Open Budget Survey 2021

Questionnaire

Korea (Republic of)

May 2022

International Budget Partnership

Country Questionnaire: Korea (Republic of)

PBS-1. What is the fiscal year of the PBS evaluated in this Open Budget Survey questionnaire?

Please enter the fiscal year in the following format: "FY YYYY" or "FY YYYY-YY."

Answer:
FY2021

Source:
The fiscal year for the Korean Central Government runs from January 1 through December 31. The Korean National Finance Act (Article 2) stipulates that "The State's fiscal year commence on January 1 of each year, and ends on December 31 of each year."

Comment:
The budget for FY2021 was prepared, reviewed, deliberated, and approved throughout 2020. Especially, the preparation was conducted during the first half of 2020.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

PBS-2. When is the PBS made available to the public?

Publicly available budget documents are defined as those documents that are published on the website of the public authority issuing the document within the time frame specified in the OBS methodology and that all citizens are able to obtain free of charge. (See the Open Budget Survey Guidelines on Public Availability of Budget Documents.) This is a change from previous rounds of the Open Budget Survey: now at minimum documents must be made available on the Internet and free of charge to be considered publicly available.

The OBS methodology requires that for a PBS to be considered publicly available, it must be made available to the public one month before the Executive's Budget Proposal is submitted to the legislature for consideration. If the PBS is not released to the public at least one month before the Executive's Budget Proposal is submitted to the legislature for consideration, option "d" applies. Option "d" should also be chosen for documents that are produced for internal purposes only (that is, produced but never released to the public) or are not produced at all. Some governments may publish budget documents further in advance than the latest possible dates outlined above. In these instances, researchers should choose options "a" or "b," depending on the date of publication identified for the PBS.

Answer:
a. At least four months in advance of the budget year, and at least one month before the Executive's Budget Proposal is introduced in the legislature

Source:
It was made public on March 24, 2020, which was more than 5 months before the Executive Budget Proposal was submitted to the National Assembly and more than 9 months before FY2021 begins.

https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?menuNo=4010100&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000032839&searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028

Comment:
The Korean Executive Budget Proposal should be submitted to the National Assembly by September 3 of each year, i.e., at least 120 days before the fiscal year begins.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

PBS-3a. If the PBS is published, what is the date of publication of the PBS?

Note that the date of publication is not necessarily the same date that is printed on the document.

Researchers should respond to this question if the document is published either within the time frame accepted by the OBS methodology or too late.

Please enter the date in the following format: "DD/MM/YYYY." For example, 5 September 2020 should be entered as 05/09/2020. If the document is not published or not produced, leave this question blank.

Answer:
24/3/2020

Source:
https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?menuNo=4010100&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000032839&searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028

Comment:
The PBS was made public via a webpage of the Korean Ministry of Economy and Finance on March 24, 2020.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

PBS-3b. In the box below, please explain how you determined the date of publication of the PBS.

If the document is not published at all, researchers should mark this question "n/a."

Answer:
The PBS itself does not carry a specific date, but the month when it was released. However, the press release for the PBS shows the date and time when the media could report the PBS and its content, which is March 24, 2020. The PBS and the press release was uploaded on a MOEF webpage on that date as well.

Source:
https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?menuNo=4010100&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000032839&searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028

Comment:
No particular comment here.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

PBS-4. If the PBS is published, what is the URL or weblink of the PBS?

Researchers should respond to this question if the document is published either within the time frame accepted by the OBS methodology or too late. If the

document is not published at all, researchers should leave this question blank.

Answer:
https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?menuNo=4010100&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000032839&searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028

Source:
https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?menuNo=4010100&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000032839&searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028

Comment:
No particular comment is necessary here.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

PBS-5. If the PBS is published, are the numerical data contained in the PBS available in a machine readable format?

Material (data or content) is machine readable if it is in a format that can be easily processed by a computer, such as .csv, .xls/.xlsx, and .json. Numerical data found in PDFs, Word (.doc/.docx) or HTML files do not qualify as machine readable. See more at: http://opendatahandbook.org/glossary/en/terms/machine-readable/

Option "d" applies if the PBS is not publicly available, therefore its machine readability cannot be assessed.

Answer:
c. No

Source:
https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?menuNo=4010100&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000032839&searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028

Comment:
The PBS and its press release do not carry a lot of numbers, or data. The PBS is in PDF format, which is not machine-readable, either.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

PBS-6a. If the PBS is not publicly available, is it still produced?

If the PBS is not considered publicly available under the OBS methodology (and thus the answer to Question PBS-2 was "d"), a government may nonetheless produce the document.

Option "a" applies if the document is produced and made available to the public online but not within the time frame specified in the OBS methodology (see Question PBS-2)
Option "b" applies if the document is produced and made available to the public within the time frame specified by the OBS methodology but only in hard copy (and is not available online). Option "b" also applies if the document is made available to the public within the time frame specified by the OBS methodology in soft electronic copy but is not available online.
Option "c" applies if the document is produced for internal purposes only and so is not made available to the public.
Option "d" applies if the document is not produced at all.
Option "e" applies if the document is publicly available.

If a document is not released to the public, researchers may need to write to or visit the relevant government office in order to determine whether answer "c" or "d" applies.

Answer:
e. Not applicable (the document is publicly available)

Source:
https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?menuNo=4010100&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000032839&searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028

Comment:
No comment is necessary.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

PBS-6b. If you selected option "c" or "d" in question PBS-6a, please specify how you determined whether the PBS was produced for internal use only, versus not produced at all.

If option "a,""b," or "e" was selected in question PBS-6a, researchers should mark this question "n/a."

Answer:

Source:

Comment:

Peer Reviewer
Opinion:

Government Reviewer
Opinion:

PBS-7. If the PBS is produced, please write the full title of the PBS.

For example, a title for the Pre-Budget Statement could be "Proposed 2021 State Budget" or "Guidelines for the Preparation of Annual Plan and Budget for 2020/21."

If the document is not produced at all, researchers should mark this question "n/a."

Answer:
Guidelines for the Preparation of Budget and Fund Management Plan for FY2021

Source:
https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?menuNo=4010100&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000032839&searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028

Comment:
The Korean PBS includes the annual formulation guidelines for both budget and extra-budgetary fund management plans.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

PBS-8. Is there a “citizens version” of the PBS?

While the Citizens Budget was initially conceived as a simplified version of the Executive’s Budget Proposal or the Enacted Budget, good practice is now evolving and suggests that a “citizens” version of key budget documents should be produced during each of the four phases of the budget cycle. This would serve to inform citizens of the state of public financial management throughout the entire budget cycle. While it is recognized that it may be unreasonable to expect that a citizens version is produced for each and every one of those key documents, it seems acceptable to expect that according to good practice, the executive releases a citizens version of key budget documents for each of the four stages of the budget process to allow citizens to be aware of what is happening, in terms of public financial management, throughout the entire budget cycle. For more information on Citizens Budget see: https://www.internationalbudget.org/publications/citizens-budgets/.

Answer:
a. Yes

Source:
https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?menuNo=4010100&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000032839&searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028

Comment:
The Korean MOEF provided on March 24, 2020 a simplified and stylish version of the PBS in its press release for the PBS.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

EBP-1a. What is the fiscal year of the EBP evaluated in this Open Budget Survey questionnaire?

Please enter the fiscal year in the following format: “FY YYYY” or “FY YYYY-YY.”

Answer:
FY2021

Source:
The major highlights of the EBP for FY2021 are available from:
https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?menuNo=4010100&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000045123&searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028

The EBP and major highlights were made available on September 1, 2020.

Comment:
The EBP should be submitted to the National Assembly by 120 days before the fiscal year, which is September 3 each year.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

EBP-1b. When is the EBP submitted to the legislature for consideration?

Please enter the date in the following format: "DD/MM/YYYY." For example, 5 September 2020 should be entered as 05/09/2020. If the document is not published or not produced, leave this question blank.

Answer:
3/9/2020

Source:
http://likms.assembly.go.kr/bill/billDetail.do?billId=PRC_P2Z0B0V9G0C3E0C9Y1D7J0L7L7N7I9

https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?menuNo=4010100&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000045123&searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028

Comment:
The Bill Information System at the National Assembly indicates that the EBP was received on September 3, 2020.

The MOEF press release on September 1, 2020 indicates that it would submit the EBP on September 3, 2020, 120 days before FY2021 begins.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

EBP-2. When is the EBP made available to the public?

Publicly available budget documents are defined as those documents that are published on the website of the public authority issuing the document within the time frame specified in the OBS methodology and that all citizens are able to obtain free of charge. (See the Open Budget Survey Guidelines on Public Availability of Budget Documents.) This is a change from previous rounds of the Open Budget Survey: now at minimum documents must be made available on the Internet and free of charge to be considered publicly available.

The OBS methodology requires that for an EBP to be considered publicly available, it must be made available to the public <u>while the legislature is still considering it and before the legislature approves (enacts) it</u>. If the EBP is not released to the public before the legislature approves it, option "d" applies. Option "d" should also be chosen for documents that are produced for internal purposes only (that is, produced but never released to the public) or are not produced at all. Some governments may publish budget documents further in advance than the latest possible dates outlined above. In these instances, researchers should choose options "a" or "b," depending on the date of publication identified for the EBP.

The OBS definition of an Executive's Budget Proposal is a document(s) that (i) the executive submits to the legislature as a formal part of the budget approval process and (ii) the legislature either approves or on which it approves proposed amendments.

The OBS will treat the Executive's Budget Proposal as "Not Produced," in the following cases:

- *The executive does not submit the draft budget to the legislature; or*
- *The legislature receives the draft budget but does not approve it or does not approve recommendations on the draft budget;*
- *The legislature rejects the draft budget submitted by the executive, but the executive implements it without legislative approval; or*
- *There is no legislature, or the legislature has been dissolved.*

Answer:
a. At least three months in advance of the budget year, and in advance of the budget being approved by the legislature

Source:
https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?menuNo=4010100&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000045123&searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028

https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?menuNo=4010100&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000052602&searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028

Comment:
The major contents of the EBP was made available for the public on September 1, 2020 and it was registered for the legislative Bill Information System on September 3, 2020, which is 120 (four months) before the fiscal year begins. The budget was going to be approved by the National Assembly on December 2, 2020.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

EBP-3a. If the EBP is published, what is the date of publication of the EBP?

Note that the date of publication is not necessarily the same date that is printed on the document.

Researchers should respond to this question if the document is published either within the time frame accepted by the OBS methodology or too late.

Please enter the date in the following format: "DD/MM/YYYY." For example, 5 September 2020 should be entered as 05/09/2020. If the document is not published or not produced, leave this question blank.

In the comment boxes below, researchers should also list any supporting documents to the EBP and their date of publication.

Answer:
3/9/2020

Source:
https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?menuNo=4010100&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000045123&searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028

http://likms.assembly.go.kr/bill/billDetail.do?billId=PRC_P2Z0B0V9G0C3E0C9Y1D7J0L7L7N7I9

Comment:
It is the date when the EBP was submitted to the National Assembly.

On the other hand, a series of supporting documents for the EBP for FY2021 was made available from the Open Fiscal Data portal maintained by the MOEF. But, it is not clear from when they became available. In responding to the rest of the OBS, I would assume that these documents were also made available on September 3, 2020.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree
Comments: The link to the budget section of the Open Fiscal Data portal, including the EBP, is https://www.openfiscaldata.go.kr/portal/service/openInfPage.do?mId=B002

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Disagree
Suggested Answer: The date of publication is Sep. 1, 2020, on the website of Ministry of Economy and Finance.
Comments: https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000045123&menuNo=4010100

EBP-3b. In the box below, please explain how you determined the date of publication of the EBP.

If the document is not published at all, researchers should mark this question "n/a."

Answer:
First of all, it is the legal requirement that the government shall submit the EBP by September 3. And, the MOEF press release indicates that it would

submit it on September 3. Lastly, the Bill Information System of the National Assembly records the EBP on its system on September 3, 2020.

Source:
http://likms.assembly.go.kr/bill/billDetail.do?billId=PRC_P2Z0B0V9G0C3E0C9Y1D7J0L7L7N7I9

https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?
menuNo=4010100&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000045123&searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028

Comment:
No further comment is necessary.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Disagree
Suggested Answer: The date of publication is Sep. 1, 2020, on the website of Ministry of Economy and Finance.
Comments: https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?
searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000045123&menuNo=4010100

EBP-4. If the EBP is published, what is the URL or weblink of the EBP?

Researchers should respond to this question if the document is published either within the time frame accepted by the OBS methodology or too late. If the document is not published at all, researchers should leave this question blank.

In the comment boxes below, researchers should also list any supporting documents to the EBP and their URL or weblink.

Answer:
https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?
menuNo=4010100&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000045123&searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028

Source:
Some additional sources are:

http://likms.assembly.go.kr/bill/billDetail.do?billId=PRC_P2Z0B0V9G0C3E0C9Y1D7J0L7L7N7I9

https://www.openfiscaldata.go.kr/portal/service/openInfPage.do?mId=B002

Comment:
There are multiple sources where the EBP and related documents are available: The NA Bill Information System, the MOEF website, and the Open Fiscal Data Portal.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

EBP-5. If the EBP is published, are the numerical data contained in the EBP or its supporting documents available in a machine readable format?

Material (data or content) is machine readable if it is in a format that can be easily processed by a computer, such as .csv, .xls/.xlsx, and .json. Numerical data found in PDFs, Word (.doc/.docx) and HTML files do not qualify as machine readable. See more at: http://opendatahandbook.org/glossary/en/terms/machine-readable/.

Option "d" applies if the EBP is not publicly available, therefore its machine readability cannot be assessed.

Answer:
a. Yes, all of the numerical data are available in a machine readable format

Source:
https://www.openfiscaldata.go.kr/portal/service/openInfPage.do?mId=B002

Comment:
Here it is tricky to pick "a" or "c". The EBP itself is in either PDF or HWP format, both not machine-readable. On the other hand, the Open Fiscal Data portal provides numerical data in XML, XLS, JSON, and CSV and TXT formats. The problem is I do not know when such detailed expenditure and revenue data were made available from this Portal. Tentatively, I go for "a". But, please advise!

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree
Comments: The fact that the EBP for FY2022 is available on the Open Fiscal Data portal at this time, that is, September 26, 2021 suggests that the EBP for FY2021 has been available soon after it was sent to the National Assembly on September 3, 2020.

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree
Comments: The Open Fiscal Data portal provides numerical data in the EBP in a machine readable format within a few days from the date when the EBP is submitted to the legislature.

IBP Comment
Many thanks to the researcher and reviewers. IBP acknowledges the Open Fiscal Data portal which is updated regularly. Answer choice remains A.

EBP-6a. If the EBP is not publicly available, is it still produced?

If the EBP is not considered publicly available under the OBS methodology (and thus the answer to Question EBP-2 was "d"), a government may nonetheless produce the document.

Option "a" applies if the document is produced and made available to the public online but not within the time frame specified in the OBS methodology (see Question EBP-2).

Option "b" applies if the document is produced and made available to the public within the time frame specified by the OBS methodology but only in hard copy (and is not available online). Option "b" also applies if the document is made available to the public within the time frame specified by the OBS methodology in soft electronic copy but is not available online.

Option "c" applies if the document is produced for internal purposes only and so is not made available to the public.

Option "d" applies if the document is not produced at all.

Option "e" applies if the document is publicly available.

If a document is not released to the public, researchers may need to write to or visit the relevant government office in order to determine whether answer "c" or "d" applies.

Answer:
e. Not applicable (the document is publicly available)

Source:
NA

Comment:
NA

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

EBP-6b. If you selected option “c” or “d” in question EBP-6a, please specify how you determined whether the EBP was produced for internal use only, versus not produced at all.

If option “a,””b,” or “e” was selected in question EBP-6a, researchers should mark this question “n/a.”

Answer:

Source:

Comment:

Peer Reviewer
Opinion:

Government Reviewer
Opinion:

EBP-7. If the EBP is produced, please write the full title of the EBP.

For example, a title for the Executive’s Budget Proposal could be “Draft Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure for BY 2020-21, produced by the Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development.”

If there are any supporting documents to the EBP, please enter their full titles in the comment box below.

If the document is not produced at all, researchers should mark this question “n/a.”

Answer:
"The Executive Budget Proposal for FY2021" (2021년도 예산안)

Source:
https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?menuNo=4010100&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000045123&searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028

https://www.openfiscaldata.go.kr/portal/service/openInfPage.do?mId=B002

Comment:
Key supporting documents are available from the Open Fiscal Data Portal.
https://www.openfiscaldata.go.kr/portal/service/openInfPage.do?mId=B002

Some of the documents are:

EBP for FY2021: An Overview
EBP for FY2021: Supporting Documents
EBP for FY2021: Explanations for Projects Vol 1-5
National Financial Management Plane 2020~2024 and its supporting documents
Performance Reports and Performance Plans
Tax Expenditure Budget
Gender Responsive Budget
The Long Term Fiscal Prospect 2020-2060, (a supporting document for the National Financial Management Plan 2020-2024)
National Guarantee Debt Management Plan

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

EBP-8. Is there a “citizens version” of the EBP?

While the Citizens Budget was initially conceived as a simplified version of the Executive’s Budget Proposal or the Enacted Budget, good practice is now evolving and suggests that a “citizens” version of key budget documents should be produced during each of the four phases of the budget cycle. This would serve to inform citizens of the state of public financial management throughout the entire budget cycle. While it is recognized that it may be unreasonable to expect that a citizens version is produced for each and every one of those key documents, it seems acceptable to expect that according to good practice, the executive releases a citizens version of key budget documents for each of the four stages of the budget process to allow citizens to be aware of what is happening, in terms of public financial management, throughout the entire budget cycle. For more information on Citizens Budget see: https://www.internationalbudget.org/publications/citizens-budgets/.

Answer:
a. Yes

Source:
The Korean Ministry of Economy and Finance releases a simplified version of the EBP for the media and citizens with highlights and infographics before it submits the EBP to the National Assembly.

https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?menuNo=4010100&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000045123&searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028

Comment:
The Korean Ministry of Economy and Finance usually releases a package of documents (explanations, highlights, and infographics) about the EBP via its website. These documents can be regarded as a Citizen Version of the EBP.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

EB-1a. What is the fiscal year of the EB evaluated in this Open Budget Survey questionnaire?

Please enter the fiscal year in the following format: “FY YYYY” or “FY YYYY-YY.”

Answer:
FY2021

Source:
https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?menuNo=4010100&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000052602&searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028

https://gwanbo.go.kr/user/search/searchKeyword.do

Comment:
The Korean National Assembly approved the Budget for FY2021 on December 2, 2020, 30 days before the fiscal year begins. On that date, the MoEF has released a summary and highlights of the EP via its website.

The full official version of the Enacted Budget for FY2021 was released via the Electronic Register of the Republic of Korea on December 10, 2020.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

EB-1b. When was the EB approved (enacted) by the legislature?

Please enter the date in the following format: "DD/MM/YYYY." For example, 5 September 2020 should be entered as 05/09/2020. If the document is not published or not produced, leave this question blank.

Answer:
2/12/2020

Source:
http://likms.assembly.go.kr/bill/billDetail.do?billId=PRC_P2Z0B0V9G0C3E0C9Y1D7J0L7L7N7I9

https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?menuNo=4010100&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000045123&searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028

Comment:
The legislative bills tracking system of the Korean National Assembly indicates that the Budget for FY2021 was approved on December 2, 2020. The press release by the MOEF also confirms the approval date.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

EB-2. When is the EB made available to the public?

Publicly available budget documents are defined as those documents that are published on the website of the public authority issuing the document within the time frame specified in the OBS methodology and that all citizens are able to obtain free of charge. (See the Open Budget Survey Guidelines on Public Availability of Budget Documents.) This is a change from previous rounds of the Open Budget Survey: now at minimum documents must be made available on the Internet and free of charge to be considered publicly available.

The OBS methodology requires that for an EB to be considered publicly available, it must be made available to the public three months after the budget is approved by the legislature. If the EB is not released to the public at least three months after the budget is approved by the legislature, option "d" applies. Option "d" should also be chosen for documents that are produced for internal purposes only (that is, produced but never released to the public) or are not produced at all. Some governments may publish budget documents further in advance than the latest possible dates outlined above. In these instances, researchers should choose options "a" or "b," depending on the date of publication identified for the EB.

Answer:
a. Two weeks or less after the budget has been enacted

Source:
A summary version was released by the MoEF on December 2, 2020.

https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?menuNo=4010100&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000045123&searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028

https://gwanbo.go.kr/main.do

The full version was released via the Electronic Register of the Republic of Korea on December 10, 2020, which is less than two weeks from the approval date.

Comment:
No further comment is necessary.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree
Comments: The simplified version of EB was press-released on December 2, 2020. https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000052602&menuNo=4010100

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

EB-3a. If the EB is published, what is the date of publication of the EB?

Note that the date of publication is not necessarily the same date that is printed on the document.
Researchers should respond to this question if the document is published either within the time frame accepted by the OBS methodology or too late.

Please enter the date in the following format: "DD/MM/YYYY." For example, 5 September 2020 should be entered as 05/09/2020. If the document is not published or not produced, leave this question blank.

Answer:
2/12/2020

Source:
Some simplified versions are available from the following sources:

https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?menuNo=4010100&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000045123&searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028

http://likms.assembly.go.kr/bill/billDetail.do?billId=PRC_P2Z0B0V9G0C3E0C9Y1D7J0L7L7N7I9

Comment:
Some simplified versions of the EP were made available on December 2, 2020. But the full and official version was released over the Electronic Register of the Korean government on December 10, 2020.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree
Comments: The simplified version of EB was press-released on December 2, 2020. https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000052602&menuNo=4010100 The National Assembly sent the approved EB to the government on December 4, 2020. http://likms.assembly.go.kr/bill/billDetail.do?billId=PRC_P2Z0B0V9G0C3E0C9Y1D7J0L7L7N7I9 The Cabinet meeting approved the EB sent to the government on December 8, 2020. https://www.korea.kr/news/stateCouncilView.do?newsId=148880654&pageIndex=2&srchType=title&startDate=2020-12-08&endDate=2021-01-01&srchWord=%EB%B8%8C%EB%A6%AC%ED%95%91 The official version of EB was published over the Electronic Register of the Korean government on December 10, 2020. https://gwanbo.go.kr/user/search/searchDaily.do

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

EB-3b. In the box below, please explain how you determined the date of publication of the EB.

If the document is not published at all, researchers should mark this question "n/a."

Answer:
It was the date when the Budget for FY2021 was approved by the National Assembly and when the MoEF released some highlights and explanations of the approved budget.

Source:
https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?menuNo=4010100&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000045123&searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028

Comment:
Actually due to the MoEF's press release on December 2, 2020, the media covered the key changes and highlights of the approved budget.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree
Comments: The press version of the EB was released on December 2, 2020. The URL of the release is as follows.
https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?

searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000052602&menuNo=4010100

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

EB-4. If the EB is published, what is the URL or weblink of the EB?

Researchers should respond to this question if the document is published either within the time frame accepted by the OBS methodology or too late. If the document is not published at all, researchers should leave this question blank.

Answer:
https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?
menuNo=4010100&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000045123&searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028

Source:
There are also other sources that provide information on the EB.

The National Assembly's tracking system of the bills.
http://likms.assembly.go.kr/bill/billDetail.do?billId=PRC_P2Z0B0V9G0C3E0C9Y1D7J0L7L7N7I9

The official Electronic Register of the Korean government.
https://gwanbo.go.kr/main.do
Here you need to search for "2021년 예산" to access to the EB for FY2021.

Comment:
No further comment is necessary.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Disagree
Suggested Answer: https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?
searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000052602&menuNo=4010100

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

IBP Comment
IBP agrees with peer reviewers response and link attached.

EB-5. If the EB is published, are the numerical data contained in the EB available in a machine readable format?

Material (data or content) is machine readable if it is in a format that can be easily processed by a computer, such as .csv, .xls/.xlsx, and .json. Numerical data found in PDFs, Word (.doc/.docx) and HTML files do not qualify as machine readable. See more at: http://opendatahandbook.org/glossary/en/terms/machine-readable/

Option "d" applies if the EB is not publicly available, therefore its machine readability cannot be assessed.

Answer:
a. Yes, all of the numerical data are available in a machine readable format

Source:
From the sources that I provided in the previous questions, the available formats of the EB is in either hwp or pdf format which are not machine readable.

Having said that the expenditure and revenue data for the FY2021 budget (in JSON, XML, XLS, CSV and TXT formats) became available sometime after the approval of the Budget for FY2021 via the MoEF's Open Fiscal Data Portal.

https://www.openfiscaldata.go.kr/portal/service/openInfPage.do;jsessionid=N8YtZIvkRYvBxCt0MqbSm7f0yJo4uWCupnIjzGv0gOF1AyctJk3aMPWzTXLGNEye.IFPBWAS1_servlet_engine1?mId=B002

Comment:
If the EP refers to the one document that is approved by the National Assembly, I would not regard it as machine-readable. But, it counts the various media through which the Korean government provides information on the EB, then I would count the information available from the Open Fiscal Data Portal.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree
Comments: The Open Fiscal Data portal provides numerical data in the EB in a machine readable format within a few days from the date when the budget is approved by the legislature.

EB-6a. If the EB is not publicly available, is it still produced?

If the EB is not considered publicly available under the OBS methodology (and thus the answer to Question EB-2 was "d"), a government may nonetheless produce the document.

Option "a" applies if the document is produced and made available to the public online but not within the time frame specified in the OBS methodology (see Question EB-2)
Option "b" applies if the document is produced and made available to the public within the time frame specified by the OBS methodology but only in hard copy (and is not available online). Option "b" also applies if the document is made available to the public within the time frame specified by the OBS methodology in soft electronic copy but is not available online.
Option "c" applies if the document is produced for internal purposes only and so is not made available to the public.
Option "d" applies if the document is not produced at all.
Option "e" applies if the document is publicly available.

If a document is not released to the public, researchers may need to write to or visit the relevant government office in order to determine whether answer "c" or "d" applies.

Answer:
e. Not applicable (the document is publicly available)

Source:
Not applicable.

Comment:
No comment is necessary.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

EB-6b. If you selected option "c" or "d" in question EB-6a, please specify how you determined whether the EB was produced for internal use only, versus not produced at all.

If option "a,""b," or "e" was selected in question EB-6a, researchers should mark this question "n/a."

Answer:

Source:

Comment:

Peer Reviewer
Opinion:

Government Reviewer
Opinion:

EB-7. If the EB is produced, please write the full title of the EB.

For example, a title for the Enacted Budget could be "Appropriation Act n. 10 of 2018."

If the document is not produced at all, researchers should mark this question "n/a."

Answer:
The Budget for Fiscal Year 2021 (2021년도 예산)

Source:
https://gwanbo.go.kr/user/search/searchKeyword.do

Comment:
No comment necessary.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

EB-8. Is there a "citizens version" of the EB?

While the Citizens Budget was initially conceived as a simplified version of the Executive's Budget Proposal or the Enacted Budget, good practice is now evolving and suggests that a "citizens" version of key budget documents should be produced during each of the four phases of the budget cycle. This would serve to inform citizens of the state of public financial management throughout the entire budget cycle. While it is recognized that it may be unreasonable to expect that a citizens version is produced for each and every one of those key documents, it seems acceptable to expect that according to good practice, the executive releases a citizens version of key budget documents for each of the four stages of the budget process to allow citizens to be aware of what is happening, in terms of public financial management, throughout the entire budget cycle. For more information on Citizens Budget see: https://www.internationalbudget.org/publications/citizens-budgets/.

Answer:
a. Yes

Source:
https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?menuNo=4010100&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000052602&searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028

Comment:
On the date of the approval of the FY 2021 Budget, the MoEF provided a 20-page press release summarizing the key features of the Enacted Budget

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

CB-1. What is the fiscal year of the CB evaluated in this Open Budget Survey questionnaire?

Please enter the fiscal year in the following format: "FY YYYY" or "FY YYYY-YY."

If more than one Citizens Budget is produced, for each CB please indicate the document the CB simplifies/refers to, and the fiscal year.

Answer:
FY 2021

Source:
For the Executive Budget Proposal:
https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?menuNo=4010100&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000045123&searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028

For the Enacted Budget:
https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?menuNo=4010100&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000052602&searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028

Comment:
The Korean Ministry of Economy and Finance released highlights versions of the Executive Budget Proposal and the Enacted Budget via its website. These summary versions were intended for the news media to report on the governmental policy objectives regarding the budget. Ordinary citizens could also access to these documents via the Internet. The language of these press releases is rather easier to understand, compared to the official Executive Budget Proposal or the Enacted Budget.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

CB-2a. For the fiscal year indicated in CB-1, what is the public availability status of the CB?

If more than one Citizens Budget is produced, please complete this question for one of them, specifying in the comment box below which document (Executive's Budget Proposal or Enacted Budget) you are referring to, and – in the same comment box – which other Citizens Budget is produced and its public availability status.

Remember that publicly available budget documents are defined as those documents that are published on the website of the public authority issuing the document within the time frame specified by the OBS methodology and that all citizens are able to obtain free of charge. This is a change from previous rounds of the Open Budget Survey: now at minimum documents must be made available on the Internet and free of charge to be considered publicly available.

Option "a" applies if the document is produced and made available to the public online but not within the time frame specified in the OBS methodology
Option "b" applies if the document is produced and made available to the public within the time frame specified by the OBS methodology but only in hard copy (and is not available online). Option "b" also applies if the document is made available to the public within the time frame specified by the OBS methodology in soft electronic copy but is not available online.
Option "c" applies if the document is produced for internal purposes only and so is not made available to the public.
Option "d" applies if the document is not produced at all.
Option "e" applies if the document is publicly available.

Answer:
e. Not applicable (the document is publicly available)

Source:
https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?menuNo=4010100&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000045123&searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028

https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?menuNo=4010100&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000052602&searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028

Comment:
The Citizen Versions were made available on the dates when the legal actions were taken on the EBP and the EB, i.e., September 2, 2020 and December 2, 2020, respectively.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

CB-2b. If you selected option “c” or “d” in question CB-2a, please specify how you determined whether the CB was produced for internal use only, versus not produced at all.

If option “a,”“b,” or “e” was selected in question CB-2a, researchers should mark this question “n/a.”

Answer:

Source:

Comment:

Peer Reviewer
Opinion:

Government Reviewer
Opinion:

CB-3a. If the CB is published, what is the date of publication of the CB?

Note that the date of publication is not necessarily the same date that is printed on the document.
Researchers should respond to this question if the document is published either within the time frame accepted by the OBS methodology or too late.

Please enter the date in the following format: “DD/MM/YYYY.” For example, 5 September 2020 should be entered as 05/09/2020. If the document is not published or not produced, leave this question blank.

If more than one Citizens Budget is published, please complete this question for one of them, specifying in the comment box below which document you are referring to, and – in the same comment box – which other Citizens Budget is produced and its dates of publication.

Answer:
2/9/2020

Source:
It is the publication date of the Citizen Version of the Executive Budget Proposal.

https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?menuNo=4010100&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000045123&searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028

Comment:
This version comes with six different documents that highlight the policy intentions, functional resource allocations, major projects, fiscal outlooks, etc.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Disagree
Suggested Answer: 1/9/2020 The URL shows that the release date of the CB of the Executive Budget Proposal is September 1, 2020.
Comments: The publication date of the CB of the Enacted Budget was December 2, 2020. https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000052602&menuNo=4010100

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Disagree
Suggested Answer: The date of publication is Sep. 1, 2020, on the website of Ministry of Economy and Finance.
Comments: https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?
searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000045123&menuNo=4010100 CB 3b

CB-3b. In the box below, please explain how you determined the date of publication of the CB.

If the document is not published at all, researchers should mark this question "n/a."

Answer:
September 2, 2020 was the date when the MoEF released a package of documents that explain the key contents of the the Executive Budget Proposal.

Source:
https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?
menuNo=4010100&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000045123&searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028

Comment:
No further comment is necessary.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Disagree
Suggested Answer: As I mentioned in the previous question, the URL shows the release date is September 1, 2020

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Disagree
Suggested Answer: The date of publication is Sep. 1, 2020, on the website of Ministry of Economy and Finance.
Comments: https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?
searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000045123&menuNo=4010100

CB-4. If the CB is published, what is the URL or weblink of the CB?

Researchers should respond to this question if the document is published either within the time frame accepted by the OBS methodology or too late. If the document is not published at all, researchers should leave this question blank.

If more than one Citizens Budget is published, please complete this question for one of them, specifying in the comment box below which document you are referring to, and – in the same comment box – which other Citizens Budget is produced and its URL or weblink.

Answer:
https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?
menuNo=4010100&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000045123&searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028

Source:
https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?
menuNo=4010100&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000045123&searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028

Comment:
The documents are available from the MoEF website.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

CB-5. If the CB is produced, please write the full title of the CB.

For example, a title for the Citizens Budget could be "Budget 2020 People's Guide" or "2021 Proposed Budget in Brief: A People's Budget Publication."

If the document is not produced at all, researchers should mark this question "n/a."

If more than one Citizens Budget is produced, for the other CB, indicate the document the CB refers to and, next to it, its full title.

Answer:
"The Leading Country that Overcomes the COVID19", Budget Proposal for FY2021"

Source:
https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?menuNo=4010100&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000045123&searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028

Comment:
This is the head title of the Press Release for the EBP for FY2021.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

CB-6. If the CB is produced, please indicate which budget document it corresponds to.

If more than one Citizens Budget is produced, please complete this question for one of them, specifying in the comment box below which document you are referring to, and – in the same comment box – which other Citizens Budget is produced and which budget document it simplifies.

Answer:
The Citizen Version of the FY 2021 EBP is referring to the Executive Budget Proposal that was to be submitted to the National Assembly on September 3, 2020.

Source:
https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?menuNo=4010100&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000045123&searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028

Comment:
At the beginning of the Press Release, it makes it clear that the press release is about the Executive Budget Proposal that was decided over the Cabinet Meeting on September 1 and to be submitted to the National Assembly on September 3, 2020.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

IYRs-1. What is the fiscal year of the IYRs evaluated in this Open Budget Survey questionnaire?

Please enter the fiscal year in the following format: "FY YYYY" or "FY YYYY-YY."

Answer:
FY 2020

Source:
The MoEF has been publishing "Monthly Public Finance" every month keeping track of the progression in revenues, expenditures, public debt, etc. Some issues of Monthly Public Finance are available from the following URLs:

https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?menuNo=4010100&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000052665&searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028

https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?menuNo=4010100&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000040522&searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028

https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?menuNo=4010100&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000032603&searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028

Comment:
Please see above.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

IYRs-2. When are the IYRs made available to the public?

Publicly available budget documents are defined as those documents that are published on the website of the public authority issuing the document within the time frame specified in the OBS methodology and that all citizens are able to obtain free of charge. (See the Open Budget Survey Guidelines on Public Availability of Budget Documents.) This is a change from previous rounds of the Open Budget Survey: now at minimum documents must be made available on the Internet and free of charge to be considered publicly available.

The OBS methodology requires that for IYRs to be considered publicly available, IYRs must be made available to the public no later than three months after the reporting period ends. If at least seven of the last 12 monthly IYRs, or at least three of the last four quarterly IYRs are not released to the public at least three months after the reporting period ends, option "d" applies. Option "d" should also be chosen for documents that are produced for internal purposes only (that is, produced but never released to the public) or are not produced at all. Some governments may publish budget documents further in advance than the latest possible dates outlined above. In these instances, researchers should choose options "a" or "b," depending on the date of publication identified for the IYRs.

Answer:
a. At least every month, and within one month of the period covered

Source:
Please see the URLs that are provided in the previous Question. Every month the MoEF publishes Monthly Public Finance that keeps track of the progression of the budget implementation and revenue performance.

Comment:
Please see the above.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

IYRs-3a. If the IYRs are published, what are the dates of publication of the IYRs?

Specifically: if quarterly In-Year Reports are published, indicate the dates of publication of at least three of the last four IYRs that were publicly available. If monthly IYRs are published, indicate the dates of publication of at least seven of the last 12 IYRs that were publicly available.

Note that the date of publication is not necessarily the same date that is printed on the document.
Researchers should respond to this question if the document is published either within the time frame accepted by the OBS methodology or too late.

Please enter the date in the following format: "DD Month YYYY." For example, 5 September 2020 should be entered as 05 September 2020. If the document is not published or not produced, please mark this question "n/a."

Answer:
The dates are different depending upon the month, but usually it is around 7th~12th of each month. The MoEF releases Monthly Public Finance and its accompanying press release over its website.

For example, for the issue of December 2020, it was the 8th.
https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?menuNo=4010100&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000052665&searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028

For July 2020, it was the 7th.
https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?menuNo=4010100&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000040522&searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028

For March 2020, it was the 10th.
https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?menuNo=4010100&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000032603&searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028

Source:
Please see above.

Comment:
No further comment is necessary.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

IYRs-3b. In the box below, please explain how you determined the date of publication of the IYRs.

If the document is not published at all, researchers should mark this question "n/a."

Answer:
As indicated in the previous questions, they are the dates when the MoEF releases its Monthly Public Finance and its accompanying press release over its website.

Source:
Please refer to the URLs provided in the previous question.

Comment:
No further comment is necessary.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

IYRs-4. If the IYRs are published, what is the URL or weblink of the IYRs?

Researchers should respond to this question if the document is published either within the time frame accepted by the OBS methodology or too late.

Researchers should provide the weblink to the most recent In-Year Report in the space below, and – in the comment box underneath – the weblinks to older IYRs.

If the document is not published at all, researchers should leave this question blank.

Answer:
https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?menuNo=4010100&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000052665&searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028

Source:
The URLs for other issues are:

https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?menuNo=4010100&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000052276&searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028

https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?menuNo=4010100&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000051775&searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028

https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?menuNo=4010100&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000051775&searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028

https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?menuNo=4010100&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000045233&searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028

Comment:
Please refer to Source above.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree
Comments: The author presents the URLs for issues from September 2020 to December 2020. The URLs for other months are presented below.
August 2020 https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?menuNo=4010100&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000045233&searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028 July 2020 https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?menuNo=4010100&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000055747&searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028 June 2020 https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?menuNo=4010100&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000055239&searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028 May 2020 https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?menuNo=4010100&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000054886&searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028 April 2020 https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?menuNo=4010100&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000054485&searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028 March 2020 https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?menuNo=4010100&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000054062&searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028 February 2020 https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?menuNo=4010100&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000053754&searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028 January 2020 https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?menuNo=4010100&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000053202&searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

IYRs-5. If the IYRs are published, are the numerical data contained in the IYRs available in a machine readable format?

Material (data or content) is machine readable if it is in a format that can be easily processed by a computer, such as .csv, .xls/.xlsx, and .json. Numerical data found in PDFs, Word (.doc/.docx) and HTML files do not qualify as machine readable. See more at: http://opendatahandbook.org/glossary/en/terms/machine-readable/

Option "d" applies if the IYRs are not publicly available, therefore their machine readability cannot be assessed.

Answer:
c. No

Source:

Monthly Public Finance is typically in Hangeul (hwp) format that is not machine readable.

Comment:
No further comment is necessary.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree
Comments: However, the answer might be b. Most of the data are available on the Open Fiscal Data portal in a machine readable format. https://www.openfiscaldata.go.kr/portal/main.do https://www.openfiscaldata.go.kr/portal/maineng.do

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Disagree
Suggested Answer: a. Yes, all of the numerical data are available in a machine readable format
Comments: The numerical data contained in the IYRs are available in a machine readable formats(such as xls, csv, xml, json, txt) at “Open Fiscal Data System”(homepage). Machine readable formats are available at :https://www.openfiscaldata.go.kr/portal/service/openInfPage.do;jsessionid=zD2w3QT4m2W8XxnCAUCGoKs6smAs4wcMv2KPXj5dhsRoSbyrpFIqjMBB6xezzGaX.IFPBWAS2_servlet_engine1?mId=B003

IYRs-6a. If the IYRs are not publicly available, are they still produced?

If the IYRs are not considered publicly available under the OBS methodology (and thus the answer to Question IYRs-2 was “d”), a government may nonetheless produce the document.

Option “a” applies if the document is produced and made available to the public online but not within the time frame specified in the OBS methodology (see Question IYRs-2).
Option “b” applies if the document is produced and made available to the public within the time frame specified by the OBS methodology but only in hard copy (and is not available online). Option “b” also applies if the document is made available to the public within the time frame specified by the OBS methodology in soft electronic copy but is not available online.
Option “c” applies if the document is produced for internal purposes only and so is not made available to the public.
Option “d” applies if the document is not produced at all.
Option “e” applies if the document is publicly available.

If a document is not released to the public, researchers may need to write to or visit the relevant government office in order to determine whether answer “c” or “d” applies.

Answer:
e. Not applicable (the document is publicly available)

Source:
Not applicable.

Comment:
Not applicable.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

IYRs-6b. If you selected option “c” or “d” in question IYRs-6a, please specify how you determined whether the IYRs were produced for internal use only, versus not produced at all.

If option “a,”“b,” or “e” was selected in question IYRs-6a, researchers should mark this question “n/a.”

Answer:

Source:

Comment:

Peer Reviewer
Opinion:

Government Reviewer
Opinion:

IYRs-7. If the IYRs are produced, please write the full title of the IYRs.

For example, a title for the In-Year Report could be "Budget Monitoring Report, Quarter 1" or "Budget Execution Report January-March 2020."

If In-Year Reports are not produced at all, researchers should mark this question "n/a."

Researchers should provide the full title of the most recent In-Year Report in the space below, and – in the comment box underneath – the full titles of older IYRs.

Answer:
Monthly Public Finance (월간 재정동향)

Source:
Please refer to the URLs provided in the previous questions.

Comment:
No further comment is necessary.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

IYRs-8. Is there a "citizens version" of the IYRs?

While the Citizens Budget was initially conceived as a simplified version of the Executive's Budget Proposal or the Enacted Budget, good practice is now evolving and suggests that a "citizens" version of key budget documents should be produced during each of the four phases of the budget cycle. This would serve to inform citizens of the state of public financial management throughout the entire budget cycle. While it is recognized that it may be unreasonable to expect that a citizens version is produced for each and every one of those key documents, it seems acceptable to expect that according to good practice, the executive releases a citizens version of key budget documents for each of the four stages of the budget process to allow citizens to be aware of what is happening, in terms of public financial management, throughout the entire budget cycle. For more information on Citizens Budget see: https://www.internationalbudget.org/publications/citizens-budgets/.

Answer:
a. Yes

Source:
Some of the URLs from which Monthly Public Finance and its accompanying press release are available are as follows:

https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?menuNo=4010100&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000041849&searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028

https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?menuNo=4010100&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000051775&searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028

https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?menuNo=4010100&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000040057&searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028

Comment:
No further comment is necessary.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

MYR-1. What is the fiscal year of the MYR evaluated in this Open Budget Survey questionnaire?

Please enter the fiscal year in the following format: "FY YYYY" or "FY YYYY-YY."

Answer:
FY2020 FY2020

Source:
Last calendar year, FY2020 was being executed and this one should be the one about which Mid Year Report was produced if any.

Comment:
No further comment is necessary.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

MYR-2. When is the MYR made available to the public?

Publicly available budget documents are defined as those documents that are published on the website of the public authority issuing the document within the time frame specified in the OBS methodology and that all citizens are able to obtain free of charge. (See the Open Budget Survey Guidelines on Public Availability of Budget Documents.) This is a change from previous rounds of the Open Budget Survey: now at minimum documents must be made available on the Internet and free of charge to be considered publicly available.

The OBS methodology requires that for an MYR to be considered publicly available, it must be made available to the public no later than three months after the reporting period ends (i.e., three months after the midpoint of the fiscal year). If the MYR is not released to the public at least three months after the reporting period ends, option "d" applies. Option "d" should also be chosen for documents that are produced for internal purposes only (that is, produced but never released to the public) or are not produced at all. Some governments may publish budget documents further in advance than the latest possible dates outlined above. In these instances, researchers should choose options "a" or "b," depending on the date of publication identified for the MYR.

Answer:
a. Six weeks or less after the midpoint

Source:
Economic Policy Directions for the Second Half of 2020:

https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000039951&menuNo=4010100

Comment:
The situation during FY2020 is quite unique since during FY2020 we have seen four rounds of supplementary budgets to deal with the fast

deteriorating socio-economic situation amid the COVID-19 pandemic. Of course, when the government submitted those supplementary budgets (SBs), the MoEF released documents that justified the SB. These SBs and their justifications could be a substantial departure and an introduction of new institutional practices to systematically analyze the implementation progress and the variance between the original budget and the changed situation.

On the other hand, the Ministry of Economy and Finance issued the Economic Policy Directions for the Second Half of 2020, which was published late June, could be qualified as the MYR. Basically the document assesses the economic situation during the first half of the fiscal year and presents policy priorities for the second half of the year.

Given the comprehensiveness of the said document, hereafter I would regard it as an MYR for FY2020.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

MYR-3a. If the MYR is published, what is the date of publication of the MYR?

Note that the date of publication is not necessarily the same date that is printed on the document.

Researchers should respond to this question if the document is published either within the time frame accepted by the OBS methodology or too late.

Please enter the date in the following format: "DD/MM/YYYY." For example, 5 September 2020 should be entered as 05/09/2020. If the document is not published or not produced, leave this question blank.

Answer:
1/6/2020

Source:
https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000039951&menuNo=4010100

Comment:
Please refer to the URL in Source.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

MYR-3b. In the box below, please explain how you determined the date of publication of the MYR.

If the document is not published at all, researchers should mark this question "n/a."

