



**International  
Budget  
Partnership**

**Open Budget Survey 2021**

# Open Budget Survey

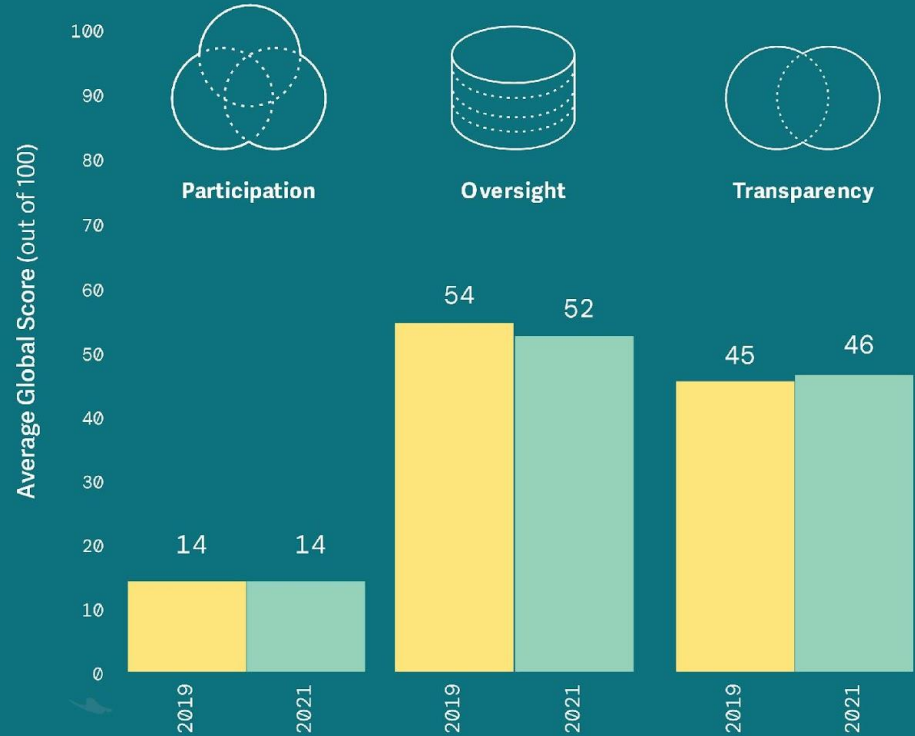
- The OBS 2021 is the only comparable and independent measure of budget transparency, participation, and oversight in the world
- OBS 2021 covers 120 countries
- The survey uses a questionnaire with 145 scored indicators drawn from international good practices and standards
- In most countries, survey research is conducted by local civil society researchers
- Questionnaires are peer reviewed, and governments are invited to comment on the draft results

# What's new with the OBS 2021?

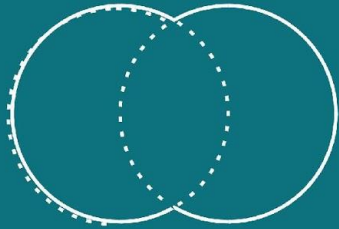
- Release of the OBS COVID module in April 2021
- More digital-friendly global report and 7 regional briefs
- Greater collaboration with OBS partners
- Increased emphasis on public participation
- More intensive engagement at the national level

## OPEN BUDGET SURVEY 2021

# Changes in transparency, public participation, and oversight from OBS 2019 to OBS 2021



OPEN BUDGET SURVEY 2021



Transparency

Since 2008, transparency scores  
have increased more than

20%





OPEN BUDGET SURVEY 2021

# Top 10 Performers



Transparency

\* New Top  
Performers

2019	2021
1. New Zealand	1. Georgia
2. South Africa	2. South Africa
3. Sweden	3. Sweden
4. Mexico	4. New Zealand
5. Georgia	5. Mexico
6. Brazil	6. Norway
7. Norway	7. Brazil
8. Australia	8. Australia
9. United States	9. Dominican Republic *
10. Philippines	10. Italy *

# Many governments are introducing innovative approaches to participation

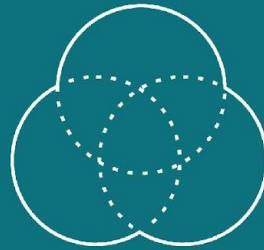
- Centralized portals for service delivery complaints (Indonesia)
- New public outreach strategies (Argentina and Moldova)
- Increased representation from marginalized communities in budget consultations (South Korea)



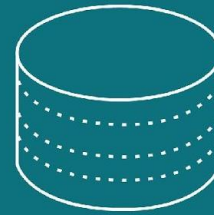
# No country meets minimum standards for adequate accountability on all three measures

OPEN BUDGET SURVEY 2021

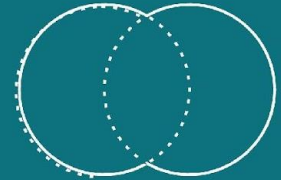
## Open Budget Survey 2021 scores



Participation



Oversight



Transparency

Global average score  
(out of 100)

14

52

45



**Budgets in  
most countries  
are not  
sufficiently  
transparent.**



Public participation is rare.



## OPEN BUDGET SURVEY 2021

# Average oversight scores, OBS 2017-2021



*\*Compares the 115 countries that were evaluated in the 2017, 2019, and 2021 Open Budget Surveys.*

# Call to Action

We call on governments to:

- Establish opportunities to engage the public in the budget process.
- Curtail executive overreach by improving oversight.
- Disclose more and better information on budgets, debt and fiscal risk.
- Make accountability reforms permanent.





**Thank you for joining us. We hope to continue making progress together.**

**Engage with us:**

- Read our report
- Interact with the data
- Join our call to action by visiting [internationalbudget.org/open-budget-survey](https://internationalbudget.org/open-budget-survey)

