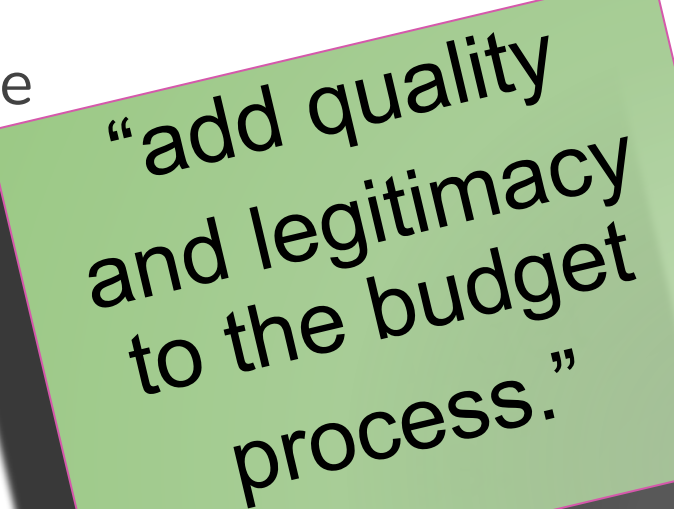
International Experiences on Pre-Budget Consultations: Canada



US Department of State

Pre-budget hearings in Canada

- Budget phase: Formulation
- Institution: Finance Committee
- Mechanism:
 - Why
 - When
 - What
 - Where
 - Who



“add quality
and legitimacy
to the budget
process.”

Pre-budget hearings in Canada

- FINA's formal mandate (Standing Order 83.1) was changed in 1994 authorizing FINA to undertake annual pre-budget consultations on items to be included in the following year's budget.
- Each year, FINA committee establishes specific questions or themes.
- Two-stage process
 - 1) Call for submissions (template as guidance)
 - 2) Selected testimonials (published)
- Committee submits report, with recommendations, to full parliament and to Finance Department

Pre-budget hearings in Canada

CANADIANS ARE INVITED TO SHARE THEIR PRIORITIES FOR THE 2021 FEDERAL BUDGET

Ottawa, June 12, 2020 -

The House of Commons Standing Committee on Finance is now launching its pre-budget consultations process and inviting Canadians to participate. These consultations will result in a report to be tabled in the House of Commons in December 2020, which will be considered by the Minister of Finance in preparation of the 2021 federal budget.

"The Committee looks forward to undertake this broad public consultation and to hear from Canadians from all over the country about their **priorities for the next federal budget,**" said the Honourable Wayne Easter, P.C. M.P. for Malpeque and Chair of the House of Commons Standing Committee on Finance. "Canadians' contributions to this process will be of particular importance this year, given the tremendous challenges that the COVID-19 pandemic presents, and the ongoing uncertainty regarding future economic conditions."

As a result, the Committee is interested in receiving written submissions and oral testimony on measures the federal government could take to **restart the Canadian economy, as it recovers from the COVID-19 pandemic.**

The deadline for **written submissions** to the Committee is no later than **Friday, 7 August 2020 at 11:59 p.m. Eastern Standard Time**. Submissions must be no longer than 2,000 words and should adhere to the following [template](#). All text contained in the submission, including – but not limited to – graphs, quotes, images and footnotes will count towards the submission's limit of 2,000 words. Only one submission per organization or individual will be accepted. Submissions that do not meet these requirements may not be considered by the Committee; therefore, all efforts should be made to adhere to these requirements. Following translation, the submissions will be posted on the Committee's website. Written briefs must be submitted through the Committee's [website](#).

On behalf of the Committee, the Clerk will extend invitations to selected organizations and individuals in the fall to appear as witnesses, by videoconference as required, during the pre-budget consultations hearings. All those who make a submission will be considered as having made a request to appear.

Pre-budget hearings in Canada

2021

- Priorities for the next federal budget: “the Committee is interested in receiving written submissions and oral testimony on measures the federal government could take to restart the Canadian economy, as it recovers from the COVID-19 pandemic”

2020

- Climate Emergency: The Required Transition to a Low Carbon Economy

2018

- What federal measures would help Canadians to be more productive?
- What federal measures would help Canadian businesses to be more productive and competitive?

Pre-budget hearings in Canada

- Received 800 submissions
- 50 witness testimonials
- Written report with 145 recommendations
- Written submissions published, Minutes of the meeting uploaded for all testimonies
- Serves to assist parliamentarians in the approval process



Pre-budget hearings in Canada

Example recommendations:

Recommendation 16: Commit to paying 5% of the global funding needed for vaccine research, production and deployment. Earmark \$2 billion in the 2021 federal budget for that purpose.

Recommendation 74: Ensure every person in Canada has access to reliable, high-speed internet by 2025, including those living in rural, remote, northern, and Indigenous communities.

Recommendation 124: Publish, in the 2021 federal budget, a roadmap to eliminate ineffective fossil fuel subsidies by 2025 to respect Canada's G20 commitment in this area.

Pre-budget hearings in Canada

43rd Parliament, 2nd Session (September 23, 2020 - Present)

PRE-BUDGET CONSULTATIONS IN ADVANCE OF THE 2021 BUDGET

Report and Government Response

Report 1: Investing in Tomorrow: Canadian Priorities for Economic Growth and Recovery

- Adopted by the Committee: February 11, 2021
- Presented to the House: February 16, 2021
- No Government Response requested

Report 1

Presented to the House: Tuesday, February 16, 2021

As outlined in Standing Order 83.1, the Committee is authorized to undertake pre-budget consultations, during which it hears from Canadians about their federal budgetary priorities. The Committee generally presents its pre-budget consultations report, which contains its recommendations for the upcoming federal budget, in December.

Information

Briefs (792)



Witnesses (52)



Meetings

+ Expand All - Collapse All

Thursday, February 11, 2021

Meeting 18

11:03 a.m. - 12:09 p.m. (EST)

Friday, February 5, 2021

Meeting 17

1:01 p.m. - 1:45 p.m. (EST)

1:01 p.m. - 1:45 p.m. (EST)

Studies and Activities

- Pre-Budget Consultations in Advance of the 2021 Budget
- Committee Business

Notice of Meeting

Minutes

Reflections.. Adaptations..

- Finance committee testimonies include PBO, Auditor General, Finance Canada
- Formal budget proceedings allow ideas to be presented in a public format and avoid opaque lobbying practices
- Vast majority of the written submissions are from well-established organizations
- Parliamentary system, unable to linearly connect policy recommendations to changes in budgets or policy adoption

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Open Discussion



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Next Steps



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Next Steps

- National Treasury to communicate with stakeholders with regard to the start of the pilot project in the budget process
- Co-Designing the FOA pilot mechanism: Action Plan Workshop in July 2021
- Hiring of Local Assistant and Public Participation Expert for SA-FOA

Stay tuned!

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