Answer:
It is the date when the MoEF released its Economic Policy Directions for the Second Half of 2020 along with a press release for highlighting the key issues. It is the date when the MoEF released its Economic Policy Directions for the Second Half of 2020 along with a press release for highlighting the key issues.

Source:
Economic Policy Directions for the Second Half of 2020:

https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000039951&menuNo=4010100

Comment:
No more comment needed.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

MYR-4. If the MYR is published, what is the URL or weblink of the MYR?

Researchers should respond to this question if the document is published either within the time frame accepted by the OBS methodology or too late. If the document is not published at all, researchers should leave this question blank.

Answer:
https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000039951&menuNo=4010100

Source:
https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000039951&menuNo=4010100

Comment:
No further comment necessary

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

MYR-5. If the MYR is published, are the numerical data contained in the MYR available in a machine readable format?

Material (data or content) is machine readable if it is in a format that can be easily processed by a computer, such as .csv, .xls/.xlsx, and .json. Numerical data found in PDFs, Word (.doc/.docx) and HTML files do not qualify as machine readable. See more at: http://opendatahandbook.org/glossary/en/terms/machine-readable/.

Option "d" applies if the MYR is not publicly available, therefore its machine readability cannot be assessed.

Answer:
c. No

Source:
https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000039951&menuNo=4010100

Comment:
The MYR is in PDF format; so it is not machine-readable.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

MYR-6a. If the MYR is not publicly available, is it still produced?

If the MYR is not considered publicly available under the OBS methodology (and thus the answer to Question MYR-2 was "d"), a government may nonetheless produce the document.

Option "a" applies if the document is produced and made available to the public online but not within the time frame specified in the OBS methodology (see Question MYR-2).
Option "b" applies if the document is produced and made available to the public within the time frame specified by the OBS methodology but only in hard copy (and is not available online). Option "b" also applies if the document is made available to the public within the time frame specified by the OBS methodology in soft electronic copy but is not available online.
Option "c" applies if the document is produced for internal purposes only and so is not made available to the public.
Option "d" applies if the document is not produced at all.
Option "e" applies if the document is publicly available.

If a document is not released to the public, researchers may need to write to or visit the relevant government office in order to determine whether answer "c" or "d" applies.

Answer:
e. Not applicable (the document is publicly available)

Source:
Not applicable

Comment:
Not applicable

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

MYR-6b. If you selected option "c" or "d" in question MYR-6a, please specify how you determined whether the MYR was produced for internal use only, versus not produced at all.

If option "a,""b," or "e" was selected in question MYR-6a, researchers should mark this question "n/a."

Answer:
Basically it is not clear at all if the MoEF has produced such document at all yet. Having said that, I am pretty sure that they have produced an MYR.

Source:
Not applicable.

Comment:
Not applicable.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

IBP Comment
IBP confirms that the Mid-year review for FY 2020 does contained revised and updated macroeconomic estimates, and is being considered for Open

Budget Survey 2021.

MYR-7. If the MYR is produced, please write the full title of the MYR.

For example, a title for the Mid-Year Review could be "Semi-annual Budget Performance Report, FY 2019/20" or "Mid-Year Report on the 2020 National Budget."

If the document is not produced at all, researchers should mark this question "n/a."

Answer:
Economic Policy Directions for the Second Half of 2020 (2020년 하반기 경제정책방향)

Source:
https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000039951&menuNo=4010100

Comment:
Not applicable

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

MYR-8. Is there a "citizens version" of the MYR?

While the Citizens Budget was initially conceived as a simplified version of the Executive's Budget Proposal or the Enacted Budget, good practice is now evolving and suggests that a "citizens" version of key budget documents should be produced during each of the four phases of the budget cycle. This would serve to inform citizens of the state of public financial management throughout the entire budget cycle. While it is recognized that it may be unreasonable to expect that a citizens version is produced for each and every one of those key documents, it seems acceptable to expect that according to good practice, the executive releases a citizens version of key budget documents for each of the four stages of the budget process to allow citizens to be aware of what is happening, in terms of public financial management, throughout the entire budget cycle. For more information on Citizens Budget see: https://www.internationalbudget.org/publications/citizens-budgets/.

Answer:
b. No

Source:
https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000039951&menuNo=4010100

Comment:
Only the MYR was published along with a very short notification.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

YER-1. What is the fiscal year of the YER evaluated in this Open Budget Survey questionnaire?

Please enter the fiscal year in the following format: "FY YYYY" or "FY YYYY-YY."

Answer:
FY2019 FY2019

Source:
For this survey, I regard the Settlement of National Accounts as the Year-End-Report. During the first half of 2020, the Korean government prepared the Settlement of National Accounts for FY2019 whose execution was concluded December 31, 2019, had it audited by the Korean Board of Audit and Inspection (BAI), the nation's supreme audit institution, and submitted it to the National Assembly by May 31. So, it is appropriate to evaluate the public availability of the Settlement of Accounts as the Korean YER for FY2019. The YER for FY2020 is now being prepared by the MoEF.

Comment:
Please see above.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree
Comments: The YER for FY2020 was prepared and submitted to the National Assembly on May 31, 2021.
https://likms.assembly.go.kr/bill/billDetail.do?billId=PRC_C2U1J0H5U3G1N1H3S3B9T0Y0X7M0G8

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

YER-2. When is the YER made available to the public?

Publicly available budget documents are defined as those documents that are published on the website of the public authority issuing the document within the time frame specified in the OBS methodology and that all citizens are able to obtain free of charge. (See the Open Budget Survey Guidelines on Public Availability of Budget Documents.) This is a change from previous rounds of the Open Budget Survey: now at minimum documents must be made available on the Internet and free of charge to be considered publicly available.

The OBS methodology requires that for an YER to be considered publicly available, it must be made available to the public no later than one year after the fiscal year to which it corresponds. If the YER is not released to the public within one year after the end of the fiscal year to which it corresponds, option "d" applies. Option "d" should also be chosen for documents that are produced for internal purposes only (that is, produced but never released to the public) or are not produced at all. Some governments may publish budget documents further in advance than the latest possible dates outlined above. In these instances, researchers should choose options "a" or "b," depending on the date of publication identified for the YER.

Answer:
a. Six months or less after the end of the budget year

Source:
The Settlement of Accounts report was approved over the cabinet meeting on April 7, 2020 to be submitted to the Board of Audit and Inspection. On that date, the MoEF provided a press release highlighting the main contents of the Settlement report.

https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000033071&menuNo=4010100

The audited Settlement of Accounts was submitted to the National Assembly on June 1, 2020, which is also recorded in the National Assembly bills tracking system where the full report is available.

http://likms.assembly.go.kr/bill/billDetail.do?billId=PRC_G2Y0B0S6Y0D1R1C4U1L6C5P4T4Q6Q7

Comment:
The timeline for preparing, auditing and approving Settlement of Accounts report is stipulated in the National Finance Act.

Article 58 (Preparation and Submission of Statement of Accounts by Central Government Agency)
(1) The head of each central government agency shall submit a statement of accounts prepared for each fiscal year as prescribed by the National Accounting Act (hereinafter referred to as "statement of accounts of central government agency") to the Minister of Strategy and Finance by no later than the end of February of the following year.
(2) The Secretary General of the National Assembly, the Minister of Court Administration, the Secretary General of the Constitutional Court, and the Secretary General of the National Election Commission shall prepare a statement on the use of reserve funds for each fiscal year, and shall submit such statement to the Minister of Strategy and Finance by no later than the end of February of the following year.

Article 59 (Preparation and Submission of National Statement of Accounts)
The Minister of Strategy and Finance shall submit a national statement of accounts prepared for each fiscal year as prescribed by the National Accounting Act and approved by the President to the Board of Audit and Inspection by April 10 of the following year.

Article 60 (Inspection of Settlement of Accounts)
The Board of Audit and Inspection shall conduct an audit of the national statement of accounts submitted according to Article 59, and shall send the statement to the Minister of Strategy and Finance by May 20 of the following year.

Article 61 (Submission of National Statement of Accounts to National Assembly)
The Government shall submit the national statement of accounts audited by the Board of Audit and Inspection pursuant to Article 60 to the National Assembly by May 31 of the following year.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

YER-3a. If the YER is published, what is the date of publication of the YER?

Note that the date of publication is not necessarily the same date that is printed on the document.
Researchers should respond to this question if the document is published either within the time frame accepted by the OBS methodology or too late.

Please enter the date in the following format: "DD/MM/YYYY." For example, 5 September 2020 should be entered as 05/09/2020. If the document is not published or not produced, leave this question blank.

Answer:
1/6/2020

Source:
A summary version was released by the MoEF on April 7, 2020 before it was audited by the Board of Audit and Inspection. The full report was made available over the National Assembly's bills tracking system on June 1, 2020.

http://likms.assembly.go.kr/bill/billDetail.do?billId=PRC_G2Y0B0S6Y0D1R1C4U1L6C5P4T4Q6Q7

Comment:
No further comment is necessary.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

YER-3b. In the box below, please explain how you determined the date of publication of the YER.

If the document is not published at all, researchers should mark this question "n/a."

Answer:
The full version of the Settlement of Accounts (that was audited by the Board of Audit and Inspection and submitted to the National Assembly) was made available via the National Assembly's bills tracking system on June 1, 2020.

Source:
http://likms.assembly.go.kr/bill/billDetail.do?billId=PRC_G2Y0B0S6Y0D1R1C4U1L6C5P4T4Q6Q7

Comment:
No further comment is necessary.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

YER-4. If the YER is published, what is the URL or weblink of the YER?

Researchers should respond to this question if the document is published either within the time frame accepted by the OBS methodology or too late. If the document is not published at all, researchers should leave this question blank.

Answer:
http://likms.assembly.go.kr/bill/billDetail.do?billId=PRC_G2Y0B0S6Y0D1R1C4U1L6C5P4T4Q6Q7

Source:
This is the webpage where information on the timelines of the legislative deliberation and approval on the Settlement of Accounts is provided.

Comment:
No further comment is necessary.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

YER-5. If the YER is published, are the numerical data contained in the YER available in a machine readable format?

Material (data or content) is machine readable if it is in a format that can be easily processed by a computer, such as .csv, .xls/.xlsx, and .json. Numerical data found in PDFs, Word (.doc/.docx) and HTML files do not qualify as machine readable. See more at: http://opendatahandbook.org/glossary/en/terms/machine-readable/

Option "d" applies if the YER is not publicly available, therefore its machine readability cannot be assessed.

Answer:
a. Yes, all of the numerical data are available in a machine readable format

Source:
https://www.openfiscaldata.go.kr/portal/service/openInfPage.do?mId=B013

Comment:
Information of the Settlement of Accounts report is provided via multiple sources. While the report itself is available from the legislative tracking system, the specific revenues and expenditures data are also available from the MoEF's Open Fiscal Data Portal.

https://www.openfiscaldata.go.kr/portal/service/openInfPage.do?mId=B013

For this reason, I would go for "a" here.

Having said that, I think the OBS may need to be more specific in the definition of "Year End Report" since year-end fiscal data are available across various sources but they may not be regarded as "Year End Report". If that is the case, the answer to this question does not accurately measure the quality and availability of data from YER.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree
Comments: The Open Fiscal Data portal provides numerical data in the YER in a machine readable format within a few days from the date when the YER is submitted to the legislature.

YER-6a. If the YER is not publicly available, is it still produced?

If the YER is not considered publicly available under the OBS methodology (and thus the answer to Question YER-2 was "d"), a government may nonetheless produce the document.

Option "a" applies if the document is produced and made available to the public online but not within the time frame specified in the OBS methodology (see Question YER-2)
Option "b" applies if the document is produced and made available to the public within the time frame specified by the OBS methodology but only in hard copy (and is not available online). Option "b" also applies if the document is made available to the public within the time frame specified by the OBS methodology in soft electronic copy but is not available online.
Option "c" applies if the document is produced for internal purposes only and so is not made available to the public.
Option "d" applies if the document is not produced at all.
Option "e" applies if the document is publicly available.

If a document is not released to the public, researchers may need to write to or visit the relevant government office in order to determine whether answer "c" or "d" applies.

Answer:
e. Not applicable (the document is publicly available)

Source:
Not applicable.

Comment:
Not applicable.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

YER-6b. If you selected option "c" or "d" in question YER-6a, please specify how you determined whether the YER was produced for internal use only, versus not produced at all.

If option "a,""b," or "e" was selected in question YER-6a, researchers should mark this question "n/a."

Answer:

Source:

Comment:

Peer Reviewer
Opinion:

Government Reviewer
Opinion:

YER-7. If the YER is produced, please write the full title of the YER.

For example, a title for the Year-End Report could be "Consolidated Financial Statement for the Year Ended 31 March 2020" or "Annual Report 2019 Published by the Ministry of Finance and Planning." If the document is not produced at all, researchers should mark this question "n/a."

Answer:
The Settlement of State Accounts for FY2019 (2019회계연도 국가결산보고서)

Source:
http://likms.assembly.go.kr/bill/billDetail.do?billId=PRC_G2Y0B0S6Y0D1R1C4U1L6C5P4T4Q6Q7

Comment:
No further comment is necessary.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

YER-8. Is there a "citizens version" of the YER?

While the Citizens Budget was initially conceived as a simplified version of the Executive's Budget Proposal or the Enacted Budget, good practice is now evolving and suggests that a "citizens" version of key budget documents should be produced during each of the four phases of the budget cycle. This would serve to inform citizens of the state of public financial management throughout the entire budget cycle. While it is recognized that it may be unreasonable to expect that a citizens version is produced for each and every one of those key documents, it seems acceptable to expect that according to good practice, the executive releases a citizens version of key budget documents for each of the four stages of the budget process to allow citizens to be aware of what is happening, in terms of public financial management, throughout the entire budget cycle. For more information on Citizens Budget see: https://www.internationalbudget.org/publications/citizens-budgets/.

Answer:
a. Yes

Source:
https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000033071&menuNo=4010100

Comment:
On the date (April 7, 2020) when the Settlement of Accounts was deliberated and approved over the State Cabinet Meeting, the MoEF provided a press release highlighting the key contents of the report, which can be regarded as a citizen version.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree
Comments: We are publishing a citizen version of budget documents under the title of "a citizen's guide to the national budget". In addition, on the date (April 7, 2020) when the Settlement of Accounts was deliberated and approved over the State Cabinet Meeting, the MoEF provided a press release highlighling the key contents of the report.

AR-1. What is the fiscal year of the AR evaluated in this Open Budget Survey questionnaire?

Please enter the fiscal year in the following format: "FY YYYY" or "FY YYYY-YY."

Answer:
FY2019

Source:
The Year End Report that was audited, deliberated and approved in 2020 was that on FY 2019. The Board of Audit and Inspection, Korea's Supreme Audition Institution, has the mandate to audit the Settlement of Accounts report that is submitted by the MoEF. It should complete the audit by May 20 each year.

National Finance Act (Article 60) reads that "The Board of Audit and Inspection shall conduct an audit of the national statement of accounts submitted according to Article 59, and shall send the statement to the Minister of Strategy and Finance by May 20 of the following year."

Comment:
No further comment is necessary.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

AR-2. When is the AR made available to the public?

Publicly available budget documents are defined as those documents that are published on the website of the public authority issuing the document within the time frame specified in the OBS methodology and that all citizens are able to obtain free of charge. (See the Open Budget Survey Guidelines on Public Availability of Budget Documents.) This is a change from previous rounds of the Open Budget Survey: now at minimum documents must be made available on the Internet and free of charge to be considered publicly available.

The OBS methodology requires that for an AR to be considered publicly available, it must be made available to the public no later than 18 months after the end of the fiscal year to which it corresponds. If the AR is not released to the public at least 18 months after the end of the fiscal year to which it corresponds, option "d" applies. Option "d" should also be chosen for documents that are produced for internal purposes only (that is, produced but never released to the public) or are not produced at all. Some governments may publish budget documents further in advance than the latest possible dates outlined above. In these instances, researchers should choose options "a" or "b," depending on the date of publication identified for the AR.

Answer:
a. Six months or less after the end of the budget year

Source:
The audit report was made public on June 1, 2020 over the webpage of the Board of Audit and Inspection.

https://www.bai.go.kr/bai/cop/bbs/detailBoardArticle.do;jsessionid=guFl6TZYaiLbF9nVUV3gHlk2.node01?bbsId=BBSMSTR_100000000010&searchCnd=&searchWrd=&searchBgnDe=&searchEndDe=&searchYear=&pageIndex=1&recordCountPerPage=10&nttId=125925&tabOkFlag=&mdex=bai21

Comment:
The BAI is supposed to complete its audit by May 20 each year. Last year, the government submitted the audited Settlement of Accounts report to the National Assembly on June 1. I believe this is why the BAI released the audit report on June 1, 2020.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree
Comments: the incorrect part in the comment : The BAI sent the audit report to the Ministry of Strategy and Finance on May 20, 2020 by Electronic Document System.

AR-3a. If the AR is published, what is the date of publication of the AR?

Note that the date of publication is not necessarily the same date that is printed on the document.
Researchers should respond to this question if the document is published either within the time frame accepted by the OBS methodology or too late.

Please enter the date in the following format: "DD/MM/YYYY." For example, 5 September 2020 should be entered as 05/09/2020. If the document is not published or not produced, leave this question blank.

Answer:
1/6/2020

Source:
https://www.bai.go.kr/bai/cop/bbs/detailBoardArticle.do;jsessionid=guFl6TZYaiLbF9nVUV3gHlk2.node01?bbsId=BBSMSTR_100000000010&searchCnd=&searchWrd=&searchBgnDe=&searchEndDe=&searchYear=&pageIndex=1&recordCountPerPage=10&nttId=125925&tabOkFlag=&mdex=bai21

Comment:
This is the date on which the audit report was uploaded to a webpage of the BAI.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

AR-3b. In the box below, please explain how you determined the date of publication of the AR.

If the document is not published at all, researchers should mark this question "n/a."

Answer:
It is the date when the audit report by the BAI was released to the public via its website.

Source:
https://www.bai.go.kr/bai/cop/bbs/detailBoardArticle.do;jsessionid=guFl6TZYaiLbF9nVUV3gHlk2.node01?bbsId=BBSMSTR_100000000010&searchCnd=&searchWrd=&searchBgnDe=&searchEndDe=&searchYear=&pageIndex=1&recordCountPerPage=10&nttId=125925&tabOkFlag=&mdex=bai21

Comment:
No further comment is necessary.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

AR-4. If the AR is published, what is the URL or weblink of the AR?

Researchers should respond to this question if the document is published either within the time frame accepted by the OBS methodology or too late. If the document is not published at all, researchers should leave this question blank.

Answer:
https://www.bai.go.kr/bai/cop/bbs/detailBoardArticle.do;jsessionid=guFl6TZYaiLbF9nVUV3gHlk2.node01?bbsId=BBSMSTR_100000000010&searchCnd=&searchWrd=&searchBgnDe=&searchEndDe=&searchYear=&pageIndex=1&recordCountPerPage=10&nttId=125925&tabOkFlag=&mdex=bai21

Source:

https://www.bai.go.kr/bai/cop/bbs/detailBoardArticle.do;jsessionid=guFl6TZYaiLbF9nVUV3gHlk2.node01?bbsId=BBSMSTR_100000000010&searchCnd=&searchWrd=&searchBgnDe=&searchEndDe=&searchYear=&pageIndex=1&recordCountPerPage=10&nttId=125925&tabOkFlag=&mdex=bai21

Comment:
No comment is necessary.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

AR-5. If the AR is published, are the numerical data contained in the AR available in a machine readable format?

Material (data or content) is machine readable if it is in a format that can be easily processed by a computer, such as .csv, .xls/.xlsx, and .json. Numerical data found in PDFs, Word (.doc/.docx) and HTML files do not qualify as machine readable. See more at: http://opendatahandbook.org/glossary/en/terms/machine-readable/

Option "d" applies if the AR is not publicly available, therefore its machine readability cannot be assessed.

Answer:
c. No

Source:
The audit report is in pdf format which is not machine-readable.
https://www.bai.go.kr/bai/cop/bbs/detailBoardArticle.do;jsessionid=guFl6TZYaiLbF9nVUV3gHlk2.node01?bbsId=BBSMSTR_100000000010&searchCnd=&searchWrd=&searchBgnDe=&searchEndDe=&searchYear=&pageIndex=1&recordCountPerPage=10&nttId=125925&tabOkFlag=&mdex=bai21

Comment:
No further comment is necessary.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

AR-6a. If the AR is not publicly available, is it still produced?

If the AR is not considered publicly available under the OBS methodology (and thus the answer to Question AR-2 was "d"), a government may nonetheless produce the document.

Option "a" applies if the document is produced and made available to the public online but not within the time frame specified in the OBS methodology (see Question AR-2).
Option "b" applies if the document is produced and made available to the public within the time frame specified by the OBS methodology but only in hard copy (and is not available online). Option "b" also applies if the document is made available to the public within the time frame specified by the OBS methodology in soft electronic copy but is not available online.
Option "c" applies if the document is produced for internal purposes only and so is not made available to the public.
Option "d" applies if the document is not produced at all.
Option "e" applies if the document is publicly available.

If a document is not released to the public, researchers may need to write to or visit the relevant government office in order to determine whether answer "c" or "d" applies.

Answer:
e. Not applicable (the document is publicly available)

Source:
Not applicable.

Comment:
Not applicable.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

AR-6b. If you selected option “c” or “d” in question AR-6a, please specify how you determined whether the AR was produced for internal use only, versus not produced at all.

If option “a,”“b,” or “e” was selected in question AR-6a, researchers should mark this question “n/a.”

Answer:

Source:

Comment:

Peer Reviewer
Opinion:

Government Reviewer
Opinion:

AR-7. If the AR is produced, please write the full title of the AR.

For example, a title for the Audit Report could be “Annual General Reports of the Controller and Auditor General.” If the document is not produced at all, researchers should mark this question “n/a.”

Answer:
Audit Report on the Settlement of State Accounts for FY2019 (2019회계연도 결산검사보고)

Source:
https://www.bai.go.kr/bai/cop/bbs/detailBoardArticle.do;jsessionid=guFl6TZYaiLbF9nVUV3gHlk2.node01?bbsId=BBSMSTR_100000000010&searchCnd=&searchWrd=&searchBgnDe=&searchEndDe=&searchYear=&pageIndex=1&recordCountPerPage=10&nttId=125925&tabOkFlag=&mdex=bai21

Comment:
No comment is necessary.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

AR-8. Is there a “citizens version” of the AR?

While the Citizens Budget was initially conceived as a simplified version of the Executive’s Budget Proposal or the Enacted Budget, good practice is now evolving and suggests that a “citizens” version of key budget documents should be produced during each of the four phases of the budget cycle. This would serve to inform citizens of the state of public financial management throughout the entire budget cycle. While it is recognized that it may be unreasonable to expect that a citizens version is produced for each and every one of those key documents, it seems acceptable to expect that according to good practice, the executive releases a citizens version of key budget documents for each of the four stages of the budget process to allow citizens to be aware of what is happening, in terms of public financial management, throughout the entire budget cycle. For more information on Citizens Budget see: https://www.internationalbudget.org/publications/citizens-budgets/.

Answer:
a. Yes

Source:
https://www.bai.go.kr/bai/cop/bbs/detailBoardArticle.do?mdex=bai20&bbsId=BBSMSTR_100000000009&nttId=126067

Comment:
When the BAI released the audit report on the Settlement of Accounts of FY2019 on June 1, it also provided a press release summarizing and highlighting the key findings.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

GQ-1a. Are there one or more websites or web portals for disseminating government fiscal information? If yes, please provide the necessary links in the comment/citation.

GQ-1a asks the researcher to list any government websites or portals where fiscal information can be found. For example, in New Zealand the Treasury website (http://www.treasury.govt.nz/) hosts important budget-related information, including the Pre-Budget Statement, the Executive’s Budget Proposal, the Citizens Budget, In-Year Reports, the Mid-Year Review, and the Year-End Report. In addition, New Zealand’s Parliamentary Counsel Office (http://www.legislation.govt.nz/) posts the Enacted Budget while the Controller and Auditor-General website (http://www.oag.govt.nz/) publishes the annual Audit Report. The New Zealand researcher would provide the links to each of these sites. Other countries have developed portals that include fiscal information, though not in the “documents” format. For example, these portals have been created by Mexico (https://www.transparenciapresupuestaria.gob.mx/) and Brazil (http://www.portaltransparencia.gov.br/). Some countries have both a website and a portal. The Brazilian government, for example, apart from the Transparency Portal, has a dedicated website for the federal budget, where all key documents and other information can be found (www.orcamentofederal.gov.br). Researchers should include details about all of the relevant websites and/or portals that can be used to access budget information.

Answer:
a. Yes

Source:
The most prominent and widely accessible source is the website of the MoEF whose URL is:
https://www.moef.go.kr

The MoEF also maintains a web portal for disclosing up-to-date fiscal data and finance documents including budgets, national financial management plan, performance plans and reports, etc.
https://www.openfiscaldata.go.kr/portal/main.do

In the National Assembly side, the budget and settlement of accounts information is also available from the website below:
https://www.assembly.go.kr/assm/assemact/account/account0101/assmBudget/budgetUserList.do

in addition, the expertly independent fiscal reports are also available from the National Assembly Budget Office:

https://www.nabo.go.kr

Comment:
There are multiple sources, but I believe the most comprehensive sources is the open fiscal data portal. Data there are also machine-readable.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

GQ-1b. On these websites/portals, can revenue and/or expenditure data for the current fiscal year be downloaded as a consolidated, machine readable file (or set of files)? If yes, please provide the necessary links in the comment/citation. For more information on machine readability, see: http://opendatahandbook.org/glossary/en/terms/machine-readable/.

GQ-1b, GQ-1c, and GQ-1d ask about whether governments publish specific types of content on their websites/portals: (a) consolidated files that contain disaggregated revenue and/or expenditure information for the current fiscal year; (b) consolidated files that contain disaggregated revenue and/or expenditure information for multiple years in consistent formats; and (c) infographics/visualizations or other similar tools used to simplify data access and analysis. Researchers should provide the links to relevant webpages and some explanations of what they contain.

Answer:
a. Yes, both revenue and expenditure data can be downloaded as a consolidated file

Source:
The data available from the Open Fiscal Data portal are provided in JSON, XML, XLS, CSV and TXT formats.

https://www.openfiscaldata.go.kr/portal/service/openInfPage.do?mId=B002

Comment:
No further comment is necessary.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

GQ-1c. On these websites/portals, can disaggregated revenue and/or expenditure data in consolidated, machine readable files be downloaded for multiple years in consistent formats? If yes, please provide the necessary links and details in the comment/citation. For more information on machine readability, see: http://opendatahandbook.org/glossary/en/terms/machine-readable/.

Answer:
a. Yes, both revenue and expenditure data can be downloaded for multiple years in consistent formats

Source:
https://www.openfiscaldata.go.kr/portal/service/openInfPage.do?mId=B002

Comment:
No further comment is necessary.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

GQ-1d. On these websites/portals, are infographics/visualizations or other similar tools used to simplify data access and analysis? If yes, please provide the necessary links and details in the comment/citation.

Answer:
a. Yes

Source:
https://www.openfiscaldata.go.kr/portal/service/openInfPage.do?mId=B002

Comment:
For most of the numerical data (revenues and expenditures, deficit, debt, etc), the users can create different types of charts over the portal's interface.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

GQ-2. Are there laws in place guiding public financial management and/or auditing? If yes, please provide the necessary details and links in the comment/citation, and specify whether and where the law(s) contains specific provisions for budget transparency and/or participation.

GQ-2 asks about the existence of any national laws governing public financial management and auditing. These may include a public finance act, a section of the constitution, or an organic budget law. In some countries, fiscal responsibility legislation may also be relevant. For example, the Kenya researcher may include the link to its Public Finance Management Act, 2012 (http://kenyalaw.org:8181/exist/kenyalex/actview.xql?actid=No.%2018%20of%202012), and the Macedonian researcher may include a link to its State Audit Law (https://www.finance.gov.mk/files/u11/Audit%20law.pdf). Researchers should provide links to websites where such laws are published, if possible, or an electronic copy of the law itself. They should also indicate if and where (e.g. which article) these laws include specific provisions for budget transparency and citizen participation in budget processes.

Answer:
a. Yes

Source:
The framework act on financial management of the Korean government is the National Finance Act and its implementing Decree.

In the Article 6(4) of the National Finance Act, it is stipulated that "The Government shall strive to enhance transparency and citizens' participation in the budgetary process."

The Article 9 of the said Act is about publication fiscal information:

Article 9 (Publication of Fiscal Information)
(1) The Government shall publish the budget, funds, settlement of accounts, the State bonds, loans, present value of the State-owned assets, consolidated fiscal balance, and other important matters prescribed by Presidential Decree concerning finances of the State and local governments, by appropriate means, including information communications media and printed materials, at least once a year in a transparent and easy-to-understand manner.
(2) The Minister of Strategy and Finance may request both the head of each central government agency and each fund managing entity to submit necessary data for publishing the fiscal information prescribed in paragraph (1).
(3) The head of each central government agency shall disclose the current status of operation of its own revenue and expenditure budget on its web-site, and each fund managing entity shall disclose the current status of operation of the relevant fund on its web-site.
(4) In disclosing the current status of operation of the revenue and expenditure budget and the current status of operation of the fund, materials explaining each project shall be attached to each project. Other matters necessary for such disclosure shall be prescribed by Presidential Decree.
(5) The Minister of Strategy and Finance shall prepare guidelines concerning matters referred to in paragraphs (3) and (4) and notify such guidelines to both the head of each central government agency and each fund managing entity, respectively, and shall request correction if any matter is inconsistent with such guidelines. In such cases, the head of each central government agency and each fund entity shall comply with such request, unless otherwise provided in other Act and subordinate statute.

The Article 5 of the Enforcement Decree of the National Finance Act also substantiates the Article of the Act:

Article 5 (Publication of Fiscal Information)
(1) “Important matters prescribed by Presidential Decree concerning finances of the State and local governments" in Article 9 (1) of the Act means the following:
1. Current status of the State claims and details of changes thereof;
2. National financial management plans under Article 7 of the Act;
3. The evaluation results of major fiscal projects under Article 8 (6) of the Act;
4. The tax expenditure budget under Article 142-2 of the Restriction of Special Taxation Act;
5. The State debt management plans under Article 91 of the Act;
7. Items determined by the Minister of Strategy and Finance in consultation with the Minister of Interior (referring to the Minister of Education in case of matters concerning local educational finance) from among items publicly announced pursuant to Article 60-2 (1) of the Local Finance Act.
(2) The Minister of Strategy and Finance shall publicly announce the matters prescribed in Article 9 (1) of the Act.
(3) The details of operation situation of revenue and expenditure budgets mandated to be disclosed on the web-site pursuant to Article 9 (3) of the Act shall be as follows:
1. Status regarding collection of tax revenues of each central government agency and status regarding execution of expenditure budgets;
2. Status regarding operation of funds by each central government agency;
3. Other details necessary to transparently disclose the situation of revenue and expenditure budgets, as determined by the Minister of Strategy and Finance.
(4) Heads of each central government agency shall disclose every day the details set forth in the subparagraphs of paragraph (3) by classifying them by subparagraph prescribed in Articles 21 (4) and 67 (3) of the Act and by subproject thereof: Provided, That if it is difficult to produce certain data every day due to their characteristics, the disclosure shall be done monthly, quarterly, biannually, or yearly, in accordance with the cycle of creation of such data.

Furthermore, the Article 7-2 of the Enforcement Decree of the National Finance Act stipulates that the government should operate a official mechanism for channeling public opinions and voices regarding the budgetary matters

Comment:
Please refer to the sources above.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree
Comments: The Article 9 of the National Finance Act is recently amended. Article 9 (Publication of Fiscal Information) (1) The Government shall publish the budget, funds, settlement of accounts, the State bonds, loans, present value of the State-owned assets, consolidated fiscal balance, general government and public sector financial statistics under paragraph (2), and other important matters prescribed by Presidential Decree concerning finances of the State and local governments, by appropriate means, including information communications media and printed materials, at least once a year in a transparent and easy-to-understand manner. (2) The Minister of Economy and Finance shall prepare statistics (hereinafter referred to as "general government and public sector financial statistics") comprehensively indicating the following financial conditions based on the settlement of accounts for each fiscal year. In such cases, sub paragraphs 2 and 3 shall be prepared in consultation with the head of the relevant agency or the head of a relevant central government agency: 1. General accounts, special accounts, and funds of the State and local governments; 2. Among the following institutions, non-marketable institutions prescribed by Presidential Decree: (a) Public institutions under the Act on the Management of Public Institutions; (b) A local government-invested public corporations and local public agencies established under the Local Public Enterprises Act; (c) Other corporations recognized for their public nature, such as public broadcasting companies and national university corporations. 3. Marketable institutions (excluding institutions in charge of financial management) referred to in the items of subparagraph 2, which are prescribed by Presidential Decree. (3) The Minister of Economy and Finance may request the heads of central government agencies, local governments, or related institutions to submit materials necessary for publishing the financial information under paragraph (1) or for compiling general government and public sector financial statistics under paragraph (2). (4) The head of each central government agency shall disclose the current status of operation of its own revenue and expenditure budget on its web-site, and each fund managing entity shall disclose the current status of operation of the relevant fund on its web-site. (5) In disclosing the current status of operation of the revenue and expenditure budget and the current status of operation of the fund under paragraph (4), materials explaining each project shall be attached to each project. Other matters necessary for such disclosure shall be prescribed by Presidential Decree. (6) The Minister of Economy and Finance shall prepare guidelines concerning matters referred to in paragraphs (4) and (5) and notify such guidelines to both the head of each central government agency and each fund managing entity, respectively, and shall request correction if any matter is inconsistent with such guidelines. In such cases, the head of each central government agency and each fund entity shall comply with such request, unless otherwise provided in other Act and subordinate statute. In the Article 6(4) of the National Finance Act, it is stipulated that “The Government shall strive to enhance transparency and citizens’ participation in the budgetary process. → It it necessary to revise the underlined part as follows. In the Article 16 subparagraph 4 of the National Finance Act, ~.

GQ-3. Is there at least one additional law regulating: (1) access to information; (2) government transparency; or (3) citizens participation? If yes, please provide the necessary details and links in the comment/citation, and specify whether and where these laws contain specific provisions for budget transparency and/or participation.

The third and last question asks researchers to list any additional laws regulating access to information, transparency, or citizens’ participation that are relevant for the promotion of budget transparency and citizen participation in budget processes. These might include legislation related to access to information, to planning processes, or to public administration more generally. India’s Right to Information Act of 2005 (https://www.ncess.gov.in/facilities/central-public-information-officer/rti-act-details.html) is an example of this type of law. More information on access to

information legislation (constitutional provisions, laws, and regulations), including examples of model laws, can be found here: http://www.right2info.org/laws/constitutional-provisions-laws-and-regulations#section-1.

Answer:
a. Yes

Source:
The Official Information Disclosure Act of 1997 should be counted one that pursues transparency of public institutions in Korea.

Furthermore, the Local Finance Act requires that all local government establish and operate certain mechanisms for channeling citizen input in their budget process.

Article 39 (Residents' Participation in Budget Process, such as Formulation of Local Budget)
(1) The head of a local government shall prepare and implement a system through which residents may participate in the budget process (hereafter in this Article, referred to as "participatory budgeting system"), such as the formulation of the local budget (excluding resolutions adopted by the local council under Article 39 of the Local Autonomy Act; hereafter in this Article, the same shall apply), as prescribed by Presidential Decree.
(2) The head of a local government may establish a participatory budgeting organization (hereinafter referred to as "participatory budgeting organization"), such as the participatory budgeting committee, under his/her jurisdiction in order to deliberate on the following related to the participation of residents in the budget process, such as the formulation of the local budget:
1. Matters concerning the administration of the participatory budgeting system;
2. Matters concerning the details of a written opinion to be attached to a budget proposal submitted to the local council pursuant to paragraph (3);
3. Other matters the head of the local government deems necessary for the administration of the participatory budgeting system.
(3) The head of a local government shall attach a written opinion of residents, collected through the participatory budgeting system, to a budget proposal to be submitted to the local council.
(4) The Minister of the Interior and Safety may evaluate the administration of the participatory budgeting system of each local government in consideration of financial and local conditions, etc. of each local government, as prescribed by Presidential Decree.
(5) The formation and operation of the participatory budgeting organization and other necessary matters shall be prescribed by ordinance of the local government concerned.

Comment:
The Korean government at the central and local levels has endeavored to improve citizen participation in its budget processes over the last two decades. Some examples are the participatory budgeting at the local and national government.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree
Comments: The Article 60 of the Local Finance Act regulates local government transparency. Article 60 (Publication of Management Condition of Local Government Finance) (1)The head of a local government shall publish the following matters to residents based on the budget statement and statement of accounts within two months after the determination on or approval for the budget or settlement of accounts is made or granted: 1.Management conditions of revenue and expenditure budget (including a performance plan and performance report); 2.Financial statements; 3.Current status of debt management; 4.Current status of the application of funds; 5.Increase and decrease and the current value of public property; 6.Consolidated regional finance statistics; 7.Information on the business management of local public enterprises and local government-invested or funded institutions; 8.Medium-term local government finance plans; 9.Gender sensitive budget statement and gender sensitive statement of accounts under Article 36-2, and Article 18 of the Local Accounting Act; 10.Management conditions for each criterion for compilation of budget under Article 38; 10-2.Operational status of participatory budgeting system under Article 39 and written opinions of residents; 11.Outlines of the conditions of financial management under Article 44-2 (1) 1; 12.Plans for financial soundness formulated pursuant to Article 55-3 (1) and the current status of the implementation thereof; 13.Plans for management of financial soundness under Article 87-3 and the current status of the implementation thereof; 14.Current status of activities to appraise investment, activities to issue municipal bonds, activities to attract private capital, and activities to guarantee obligations; 15.Current status of the following matters related to local subsidies: (a)Current status of the provision of local subsidies; (b)Results of performance evaluation; (c)Changes in important property acquired with local subsidies; (d)Details of important dispositions, such as the revocation of the determination on providing local subsidies; 16.Other important matters concerning financial management prescribed by Presidential Decree. (2)The head of a local government shall prepare matters referred to in the sub paragraphs of paragraph(1) so that residents may understand such matters easily, as prescribed by the Minister of the Interior and Safety, and shall publish the matters on its website, etc. so that residents may read them or download data at any time in the absence of inevitable circumstances. (3)A local government finance publication deliberative committee shall be established under the jurisdiction of the head of a local government in order to deliberate on the appropriateness, etc. of the details of publication under paragraph (1), and Article 37-2 (2) through (8) shall apply mutatis mutandis to the organization thereof. In such cases, "local government finance investment appraisal committee" shall be construed as "local government finance publication deliberative committee." (4)The head of a local government shall report the details of publication made pursuant to paragraph(1) to the local council and the Mayor/Do Governor in cases of a Si/Gun/autonomous Gu, or the Minister of the Interior and Safety in cases of a City/Do within five days from the date of publication. In such cases, the Mayor/Do Governor shall report the details thereof, including the details thereof of a Si/Gun/Gu under his/her jurisdiction. (5)The head of a local government shall disclose the management conditions of the revenue and expenditure budget thereof to residents every day without special reason not to do so, as well as publication under paragraph (1). In such cases, he/she shall allow residents to access the management conditions of the revenue and expenditure budget by detailed project through the website. (6)Except as provided in paragraphs (1) through (5), matters necessary for publication and disclosure shall be prescribed by Presidential Decree.

1. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present expenditures for the budget year that are classified by administrative unit (that is, by ministry, department, or agency)?

GUIDELINES:

Question 1 addresses the presentation of expenditure by administrative unit. This information indicates which government entity (ministry, department, or agency, or MDAs) will be responsible for spending the funds and, ultimately, held accountable for their use.

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation must present expenditures for all administrative units, accounting for all expenditures, in the budget year. To answer "b," the administrative units shown individually, in the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation, must account for at least two-thirds of all expenditures in the budget year. In other words, the sum of the expenditures assigned to the individual MDAs (education, health, infrastructure, interior, defense, etc.) must account for at least two-thirds of the total expenditure budgeted for that particular year. A "c" answer applies if the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation presents administrative units that account for less than two-thirds of expenditures. Answer "d" applies if expenditures are not presented by administrative unit.

Answer:
a. Yes, administrative units accounting for all expenditures are presented.

Source:
The Executive Budget Proposal for FY2021 and other supporting documents. The expenditure information for both EBP and Approved Budget by administrative units and by fund accounts is also available from the Open Fiscal Data Portal

https://www.openfiscaldata.go.kr/portal/service/openInfPage.do?mId=B002

Comment:
The EBP for FY2021 presents expenditures for all administrative units, sub-categorized by accounts.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

2. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present expenditures for the budget year by functional classification?

GUIDELINES:

Question 2 addresses the presentation of expenditure by functional classification. This classification indicates the programmatic purpose, sector, or objective for which the funds will be used, such as health, education, or defense. Administrative units are not necessarily aligned with functional classifications. For instance, in one country all functions connected with water supply (which fall into the "Housing" function) may be undertaken by a single government agency, while in another country they may be distributed across the Ministries of Environment, Housing, and Industrial Development. In the latter case, three ministries have programs addressing water supply, so three ministries contribute to one function. Similarly, some administrative units may conduct activities that cut across more than one function. For instance, in the example above, some programs of the Ministry of Environment would also be classified in the "environmental protection" function.

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation must present expenditures for the budget year organized by functional classification.

Answer:
a. Yes, expenditures are presented by functional classification.

Source:
1) The Executive Budget Proposal for FY2021; 2) https://www.openfiscaldata.go.kr/portal/service/openInfPage.do?mId=B002

Comment:
Expenditures are classified by functions, sub functions, and programs in the EPB for FY2021 and down to programs, projects, sub projects, and line items in the Open Fiscal Data portal.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

3. If the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation presents expenditures for the budget year by functional classification, is the functional classification compatible with international standards?

GUIDELINES:

Question 3 asks whether a country's functional classification meets international standards. To answer "a," a country's functional classification must be aligned with the OECD and the UN's Classification of the Functions of Government (COFOG), or provide a cross-walk between the national functional presentation and COFOG.

The OECD Best Practices for Budget Transparency can be viewed at http://www.oecd.org/gov/budgeting/Best%20Practices%20Budget%20Transparency%20-%20complete%20with%20cover%20page.pdf

COFOG can be viewed at https://unstats.un.org/unsd/publication/SeriesM/SeriesM_84E.pdf or at http://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/gfs/manual/pdf/ch6ann.pdf.

Answer:
a. Yes, the functional classification is compatible with international standards.

Source:
The Executive Budget Proposal for FY2021

Comment:
Yes, the classification is broken down into 16 functions and 69 sub functions. Some of the functions and sub functions reflect Korea's unique circumstances. For example, more detailed classifications for economic affairs. Notably, Korea has separate functions of "Science and Technology" and "Transportation and Logistics" to better prioritize resource allocation for these purposes. However, overall, Korean central government's expenditure classification is reasonably compatible with the United Nation's COFOG.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

4. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present expenditures for the budget year by economic classification?

GUIDELINES:

Question 4 asks whether the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation presents expenditures for the budget year organized by economic classification. Economic classification provides information on the nature of the expenditure, such as whether funds are being used to pay for wages and salaries, capital projects, or social assistance benefits. Please note that a presentation of expenditures by current and capital expenditures without additional disaggregation or detail will not qualify as an economic classification.

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation must present expenditures for the budget year organized by economic classification.

Answer:
a. Yes, expenditures are presented by economic classification.

Source:
The Executive Budget Proposal for FY2021, Supporting Documents

Comment:
The Supporting documents provide classifications of the expenditures according to economic objects in a summary format from page 26 and for administrative units from page 1400.

https://www.openfiscaldata.go.kr/portal/service/openInfPage.do?mId=B002

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

5. If the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation presents expenditures for the budget year by economic classification, is the economic classification compatible with international standards?

GUIDELINES:

Question 5 asks whether a country's economic classification meets international standards. To answer "a," a country's economic classification must be consistent with the International Monetary Fund's (IMF) 2001 Government Finance Statistics (GFS). The GFS economic classification is presented here: http://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/gfs/manual/pdf/app4.pdf. To learn more about Government Finance Statistics also refer to the entire IMF 2001 GFS manual (http://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/gfs/manual/pdf/all.pdf).

Answer:
a. Yes, the economic classification is compatible with international standards.

Source:
The Executive Budget Proposal for FY2021, Supporting Documents, pages 26-70, 1400-1436.

Comment:
The Korean economic classification of expenditures is compatible with the IMF standards, with more detailed specifications.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree
Comments: https://likms.assembly.go.kr/bill/billDetail.do?billId=PRC_P2Z0B0V9G0C3E0C9Y1D7J0L7L7N7I9

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

6. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present expenditures for individual programs for the budget year?

GUIDELINES:

Question 6 asks whether expenditures are presented by program. There is no standard definition for the term "program," and the meaning can vary from country to country. However, for the purposes of answering the questionnaire, researchers should treat the term "program" as meaning any level of detail below an administrative unit — that is, any programmatic grouping that is below the ministry, department, or agency level. For example, the Ministry of Health's budget could be broken down into several subgroups, such as "primary health care,""hospitals," or "administration." These subgroups should be considered programs even if they could be, but are not, broken down into smaller, more detailed units.

A note for francophone countries: "Program" level detail is sometimes referred to as le plan comptable or le plan comptable detaille. (These data are typically coded in the financial management database, following the chart of budgetary accounts, so that they can be organized by administrative and functional classification.)

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation must present expenditures for all individual programs, accounting for all expenditures, in the budget year. To answer "b," the programs shown individually in the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation must account for at least two-thirds of all expenditures in the budget year. A "c" answer applies if the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation presents programs that account for less than two-thirds of expenditures. Answer "d" applies if expenditures are not presented by program.

