

Budget Process in Latvia



Definition and Purpose of the Budget



Budget is a tool for implementation of the <u>state</u> <u>policy through financial methods</u>



The budget is the <u>foundation</u> for financial activities and management of the government



The purpose of the budget is to <u>determine and substantiate the resources</u> required for the central government and local governments to perform the state duties whose financing is determined by legislative acts

It is necessary to ensure that expenditure is covered by corresponding revenues



When formulating the budget, the necessity of ensuring an overall economic balance shall be taken into account



Hierarchy of Legal Acts

Constitution

International legal acts

Fiscal Discipline Law

Law on Budget and Financial Management

Medium Term Budget Framework Law

Annual Budget Law

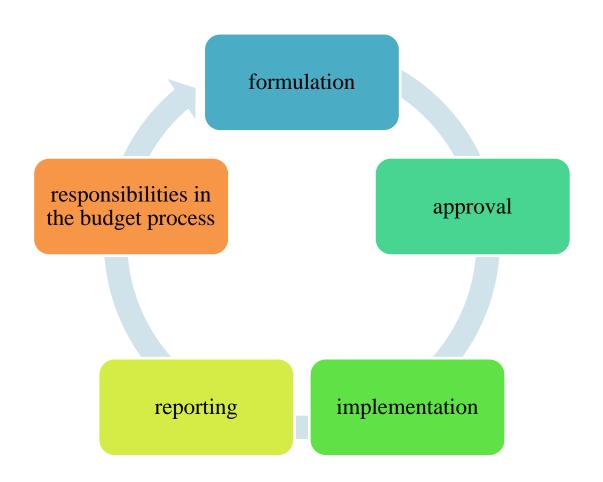
Regulation of Cabinet of Ministers

Internal acts of institutions



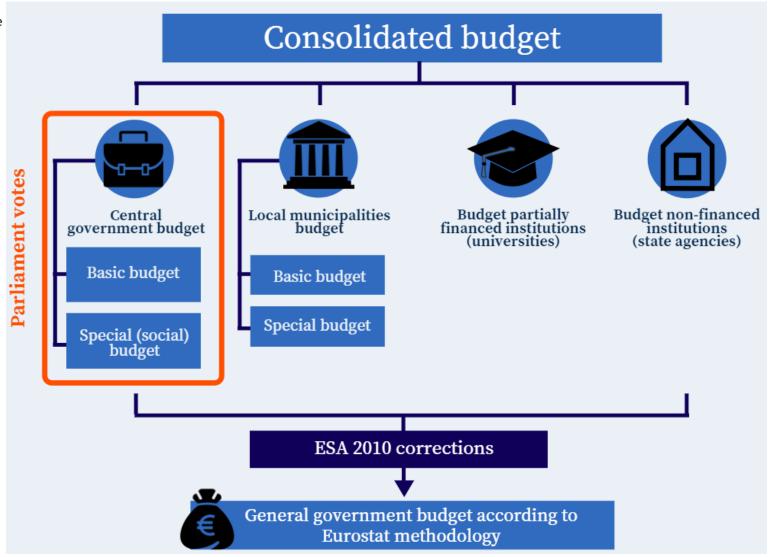
Definition and Purpose of the Budget

<u>Law on Budget and Financial Management</u> determines the procedures for:





Budget System in Latvia





Budget Structure

• <u>Budget program</u> – a program of such mutually connected measures or services that are oriented to a common objective, which is planned, implemented, recorded and controlled by bodies financed from the budget in accordance with the Law and regarding which implementation the persons implementing the budget are liable. The budget program may be divided into subprograms (approximately 500 budget programs and subprograms)

• **Budget classifications**:

- Revenues classification,
- Expenditures classifications:
 - Economic,
 - Functional (COFOG 10 functions),
 - Institutional
- Classification of sectors;
- Financing classification.



