



GIFT GLOBAL INITIATIVE FOR
FISCAL TRANSPARENCY
**STEWARDS GENERAL
MEETING 2022**

Piloting Public Participation through the Fiscal Openness Accelerator (FOA) Project

August 4, 2022

Bogotá, Colombia | Zoom Teleconference

Co-hosted by:



The Fiscal Openness Accelerator (FOA) Project

- With support from the US Department of State, GIFT and IBP entered into an MoU with Benin, Liberia, Nigeria, Senegal & South Africa on the Fiscal Openness Accelerator (FOA) Project in 2020 with the goal of:
 - ✓ Improving fiscal transparency in Benin, Liberia, Nigeria;
 - ✓ Piloting public participation mechanisms in fiscal processes at the national level all five countries.



Key elements of the FOA Public Participation Model

- Signing of a Memorandum of Understanding with **MoF**
- Capacity-Building and Peer-Learning
- Establishment of a **Government-CSO Advisory Group**
- Design and Implementation of Action Plan to **pilot a public participation mechanism in fiscal policy at the national level.**



Where does each country stand in the FOA process?

	MoU	Peer-Learning & CapDev	TOR of Advisory Group	Designing PP	Implementing PP	Remarks
Benin						On-going implementation and popularization.
Liberia						Action Plan finalized. On-going preparations for implementing PP.
Nigeria						PP implemented. On-going documentation
South Africa						On-going 2 nd round of pilot PP on-going
Senegal						Action Plan drafted

FOA Public Participation Mechanisms: Benin



Benin has developed the “**Bousprob**” **mobile application**, an alert and monitoring tool available freely on the Google Playstore that features a library of budget information, informs citizens on opportunities to engage in the budget process and provides a platform to collect their feedback.

FOA Public Participation Mechanisms: South Africa



South Africa's **pre-budget consultations**:

- **Year 1:** public consultation event that provided a venue for presentation and dialogue on CSO recommendations on budget prioritization and how to deal with challenges of long-term fiscal sustainability.
- **Year 2:** public call for written submissions on a broad range of themes (e.g. fiscal policy, budget reforms, sectoral issues) which will be analyzed by Treasury functional groups and shared with Medium-Term Expenditure Committee (MTEC).

FOA Public Participation Mechanisms: Nigeria



Nigeria implemented a national consultation event in **hybrid format**. The Minister of Finance, Budget and National Planning, presented the **draft 2023-2025 Medium Term Fiscal Framework for citizen inputs**.

During the event, members of the public were also able to ask questions **in-person and virtually**. Responses to citizen inputs were provided by the Minister of Finance herself, the Minister of State, Budget and National Planning; and the Director General of the Budget Office.

FOA Public Participation Mechanisms: Liberia



Under their FOA workplan, Liberia intends to implement the following activities:

- Town hall consultations to solicit citizens' inputs to the FY2023 National Budget priorities
- Development and Presentation of Shadow Budget Options Paper
- Attendance of Advisory Group Members to Executive Budget Hearings and Cabinet meeting

FOA Public Participation Mechanisms: Senegal



Under their FOA workplan, Senegal intends to implement a **pre-budget consultation workshop** on their **Medium-Term Fiscal Framework**. The outputs of the workshop will be submitted to the **Council of Ministers** for validation. A report documenting the comments and observations on any budgetary adjustments made with focus on sectoral priorities will also be produced.