Budget decisions for the upcoming year can also affect the parameters of future budgets. It is therefore useful to estimate revenues and expenditures for multi-year periods, understanding that these estimates might be revised as circumstances change. Sometimes referred to as a Medium Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF), a three-year period — that is, the budget year plus two more years — is generally considered an appropriate horizon for budgeting and planning.

Answer:
a. Yes, programs accounting for all expenditures are presented.

Source:
The Executive Budget Proposal for FY2021, Explanations of Revenues and Expenditures (2021년도 세입세출예산안사업별설명서)

Comment:
All expenditure subfunctions (projects) with their proposed budget amounts are described in the said documents by administrative units and by fund accounts.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree
Comments: https://likms.assembly.go.kr/bill/billDetail.do?billId=PRC_P2Z0B0V9G0C3E0C9Y1D7J0L7L7N7I9

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

7. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present expenditure estimates for a multi-year period (at least two-years beyond the budget year) by any of the three expenditure classifications (by administrative, economic, or functional classification)?

GUIDELINES:

Question 7 asks if multi-year expenditure estimates are presented by any one of the three expenditure classifications — by administrative, economic, and functional classifications — which were addressed in Questions 1-5 above. Each of the classifications answers a different question: administrative unit indicates who spends the money; functional classification shows for what purpose is the money spent; and economic classification displays what the money is spent on.

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation must present expenditure estimates by all three of the expenditure classifications for at least two years beyond the budget year. To answer "b," multi-year expenditure estimates must be presented by two of these three classifications. A "c" answer applies if multi-year expenditure estimates are presented by one of the three classifications. Answer "d" applies if multi-year expenditure estimates are not presented by any of the three classifications.

Answer:
c. Yes, multi-year expenditure estimates are presented by only one of the three expenditure classifications.

Source:
The Executive Budget Proposal for FY2021, The National Financial Management Plan 2020-2024

Comment:
The EBP and its supporting documents do not present expenditure estimates beyond the budget year by administrative units or economic characters. Instead, the National Financial Management Plan 2020-2024 presents expenditure estimates in terms of mandatory vs. discretionary expenditures and by 12 expenditure functions through 2024.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

7b. Based on the response to Question 7, check the box(es) to identify which expenditure classifications have estimates for a multi-year period in the Executive's Budget Proposal?

Answer:

Functional classification

Source:
The National Financial Management Plan 2020-2024

Comment:
The said document provides estimates for total, mandatory and discretionary expenditures as well as those for 12 functions from 2021 through 2024. Those 10 functions are: Health/Welfare/Employment, Education, Culture/Sports/Tourism, Environment, R&D, Industry/SMEs/Energy, SOC, Agriculture/Forestries/Food, National Defense, Foreign Affairs/Unification, Public Order and Safety, and General and Local Administration.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

8. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present expenditure estimates for a multi-year period (at least two-years beyond the budget year) by program?

GUIDELINES:
Question 8 asks if multi-year expenditure estimates are presented by program. There is no standard definition for the term "program," and the meaning can vary from country to country. However, for the purposes of answering the questionnaire, researchers should understand the term "program" to mean any level of detail below an administrative unit, such as a ministry or department. For example, the Ministry of Health's budget could be broken down into several subgroups, such as "primary health care,""hospitals," or "administration." These subgroups should be considered programs even if they could be, but are not, broken down into smaller, more detailed units.

A note for francophone countries:"Program" level detail is sometimes referred to as le plan comptable or le plan comptable detaille. (These data are typically coded in the financial management database, following the chart of budgetary accounts, so that they can be organized by administrative and functional classification.)

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation must present expenditures for all individual programs, accounting for all expenditures, for at least two years beyond the budget year. To answer "b," the programs shown individually in the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation must account for at least two-thirds of all expenditures over the multi-year period. A "c" answer applies if the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation presents multi-year estimates for programs that account for less than two-thirds of expenditures. Answer "d" applies if multi-year estimates are not presented by program.

Revenues generally are separated into two major categories: "tax" and "non-tax" revenues. Taxes are compulsory transfers that result from government exercising its sovereign power. The largest sources of tax revenue in some countries are taxes on personal and business income and taxes on goods and services, such as sales or value-added taxes. The category of non-tax revenues is more diverse, ranging from grants from international institutions and foreign governments to funds raised through the sale of government-provided goods and services. Note that some forms of revenue, such as contributions to social security funds, can be considered either a tax or non-tax revenue depending on the nature of the approach to these contributions. Particularly because different revenues have different characteristics, including who bears the burden of paying the tax and how collections are affected by economic conditions, it is helpful when estimates for revenues are disaggregated and displayed based on their sources.

For more information, please refer to the 2001 GFS manual, in particular Appendix 4 (http://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/gfs/manual/pdf/app4.pdf).

Answer:
a. Yes, multi-year estimates for programs accounting for all expenditures are presented.

Source:
The National Financial Management Plan 2020-2024

Comment:
The National Financial Management Plan 2020-2024 presents expenditure estimates for all expenditure programs under the 12 functions. For example, in page 61 of the Plan, it lists estimates for 15 programs under Health/Welfare/Employment function. And, these programs are implemented by the Ministries of Health & Welfare and Employment & Labor.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

9. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present the individual sources of tax revenue (such as income tax or VAT) for the budget year?

GUIDELINES:
Question 9 assesses the degree to which the individual sources of "tax" revenue are disaggregated in the budget. The largest sources of tax revenue in some countries are taxes on personal and business income and taxes on goods and services, such as sales or value-added taxes.

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation must present all individual sources of tax revenue for the budget year, and "other" or "miscellaneous" revenue must account for three percent or less of all tax revenue. To answer "b," the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation must present individual sources of tax revenue that when combined account for at least two-thirds of all tax revenue, but not all revenue. A "c" answer applies if the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation presents individual sources of tax revenue that account for less than two-thirds of tax revenues. Answer "d" applies if individual sources of tax revenue are not presented.

Answer:
a. Yes, individual sources of tax revenue accounting for all tax revenue are presented.

Source:
The Executive Budget Proposal for FY2021, Supporting Documents, pages 14, 18, and 19

Comment:
The revenues are specified by tax and non tax.

Tax revenues are broken down as follows: Personal Income Tax, Corporate Income Tax, Inheritance Tax, Value-Added Tax, Excise Tax, Stock-Transaction Tax, Stamp Tax, Other Internal Tax, Customs, Transportation/Energy/Environmental Taxes, Education Tax, and Composite Property Tax.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

10. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present the individual sources of non-tax revenue (such as grants, property income, and sales of government-produced goods and services) for the budget year?

GUIDELINES:
Question 10 assesses the degree to which the individual sources of "non-tax" revenue are disaggregated in the budget. The category of non-tax revenues is diverse, and can include revenue ranging from grants from international institutions and foreign governments to funds raised through the sale of government-provided goods and services.

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation must present all individual sources of non-tax revenue for the budget year, and "other" or "miscellaneous" revenue must account for three percent or less of all non-tax revenue. To answer "b," the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation must present individual sources of non-tax revenue that when combined account for at least two-thirds of all non-tax revenue, but not all revenue. A "c" answer applies if the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation presents individual sources of non-tax revenue that account for less than two-thirds of non-tax revenues. Answer "d" applies if individual sources of non-tax revenue are not presented.

Answer:
a. Yes, individual sources of non-tax revenue accounting for all non-tax revenue are presented.

Source:
The Executive Budget Proposal for FY2021, pages 13-159; EBP Supporting Documents, pages 18-19, and 1301~1307.
https://www.openfiscaldata.go.kr/portal/service/openInfPage.do?mId=B002

Comment:
The non tax revenues are broken down as follows: Revenues from Properties; Transfer Income; Sale of Goods/Services; Off-Setting Revenues; Sale of Assets; Loan Collection/Withdrawals; Internal Transfer and Withholdings.

For each of these categories, there is the Other category whose share is negligible.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

11. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present revenue estimates by category (such as tax and non-tax) for a multi-year period (at least two-years beyond the budget year)?

GUIDELINES:
Question 11 evaluates whether revenue estimates are presented for a multi-year period (at least two years beyond the budget year) by "category," that is, whether tax and non-tax sources of revenue are shown separately.

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation must present multi-year estimates of revenues classified by category for at least two years following the budget year in question.

Answer:
a. Yes, multi-year estimates of revenue are presented by category.

Source:
The National Financial Management Plan 2020-2024, page 25

Comment:
The revenue estimates by category (tax, non tax, and off-budget funds) are provided from 2020 through 2024, along with estimated growth rates.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

12. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present estimates for individual sources of revenue presented for a multi-year period (at least two-years beyond the budget year)?

GUIDELINES:
Question 12 evaluates whether revenue estimates for individual sources of revenue are presented for a multi-year period (at least two years beyond the budget year). The question applies to both tax and non-tax revenue.

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation must present multi-year estimates of all sources of revenue individually, accounting for all revenue, and "other" or "miscellaneous" revenue must account for three percent or less of all revenue. To answer "b," the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation must present multi-year estimates of individual sources of revenue that when combined account for at least two-thirds of all revenue, but not all revenue. A "c" answer applies if the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation presents multi-year estimates of individual revenue sources that account for less than two-thirds of revenue. Answer "d" applies if individual sources of revenue are not presented for a multi-year period.

Answer:
d. No, multi-year estimates for individual sources of revenue are not presented.

Source:
The National Financial Management Plan 2020-2024

Comment:
In the said document, revenue estimates are provided by Tax, NonTax, and Off-Budget Funds. Revenue estimates by individual sources such as income tax, VAT, Corporate Income tax, etc. is not provided beyond the budget year.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

13. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present three estimates related to government borrowing and debt: the amount of net new borrowing required during the budget year; the total debt outstanding at the end of the budget year; and interest payments on the debt for the budget year?

GUIDELINES:
Question 13 asks about three key estimates related to borrowing and debt that the budget should include:

- *the amount of net new borrowing required during the budget year;*
- *the central government's total debt burden at the end of the budget year; and*
- *the interest payments on the outstanding debt for the budget year.*

Debt is the accumulated amount of money that the government borrows. The government can borrow from its citizens and banks and businesses within the country (domestic debt) or from creditors outside the country (external debt). External debt is typically owed to private commercial banks, other governments, or international financial institutions such as the World Bank and the IMF.

Net new borrowing is the additional amount of new borrowing that is required for the budget year to finance expenditures in the budget that exceed available revenues. Net new borrowing adds to the accumulated debt. It is distinct from gross borrowing, which also includes borrowing needed to repay existing debt that matured during the budget year; debt that is replaced (or rolled over) does not add to the total of accumulated debt. For the purposes of this question, the deficit may be accepted as a proxy for net new borrowing.

Interest payments on the debt (or debt service costs) are typically made at regular intervals, and these payments must be made on a timely basis in order to avoid defaulting on the debt obligation. Interest payments are separate from the repayment of principal, which occurs only when the loan has matured and must be paid back in full.

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation must present all three estimates of borrowing and debt. For a "b" answer, the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation must present two of those three estimates. For a "c" answer, the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation must present one of the three estimates. Answer "d" applies no information on borrowing and debt is presented for the budget year.

Answer:
a. Yes, all three estimates related to government borrowing and debt are presented.

Source:
The Executive Budget Proposal for FY2021 and its Supporting Documents; The National Financial Management Plan 2020-2024

Comment:
The amount of new debt during the budget year is presented in page 5 of the EBP.

The amount of debt service during the budget year is available in page 27 of the Supporting Documents.

The amount of interest payment is provided in page 30 of the National Financial Management Plan.

The amount of total outstanding debt by the end of the budget year is provided in page 44 of the National Financial Management Plan.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

13b. Based on the response to Question 13, check the box(es) below to identify which estimates of government borrowing and debt are presented in the Executive's Budget Proposal:

Answer:
The amount of net new borrowing required during the budget year
The central government's total debt burden at the end of the budget year
The interest payments on outstanding debt for the budget year

Source:
The Executive Budget Proposal for FY2021 and its Supporting Documents; The National Financial Management Plan 2020-2024.

Comment:
Please refer to the response to Question 13.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

14. "Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present information related to the composition of the total debt outstanding at the end of the budget year?

(The core information must include interest rates on the debt instruments; maturity profile of the debt; and whether it is domestic or external debt.)"

GUIDELINES:

Question 14 focuses on the composition of government debt at the end of the budget year, asking whether "core" information related to its composition is presented. These core components include:

- *interest rates on the debt;*
- *maturity profile of the debt; and*
- *whether the debt is domestic or external.*

The interest rates affect the amount of interest that must be paid to creditors. The maturity profile indicates the final payment date of the loan, at which point the principal (and all remaining interest) is due to be paid; government borrowing typically includes a mix of short-term and long-term debt. As discussed in Question 13, domestic debt is held by a country's citizens, banks, and businesses, while external debt is held by foreigners. These factors related to the composition of the debt give an indication of the potential vulnerability of the country's debt position, and ultimately whether the cost of servicing the accumulated debt is affordable.

Beyond these core elements, a government may also provide additional information related to the composition of its debt, including for instance: whether interest rates are fixed or variable; whether debt is callable; the currency of the debt; a profile of the creditors (bilateral institutions, multilateral institutions, commercial banks, Central Bank, etc.); an analysis of the risk associated with the debt; and where appropriate, what the debt is being used to finance.

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present all of the core information related to the composition of government debt at the end of the budget year as well as some additional information beyond the core elements. To answer "b," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present all of the core components noted above. Answer "b" is also accepted if one of the core elements is not presented but additional information beyond the core elements is presented. A "c" answer applies if some information related to the composition of government debt is presented, but some of the core pieces of information are not included. Answer "d" applies if no information is presented on the composition of the debt outstanding at the end of the budget year.

Answer:
b. Yes, the core information is presented for the composition of the total debt outstanding.

Source:
The National Debt Management Plan 2020-2024, a supporting document of the National Financial Management Plan 2020-2024

Comment:
In the said document, the profile of the total outstanding debt from 2020 to 2024 is provided in page 175.

While the information on the interest rates on the Treasury Bills is provided for years 2015 though 2019 in page 169 of the said document, the interest rate for FY2021 is not directly presented. However, the information on interest payment is available in page 30 of the National Financial Management Plan. From this, the overall interest rate on the debt can be deduced.

The information on the maturity profile of the debt is provided for years 2015 through 2019 in page 168, but comparable information for FY2021 or beyond is not available from the said document.

The percentage of debt owned by foreigners for FY2019 is available in 171, but comparable information on FY2021 is not provided in these

documents.

Having said that, since such information as maturity profiles and foreign ownership of the debt would not change radically from year to year, the taxpayer-citizens would have a pretty accurate idea about their status during the budget year.

In addition, these document presents information on the profiles of debt through 2024 and discusses management plans for debt by different purposes and instruments. Furthermore, the said documents provide information on local governments' debt in detail.

For these reasons, this researcher believes that Korea is qualified for "b".

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

14b. Based on the response to Question 14, check the box(es) to identify which elements of the composition of the total debt outstanding are are presented in the Executive's Budget Proposal:

Answer:
Interest rates on the debt
Maturity profile of the debt
Information beyond the core elements (please specify)

Source:
The National Debt Management Plan 2020-2024

Comment:
Such information on maturity profile of the debt and whether the debt is domestic or external is not directly available from the said document.
Having said that the said document provides detailed information on debt maturity and foreign ownership for years 2015 through 2019, which makes it possible to relatively accurately figure out their status for the budget year.
ZZAQSXAZÅ
In addition, the said document presents information of the managerial plans for managing debt across different instruments and policy purposes. It also provides information on local governments' debt.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

15. "Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present information on the macroeconomic forecast upon which the budget projections are based?

(The core information must include a discussion of the economic outlook with estimates of nominal GDP level, inflation rate, real GDP growth, and interest rates.)"

GUIDELINES:
Question 15 focuses on the macroeconomic forecast that underlies the budget's revenue and expenditure estimates, asking whether "core" information related to the economic assumptions is presented. These core components include a discussion of the economic outlook as well as estimates of the following:

- *nominal GDP level;*
- *inflation rate;*
- *real GDP growth; and*
- *interest rates.*

While the core macroeconomic information should be a standard feature of the Executive's Budget Proposal, the importance of some types of macroeconomic

assumptions may vary from country to country. For example, the budget estimates of some countries are particularly affected by changes in the price of oil and other commodities.

Beyond these core elements, some governments also provide additional information related to the economic outlook, including for instance: short and long-term interest rates; rate of employment and unemployment; GDP deflator; price of oil and other commodities; current account; exchange rate; and composition of GDP growth.

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present all of the core information related to the macroeconomic forecast as well as some additional information beyond the core elements. To answer "b," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present all of the core components noted above. Answer "b" is also accepted if one of the core elements is not presented but additional information beyond the core elements is presented. A "c" answer applies if some information related to the macroeconomic forecast is presented, but some of the core pieces of information are not included. Answer "d" applies if no information on the macroeconomic forecast is presented.

Answer:
a. Yes, information beyond the core elements is presented for the macroeconomic forecast.

Source:
The National Financial Management Plan 2020-2024. Here I am only referring to the EBP for 2021 and its Supporting Documents.

Comment:
In the National Financial Management Plan, some narrative information on economic outlook is provided for the budget year, but no specific estimates for real or nominal growth rate, inflation, and interest rates. However, the said document provides IMF's estimates for economic growth and discusses the economic environment against which the fiscal outlooks for the budget year would be presented. The language is very much subtle, which is understandable since specific estimates would have grave ramifications for the economy and public finance.

On the other hand, in page 1297 of the EBP Supporting Document, specific point estimates of the following items are presented: Nominal and real growth rates, export and import total and growth rates, price increase, exchange rate, private consumption increase, corporate bond interest rate, etc.

So, this reviewer would go with "a" here.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree
Comments: In the National Financial Management Plan, some narrative information on economic outlook is provided for the budget year, but no specific stimates for real or nominal growth rate, inflation, and interest rates. → In page 43~44 of the National Fiscal Management Plan 2020-2024, estimates for nominal growth rate from 2020 to 2024 are provided.

15b. Based on the response to Question 15, check the box(es) to identify which elements of the macroeconomic forecast are included in the Executive's Budget Proposal:

Answer:
Nominal GDP level
Inflation rate
Real GDP growth
Interest rates
Information beyond the core elements (please specify)

Source:
The Press Release for the Executive Budget Proposal for FY2021 ("코로나 극복, 선도국가" 2021년 예산안); National Financial Management Plan 2020-2024; the EBP's Supporting Documents

Comment:
As responded in the previous question, the discussion on the economic outlook for the budget year is all indirect and subtle, avoiding presenting any specific point estimates for the pieces of information in the Question. Other than that, please refer to the responses in the previous question.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

16. "Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation show the impact of different macroeconomic assumptions (i.e., sensitivity analysis) on the budget?

(The core information must include estimates of the impact on expenditures, revenue, and debt of different assumptions for the inflation rate, real GDP growth, and interest rates.)"

GUIDELINES:

Question 16 focuses on the issue of whether the Executive's Budget Proposal shows how different macroeconomic assumptions affect the budget estimates (known as a "sensitivity analysis"). It asks whether "core" information related to a sensitivity analysis is presented, estimating the impact on expenditures, revenue, and debt of different assumptions for:

- *inflation rate;*
- *real GDP growth; and*
- *interest rates.*

A sensitivity analysis shows the effect on the budget of possible changes in some macroeconomic assumptions, and is important for understanding the impact of the economy on the budget; for instance, what would happen to revenue collections if GDP growth were slower than what is assumed in the budget proposal? Or what would happen to expenditure if inflation were higher than estimated? Or how will revenue be affected by a decrease in the price of oil?

As noted for Question 15, changes in certain macroeconomic assumptions, such as the price of oil and other commodities, can have a significant impact on the budget estimates. As a result, some sensitivity analyses may also examine the impact on the budget estimates of changes in assumptions such as the price of oil that are beyond the core elements of the inflation rate, real GDP growth, and interest rates.

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present all of the core information related to a "sensitivity analysis" as well as some additional information beyond the core elements. To answer "b," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present all of the core components noted above. Answer "b" is also accepted if one of the core elements is not presented but additional information beyond the core elements is presented. A "c" answer applies if some information related to a "sensitivity analysis" is presented, but some of the core pieces of information are not included. Answer "d" applies if no information on "sensitivity analysis" is presented.

Answer:
d. No, information related to different macroeconomic assumptions is not presented.

Source:
The Executive Budget Proposal for FY2021 and its Supporting Documents

Comment:
No information on sensitivity analysis regarding different scenarios of economic growth and their bearings with the budget is provided.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Disagree
Suggested Answer:
a. Yes, information beyond the core elements is presented to show the impact of different macroeconomic assumptions on the budget.
Comments: You can see information on the macreconomic in the website below. http://likms.assembly.go.kr/bill/billDetail.do?billId=PRC_Z2K1F0U9Y0M3S1O1J0A8Q0W3A1I1P4

IBP Comment
IBP confirms researcher's response of D. The National Financial Management Plan provides limited discussion on how actual macroeconomic conditions (that differed from assumptions) led to lower revenues. There is no analysis of impact of different macroeconomic assumptions on future revenue projections.

17. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present information for at least the budget year that shows how new policy proposals, as distinct from existing policies, affect expenditures?

GUIDELINES:
Questions 17 and 18 ask about new policy proposals in the budget. In any given year, most of the expenditures and revenues in the budget reflect the continuation of existing policies. However, much of the attention during the budget debate is focused on new proposals — whether they call for eliminating an existing program, introducing a new one, or changing an existing program at the margins. Typically, these new proposals are accompanied by an increase, a decrease, or a shift in expenditures or revenues. Because these changes may have different impacts on people's lives, the budget proposal should present sufficient detail about new policies and their budgetary impact.

Question 17 asks about new expenditure policies, and Question 18 asks about new revenue policies. To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present both estimates of how all new policy proposals affect expenditures (for Question 17) or revenues (for Question 18) and a narrative discussion of the impact of these new policies. To answer "b" for either question, the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present estimates that show the impact of all new policy proposals, but no narrative discussion is included. A "c" response applies if the presentation includes only a narrative discussion, or if it includes estimates that show the impact of only some, but not all, policy proposals (regardless of whether it also includes a narrative discussion). Answer "d" applies if no information is presented on the impact of new policy proposals.

Answer:
a. Yes, estimates that show how all new policy proposals affect expenditures are presented, along with a narrative discussion.

Source:
Sixty Notable Projects from the EBP for FY2021 (2021년 예산안 국민 삶을 개선하는 특색사업 60선); Forty Key Projects from the EBP for FY2021 (2021년 예산안 중점 프로젝트 40선); The National Financial Management Plan 2020-2024.

Comment:
The EBP for FY2021 and its supporting documents make a substantial effort to provide information on the strategic resource allocation for more urgent policy priorities. For example, the National Financial Management Plan explains budget allocation across 12 functional areas in detail from page 57 through 218.

Additionally, as a part of Citizen Budget for FY2021, two documents highlight key and notable projects that would make important differences in the lives of the citizens and to which the government wants to pay closer attention.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

18. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present information for at least the budget year that shows how new policy proposals, as distinct from existing policies, affect revenues?

GUIDELINES:
Questions 17 and 18 ask about new policy proposals in the budget. In any given year, most of the expenditures and revenues in the budget reflect the continuation of existing policies. However, much of the attention during the budget debate is focused on new proposals — whether they call for eliminating an existing program, introducing a new one, or changing an existing program at the margins. Typically, these new proposals are accompanied by an increase, a decrease, or a shift in expenditures or revenues. Because these changes may have different impacts on people's lives, the budget proposal should present sufficient detail about new policies and their budgetary impact.

Question 17 asks about new expenditure policies, and Question 18 asks about new revenue policies. To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present both estimates of how all new policy proposals affect expenditures (for Question 17) or revenues (for Question 18) and a narrative discussion of the impact of these new policies. To answer "b" for either question, the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present estimates that show the impact of all new policy proposals, but no narrative discussion is included. A "c" response applies if the presentation includes only a narrative discussion, or if it includes estimates that show the impact of only some, but not all, policy proposals (regardless of whether it also includes a narrative discussion). Answer "d" applies if no information is presented on the impact of new policy proposals.

Prior-year information constitutes an important benchmark for assessing the proposals for the upcoming budget year. Estimates of prior years should be presented in the same formats (in terms of classification) as the budget year to ensure that year-to-year comparisons are meaningful. For example, if the budget proposes shifting responsibility for a particular program from one administrative unit to another — such as shifting responsibility for the training of nurses from the health department to the education department — the prior-year figures must be adjusted before year-to-year comparisons of administrative budgets can be made.

Typically, when the budget proposal is submitted, the year prior to the budget year (BY-1), also known as the current year, has not ended, so the executive will provide estimates of the anticipated outcome for BY-1. The soundness of these estimates is directly related to the degree to which they have been updated to reflect actual expenditures to date, legislative changes that have occurred, and anticipated changes in macroeconomic, caseload, and other relevant factors for the remainder of the year.

The first year that can reflect actual outcomes, therefore, is generally two years before the budget year (BY-2). Thus the OECD recommends that data covering at least two years before the budget year (along with two years of projections beyond the budget year) are provided in order to assess fully the trends in the budget.

Answer:
d. No, information that shows how new policy proposals affect revenues is not presented.

Source:
The Executive Budget Proposal for FY2021 and its supporting documents

Comment:
As far as this reviewer examines the Source documents, the Korean national budget proposal does not consider revenues and expenditures in a coherent manner. The expenditure decisions are basically constrained by revenue estimates, but the effects of expenditure programs are not examined in terms of its feedback to the revenue prospects.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

19. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present expenditures for the year preceding the budget year (BY-1) by any of the three expenditure classifications (by administrative, economic, or functional classification)?

GUIDELINES:
Question 19 asks if expenditure estimates for the year prior to the budget year (BY-1) are presented by one of the three expenditure classifications — by administrative, economic, and functional classifications. Each of the classifications answers a different question: administrative unit indicates who spends the money; functional classification shows for what purpose is the money spent; and economic classification displays what the money is spent on. (See Questions 1-5 above.)

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation must present expenditure estimates for BY-1 by all three of the expenditure classifications. To answer "b," expenditure estimates for BY-1 must be presented by two of these three classifications. A "c" answer applies if expenditure estimates for BY-1 are presented by one of the three classifications. Answer "d" applies if expenditure estimates for BY-1 are not presented by any of the three classifications.

Answer:
a. Yes, expenditure estimates for BY-1 are presented by all three expenditure classifications (by administrative, economic, and functional classification).

Source:
The Executive Budget Proposal for FY2021, the Supporting Documents

Comment:
In the said document, the expenditures for the BY-1 is presented by functions, fund accounts, administrative units, and economic objects, in pages 4, 5, 23-25, and 26-31.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

20. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present expenditures for individual programs for the year preceding the budget year (BY-1)?

GUIDELINES:
Question 20 asks if expenditure estimates for the year before the budget year (BY-1) are presented by program. There is no standard definition for the term "program," and the meaning can vary from country to country. However, for the purposes of answering the questionnaire, researchers should understand the term "program" to mean any level of detail below an administrative unit, such as a ministry or department. For example, the Ministry of Health's budget could be broken down into several subgroups, such as "primary health care,""hospitals," or "administration." These subgroups should be considered programs even if

they could be, but are not, broken down into smaller, more detailed units.

A note for francophone countries: "Program" level detail is sometimes referred to as le plan comptable or le plan comptable detaille. (These data are typically coded in the financial management database, following the chart of budgetary accounts, so that they can be organized by administrative and functional classification.)

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation must present expenditures for all individual programs, accounting for all expenditures, for BY-1. To answer "b," the programs shown individually in the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation must account for at least two-thirds of all expenditures for BY-1. A "c" answer applies if the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation presents programs that account for only less than two-thirds of expenditures. Answer "d" applies if expenditures are not presented by program.

Answer:
a. Yes, programs accounting for all expenditures are presented for BY-1.

Source:
The Executive Budget for FY2021, Explanations for Revenues and Expenditure Programs (2021년도 세입세출예산안사업별 설명서)

Comment:
The expenditure estimates for BY-1 are presented for all expenditure projects for all administrative units.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

21. In the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation, have expenditure estimates of the year prior to the budget year (BY-1) been updated from the original enacted levels to reflect actual expenditures?

GUIDELINES:
Question 21 asks whether the expenditure estimates for the year before the budget year (BY-1) have been updated from the original enacted levels. Updates can reflect actual experience to date; revised estimates due to shifting of funds by the executive, as permitted under the law; enactment of supplemental budgets; and revised assumptions regarding macroeconomic conditions, caseload, and other relevant factors for the remainder of the year.

Answer "a" applies if the estimates have been updated; answer "b" applies if the original estimates are still being used.

Answer:
a. Yes, expenditure estimates for BY-1 have been updated from the original enacted levels.

Source:
The Executive Budget for FY2021, Explanations for Revenues and Expenditure Programs (2021년도 세입세출예산안사업별 설명서)

Comment:
No, the expenditure estimates for BY-1 are presented as they were for BY-1, without updates.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Disagree
Suggested Answer:
a. Yes, expenditure estimates for BY-1 have been updated from the original enacted levels.
Comments: You can see the actual outcome of the expenditure in 2020 in the website below. http://likms.assembly.go.kr/bill/billDetail.do?billId=PRC_Z2K1F0U9Y0M3S1O1J0A8Q0W3A1I1P4

IBP Comment
Many thanks to the reviewer for their comments. IBP revised response to A as the '2020 settlement' aggregated estimates reflect 3rd supplementary budget figures. As per guidelines, update of aggregate estimates is suffiecient for an A response. This is a change in practice.

22. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present estimates of expenditure for more than one year prior to the budget year (that is, BY-2 and prior years) by any of the three expenditure classifications (by administrative, economic, or functional classification)?

GUIDELINES:
Question 22 asks if expenditure estimates for more than one year prior to the budget year (BY-2 and prior years) are presented by any of the three expenditure classifications — by administrative, economic, and functional classifications. Each of the classifications answers a different question: administrative unit indicates who spends the money; functional classification shows for what purpose is the money spent; and economic classification displays what the money is spent on. (See Questions 1-5 above.)

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation must present expenditure estimates for BY-2 and prior years by all three of the expenditure classifications. To answer "b," expenditure estimates for BY-2 and prior years must be presented by two of these three classifications. A "c" answer applies if expenditure estimates for BY-2 and prior years are presented by one of the three classifications. Answer "d" applies if expenditure estimates for BY-2 and prior years are not presented by any of the three classifications

Answer:
b. Yes, expenditure estimates for BY-2 and prior years are presented by two of the three expenditure classifications.

Source:
The Executive Budget for FY2021 and its Supporting Documents; The Executive Budget for FY2021, Performance Plans (2021년도 성과계획서)

Comment:
The expenditures for BY-2 have been presented by projects. Such information is presented according to the administrative units in the said performance plans.

For these reasons, this reviewer would go for "b" instead of "c". However, it would be very much informative if the expenditures for BY-2 are presented in a summary manner in a table for two by different administrative unites.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

IBP Comment
IBP confirms response B. Performance Plans provide expenditure estimates for all administrations for FY 2019 (BY-2). The National Financial Management Plan presents a table on 'fiscal investment trend' for 12 functions, which shows expenditure estimates for BY-2 and four prior years. There is no comprehensive table on total expenditures in FY 2019 by function.

22b. Based on the response to Question 22, check the box(es) to identify which expenditure classifications have estimates for more than one year prior to the budget year in the Executive Budget Proposal:

Answer:
Administrative classification
Functional classification

Source:
The Executive Budget for FY2021 and its Supporting Documents; The Executive Budget for FY2021, Performance Plans (2021년도 성과계획서)

Comment:
Please refer to the response in the previous question.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

23. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present expenditures for individual programs for more than one year preceding the budget year (that is, BY-2 and prior years)?

GUIDELINES:
Question 23 asks if expenditure estimates for more than one year before the budget year (BY-2 and prior years) are presented by program. There is no standard definition for the term "program," and the meaning can vary from country to country. However, for the purposes of answering the questionnaire, researchers should understand the term "program" to mean any level of detail below an administrative unit, such as a ministry or department. For example, the Ministry of Health's budget could be broken down into several subgroups, such as "primary health care,""hospitals," or "administration." These subgroups should be considered programs even if they could be, but are not, broken down into smaller, more detailed units.

A note for francophone countries: "Program" level detail is sometimes referred to as le plan comptable or le plan comptable detaille. (These data are typically coded in the financial management database, following the chart of budgetary accounts, so that they can be organized by administrative and functional classification.)

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation must present expenditures for all individual programs, accounting for all expenditures, for BY-2 and prior years. To answer "b," the programs shown individually in the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation must account for at least two-thirds of all expenditures for BY-2 and prior years. A "c" answer applies if the Executive's Budget Proposal or its supporting documentation presents programs that account for only less than two-thirds of expenditures. Answer "d" applies if expenditures are not presented by program.

Answer:
a. Yes, programs accounting for all expenditures are presented for BY-2 and prior years.

Source:
The Executive Budget for FY2021 and its Supporting Documents; The Executive Budget for FY2021, Performance Plans (2021년도 성과계획서)

Comment:
The Performance Plans are required for the Administrative Ministries and Agencies, except for the National Intelligence Service and two special investigative committees. However, the Performance Plans are not covering those expenditures of personnel and basic expenses for which performance plans would not generate substantial benefits.

Having said that, these exceptions are understandable and justifiable. For these reasons, this reviewer would go for "a".

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

24. In the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation, what is the most recent year presented for which all expenditures reflect actual outcomes?

GUIDELINES:
Question 24 asks for which year the actual outcomes for expenditures are shown. In most cases, the most recent year for which budget data on actual outcomes are available will be BY-2, as BY-1 is generally not yet finished when the budget proposal is drafted. So a government that has updated all its expenditure data for BY-2 to reflect what actually occurred, as opposed to estimating the outcome for that year, shows good public financial management practice.

For an "a" answer, a country must meet the good practice of having the figures for BY-2 reflect actual outcomes.

Answer:
a. Two years prior to the budget year (BY-2).

Source:
The Executive Budget for FY2021 and its Supporting Documents; The Executive Budget for FY2021, Performance Plans (2021년도 성과계획서)

Comment:
The actual expenditures for individual projects are presented for BY-2 in the said documents.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

25. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present revenue by category (such as tax and non-tax) for the year preceding the budget year (BY-1)?

GUIDELINES:
Questions 25 through 30 cover the same topics about prior-year information as the previous six questions, only they ask about information provided for revenues rather than expenditures.

Answer:
a. Yes, revenue estimates for BY-1 are presented by category.

Source:
The Executive Budget Proposal for FY2021, Supporting Documents

Comment:
The revenues for BY-1 are presented by tax and non tax, by fund accounts, and by administrative unites in the said document, in pages 6-19.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

26. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present individual sources of revenue for the year preceding the budget year (BY-1)?

GUIDELINES:
Questions 25 through 30 cover the same topics about prior-year information as the previous six questions, only they ask about information provided for revenues rather than expenditures.

Answer:
a. Yes, individual sources of revenue accounting for all revenue are presented for BY-1.

Source:
The Executive Budget Proposal for FY2021, Supporting Documents

Comment:
The revenues for BY-1 are presented by tax and non taxes. For tax, the revenues are broken down onto different types and taxes. For non taxes, they are presented by different subcategories such as property income, sale of goods/services, etc. Please refer to pages 14, 18, and 19 in the said document.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

27. In the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation, have the original estimates of revenue for the year prior to the budget year (BY-1) been updated to reflect actual revenue collections?

GUIDELINES:
Questions 25 through 30 cover the same topics about prior-year information as the previous six questions, only they ask about information provided for revenues rather than expenditures.

Answer:
a. Yes, revenue estimates for BY-1 have been updated from the original enacted levels.

Source:
The Executive Budget Proposal for FY2021 and its Supporting Documents

Comment:
If we limit our attention to the said documents, then Korea would go with "b". The revenue information presented in these documents is basically from the "Approved" Budget for BY-1.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Disagree
Suggested Answer:
a. Yes, revenue estimates for BY-1 have been updated from the original enacted levels.
Comments: You can see the actual outcome of the revenue in 2020 in the website below. https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000056416&menuNo=4010100

IBP Comment
Many thanks to government reviewer. IBP revised response to A as supporting documents (page 1298) show updated revised revenue projections from the third suplementary budget. This is a change in practice.

28. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present revenue estimates by category (such as tax and non-tax) for more than one year prior to the budget year (that is, BY-2 and prior years)?

GUIDELINES:
Questions 25 through 30 cover the same topics about prior-year information as the previous six questions, only they ask about information provided for revenues rather than expenditures.

Answer:
a. Yes, revenue estimates for BY-2 and prior years are presented by category.

Source:
The Executive Budget Proposal for FY2021 and its Supporting Documents

Comment:
The revenue information for the prior years only cover those from BY-1.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Disagree
Suggested Answer:
a. Yes, revenue estimates for BY-2 and prior years are presented by category.
Comments: The Supporting Document for the EBP provides information on actual revenues by category of tax (on p.1295) and nontax (on p.1304) revenues for BY-2. https://likms.assembly.go.kr/bill/billDetail.do?billId=PRC_P2Z0B0V9G0C3E0C9Y1D7J0L7L7N7I9

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Disagree
Suggested Answer:
a. Yes, revenue estimates for BY-2 and prior years are presented by category.
Comments: You can see the source of revenue in 2022 and 2021 in the website below. http://likms.assembly.go.kr/bill/billDetail.do?

billId=PRC_D2R1X0Y9X0F3S1R0L5N6W3H0P8N9K1 https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?
searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000056416&menuNo=4010100

IBP Comment
Many thanks to the reviewers, IBP revised the score from B to A, acknowledging this is an improvement in practice.

29. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present individual sources of revenue for more than one year prior to the budget year (that is, BY-2 and prior years)?

GUIDELINES:
Questions 25 through 30 cover the same topics about prior-year information as the previous six questions, only they ask about information provided for revenues rather than expenditures.

Answer:
a. Yes, individual sources of revenue accounting for all revenue are presented for BY-2 and prior years.

Source:
The Executive Budget Proposal for FY2021 and its Supporting Documents; Revenue Budget from National Taxes for FY2021, which was released on September 1, 2020 and is available at

https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?
menuNo=4010100&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000045125&searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028

Comment:
The Revenue Budget for FY2021 provides information on actual revenues by types of taxes for BY-2. The said document does not provide non tax revenues for BY-2, though.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Disagree
Suggested Answer:
a. Yes, individual sources of revenue accounting for all revenue are presented for BY-2 and prior years.
Comments: The Supporting Document for the EBP provides information on actual revenues by types of tax (on p.1298) and nontax (on p.1307) revenues for BY-2. https://likms.assembly.go.kr/bill/billDetail.do?billId=PRC_P2Z0B0V9G0C3E0C9Y1D7J0L7L7N7I9

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Disagree
Suggested Answer:
a. Yes, individual sources of revenue accounting for all revenue are presented for BY-2 and prior years.
Comments: You can see the individual sources of revenue in 2020, 2019 in the website below.
https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?
searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000056416&menuNo=4010100
https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?
searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000045125&menuNo=4010100

IBP Comment
Many thanks to reviewers. As non tax revenues are presented in the supporting EBP document (page 1295 - 1307), IBP revised to answer choice A. 'Other' revenues are not presented.

30. In the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation, what is the most recent year presented for which all revenues reflect actual outcomes?

GUIDELINES:
Questions 25 through 30 cover the same topics about prior-year information as the previous six questions, only they ask about information provided for revenues rather than expenditures.

Answer:
a. Two years prior to the budget year (BY-2).

Source:

The Revenue Budget for FY2021 and its press release

https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?menuNo=4010100&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000045125&searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028

Comment:
The said document provides revenue information for BY-2 only for tax revenues, not for non tax revenues. If the wording "all revenues" is strictly applied, I would go for "d" here.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Disagree
Suggested Answer:
a. Two years prior to the budget year (BY-2).
Comments: Refer to the comment on the previous question.

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

IBP Comment
Many thanks to the peer reviewer. Based on individual sources of non-tax revenues (actuals for BY-2) presented on p.1307 of supporting budget proposal, score is revised to A. This is a change in practice.

31. "Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present information on government borrowing and debt, including its composition, for the year preceding the budget year (BY-1)?

(The core information must include the total debt outstanding at the end of BY-1; the amount of net new borrowing required during BY-1; interest payments on the debt; interest rates on the debt instruments; maturity profile of the debt; and whether it is domestic or external debt.)"

GUIDELINES:
Question 31 focuses on prior-year debt information, rather than on prior-year expenditures or revenues, asking whether "core" information is provided on government borrowing and debt, including its composition, for the year preceding the budget year (BY-1).

The "core" information includes:

- *total debt outstanding at the end of BY-1;*
- *amount of net new borrowing required during BY-1;*
- *interest payments on the debt;*
- *interest rates on the debt instruments;*
- *maturity profile of the debt; and*
- *whether it is domestic or external debt.*

This core information for BY-1 is consistent with the budget year information for borrowing and debt, which is examined in Questions 13 and 14. Please note that for the purposes of this question, the deficit may be accepted as a proxy for net new borrowing.

In addition, some governments provide information beyond the core elements, such as gross new borrowing required during BY-1; currency of the debt; whether the debt carries a fixed or variable interest rate; whether it is callable; a profile of the creditors (bilateral institutions, multilateral institutions, commercial banks, Central Bank, etc.); where appropriate, what the debt is being used to finance.

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present all of the core information related to government borrowing and debt, including its composition, for BY-1 as well as some additional information beyond the core elements. To answer "b," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present all of the core components noted above. Answer "b" is also accepted if one of the core elements is not presented but additional information beyond the core elements is presented. A "c" answer applies if some information related to government borrowing and debt, including its composition, but some of the core pieces of information are not included. Answer "d" applies if no information is presented on government borrowing and debt for BY-1.

Answer:
b. Yes, the core information is presented for government debt.

Source:
The National Financial Management Plan for 2020-2024 and its Supporting Document, the National Debt Management Plan 2020-2024

Comment:
Key relevant basic information is available in the said documents such total debt outstanding, amount of new borrowing, and interest payment, as early as FY2017, or BY-4. The information on interest rate is provided only for the major treasury bonds, not for others. The core and more detailed information beyond the requirements from the Question 31 is provided in the National Debt Management Plan 2020-2024 which is a supporting

document for the National Financial Management Plan 2020-2024.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

32. In the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation, what is the most recent year presented for which the debt figures reflect actual outcomes?

GUIDELINES:
Question 32 asks for which year the actual outcome for total debt outstanding is shown. In most cases, the most recent year for which budget data on actual outcomes are available will be BY-2, as BY-1 is generally not yet finished when the budget proposal is drafted. So a government that has updated its debt data for BY-2 to reflect what actually occurred, as opposed to estimating the outcome for that year, shows good public financial management practice.

For an "a" answer, a country must meet the good practice of having the figures for BY-2 reflect actual outcomes.

It is essential that all government activities that may have an impact on the budget — in the current budget year or in future budget years — be fully disclosed to the legislature and the public in budget documents. In some countries, for instance, entities outside central government (such as public corporations) undertake fiscal activities that could affect current and future budgets. Similarly, activities that can have a significant impact on the budget, such as payment arrears and contingent liabilities, sometimes are not properly captured by the regular presentations of expenditure, revenue, and debt.

Answer:
a. Two years prior to the budget year (BY-2).

Source:
The National Debt Management Plan 2020-2024, a supporting document for the National Financial Management Plan 2020-2024

Comment:
In page 166, the said document, information on the total outstanding debt and its composition is presented from 2017 through 2019, which is BY-2.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

33. "Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present information on extra-budgetary funds for at least the budget year?

(The core information must include a statement of purpose or policy rationale for the extra-budgetary fund; and complete income, expenditure, and financing data on a gross basis.)"

GUIDELINES:

Question 33 focuses on extra-budgetary funds, asking whether "core" information related to these funds, which exist outside the budget, are presented. These core components include:

- *a statement of purpose or policy rationale for the extra-budgetary fund (i.e., why was a particular fund set up? what is it used for?); and*
- *estimates of its income, expenditure, and financing. (These estimates should be presented on a gross basis so that it is possible to tell how much money flows through each extra-budgetary fund.)*

In most countries, governments engage in certain budgetary activities that are not included in the central government's budget. Known as extra-budgetary funds, they can range in size and scope. For example, countries frequently set up pension and social security programs as extra-budgetary funds, where the revenues collected and the benefits paid are recorded in a separate fund outside the budget. Another example of an extra-budgetary fund can be found in countries dependent on hydrocarbon/mineral resources, where revenues from producing and selling those resources are channeled through systems outside the annual budget.

In some cases, the separation engendered by an extra-budgetary fund serves a legitimate political purpose, and the finances and activities of these funds are well documented. In other cases, however, this structure is used for obfuscation, and little or nothing is known about a fund's finances and activities.

The availability of information related to extra-budgetary funds is essential for a comprehensive understanding of the government's true fiscal position. In addition to the core information, other information about extra-budgetary funds is also desirable. Such information includes a discussion of the risks associated with the extra-budgetary fund; expenditures classified by economic, functional, or administrative unit; and the rules and procedures that govern the operations and management of the extra-budgetary fund.

For more information about extra-budgetary funds, see the Guide to Transparency in Public Finances: Looking Beyond the Core Budget (http://internationalbudget.org/wp-content/uploads/Looking-Beyond-the-Budget.pdf) and Principle 2.1.1 of the IMF's Fiscal Transparency Handbook (2018) (https://www.elibrary.imf.org/view/IMF069/24788-9781484331859/24788-9781484331859/24788-9781484331859.xml).