Strengthening Medium Term Budget Planning by Introduction of Medium Term Budget Framework Law (from 2012)

Is prepared every year on «rolling» basis for the next **three year period** and approved by Parliament

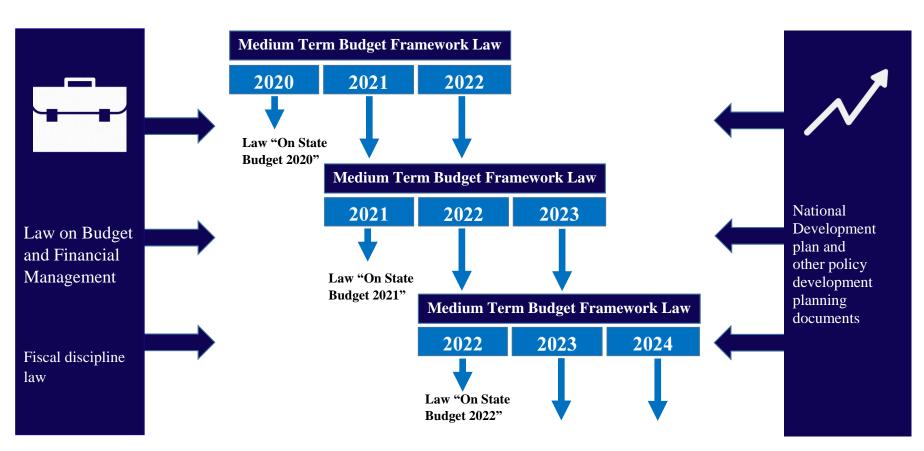
Ensures strategic view and link between policies of the governments and budget resources available (top-down budgeting)

Is subject to Fiscal
Discipline Law
requirements, thus
ensuring implementation
of <u>responsible and</u>
sustainable fiscal policy

Serves as a basis for preparation of Annual Budget Law



Medium Term Budget Planning System





Fiscal rules and procedures imposed by Fiscal Discipline Law

Rules:

- budget balance rule structural budget deficit of general government can not exceed 0,5% of GDP. If it does (escape clauses, unforeseen events), the future balances have to be planned in such amounts, to adjust the deviations to normal level
- **expenditure rule** general government real expenditure growth does not exceed average potential GDP growth
- **debt rule general government debt** must not exceed 60% of GDP

Procedures:

- inheritance principles getting from Framework Law in force to **new draft Framework**Law
- limitations on amendments to Framework Law
- limitations on **drafting Annual Budget Law** with respect to requirements of Framework Law
- limitations on **amending Annual Budget Law** with respect to requirements of Framework Law
- limitations on **budget execution** with respect to requirements of Framework Law
- limitations on **interim decisions** of the government with fiscal impact
- escape clauses for all aforementioned and mechanisms for getting "on road" in cyclical terms.



By adopting Fiscal Discipline Law (in 2013), the CoM and Parliament have committed themselves to the following principles

princi	ple	of	bei	ng
	noi	mi	cal	

• fiscal policy shall be implemented allocating available resources reasonably and efficiently

principle of making savings

•fiscal policy shall be implemented so that the budget is planned and implemented with surplus, if the economic situation allows, which allows covering future liabilities in case of worsening of the economic situation

principle of countercyclical fiscal policy

•a counter-cyclical fiscal policy shall be implemented running counter to trends of the economic cycle

principle of stability

• financial policy shall be implemented so that it contributes to the economic growth and financial stability and is foreseeable and successive in medium term

principle of sustainable fiscal policy

•fiscal policy that focuses on the maintenance of the general government debt level which does not impose a disproportionate burden on the economy, but contributes to its long-term development.

principle of generation mutual responsibility

 a fiscal policy takes into account the financial impact on the society now and on future generations

principle of transparency

• information on fiscal policy objectives, methods for their achievement and results shall be publicly available

principle of fiscal discipline solidarity

• institutions within general government assume the constraints derived from fiscal rules in solidarity manner



Budget Process and Parties Involved (I)



MoF prepares medium term **macro development forecasts**, calculates **fiscal restrictions**

