



■ WeBER Indicator Summary

AREA: PUBLIC FINANCE MANAGEMENT

MONTENEGRO

- Author: Institut Alternativa
- Date: 22/06/18

PAR Area	PUBLIC FINANCE MANAGEMENT	Country	Montenegro
SIGMA Principle	5. Transparent budget reporting and scrutiny are ensured		

WeBER Indicator	PFM_P5_I1: Transparency and accessibility of budgetary documents
Indicator approach	
<p><i>Elements of this indicator cover the key budgetary documents: annual budget, and budget execution reports – monthly, mid-year, and year-end. First three elements focus on ease of access of documents on official websites of responsible institutions. Remaining elements look into transparency and quality of data from these documents, in relation to citizen-friendliness, performance information and open data. For all elements of this indicator analysis of available budgetary information and documents from the website of ministries responsible for finance is performed, unless specified otherwise.</i></p>	
Summary of the findings	
<p><i>Although enacted Budget laws for 2017 and 2018 are available on the website of the Ministry of Finance, but there is no special section dedicated to the budget laws at the website of the ministry, that would list all enacted annual budget laws in one place. The current destination is an aggregated laws library section. The homepage has a banner that says „Budget of the Ministry“ but it leads to a section where only the budget of the Ministry of Finance itself is available.</i></p> <p><i>Monthly or any kind of in-year budget execution reporting is not a legal obligation in Montenegro (it is not mentioned in the Law on Budget and Fiscal Accountability). However, as part of the participation in IMF General Data Dissemination System (GDDS), Ministry of Finance issues the monthly GDDS charts, that among else, contains data on budget revenues and expenditures, on a monthly basis. These reports are available in the section „Publications“, whose banner is on the homepage sidebar navigation. However, out six months observed (May, April, March, February, January and December 2017), only the reports for four months are available, with reports for May and April still missing at the time of monitoring (June 2018).</i></p> <p><i>Mid-year budget execution reports are easily accessible online. There is no legal obligation for the Ministry of Finance to prepare mid-year reports. There is also no practice of producing these reports by the Ministry.</i></p> <p><i>When it comes to classifications present in the budget execution reports (in-year, mid-year, year-end), there is little consistency - year-end report contain economic and organisational classifications, monthly budget reports (GDDS) only contain economic classification and mid-year reports are not available at all. Even if the definition of the mid-year report is extended to include quarterly reports, no points would be awarded, as they only contain economic classification.</i></p> <p><i>Year-end reports contain some nonfinancial performance data in the accompanying rationale of the Year-End Budget Report. Although there are no performance indicators or data on the impact of expenditures, in an uneven way, there is some data on the activities of the institutions with some activity indicators of their work. For example, the number of decisions adopted or reviewed by a certain body, the number of organised trainings, summarized information about the activities of the institutions by their programs. Researchers have assessed that this is still not the performance information that relates to either outputs or outcomes of institutions or policies, especially as there are no performance targets, and have therefore decided to award no points.</i></p> <p><i>When it comes to Citizen Budget, the only official budget data visualisation is available for the 2014 Annual Budget: http://budzet.sntcg.com It is outdated and there have been no other effort to present the citizens with a reader friendly version of the annual budget in the current or the previous budget year.</i></p> <p><i>Budgetary data is not published in open data format, open data portal does not have any budgetary data and there is no open data policy of the Ministry of Finance. Annual budget and the year-end report are not published in any open data format, but in .pdf. However, there are some sporadic reports published in excel, such as the monthly budget reports (GDDS) are published in excel as are the quarterly reports (Analysis of consolidated</i></p>	

public spending).

Specific observations

None.

Indicator score	<i>7 (out of 24 points)¹</i>
Final indicator value	<i>1 (scale 0-5)</i>
Measurement period	<i>June 11th – 15th, 2018</i>

¹ Conversion of points: 0-4 points = 0; 5-8 points = 1; 9-12 points = 2; 13-16 points = 3; 17-20 points = 4; 21-24 points = 5.