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present all of the core information related to extra-budgetary funds as well as some additional information beyond the core elements . A "b" answer applies if the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation presents all of the core information. Answer "b" is also accepted if one of the core elements is not presented but additional information beyond the core elements is presented. A "c" answer applies if some information related to extra-budgetary funds is presented, but some of the core pieces of information are not included. Answer "d" applies if no information is presented on extra-budgetary funds.

Please provide in the comments a list of all known extra-budgetary funds.

Answer:
a. Yes, information beyond the core elements is presented for all extra-budgetary funds.

Source:
The Fund Management Plan for FY2021, which is part of the Executive Budget Proposal for FY2021, which is available from:

http://likms.assembly.go.kr/bill/billDetail.do?billId=PRC_W2M0D0W9U0C3X0I9A1Q7G3G8I0H1K0

Comment:
The core information is available for each of those extra-budgetary funds from the said document. The MoEF's explanation and discussions about the EBP for FY2021 actually includes 67 extra-budgetary funds as a whole, but it does not directly address each of them. However, the MoEF prepares management plans for those extra-budgetary funds and submits them to the National Assembly along with the EBP.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

IBP Comment
IBP confirms answer choice A. MoEF issued a press release noting the submission of Fund Management Plan 2021 the same day of Budget Proposal's tabling in legislature. As per OBS methodology, this is acceptable to be assessed as part of the EBP package.

34. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present central government finances (both budgetary and extra-budgetary) on a consolidated basis for at least the budget year?

GUIDELINES:
Question 34 asks whether the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documents present the finances of the central government on a consolidated basis, showing both its budgetary and extra-budgetary activities. Virtually all of the questions in the OBS questionnaire focus on budgetary central government — the activities of the ministries, departments, or agencies of central government. In addition, Question 33 asks about extra-budgetary funds, such as social security funds that are not included in the budget.

Coverage is an important aspect of fiscal reporting. Budget documents should cover the full scope of government's financial activity. In many countries, extra-budgetary activities are substantial, and can represent a sizable share of the central government's activities. To get a full picture of the central government's finances, therefore, it is necessary to examine both activities that are included in the budget and those that are extra-budgetary. This question asks whether such a consolidated presentation of central government finances is provided.

The central government is only one component of the overall public sector. The public sector also includes other levels of government, such as state and local government, and public corporations. (See Box 2.1 under Principle 1.1.1 of the IMF's Fiscal Transparency Handbook (2018): https://www.elibrary.imf.org/view/IMF069/24788-9781484331859/24788-9781484331859/24788-9781484331859.xml. For the purpose of answering this question, please consider only the central government level.

In order to answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present central government finances (both budgetary and extra-budgetary) on a consolidated basis for at least the budget year.

Answer:
a. Yes, central government finances are presented on a consolidated basis.

Source:
The Executive Budget Proposal for FY2021 and its supporting documents such as the National Financial Management Plan 2020-2024 and the Fund Management Plans for FY2021

Comment:
The deficit/surplus, total revenues and expenditures, etc. are all presented and discussed on a consolidated basis across all of the said documents. One clear example would be found in page 29 of the National Financial Management Plan 2020-2024.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

35. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present estimates of intergovernmental transfers for at least the budget year?

GUIDELINES:
Question 35 asks about intergovernmental transfers. In many cases, the central government supports the provision of a good or service by a lower level of government through an intergovernmental transfer of funds. This is necessary because, independent from the level of administrative decentralization that exists in a given country, the capacity for revenue collection of a local government is unlikely to be sufficient to pay for all its expenses. However, because the activity is not being undertaken by an administrative unit of the central government, it is unlikely to receive the same level of review in the budget. Thus it is important to include in the budget proposal a statement that explicitly indicates the amount and purposes of these transfers.

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present for at least the budget year both estimates covering all intergovernmental transfers and a narrative discussing these transfers. If a narrative discussion is not included, but estimates for all intergovernmental transfers are presented, then a "b" answer is appropriate. A "c" response applies if the presentation includes estimates covering only some, but not all, intergovernmental transfers (regardless of whether it also includes a narrative discussion). Answer "d" applies if no estimates of intergovernmental transfers are presented.

Answer:
b. Yes, estimates of all intergovernmental transfers are presented, but a narrative discussion is not included.

Source:
The Executive Budget Proposal for FY2021, Supporting Documents; The National Financial Management Plan 2020-2024

Comment:
In pages 26, 32, and 40 of the EBP's Supporting Document, the amount of intergovernmental transfer is presented without any narrative explanation. However, in the said Plan, information on the intergovernmental transfer as a mechanism of mandatory expenditures is provided in page 30 from 2020 through 2024 with some narrative explanations.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree
Comments: The Supporting Document provides information on all intergovernmental transfers by Ministries on pp.1408-1410. https://likms.assembly.go.kr/bill/billDetail.do?billId=PRC_P2Z0B0V9G0C3E0C9Y1D7J0L7L7N7I9.

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

IBP Comment
IBP revised response from A to B. As researcher notes, of at least the three broad categories of transfers - local shared tax, national subsidies, and transfer for education, narrative discussion is not included.

36. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present alternative displays of expenditures (such as by gender, by age, by

income, or by region) to illustrate the financial impact of policies on different groups of citizens, for at least the budget year?

GUIDELINES:
Question 36 asks about "alternative displays" of expenditures that highlight the financial impact of policies on different groups of citizens. As discussed above, expenditures are typically presented by at least one of three classifications — administrative, functional, and economic classifications (see Questions 1-5) — and by individual program (Question 6). In addition, governments can provide alternative displays to emphasize different aspects of expenditure policies and to show who benefits from these expenditures.

For the purpose of answering this question, the alternative presentation must differ from the presentations (such as administrative, functional, or economic classifications or presentation by program) used to answer other questions. The alternative display can cover all expenditures or only a portion of expenditures. For instance, it can show how all expenditures are distributed according to geographic region or it can show how selected expenditures (such as the health budget or the agriculture budget) are distributed to different regions. But such a geographic display must be something different than the presentation of intergovernmental transfers used to answer question 35. One exception is when a country includes a special presentation of all policies intended to benefit the most impoverished populations (and is used to answer Question 52) then that can be considered an alternative display for purposes of answering this question as well. Finally, brief fact sheets showing how proposals in the budget benefit particular groups would be insufficient; only more detailed presentations would be considered.

The IBP Budget Brief, "How Transparent are Governments When it Comes to Their Budget's Impact on Poverty and Inequality?" (https://www.internationalbudget.org/wp-content/uploads/government-transparency-of-budgets-impact-on-poverty-inequality-ibp-2019.pdf) includes a discussion of the importance of alternative displays of budget information and provides a number of examples. For instance,

- *Bangladesh in its 2017-18 Budget included a detailed supplementary Gender Budgeting Report, which presents the spending dedicated to advancing women across various departments. (https://mof.portal.gov.bd/site/page/3bb14732-b5b1-44df-9921-efedf1496295).*
- *The UK's 2017 budget included a supplementary analysis that provided a distributional analysis of the budget by households in different income groups (see https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/661465/distributional_analysis_autumn_budget_2017.pdf)*
- *South Africa's 2017 Budget Review goes beyond the standard presentation of intergovernmental transfers, discussing the redistribution that results from national revenue flowing to the provinces and municipalities and presenting the allocations on a per capita basis (see chapter 6, http://www.treasury.gov.za/documents/national%20budget/2017/review/FullBR.pdf).*

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must include at least three different presentations that illustrate the financial impact of policies on different groups of citizens for at least the budget year. To answer "b," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must include at least two different alternative displays of expenditures. A "c" applies is only one type of alternative display of expenditure is presented. Answer "d" applies if no alternative display of expenditure is presented.

Answer:
c. Yes, one alternative display of expenditures is presented to illustrate the financial impact of policies on different groups of citizens.

Source:
The National Financial Management Plan 2020-2024 and the Gender Responsive Budget for FY2021, two supporting documents for the EBP.

The Gender Responsive Budget for FY2021 is available at:
https://www.openfiscaldata.go.kr/portal/service/openInfPage.do?mId=B002

Comment:
The expenditures through specific projects that target particular beneficiary groups in terms of age and income are presented in pages 32-39 of the National Financial Management Plan 2020-2024.

The Gender Responsive Budget for FY2021 particularly focuses on the effects of public expenditure projects across men and women.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Disagree
Suggested Answer:
a. Yes, at least three alternative displays of expenditures are presented to illustrate the financial impact of policies on different groups of citizens.
Comments: Refer to the answer and comments for the next question.

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

IBP Comment
IBP revised the answer choice from B to C. See indicator 36b for details.

36b. Based on the response to Question 36, select the box(es) below to identify which types of alternative displays are included in the Executive's Budget

Proposal:

Answer:
Policy impacts based on gender

Source:
The National Financial Management Plan 2020-2024 and the Gender Responsive Budget for FY2021, two supporting documents for the EBP.

The Gender Responsive Budget for FY2021 is available at:
https://www.openfiscaldata.go.kr/portal/service/openInfPage.do?mId=B002

Comment:
The impacts of public expenditures are described and discussed in terms of income and age groups and of gender.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree
Comments: The Citizens Budget (pp.42-43) also provides information on the distribution of the budget for the vulnerable groups:- disabled, farmers & fishermen, veterans, multicultural & digital-divided. The Executive Budget Proposal for FY 2021- Overcoming Corona, Leading Country https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?menuNo=4010100&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000045123&searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

IBP Comment
IBP revised to answer choice C. There is only one alternate display- by gender. The information by age and income are more transfers and not an alternative display. To follow up on PR's comments, the Citizens budget provides information on allocations towards vulnerable populations, not an alternative display of the budget for vulnerable and marginalized populations.

37. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present estimates of transfers to public corporations for at least the budget year?

GUIDELINES:

Question 37 asks about transfers to public corporations. It is often the case that governments have a stake in enterprises that manage resources that are particularly relevant for the public good (such as electricity, water, and oil). While these public corporations can operate independently, in some cases the government will provide direct support by making transfers to these corporations, including to subsidize capital investment and operating expenses.

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present for at least the budget year both estimates covering all transfers to public corporations and a narrative discussing the purposes of these transfers. If a narrative discussion is not included, but estimates for all transfers to public corporations are presented, then a "b" answer is appropriate. A "c" response applies if the presentation includes estimates covering only some, but not all, transfers to public corporations (regardless of whether it also includes a narrative discussion). Answer "c" also applies if estimates of transfers to public corporations are presented as a single line item. Answer "d" applies if no estimates of transfers to public corporations are presented.

Please provide in the comments a list of all known public corporations.

Answer:
c. Yes, estimates of some but not all transfers to public corporations are presented.

Source:
The Executive Budget Proposal for FY2021, Supporting Documents

Comment:
In pages 1318-1321 of the said document, transfers to 39 public enterprises are provided without narrative up to June 2020. Some information on public transfers to public institutions and others is provided in page 26 of the said document, without specific reference to public enterprises. So, "c" would be the right answer.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

38. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present information on quasi-fiscal activities for at least the budget year?

(The core information must include a statement of purpose or policy rationale for the quasi-fiscal activity and the intended beneficiaries.)

GUIDELINES:
Question 38 focuses on quasi-fiscal activities, asking whether "core" information related to such activities is presented. These core components include:

- *A statement of purpose or policy rationale for the quasi-fiscal activity (i.e., what is the reason for engaging in this activity?);*
- *The identification of intended beneficiaries of the quasi-fiscal activity.*

The term "quasi-fiscal activities" refers to a broad range of activities that are fiscal in character and could be carried out through the regular budget process but are not. For example, a quasi-fiscal activity could take place if, instead of providing a direct subsidy through the budget for a particular activity, a public financial institution provides an indirect subsidy by offering loans at below-market rates for that activity. Similarly, it is a quasi-fiscal activity when an enterprise provides goods or services at prices below commercial rates to certain individuals or groups to support the government's policy goals.

The above examples are policy choices that may be approved by the government and legislature. However, quasi-fiscal activities can also involve activities that violate or circumvent a country's budget process laws or are not subject to the regular legislative approval process for expenditures. For example, the executive may issue an informal order to a government entity, such as a public commercial enterprise, to provide the executive with goods and services that normally would have to be purchased with funding authorized by the legislature. All quasi-fiscal activities should be disclosed to the public and subject to public scrutiny.

Beyond the core information, some governments may also provide other information about quasi-fiscal activities, including for example: the anticipated duration of the quasi-fiscal activity; a quantification of the activity and the assumptions that support these estimates; and a discussion of the fiscal significance and potential risks associated with the activity, including the impact on the entity carrying out the activity. Principle 3.3.2 of the IMF's Fiscal Transparency Handbook (2018) (https://www.elibrary.imf.org/view/IMF069/24788-9781484331859/24788-9781484331859/24788-9781484331859.xml) provides examples of quasi-fiscal activities that can be consulted as needed. And more details on quasi-fiscal activities can be found in the Guide to Transparency in Public Finances: Looking Beyond the Core Budget (http://internationalbudget.org/wp-content/uploads/Looking-Beyond-the-Budget.pdf).

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present all of the core information related to all quasi-fiscal activities for at least the budget year as well as some additional information beyond the core elements. To answer "b," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present all of the core components noted above. Answer "b" is also accepted if one of the core elements is not presented but additional information beyond the core elements is presented. A "c" answer applies if some information related to quasi-fiscal activities is presented, but some of the core pieces of information are not included. Answer "d" applies if no information is presented on quasi-fiscal activities.

If quasi-fiscal activities do not represent a significant problem in your country, please mark "e."." However, please exercise caution in answering this question.

Answer:
d. No, information related to quasi-fiscal activities is not presented.

Source:
The Executive Budget Proposal for FY2021, Supporting Documents

Comment:
The quasi-fiscal activities can be distinct from the activities that are covered by off-budget funds whose budget information is provided in the EBP for FY2021. However, the quasi-fiscal activities as distinct from such off-budgetary activities are mainly conducted in Korea by a series of public enterprises, or state-owned enterprises. While the EBP provides information on budgetary transfers to these SOEs, their activities themselves (revenues and expenditures) are not directly covered by the EBP for FY2021.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Disagree
Suggested Answer:
Comments: You can see the individual sources of revenue in 2020, 2019 in the website below.
https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?
searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000056416&menuNo=4010100
https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?
searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000045125&menuNo=4010100

IBP Comment

IBP was not able to identify any quasi-fiscal activity or its beneficiaries in the links presented by reviewers. Answer choice remains D.

39. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present information on financial assets held by the government for at least the budget year?

(The core information must include a listing of the assets, and an estimate of their value.)

GUIDELINES:
Question 39 focuses on financial assets held by the government, asking whether "core" information related to these assets is presented. These core components include:

- *A listing of the financial assets; and*
- *An estimate of their value.*

Governments own financial assets such as cash, bonds, or equities. Unlike private sector businesses, however, few governments maintain balance sheets that show the value of their assets and liabilities.

Beyond the core information, some governments may also provide other information about financial assets, including for example: a discussion of their purpose; historical information on defaults; differences between reported values and market values; and a summary of financial assets as part of the government's balance sheet.

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present for at least the budget year all of the core information related to all financial assets held by the government as well as some additional information beyond the core elements. To answer "b," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present all of the core components noted above. Answer "b" is also accepted if one of the core elements is not presented but additional information beyond the core elements is presented. A "c" answer applies if some information related to financial assets is presented, but some of the core pieces of information are not included. Answer "d" applies if no information is presented on financial assets held by the government.

Answer:
d. No, information related to financial assets is not presented.

Source:
The Executive Budget Proposal for FY2021, Supporting Documents

Comment:
In pages 1272-3, the asset values, financial and non financial, owned by the government are provided according to a broadly defined classification up until June 2020 without much detail. No comparable information is available for the budget year. I would not consider information available from the Open Fiscal Data portal since I do not think it is part of the EBP.

Having said that, this reviewer believes that such information for the current fiscal year is more valuable than estimates for the budget year since there would be a lot of uncertainties for accurately estimating their values for the budget year. So, I believe that the wording of "at least the budget year" would need to be changed to "at least for the BY-1". If that is reasonable, the Korean answer to this question would be "b" rather than "d".

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

40. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present information on nonfinancial assets held by the government for at least the budget year?

(The core information must include a listing of the assets by category.)

GUIDELINES:
Question 40 focuses on nonfinancial assets held by the government, asking whether "core" information related to these assets is presented. The core information is a listing of nonfinancial assets, grouped by the type (or category) of asset.

Nonfinancial assets are things of value that the government owns or controls (excluding financial assets) such as land, buildings, and machinery. The valuation of public nonfinancial assets can be problematic, particularly in cases where the asset is not typically available on the open market (such as a government monument). In these cases, it is considered acceptable to provide summary information in budget documents from a country's register of assets. But, in some cases, governments are able to value their nonfinancial assets; some present a summary of nonfinancial assets as part of their balance sheets. For an example

of how nonfinancial assets are presented in one of the many supporting documents to the New Zealand Executive's Budget Proposal, see the Forecast Financial Statement 2011, Notes to the Financial Statements (Continued), Note 14, accessible here: https://treasury.govt.nz/sites/default/files/2011-05/befu11-pt6of8.pdf.

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present for at least the budget year a listing by category of all nonfinancial assets held by the government as well as some additional information beyond the core elements. To answer "b," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present all of the core components noted above. Answer "b" is also accepted if one of the core elements is not presented but additional information beyond the core elements is presented. A "c" answer applies if some information related to nonfinancial assets is presented, but some nonfinancial assets are not included. Answer "d" applies if no information is presented on nonfinancial assets held by the government.

Answer:
d. No, information related to nonfinancial assets is not presented.

Source:
The Executive Budget Proposal for FY2021, Supporting Documents

Comment:
Please refer to the responses to the previous Question and the accompanying discussion.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

41. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present estimates of expenditure arrears for at least the budget year?

GUIDELINES:
Question 41 asks about estimates of expenditure arrears, which arise when government has entered into a commitment to spend funds but has not made the payment when it is due. (For more information see sections 3.49-3.50 of the IMF's GFS Manual 2001, http://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/gfs/manual/pdf/all.pdf (page 29)). Though equivalent to borrowing, this liability is often not recorded in the budget, making it difficult to assess fully a government's financial position. Moreover, the obligation to repay this debt affects the government's ability to pay for other activities.

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present for at least the budget year both estimates covering all expenditure arrears and a narrative discussing the arrears. If a narrative discussion is not included, but estimates for all expenditure arrears are presented, then a "b" answer is appropriate. A "c" response applies if the presentation includes estimates covering only some, but not all, expenditure arrears (regardless of whether it also includes a narrative discussion). Answer "d" applies if no estimates of expenditure arrears are presented. Answer "d" also applies if information is only available for the changes in arrears, and not the stock or balance of arrears.

If expenditure arrears do not represent a significant problem in your country, please mark "e." However, please exercise caution in answering this question. Public expenditure management laws and regulations often will allow for reasonable delays, perhaps 30 or 60 days, in the routine payment of invoices due. Expenditure arrears impacting a small percentage of expenditure that are due to contractual disputes should not be considered a significant problem for the purpose of answering this question.

Answer:
e. Not applicable/other (please comment).

Source:
The Executive Budget Proposal for FY2021 and its supporting documents

Comment:
As far as this researcher examined the EBP for FY2021 and its supporting documents, no such information is provided. I am pretty sure that such arrears are not planned to happen during the budget year. In cases of substantial revenue shortfalls or expenditure adjustments that are not expected at the time of budget preparation or approval, the Korean government has an option to submit a Supplementary Budget to deal with such situation, which prevent the accrual of any expenditure arrears. Such is what happens every year multiple times.

So, I would go with "e" rather than "d" here.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Disagree
Suggested Answer:
a. Yes, estimates of all expenditure arrears are presented, along with a narrative discussion.
Comments: You can see the estimates of expenditure arrears in the website below. http://likms.assembly.go.kr/bill/billDetail.do?billId=PRC_D2R1X0Y9X0F3S1R0L5N6W3H0P8N9K1

IBP Comment
many thanks to the reviewer. The document cited by government refer to FY 2022 (beyond OBS 2021 research period). There is no information on arrears in the Budget Proposal and supporting documents. Answer choice E is maintained.

42. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present information on contingent liabilities, such as government loan guarantees or insurance programs, for at least the budget year?

(The core information must include a statement of purpose or policy rationale for each contingent liability; the new guarantees or insurance commitments proposed for the budget year; and the total amount of outstanding guarantees or insurance commitments (the gross exposure) at the end of the budget year.)

GUIDELINES:

Question 42 focuses on contingent liabilities, asking whether "core" information related to these liabilities is presented. These core components include:

- *a statement of purpose or policy rationale for each contingent liability;*
- *the new contingent liabilities for the budget year, such as new guarantees or insurance commitments proposed for the budget year; and*
- *the total amount of outstanding guarantees or insurance commitments at the end of the budget year. This reflects the gross exposure of the government in the case that all guarantees or commitments come due (even though that may be unlikely to occur).*

Contingent liabilities are recognized under a cash accounting method only when the contingent event occurs and the payment is made. An example of such liabilities is the case of loans guaranteed by the central government, which can include loans to state-owned banks and other state-owned commercial enterprises, subnational governments, or private enterprises. Under such guarantees, government will only make a payment if the borrower defaults. Thus a key issue for making quantitative estimates of these liabilities is assessing the likelihood of the contingency occurring.

In the budget, according to the OECD, "[w]here feasible, the total amount of contingent liabilities should be disclosed and classified by major category reflecting their nature; historical information on defaults for each category should be disclosed where available. In cases where contingent liabilities cannot be quantified, they should be listed and described."

Beyond the core information, some governments may also provide other information about contingent liabilities, including for example: historical default rates for each program, and likely default rates in the future; the maximum guarantee that is authorized by law; any special financing associated with the guarantee (e.g., whether fees are charged, whether a reserve fund exists for the purpose of paying off guarantees, etc.); the duration of each guarantee; and an estimate of the fiscal significance and potential risks associated with the guarantees.

For more details on contingent liabilities, see Guide to Transparency in Public Finances: Looking Beyond the Core Budget (http://internationalbudget.org/wp-content/uploads/Looking-Beyond-the-Budget.pdf) and page 59 (Box 11) and Principle 3.2.3 of the IMF's Fiscal Transparency Handbook (2018) (https://www.elibrary.imf.org/view/IMF069/24788-9781484331859/24788-9781484331859/24788-9781484331859.xml).

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present for at least the budget year all of the core information related to contingent liabilities as well as some additional information beyond the core elements. To answer "b," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present all of the core components noted above. Answer "b" is also accepted if one of the core elements is not presented but additional information beyond the core elements is presented. A "c" answer applies if some information related to contingent liabilities is presented, but some of the core pieces of information are not included. Answer "d" applies if no information is presented on contingent liabilities.

Answer:
d. No, information related to contingent liabilities is not presented.

Source:
The Executive Budget Proposal for FY2021, Supporting Documents; The National Financial Management Plan 2020-2024

Comment:
Contingent liabilities including debt guarantees are an important issue in debt management, while they are not officially counted as debt yet. The said documents do not provide any inklings for such contingent liabilities as part of the EBP. Having said that, the Open Fiscal Data Portal provides a summary table for contingent liabilities as in the following URL covering up until 2020.

http://www.openfiscaldata.go.kr/fdata/9DQF7E72M4Z89V8S128M4946190

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Disagree
Suggested Answer:
Comments: You can see the information on contingent liabilities in the website below. http://likms.assembly.go.kr/bill/billDetail.do?billId=PRC_B2S1A0C9H0J3A1K1U0N8J5I9A5J4N9

IBP Comment
IBP appreciates government's comments. While there is a press release issued that MoEF has submitted a Management Plan for Loan Guarantees for 2020-2024 on 3rd September (date of submission of budget proposal to legislature), IBP was unable to find a link to the bill itself. The link by government reviewer is to the debt management plan. Answer choice C is maintained for this round.

43. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present projections that assess the government's future liabilities and the sustainability of its finances over the longer term?

(The core information must cover a period of at least 10 years and include the macroeconomic and demographic assumptions used and a discussion of the fiscal implications and risks highlighted by the projections.)

GUIDELINES:

Question 43 focuses on government's future liabilities and the sustainability of its finances over the longer-term, asking whether "core" information related to these issues is presented. These core components must include:

- *Projections that cover a period of at least 10 years.*
- *The macroeconomic and demographic assumptions used in making the projections.*
- *A discussion of the fiscal implications and risks highlighted by the projections.Good public financial management calls for budgets to include fiscal sustainability analyses.*

The IMF's Fiscal Transparency Handbook (2018) (https://www.elibrary.imf.org/view/IMF069/24788-9781484331859/24788-9781484331859/24788-9781484331859.xml) recommends that governments regularly publish the projected evolution of the public finances over the longer term (see Principle 3.1.3.). Future liabilities are a particularly important element when assessing the sustainability of public finances over the long term. Future liabilities are the result of government commitments that, unlike contingent liabilities, are virtually certain to occur at some future point and result in an expenditure. A typical example consists of government obligations to pay pension benefits or cover health care costs of future retirees. Under a cash accounting system, only current payments associated with such obligations are recognized in the budget. To capture the future impact on the budget of these liabilities, a separate statement is required.

Beyond the core information, some governments may also provide other information about the sustainability of their finances, including for example: projections that cover 20 or 30 years; multiple scenarios with different sets of assumptions; assumptions about other factors (such as the depletion of natural resources) that go beyond just the core macroeconomic and demographic data; and a detailed presentation of particular programs that have long time horizons, such as civil service pensions.

For more details on future liabilities, see Guide to Transparency in Public Finances: Looking Beyond the Core Budget (http://internationalbudget.org/wp-content/uploads/Looking-Beyond-the-Budget.pdf).

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present all of the core information related to future liabilities and the sustainability of government finances over the longer term as well as some additional information beyond the core elements. To answer "b," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present all of the core components noted above. Answer "b" is also accepted if one of the core elements is not presented but additional information beyond the core elements is presented. A "c" answer applies if some information related to future liabilities is presented, but some of the core pieces of information are not included. Answer "d" applies if no information is presented on future liabilities and the sustainability of government's finances

Answer:
a. Yes, information beyond the core elements is presented to assess the government's future liabilities and the sustainability of its finances over the longer term.

Source:
The Long Term Fiscal Prospect 2020-2060, a supporting document for the National Financial Management Plan 2020-2024

Comment:
The National Financial Management Plan only covers five years. The Article 2(3) of the Enforcement Decree of the National Finance Act stipulates that "(3) The Minister of Economy and Finance shall offer long-term financial forecasts under Article 7 (2) 2 of the Act at least once every five years for a period of longer than 40 fiscal years."

And for the EBP for 2021, such long term forecast information for fiscal liabilities is indeed included as a supporting document for the National Financial Management Plan 2020-2024. In the document, pages 219-233, detailed information on the basic assumptions for the forecast and its metrology is provided beyond the core information.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree
Comments: The Article 7(4) of the National Finance Act stipulates that "The Ministry of Economy and Finance shall offer long-term financial forecast every five years for a period of longer than 40 fiscal years" since 2020.7.1.

IBP Comment
IBP confirms response A, noting that is a new practice and an improvement from previous years.

44. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present estimates of the sources of donor assistance, both financial and in-kind, for at least the budget year?

GUIDELINES:
Question 44 asks about estimates of donor assistance, both financial and in-kind assistance. Such assistance is considered non-tax revenue, and the sources of this assistance should be explicitly identified. In terms of in-kind assistance, the concern is primarily with the provision of goods (particularly those for which there is a market that would allow goods received as in-kind aid to be sold, thereby converting them into cash) rather than with in-kind aid like advisors from a donor country providing technical assistance.

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present for at least the budget year both estimates covering all donor assistance and a narrative discussing the assistance. If a narrative discussion is not included, but estimates for all donor assistance are presented, then a "b" answer is appropriate. A "c" response applies if the presentation includes estimates covering only some, but not all, donor assistance (regardless of whether it also includes a narrative discussion). Answer "c" also applies if the sources of donor assistance are not presented, but the total amount of donor assistance is presented as a single line item. Answer "d" applies if no estimates of donor assistance are presented. Select answer "e" if your country does not receive donor assistance.

Answer:
e. Not applicable/other (please comment).

Source:
The Executive Budget Proposal for FY2021 and its supporting documents

Comment:
As far as this researcher understands, Korea does not receive any donor assistance. Instead, it now provides aids for developing and less developed countries.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

45. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present information on tax expenditures for at least the budget year?

(The core information must include a statement of purpose or policy rationale for each tax expenditure, the intended beneficiaries, and an estimate of the revenue foregone.)

GUIDELINES:
Question 45 focuses on tax expenditures, asking whether "core" information related to these tax preferences is presented. These core components must include for both new and existing tax expenditures:

- *a statement of purpose or policy rationale;*
- *a listing of the intended beneficiaries; and*
- *an estimate of the revenue foregone.*

Tax expenditures arise as a result of exceptions or other preferences in the tax code provided for specified entities, individuals, or activities. Tax expenditures often have the same impact on public policy and budgets as providing direct subsidies, benefits, or goods and services. For example, encouraging a company to engage in more research through a special tax break can have the same effect as subsidizing it directly through the expenditure side of the budget, as it still

constitutes a cost in terms of foregone revenues. However, expenditure items that require annual authorization are likely to receive more scrutiny than tax breaks that are a permanent feature of the tax code.

Beyond the core information, some governments may also provide other information about tax expenditures, including for example: the intended beneficiaries by sector and income class (distributional impact); a statement of the estimating assumptions, including the definition of the benchmark against which the foregone revenue is measured; and a discussion of tax expenditures as part of a general discussion of expenditures for those program areas that receive both types of government support (in order to better inform policy choices). For more details on tax expenditures, see Guide to Transparency in Public Finances: Looking Beyond the Core Budget (http://internationalbudget.org/wp-content/uploads/Looking-Beyond-the-Budget.pdf) and Principle 1.1.4 of the IMF's Fiscal Transparency Handbook (2018) (https://www.elibrary.imf.org/view/IMF069/24788-9781484331859/24788-9781484331859/24788-9781484331859.xml).

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present, for at least the budget year, all of the core information related to tax expenditures as well as some additional information beyond the core elements. To answer "b," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present all of the core components noted above. Answer "b" is also accepted if one of the core elements is not presented but additional information beyond the core elements is presented. A "c" answer applies if some information related to tax expenditures is presented, but some of the core pieces of information are not included. Answer "d" applies if no information is presented on tax expenditures.

Answer:
a. Yes, information beyond the core elements is presented for all tax expenditures.

Source:
The Tax Expenditure Budget for FY2021, a supporting document for the Executive Budget Proposal for FY2021

Comment:
The Korean government keeps track of the various tax expenditure programs and reports their detailed profiles in its Tax Expenditure Budget and submits it to the National Assembly as a supplementary document. The Tax Expenditure Budget (조세지출예산서) for FY2021 along with those for previous years is available at the following link:

https://www.openfiscaldata.go.kr/portal/service/openInfPage.do?mId=B002

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

46. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present estimates of earmarked revenues for at least the budget year?

GUIDELINES:
Question 46 asks about estimates of earmarked revenues, which are revenues that may only be used for a specific purpose (for example, revenues from a tax on fuel that can only be used for building roads). This information is important in determining which revenues are available to fund the government's general expenses, and which revenues are reserved for particular purposes.

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present for at least the budget year both estimates covering all earmarked revenues and a narrative discussing the earmarks. If a narrative discussion is not included, but estimates for all earmarked revenues are presented, then a "b" answer is appropriate. A "c" response applies if the presentation includes estimates covering only some, but not all, earmarked revenues (regardless of whether it also includes a narrative discussion). Answer "d" applies if no estimates of earmarked revenues are presented. An "e" response applies if revenue is not earmarked or the practice is disallowed by law or regulation.

Answer:
b. Yes, estimates of all earmarked revenues are presented, but a narrative discussion is not included.

Source:
The Executive Budget Proposal for FY2021, Supporting Documents

Comment:
In page 14 of the said document, the revenues for earmarked taxes such as Transportation/Energy/Environmental taxes, Education Tax, and Composite Property Tax are listed for the Budget Year and BY-1 without a narrative description.

In pages 1297-8 of the said document, some narrative descriptions are provided for these earmarked taxes and the rationales for such revenue estimates.

Peer Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

47. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present information on how the proposed budget (both new proposals and existing policies) is linked to government's policy goals for the budget year?

GUIDELINES:
Questions 47 and 48 ask about information that shows how the budget (both new proposals and existing policies) is linked to the government's policy goals. The budget is the executive's main policy document, the culmination of the executive's planning and budgeting processes. Therefore, it should include a clear description of the link between policy goals and the budget — that is, an explicit explanation of how the government's policy goals are reflected in its budget choices. For an example of a discussion of a government's policy goals in the budget, see pages 13-18 of New Zealand's 2011 Statement of Intent (http://www.treasury.govt.nz/publications/abouttreasury/soi/2011-16), one of the many documents supporting its budget.

In some countries the government prepares strategic/development plans. These plans include all the policies the government is planning to implement for the budget year and very often cover a multi-year perspective. In some cases, these plans do not match the budget documentation, and it is possible that they are completely disconnected from the Executive's Budget Proposal. So the question is examining whether government policy plans are "translated" into revenue and expenditure figures in the actual budget documents.

Question 47 asks about the information covering the budget year, and Question 48 asks about the period at least two years beyond the budget year. To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present both estimates of how the budget is linked to government's policy goals for the budget year (for Question 47) or for a multi-year period beyond the budget year (for Question 48) and a narrative discussion of how these policy goals are reflected in the budget. To answer "b" for either question, the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present estimates that show how the budget is linked to government's policy goals, but no narrative discussion is included. A "c" response applies if the presentation includes only a narrative discussion, or if it includes estimates that show how the budget is linked to some, but not all, of the government's policy goals (regardless of whether it also includes a narrative discussion). Answer "d" applies if no information is presented on how the budget is linked to government's policy goals.

Answer:
a. Yes, estimates that show how the proposed budget is linked to all the government's policy goals for the budget year are presented, along with a narrative discussion.

Source:
The Executive Budget Proposal for FY2021 and its supporting documents such as the National Financial Management Plan 2020-2024 and the Performance Plans for FY2021, and the 60 Notable Projects from the EBP for FY2021, etc.

Comment:
Basically the press releases from the EBP for FY2021, the National Financial Management Plan 2020-2024, and each department's Performance Plan for FY2021 all describe and highlight the existing and new programs in terms of strategic resource allocation for better serving citizens' service needs. Especially the National Financial Management Plan provides a detailed description of such budget allocations across 12 expenditure functions.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

48. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present information on how the proposed budget (both new proposals and existing policies) is linked to government's policy goals for a multi-year period (for at least two years beyond the budget year)?

GUIDELINES:
Questions 47 and 48 ask about information that shows how the budget (both new proposals and existing policies) is linked to the government's policy goals. The budget is the executive's main policy document, the culmination of the executive's planning and budgeting processes. Therefore, it should include a clear description of the link between policy goals and the budget — that is, an explicit explanation of how the government's policy goals are reflected in its budget choices. For an example of a discussion of a government's policy goals in the budget, see pages 13-18 of New Zealand's 2011 Statement of Intent (http://www.treasury.govt.nz/publications/abouttreasury/soi/2011-16), one of the many documents supporting its budget.

In some countries the government prepares strategic/development plans. These plans include all the policies the government is planning to implement for the budget year and very often cover a multi-year perspective. In some cases, these plans do not match the budget documentation, and it is possible that they are completely disconnected from the Executive's Budget Proposal. So the question is examining whether government policy plans are "translated" into revenue

and expenditure figures in the actual budget documents.

Question 47 asks about the information covering the budget year, and Question 48 asks about the period at least two years beyond the budget year. To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present both estimates of how the budget is linked to government's policy goals for the budget year (for Question 47) or for a multi-year period beyond the budget year (for Question 48) and a narrative discussion of how these policy goals are reflected in the budget. To answer "b" for either question, the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present estimates that show how the budget is linked to government's policy goals, but no narrative discussion is included. A "c" response applies if the presentation includes only a narrative discussion, or if it includes estimates that show how the budget is linked to some, but not all, of the government's policy goals (regardless of whether it also includes a narrative discussion). Answer "d" applies if no information is presented on how the budget is linked to government's policy goals.

Answer:
a. Yes, estimates that show how the proposed budget is linked to all the government's policy goals for a multi-year period are presented, along with a narrative discussion.

Source:
The Executive Budget Proposal for FY2021 and its supporting documents such as the National Financial Management Plan 2020-2024 and the Performance Plans for FY2021, and the 60 Notable Projects from the EBP for FY2021, etc.

Comment:
The National Financial Management Plan 2020-2024 specifically addresses strategic resource allocation per the national policy goals over the midterm, with a detailed narrative explanation.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

49. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present nonfinancial data on inputs to be acquired for at least the budget year?

GUIDELINES:
Question 49 asks about the availability of nonfinancial data on inputs for the budget year. (Nonfinancial data on outputs and outcomes are addressed in Question 50.)

The budget should disclose not only the amount of money that is being allocated on a program but also any information needed to analyze that expenditure. Nonfinancial data and performance targets associated with budget proposals are used to assess the success of a given policy. For example, even when allocated funds are spent according to plan, there remains the question of whether the policy delivered the results that it aimed to achieve.

Nonfinancial data can include information on:

Inputs - These are the resources assigned to achieve results. For example, in regards to education, nonfinancial data on inputs could include the number of books to be provided to each school or the materials to be used to build or refurbish a school.
Outputs - These are products and services delivered as a result of inputs. For example, the number of pupils taught every year; the number of children that received vaccines; or the number of beneficiaries of a social security program.
Outcomes - These are the intended impact or policy goals achieved. For example, an increase in literacy rates among children under 10, or a reduction in rates of maternal mortality.

In addition, governments that set performance targets must use nonfinancial data for outputs and outcomes to determine if these targets have been met.

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present, for at least the budget year, nonfinancial data on inputs for each individual program within all administrative units (ministries, departments, and agencies). It is also acceptable if nonfinancial data on inputs for each individual program is organized by functions. To answer "b," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present nonfinancial data on inputs for all administrative units or all functions, but not for each individual program (or even for any programs) within those administrative units or functions. A "c" response applies if nonfinancial data on inputs are presented only for some programs and/or some administrative units or some functions. Answer "d" applies if no nonfinancial data on inputs is presented.

Answer:
b. Yes, nonfinancial data on inputs are presented for all administrative units (or functions) but not for all (or any) programs.

Source:
The Executive Budget Proposal for FY2021, Supporting Documents

Comment:

The said document provides detailed information on personnel data and unit prices for a variety of non financial inputs in pages 1137-1262. Other than these pieces of information, no specific input data is available. So, this researcher believes Korea is qualified for "b" here.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

50. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present nonfinancial data on results (in terms of outputs or outcomes) for at least the budget year?

GUIDELINES:
Question 50 asks about the availability of nonfinancial data on results for the budget year. Nonfinancial data on results can include data on both outputs and outcomes, but not on inputs (which are addressed in Question 49).

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present, for at least the budget year, nonfinancial data on results for each individual program within all administrative units (ministries, departments, and agencies). It is also acceptable if nonfinancial data on results for each individual program is organized by functional classification. To answer "b," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must present nonfinancial data on results for all administrative units or all functional classifications, but not for each individual program (or even for any programs) within those administrative units or functions. A "c" response applies if nonfinancial data on results are presented only for some programs and/or some administrative units or some functions. Answer "d" applies if no nonfinancial data on results is presented.

Answer:
a. Yes, nonfinancial data on results are provided for each program within all administrative units (or functions).

Source:
The Performance Plans (성과계획서) for FY2021, a supporting document for the Executive Budget Proposal for FY2021

Comment:
The said document for each ministry/agency/committee provides detailed non financial output(outcome, or result) data for all projects that it implements with reference to policy goals and objectives.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

51. Are performance targets assigned to nonfinancial data on results in the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation?

GUIDELINES:
Question 51 asks about performance targets assigned to nonfinancial data on results for the budget year. The question applies to those nonfinancial results shown in the budget, and that were identified for purposes of Question 50.

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must assign performance targets to all nonfinancial data on results shown in the budget for at least the budget year. To answer "b," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must assign performance targets to a majority (but not all) of the nonfinancial data on results shown in the budget. A "c" response applies performance targets are assigned only to less than half of the nonfinancial data on results. Answer "d" applies if no performance targets are assigned to nonfinancial data on results shown in the budget, or the budget does not present nonfinancial results.

Answer:
a. Yes, performance targets are assigned to all nonfinancial data on results.

Source:
The Performance Plans for FY2021, a supporting document for the Executive Budget Proposal for FY2021

Comment:
Each department's Performance Plan comes with pre-established specific performance targets mainly in terms of outcomes and outputs.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

52. Does the Executive's Budget Proposal or any supporting budget documentation present estimates of policies (both new proposals and existing policies) that are intended to benefit directly the country's most impoverished populations in at least the budget year?

GUIDELINES:
Question 52 asks whether the budget highlight policies, both new and existing, that benefit the poorest segments of society. This question is intended to assess only those programs that directly address the immediate needs of the poor, such as through cash assistance programs or the provision of housing, rather than indirectly, such as through a stronger national defense. This information is of particular interest to those seeking to bolster government's commitment to anti-poverty efforts. For purposes of answering this question, a departmental budget (such for the Department of Social Welfare) would not be considered acceptable. In general, this question is asking whether the EBP includes a special presentation that pulls together estimates of all the relevant policies in one place. However, if the country uses "program budgeting," where programs are presented as expenditure categories with specific and identified objectives, and it identifies anti-poverty programs within each administrative unit, then that is also acceptable for this question.

The IBP Budget Brief, "How Transparent are Governments When it Comes to Their Budget's Impact on Poverty and Inequality?" (https://www.internationalbudget.org/wp-content/uploads/government-transparency-of-budgets-impact-on-poverty-inequality-ibp-2019.pdf) includes a discussion of countries that have provided information on how its policies affect the poor.

For instance, Pakistan provides a detailed breakdown of pro-poor expenditure as part of its 2017-18 budget proposal. In one document, the government sets out policy priorities, expected outputs, and estimates of past and future spending for several programs aimed at poverty alleviation. Another supporting document provides a comprehensive overview of ongoing policies, including a chapter on social safety nets, covering both financial and performance information of poverty alleviation schemes over a period of eight years. (http://www.finance.gov.pk/budget/mtbf_2018_21.pdf and http://www.finance.gov.pk/survey_1718.html).

To answer "a," the Executive's Budget Proposal or supporting documentation must for at least the budget year both present estimates covering all policies that are intended to benefit the most impoverished populations and include a narrative discussion that specifically addresses these policies. (For countries using program budgeting that breaks out individual anti-poverty programs, there should be a separate narrative associated with each such program.) Answer "b" if a narrative discussion is not included, but estimates for all policies that are intended to benefit the most impoverished populations are presented. Answer "c" if the presentation includes estimates covering only some, but not all, policies that are intended to benefit the most impoverished populations (regardless of whether it also includes a narrative discussion). Answer "d" if no estimates of policies that are intended to benefit the most impoverished populations are presented.

Answer:
a. Yes, estimates of all policies that are intended to benefit directly the country's most impoverished populations are presented, along with a narrative discussion.

Source:
The National Financial Management Plan 2020-2024; The 60 Notable Projects from the EBP for FY2021

Comment:
In the National Financial Management Plan, pages 32-39, information on mandatory expenditures including those mostly targeting the country's most impoverished people is provided. In addition, among the 60 Notable Projects, projects of 37-39, 43, 46-49, 50-53, and 55 are particularly targeting those who are struggling with their lives.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree
Comments: The URL of the press release for the 60 Notable Projects is https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?menuNo=4010100&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000045123&searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

53. Does the executive release to the public its timetable for formulating the Executive's Budget Proposal (that is, a document setting deadlines for submissions from other government entities, such as line ministries or subnational government, to the Ministry of Finance or whatever central government agency is in charge of coordinating the budget's formulation)?

GUIDELINES:
Question 53 asks about the budget timetable. An internal timetable is particularly important for the executive's management of the budget preparation process, in order to ensure that the executive accounts for the views of the different departments and agencies in the proposed budget. The timetable would, for instance, set deadlines for submissions from other government entities, such as line ministries or subnational government, to the Ministry of Finance or whatever central government agency is in charge of coordinating the budget's formulation. So that civil society is aware of the various steps in the budget formulation process, and when opportunities may exist to engage the executive, it is essential that this timetable be made available to the public.

To answer "a," the executive must prepare a detailed budget timetable and release it to the public. A "b" answer applies if the timetable is made public, but some details are not included. A "c" response applies if the timetable is made public, but many important details are excluded, reducing its value for those outside government. Answer "d" applies if no timetable is made available to the public. As long as a timetable for formulating the Executive's Budget Proposal is released, answer "a,""b," or "c" may be selected, even if the Executive's Budget Proposal is not made publicly available.

Answer:
b. Yes, a timetable is released, but some details are excluded.

Source:
The Guidelines for Budget Preparation and Formulation of the Extra-budgetary Fund Management Plan for FY2021

Comment:
The press release, in page 1, for the said document briefly indicates the timeline for preparing and submitting the EBP for FY2021, specifically referring to the due date for the submission of departmental budget requests and the submission of presidential budget proposal to the National Assembly. I believe it lacks more detailed timeline for the National Fiscal Strategy Meeting, National Participatory Budgeting, National Fiscal Advisory Board Meeting, the Joint Meeting between the Government and the Ruling Party, reporting to the President, and the Cabinet Approval. In addition, such timeline information is buried in the press release, rather than being provided to the public on a separate more noticeable occasion. Having said that, the budgetary timeline should be a common knowledge for those who aspire to participate in or monitor the budgetary process over the budget season as specified in the National Finance Act.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Disagree
Suggested Answer:
a. Yes, a detailed timetable is released to the public.
Comments: MOEF provides a detailed timetable in the Guidance to the Budget Process on its homepage as follows: - The guideline for preparing the National Financial Management Plan is given to the central Ministries from the MOEF by December 31 of BY-2 - Submission of the mid-term plan for projects to the MOEF by Ministries by January 31 of BY-1 - The guideline for preparing the Budget is given to the central Ministries from the MOEF by March 31 of BY-1 - Submission of the Budget Request to the MOEF from the Ministries by May 31 of BY-1 - Preparing the EBP by the MOEF - Submission of the EBP to the National Assembly by the Government 120 days(that is, September 2) prior to the beginning of the fiscal year (that is, January 1) And the timetable for preparing the National Financial Management Plan is also shown on the homepage. https://www.moef.go.kr/pl/budget/budgetProcss.do?menuNo=5110100

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

IBP Comment
IBP agrees with researcher's choice of answer B.