In cooperation with line ministries performs spending review and calculation of base expenditure

Evaluates proposals for priority measures

Aggregates budget requests received from line ministries

Prepared draft budget law and medium term budget framework law and submits it to CoM



Line ministries participate in calculation and review of base expenditures

Prepare proposals for priority measures

Prepare and submit **budget requests** according to decisions taken by CoM

Take part in **debate** on the draft budget law in the CoM



Budget Process and Parties Involved (II)



CoM approves **fiscal goals** of the state and **the Stability Program**

Takes decision on results of spending review

Takes decision on **priority measures** that should receive additional financing in future years

Submits draft budget law and medium term budget framework law to Parliament



Discussions in the Budget Committee.

Parliamentarians formulate **propositions** to draft budget

Parliament **approves** state budget law and medium term budget framework law in two readings



President of the Republic of Latvia **announces** the state budget law and the medium term budget framework law



Preparation of draft framework law and draft annual budget law in Latvia

CoM approves budget process time schedule	CoM approves macroeconomic forecasts, medium term fiscal targets of the state and Stability Programmme	spending review, on "basic expo acceptable prior	f annual budget , takes decision e enditure" an d	c packa laws CoM a draft Fra Law a Annua Law and	age draft on CoM level E0	Debate on dget in the Parliament C provides opinion on raft budget	
January		nual budget spending review in collab	boration ex	allowable creating and for the line sulface in	doF prepares raft ramework aw and draft nnual Budget aw, based on adget requests abmitted by the ministries	The Parliament approves Framework Law and Annual Budget	The President announces Framework Law and Annual Budget



Planning System

Fiscal Discipline Law

(fiscal rules and principles)

Fiscal requirements on state level

National Development Plan Other policy planning documents

(medium term policies and expected results in different industries)

State priorities

EU dimension

(Stability program, EU requirements)

Targets of the state

Law on Budget and Finance Management

(budget process)

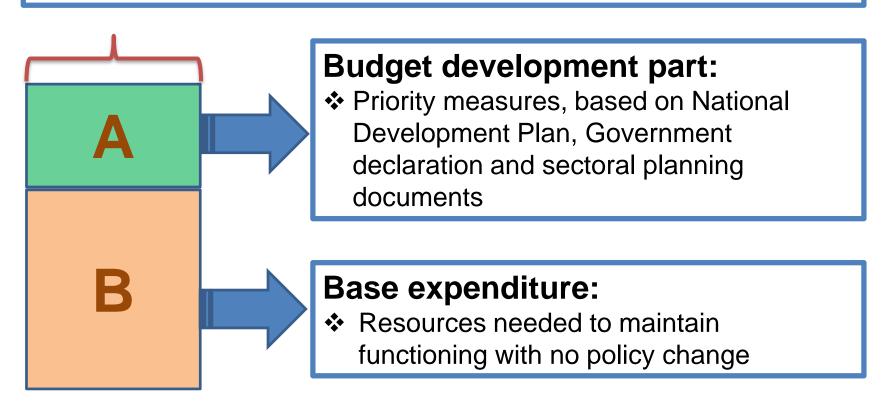
Budget preparation and execution procedures

State budget for the next year and for the medium term



Central government budget maximum allowable expenditure

A+B = Maximum allowable expenditure





Budget development part – priority measures

Submission and

evaluation –

unified,

simple and

effective

approach

Emphasis put on priority measures **contribution to economic development** and structural reforms

Highlighted a link between policy measures and policy goals, concrete measurable results, tasks in Government Declaration

Within reasonable limits **stimulated re-prioritization of resources** of line ministries towards development of particular areas and the whole economy



Submission of proposals for priority measures – simple, effective and oriented towards restructuring internal resources towards development of the economy

Ministries
submit short
and concise
proposals
for priority
measures

(and indicate possibilities to finance them from internal resources)

Minister of Finance is responsible for organizing the evaluation process of proposals for priority measures