54. Does the Pre-Budget Statement present information on the macroeconomic forecast upon which the budget projections are based?

(The core information must include a discussion of the economic outlook with estimates of nominal GDP level, inflation rate, real GDP growth, and interest rates.)

GUIDELINES:

Question 54 focuses on the macroeconomic forecast that underlies the Pre-Budget Statement, asking whether "core" information related to the economic assumptions is presented. These core components include a discussion of the economic outlook as well as estimates of the following:

- *nominal GDP level;*
- *inflation rate;*
- *real GDP growth; and*
- *interest rates.*

Beyond these core elements, some governments also provide additional information related to the economic outlook, including for instance: short- and long-term interest rates; the rate of employment and unemployment; GDP deflator; price of oil and other commodities; current account; exchange rate; and

composition of GDP growth.

To answer "a," the Pre-Budget Statement must present all of the core information related to the macroeconomic forecast as well as some additional information beyond the core elements. To answer "b," the Pre-Budget Statement must present all of the core components noted above. Answer "b" is also accepted if one of the core elements is not presented but additional information beyond the core elements is presented. A "c" answer applies if some information related to the macroeconomic forecast is presented, but some of the core pieces of information are not included. Answer "d" applies if no information on the macroeconomic forecast is presented.

Answer:
d. No, information related to the macroeconomic forecast is not presented.

Source:
The Guidelines for Budget Preparation and Formulation of the Extra-budgetary Fund Management Plan for FY2021

Comment:
If attention is only given to the said document as the Question 54 indicates, this research could not find any specific references to nominal or real GDP growth rates, inflation, and interest rates. Having said that, in pages 3-4 of the said document, a brief description of economic prospect for the budget year is provided.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Disagree
Suggested Answer:
a. Yes, information beyond the core elements is presented for the macroeconomic forecast.
Comments: The Ministry of Economy and Finance presents the detailed economic outlook by releasing the report named 'Economic Policy Direction' which EBP is based on. So, EBP shows the summary of the economic outlook to avoid redundancy. And you can see brief information on the macreconomic in the website below. http://likms.assembly.go.kr/bill/billDetail.do?billId=PRC_Z2K1F0U9Y0M3S1O1J0A8Q0W3A1I1P4

IBP Comment
For OBS 2021, ' The Guidelines for Budget Preparation and Formulation of the Extra-budgetary Fund Management Plan for FY2021" is being assessed as the Pre-Budget Statement. The document referred to by Government reviewer is the Mid-year review. As per OBS methodology, the document being assessed alone can be used to respond to indicators about its comprehensiveness. Answer choice D is maintained.

55. Does the Pre-Budget Statement present information on the government's expenditure policies and priorities that will guide the development of detailed estimates for the upcoming budget?

(The core information must include a discussion of expenditure policies and priorities and an estimate of total expenditures.)

GUIDELINES:

Question 55 focuses on the government's expenditure policies and priorities in the Pre-Budget Statement, asking whether "core" information related to these policies is presented. These core components include:

- *a discussion of expenditure policies and priorities; and*
- *an estimate of total expenditures.*

Although a Pre-Budget Statement is unlikely to include detailed programmatic proposals (such detailed information is typically only presented in the budget itself), it should include a discussion of broad policy priorities and a projection of at least total expenditures associated with these policies for the budget year. The Pre-Budget Statement can include some detail, for instance, estimates provided by any of the three expenditure classifications — by administrative, economic, and functional classifications.

To answer "a," the Pre-Budget Statement must present for the upcoming budget year all of the core information related to the government's expenditure policies and priorities as well as some additional information beyond the core elements. To answer "b," the Pre-Budget Statement must present all of the core components noted above for the upcoming budget year. Answer "b" is also accepted if one of the core elements is not presented but additional information beyond the core elements is presented. A "c" answer applies if some information related to the government's expenditure policies and priorities is presented, but some of the core pieces of information are not included. Answer "d" applies if no information on the government's expenditure policies and priorities is presented.

Answer:
a. Yes, information beyond the core elements is presented for the government's expenditure policies and priorities.

Source:

The Guidelines for Budget Preparation and Formulation of the Extra-budgetary Fund Management Plan for FY2021

Comment:
In the said document, policies for key directions for resource allocation and for fiscal reform priorities are described in a detailed manner across key functional areas of expenditures. In addition, in pages 4 and 9 of the document, it indicates that 10% of reduction in discretionary expenditures should be expected. So, this researcher believes that Korea is qualified for "a" rather than "b" here.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

56. Does the Pre-Budget Statement present information on the government's revenue policies and priorities that will guide the development of detailed estimates for the upcoming budget?

(The core information must include a discussion of revenue policies and priorities and an estimate of total revenues.)

GUIDELINES:
Question 56 focuses on the government's revenue policies and priorities in the Pre-Budget Statement, asking whether "core" information related to these policies is presented. These core components include:

- *a discussion of revenue policies and priorities; and*
- *an estimate of total revenue.*

Although a Pre-Budget Statement is unlikely to include detailed revenue proposals, it should include a discussion of broad policy priorities and a projection of at least the total revenue associated with these policies for the budget year. The Pre-Budget Statement can also include more detail, for instance, with estimates provided by revenue category — tax and non-tax — or some of the major individual sources of revenue, such as the Value Added Tax or the income tax.

To answer "a," the Pre-Budget Statement must present for the upcoming budget year all of the core information related to the government's revenue policies and priorities as well as some additional information beyond the core elements. To answer "b," the Pre-Budget Statement must present all of the core components noted above for the upcoming budget year. Answer "b" is also accepted if one of the core elements is not presented but additional information beyond the core elements is presented. A "c" answer applies if some information related to the government's revenue policies and priorities is presented, but some of the core pieces of information are not included. Answer "d" applies if no information on the government's revenue policies and priorities is presented.

Answer:
c. Yes, information is presented, but it excludes some core elements.

Source:
The Guidelines for Budget Preparation and Formulation of the Extra-budgetary Fund Management Plan for FY2021

Comment:
In page 11 of the said document, a brief summary of the policies for tax and non tax revenues is provided.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

57. Does Pre-Budget Statement present three estimates related to government borrowing and debt: the amount of net new borrowing required during the budget year; the total debt outstanding at the end of the budget year; and interest payments on the debt for the budget year?

GUIDELINES:

Question 57 asks whether the Pre-Budget Statement includes three key estimates related to borrowing and debt:

- *the amount of net new borrowing needed in the upcoming budget year;*
- *the central government's total debt burden at the end of the upcoming budget year; and*
- *the interest payments on the outstanding debt for the upcoming budget year.*

Debt is the accumulated amount of money that the government borrows. The government can borrow from its citizens, banks, and businesses within the country (domestic debt) or from creditors outside the country (external debt). External debt is typically owed to private commercial banks, other governments, or international financial institutions such as the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund.

Net new borrowing is the additional amount of new borrowing that is required for the budget year to finance expenditures in the budget that exceed available revenues. Net new borrowing adds to the accumulated debt. It is distinct from gross borrowing, which also includes borrowing needed to repay existing debt that matured during the budget year; debt that is replaced (or rolled over) does not add to the total of accumulated debt. For the purposes of this question, the deficit may be accepted as a proxy for net new borrowing.

Interest payments on the debt (or debt service costs) are typically made at regular intervals, and these payments must be made on a timely basis in order to avoid defaulting on the debt obligation. Interest payments are separate from the repayment of principal, which occurs only when the loan has matured and must be paid back in full.

To answer "a," the Pre-Budget Statement must present all three estimates of borrowing and debt for at least the upcoming budget year. For a "b" answer, the Pre-Budget Statement must present two of those three estimates. For a "c" answer, the PBS must present one of the three estimates. Answer "d" applies if no information on borrowing and debt is presented in the PBS.

Answer:
d. No, none of the three estimates related to government borrowing and debt are not presented.

Source:
The Guidelines for Budget Preparation and Formulation of the Extra-budgetary Fund Management Plan for FY2021

Comment:
The Pre-Budget Statement does not provide any specific estimates regarding debt.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Disagree
Suggested Answer:
a. Yes, all three estimates related to government borrowing and debt are presented.
Comments: Korea does not have donor assistance from outside. Youcanseetheinformationoninterestpaymentsonthedebtinthewebsitebelow.
http://likms.assembly.go.kr/bill/billDetail.dobillId=PRC_Z2K1F0U9Y0M3S1O1J0A8Q0W3A1I1P4

IBP Comment
For OBS 2021, ' The Guidelines for Budget Preparation and Formulation of the Extra-budgetary Fund Management Plan for FY2021" is being assessed as the Pre-Budget Statement. The document referred to by Government reviewer is the Mid-year review. As per OBS methodology, the document being assessed alone can be used to respond to indicators about its comprehensiveness. Answer choice D is maintained.

58. Does the Pre-Budget Statement present estimates of total expenditures for a multi-year period (at least two-years beyond the budget year)?

GUIDELINES:
Question 58 asks about multi-year expenditure estimates in the Pre-Budget Statement.

To answer "a," expenditure estimates for at least two years beyond the upcoming budget year must be presented. The estimates must be for at least total expenditures, but could include more detail than just the aggregate total.

Answer:
b. No, multi-year expenditure estimates are not presented.

Source:
The Guidelines for Budget Preparation and Formulation of the Extra-budgetary Fund Management Plan for FY2021

Comment:

No multi-year estimate for total expenditures is provided in the said document.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Disagree
Suggested Answer:
a. Yes, multi-year expenditure estimates are presented.
Comments: You can see the actual outcome of the expenditure in 2020, 2019 in the website below.
https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?
searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000054453&menuNo=4010100

IBP Comment
Many thanks to the reviewers. As noted in previous indicators, "The Guidelines for Budget Preparation and Formulation of the Extra-budgetary Fund Management Plan for FY2021" is being assessed as the Pre-Budget Statement. As per OBS methodology, the document being assessed alone can be used to respond to indicators about its comprehensiveness. Answer choice D is maintained.

59. Does the Enacted Budget present expenditure estimates by any of the three expenditure classifications (by administrative, economic, or functional classification)?

GUIDELINES:
Question 59 asks if expenditure estimates in the Enacted Budget are presented by any one of the three expenditure classifications — by administrative, economic, and functional classifications — which were addressed in Questions 1-5 above. Each of the classifications answers a different question: administrative unit indicates who spends the money; functional classification shows for what purpose is the money spent; and economic classification displays what the money is spent on. Unlike classification by administrative unit, which tends to be unique to each country, functional and economic classifications for government budgeting have been developed and standardized by international institutions. Cross-country comparisons are facilitated by adherence to these international classification standards.

To answer "a," the Enacted Budget must present expenditure estimates by all three of the expenditure classifications. To answer "b," expenditure estimates must be presented by two of the three classifications. A "c" answer applies if expenditure estimates are presented by one of the three classifications. Answer "d" applies if expenditure estimates are not presented by any of the three classifications.

Answer:
b. Yes, the Enacted Budget presents expenditure estimates by two of the three expenditure classifications.

Source:
The Enacted Budget for FY2021 and the press release by the MoEF

https://gwanbo.go.kr/user/search/searchKeyword.do#

https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?
menuNo=4010100&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000052602&searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028

Comment:
The Enacted Budget for FY2021 as available from the National Registry provides information for expenditures per fund accounts, administrative units and subfunctions (programs). It does not classify expenditures according to economic objects.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

59b. Based on the response to Question 59, check the box(es) to identify which expenditure classifications are included in the Enacted Budget:

Answer:
Administrative classification
Functional classification

Source:
The Enacted Budget for FY2021 and the press release by the MoEF

https://gwanbo.go.kr/user/search/searchKeyword.do#

https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?menuNo=4010100&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000052602&searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028

Comment:
Please refer to the response to Question 59.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree
Comments: https://likms.assembly.go.kr/bill/billDetail.do?billId=PRC_P2Z0B0V9G0C3E0C9Y1D7J0L7L7N7I9

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

60. Does the Enacted Budget present expenditure estimates for individual programs?

GUIDELINES:
Question 60 asks if expenditure estimates in the Enacted Budget are presented by program. There is no standard definition for the term "program," and the meaning can vary from country to country. However, for the purposes of answering the questionnaire, researchers should understand the term "program" to mean any level of detail below an administrative unit, such as a ministry or department.

A note for francophone countries: "Program" level detail is sometimes referred to as le plan comptable or le plan comptable detaille. (These data are typically coded in the financial management database, following the chart of budgetary accounts, so that they can be organized by administrative and functional classification.)

To answer "a," the Enacted Budget must present all programs, which account for all expenditures, in the budget year. To answer "b," the Enacted Budget must present expenditures for individual programs that when combined account for at least two-thirds of expenditures, but not all expenditures. A "c" answer applies if the Enacted Budget presents programs that account for less than two-thirds of expenditures. Answer "d" applies if expenditures are not presented by program in the Enacted Budget.

Answer:
a. Yes, the Enacted Budget presents estimates for programs accounting for all expenditures.

Source:
The Enacted Budget for FY2021 and the press release by the MoEF

https://gwanbo.go.kr/user/search/searchKeyword.do#

https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?menuNo=4010100&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000052602&searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028

Comment:
The Enacted Budget for FY2021 provides expenditures per Programs for all programs that are implemented by ministries, agencies, and committees.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

61. Does the Enacted Budget present revenue estimates by category (such as tax and non-tax)?

GUIDELINES:
Question 61 asks whether revenue estimates in the Enacted Budget are presented by "category"— that is, whether tax and non-tax sources of revenue are shown separately.

To answer "a," the Enacted Budget must present revenue estimates classified by category.

Answer:
a. Yes, the Enacted Budget presents revenue estimates by category.

Source:
The Enacted Budget for FY2021 and the press release by the MoEF

https://gwanbo.go.kr/user/search/searchKeyword.do#

https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?menuNo=4010100&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000052602&searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028

Comment:
The Enacted Budget for FY2021 provides revenue information by administrative units and fund accounts. Specifically, the revenues by the Ministry of Economy and Finance capture most of the tax and non tax revenues under different fund accounts.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree
Comments: https://likms.assembly.go.kr/bill/billDetail.do?billId=PRC_P2Z0B0V9G0C3E0C9Y1D7J0L7L7N7I9

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

62. Does the Enacted Budget present individual sources of revenue?

GUIDELINES:
Question 62 asks whether revenue estimates for individual sources of revenue are presented in the Enacted Budget. The question applies to both tax and non-tax revenue.

To answer "a," the Enacted Budget must present all individual sources of revenue, and "other" or "miscellaneous" revenue must account for three percent or less of all revenue. To answer "b," the Enacted Budget must present individual sources of revenue that when combined account for at least two-thirds of all revenue, but not all revenue. A "c" answer applies if the Enacted Budget presents individual sources of revenue that account for less than two-thirds of revenues. Answer "d" applies if individual sources of revenue are not presented.

Answer:
a. Yes, the Enacted Budget presents individual sources of revenue accounting for all revenue.

Source:
The Enacted Budget for FY2021 and the press release by the MoEF

https://gwanbo.go.kr/user/search/searchKeyword.do#

https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?menuNo=4010100&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000052602&searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028

Comment:
The Enacted Budget for FY2021 provides revenue information by administrative units, fund accounts, and individual (tax and non tax) sources.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree
Comments: https://likms.assembly.go.kr/bill/billDetail.do?billId=PRC_P2Z0B0V9G0C3E0C9Y1D7J0L7L7N7I9

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

63. Does the Enacted Budget present three estimates related to government borrowing and debt: the amount of net new borrowing required during the budget year; the total debt outstanding at the end of the budget year; and interest payments on the debt for the budget year?

GUIDELINES:

Question 63 asks about three key estimates related to borrowing and debt:

- *the amount of net new borrowing required during the budget year;*
- *the total debt outstanding at the end of the budget year;*
- *the interest payments on the outstanding debt for the budget year.*

Debt is the accumulated amount of money that the government borrows. The government can borrow from its citizens, banks, and businesses within the country (domestic debt) or from creditors outside the country (external debt). External debt is typically owed to private commercial banks, other governments, or international financial institutions such as the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund.

Net new borrowing is the additional amount of new borrowing that is required for the budget year to finance expenditures in the budget that exceed available revenues. Net new borrowing adds to the accumulated debt. It is distinct from gross borrowing, which also includes borrowing needed to repay existing debt that matured during the budget year; debt that is replaced (or rolled over) does not add to the total of accumulated debt. For the purposes of this question, the deficit may be accepted as a proxy for net new borrowing.

Interest payments on the debt (or debt service costs) are typically made at regular intervals, and these payments must be made on a timely basis in order to avoid defaulting on the debt obligation. Interest payments are separate from the repayment of principal, which occurs only when the loan has matured and must be paid back in full.

To answer "a," the Enacted Budget must present all three estimates of borrowing and debt. For a "b" answer, the Enacted Budget must present two of those three estimates. For a "c" answer, the Enacted Budget must present one of the three estimates. Answer "d" applies if no information on borrowing and debt is presented in the Enacted Budget.

Answer:
a. Yes, all three estimates related to government borrowing and debt are presented.

Source:
The Enacted Budget for FY2021 and the press release by the MoEF

https://gwanbo.go.kr/user/search/searchKeyword.do#

https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?menuNo=4010100&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000052602&searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028

Comment:
In page 5 of the Enacted Budget for FY2021, the total borrowing limits for different funds are provided.

The total outstanding debt by the end of the budget year is provided in page 1 of the said press release.

Information on the interest payment estimates during the budget year is provided in pages 169, 172, 198, 216 and 266 of the Enacted Budget for FY2021.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

64. What information is provided in the Citizens Budget?

(The core information must include expenditure and revenue totals, the main policy initiatives in the budget, the macroeconomic forecast upon which the budget is based, and contact information for follow-up by citizens.)

GUIDELINES:

Question 64 focuses on the content of the Citizens Budget, asking whether "core" information is presented. These core components include:

- *expenditure and revenue totals;*
- *the main policy initiatives in the budget;*
- *the macroeconomic forecast upon which the budget is based; and*
- *contact information for follow-up by citizens.*

To answer "a," the Citizens Budget or supporting documentation must present all of the above core information as well as some additional information beyond the core elements. To answer "b," the Citizens Budget must present all of the core components noted above. Answer "b" is also accepted if one of the core elements is not presented but additional information beyond the core elements is presented. A "c" answer applies if the Citizens Budget includes some of the core components above, but other core pieces of information are not included. Answer "d" applies if a Citizens Budget is not published.

Answer:
a. The Citizens Budget provides information beyond the core elements.

Source:
For the Executive Budget Proposal:
https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?menuNo=4010100&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000045123&searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028

For the Enacted Budget:
https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?menuNo=4010100&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000052602&searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028

Comment:
The CB provides rich information for the budget totals and key policy directions and initiatives along with contact information.

It does not find any specific estimate or discussions regarding macroeconomic outlook upon which the budget is based. Having said that, amid the COVID outbreak, the gloomy economic outlook is more than obvious through out the CB as in its estimates for tax and non tax revenues.

For this reason, "a" is more appropriate than "b" here.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

65. How is the Citizens Budget disseminated to the public?

GUIDELINES:
Question 65 asks how the Citizens Budget is disseminated to the public. Citizens Budgets should be made available to a variety of audiences. Therefore paper versions and an Internet posting of a document might not be sufficient.

To answer "a," the executive must use three or more different types of creative media tools to reach the largest possible share of the population, including those who otherwise would not normally have access to budget documents or information. Dissemination would also be pursued at the very local level, so that the coverage is targeted both by geographic area and population group (e.g., women, elderly, low income, urban, rural, etc.). Option "b" applies if significant dissemination efforts are made through a combination of two means of communications, for instance, both posting the Citizens Budget on the executive's official website and distributing printed copies of it. Option "c" applies if the Citizens Budget is disseminated through only posting on the executive's official website. Option "d" applies when the executive does not publish a Citizens Budget.

Answer:
a. A Citizens Budget is disseminated widely through a combination of at least three different appropriate tools and media (such as the Internet, billboards, radio programs, newspapers, etc.).

Source:
For the Executive Budget Proposal:
https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?menuNo=4010100&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000045123&searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028

For the Enacted Budget:

https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?menuNo=4010100&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000052602&searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028

Comment:
The CB is released from the MoEF website and then is reported by almost all major news media in Korea including newspapers and TVs. These media actively cover the key policy goals and the specific details of the EBP and the EP. So, I would go with "a" here.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

66. Has the executive established mechanisms to identify the public's requirements for budget information prior to publishing the Citizens Budget?

GUIDELINES:
Question 66 asks whether the executive has established mechanisms to identify the public's requirements for budget information before publishing a Citizens Budget. What the public wants to know about the budget might differ from the information the executive includes in technical documents that comprise the Executive's Budget Proposal or the Enacted Budget; similarly, different perspectives might exist on how the budget should be presented, and this may vary depending on the context. For this reason the executive should consult with the public on the content and presentation of the Citizens Budget.

To answer "a," the executive must have established mechanisms to consult with the public, and these mechanisms for consultation are both accessible and widely used by the public. Such mechanisms can include focus groups, social networks, surveys, hotlines, and meetings/events in universities or other locations where people gather to discuss public issues. In countries where Citizens Budgets are consistently produced and released, it may be sufficient for the government to provide the public with contact information and feedback opportunities, and subsequently use the feedback to improve its management of public resources.

Option "b" applies if the executive has established mechanisms for consultation that are accessible to the public, but that the public nonetheless does not use frequently. That is, the public does not typically engage with the executive on the content of the Citizens Budget, even though the executive has created opportunities for such consultation. Option "c" applies if the executive has established mechanism for consultation with the public, but they are poorly designed and thus not accessible to the public. Option "d" applies if the executive has not created any mechanisms to seek feedback from the public on the content of the Citizens Budget.

Answer:
d. No, the executive has not established any mechanisms to identify the public's requirements for budget information in the Citizen's Budget.

Source:
The MoEF website: https://www.moef.go.kr

Comment:
The Ministry of Economy and Finance' website provides opportunities for citizens to present their suggestions and opinions regarding a wide variety of budgetary and fiscal issues. And, the CB itself carries a lot of useful information for the public as well.

Having said that, the MoEF does not seem to establish a formal mechanism for getting inputs specifically about the CB. Honestly, I do not see any need or rationale for such mechanism when the CB itself is believed to be very effective in communicating the key contents of the budget proposal or the enacted budget.

So, if I stick to the intent of the Question, I have no choice but to go with "d". But with a broader perspective, I think "a" is more appropriate in Korea given that the CB is already playing a key role in the interaction between the MoEF and the public.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Disagree
Suggested Answer:
a. Yes, the executive has established mechanisms to identify the public's requirements for budget information in the Citizen's Budget, and these mechanisms are accessible and widely used by the public.
Comments: Ministry of Economy and Finance refers to the opinions from the Advisory Committee on Fiscal Policy before release of the CB. In addition, it held 46 times of meetings to identify public's requirements before the release of the CB. Lastly, the public participatory budget system directly receives opinions from the public online or offline and 63 new fiscal programs were selected based on the system and the total amount for the selected programs is KRW 11.99 billion.

67. Are “citizens” versions of budget documents published throughout the budget process?

GUIDELINES:
Question 67 asks if “citizens” versions of budget documents are published throughout the budget process. While the Citizens Budget was initially conceived as a simplified version of the Executive’s Budget Proposal or the Enacted Budget, good practice is now evolving and suggests that a “citizens” version of key budget documents should be produced during each of the four phases of the budget cycle. This would serve to inform citizens of the state of public financial management throughout the entire budget cycle.

To answer “a,” a citizens version of at least one budget document is published for each of the four stages of the budget process (budget formulation, enactment, execution, and audit) — for a total of at least four citizens budget documents throughout the process. Option “b” applies if a citizens version of a budget document is published for at least two of the four stages of the budget process. Option “c” applies if a citizens version of a budget document is published for at least one of the four stages of the budget process. Select option “d” if no “citizens” version of budget documents is published.

Answer:
a. A citizens version of budget documents is published for each of the four stages of the budget process (budget formulation, enactment, execution, and audit).

Source:
Pre-Budget Statement:
https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000032839&menuNo=4010100

Executive Budget Proposal:
https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000032839&menuNo=4010100

IYR: July 2020
https://www.moef.go.kr/pl/policydta/pblictn/detailPblictnbbsView.do?searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000001&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000051741&menuNo=5020300

Year-End Report:
https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000033071&menuNo=4010100

Audit Report:
https://www.bai.go.kr/bai/cop/bbs/detailBoardArticle.do?mdex=bai20&bbsId=BBSMSTR_100000000009&nttId=126067

Comment:
For each of the states of the budget process, the MoEF and the Korean Board of Audit and Inspection release a summary version of the key budget document as a press release as available in the URLs in Source.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

68. Do the In-Year Reports present actual expenditures by any of the three expenditure classifications (by administrative, economic, or functional classification)?

GUIDELINES:
Question 68 asks if expenditure estimates in In-Year Reports are presented by any one of the three expenditure classifications — by administrative, economic, and functional classifications — which were addressed in Questions 1-5 above.

Each of the classifications answers a different question: administrative unit indicates who spends the money; functional classification shows for what purpose is the money spent; and economic classification displays what the money is spent on. Unlike classification by administrative unit, which tends to be unique to each country, functional and economic classifications for government budgeting have been developed and standardized by international institutions. Cross-country comparisons are facilitated by adherence to these international classification standards.

To answer “a,” In-Year Reports must present actual expenditures by all three of the expenditure classifications. To answer “b,” actual expenditures must be presented by two of these three classifications. A “c” answer applies if actual expenditures are presented by one of the three classifications. Answer “d” applies if actual expenditures are not presented by any of the three classifications in In-Year Reports.

Answer:
a. Yes, the In-Year Reports present actual expenditures by all three expenditure classifications (by administrative, economic, and functional classification).

Source:
Monthly Public Finance that is available at:
https://www.moef.go.kr/pl/policydta/pblictn/ComtBalbbsList.do?bbsId=MOSFBBS_000000000001&menuNo=5020300&pageIndex=2

Comment:
The Monthly Public Finance reports actual expenditures by administrative units, economic objects and fund accounts for an aggregate summary purpose, while it keeps track of progress in expenditures by administrative units and major projects. Please refer to pages 6-7 and 15of the July 2020 issue of the Monthly Public Finance. It does not provide expenditure progress by functional purposes.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Disagree
Suggested Answer:
a. Yes, the In-Year Reports present actual expenditures by all three expenditure classifications (by administrative, economic, and functional classification).
Comments: < a. In-Year Reports must present actual expenditures by all three of the expenditure classifications > MoEF provides expenditures by “functional” classification. Actual expenditures are available at
:https://www.openfiscaldata.go.kr/portal/service/openInfPage.do;jsessionid=zD2w3QT4m2W8XxnCAUCGoKs6smAs4wcMv2KPXj5dhsRoSbyrpFIqjMBB6xezzGaX.IFPBWAS2_servlet_engine1?mId=B003

IBP Comment
Many thanks to the reviewers. IBP agrees to revise to answer choice A based on the Open Fiscal Data Portal. The table "monthly expenditure execution status" shows Functional classification in 8th and 9th columns. Data shows approved budget and year to date execution.

68b. Based on the response to Question 68, check the box(es) to identify which expenditure classifications are included in the In-Year Reports:

Answer:
Administrative classification
Economic classification
Functional classification

Source:
Monthly Public Finance that is available at:
https://www.moef.go.kr/pl/policydta/pblictn/ComtBalbbsList.do?bbsId=MOSFBBS_000000000001&menuNo=5020300&pageIndex=2

Comment:
Please refer to the response to the previous Question.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Disagree
Suggested Answer: < a. In-Year Reports must present actual expenditures by all three of the expenditure classifications > MoEF provides expenditures by “functional” classification. Actual expenditures are available at
:https://www.openfiscaldata.go.kr/portal/service/openInfPage.do;jsessionid=zD2w3QT4m2W8XxnCAUCGoKs6smAs4wcMv2KPXj5dhsRoSbyrpFIqjMBB6xezzGaX.IFPBWAS2_servlet_engine1?mId=B003

IBP Comment
IBP agrees with government reviewer and revises the selection to include Functional Classification.

69. Do the In-Year Reports present actual expenditures for individual programs?

GUIDELINES:
Question 69 asks if expenditure estimates in In-Year Reports are presented by program. There is no standard definition for the term "program," and the meaning can vary from country to country. However, for the purposes of answering the questionnaire, researchers should understand the term "program" to mean any level of detail below an administrative unit, such as a ministry or department.

A note for francophone countries: "Program" level detail is sometimes referred to as le plan comptable or le plan comptable detaille. (These data are typically coded in the financial management database, following the chart of budgetary accounts, so that they can be organized by administrative and functional classification.)

To answer "a," In-Year Reports must present actual expenditures for all individual programs, accounting for all expenditures. To answer "b," In-Year Reports must present actual expenditures for individual programs that when combined account for at least two-thirds of expenditures, but not all expenditures. A "c" answer applies if In-Year Reports present actual expenditures for programs that account for less than two-thirds of expenditures. Answer "d" applies if actual expenditures are not presented by program in In-Year Reports.

Answer:
a. Yes, the In-Year Reports present actual expenditures for programs accounting for all expenditures.

Source:
Monthly Public Finance that is available at:
https://www.moef.go.kr/pl/policydta/pblictn/ComtBalbbsList.do?bbsId=MOSFBBS_000000000001&menuNo=5020300&pageIndex=2

Comment:
Those issues of Monthly Public Finance do not provide information on implementation progress of individual programs or projects.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Disagree
Suggested Answer:
a. Yes, the In-Year Reports present actual expenditures for programs accounting for all expenditures.
Comments: MoEF provides daily actual expenditures for all individual program through "Open Fiscal Data System"(homepage). Actual expenditures are available at
:https://www.openfiscaldata.go.kr/portal/service/openInfPage.do;jsessionid=zD2w3QT4m2W8XxnCAUCGoKs6smAs4wcMv2KPXj5dhsRoSbyrpFIqjMBB6xezzGaX.IFPBWAS2_servlet_engine1?mId=B003

IBP Comment
Many thanks to the reviewers. IBP agrees to revise to answer choice A based on the Open Data source. The table "monthly expenditure management status" shows execution of expenditures on programs (column 13) and projects (column 15). These programs are the same as assessed in indicator 6.

70. Do the In-Year Reports compare actual year-to-date expenditures with either the original estimate for that period (based on the enacted budget) or the same period in the previous year?

GUIDELINES:
Question 70 asks whether In-Year Reports compare actual expenditures to-date with either the enacted levels or actual expenditures for the same period in the previous year.

The OECD recommends that the reports contain the total year-to-date expenditures in a format that allows for a comparison with the budget's forecast expenditures (based on enacted levels) for the same period.

To answer "a," comparisons must be made for expenditures presented in the In-Year Reports

Answer:
a. Yes, comparisons are made for expenditures presented in the In-Year Reports.

Source:
Monthly Public Finance that is available at:
https://www.moef.go.kr/pl/policydta/pblictn/ComtBalbbsList.do?bbsId=MOSFBBS_000000000001&menuNo=5020300&pageIndex=2

Comment:
The implementation progress by funds and economic objects is compared to both the approved (supplementary) budget and the same period in the

previous fiscal year.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

71. Do In-Year Reports present actual revenue by category (such as tax and non-tax)?

GUIDELINES:
Questions 71 asks whether In-Year Reports present actual revenues by "category"— that is, whether tax and non-tax sources of revenue are shown separately.

To answer "a," In-Year Reports must present revenue estimates classified by category.

Answer:
a. Yes, In-Year Reports present actual revenue by category.

Source:
Monthly Public Finance that is available at:
https://www.moef.go.kr/pl/policydta/pblictn/ComtBalbbsList.do?bbsId=MOSFBBS_000000000001&menuNo=5020300&pageIndex=2

Comment:
The IYR provides a progress report on revenue collection by tax, non tax, and extra-budgetary funds. These different sources are further broken down into specific types of taxes and non tax sources. Such progress is compared to the original (supplementary) budget and to the same period in the previous fiscal year. For example, please refer to pages 2-5 of the July 2020 issue of Monthly Public Finance.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

72. Do In-Year Reports present the individual sources of revenue for actual revenues collected?

GUIDELINES:
Question 72 asks whether In-Year Reports present actual collections of individual sources of revenue (such as income taxes, VAT, etc.). The question applies to both tax and non-tax revenue.

To answer "a," In-Year Reports must present actual collections for all individual sources of revenue, and "other" or "miscellaneous" revenue must account for three percent or less of all revenue. To answer "b," In-Year Reports must present actual collections for individual sources of revenue that when combined account for at least two-thirds of all revenue collected, but not all revenue. A "c" answer applies if In-Year Reports present individual sources of actual revenue that account for less than two-thirds of all revenue collected. Answer "d" applies if individual sources of actual revenue are not presented.

Answer:
b. Yes, In-Year Reports present individual sources of actual revenue accounting for at least two-thirds of, but not all, revenue.

Source:
Monthly Public Finance that is available at:
https://www.moef.go.kr/pl/policydta/pblictn/ComtBalbbsList.do?bbsId=MOSFBBS_000000000001&menuNo=5020300&pageIndex=2

Comment:
Please refer to the responses to the previous Question.

For tax and non-tax revenues, Monthly Public Finance present actual collections by their types. For tax revenues, they report collections by personal income tax, corporate income tax, value-added tax, transportation tax, customs & tariffs, and other taxes. For non-tax sources, they keep track of

revenues by earnings from properties, transfers-in, sale of goods and services, loans & retrieval of loans, and others. For an example, please refer to pages 3-4 of the July 2020 issue of Monthly Public Finance. "Other taxes" category takes up about 13% of the total tax revenues (=18.5/140.7), "b" should be appropriate.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Disagree
Suggested Answer:
a. Yes, In-Year Reports present individual sources of actual revenue accounting for all revenue.
Comments: MoEF provides actual collections for all individual sources of revenue through “Open Fiscal Data System”(homepage). Actual collections are available at
:https://www.openfiscaldata.go.kr/portal/service/openInfPage.do;jsessionid=zD2w3QT4m2W8XxnCAUCGoKs6smAs4wcMv2KPXj5dhsRoSbyrpFIqjMBB6xezzGaX.IFPBWAS2_servlet_engine1?mId=B003

IBP Comment
IBP worked with researcher to confirm response B as the portal does not say anything about ongoing in-year revenue collections.

73. Do the In-Year Reports compare actual year-to-date revenues with either the original estimate for that period (based on the enacted budget) or the same period in the previous year?

GUIDELINES:
Question 73 asks whether In-Year Reports compare actual revenues to-date with either the enacted levels or actual revenues for the same period in the previous year.

The OECD recommends that the reports contain the total year-to-date revenues in a format that allows for a comparison with the budget’s forecast revenues (based on enacted levels) for the same period.

To answer “a,” comparisons must be made for revenues presented in the In-Year Reports.

Answer:
a. Yes, comparisons are made for revenues presented in the In-Year Reports.

Source:
Monthly Public Finance that is available at:
https://www.moef.go.kr/pl/policydta/pblictn/ComtBalbbsList.do?bbsId=MOSFBBS_000000000001&menuNo=5020300&pageIndex=2

Comment:
The revenue progress is compared to the original (supplementary) budget and the same period in the previous fiscal year. Please refer to the tables in pages 3-4 in the July 2020 issue of Monthly Public Finance.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

74. Do In-Year Reports present three estimates related to actual government borrowing and debt: the amount of net new borrowing; the total debt outstanding; and interest payments?

GUIDELINES:
Question 74 asks about three key estimates related to borrowing and debt:

- *the amount of net new borrowing so far during the year;*
- *the central government’s total debt burden at that point in the year; and*

· *the interest payments to-date on the outstanding debt.*

Debt is the accumulated amount of money that the government borrows. The government can borrow from its citizens and banks and businesses within the country (domestic debt) or from creditors outside the country (external debt). External debt is typically owed to private commercial banks, other governments, or international financial institutions such as the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund.

Net new borrowing is the additional amount of new borrowing that is required for the budget year to finance expenditures in the budget that exceed available revenues. Net new borrowing adds to the accumulated debt. It is distinct from gross borrowing, which also includes borrowing needed to repay existing debt that matured during the budget year; debt that is replaced (or rolled over) does not add to the total of accumulated debt. For the purposes of this question, the deficit may be accepted as a proxy for net new borrowing.

Interest payments on the debt (or debt service costs) are typically made at regular intervals, and these payments must be made on a timely basis in order to avoid defaulting on the debt obligation. Interest payments are separate from the repayment of principal, which occurs only when the loan has matured and must be paid back in full.

To answer "a," In-Year Reports must present all three estimates of borrowing and debt. For a "b" answer, In-Year Reports must present two of those three estimates. For a "c" answer, IYRs must present one of the three estimates. Answer "d" applies if no information on borrowing and debt is presented in In-Year Reports.

Answer:
b. Yes, two of the three estimates related to government borrowing and debt are presented.

Source:
Monthly Public Finance that is available at:
https://www.moef.go.kr/pl/policydta/pblictn/ComtBalbbsList.do?bbsId=MOSFBBS_000000000001&menuNo=5020300&pageIndex=2

Comment:
The July 2020 issue of Monthly Public Finance, pages 10 and 16, provides information on the total debt burden by types in reference to the same period in the previous year and new borrowing up-to-date of the year with reference to the previous month. Debt service amount is included in "Other" expenditures in the table in page 7, but the specific amount of debt service is not clear.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

75. Do In-Year Reports present information related to the composition of the total actual debt outstanding?

(The core information must include interest rates on the debt instruments; maturity profile of the debt; and whether it is domestic or external debt.)

GUIDELINES:
Question 75 focuses on the composition of government debt, asking whether "core" information related to its composition is presented. These core components include:

- *interest rates on the debt;*
- *maturity profile of the debt; and*
- *whether the debt is domestic or external.*

The interest rates affect the amount of interest that must be paid to creditors. The maturity profile indicates the final payment date of the loan, at which point the principal (and all remaining interest) is due to be paid; government borrowing typically includes a mix of short-term and long-term debt. As discussed in Question 74, domestic debt is held by a country's citizens and banks and businesses, while external debt is held by foreigners. These factors related to the composition of the debt give an indication of the potential vulnerability of the country's debt position, and ultimately whether the cost of servicing the accumulated debt is affordable.

Beyond these core elements, a government may also provide additional information related to the composition of its debt, including for instance: whether interest rates are fixed or variable; whether debt is callable; the currency of the debt; a profile of the creditors (bilateral institutions, multilateral institutions, commercial banks, Central Bank, etc.); an analysis of the risk associated with the debt; and where appropriate, what the debt is being used to finance.

To answer "a," In-Year Reports must present all of the core information related to the composition of government debt to-date as well as some additional information beyond the core elements. To answer "b," In-Year Reports must present all of the core components noted above. Answer "b" is also accepted if one of the core elements is not presented but additional information beyond the core elements is presented. A "c" answer applies if some information related to the composition of government debt is presented, but some of the core pieces of information are not included. Answer "d" applies if no information is presented on the composition of the debt outstanding in In-Year Reports.

Answer:
c. Yes, information is presented, but it excludes some core elements.

Source:
Monthly Public Finance that is available at:
https://www.moef.go.kr/pl/policydta/pblictn/ComtBalbbsList.do?bbsId=MOSFBBS_000000000001&menuNo=5020300&pageIndex=2

Comment:
The issues of Monthly Public Finance provide information on the composition of different debt instruments, the total debt burden, and new issues. However, they do not provide detailed information on interest rates across these different instruments, on whether domestic or foreign, and on maturity profiles.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

76. Does the Mid-Year Review of the budget include an updated macroeconomic forecast for the budget year underway?

GUIDELINES:

Question 76 asks whether the Mid-Year Review includes an updated macroeconomic forecast for the budget year underway, and provides an explanation of the update.

Refer to Question 15 for the components of the macroeconomic forecast presented in the Executive's Budget Proposal.

To answer "a," the Mid-Year Review must include an updated macroeconomic forecast and explain all of the differences between the initial forecast presented in the Executive's Budget Proposal and the updated forecast. The explanation must include at least estimates of all differences; a narrative discussion is desirable but not required if estimates of all the differences are provided. To answer "b," the macroeconomic forecast must be updated, but only some of the differences between the initial and updated forecasts are explained. The explanation would be more limited, such as only a narrative discussion of the differences or estimates covering only some of the differences. A "c" response applies if the Mid-Year Review includes an updated macroeconomic forecast, but does not provide an explanation for the revisions. A "d" response applies if the macroeconomic forecast has not been updated.

Answer:
a. Yes, the estimates for the macroeconomic forecast have been updated, and an explanation of all of the differences between the original and updated forecasts is presented.

Source:
The Economic Policy Directions for the Second Half of FY2020 (2020년도 하반기 경제정책방향), which is available at:

https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?
searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000055581&menuNo=4010100

Comment:
In page 3 of the said document, an updated macroeconomic outlook has been provided with some comparisons with the original. The explanations about the differences seem minimal, rather than comprehensive. In page 117, it also provides updated information on macroeconomic forecast on a variety of indicators. So, I would like to go with "a" here.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree
Comments: The URL for the document mentioned by the researcher is https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?menuNo=4010100&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000039951&searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028 The mentioned URL is for FY2021. On pages 1-3 of the document, an updated macroeconomic outlook has been provided with some comparisons with the original. The explanations about the differences seem minimal, rather than comprehensive. On page 117, it also provides updated information on the macro-economic forecast on a variety of indicators.

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

77. Does the Mid-Year Review of the budget include updated expenditure estimates for the budget year underway?

GUIDELINES:
Question 77 asks whether the Mid-Year Review includes updated estimates of expenditure for the budget year underway, and provides an explanation of the update. Please note that year-to-date expenditures as assessed in Question 70 do not qualify as updated estimates of expenditure for the purposes of this indicator.

To answer "a," the Mid-Year Review must include updated expenditure estimates and explain all of the differences between the initial levels presented in the Executive's Budget Proposal (or the Enacted Budget) and the updated estimates. The explanation must include at least estimates of all differences; a narrative discussion is desirable but not required if estimates of all the differences are provided. The expenditure estimates must be updated, but only some of the differences between the initial and updated estimates are explained. The explanation would be more limited, such as only a narrative discussion of the differences or estimates covering only some of the differences. A "c" response applies if the Mid-Year Review includes updated expenditure estimates, but does not provide an explanation for the revisions. A "d" response applies if the expenditure estimates have not been updated.

Answer:
b. Yes, expenditure estimates have been updated, and an explanation of some of the differences between the original and updated expenditure estimates is presented.

Source:
https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000039951&menuNo=4010100

Comment:
Expenditure estimates are not consistently updated by functions, administrative units, or economic characters. Instead, expenditures for some key policy areas have been updated in a rather haphazard way from page 13.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Disagree
Suggested Answer:
b. Yes, expenditure estimates have been updated, and an explanation of some of the differences between the original and updated expenditure estimates is presented.
Comments: https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?menuNo=4010100&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000039951&searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028 The document presents updated expenditure estimates reflecting the two Supplementary Budgets enacted in the first half of the year, and rather detailed explanations of major policy changes for overcoming COVID 19 and preparing post-COVID 19.

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

IBP Comment
Many thanks to the peer reviewer. IBP updated to answer choice B based on updated and revised estimates reflecting supplementary budget.

78. Does the Mid-Year Review of the budget present updated expenditure estimates for the budget year underway by any of the three expenditure classifications (by administrative, economic, or functional classification)?

GUIDELINES:

Question 78 asks if expenditure estimates for the budget year underway in the Mid-Year Review are presented by any one of the three expenditure classifications — by administrative, economic, and functional classifications — which were addressed in Questions 1-5 above. Please note that year-to-date expenditures as assessed in Question 70 do not qualify as updated estimates of expenditure for the purposes of this indicator.

Each of the classifications answers a different question: administrative unit indicates who spends the money; functional classification shows for what purpose is the money spent; and economic classification displays what the money is spent on. Unlike classification by administrative unit, which tends to be unique to each country, functional and economic classifications for government budgeting have been developed and standardized by international institutions. Cross-country comparisons are facilitated by adherence to these international classification standards.

To answer "a," the Mid-Year Review must present expenditure estimates by all three of the expenditure classifications. To answer "b," expenditure estimates must be presented by two of these three classifications. A "c" answer applies if expenditure estimates are presented by one of the three classifications. Answer "d" applies if expenditure estimates are not presented by any of the three classifications in the Mid-Year Review.

Answer:

d. No, the Mid-Year Review does not present expenditure estimates by any expenditure classification.

Source:
https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000039951&menuNo=4010100

Comment:
The expenditure updates are provided for policy areas that are most vulnerable during the COVID crisis. The updates are not systematic or consistent; They do not conform to any specific classification scheme.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

78b. Based on the response to Question 78, check the box(es) to identify which expenditure classifications are included in the Mid-Year Review:

Answer:
None of the above

Source:
https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000039951&menuNo=4010100

Comment:
Please refer to the response to the previous question.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

79. Does the Mid-Year Review of the budget present updated expenditure estimates for the budget year underway for individual programs?

GUIDELINES:

Question 79 asks if expenditure estimates in the Mid-Year Review are presented by program for the budget year underway. Please note that year-to-date expenditures as assessed in Question 70 do not qualify as updated estimates of expenditure for the purposes of this indicator.

A note for francophone countries: "Program" level detail is sometimes referred to as le plan comptable or le plan comptable detaille. (These data are typically coded in the financial management database, following the chart of budgetary accounts, so that they can be organized by administrative and functional classification.)

To answer "a," the Mid-Year Review must present expenditures for all individual programs, accounting for all expenditures. To answer "b," the Mid-Year Review must present expenditures for individual programs that when combined account for at least two-thirds of expenditures, but not all expenditures. A "c" answer applies if the Mid-Year Review presents programs that account for less than two-thirds of expenditures. Answer "d" applies if expenditures are not presented by program in the Mid-Year Review.

Answer:
d. No, the Mid-Year Review does not present expenditure estimates by program.

Source:

https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000039951&menuNo=4010100

Comment:
The descriptions and discussion in the MYR are basically targeting key policy areas that are vulnerable during the COVID crisis. They are not per the standard program-based functional classification scheme. The descriptions are not comprehensive or balanced.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

80. Does the Mid-Year Review of the budget include updated revenue estimates for the budget year underway?

GUIDELINES:

Question 80 asks whether the Mid-Year Review includes updated estimates of revenue for the budget year underway, and provides an explanation of the update. Please note that year-to-date revenues as assessed in Question 73 do not qualify as updated estimates of revenue for the purposes of this indicator.

To answer "a," the Mid-Year Review must include updated revenue estimates and explain all of the differences between the initial levels presented in the Executive's Budget Proposal (or the Enacted Budget) and the updated estimates. The explanation must include at least estimates of all differences; a narrative discussion is desirable but not required if estimates of all the differences are provided. To answer "b," the revenue estimates must be updated, but only some of the differences between the initial and updated estimates are explained. The explanation would be more limited, such as only a narrative discussion of the differences or estimates covering only some of the differences. A "c" response applies if the Mid-Year Review includes updated revenue estimates, but no explanation for the revisions is provided. A "d" response applies if the revenue estimates have not been updated.

Answer:
d. No, revenue estimates have not been updated.

Source:
https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000039951&menuNo=4010100

Comment:
From the language from the MYR, it is quite obvious that revenues would fall short of the original forecasts, but no specific updated estimates for revenues are found in the MYR.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

81. Does the Mid-Year Review of the budget present updated revenue estimates for the budget year underway by category (such as tax and non-tax)?

GUIDELINES:

Question 81 asks whether revenue estimates for the budget year underway in the Mid-Year Review are presented by "category"— that is, whether tax and non-tax sources of revenue are shown separately. Please note that year-to-date revenues as assessed in Question 73 do not qualify as updated estimates of revenue for the purposes of this indicator.

To answer "a," the Mid-Year Review must present revenue estimates classified by category.

Answer:
b. No, the Mid-Year Review does not present revenue estimates by category.

Source:
https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000039951&menuNo=4010100

Comment:
Please refer to the response to the previous question.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

82. Does the Mid-Year Review of the budget present updated individual sources of revenue for the budget year underway?

GUIDELINES:

Question 82 asks whether revenue estimates for individual sources of revenue for the budget year underway are presented in the Mid-Year Review. Please note that year-to-date revenues as assessed in Question 73 do not qualify as updated estimates of revenue for the purposes of this indicator.

To answer "a," the Mid-Year Review must present all sources of revenue individually, accounting for all revenues, and "other" or "miscellaneous" revenue must account for three percent or less of all revenue. To answer "b," the Mid-Year Review must present individual sources of revenue that when combined account for at least two-thirds of all revenue, but not all revenue. A "c" answer applies if the Mid-Year Review presents estimates of individual revenue sources that account for less than two-thirds of revenue. Answer "d" applies if individual sources of revenue are not presented in the Mid-Year Review.

Answer:
d. No, the Mid-Year Review does not present individual sources of revenue.

Source:
https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000039951&menuNo=4010100

Comment:
Please refer to the response to the previous question.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

83. Does the Mid-Year Review of the budget include updated estimates of government borrowing and debt, including its composition, for the budget year underway?

GUIDELINES:

Question 83 asks whether the Mid-Year Review includes updated estimates of borrowing and debt, including its composition, for the budget year underway, and provides an explanation of the update.

Refer to Question 13 for details on estimates in the Executive's Budget Proposal of borrowing and debt. Key estimates related to borrowing and debt include:

- *The amount of net new borrowing required during the budget year;*

- *The central government's total debt burden at the end of the budget year; and*
- *The interest payments on the outstanding debt for the budget year.*

Refer to Question 14 for details on estimates in the Executive's Budget Proposal related to the composition of the debt. Core information related to the composition of government debt include:

- *interest rates on the debt;*
- *maturity profile of the debt; and*
- *whether the debt is domestic or external.*

To answer "a," the Mid-Year Review must include an updated estimates of borrowing and debt, including its composition, and explain all of the differences between the initial estimates presented in the Executive's Budget Proposal (or Enacted Budget) and the updated estimates. The explanation must include at least estimates of all differences; a narrative discussion is desirable but not required if estimates of all the differences are provided. To answer "b," the estimates of borrowing and debt must be updated, but only some of the differences between the initial and updated estimates are explained. The explanation would be more limited, such as only a narrative discussion of the differences or estimates covering only some of the differences. A "c" response applies if the Mid-Year Review includes updated estimates, but no explanation for the revisions is provided. A "d" response applies if the estimates of borrowing and debt have not been updated.

Answer:
d. No, estimates of government borrowing and debt have not been updated.

Source:
https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000039951&menuNo=4010100

Comment:
There is not specific updating on the debt profiles available in the MYR.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

84. Does the Year-End Report present the differences between the enacted levels (including in-year changes approved by the legislature) and the actual outcome for expenditures?

GUIDELINES:
Question 84 asks whether the Year-End Report includes estimates of the differences between the enacted levels and actual expenditures for the year, and whether these estimates are accompanied by a narrative discussion.

To answer "a," the Year-End Report must present estimates of the differences between the enacted levels and the actual outcome for all expenditures, along with a narrative discussion. Answer "b" if estimates of the differences for all expenditures are presented, but a narrative discussion is not included. Answer "c" if estimates of the differences are presented for some, but not all expenditures, regardless of whether a narrative discussion is included. Answer "d" if no estimates of the differences are presented in the Year-End Report

Answer:
a. Yes, estimates of the differences between the enacted levels and the actual outcome for all expenditures are presented, along with a narrative discussion.

Source:
The Settlement of Accounts Report for FY2019 and its press release:

http://likms.assembly.go.kr/bill/billDetail.do?billId=PRC_G2Y0B0S6Y0D1R1C4U1L6C5P4T4Q6Q7

https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?menuNo=4010100&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000033071&searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028

Comment:
The differences between the actual and approved levels of expenditures are presented for all expenditures by function, economic object, and administrative units and by fund accounts along with narrative discussions. Please refer to pages 23, 33-42 of the Korean YER.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

85. Does the Year-End Report present expenditure estimates by any of the three expenditure classifications (by administrative, economic, or functional classification)?

GUIDELINES:
Question 85 asks if expenditure estimates in the Year-End Report are presented by any one of the three expenditure classifications — by administrative, economic, and functional classifications — which were addressed in Questions 1-5 above. Each of the classifications answers a different question: administrative unit indicates who spends the money; functional classification shows for what purpose is the money spent; and economic classification displays what the money is spent on. Unlike classification by administrative unit, which tends to be unique to each country, functional and economic classifications for government budgeting have been developed and standardized by international institutions. Cross-country comparisons are facilitated by adherence to these international classification standards.

To answer "a," the Year-End Report must present expenditure estimates by all three of the expenditure classifications. Answer "b" if expenditure estimates are presented by two of these three classifications. Answer "c" if expenditure estimates are presented by one of the three classifications. Answer "d" if expenditure estimates are not presented by any of the three classifications in the Year-End Report.

Answer:
a. Yes, the Year-End Report presents expenditure estimates by all three expenditure classifications (by administrative, economic, and functional classification).

Source:
The Settlement of Accounts Report for FY2019 and its press release:

http://likms.assembly.go.kr/bill/billDetail.do?billId=PRC_G2Y0B0S6Y0D1R1C4U1L6C5P4T4Q6Q7

https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?menuNo=4010100&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000033071&searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028

Comment:
In the Settlement of Accounts for FY2021, the expenditures are classified by functions (p. 36), economic objects (p. 36), and administrative units (p. 37-8).

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

85b. Based on the response to Question 85, check the box(es) to identify which expenditure classifications are included in the Year-End Report:

Answer:
Administrative classification
Economic classification
Functional classification

Source:
The Settlement of Accounts Report for FY2019 and its press release:

http://likms.assembly.go.kr/bill/billDetail.do?billId=PRC_G2Y0B0S6Y0D1R1C4U1L6C5P4T4Q6Q7

https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?

menuNo=4010100&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000033071&searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028

Comment:
Please refer to the responses to Question 85.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

86. Does the Year-End Report present expenditure estimates for individual programs?

GUIDELINES:
Question 86 asks if expenditure estimates in the Year-End Report are presented by program. There is no standard definition for the term "program," and the meaning can vary from country to country. However, for the purposes of answering the questionnaire, researchers should understand the term "program" to mean any level of detail below an administrative unit, such as a ministry or department.

A note for francophone countries: "Program" level detail is sometimes referred to as le plan comptable or le plan comptable detaille. (These data are typically coded in the financial management database, following the chart of budgetary accounts, so that they can be organized by administrative and functional classification.)

To answer "a," the Year-End Report must present expenditure estimates for all individual programs, accounting for all expenditures. Answer "b" if the Year-End Report presents expenditures for individual programs that when combined account for at least two-thirds of expenditures, but not all expenditures. Answer "c" if the Year-End Report presents programs that account for only less than two-thirds of expenditures. Answer "d" if expenditures are not presented by program in the Year-End Report.

Answer:
a. Yes, the Year-End Report presents estimates for programs accounting for all expenditures.

Source:
The Settlement of Accounts Report for FY2019 and its press release:

http://likms.assembly.go.kr/bill/billDetail.do?billId=PRC_G2Y0B0S6Y0D1R1C4U1L6C5P4T4Q6Q7

https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?
menuNo=4010100&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000033071&searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028

Comment:
The YER presents expenditure estimates for all individual programs (under subsections) by administrative units in pages 340-535.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

87. Does the Year-End Report present the differences between the enacted levels (including in-year changes approved by the legislature) and the actual outcome for revenues?

GUIDELINES:
Question 87 asks whether the Year-End Report includes estimates of the differences between the enacted levels and actual revenues for the year, and whether these estimates are accompanied by a narrative discussion.

To answer "a," the Year-End Report must present estimates of the differences between the enacted levels and the actual outcome for all revenues, along with a narrative discussion. Answer "b" if estimates of the differences for all revenues are presented, but a narrative discussion is not included. Answer "c" if estimates of the differences are presented for some, but not all revenues, regardless of whether a narrative discussion is included. Answer "d" if no estimates of the differences are presented in the Year-End Report.

Answer:
a. Yes, estimates of the differences between the enacted levels and the actual outcome for all revenues are presented, along with a narrative discussion.

Source:
The Settlement of Accounts Report for FY2019 and its press release:

http://likms.assembly.go.kr/bill/billDetail.do?billId=PRC_G2Y0B0S6Y0D1R1C4U1L6C5P4T4Q6Q7

https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?menuNo=4010100&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000033071&searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028

Comment:
The revenue estimates are presented along with the differences between the approved and actual levels, in pages 28-32. The detailed revenue information is also available in pages 198-339.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

88. Does the Year-End Report present revenue estimates by category (such as tax and non-tax)?

GUIDELINES:
Question 88 asks whether revenue estimates in the Year-End Report are presented by "category"— that is, whether tax and non-tax sources of revenue are shown separately.

To answer "a," the Year-End Report must present revenue estimates classified by category.

Answer:
a. Yes, the Year-End Report presents revenue estimates by category.

Source:
The Settlement of Accounts Report for FY2019 and its press release:

http://likms.assembly.go.kr/bill/billDetail.do?billId=PRC_G2Y0B0S6Y0D1R1C4U1L6C5P4T4Q6Q7

https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?menuNo=4010100&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000033071&searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028

Comment:
In the YER, detailed break-down of revenues by subcategories of taxes and non tax sources per funds is provided in pages 23 though 32.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

89. Does the Year-End Report present individual sources of revenue?

GUIDELINES:

Question 89 asks whether revenue estimates for individual sources of revenue are presented in the Year-End Report. The question applies to both tax and non-tax revenue.

To answer "a," the Year-End Report must present all sources of revenue individually, accounting for all revenue, and "other" or "miscellaneous" revenue must account for three percent or less of all revenue. Answer "b" if the Year-End Report presents individual sources of revenue that when combined account for at least two-thirds of all revenue, but not all revenue. Answer "c" if the Year-End Report presents estimates of individual revenue sources that account for less than two-thirds of revenue. Answer "d" if individual sources of revenue are not presented in the Year-End Report.

Answer:
a. Yes, the Year-End Report presents individual sources of revenue accounting for all revenue.

Source:
The Settlement of Accounts Report for FY2019 and its press release:

http://likms.assembly.go.kr/bill/billDetail.do?billId=PRC_G2Y0B0S6Y0D1R1C4U1L6C5P4T4Q6Q7

https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?menuNo=4010100&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000033071&searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028

Comment:
Please refer to the responses to the previous Question.

While the revenues are classified by subcategories of tax and non tax sources, there are "Other" categories, but their sizes are negligible compared to the total. So, here "a" should be the appropriate choice.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

90. Does the Year-End Report present the differences between the original estimates of government borrowing and debt, including its composition, for the fiscal year and the actual outcome for that year?

GUIDELINES:
Question 90 asks whether the Year-End Report includes estimates of the differences between the original estimates and the actual outcome for the fiscal year for borrowing and debt, including its composition, and whether these estimates are accompanied by a narrative discussion.

Refer to Question 13 for details on estimates in the Executive's Budget Proposal of borrowing and debt. Key estimates related to borrowing and debt include:

- *the amount of net new borrowing required during the budget year;*
- *the central government's total debt burden at the end of the budget year; and*
- *the interest payments on the outstanding debt for the budget year.*

Refer to Question 14 for details on estimates in the Executive's Budget Proposal related to the composition of the debt. Core information related to the composition of government debt include:

- *interest rates on the debt;*
- *maturity profile of the debt; and*
- *whether the debt is domestic or external.*

To answer "a," the Year-End Report must include estimates of the differences between all of the original estimates of borrowing and debt, including its composition, for the fiscal year and the actual outcome for that year, including a narrative discussion. Answer "b" if the Year-End Report presents estimates of the differences between all of the original estimates of borrowing and debt for the fiscal year and the actual outcome for that year, but does not include a narrative discussion. Answer "c" if estimates of the differences between some but not all of the original estimates of borrowing and debt for the fiscal year and the actual outcome for that year are presented, regardless of whether a narrative discussion is included. A "d" response applies if estimates of the differences are not presented.

Answer:
c. Yes, estimates of the differences between some but not all of the original estimates of government borrowing and debt for the fiscal year and the actual outcome for that year are presented.

Source:
The Settlement of Accounts Report for FY2019 and its press release:

http://likms.assembly.go.kr/bill/billDetail.do?billId=PRC_G2Y0B0S6Y0D1R1C4U1L6C5P4T4Q6Q7

https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?menuNo=4010100&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000033071&searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028

Comment:
Some debt information appears in pages 11, 13, and 20-21 of the YER. Specifically, in pages 20-1, the debt composition and its total as for FY2019 are compared to the previous years. Interest rates and long-term debt profile are provided in pages 1416-17 with a reference to the previous year. In addition, in page 6 of the Citizen version of the YER, a comparison is provided between the enacted and actual size of debt burden for FY2019. Information on new borrowings, repayment and interest rates is provided in pages 674 through 683.

Having said that, the comparison between the approved and actual levels of debt profiles is very limited.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Disagree
Suggested Answer:
a. Yes, estimates of the differences between all of the original estimates of government borrowing and debt for the fiscal year and the actual outcome for that year are presented, along with a narrative discussion.
Comments: The National Debt Management Report presents key estimates related to borrowing and debt. - Please refer to page 8 for the amount of net new borrowing required during the budget year and the central government's total debt burden at the end of the budget year. - Please refer to page 27 through 280 for the interest payments on the outstanding debt for the budget year. The National Debt Management Report and the National Debt Management Plan presents core information related to the composition of government debt. - Please refer to page 27 through 280 of the National Debt Management Report for interest rates on the debt. - Please refer to page 21 of the National Debt Management Report for maturity profile of the debt. - Please refer to page 171 of the National Debt Management Plan for whether the debt is domestic or external. The National Debt Management Report is available at :http://likms.assembly.go.kr/bill/billDetail.do?billId=PRC_G2Y0B0S6Y0D1R1C4U1L6C5P4T4Q6Q7 The National Debt Management Plan is available at :http://likms.assembly.go.kr/bill/billDetail.do?billId=PRC_N2F0B0I9W0Y3B0U9N4O1K2D5C1F1I2

IBP Comment
Many thanks to the reviewers for their comments. As per OBS methodology, only documents that are part of the Year-End Report package can be considered for this indicator. As such, answer choice C is maintained.

90b. Based on the response to Question 90, check the box(es) to identify which estimates of government borrowing and debt, including its composition, have the differences between the original forecast and the actual outcome for the year presented in the Year-End Report:

Answer:
The central government's total debt burden at the end of the budget year

Source:
The Settlement of Accounts Report for FY2019 and its press release:

http://likms.assembly.go.kr/bill/billDetail.do?billId=PRC_G2Y0B0S6Y0D1R1C4U1L6C5P4T4Q6Q7

https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?menuNo=4010100&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000033071&searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028

Comment:
Please refer to the responses to Question 90.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Disagree
Suggested Answer: The National Debt Management Report presents key estimates related to borrowing and debt. - Please refer to page 8 for the amount of net new borrowing required during the budget year and the central government's total debt burden at the end of the budget year. - Please refer to page 27 through 280 for the interest payments on the outstanding debt for the budget year. The National Debt Management Report and the National Debt Management Plan presents core information related to the composition of government debt. - Please refer to page 27 through 280 of the National Debt Management Report for interest rates on the debt. - Please refer to page 21 of the National Debt Management Report for maturity profile of the debt. - Please refer to page 171 of the National Debt Management Plan for whether the debt is domestic or external. The National Debt Management Report is available at :http://likms.assembly.go.kr/bill/billDetail.do?billId=PRC_G2Y0B0S6Y0D1R1C4U1L6C5P4T4Q6Q7 The National

Debt Management Plan is available at :http://likms.assembly.go.kr/bill/billDetail.do?billId=PRC_N2F0B0I9W0Y3B0U9N4O1K2D5C1F1I2

91. Does the Year-End Report present the differences between the original macroeconomic forecast for the fiscal year and the actual outcome for that year?

GUIDELINES:
Question 91 asks whether the Year-End Report includes estimates of the differences between the original macroeconomic forecast for the fiscal year and the actual outcome for that year, and whether these estimates are accompanied by a narrative discussion.

Refer to Question 15 for the components of the macroeconomic forecast in the Executive's Budget Proposal. Core components include estimates of the nominal GDP level, inflation rate, real GDP growth, and interest rates, although the importance of other macroeconomic assumptions, such as the price of oil, can vary from country to country.

To answer "a," the Year-End Report must include estimates of the differences between all of the original macroeconomic assumptions for the fiscal year and the actual outcome for that year, including a narrative discussion. Answer "b" if the Year-End Report presents estimates of the differences between all of the original macroeconomic assumptions for the fiscal year and the actual outcome for that year, but does not include a narrative discussion. Answer "c" if estimates of the differences between some but not all of the original macroeconomic assumptions for the fiscal year and the actual outcome for that year are presented, regardless of whether a narrative discussion is included. A "d" response applies if estimates of the differences are not presented.

Answer:
d. No, estimates of the differences between the original macroeconomic forecast for the fiscal year and the actual outcome for that year is not presented.

Source:
The Settlement of Accounts Report for FY2019 and its press release:

http://likms.assembly.go.kr/bill/billDetail.do?billId=PRC_G2Y0B0S6Y0D1R1C4U1L6C5P4T4Q6Q7

https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?menuNo=4010100&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000033071&searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028

Comment:
No discussion on the differences the original macroeconomic forecast and the actual outcome for FY2019 is found in the YER.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

91b. Based on the response to Question 91, check the box(es) to identify which elements of the macroeconomic forecast have the differences between the original forecast and the outcome for the year presented in the Year-End Report:

Answer:
None of the above

Source:
The Settlement of Accounts Report for FY2019 and its press release:

http://likms.assembly.go.kr/bill/billDetail.do?billId=PRC_G2Y0B0S6Y0D1R1C4U1L6C5P4T4Q6Q7

https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?menuNo=4010100&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000033071&searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028

Comment:
Please refer to the response to Question 91.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

92. Does the Year-End Report present the differences between the original estimates of nonfinancial data on inputs and the actual outcome?

GUIDELINES:
Question 92 asks whether the Year-End Report includes estimates of the differences between the original estimates of nonfinancial data on inputs and the actual outcome for the year, and whether these estimates are accompanied by a narrative discussion.

Refer to Question 49 for the nonfinancial data on inputs included in the Executive's Budget Proposal.

To answer "a," the Year-End Report must include estimates of the differences between all of the original estimates of nonfinancial data on inputs and the actual outcome, including a narrative discussion. Answer "b" if the Year-End Report presents estimates of the differences between all of the original estimates of nonfinancial data on inputs and the actual outcome, but does not include a narrative discussion. Answer "c" if estimates of the differences between some but not all of the original estimates of nonfinancial data on inputs and the actual outcome are presented, regardless of whether a narrative discussion is included. A "d" response applies if estimates of the differences are not presented.

Answer:
d. No, estimates of the differences between the original estimates of nonfinancial data on inputs and the actual outcome are not presented.

Source:
The Settlement of Accounts Report for FY2019 and its press release:

http://likms.assembly.go.kr/bill/billDetail.do?billId=PRC_G2Y0B0S6Y0D1R1C4U1L6C5P4T4Q6Q7

https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?
menuNo=4010100&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000033071&searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028

Comment:
The YER provides no relevant data on nonfinancial inputs and the differences between the approved and actual input levels.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

93. Does the Year-End Report present the differences between the original estimates of nonfinancial data on results and the actual outcome?

GUIDELINES:
Question 93 asks whether the Year-End Report includes estimates of the differences between the original estimates of nonfinancial data on results and the actual outcome for the year, and whether these estimates are accompanied by a narrative discussion. Nonfinancial data on results can include data on both outputs and outcomes, but not on inputs (which are addressed in Question 92).

Refer to Question 50 for the nonfinancial data on results included in the Executive's Budget Proposal.

To answer "a," the Year-End Report must include estimates of the differences between all of the original estimates of nonfinancial data on results and the actual outcome, including a narrative discussion. Answer "b" if the Year-End Report presents estimates of the differences between all of the original estimates of nonfinancial data on results and the actual outcome, but does not include a narrative discussion. Answer "c" if estimates of the differences between some but not all of the original estimates of nonfinancial data on results and the actual outcome are presented, regardless of whether a narrative discussion is included. A "d" response applies if estimates of the differences are not presented.

Answer:
a. Yes, estimates of the differences between all of the original estimates of nonfinancial data on results and the actual outcome are presented, along with a narrative discussion.

Source:
The Settlement of Accounts Report for FY2019 and its press release:

http://likms.assembly.go.kr/bill/billDetail.do?billId=PRC_G2Y0B0S6Y0D1R1C4U1L6C5P4T4Q6Q7

https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?menuNo=4010100&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000033071&searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028

Comment:
The Performance Reports by all administrative ministries/agencies/committees per their respective Performance Plans are a supporting document for YER. In the Performance Report, comparisons between performance targets and actual achievements (outcomes/results) are made and evaluated.

Some summary information is also found in pages 1431-1434 in the YER.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

94. Does the Year-End Report present the differences between the enacted level of funds for policies (both new proposals and existing policies) that are intended to benefit directly the country's most impoverished populations and the actual outcome?

GUIDELINES:
Question 94 asks whether the Year-End Report includes estimates of the differences between the enacted level of funds for policies that are intended to benefit directly the country's most impoverished populations and the actual outcome for the year, and whether these estimates are accompanied by a narrative discussion.

Refer to Question 52 for assistance to the most impoverished populations in the Executive's Budget Proposal.

To answer "a," the Year-End Report must present estimates of the differences between the enacted level for all policies that are intended to benefit the country's most impoverished populations and the actual outcome, including a narrative discussion. Answer "b" if the Year-End Report presents estimates of the differences between the enacted level for all policies that are intended to benefit the country's most impoverished populations and the actual outcome, but does not include a narrative discussion. Answer "c" if estimates of the differences between the enacted level for some but not all of the policies that are intended to benefit the country's most impoverished populations and the actual outcome are presented, regardless of whether a narrative discussion is included. A "d" response applies if estimates of the differences are not presented.

Answer:
b. Yes, estimates of the differences between the enacted level for all policies that are intended to benefit directly the country's most impoverished populations and the actual outcome are presented, but a narrative discussion is not included.

Source:
The Settlement of Accounts Report for FY2019 and its press release:

http://likms.assembly.go.kr/bill/billDetail.do?billId=PRC_G2Y0B0S6Y0D1R1C4U1L6C5P4T4Q6Q7

https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?menuNo=4010100&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000033071&searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028

Comment:
The expenditures for the most impoverished population can be spread across multiple functions and sub functions, but most of such expenditures come under the functions of Social Welfare and Health. Under Social Welfare, there are sub functions like Basic Livelihood, Support for the Vulnerable Population, The Elderly and Youth, and Labor. In pages 418-434, 1014, and 1020, the YER provides information on the enacted expenditures and the actual expenditures for FY2019 for these programs under Social Welfare and Health functions, with no narrative discussions.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

95. Does the Year-End Report present the differences between the original estimates of extra-budgetary funds and the actual outcome?

GUIDELINES:
Question 95 asks whether the Year-End Report presents estimates of the differences between the original estimates of extra-budgetary funds and the actual outcome for the year, and whether these estimates are accompanied by a narrative discussion.

Refer to Question 33 for estimates of extra-budgetary funds in the Executive's Budget Proposal.

To answer "a," the Year-End Report must include estimates of the differences between all of the original estimates of extra-budgetary funds and the actual outcome, including a narrative discussion. Answer "b" if the Year-End Report presents estimates of the differences between all of the original estimates of extra-budgetary funds and the actual outcome, but does not include a narrative discussion. Answer "c" if estimates of the differences between some but not all of the original estimates of extra-budgetary funds and the actual outcome are presented, regardless of whether a narrative discussion is included. A "d" response applies if estimates of the differences are not presented

Answer:
a. Yes, estimates of the differences between all of the original estimates of extra-budgetary funds and the actual outcome are presented, along with a narrative discussion.

Source:
The Settlement of Accounts Report for FY2019 and its press release:

http://likms.assembly.go.kr/bill/billDetail.do?billId=PRC_G2Y0B0S6Y0D1R1C4U1L6C5P4T4Q6Q7

https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?menuNo=4010100&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000033071&searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028

Comment:
The Korean YER provides information on the differences between the approved and actual outcomes from the management of all extra-budgetary funds in pages 826-909.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree
Comments: Pages 704-825 of the Korean YER provide information on the differences between the approved and actual revenue outcomes from the management of all extra-budgetary funds.

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

96. Is a financial statement included as part of the Year-End Report or released as a separate report?

GUIDELINES:
Question 96 asks whether a financial statement is included as part of the Year-End Report, or whether it is released as a separate report. The financial statement can include some or all of the following elements: a cash flow statement, an operating statement, a balance sheet, and notes on accounting. For purposes of responding to this question, the financial statement in question does not need to be audited. For an example of a financial statement, see the document "Financial Statements of the Government of New Zealand 2013" (https://treasury.govt.nz/sites/default/files/2013-10/fsgnz-year-jun13.pdf)

To answer "a," a financial statement must either be included in the Year-End Report or must be released as a separate report. Answer "a" applies if a financial statement is released as a separate report, even if the Year-End Report is not publicly available. Answer "b" applies if no financial statement is released either as part of the Year-End Report or as a separate report.

Answer:
a. Yes, a financial statement is part of the Year-End Report or is released as a separate report.

Source:
The Settlement of Accounts Report for FY2019 and its press release:

http://likms.assembly.go.kr/bill/billDetail.do?billId=PRC_G2Y0B0S6Y0D1R1C4U1L6C5P4T4Q6Q7

https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?menuNo=4010100&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000033071&searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028

Comment:
The Korean YER provides key financial statements in pages 1055-1419.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

97. What type of audits (compliance, financial, or performance) has the Supreme Audit Institution (SAI) conducted and made available to the public?

GUIDELINES:

Question 97 asks about the types of audits conducted by the Supreme Audit Institution (SAI). There are three basic types of audits:

- *Financial audits are intended to determine if an entity's financial information is accurate (free from errors or fraud) and presented in accordance with the applicable financial reporting and regulatory framework. See ISSAI 200 (http://www.issai.org/issai-framework/3-fundamental-auditing-priciples.htm) for more detail.*
- *Compliance audits look at the extent to which the relevant regulations and procedures have been followed. See ISSAI 400 (https://www.issai.org/pronouncements/issai-400-compliance-audit-principles/) for more details.*
- *Performance audits assess whether activities are adhering to the principles of economy, efficiency, and effectiveness. See ISSAI 300 (https://www.issai.org/pronouncements/issai-300-performance-audit-principles/) for more details.*

Financial and compliance audits are more common than performance audits, which usually occur only once a performance framework has been agreed upon. In some countries, the SAI's mandate limits the type of audit it can conduct.

To answer "a," the SAI must have conducted all three types of audit — financial, compliance, and performance — and made all of them available to the public. A "b" response applies if the SAI has conducted two of the three audit types, and a "c" applies if it has conducted only one type of audit. Answers "b" and "c" may be selected even if the Audit Report is not publicly available, as long as the SAI has conducted compliance or performance audits and made them available to the public. A "d" response applies if the SAI has not conducted any of the three types of audits, or has not made them available to the public.

Answer:
a. The SAI has conducted all three types of audits (compliance, financial, or performance) and made them available to the public.

Source:
The Audit Report by the Board of Audit and Inspection and its press release (citizen version) that are available at:

https://www.bai.go.kr/bai/cop/bbs/detailBoardArticle.do?mdex=bai20&bbsId=BBSMSTR_100000000009&nttId=126067

Comment:
While the Korean Supreme Audit Institution, that is, the Board of Audit and Inspection, performs all three types of audit, its most common type is financial audit followed by compliance audit and performance audit. The BAI audits the YER to determine mostly if the financial information presented there is accurate. Performance report is part of the YER, but auditing this part of the YER is more about determining whether information there is accurate.

The BAI also audits the implementation processes of major policy initiatives and those that the National Assembly requests the BAI to audit.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

98. What percentage of expenditures within the mandate of the Supreme Audit Institution (SAI) has been audited?

GUIDELINES:

Question 98 focuses on the coverage of audits by the Supreme Audit Institution (SAI), asking what percentage of expenditures within the SAI's mandate has been audited.

The SAI's mandate is typically defined in statute. Only expenditures related to budgetary central government (ministries, departments, and agencies) that are within the SAI's mandate should be considered for this question. (Question 99 addresses audits of extra-budgetary funds.) Further, the question does not apply to "secret programs" (for example, security-related expenditures that are confidential). Further, if the mandate gives the SAI the authority to outsource some audits, then those audits count for purposes of this question.

Only the Audit Report identified in Section 1 should be used to answer this question. Financial audits and compliance audits, or a hybrid of the two, can be taken into account to answer this question. Performance audits should not be considered for this question.

To answer "a," all expenditures within the SAI's mandate must be audited. A "b" response applies if at least two-thirds, but not all, expenditures within the SAI's mandate have been audited. A "c" response is appropriate when less than two-thirds of expenditures within the SAI's mandate have been audited. A "d" response applies when no expenditures have been audited.

Answer:
a. All expenditures within the SAI's mandate have been audited.

Source:
The Audit Report by the Board of Audit and Inspection and its press release (citizen version) that are available at:

https://www.bai.go.kr/bai/cop/bbs/detailBoardArticle.do?mdex=bai20&bbsId=BBSMSTR_100000000009&nttId=126067

Comment:
The Korean YER, which is the Settlement of Accounts, covers entire governmental accounts: the general fund account, 19 special fund accounts, and 67 extra-budgetary fund accounts that are either managed by line ministries or by separate public institutions. The BAI's mandates cover the entire government organizations (excluding the National Intelligence Service) and public institutions that are controlled by the government including state-owned enterprises. As long as the YER covers the finances of the governmental ministries/agencies/committees, they are audited by the BAI.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

99. What percentage of extra-budgetary funds within the mandate of the Supreme Audit Institution (SAI) has been audited?

GUIDELINES:

Question 99 focuses on audits of extra-budgetary funds, asking what percentage of extra-budgetary funds within the mandate of the Supreme Audit Institution (SAI) has been audited. These funds, although technically outside the budget, are governmental in nature and thus should be subject to the same audit requirement as other government programs.

The SAI's mandate is typically defined in statute. Only expenditures related to extra-budgetary funds within the SAI's mandate should be considered for this question. (Question 98 addresses audits of budgetary central government.) Further, if the mandate gives the SAI the authority to outsource some audits, then those audits count for purposes of this question.

To answer "a," all extra-budgetary funds within the SAI's mandate must be audited. A "b" response applies if extra-budgetary funds accounting for at least two-thirds of, but not all, expenditures associated with extra-budgetary funds within the SAI's mandate have been audited. A "c" response applies if extra-budgetary funds accounting for less than two-thirds of expenditures associated with extra-budgetary funds within the SAI's mandate have been audited. A "d" response applies if extra-budgetary funds have not been audited.

Answer:
a. All extra-budgetary funds within the SAI's mandate have been audited.

Source:
The Audit Report by the Board of Audit and Inspection and its press release (citizen version) that are available at:

https://www.bai.go.kr/bai/cop/bbs/detailBoardArticle.do?mdex=bai20&bbsId=BBSMSTR_100000000009&nttId=126067

Comment:
The Settlement of Accounts (i.e., YER) and Audit Report for FY2021 covers all 67 extra budgetary funds and examines their respective revenue and expenditure records.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

100. Does the annual Audit Report(s) prepared by the Supreme Audit Institution (SAI) include an executive summary?

GUIDELINES:
Question 100 asks whether the annual Audit Report includes an executive summary. Only the Audit Report identified in Section 1 should be used to answer this question. The Audit Report can be a fairly technical document, and an executive summary of the report's findings can help make it more accessible to the media and the public.

To answer "a," the Audit Report must include at least one executive summary summarizing the report's content. Answer "b" applies if the Audit Report does not include an executive summary, or the Audit Report is not made publicly available.

Answer:
b. No, the annual Audit Report(s) does not include an executive summary.

Source:
The Audit Report by the Board of Audit and Inspection and its press release (citizen version) that are available at:

https://www.bai.go.kr/bai/cop/bbs/detailBoardArticle.do?mdex=bai20&bbsId=BBSMSTR_100000000009&nttId=126067

Comment:
The first volume of the AR for FY2021 provides an overview of the fiscal activities and statements over the fiscal year, in pages 3-251. To be true to the definition of an executive summary, I would rather not consider this overview as one.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Disagree
Suggested Answer:
a. Yes, the annual Audit Report(s) includes one or more executive summaries summarizing the report's content.
Comments: In addition to the press release, the URL contains 4 reports that make up the AR for FY2019: Open Statement, Volume 1, Volume 2, and Report of SAI Audit. I think the Open Statement, especially pages 1-5, serves as the executive summary.
https://www.bai.go.kr/bai/cop/bbs/detailBoardArticle.do?mdex=bai20&bbsId=BBSMSTR_100000000009&nttId=126067

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

101. Does the executive make available to the public a report on what steps it has taken to address audit recommendations or findings that indicate a need for remedial action?

GUIDELINES:
Question 101 asks whether the executive reports to the public on the steps it has taken to address audit recommendations made by the Supreme Audit Institution (SAI). The ultimate purpose of audits is to verify that the budget was executed in a manner consistent with existing law, and to hold the government accountable for this execution and its future improvement. The extent to which audits achieve the latter depends on whether there is adequate and timely follow-up on the recommendations provided in the SAI's audit reports.

To answer "a," the executive must report publicly on the steps it has taken to address all audit findings. A "b" response applies if the executive reports publicly on the steps it has taken to address most, but not all, audit findings. A "c" response applies if the executive reports publicly on the steps it has taken to address only some audit findings. As long as the executive reports publicly on the steps it has taken to address audit finding, answer "a,""b," or "c" may be selected, even if the Audit Report is not made publicly available. A "d" response applies if the executive does not report at all on its steps to address audit findings.

Answer:
a. Yes, the executive reports publicly on what steps it has taken to address audit findings.

Source:
The Audit Report by the Board of Audit and Inspection and its press release (citizen version) that are available at:

https://www.bai.go.kr/bai/cop/bbs/detailBoardArticle.do?mdex=bai20&bbsId=BBSMSTR_100000000009&nttId=126067

The YER and the AR for FY2019 are submitted to the National Assembly and tabled on June 1, 2020. There is a document that describes what measures have been taken by the executive regarding audit recommendations and suggestions.
http://likms.assembly.go.kr/bill/billDetail.do?billId=PRC_G2Y0B0S6Y0D1R1C4U1L6C5P4T4Q6Q7

Comment:
Appendix 1 of the second volume of the AR provides detailed statistics of recommendations and suggestions by administrative units and by fund accounts.

Appendix 2 of the second volume of the AR, 773 nonconfidential cases over the period of May 1, 2019 through April 30, 2020 are listed that require subsequent actions by the institutions in the state. Such actions include Waring, Legislative Amendment, Notifications, Disciplinary Actions, etc.

And, the government reported what actions it had taken to address these recommendations to the National Assembly along with the YER and the AR

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

102. Does either the Supreme Audit Institution (SAI) or legislature release to the public a report that tracks actions taken by the executive to address audit recommendations?

GUIDELINES:
Question 102 asks whether the Supreme Audit Institution (SAI) or the legislature track actions by the executive to address audit recommendations. After audit results and recommendations are discussed and validated by the legislature, the executive is normally asked to take certain actions to address the audit findings. For accountability purposes, the public needs to be informed about the status of those actions, and steps the executive has taken to address audit recommendations. In addition to the executive reporting on its actions (see Question 101), the SAI and legislature — as the key oversight institutions — have a responsibility to keep the public informed by tracking the executive's progress in addressing audit recommendations.

To answer "a," the SAI or legislature must report publicly on what steps the executive has taken to address all audit findings. A "b" response applies if the SAI or legislature reports publicly on what steps the executive has taken to address most, but not all, audit findings. A "c" response applies if the SAI or legislature reports publicly on what steps the executive has taken to address only some audit findings. As long as the SAI or legislature reports publicly on the steps the executive has taken, answer "a,""b," or "c" may be selected, even if the Audit Report is not made publicly available. A "d" response applies if neither the SAI nor the legislature reports on the executive's steps to address audit findings.

Answer:
a. Yes, the SAI or legislature reports publicly on what steps the executive has taken to address all audit recommendations.

Source:
The Audit Report by the Board of Audit and Inspection and its press release (citizen version) that are available at:

https://www.bai.go.kr/bai/cop/bbs/detailBoardArticle.do?mdex=bai20&bbsId=BBSMSTR_100000000009&nttId=126067

http://likms.assembly.go.kr/bill/billDetail.do?billId=PRC_G2Y0B0S6Y0D1R1C4U1L6C5P4T4Q6Q7

Comment:
Please refer to the response to Question 101.

In the AR report, with the list of recommendations and suggestions, it actually follows up what recommendations have been already followed and what have not in Appendix 1 of the second volume, in pages 817-861.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

103. Is there an Independent Fiscal Institution (IFI) that conducts budget analyses for the budget formulation and/or approval process?

GUIDELINES:
Question 103 examines whether an Independent Fiscal Institution (IFI) exists that contributes budget analyses to the budget formulation and/or approval process. According to the Principles for Independent Fiscal Institutions, adopted by the OECD Council in 2014, "independent fiscal institutions are publicly funded, independent bodies under the statutory authority of the executive or the legislature which provide non-partisan oversight and analysis of, and in some cases advice on, fiscal policy and performance", and with "a forward-looking ex ante diagnostic task". In practice, they come in two main forms:

- *Parliamentary budget offices (also known as PBOs) such as the Congressional Budget Office in the United States (https://www.cbo.gov/), the Parliamentary Budget Office in South Africa (https://www.parliament.gov.za/parliamentary-budget-office), and the Center for Public Finance Studies in Mexico (Centro de Estudios de las Finanzas Públicas, http://www.cefp.gob.mx/); or*
- *Fiscal councils such as the Office for Budget Responsibility in the United Kingdom (https://obr.uk/) and the High Council for Public Finances in France (Haut Conseil des finances publiques, https://www.hcfp.fr/).*

For more information, see von Trapp et al. 'Principles for Independent Fiscal Institutions and Case Studies', OECD Journal on Budgeting 15:2 (special issue, 2016), https://doi.org/10.1787/budget-15-5jm2795tv625.

To answer "a," there must be an IFI, and its independence must be set in law. In addition, it must have sufficient staffing and resources, including funding, to carry out its tasks. Answer "b" applies if an IFI exists, but either its independence is not set in law or its staffing and resources are insufficient to carry out its tasks. Answer "c" applies if an IFI exists, but its independence is not set in law and it lacks sufficient staffing and resources. Answer "d" applies if no IFI exists.

If the answer is "a,""b," or "c," please specify in the comments the name and type of IFI that exists (e.g., parliamentary budget office or fiscal council). If the answer is "a" or "b," identify the law that guarantees its independence, and provide evidence in support of the assessment of the adequacy of its staffing and resources. This can include the IFI's total budget allocation over recent years, any press reports that discuss perceived funding shortfalls, assessments by international organizations, and/or information from interviews with staff of the IFI.

Answer:
a. Yes, there is an IFI, its independence is set in law, and it has sufficient staffing and resources, including funding, to carry out its tasks.

Source:
The Korean National Assembly Budget Office
https://www.nabo.go.kr; https://korea.nabo.go.kr

Comment:
Korea has established the National Assembly Budget Office as an independent nonpartisan budgetary/fiscal institution in 2004 to provide fiscal advice to the committees of the National Assembly and its members.

With its 138 authorized full-time employees (currently 133 staffers), the NABO conducts analysis of the EBP and its supporting documents, separate and independent macroeconomic forecast, evaluation of key public programs/projects, and estimates the cost of legislative bills.

Its independent status is set in the Act on the National Assembly Budget Office.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

104. Does the Independent Fiscal Institution (IFI) publish macroeconomic and/or fiscal forecasts?

GUIDELINES:
Question 104 assesses whether an Independent Fiscal Institution (IFI) has a role in producing the macroeconomic forecast (e.g., GDP growth, inflation, interest rates, etc.) and/or the fiscal forecast (revenues, expenditure, deficits, and debt), and if so, what kind of role it has. Macroeconomic and/or fiscal forecasting is a typical core function across IFIs, but their role in forecasting takes several forms (von Trapp et al. 2016, p. 17 and Table 2). Some IFIs produce just a macroeconomic forecast, while others produce a complete fiscal forecast (which also typically requires an underlying macroeconomic forecast). In some cases, the fiscal forecast reflects continuation of current budget policies; such forecasts can be used by the legislature, the media, or the public to assess the projections in the executive's budget reflecting the government's policy proposals.

Some IFIs produce the official macroeconomic and fiscal forecasts used in the executive's budget. In other cases, IFIs do not prepare their own independent

forecasts, but rather produce an assessment of the official estimates, or provide an opinion on, or endorsement of, the government's forecasts. Some others have no role at all in forecasting.

To answer "a", there must be an IFI that publishes both its own macroeconomic AND fiscal forecasts. Answer "b" applies if an IFI publishes its own macroeconomic OR fiscal forecast (but not both). Answer "c" applies if the IFI does not publish a macroeconomic or fiscal forecast, but rather publishes an assessment of the official forecasts produced by the executive and used in the budget. Choose option "d" if there is no IFI; or if there is an IFI that neither publishes its own macroeconomic and/or fiscal forecasts, nor a commentary on the official forecasts for the budget.

Macroeconomic forecasts may include indicators relating to economic output and economic growth, inflation, and the labor market, amongst others. Fiscal forecasts may include estimates of revenues, expenditures, the budget balance, and debt. If the answer is "a" or "b," please specify which indicators and estimates are included in the forecasts and whether the forecast is used by government as the official forecast. If the answer is "c," please describe the nature and depth of the assessment (e.g., the length of the commentary, or whether it covers both economic and fiscal issues).

Answer:
a. Yes, the IFI publishes its own macroeconomic and fiscal forecasts.

Source:
The National Assembly Budget Office Act

Comment:
The Article 3(3) of the said Act stipulates that the NABO has a mandate on analysis of national public finance and on forecasting of macroeconomic prospects along with other mandates like analysis of the EBP.