MoF acts as a secretariat

(discussion or

working group)

The proposals for priority measures should be oriented mainly towards

- economic growth,
- development of sectoral activity

implementation of structural reforms

As a result of evaluation process, Minister of Finance formulates proposals for acceptable (financeable) priority measures

CoM
approves
priority
measures for
the next
years
Ministries
submit to
MoF adjusted
proposals
according to
taken
decisions

June September



Content of proposal for priority measures

Proposal for priority measure

Goal and description

Correspondence to Government declaration

Correspondence to medium term priorities according to MTEF



Impact on economic development and structural reforms

Related **policy performance** indicators (*outcomes*)

Expected **operational performance** indicators (*outputs*)

Required funding

Available funding within ministries' budget

Other important information



Budget Explanations (I)

Aim of budget explanations— to provide information on budget
as a tool for realisation of government policy



Result

- Society is provided with understandable and wholesome information about planned budgetary resources
- ❖ The link between strategic planning documents and budgetary resources is revealed
- Orientation towards achievement of political goals
- ❖ Information on resources, goals and multi-level indicators is available in one place, providing better possibility to perform analysis later on
- Additional funding for priority measures is supplemented by separate operating indicators (with an aim later on to monitor factual execution of these)
- Structure and content of budget explanations is optimal and ensures fair administrative burden



Budget Explanations (II)

Key element of budget explanations – Policy and resource management scorecard



Content of the Card for every activity areas

(plan for the medium term and fact for the previous year):

Goal	which is planned to be achieved in a particular activity area
Policy performance indicators	which are derived from policy planning documents and characterize to what extend the goal is achieved
Resources (inputs)	expenditure number of employees infrastructure, tangible and intangible assets, which are significant for the achievement of goal
Operational performance indicators	the most inclusive and concise
Quality indicators	Intangible evaluation of activity area (quality, satisfaction surveys)

The idea about creation of Policy and resource management scorecards was <u>developed and</u> <u>tested during the first budget spending review process</u>



Annual Spending Reviews: Procedure Framework for Linking Budget with Policy Planning



Legislation Driven Initiative

On 30 November 2015 amendments to Law on Budget and Financial Management approved by Parliament.

Entered into force as of 1 January 2016.

Law supplemented with new article 16.3 «State budget spending review».



Objectives

Accountability for policy outcomes and outputs.

Better policy outcome with less inputs.

Regularly (annually) and systematically reprioritize public spending.



Role of the Government

Sets the scope and priorities of the spending review.

Process integrity is in line with the budget schedule.

Finance minister submits to the Government results of the review and implementation proposals.



Most Characteristic Examples of Using Performance Information at all Stage of Budgeting

- Intensive public communication, emphasis on visualizations
- Interactive budget as of 2017
- Easy-to-understand info graphs about spending and public benefits (outcomes & outputs as of 2016)

After Parliamentary Adoption

Annual Spending Reviews

- Previous spending measures

 actual outputs, outcomes
 costs VS planned as of
- Relevance & topicality of historical spending measures—as of 2017

- Policy and resource management scorecards – as of 2016
- Shifting performance analytics from budget programs to policy areas—as of 2016

Budgetary Requests & Parliament New Spending
Measures &
Initiatives

- Specific & measurable objectives
- Estimated effects on policy outcomes & expected outputs
- Framework revised in 2017



Structure of State Budget Law

Law (text)

- Approx. 17 pages,69 Articles
- Budget financial balance and the maximum permissible amount of the national debt
- **GDP** forecasts
- Provisions to be attached to all or individual **appropriations**
- Specific rights and duties for particular budget institutions
- Provisions for social insurance budget revenue distributions
- Other specific regulations for particular year

Law (Annexes)

- 14 annexes, approx. 362 pages, 526 budget programs
- Summary of tax and non-tax revenue and expenditure
- Expenditures
 (appropriations) detailed by budget programs and economic classification codes
- Dotation to **local** municipalities
- Maximum permissible amount of **state guarantees**
- Central government budget long term liabilities