The URL below lists the key reports regarding macroeconomic forecast by the NABO. Specifically, the report #181 is the Macroeconomic Forecast for 2021 (2021경제전망).

https://www.nabo.go.kr/Sub/01Report/01_02_Board.jsp?funcSUB=list&bid=19&arg_cid1=0&arg_cid2=0&arg_class_id=0¤tPage=0&pageSize=10¤tPageSUB=0&pageSizeSUB=10&key_typeSUB=&keySUB=&search_start_dateSUB=&search_end_dateSUB=&department=0&department_sub=0&etc_cate1=C&etc_cate2=&sortBy=reg_date&ascOrDesc=desc&search_key1=&etc_1=경제전망+및+정책분석&etc_2=3&tag_key=경제전망+및+정책분석&name=예산분석&name2=1&name=경제전망+및+정책분석&name2=3

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree
Comments: English website which contains the information above: https://korea.nabo.go.kr/publi/publications.php?ptype=view&idx=6771&page=1&code=publications&category=106

105. Does the Independent Fiscal Institution (IFI) publish its own costings of new policy proposals, to assess their impact on the budget?

GUIDELINES:
Question 105 assesses whether an Independent Fiscal Institution (IFI) has a costing function that involves assessing the budgetary implications of new policy proposals for both revenues and expenditures, and if so, what kind of role it has. Many IFIs have a costing role, but with substantial diversity in the nature and extent of this work (von Trapp et al 2016, pp. 17-18 and Table 2). Some assess virtually all new policy proposals, while others cost only a selection of new policy proposals. Others only publish opinions on, or scrutinize the costings of, budget measures produced by the executive.

To answer "a," the IFI must publish its own costings of all (or virtually all) new policy proposals. Answer "b" applies if the IFI publishes its own costings, but only for major new policy proposals – for instance, only those proposals that cost or save above a certain amount. Answer "c" applies if the IFI publishes its own costings, but only on a limited number of proposals. This could occur, for instance, if the IFI lacked the capacity to assess proposals dealing with certain sectors. Instead of producing a cost estimate, it can also publish an assessment of the estimates produced by the executive. Answer "d" applies if there is no IFI; or if the IFI does not publish its own costings of new policy proposals or provide an assessment of the official costings of new policy proposals.

Answer:
a. Yes, the IFI publishes its own costings of all new policy proposals.

Source:
The National Assembly Budget Office Act

Comment:
The Article 3(4) stipulates that the NABO has a mandate of analyzing, evaluating, and costing major national projects. One of the mandates of the NABO is costing of proposed bills. The National Assembly Act makes it clear that a proposed bill with cost implications for the government would attach cost estimate that is conducted by the NABO. During 2020, the NABO conducted costing of bills 4,645 times (according to its Annual Report for 2020).

The report found in the URL below describes the costing of legislative bills and provides some examples:

https://www.nabo.go.kr/Sub/01Report/01_01_Board.jsp?
funcSUB=view&bid=19&arg_cid1=0&arg_cid2=0&arg_class_id=0¤tPage=0&pageSize=10¤tPageSUB=0&pageSizeSUB=10&key_typeSUB=subject&keySUB=법안비용
&search_start_dateSUB=&search_end_dateSUB=&department=0&department_sub=0&etc_cate1=&etc_cate2=&sortBy=reg_date&ascOrDesc=desc&search_key1=&etc_1=0&etc_2=0&tag_key=&arg_id=7218&item_id=7218&etc_1=0&etc_2=0&name2=0

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree
Comments: English website which contains the information above: https://korea.nabo.go.kr/publi/publications.php?ptype=view&idx=6747&page=1&code=publications&category=105

106. In the past 12 months, how frequently did the head or a senior staff member of the Independent Fiscal Institution (IFI) take part and testify in hearings of a committee of the legislature?

GUIDELINES:
Question 106 concerns the interaction between two important oversight actors and assesses how frequently the Independent Fiscal Institution (IFI) made high-level inputs to the work of legislative committees. Almost all IFIs interact with the legislature in some form (von Trapp et al 2016, p. 18), but the intensity of the interaction varies. This question assesses this aspect by asking, with reference to the past 12 months, how frequently the head or a senior staff member of the IFI took part and testified in hearings of a committee of the legislature. The intent is to assess the extent to which the IFI staff member in question was not only present at a meeting of a legislative committee, but was an active participant (as opposed to a passive observer, serving only as a resource when called upon). As evidence to support your answer, you can refer to official records of legislative committees, websites and annual reports of the IFI, press releases and media coverage, for example. Choose answer "a" if this occurred five times or more; "b" for three times or more, but less than five times; and "c" for once or twice. Answer "d" should be selected if the head or a senior staff member of the IFI never took part and testified in hearings of a committee of the legislature, or if there is no IFI.

Answer:
c. Rarely (i.e., once or twice).

Source:
https://www.nabo.go.kr/index.jsp; The NABO Annual Report

Comment:
The Act on the NABO stipulates that the staff members are required to testify at the committees of the National Assembly upon request.

As far as this researcher researched the relevant sources, there is no such case except for the briefing session for the new Speaker of the National Assembly held on July 31, 2020.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Disagree
Suggested Answer:
a. Frequently (i.e., five times or more).
Comments: The answer should be "a. it occurred five times or more." NABO testifies at the committees of the National Assembly in written form. The chief of NABO provides (oral or written) testimony on cost estimation of bills or research and analysis results upon request from a committee or a parliamentarian.

107. Does the full legislature and/or a legislative committee debate budget policy prior to the tabling of the Executive's Budget Proposal?

GUIDELINES:

Question 107 asks whether the legislature debated budget policies prior to the tabling of the Executive's Budget Proposal for the most recent budget year before the research cut-off date. In general, prior to discussing the Executive's Budget Proposal for the coming year, the legislature should have an opportunity to review the government's broad budget priorities and fiscal parameters. Often times this information is laid out in a Pre-Budget Statement, which the executive presents to the legislature for debate. (See Questions 54-58.)

A number of countries conduct a pre-budget debate in the legislature around six months before the start of the budget year. In some cases, they adopt laws that guide the upcoming budget, for example the Budget Guidelines Law in Brazil and the Spring Fiscal Policy Bill in Sweden. A pre-budget debate can serve two main purposes: 1) to allow the executive to inform the legislature of its fiscal policy intentions by presenting updated reports on its annual and medium-term budget strategy and policy priorities; and 2) to establish "hard" multi-year fiscal targets or spending ceilings, which the government must adhere to when preparing its detailed spending estimates for the upcoming budget year.

To answer "a," the full legislature must debate budget policy prior to the tabling of the Executive's Budget Proposal and approve recommendations for the upcoming budget.

Answer "b" applies if a legislative committee (but not the full legislature) debates budget policy prior to the tabling of the Executive's Budget Proposal, and approves recommendations for the budget. Option "b" also applies if, in addition to the action by the committee, the full legislature also debates budget policy in advance of the budget, but does not approve recommendations.

Answer "c" applies if the full legislature and/or a legislative committee debates budget policy prior to the tabling of the Executive's Budget Proposal, but does not approve recommendations for the budget. Answer "d" applies if neither the full legislature nor any legislative committee debate budget policy prior to the tabling of the Executive's Budget Proposal.

In your comment, please indicate the dates of the budget debate, and if both the full legislature and a legislative committee held a debate. Note that a debate does not need to be open to the public, but a public record of the meeting or a public notice that the meeting occurred is required. In addition, please indicate whether the budget debate was focused on a Pre-Budget Statement published by the Executive. If the Executive did not publish a Pre-Budget Statement, then please indicate what served as the focus of the legislature's debate (for instance, a report released by an IFI or some other institution).

Answer:
d. No, neither the full legislature nor any legislative committee debate budget policy prior to the tabling of the Executive's Budget Proposal.

Source:
The National Assembly Act, Article 84 (Return and Examination of Budget Bill and Settlement of Accounts)
https://korea.assembly.go.kr:447/res/low_02_read.jsp?boardid=1000000036

(1) The budget bill and the settlement of accounts shall be referred to the competent Standing Committee, and it shall make a pre-examination thereof, and report the results to the Speaker. In such cases, the speech of the Government on the administrative policy with respect to the budget bill shall be heard at the plenary session.
(2) The Speaker shall refer the budget bill and the settlement of accounts to the Special Committee on Budget and Accounts with the report under paragraph (1), and after its examination is terminated, he or she shall refer them to the plenary session. When there exist any illegal or unjustifiable matters as a result of the examination of settlement of accounts, the National Assembly shall request, after a resolution of the plenary session, the Government or the relevant agencies to make corrections of the said matters, such as indemnification or disciplinary measures, and the Government or the relevant agencies shall promptly deal with the matters subjected to a request for corrections, and file a report with the National Assembly on their results.
(3) The examination on the budget bill and the settlement of accounts of the Special Committee on Budget and Accounts shall be voted on after an interpellation on the general policy, examination by the pertinent ministry or subcommittee, having heard arguments for and against the matter, and after hearing an explanation of proposal and the report of a Deputy Chief of Staff on his or her examination. In such cases, the chairperson of the Committee shall determine the period of the general policy interpellation in such manner that he or she allots the time of the interpellation by the representative National Assembly member of each negotiating party or by each negotiating party, after consulting with the executive secretary.
(4) Notwithstanding paragraphs (1) and (2), the Intelligence Committee shall examine the budget bill and settlement of accounts under the jurisdiction of the National Intelligence Service, and the budget bill and settlement of accounts for information under the jurisdiction of the ministries and agencies which are subject to the planning and coordination of affairs concerning information and security as prescribed in Article 3 (1) 5 of the National Intelligence Service Korea Act, and inform the Speaker of the result in total by the ministry and the agency concerned, and the Speaker shall notify the Special Committee on Budget and Accounts of the budget bills and settlement of accounts in total which have been examined by the Intelligence Committee. In such cases, the examination made by the Intelligence Committee shall be considered equivalent to that made by the Special Committee on Budget and Accounts.
(5) The Special Committee on Budget and Accounts shall have to respect the contents of the examination of the competent Standing Committee, and where any amount of each item of the annual expenditure budget, which has been slashed by the competent Standing Committee, is made increased or a new expense item is added, a consent shall be obtained from the competent Standing Committee: Provided, That the request for consent to adding a new expense item has been referred to the competent Standing Committee, and a notification of whether or not making a consent thereto has not been made to the Special Committee on Budget and Accounts within 72 hours from the said referral, it shall be deemed that there exists a consent of the competent Standing Committee.
(6) When the Speaker refers the budget bill and the settlement of accounts to the competent Standing Committee, he or she may determine the period of examination, and if the Standing Committee fails to complete the examination within such period without good cause, he or she may refer them directly to the Special Committee on Budget and Accounts.
(7) No committee may examine the budget bill on estimated revenue submitted in advance on the condition of an enactment or revision of Acts relating to the items or rates of taxation.
[This Article Wholly Amended by Act No. 15620, Apr. 17, 2018]

Comment:
Article 84 of the said Act stipulates the procedures for deliberating the Executive's Budget Proposal. Budget policies are only discussed after the standing committees make their initial deliberations and their recommendations are tabled to the Special Committee on Budget and Settlement of Accounts. That is, the plenary session of the National Assembly in September each year does not discuss budget policy in advance of tabling the executive budget proposal.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

108. How far in advance of the start of the budget year does the legislature receive the Executive's Budget Proposal?

GUIDELINES:

Question 108 examines how far in advance of the start of the most recent budget year the legislature receives the Executive's Budget Proposal. International good practice recommends that the Executive's Budget Proposal should be submitted to the legislature far enough in advance to allow the legislature time to review it properly, or at least three months prior to the start of the fiscal year. (See, for instance, Principle 2.2.2 of the IMF's Fiscal Transparency Handbook (2018) (https://www.elibrary.imf.org/view/IMF069/24788-9781484331859/24788-9781484331859/24788-9781484331859.xml).

For the purposes of responding to this question, if — and only if — the most recent budget submission occurred later than usual as a result of a particular event, such as an election, please use a more normal year as the basis for the response. If, however, delays have been observed for more than one budget year, and the legislature has not received the Executive's Budget Proposal in a timely manner on more than one occasion in the last three years, then "d" will be the appropriate answer.

To answer "a," the legislature must receive the Executive's Budget Proposal at least three months in advance of the start of the budget year. Answer "b" applies if the legislature receives the Executive's Budget Proposal at least two months, but less than three months, before the start of the budget year. Answer "c" applies if the legislature receives the Executive's Budget Proposal at least one month, but less than two months, before the start of the budget year. Answer "d" applies if the legislature does not receive the Executive's Budget Proposal at least one month prior to the start of the budget year, or does not receive it at all.

Answer:
a. The legislature receives the Executive's Budget Proposal at least three months before the start of the budget year.

Source:
https://elaw.klri.re.kr/eng_service/lawView.do?hseq=40922&lang=ENG

The National Finance Act, Article 33 (Submission of Budget Bills to National Assembly): The Government shall submit budget Bills approved by the President under Article 32, to the National Assembly by no later than 120 days before the commencement of the fiscal year.

Comment:
According to the Korean National Finance Act, the National Assembly receives the EBP 120 days before the fiscal year begins, which is by September 3, each year. Each year, the government complies with this stipulation.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

109. When does the legislature approve the Executive's Budget Proposal?

GUIDELINES:
Question 109 examines when the legislature approves the Executive's Budget Proposal. International good practice recommends that the Executive's Budget Proposal should be approved by the legislature before the start of the fiscal year the budget proposal refers to. This gives the executive time to implement the budget in its entirety, particularly new programs and policies.

In some countries, the expenditure and revenue estimates of the Executive's Budget Proposal are approved separately; for purposes of this question, at least the expenditure estimates must be approved. Further, approval of the budget implies approval of the full-year budget, not just a short-term continuation of spending and revenue authority.

To answer "a," the legislature must approve the Executive's Budget Proposal at least one month before the start of the budget year. Answer "b" applies if the legislature approves the Executive's Budget Proposal less than one month in advance of the start of the budget year, but at least by the start of the budget year. Answer "c" applies if the legislature approves the Executive's Budget Proposal less than one month after the start of the budget year. Answer "d" applies if the legislature approves the Executive's Budget Proposal more than one month after the start of the budget year, or does not approve the budget.

Answer:
a. The legislature approves the budget at least one month in advance of the start of the budget year.

Source:
https://www.refworld.org/docid/3ae6b4dd14.html

The Article 54(2) of the Korean Constitution and the Articles 84-85 of the National Assembly Act stipulate that the budget should be approved at least 30 days before the fiscal year begins, which is December 2, each year.

Comment:
The Korean National Assembly approved the Budget for FY2021 on December 2, 2020, 30 days before the fiscal year begins. On that date, the MoEF has released a summary and highlights of the EB via its website. As for FY2020, it was approved on December 10, 2019.

To be fair and with a focus on the FY2021 budget, this time I would go with "a" rather than "b" here.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

110. Does the legislature have the authority in law to amend the Executive's Budget Proposal?

GUIDELINES:

Question 110 examines the legislature's power to amend—as opposed to simply accept or reject—the budget proposal presented by the executive. This question is about legal authority rather than actions the legislature takes in practice. The legislature's powers to amend the budget can vary substantially across countries.

The "a" response is appropriate only if there are no restrictions on the right of the legislature to modify the Executive's Budget Proposal, including its right to change the size of the proposed deficit or surplus. The "b" response would be appropriate if, for instance, the legislature is restricted from changing the deficit or surplus, but it still has the power to increase or decrease funding and revenue levels. The more limited "c" response would apply if, for instance, the legislature can only re-allocate spending within the totals set in the Executive's Budget Proposal or can only decrease funding levels or increase revenues. Finally, response "d" would apply if the legislature may not make any changes (or only small technical changes), or if amendments must first be approved by the executive. In these cases, the legislature is essentially only able to approve or reject the budget as a whole. If the answer is "b" or "c", please indicate the nature of the amendment powers available to the Parliament and how they are limited.

Answer:
b. Yes, the legislature has authority in law to amend the Executive's Budget Proposal, with some limitations.

Source:
https://www.refworld.org/docid/3ae6b4dd14.html

The Korean Constitution, Article 57: The National Assembly shall, without the consent of the Executive, neither increase the sum of any item of expenditure nor create any new items of expenditure in the budget submitted by the Executive.

Comment:
The Korean Constitution, Article 57, stipulates that the National Assembly can neither increase expenditures nor create new expenditure items without consent from the government. So, when it comes to cut the executive proposals for expenditures, it does not have any problem. When it wants to increase expenditures for specific programs/projects or to create new projects, it is required to get governmental consent. And, most likely and most of the time, the government is willingly obliged to the requests of such changes from the committees of the National Assembly.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

111. During the most recent budget approval process, did the legislature use its authority in law to amend the Executive's Budget Proposal?

GUIDELINES:
Question 111 assesses whether any formal authority of the legislature to amend the Executive's Budget Proposal is used in practice. The responses to this question should be determined based on action by the legislature related to the Enacted Budget used in the OBS. Choose answer "a" if the legislature used its authority in law to amend the Executive's Budget Proposal during the most recent budget approval process, and amendments were adopted (all, or at least some of them). Answer "a" also applies if the legislature used its authority in law to amend the Executive's Budget Proposal, but the amendments were rejected by executive veto. Answer "b" applies if the legislature used its authority in law to propose amendments to the Executive's Budget Proposal, but none of these amendments were adopted. Answer "c" applies if the legislature has the authority in law to amend the budget, but no amendments were proposed during its consideration. Answer "d" applies when the legislature does not have any authority to amend the budget (that is, Question 110 is answered "d").

If the answer is "a" or "b", please specify in the comments the number of amendments introduced by the legislature (and in the case of an "a" response, the number adopted, or if applicable, information about an executive veto) and describe their nature. For example, did the amendments result in an increase or decrease of the deficit? What were the most significant amendments to revenues and to expenditures in terms of the sums involved? How did amendments affect the composition of expenditures? If the answer is "a," please specify which amendments were adopted, and provide evidence for it.

Answer:
a. Yes, the legislature used its authority in law to amend the Executive's Budget Proposal, and (at least some of) its amendments were adopted.

Source:
MoEF press release on the Approved Budget on December 2, 2020:

https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?menuNo=4010100&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000052602&searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028

Comment:
Definitely this should be "a" since all the time the National Assembly cuts some areas of the EBP, like interest payments, and increases the areas that provide direct benefits to the narrowly defined beneficiary groups including electoral districts, especially projects for SOC. However, the total amount of amendments to the EBP is typically less than one percent of the total.

For example, for FY2021 budget, the total expenditure amount by the EBP was 555.8 trillion won, and the EB's total expenditure for FY2021 is 558 trillion won. "The total increase to the EBP was 7.5 trillion won, and total cut is 5.3 trillion. So, the net increase was 2.2 trillion won. The changes are mainly from the updated responses to the COVID pandemic and from fine-tuning of the key policy initiatives.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree
Comments: However, some facts in the comment section need to be corrected. "The total cut from the EBP was 5.3 trillion won, and total increase from the EBP is 7.5 trillion." The numbers were in the wrong places.

112. During the last budget approval process, did a specialized budget or finance committee in the legislature examine the Executive's Budget Proposal?

GUIDELINES:
Question 112 assesses the role of a specialized budget or finance committee during the budget approval stage. Effective committee involvement is an essential condition for legislative influence in the budget process. Specialized committees provide opportunities for individual legislators to gain relevant expertise, and to examine budgets and policy in depth. Yet, the involvement of committees differs across legislatures. Some legislatures have separate committees to examine spending and tax proposals, while others have a single finance committee. Not all legislatures have a specialized budget or finance committee to examine the budget. In addition, there can be differences in the time available for the committee's analysis of the budget.

A report with the committee's findings and recommendations is intended to inform the debate in the full legislature, therefore it must be published before the legislature has adopted the budget.

Response "a" requires that, in the last budget approval process, a specialized budget or finance committee had one month or more to examine the Executive's Budget Proposal, and it published a report with findings and recommendations prior to the budget being adopted. Response "b" applies where such a committee examined the draft budget and published a report, but within a shorter timeframe of less than one month. Response "c" applies if a committee examined the budget (without regard to the time period), but did not publish a report prior to the adoption of the budget. Response "d" applies where a specialized budget or finance committee did not examine the Executive's Budget Proposal.

Please specify in your comment the name of the committee and the number of days it had available to examine the budget. For bicameral legislatures where one house or chamber has greater constitutional authority in budgetary matters, the question applies to the house or chamber (usually the upper or second one) that is decisive. For bicameral legislatures with co-equal houses or chambers, the question should be answered with reference to the one that achieves the higher score for this question. In the case of bicameral legislatures, please note the relevant arrangements in each house or chamber. If applicable, provide a copy of the report. Please note also if a report is published, but only after the budget has been adopted.

Answer:
a. Yes, a specialized budget or finance committee had at least one month to examine the Executive's Budget Proposal, and it published a report with findings and recommendations prior to the budget being adopted.

Source:
https://korea.assembly.go.kr:447/res/low_02_read.jsp?boardid=1000000036

Article 45 (Special Committee on Budget and Accounts)
(1) In order to examine the budget bills, a bill for the fund operation and the settlement of accounts (referring to the settlement of revenue and expenditure and the settlement of fund accounts; hereinafter the same shall apply), a Special Committee on Budget and Accounts shall be established.
(2) The number of members of the Special Committee on Budget and Accounts shall be 50. In such cases, the Speaker shall select members at the request of the National Assembly members representing each negotiating party, according to the ratio of the number of National Assembly members belonging to each negotiating parties and that of the members of the Special Committee on Budget and Accounts.
(3) The term of the members of the Special Committee on Budget and Accounts shall be one year: Provided, That the term of the members first elected after the general election of the National Assembly members shall be from the date of election to the date when it is one year after the commencement of the term of National Assembly member; and the term of members who are appointed for vacancy or reelected shall be the remaining term of the predecessor.
(4) The chairperson of the Special Committee on Budget and Accounts shall be elected at the plenary session from among the members of the Special Committee on Budget and Accounts according to the example of the election of Speaker pro tempore.
(5) Article 44 (2) and (3) shall not be applicable to the Special Committee on Budget and Accounts.
(6) Article 41 (3) through (5), the latter part of Article 48 (1), and Article 48 (2) shall apply mutatis mutandis to the election, term, etc. of the chairperson of the Special Committee on Budget and Accounts and the election of members.
[This Article Wholly Amended by Act No. 15620, Apr. 17, 2018]

Comment:
The key committee for budget deliberation in the Korean National Assembly is the Special Committee on Budget and Settlement of Accounts where there are 50 members who are also playing their respective roles as sectoral standing committee members. Their term of the Special Budget Committee member is 1 year.

The following URL provides the timeline for the legislative deliberation of the EBP for FY2021:

http://likms.assembly.go.kr/bill/billDetail.do?billId=PRC_P2Z0B0V9G0C3E0C9Y1D7J0L7L7N7I9

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

113. During the last approval process, did legislative committees, responsible for particular sectors (e.g., health, education, defense, etc.), examine spending in the Executive's Budget Proposal related to the sector for which they are responsible?

GUIDELINES:
Question 113 assesses the role of committees of the legislature that are responsible for particular sectors (e.g., health, education, defense, etc.) during the budget approval stage. The role of sectoral committees differs across legislatures. Some legislatures do not involve them in the budget approval process, while others do. In addition, the time available for committee analysis differs.

A report with the committee's findings and recommendations is intended to inform the debate in the full legislature, so therefore must be published before the legislature has adopted the budget. Response "a" requires that sector committees had one month or more to examine the Executive's Budget Proposal, and published a report with findings and recommendations prior the budget being adopted. Response "b"" applies where such committees examined the draft budget and published a report, but within a shorter timeframe of less than one month. Response "c" applies if sectoral committees examined the budget (without regard to the time period), but did not publish a report prior to the adoption of the budget. Response "d" applies where sectoral committees did not examine the Executive's Budget Proposal.

Please note that the examination of sectoral budgets by a specialized budget or finance committee is assessed in Question 112 and should not be considered for this question.

Please provide in the comments a brief overview of the committee structure and specify the number of days that sectoral committees had available to examine the budget and to publish their reports. For bicameral legislatures where one house or chamber has greater constitutional authority in budgetary matters, the

question applies to the house or chamber (usually the upper or second one) that is decisive. For bicameral legislatures with co-equal houses or chambers, the question should be answered with reference to the one that achieves the higher score for this question. In the case of bicameral legislatures, please note the relevant arrangements in each house or chamber. If applicable, provide a sample copy of at least one of the reports. Please note if a report is published, but only after the budget has been adopted.

For purposes of responding to this question, use those sectoral committees that are best performing – that is, the ones that examine the budget the longest and that publish reports.

Answer:
a. Yes, sector committees had at least one month to examine the Executive's Budget Proposal, and they published reports with findings and recommendations prior to the budget being adopted.

Source:
The National Assembly Act, Article 84 (Return and Examination of Budget Bill and Settlement of Accounts):
(1) The budget bill and the settlement of accounts shall be referred to the competent Standing Committee, and it shall make a pre-examination thereof, and report the results to the Speaker. In such cases, the speech of the Government on the administrative policy with respect to the budget bill shall be heard at the plenary session.

http://likms.assembly.go.kr/bill/billDetail.do?billId=PRC_P2Z0B0V9G0C3E0C9Y1D7J0L7L7N7I9

Comment:
The process of the budgetary deliberation starts with the tabling of the Proposed Budget to the plenary session and listening to the address by the president or the prime minister. Then, the speak of the NA refers the proposed budget to the 17 standing committees. Only after the completion of the deliberation by the standing committees, the Special Committee on Budget and Settlement works on the recommendations of the standing committees. The standing committees do their deliberation of the EBP typically during October.

According to the URL in the Source, the standing committees had about two months for deliberating on the EBP for FY2021

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

114. In the past 12 months, did a committee of the legislature examine in-year implementation of the Enacted Budget during the relevant budget execution period?

GUIDELINES:
Question 114 is about legislative oversight of budget execution. It assesses whether and how often a committee examined the implementation of the budget during the budget execution period (i.e., financial year) for which it was approved, and whether this resulted in an official report with findings and recommendations. This question does not apply to the ex post review of implementation following the end of the budget year as part of the audit stage, which is assessed separately. Nor does it apply to the legislature's review of the budget that it may undertake as part of the process of considering a supplemental budget during the year. In-year monitoring by the legislature will be affected by the frequency that the executive publishes In-Year Reports.

To answer "a," a committee must have examined in-year implementation of the Enacted Budget at least three times during the course of the relevant budget year and published reports with findings and recommendations. Answer "b" applies where this occurred only once or twice during the year.

Exception: If a legislature is in session only twice during the year, and it examines the implementation of the budget during both sessions, then it would be eligible for an "a" response.

Choose "c" if a committee examined in-year implementation (without regard to frequency), but did not publish any report with findings and recommendations. Answer "d" applies where no committee examined in-year implementation.

If the answer is "a" or "b," please specify the name of the committee and when it reviewed budget implementation, and provide a copy of its report(s). If the answer is "c," please specify the name of the committee and when it reviewed budget implementation.

For purposes of responding to this question, if more than one committee holds in-year reviews of the budget, use the committee that is best performing – that is, the one that examines in-year implementation the most times and that publishes a report.

Answer:
b. Yes, a committee examined in-year implementation on one or more occasion (but less than three times), and it published a report with findings and recommendations.

Source:

The Act on the Inspection and Investigation of the State Administration

https://elaw.klri.re.kr/kor_service/lawView.do?hseq=51670&lang=ENG

Comment:
The National Assembly and its standing committees conduct an annual inspection of the government-wide affairs, of course, including budget execution, during September and October each year while they are preparing their deliberation of the EBP.

The Act on the Inspection and Investigation of the State Administration stipulates that: The National Assembly shall conduct an annual inspection of overall state affairs by competent standing committees, setting a period of not more than 30 days from the date on which the inspection commences before the regular session is convened.

Such annual inspection covers the entire issues of public administration and policy implementation, including budgetary affairs. Through the annual inspection by the National Assembly, many cases of irregularities in budget execution have been revealed and reported.

The following URLs make available the plan for and reporting of such inspections by the Committee of Science, ICT, Broadcasting, and Communications:

https://committee.na.go.kr:444/science/inspect/inspect01.do?mode=view&articleNo=665493

https://committee.na.go.kr:444/science/inspect/inspect02.do?mode=view&articleNo=667008&article.offset=0&articleLimit=10

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

115. Does the executive seek approval from the legislature prior to shifting funds between administrative units that receive explicit funding in the Enacted Budget, and is it legally required to do so?

GUIDELINES:
Question 115 examines whether the executive seeks approval from the legislature prior to shifting funds between administrative units, and whether it is legally required to do so.

In some countries, the executive has the power in law to adjust funding levels for specific appropriations during the execution of the budget. This question examines rules around shifting funds between administrative units (ministries, departments, or agencies) or whatever funding unit (or "vote") is specified in the Enacted Budget.

The conditions under which the executive may exercise its discretion to shift funds should be clearly defined in publicly available regulations or law. In addition, the amount of funds that the executive is allowed to transfer between administrative units should not be so excessive as to undermine the accountability of the executive to the legislature.

To answer "a," the executive is required by law or regulation to obtain prior legislative approval before shifting funds between administrative units, and it does so in practice. Answer "b" applies if the executive obtains legislative approval before shifting funds between administrative units, but is not legally required to do so. Answer "c" applies if the executive is legally required to receive legislative approval before shifting funds, but does not do so in practice. Answer "d" applies if legislative approval is not legally required for the executive to shift funds between administrative units and the executive does not obtain legislative approval in practice. Answer "d" also applies if the executive is authorized to shift an amount considered so excessive as to undermine accountability (roughly equal to 3 percent of total budgeted expenditures). A "d" response applies if the legislature only approves the shifting of funds after it has already occurred.

In the comments, please indicate any law or regulation that provides the executive with standing authority to shift funds between administrative units and, if so, describe that authority. Similarly, legislative approval for shifting funds between administrative units typically occurs with the adoption of legislation such as a supplemental budget. But if other formal procedures for gaining approval from the legislature exist, then please provide information about that approval process.

Answer:
a. The executive is required by law or regulation to obtain approval from the legislature prior to shifting funds between administrative units, and it does so in practice.

Source:
The Korean National Finance Act which is available at:
https://elaw.klri.re.kr/kor_service/lawView.do?hseq=46680&lang=ENG

Article 47 (Transferred Use and Transfer of Budget)
(1) No head of any central government agency shall transfer the budget already appropriated for an institution, or in a chapter, section, or paragraph to another institution, chapter, section, or paragraph for use: Provided, That such transferred use may, only in any of the following cases, be

permitted with the approval of the Minister of Economy and Finance or within the extent authorized by the Minister of Economy and Finance, where it was approved in advance as part of the budget by a resolution of the National Assembly:
1. Where any deficiency is incurred in expenses for fulfilling the obligation of payment arising under any Act or subordinate statute, or expenses essential for operating the agency;
2. Where any unpredictable and inevitable circumstance occurs, such as fluctuation of foreign exchange rate or oil prices;
3. Where urgency to use such part of the budget as financial resources for disaster measures, etc. arises;
4. Other cases prescribed by Presidential Decree.
(2) Where any change occurs in duties and power of a central government agency as a result of the enactment, amendment, or repeal of any statute concerning government organization, etc., the Minister of Economy and Finance may allow transferred use, or make a transfer, of the budget between agencies upon the request of the head of the central government agency.
(3) Where the head of each central government agency has transferred the budget for use at his/her discretion pursuant to the proviso to paragraph (1), he/she shall notify the Minister of Economy and Finance and the Board of Audit and Inspection thereof, respectively. Where the Minister of Economy and Finance approves a transferred use pursuant to the proviso to paragraph (1), or allows transferred use, or makes such transfer pursuant to paragraph (2), he/she shall notify the head of the relevant central government agency and the Board of Audit and Inspection thereof, respectively.
(4) Where the head of each central government agency has made use of or made a transfer of the budget under paragraph (1) or (2), he/she shall submit the details of such use or transfer to the competent standing committees and the Special Committee on Budget and Accounts of the National Assembly by no later than the end of the month immediately following the month in which a date on which a quarter expires falls, in each quarter.

Comment:
The National Finance Act, Article 47, stipulates that the government should get approval from the National Assembly when it wants to transfer funds across functions, subfunctions, and programs. Since these broader classifications tend to cut across multiple administrative units, it is reasonable to regard that the government needs to get legislative approved before moving funds across the administrative units. On the other hand, if the government wants to move funds across different projects that are typically under the jurisdiction of each ministry/agency, it can does that with the approval of the Minister of Economy and Finance.

For the approval for transferring funds across programs, the government needs to submit a supplementary budget and the Korean government does that quite frequently. For example, for FY2021, the administration submitted 4 separate supplementary budget in fighting against the COVID pandemic. Even without such unprecedented crisis, the Korean government has usually utilized supplementary budget almost every year with one justification or another, referring to economic depression and high unemployment.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

116. Does the executive seek approval from the legislature prior to spending excess revenue (that is, amounts higher than originally anticipated) that may become available during the budget execution period, and is it legally required to do so?

GUIDELINES:
Question 116 examines whether the executive receives approval from the legislature prior to spending excess revenue, and whether it is legally required to do so. Good practice requires the legislature to approve changes in revenue or expenditure relative to the Enacted Budget. For example, if additional revenue is collected unexpectedly during the year, which often happens in oil/mineral-dependent countries, and it was not accounted for in the Enacted Budget, there should be a procedure in place to ensure that the legislature approves any proposed use of these "new" funds. If such requirements are not in place, the executive might deliberately underestimate revenue in the budget proposal it submits to the legislature, in order to have additional resources to spend at the executive's discretion, with no legislative control.

To answer "a," the executive is required by law or regulation to obtain prior legislative approval before spending any funds resulting from higher-than-expected revenues, and it does so in practice. Answer "b" applies if the executive obtains legislative approval before spending excess revenue, but is not legally required to do so. Answer "c" applies if the executive is legally required to receive legislative approval before spending excess revenue, but does not do so in practice. Answer "d" applies if prior legislative approval is not legally required for the executive to spend excess revenue and the executive does not obtain legislative approval in practice. A "d" response applies if the legislature only approves the additional spending after it has already occurred.

Typically, legislative approval of additional spending beyond what was reflected in the Enacted Budget would occur with the adoption of a supplemental budget. But other formal procedures for getting approval from the legislature in advance of it adopting the supplemental budget may exist. If that is the case, then please provide information about that approval process.

Answer:
a The executive is required by law or regulation to obtain approval from the legislature prior to spending excess revenues, and it does so in practice.

Source:
The National Finance Act: https://elaw.klri.re.kr/kor_service/lawView.do?hseq=46680&lang=ENG

Article 90 (Appropriation of Net Budget Surplus)
(1) The State bonds may be repaid preferentially by using excess tax revenue anticipated in the year concerned within the extent of the State bonds

already issued in the year concerned for the purpose of making up for lost revenue of general account budget, In such cases, it may be treated as an exception to the revenue and expenditure.
(2) The balance of the surplus in the settlement of the revenue and expenditure budgets for each fiscal year after deducting the amount deductible pursuant to other Acts and the amount carried over pursuant to the provisions of Article 48 (hereinafter referred to as "net budget surplus") may be expended for the settlement of subsidies under Article 5 (2) of the Local Subsidy Act and the settlement of the subsidies under Article 9 (3) of the Local Education Subsidy Act.
(3) At least 30/100 of the net budget surplus excluding the amount expended pursuant to the provisions of paragraph (2) shall be contributed first, among other things, to the fund for redemption of public capital under the Public Capital Redemption Fund Act.
(4) At least 30/100 of the net budget surplus excluding the amounts spent or contributed pursuant to the provisions of paragraphs (2) and (3) shall be spent for repayments of the following obligations:
1. Principal and interest on State bonds or borrowed loan funds;
2. State compensation decided pursuant to the State Compensation Act;
3. Principal and interest on the borrowed loan funds (including deposits received) in the loan account of the public capital management fund under the Public Capital Management Fund Act: Provided, That the foregoing shall apply only to loan funds (including deposits received) borrowed on or before December 31, 2006;
4. Other obligations that the Government owes pursuant to other Acts.
(5) The net budget surplus excluding the amounts spent or contributed pursuant to the provisions of paragraphs (2) through (4) may be used in the formulation of a supplementary revised budget Bill.
(6) Spending or contribution of the net budget surplus pursuant to the provisions of paragraphs (2) through (4) may be done until the end of the year immediately after the current year during which the surplus in tax accounts accrues, irrespective of the expenditure budget of the accounts, subject to deliberation by the State Council and approval of the President.
(7) Spending or contribution of the net budget surplus pursuant to the provisions of paragraphs (2) through (5) may be initiated upon obtaining the approval of the President for the national statement of accounts pursuant to Article 13 (3) of the National Accounting Act, notwithstanding any express provisions to the contrary in any other Act.
(8) The balance of the net budget surplus after deducting the amounts expended or contributed pursuant to the provisions of paragraphs (2) through (5) shall be carried over to the revenue for the following year.
[Title Amended on Dec. 31, 2008]

Comment:
The stipulations in Article 90 of the National Finance specifically direct the Ministry of Economy and Finance in how to spend the excess revenues. For these reasons, the government actually does not need to seek legislative approval for the use of such surpluses.

If it is excess revenues during the fiscal year, the government may seek a supplementary budget to use them, which is exactly what is happening in Korea as of July, 2021. Due to the faster than expected economic recovery during the first half the year, the MoEF has seen a hike in revenue beyond its original estimate, which the administration wants to spend for providing cash transfers to all individuals.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

117. Does the executive seek approval from the legislature prior to reducing spending below the levels in the Enacted Budget in response to revenue shortfalls (that is, revenues lower than originally anticipated) or other reasons during the budget execution period, and is it legally required to do so?

GUIDELINES:
Question 117 examines whether the executive receives approval from the legislature prior to cutting spending below the levels in the Enacted Budget in response to revenue shortfalls or for any other reason, and whether it is legally required to do so. Good practice requires the legislature to approve changes in revenue or expenditure relative to the Enacted Budget. For example, if less revenue is collected unexpectedly during the year, the legislature should approve or reject any proposed reductions in expenditures that are implemented as a result. If such requirements are not in place, the executive might substantially change the composition of the budget at the executive's discretion, with no legislative control.

Typically, legislative approval of proposals to reduce spending below the levels reflected in the Enacted Budget would occur as part of the supplemental budget. But other formal procedures for getting approval from the legislature in advance of it adopting the supplemental budget may exist. If that is the case, then please provide information about that approval process.

To answer "a," the executive is required by law or regulation to obtain prior legislative approval before implementing spending cuts in response to revenue shortfalls or for other reasons, and it does so in practice. Answer "b" applies if the executive received legislative approval before implementing such cuts, but is not legally required to do so. Answer "c" applies if the executive is legally required to obtain legislative approval before implementing such cuts, but does not do so in practice. Answer "d" applies if legislative approval is not legally required for the executive to implement such cuts and the executive does not obtain such approval in practice. A "d" response applies if the legislature only approves the spending cuts after they have already occurred.

Answer:
a. The executive is required by law or regulation to obtain approval from the legislature prior to reducing spending below the enacted levels in response to revenue shortfalls or other reasons, and it does so in practice.

Source:
National Finance Act: https://elaw.klri.re.kr/kor_service/lawView.do?hseq=46680&lang=ENG

Article 89 (Formulation of Supplementary Revised Budget Bills)
(1) The Government may formulate any supplementary revised budget Bill, if one of the following events occurs, thereby making it necessary to revise the budget already finalized:
1. A war or large-scale disaster (referring to damage caused by natural disasters and social disasters defined in Article 3 of the Framework Act on the Management of Disasters and Safety) breaks out;
2. A significant change in circumstances at home and abroad, such as an economic recession, mass unemployment, change in inter-Korean relations or economic cooperation, occurs or is likely to occur;
3. The expenditure the State is obligated to pay pursuant to statutes is incurred or increased.
(2) The Government shall not allocate or execute the supplementary revised budget in advance before the budget Bill is finally adopted by a resolution of the National Assembly.
[Title Amended on Feb. 6, 2009]

Comment:
If the revenue collection progress substantially deviates from the EB and the government needs to find additional sources of revenues, to borrow and/or to change allocation of resources substantially, then it is required to submit a supplemental budget to deal with such changed circumstances.

This is what has most vividly happened during FY2020 since there were four rounds of supplementary budget.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

118. Did a committee of the legislature examine the Audit Report on the annual budget produced by the Supreme Audit Institution (SAI)?

GUIDELINES:
Question 118 is about ex post oversight following the implementation of the budget. It probes whether a committee examined the Audit Report on the annual budget produced by the Supreme Audit Institution (SAI), and whether this resulted in an official report with findings and recommendations. A key issue is how soon after the SAI releases the report does it legislature review it. This question does not apply to the legislative scrutiny of in-year implementation of the Enacted Budget during the relevant budget execution period, which is assessed separately. Also, the question is asking specifically about the SAI's annual report on the execution of the budget, not about other audit reports that the SAI may produce. (This is the Audit Report used for responding to Question 98.)

To answer "a," a legislative committee must have examined the annual Audit Report within three months of it being released by the SAI, and then published a report (or reports) with findings and recommendations. (Note that the three-month period should only take into account time when the legislature is in session.)

Answer "b" applies when the committee examines it within six months of it being released (but more than three months), and then published a report with its findings and recommendations. Choose "c" if a committee examined the annual Audit Report more than six months after it became available or it did not publish any report with findings and recommendations. Answer "d" applies where no committee examined the annual Audit Report.

If the answer is "a" or "b," please specify the name of the committee and when it reviewed the Audit Report, and provide a copy of its report(s). If the answer is "c," please specify the name of the committee and when it reviewed budget implementation. Answers "a,""b," or "c" may be selected if the Audit Report is produced by the SAI but not made publicly available.

Answer:
a. Yes, a committee examined the Audit Report on the annual budget within three months of its availability, and it published a report with findings and recommendations.

Source:
National Assembly's Bill Information System

http://likms.assembly.go.kr/bill/billDetail.do?billId=PRC_G2Y0B0S6Y0D1R1C4U1L6C5P4T4Q6Q7

Comment:
https://elaw.klri.re.kr/eng_service/lawView.do?hseq=40922&lang=ENG

The government is required to submit the YER (the Settlement of Accounts) with the Audit Report by May 31 each year to the National Assembly (National Finance Act, Article 61). The National Finance Act stipulates that the Settlement of Accounts should be deliberated and approved by the National Assembly by August 31 each year before it regular annual session begins early September.

The Settlement of Accounts is deliberated by the Standing Committees including the Finance Committee, the Special Budget Committee and the plenary session of the National Assembly. The Standing Committees initially deliberated and approved the Settlement of Accounts for FY2019 by

September 2020 and published its results over the Sourced webpage, while the National Assembly finally approved it on November 19, 2020.

Since Question 118 is not specific about the committee and all of deliberation results from the standing committees were published by September 07, 2020, I think "a" is the appropriate answer.

However, if Question 118 refers to the most relevant committee that deals with budget issues, then it should be the Special Committee of Budget and Accounts. Then, this Special Committee approved the AR for FY2019 on November 12, 2020, about six months from the tabling of the AR. In such case, the answer should be "b".

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

119. Was the process of appointing (or re-appointing) the current head of the SAI carried out in a way that ensures his or her independence?

GUIDELINES:
Question 119 concerns the appointment process of the current head of the Supreme Audit Institution (SAI). Appointment procedures vary greatly across countries, as well as across different types of SAIs. Moreover, conventions and informal practices can greatly affect the de facto independence of the head of the SAI. While these factors make it difficult to devise a single metric against which all SAIs can be assessed with regard to this particular aspect, this question focuses on whether the legislature or judiciary must appoint or approve the appointment of the head of the SAI as a way to ensure the SAI's independence from the executive. However, if the appointment is carried out in another way that nonetheless ensures the independence of the SAI head, then that approach could be also considered.

To answer "a," the legislature or judiciary must appoint (or re-appoint) the head of the SAI, or approve the recommendation of the executive, as a way that ensure his or her independence from the executive. (As noted above, alternative approaches may also be acceptable.) Choose "b" if the appointment process does not ensure the independence of the head of the SAI, e.g. the executive may appoint the head of the SAI without the final consent of the legislature or judiciary.

Irrespective of which answer you selected, provide a description of how the head of the SAI is appointed.

Answer:
a. Yes, the head of the SAI may only be appointed by the legislature or judiciary, or the legislature or judiciary must give final consent before the appointment takes effect.

Source:
The Act of the Board of Audit and Inspection, Article 2:

Article 2 (Status)
(1) The Board of Audit and Inspection shall be established under the President, but shall retain an independent status in regard to its duties.
(2) With respect to the appointment, dismissal and organization of public officials under the control of the Board of Audit and Inspection, and the compilation of its budget, the independence of the Board of Audit and Inspection shall be respected to the maximum extent.
[This Article Wholly Amended by Act No. 9399, Jan. 30, 2009]

Article 4 (Chairperson)
(1) The Chairperson shall be appointed by the President with the consent of the National Assembly.
(2) The Chairperson shall represent the Board of Audit and Inspection, and direct and supervise public officials assigned to the Board of Audit and Inspection.
(3) If the Chairperson is unable to perform his/her duties due to an accident, a Commissioner who has held office for the longest period shall act on behalf of the Chairperson: Provided, That if there are two or more Commissioners whose term of office is equal to each other, the senior in age shall act on behalf of the Chairperson.
(4) In order to provide the Chairperson with advice and suggestions as requested, advisory organs may be established in the Board of Audit and Inspection.
(5) Matters concerning the composition and operation of the advisory organs referred to in paragraph (4) shall be determined by the Board of Audit and Inspection Regulations.
[This Article Wholly Amended by Act No. 9399, Jan. 30, 2009]

Comment:
The Korean supreme audit institution, the Board of Audit and Inspection, is housed under the executive branch of the government. Article 2 of the Act of the Board of Audit and Inspection stipulates that "(1) The Board of Audit and Inspection shall be established under the President, but shall retain an independent status in regard to its duties." And, Article 4 states that "(1) The Chairperson shall be appointed by the President with the consent of the National Assembly. (2) The Chairperson shall represent the Board of Audit and Inspection, and direct and supervise public officials assigned to the Board of Audit and Inspection."