Explanations

- Approx. 1 000 pages
- Information concerning the economic situation and a description of the macroeconomic strategy
- Revenues analysis
- Explanations on expenditures and new measures
- Results and performance indicators of budget programs
- Summary of budget expenditure by administrative and functional classification
- Information about investment projects
- Information about other laws included in **budget law**package



Interactive Budget as of 2017 – Presenting Numerical Annexes of Budget & Public Benefits (Outcomes)



http://www.fm.gov.lv/valstsbudzets/

(Google Chrome preferred)

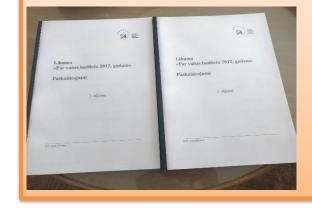


Budget Explanations Until 2016 – Two Volumes Printed and Published, Scarcely Read by Anybody

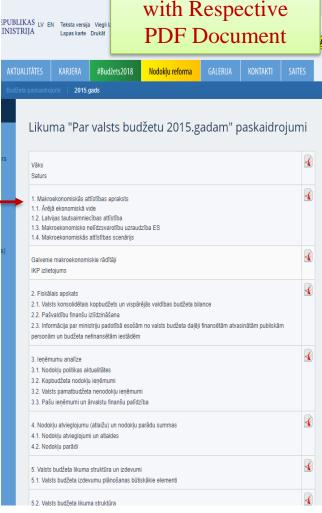
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Printed Version









Budget Explanations as of 2017 (1)

Step 1





Budget Explanations as of 2017 (2)



Policy & Resource Management **Scorecards**

	2015.gads (izpilde)	2016.gada plāns	2017.gada plāns	2018.gada plāns	2019.gada plāns	
		leguldījumi				
vidējais amata vietu skaits kopā, t.sk.:	56 991 996	21 006 429	9 300 230	26 169 830	40	
	4	-	-	-		
60.06.00 Eiropas transporta infrastruktūras projekti	3 644 507	5 576 153	-	-	-	
	4	-	-	-	-	
Raksturojošākie darbības rezultatīvie rādītāji						
Noslēgts līgums par Starptautiskās lidostas "Rīga" stacijas un ar to saislītās infrastruktūras un mezgla tehniskā projekta izstrādi (skaits)	-	-	1	-		
Kvalitātes rādītāji						
Dzelzceļa fīniju garums, kurā ir ātruma ierobežojums infrastruktūras stāvokļa dēļ (% no visa dzelzceļa tīkla garuma)	-	11,8	11,8	11,8	11,8	

APD vai normatīvie akti

Transporta attīstības pamatnostādnes

Faktiskā

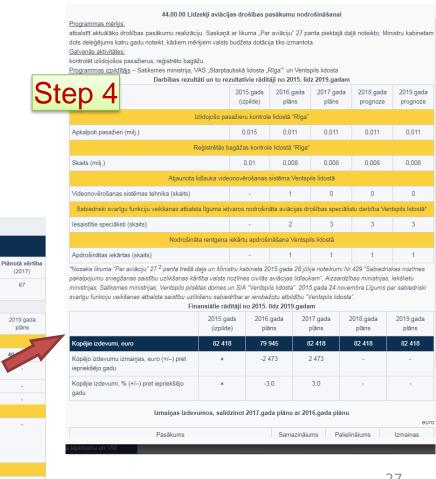
vērtība (2015)

(2017)

n. Transporta attīstības pamatnostādnes 2014.-2020.gadam

sauszemes pārvadājumu apjoma (%) 2014.-2020.gadam

Detailed Info About Inputs for Each Program





Way of Speaking Simple & Short-Infographics & Visualizations









Being Everywhere – Social Networks, Streets, Newspapers, Television etc.









Involving and Speaking with Youth - «Shadow Days» and «Open Door Days»











Ministry of Finance Republic of Latvia

Thank you!

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