Article 2(2) of the Act of the Board of Audit and Inspection also stipulates the independence of the BAI such that "With respect to the appointment,

dismissal and organization of public officials under the control of the Board of Audit and Inspection, and the compilation of its budget, the independence of the Board of Audit and Inspection shall be respected to the maximum extent."

The Act of the Board of Audit and Inspection can be found in the following web link:

https://elaw.klri.re.kr/kor_service/lawView.do?hseq=33742&lang=ENG

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

120. Must a branch of government other than the executive (such as the legislature or the judiciary) give final consent before the head of the Supreme Audit Institution (SAI) can be removed from office?

GUIDELINES:

Question 120 covers the manner in which the head or senior members of the SAI may be removed from office. This question draws on best practices identified in the Lima Declaration of Guidelines on Auditing Precepts (http://internationalbudget.org/wp-content/uploads/LimaDeclaration.pdf), including measures intended to guarantee the office's independence from the executive.

To answer "a," the head of the SAI may only be removed by the legislature or judiciary, or the legislature or judiciary must give final consent before the head of the SAI is removed. For example, the legislature or judiciary may give final consent following a certain external process, such as a criminal proceeding. So while the executive may initiate a criminal proceeding, the final consent of a member of the judiciary — or a judge — is necessary to render a verdict of wrongdoing that may lead to the removal from office of the head of the SAI. Answer "b" applies if the executive may remove the head of the SAI without the final consent of the judiciary or legislature.

Answer:
a. Yes, the head of the SAI may only be removed by the legislature or judiciary, or the legislature or judiciary must give final consent before he or she is removed.

Source:
The Act of the Board of Audit and Inspection, Article 8:

Article 8 (Guarantee of Status)
(1) No Commissioner shall be dismissed against his/her will unless he/she falls under any of the following subparagraphs:
1. Where a decision of impeachment has been made against him/her or he/she has been sentenced to imprisonment without prison labor or heavier punishment;
2. Where he/she is unable to perform his/her duties due to long-term mental or physical weakness.
(2) A Commissioner shall retire from office ipso facto in cases under paragraph (1) 1, and in cases under subparagraph 2 of the same paragraph, the President shall, upon the recommendation of the Chairperson, order a Commissioner to retire from office, via a decision by the Council of Commissioners.

Comment:
The term of office of the 7 board members (commissioners including the head) is 4 years. Article 8 of the BAI Act stipulates that "(1) No Commissioner [including the head of the BAI] shall be dismissed against his/her will unless he/she falls under any of the following subparagraphs: 1. Where a decision of impeachment has been made against him/her or he/she has been sentenced to imprisonment without prison labor or heavier punishment; 2. Where he/she is unable to perform his/her duties due to long-term mental or physical weakness. (2) A Commissioner shall retire from office ipso facto in cases under paragraph (1) 1, and in cases under subparagraph 2 of the same paragraph, the President shall, upon the recommendation of the Chairperson, order a Commissioner to retire from office, via a decision by the Council of Commissioners." So, it seems that the position of the head of the BAI is secured and he or she can only be removed by the process of impeachment by the National Assembly.

However, in Korea, BAI's institutional independence has been seriously doubted especially by the opposition parties as the BAI are required to audit public programs/projects of political controversies.

The Act of the Board of Audit and Inspection can be found in the following web link:

https://elaw.klri.re.kr/kor_service/lawView.do?hseq=33742&lang=ENG

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer

Opinion: Agree

121. Who determines the budget of the Supreme Audit Institution (SAI)?

GUIDELINES:

Question 121 asks who determines the budget of the Supreme Audit Institution (SAI). To ensure objective audits of government budgets, another important component of the SAI's independence from the executive is the extent to which the SAI's budget is determined by a body other than the executive, and whether the SAI has adequate resources to fulfill its mandate.

Answer "a" applies if the funding level is broadly consistent with the resources the SAI needs to fulfill its mandate, AND either the SAI determines its own budget and then submits it to the executive (which accepts it with little or no change) or directly to the legislature, or the budget of the SAI is determined directly by the legislature or judiciary (or some independent body). Answer "b" applies if the SAI's budget is determined by the executive (absent a recommendation from the SAI), and the funding level is broadly consistent with the resources the SAI needs to fulfill its mandate. Answer "c" applies if the legislature or judiciary (or some independent body) determines the SAI's budget, but the funding level is not consistent with the resources the SAI needs to fulfill its mandate. Answer "d" applies if the executive determines the SAI's budget, and the funding level is not consistent with the resources the SAI needs to fulfill its mandate. Please provide evidence in support of the assessment that the funding level is or is not broadly consistent with the resources the SAI needs to fulfill its mandate.

Answer:
a. The SAI determines its own budget (i.e., submits it to the executive, which accepts it with little or no change, or directly to the legislature), or the budget of the SAI is determined by the legislature or judiciary (or some independent body), and the funding level is broadly consistent with the resources the SAI needs to fulfill its mandate.

Source:
The National Finance Act, Article 40 and 41:

https://elaw.klri.re.kr/eng_service/lawView.do?hseq=40922&lang=ENG

Article 40 (Budget for Independent Government Bodies)
(1) In formulating the budget for an independent government body, the Government shall respect the opinion of the head of the independent government body as much as possible, and shall consult with the head of the independent government body in advance when necessary to make an adjustment according to the financial situation of the State.
(2) Notwithstanding the consultation held under the provisions of paragraph (1), the Government shall, when it intends to reduce the amount demanded by an independent government body for its expenditure budget, hear the opinion of the independent government body during a meeting of the State Council, and the Government shall submit to the National Assembly the opinion of the head of the independent government body on the size of and reasons for reduction, and the reduction itself, when it reduces the expenditure budget demanded by the independent government body.

Article 41 (Budget of Board of Audit and Inspection)
The Government shall, when it intends to reduce the expenditure budget demanded by the Board of Audit and Inspection, seek the opinion of the Chairperson of the Board of Audit and Inspection during a meeting of the State Council.

Comment:
Basically the Board of Audit and Inspection has a lot of voice in determining its budgets while the National Assembly has the ultimate authority in that matter. Article 41 of the National Finance Act stipulates that "The Government shall, when it intends to reduce the expenditure budget demanded by the Board of Audit and Inspection, seek the opinion of the Chairperson of the Board of Audit and Inspection during a meeting of the State Council." Such voice allows the BAI to secure sufficient amount of resources for its operation.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

122. Does the Supreme Audit Institution (SAI) have the discretion in law to undertake those audits it may wish to?

GUIDELINES:
Question 122 explores the scope of the investigative powers of the Supreme Audit Institution (SAI) as prescribed in law.

Question 97 asks which of the three types of audits — financial, compliance, and performance — the SAI conducts. This question asks if the SAI is constrained by law (rather than by a lack of capacity or an inadequate budget) from undertaking any form of audit or investigating irregularities in any program or activity.

There are numerous examples of limitations. For instance, some SAIs are not permitted by their legal mandate to audit joint ventures or other public-private arrangements. Others are only allowed to undertake financial audits, precluded from conducting performance or value-for-money audits. The SAIs in some countries do not have the legal mandate to review arrangements involving oil or stabilization funds, or other types of special or extra- budgetary funds. The SAI may also not have the ability to audit commercial projects involving the public and private sector.

To answer "a," the SAI must have full discretion in law to decide which audits to undertake. Answer "b" applies if some limitations exist, but the SAI enjoys significant discretion to undertake those audits it wishes to. Answer "c" applies if the SAI has some discretion, but significant legal limitations exist. Answer "d" applies if the SAI has no power at all to choose which audits to undertake

Consulting the Lima Declaration of Guidelines on Auditing Precepts (http://internationalbudget.org/wp-content/uploads/LimaDeclaration.pdf) may be useful in answering this question as its provisions serve to define the appropriate scope of a SAI's legal mandate and jurisdiction.

Answer:
a. The SAI has full discretion to decide which audits it wishes to undertake.

Source:
The Act on the Board of Audit and Inspection, Articles 20-24:

https://elaw.klri.re.kr/kor_service/lawView.do?hseq=33742&lang=ENG

Article 20 (Functions)
The Board of Audit and Inspection shall audit the settlement of accounts of revenues and expenditures of the State and constantly audit and supervise any other accounts as prescribed by this Act and other Acts in order to ensure their correctness, and inspect the functions of administrative agencies and public officials in order to improve and promote the operation of public administration.
[This Article Wholly Amended by Act No. 9399, Jan. 30, 2009]

Article 21 (Confirmation of Settlement of Accounts)
The Board of Audit and Inspection shall confirm the settlement of accounts of revenues and expenditures of the State in accordance with the results of the audit and inspection of accounts.
[This Article Wholly Amended by Act No. 9399, Jan. 30, 2009]

Article 22 (Matters Subject to Obligatory Audit) 조문단위 인쇄
(1) The Board of Audit and Inspection shall audit the following matters:
1. Accounts of the State;
2. Accounts of local governments;
3. Accounts of the Bank of Korea and those of juristic persons to which the State or local governments have invested a majority or more of their capital stock;
4. Accounts of the agencies prescribed by other Acts to be subject to the audit by the Board of Audit and Inspection.
(2) The audit under paragraph (1) and Article 23 shall include revenues and expenditures, acquisition, custody, management, disposal, etc. of properties (including articles, negotiable instruments and rights, etc.).
[This Article Wholly Amended by Act No. 9399, Jan. 30, 2009]

Article 23 (Matters Subject to Optional Audit)

The Board of Audit and Inspection may audit the following matters, where deemed necessary or at the request of the Prime Minister:
1. Receipts and disbursements of cash, articles or negotiable instruments owned by the State or local governments which are handled by the persons, other than State agencies or local governments, for the State or local governments;
2. Accounts of those persons to whom the State or local governments, either directly or indirectly, have given subsidies, bounties, grants-in-aid, contributions, etc. or have given fiscal assistance of loans, etc.;
3. Accounts of those persons to whom the persons referred to in subparagraph 2 have again given such subsidies, bounties, grants-in-aid, contributions, etc.;
4. Accounts of those persons to which the State or local governments have invested a part of their capital stock;
5. Accounts of those persons in whom the persons referred to in subparagraph 4 or Article 22 (1) 3 have invested;
6. Accounts of those persons whose debts are guaranteed by the State or local governments;
7. Accounts of those agencies which have been established by the provisions of Acts, other than the Civil Act or the Commercial Act, and all or some of the executives or the representative of which have been appointed or approved for appointment by the State or local governments;
8. Accounts concerning matters related with the contract of those persons who have concluded contracts with the State, local governments or those persons referred to in subparagraphs 2 through 6, or Article 22 (1) 3 or 4;
9. Accounts of those persons who manage a fund to which Article 5 of the National Finance Act shall apply;
10. Accounts of organizations, etc. to which those persons referred to in subparagraph 9 have contributed and subsidized funds from the fund.
[This Article Wholly Amended by Act No. 9399, Jan. 30, 2009]
SECTION 3 Scope of Inspection of Duties

Article 24 (Matters Subject to Inspection)
(1) The Board of Audit and Inspection shall inspect the following matters:
1. Affairs of administrative agencies established under the Government Organization Act or other Acts, and the duties of the public officials assigned thereto;
2. Affairs of local governments and the duties of the local public officials assigned thereto;
3. Affairs of those persons referred to in Article 22 (1) 3 and subparagraph 7 of Article 23 and affairs of the executives assigned thereto or employees who have direct or indirect relations with the account subject to the audit by the Board of Audit and Inspection;
4. Affairs entrusted or executed vicariously by the State or local governments pursuant to Acts and subordinate statutes, and duties of those holding the status of public officials or corresponding to them pursuant to other Acts and subordinate statutes.
(2) The administrative agencies referred to in paragraph (1) 1 shall include military and educational institutions: Provided, That in the case of military

institutions, combat divisions under the command of a major general or lower ranking officer, and regiments under the command of a lieutenant colonel or lower ranking officer, shall be excluded.
(3) The public officials referred to in paragraph (1) shall exclude the public officials assigned to the National Assembly, courts and the Constitutional Court.
(4) Where the Board of Audit and Inspection intends to conduct an inspection under paragraph (1), it shall not inspect any of the following matters:
1. Matters for which the Prime Minister made clear that they are the State secrets;
2. Matters for which the Minister of National Defense made clear that an inspection interferes with keeping military secrets or would be harmful for military operations.
[This Article Wholly Amended by Act No. 9399, Jan. 30, 2009]

Comment:
The authority that the Board of Audit and Inspection can enjoy when it decides upon which institutions it wants to audit is rather comprehensive as stipulated in the Articles 20-24 of the BAI Act. Especially, the Article allows substantial discretion in deciding which audits and which institutions it wishes to undertake.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

123. Are the audit processes of the Supreme Audit Institution (SAI) reviewed by an independent agency?

GUIDELINES:
Question 123 assesses whether and to what extent the audit processes of the Supreme Audit Institution (SAI) are subject to review by an independent agency. The latter could be a peer SAI, an international organization, an academic institution with relevant expertise, or an independent domestic agency with quality assurance functions in the area of financial reporting.

To answer "a," an independent agency must conduct and publish a review of the audit processes of the SAI on an annual basis. Answer "b" applies if a review was carried out within the past five years, and published, but it is not conducted annually, but. Choose answer "c" if the SAI has an internal unit that reviews the audit processes of the SAI on a regular basis, but an independent agency does not conduct such a review. Answer "d" applies if the audit processes of the SAI are reviewed neither by an independent agency nor by a unit within the SAI.

If the answer is either "a" or "b," please specify the name of the independent agency and when last it conducted such a review, and provide a copy of the published report. If the answer is "c," please specify the name of the unit within the SAI that is tasked with conducting such reviews.

Answer:
c. No, but a unit within the SAI conducts a review of the audit processes of the SAI on a regular basis.

Source:
Organization of the Secretariat of the Board of Audit and Inspection (감사원사무처직제): Article 4

https://law.go.kr/법령/감사원사무처직제/

https://www.bai.go.kr/bai/hotline/report/reportHotline.do

Comment:
While the BAI gets annually inspected by the National Assembly, the BAI is not rigorously subject to an independent review of its auditing activities.

Having said that, there is an internal audit office that is responsible for auditing BAI's own audit operations. The internal auditor's position, who is in charge of the internal audit office, is set aside for an expert from the private sector, whose job announcement can be found in the URL below:

https://www.bai.go.kr/bai/cop/bbs/detailBoardArticle.do?mdex=bai5&bbsId=BBSMSTR_100000000001&nttId=126025

In addition, the BAI maintains a mechanism through which citizens can bring complaints and suggestions about the operation of the BAI and its audit activities as available from the webpage whose URL is copied in Source.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

124. In the past 12 months, how frequently did the head or a senior staff member of the Supreme Audit Institution (SAI) take part and testify in hearings of a committee of the legislature?

GUIDELINES:
Question 124 concerns the interaction between two important oversight actors and assesses how frequently the Supreme Audit Institution (SAI) made high-level inputs to the work of legislative committees. Many SAIs interact with the legislature in some form, but the nature and intensity of the interaction varies. This question probes this aspect by asking, with reference to the past 12 months, how frequently the head or a senior staff member of the SAI took part and testified in hearings of a committee of the legislature. The intent is to assess the extent to which the SAI representative in question was not only present at a meeting of a legislative committee, but was an active participant (as opposed to a passive observer, serving only as a resource when called upon). You can refer to official records of legislative committees, websites and annual reports of the SAI, press releases and media coverage, for example. Choose answer "a" if this occurred five times or more; "b" for three times or more, but less than five times; "c" for once or twice, and "d" for never.

Answer:
a. Frequently (i.e., five times or more).

Source:
Article 122-2 of the National Assembly Act (Article 122-2):
https://korea.assembly.go.kr:447/res/low_02_read.jsp?boardid=1000000036

Article 122-2 (Interpellation to Government)
(1) The plenary session may place, during the session, any interpellation to the Government (hereinafter referred to as "interpellation"), fixing the period with respect to the general or special fields of the State administration.
(2) The interpellation shall be done in a question and answer form, and the time for an interpellation by a National Assembly member shall not exceed 20 minutes. In such cases, the time for an answer shall not be included in the time for an interpellation.
(3) Notwithstanding paragraph (2), where a National Assembly member having physical disabilities including visual disability, makes an interpellation, the Speaker may permit a separate additional interpellation time after consulting with the representative National Assembly member of each negotiating party.
(4) The number of National Assembly members who interpellate for each item of the agenda shall be determined by the Speaker after consulting with the representative National Assembly member of each negotiating party.
(5) The Speaker shall allot the number of National Assembly members who interpellate for each item of the agenda as stipulated in paragraph (4), in proportion to the number of National Assembly members belonging to each negotiating party. In such cases, the number of interpellants of those not belonging to any negotiating party shall be determined by the Speaker after consulting with the representative National Assembly member of each negotiating party.
(6) The Speaker shall pay attention to maintaining the interpellation of the National Assembly members and the answer of the Government alternatively and harmoniously.
(7) Any National Assembly member who desires to interpellate shall definitely prepare in advance a written purport of his or her interpellation specifying a gist of the question, and submit it to the Speaker, and the Speaker shall forward it so that it may reach the Government not later than 48 hours before the interpellation.
(8) The representative National Assembly member of each negotiating party shall notify the Speaker of the National Assembly members who interpellate and the order of an interpellation not later than the date preceding that of interpellation. In such cases, the Speaker shall determine the order of interpellation according to the contents notified by the representative National Assembly member of each negotiating party, and then notify the representative National Assembly member of each negotiating party and the Government of such before the plenary session begins.
[This Article Wholly Amended by Act No. 15620, Apr. 17, 2018]

https://www.khan.co.kr/politics/assembly/article/202006241142011/?slide=n&med_id=khan
https://www.ajunews.com/view/20201015110326636
https://www.yna.co.kr/view/AKR20200727094400001
https://www.yna.co.kr/view/AKR20201104192600001
https://www.chosun.com/site/data/html_dir/2020/08/31/2020083102535.html

Comment:
Article 122-2 of the National Assembly Act stipulates the interpellation sessions between the governmental ministers (including the head of the BAI) and the National Assembly. Accordingly, the head of the Korean BAI appears before the plenary session twice a year. He or she also appears at the National Assembly Judiciary Committee as needs emerge. During the annual inspection of the state administration by the National Assembly, the head of the BAI also appears at the Judiciary Committee. So, in total the number of legislative appearance, reporting and testimony of the head of the BAI before the National Assembly seem to be at least four times. And, the media coverage whose URLs are copied in the Source indicates that the head of the BAI appears at the meetings of the National Assembly at least more than five times.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

125. Does the executive use participation mechanisms through which the public can provide input during the formulation of the annual budget (prior to the budget being tabled in parliament)?

GUIDELINES:
This question reflects the GIFT principles on "Inclusiveness" and "Timeliness" and assesses the extent to which the participation mechanism(s) used by the executive are truly interactive and involve a two-way conversation between citizens and the executive.

The drafting of this question and its answers are partially drawn from the IAP2 Spectrum of Public Participation, in particular with regards to the concepts of "involvement" (option "a" in the responses) and "consultation" (option "b"). See:
https://cdn.ymaws.com/www.iap2.org/resource/resmgr/foundations_course/IAP2_P2_Spectrum_FINAL.pdf .

Please consider only participation mechanisms that the Ministry of Finance, lead budget agency, or central coordinating agency designated by the government to implement participation mechanisms ("the executive") is currently using to allow the public to participate in the formulation of the annual budget, including annual pre-budget discussions. Participation mechanisms used only by line ministries should not be used to answer this question. If there is more than one mechanism used by the executive, please select the deepest or most interactive mechanism that reflects the government's efforts to incorporate citizens' input into the formulation of the annual budget. The participation mechanisms can involve a range of different issues, such as spending and tax policy, funding and revenue levels, and macro-fiscal planning .

To answer "a," the executive must use open participation mechanisms that involve the public in the formulation of the annual budget. This means that a public process is in place whereby CSOs and/or individual members of the public and government officials interact, and have the opportunity to express their opinions to each other in what can be considered a public dialogue between them (i.e., in-person and online discussion forums). Additionally, the mechanism should be open to any CSO and/or individual members of the public who wish to participate. By selecting this answer, the researcher must present evidence to support the presence of a public dialogue among citizens and government officials. Examples include public meetings and online deliberative exchanges.

Answer "b" applies if an open consultation mechanism is in place whereby members of the public (i.e., individuals and/or CSOs as well as academics, independent experts, policy think tanks, and business organizations) can provide their input in the formulation of the annual budget. This answer applies if the government is using a mechanism that is structured and well established, and not ad-hoc. The researcher must present evidence to support the presence of consultative processes through which the executive seeks out inputs from citizens. Examples include surveys, focus groups, report cards, published policy consultation exercises, and online platforms that government officials actively manage to solicit inputs.

Answer "c" applies if the executive has established a mechanism or mechanisms to allow citizens to participate in the budget formulation phase, but:

1) The mechanisms are not structured and happen only on ad-hoc basis, or not regularly.

and/or

2) The executive consults with and/or interacts with, citizens, but there is discretion in who is allowed to participate, and the executive determines fully or partially such selection process by inviting specific groups (for example by making an open call but just to experts from a particular sector, or naming specific organizations). While it is not possible for all citizens and/or CSOs to participate in this or other phases of the budget process, options "a" and "b" apply if the government does not exercise any discretion in determining who is allowed to participate. While there is likely going to be self-selection, it is important that the selection is not made by the executive.

In cases where there is discretion in who is allowed to participate, to select answer choice "c", there should be some sort of public record (held in public, minutes of meetings released to public) so that the all CSOs and individual members of the public can have knowledge of the meeting, who participated, and what was discussed.

Examples of mechanisms that might qualify as a "c" response include hotlines, Facebook announcements, and one-off meetings with NGOs in which there is a public record.

The researcher must present evidence to support selection of a "c" response.

Answer "d" applies if the requirements for a "c" response or above are not met or if the executive does not use public participation mechanisms during the budget formulation stage.

Answer:
a. Yes, the executive uses open participation mechanisms through which members of the public and government officials exchange views on the budget.

Source:
The Website of the National Participatory Budget:
https://www.mybudget.go.kr

Comment:
The Korean national government is operating a full-fledge participatory budgeting system at the national level since 2018. Through this mechanism, members of the general public can propose policy projects and be chosen for serving a participatory budget committee that deliberates on the merit and desirability of those proposed projects. The participatory budget committee is provided technical assistance from the officials of the MoEF and experts from the research community.

For this purpose, the MoEF also has a division only for managing the process for participatory budgeting at the national level. The information about and the process of national participatory budgeting are available at the website whose URL is copied in the Source.

Due to the pandemic, 2020's participatory budgeting activities were virtual.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

126. With regard to the mechanism identified in question 125, does the executive take concrete steps to include vulnerable and under-represented parts of the population in the formulation of the annual budget?

GUIDELINES:
This question reflects the GIFT principle of "Inclusiveness", and examines the executive's effort to actively reach out to citizens who are from socially vulnerable groups and/or underrepresented in national processes. The emphasis here is on the executive's efforts to seek out the views of members of the public from socially vulnerable groups and/or who are underrepresented in the process.

To answer "a," the executive must actively seek out individuals from at least one vulnerable and underrepresented community and/or civil society organization representing vulnerable and underrepresented individuals and communities. The researcher must provide evidence to show the government's efforts and actions. The researcher must speak with the relevant government official(s), and subsequently double check with an alternative source, such as representatives of vulnerable/underrepresented groups.

Answer "b" applies if the executive does not take concrete steps to incorporate vulnerable/underrepresented individuals, or organizations representing them, into participation mechanisms or if the executive does not use public participation mechanisms during the budget formulation stage.

Answer:
a. Yes, the executive takes concrete steps to include individuals and/or CSOs representing vulnerable and underrepresented parts of the population in the formulation of the annual budget.

Source:
The website of the National Participatory System: https://www.mybudget.go.kr

https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?menuNo=4010200&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000055590&searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000029

https://www.hankyung.com/politics/article/2019110188831

Comment:
First of all, all citizens who willing are encouraged to propose projects that would be considered by the line ministries and the Participatory Budget Review Council (예산국민참여단) whose 2000 members (400 in 2020) are randomly chosen, considering gender, age, and place of residence.

As far as this researcher searches various sources, there is no concrete measure to give more weight to those who are social vulnerable in the composition of the Participatory Budget Review Council.

On the other hand, government made it clear that they made extra effort to elicit proposals from those socially vulnerable groups: "Most of the submissions are made online and we took note that there are people, especially vulnerables, who find it difficult to access to the internet or who are too busy in daily affairs to submit the proposals. To solve the problem, we visited institutions related to vulnerable groups and took their proposals as tape-recording method. In 2019, 49% of the proposals were taken through visiting reception."

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

IBP Comment
IBP agrees with researcher's answer choice A. This is an improvement from previous rounds of the survey. Following 2019's participatory budgeting, the government added 150 more members to the citizens committee, 100 were from general public and 50 from marginalised communities.

127. During the budget formulation stage, which of the following key topics does the executive's engagement with citizens cover?

For the purpose of this question, key topics are considered to be:

1. Macroeconomic issues
2. Revenue forecasts, policies, and administration
3. Social spending policies
4. Deficit and debt levels
5. Public investment projects
6. Public services

GUIDELINES:
This question reflects the GIFT principles of "Transparency" and "Timeliness". Please consider all of the mechanisms currently used by the executive to promote public participation during the formulation of the annual budget.

Please note that while the public engagement can/may cover other topics -- and for this reason the other questions assessing the executive's engagement with the public during budget formulation can be answered on the basis of engagement on topics other than the six listed above -- for the purpose of answering this question, "key topics" are considered to be only the ones listed above. If the executive's engagement with the public covers topics other than the six listed above, please specify these topics in the comments.

Note also that this question assesses only the coverage of public engagement (i.e., "what issues is the public invited to engage on?") and issues related to the depth of engagement or selectivity of engaged are not dealt with by this question.

If written materials about the public engagement, such as an invitation, do not specify the coverage of the public engagement, but the researcher has personally participated in the engagement, s/he may respond to this question based on firsthand experience of the coverage of the public engagement.

Answer "d" applies if requirements for a "c" response or above are not met or if the executive does not use public participation mechanisms during the budget formulation stage.

Answer:
c. The executive's engagement with citizens covers at least one (but less than three) of the above-mentioned topics.

Source:
The National Financial Management Plan 2020-2024;
https://www.mybudget.go.kr

Comment:
When formulating the National Financial Management Plan 2020-2024, the Korean government in 2020 held a public debate meeting and an advisory committee meeting in July and August. While these meetings dealt with all of the six issues in the Question, this researcher would not regard them as examples of public engagement, since ordinary citizens were not directly targeted or engaged. To engage ordinary citizens directly, the government operates the national participatory system that is mostly focusing on individual public projects, excluding major capital projects. Of course, those citizens who are participating in the Participatory Budget Review Council were trained for public finance issues, but such trainings are not for getting inputs from them regarding issues of macroeconomic prospect, revenue forecasts, etc.

Therefore, here "c" would be an appropriate answer.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

128. Does the executive use participation mechanisms through which the public can provide input in monitoring the implementation of the annual budget?

GUIDELINES:
This question reflects the GIFT principles on "Inclusiveness" and "Timeliness" and assesses the extent to which the participation mechanism(s) used by the executive are truly interactive and involve a two-way conversation between citizens and the executive.

The drafting of this question and its answers are partially drawn from the IAP2 Spectrum of Public Participation, in particular with regards to the concepts of "involvement" (option "a" in the responses) and "consultation" (option "b"). See:
https://cdn.ymaws.com/www.iap2.org/resource/resmgr/foundations_course/IAP2_P2_Spectrum_FINAL.pdf.

Please consider only participation mechanisms that the Ministry of Finance, lead budget agency, or central coordinating agency designated by the government to implement participation mechanisms ("the executive") is currently using to allow the public to participate in monitoring the implementation of the annual budget. If the executive has designated a central coordinating agency to implement participation mechanisms throughout the national budget process, researchers may consider these mechanisms. Participation mechanisms used only by line ministries should not be used to answer this question. If there is more than one mechanism used by the executive, please select the deepest or most interactive mechanism that reflects the government's efforts to incorporate citizens' input into the implementation of the annual budget. The participation mechanisms can involve a range of different issues, such as revenue administration, public service delivery, public investment project implementation, including procurement, and the administration of social transfer

schemes.

To answer "a," the executive must use open participation mechanisms that involve the public in the implementation of the annual budget. This means that a public process is in place whereby CSOs and/or individual members of the public and government officials interact, and have the opportunity to express their opinions to each other in what can be considered a public dialogue between them (i.e., in-person and online discussion forums). Additionally, the mechanism should be open to any CSO and/or individual members of the public who wish to participate. By selecting this answer, the researcher must present evidence to support the presence of a public dialogue among citizens and government official. Examples include public meetings, online, deliberative exchanges, procurement complaint mechanisms, and social monitoring and dialogue.

Answer "b" applies if an open consultation mechanism is in place whereby members of the public (i.e., individuals and/or CSOs as well as academics, independent experts, policy think tanks, and business organizations) can provide their input on the implementation of the annual budget. This answer applies if the government is using a mechanism that is structured and well established, and not ad-hoc. The researcher must present evidence to support the presence of consultative processes through which the executive seeks out inputs from citizens. Examples include public hearings, surveys, focus groups, report cards, and online platforms that government officials actively manage to solicit inputs.

Answer "c" applies if the executive has established a mechanism or mechanisms to allow citizens to provide input on budget implementation, but:

1) The mechanisms are not structured, happen only on ad-hoc basis, or not regularly.

and/or

2) The executive consults with and/or interacts with, citizens, but there is discretion in who is allowed to participate, and the executive determines fully or partially such selection process by inviting specific groups (for example by making an open call but just to experts from a particular sector, or naming specific organizations). While it is not possible for all citizens and/or CSOs to participate in this or other phases of the budget process, options "a" and "b" apply if the government does not exercise any discretion in determining who is allowed to participate. While there is likely going to be self-selection, it is important that the selection is not made by the executive.

In cases where there is discretion in who is allowed to participate, to select answer choice "c", the researcher must have evidence that the government is holding participation mechanisms that have some sort of public record (held in public, minutes of meetings released to public) so that all CSOs and members of the public can have knowledge of the meeting, who participated, and what was discussed.

Examples include hotlines, Facebook announcements, one-off meetings with NGOs in which there is a public record.

The researcher must present evidence to support selection of a "c" response.

Answer "d" applies if the requirements for a "c" response or above are not met or if the executive does not use public participation mechanisms during the budget implementation stage.

Answer:
b. Yes, the executive uses open participation mechanisms through which members of the public provide their inputs on budget implementation.

Source:
https://www.epeople.go.kr/index.npaid

The National Finance Act, Article 100

Article 100 (Citizen Monitoring against Unlawful Spending of Budget and Funds)
(1) When it is obvious that a person executing the budget or funds of the State, a person who receives financial support, the head of a central government agency (including the head of one of its subordinate organs), or a person who enters into a contract or conducts any other transaction with a fund management entity has incurred losses upon the State in violation of any statute, each citizen has a right to submit evidence of any unlawful spending to the head of the central government agency or the fund managing entity responsible for the execution and demand to take corrective measures.
(2) The head of a central government agency or a fund managing entity shall, upon receiving the demand for corrective measures pursuant to the provisions of paragraph (1), notify the person who demanded such corrective measures of the results of the measures taken, as prescribed by Presidential Decree.
(3) The head of a central government agency or a fund managing entity may pay the budgetary incentive under the provisions of Article 49 to the person who demanded corrective measures, if revenue has been increased or expenditure has been saved as a result of such measures taken in accordance with the provisions of paragraph (2).

Comment:
The Ministry of Economy and Finance (https://www.moef.go.kr) and the Anti-Corruption & Civil Rights Commission provide a couple of mechanisms through which citizens can raise issues of corruption and unlawful spending by the governmental ministries and agencies, per the Final Finance Act, Article 100.

While these mechanisms allow citizens to engage the relevant authorities, first of all, the concerns are rather limited to unlawful spending, much narrower than the overall implementation process of the annual budget. Furthermore, the format of communications is rather strict and formal, lacking two way dialogue between citizens and the government. Accordingly, the current quality of dialogue would not amount to an active exchange of views on budget execution.

So, "b" would be a better answer than "a" here.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

129. With regard to the mechanism identified in question 128, does the executive take concrete steps to receive input from vulnerable and underrepresented parts of the population on the implementation of the annual budget?

GUIDELINES:
This question reflects the GIFT principle of "Inclusiveness", and examines the executive's effort to actively reach out to citizens who are from socially vulnerable groups and/or underrepresented in national processes. The emphasis here is on national government's efforts to obtain input from members of the public who are from socially vulnerable groups and/or underrepresented in national processes during the implementation of the annual budget.

To answer "a," the executive must actively seek out individuals from at least one vulnerable and underrepresented community and/or civil society organization representing vulnerable and underrepresented individuals and communities. The researcher must provide evidence to show the government's efforts and actions. The researcher must speak with the relevant government official(s), and subsequently double check with an alternative source, such as representatives from vulnerable/underrepresented groups.

Answer "b" applies if the national executive does not take concrete steps to incorporate vulnerable/underrepresented individuals, or organizations representing them, into participation mechanisms or if the executive does not use public participation mechanisms during the budget implementation stage.

Answer:
b. The requirements for an "a" response are not met.

Source:
https://www.moef.go.kr/cv/sece/irst.do?menuNo=8060100
https://www.epeople.go.kr/index.jsp

Comment:
As far as this researcher searched the web sources, there is no such mechanism available for vulnerable citizens to offer opinions regarding budget execution.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

130. During the implementation of the annual budget, which of the following topics does the executive's engagement with citizens cover?

For the purpose of this question, key topics are considered to be:

1. Changes in macroeconomic circumstances
2. Delivery of public services
3. Collection of revenue
4. Implementation of social spending
5. Changes in deficit and debt levels
6. Implementation of public investment projects

GUIDELINES:
This question reflects the GIFT principles of "Transparency" and "Timeliness". Please consider all of the mechanisms currently used by the executive to promote public participation during the implementation of the annual budget.

Please note that while the public engagement can/may cover other topics -- and for this reason the other questions assessing the executive's engagement with the public during budget implementation can be answered on the basis of engagement on topics other than the six listed above -- for the purpose of answering this question, "key topics" are considered to be ONLY the ones listed above. If the executive's engagement with the public covers topics other than the six listed above, please specify these topics in the comments.

Note also that this question assesses only the coverage of public engagement (i.e., "what issues is the public invited to engage on?") and issues related to the depth of engagement or selectivity of engaged are not dealt with by this question.

If written materials about the public engagement, such as an invitation, do not specify the coverage of the public engagement, but the researcher has personally participated in the engagement, s/he may respond to this question based on firsthand experience of the coverage of the public engagement.

Answer "d" applies if requirements for a "c" response or above are not met or if the executive does not use public participation mechanisms during the budget implementation stage.

Answer:
b. The executive's engagement with citizens covers at least three (but less than six) of the above-mentioned topics.

Source:
The Anti-Corruption & Civil Rights Commission's webpage for public reporting of budget wastes:
https://www.epeople.go.kr/nep/crtf/userLogn.npaid?returnUrl=%2Fnep%2FbdgtWst%2FselectBdgtWstRqstPage.paid

Comment:
In the webpage whose URL is copied in Source, citizens can file a reporting on budget waste cases, lawful or unlawful. As it is framed, the concern here is about rather broad touching upon service delivery, implementation of construction projects and social spending, collection of revenues, etc., but definitely the macroeconomic circumstances would not be a topic that could be dealt with this reporting-based mechanism.

So, the proper answer should be "b" rather than "a".

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

131. When the executive engages with the public, does it provide comprehensive prior information on the process of the engagement, so that the public can participate in an informed manner?

Comprehensive information must include at least three of the following elements:

1. Purpose
2. Scope
3. Constraints
4. Intended outcomes
5. Process and timeline

GUIDELINES:
This question relates to the GIFT principle of "Openness," and addresses whether the executive provides relevant information on the process of the engagement before public participation takes place, in order to help citizens engage effectively. The question addresses whether the "rules of the public engagement" are clearly spelled out, in advance and in detail, so that those members of the public who want to engage know how to do so, in terms of when they can do so, what they are expected to provide input on, by when, to whom, etc. This question does not cover the substance of the engagement, which is covered by questions 127 and 130.

Non-comprehensive information means that the government provides information that includes at least one but less than three of the elements listed above.

Purpose refers to a brief explanation of why the public engagement is being undertaken, including the executive's objectives for its engagement with the public.

Scope refers to what is within the subject matter of the engagement as well as what is outside the subject matter of the engagement. For example, the scope may include how a current policy is administered but exclude the specifics of the policies themselves.

Constraints refers to whether there are there any explicit limitations on the engagement. An example of a constraint could be that any policy changes must not cost (or forgo revenue) more than a specific amount or have no net fiscal cost.

Intended outcomes refers to what the executive hopes to achieve as a result of the engagement. Examples of intended outcomes could be revising a policy to better reflect citizen or service-user views or to improve the way in which a particular program is administered.

Process refers to the methods by which the public engagement will take place and the discrete steps in the process. For example, the process may simply be a one-off Internet-based consultation, with a summary published of public inputs and the official response. The process may involve simultaneous or overlapping steps, and may be conducted in one round or in two or more rounds of engagement.

Timeline refers to the specific dates on which the discrete steps in the process will take place, or during which they will be completed, and clear start and end dates for the overall engagement.

Answer "d" applies if the executive does not use public participation mechanisms during the budget implementation or formulation stage.

Answer:
a. Comprehensive information is provided in a timely manner prior to citizens engagement in both budget formulation and implementation phases.

Source:
https://www.mybudget.go.kr/systemIntrcn/systemIntrcnMain
https://www.moef.go.kr/cv/sece/bwst/burepr.do?menuNo=8060100
https://www.epeople.go.kr/nep/prpsl/prplCont/gnrlPrpslNtrcnContent.npaid

Comment:
If the National Participatory Budgeting System is regarded as the most important mode of engagement with the public, then it provides comprehensive information during the formulation stage. In its webpage (https://www.mybudget.go.kr/systemIntrcn/systemIntrcnMain), the participatory budgeting system provides information on all of the five listed elements of the system and moreover provides information on all current major projects by the government for citizens to better understand the system and to better generate project proposals.

In addition, the governmental webpages whose URLS are copied in Source provide brief information on the purposes and procedures for these engagement mechanism.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

132. With regard to the mechanism identified in question 125, does the executive provide the public with feedback on how citizens' inputs have been used in the formulation of the annual budget?

GUIDELINES:
This question reflects the GIFT principles of "Transparency" and "Sustainability", and examines the extent to which the executive provides information to citizens on which public inputs were received, which ones are used in the formulation of the annual budget, and how/why.

By "written record", we mean a document that is produced and released by the lead budget agency (Ministry of Finance, Treasury) that has set up and holds the participation activity.

Answer "a" applies when the executive provides a written document with:

- *The inputs (e.g., a written transcript) received from the public and*

- *A detailed report on how the inputs were used or not used (such report should include information on which inputs were used or not used, why, and how)*

Answer "b" applies when the executive provides a written document that includes:

- *The inputs (e.g., a written transcript) received from the public and*

- *A not-so-detailed report, such as a document with a few paragraphs, on how public inputs were used or not used. This document only gives a general idea on how those inputs were used or not used.*

Answer "c" applies when the executive provides a written document that includes:

- *The inputs (e.g., a written transcript) received from the public or*

- *A report (being it detailed or not-so-detailed) on how public inputs have been used or not used.*

Answer "d" applies if the requirements for a "c" response or above are not met or if the executive does not use public participation mechanisms during the budget formulation stage.

Answer:
a. Yes, the executive provides a written record which includes both the list of the inputs received and a detailed report of how the inputs were used in the formulation of the annual budget.

Source:
The Website of the National Participatory Budget System:
https://www.mybudget.go.kr/howsItPrcsng/bsnsPropseSttusList

https://www.mybudget.go.kr/howsItPrcsng/propseBsnsSttusList
https://www.mybudget.go.kr/budgetBsnsInfo/executionResultList

Comment:
The National Participatory Budget System provides detailed information regarding the proposals that were received from the citizens in terms of progress in deliberation and if chosen the implementation progress.

The 2021 National Budget reflects approximately USD 100 million in value, from a total of 63 projects decided through participatory budgeting.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

133. With regard to the mechanism identified in question 128, does the executive provide the public with information on how citizens' inputs have been used to assist in monitoring the implementation of the annual budget?

GUIDELINES:

This question reflects the GIFT principles of "Transparency" and "Sustainability", and examines the extent to which the executive provides information to citizens on which public inputs were received during the implementation of the annual budget, which ones are take into account to improve budget monitoring, and how/why.

By "written record", we mean a document that is produced and released by the lead budget agency (Ministry of Finance, Treasury) that has set up and holds the participation activity.

Answer "a" applies when the executive provides a written document with:

- *The inputs (e.g., a written transcript) received from the public and*

- *A detailed report on how the inputs were used or not used (such report should include information on which inputs were used or not used, why, and how)*

Answer "b" applies when the executive provides a written document that includes:

- *The inputs received (e.g., a written transcript) from the public and*

- *A not-so-detailed report, such as a document with a few paragraphs, on how public inputs were used or not used. This document only gives a general idea on how those inputs were or were not taken into account by the executive during budget monitoring.*

Answer "c" applies when the executive provides a written document that includes:

- *The inputs (e.g., a written transcript) received from the public or*

- *A report (being it detailed or not-so-detailed) on how public inputs have been used or not used.*

Answer "d" applies if the requirements for a "c" response or above are not met or if the executive does not use public participation mechanisms during the budget implementation stage.

Answer:
a. Yes, the executive provides a written record which includes both the list of the inputs received from the public and a detailed report of how the inputs were used to assist in monitoring the annual budget.

Source:
The Anti-Corruption and Civil Rights Commission:
https://bigdata.epeople.go.kr/bigdata/pot/rptst/forwardBigdataAnalsRptstMonth.npaid?dspMenuId=P0059&dspLinkMenuId=P0059&_csrf=9af93823-15dc-4525-8ee8-9a4497d8204e#

https://bigdata.epeople.go.kr/bigdata/bigMainPage.npaid

Comment:
The website whose URL is copied in Source provides detailed information regarding citizens' expression of their opinions regarding the operation of public organizations and governmental policies on specific notable social problems on both weekly and monthly basis.

As for the Civil Rights Commission's reporting systems, it discloses statistical information on such reporting in the webpage whose URL is copied in Source.

Having said that, this briefing mechanism's focus is not entirely on the budget implementation issues.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

134. Are participation mechanisms incorporated into the timetable for formulating the Executive's Budget Proposal?

GUIDELINES:
This question reflects the GIFT principles on "Sustainability,""Timeliness" and "Complementarity" and addresses whether the executive is able to link participation mechanisms to the administrative processes that are used to create the annual budget.

Please note that "timetable" refers to a document setting deadlines for submissions from other government entities, such as line ministries or subnational government, to the Ministry of Finance or whatever central government agency is in charge of coordinating the budget's formulation. This document is sometimes referred to as the budget calendar and is the same document referenced in Question 53.

Answer "a" applies if the national executive establishes a clear set of guidelines that enable citizens and civil servants to understand when participation mechanisms should be used to enable citizen inputs to be incorporated into the annual budget. For answer choice "a", the timetable must be available to the public prior to the budget preparation process beginning.

Answer "b" applies if the executive does not establish a clear set of guidelines that enable citizens and civil servants to understand when participation mechanisms should be used to enable citizen inputs to be incorporated into the annual budget or if the executive does not use public participation mechanisms during the budget formulation or implementation stage.

Answer:
a. Yes, the executive incorporates participation into its timetable for formulating the Executive's Budget Proposal and the timetable is available to the public.

Source:
Timetable for the National Participatory Budget System:
https://www.mybudget.go.kr/systemIntrcn/operatingPlan

Comment:
The time line for the National Participatory Budget System coincides with the regular executive budget formulation process. For example, the PB system invites and deliberates on proposals from citizens during February through July, each year. Such timeline is compatible with the timeline for the executive budget proposal, as indicated in the webpage whose URL is copied in Source.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

135. Do one or more line ministries use participation mechanisms through which the public can provide input during the formulation or implementation of the annual budget?

GUIDELINES
While questions 125 – 134 focus only on participation mechanisms that the Ministry of Finance, lead budget agency, or central coordinating agency currently use to allow the public to participate in the national budget process, this question asks about participation mechanisms used by line ministries to allow the public to participate in national budget processes. Thus, participation mechanisms used by the Ministry of Finance, lead budget agency, or central coordinating agency should not be used to answer this question. If there is more than one mechanism used by a line ministry or if multiple line ministries use participation mechanisms, please select the deepest or most interactive mechanism that reflects the government's efforts to incorporate citizens' input into the formulation and/or implementation of the annual budget.

This question reflects the GIFT principles on "Inclusiveness" and "Timeliness" and assesses the extent to which the participation mechanism(s) used by the

executive are truly interactive and involve a two-way conversation between citizens and the executive.

The drafting of this question and its answers are partially drawn from the IAP2 Spectrum of Public Participation, in particular with regards to the concepts of "involvement" (option "a" in the responses) and "consultation" (option "b"). See:
https://cdn.ymaws.com/www.iap2.org/resource/resmgr/foundations_course/IAP2_P2_Spectrum_FINAL.pdf

To answer "a," a line ministry must use open participation mechanisms that involve the public in the formulation or implementation of the annual budget. This means that a public process is in place whereby CSOs and/or individual members of the public and government officials interact, and have the opportunity to express their opinions to each other in what can be considered a public dialogue between them (i.e., in-person and online discussion forums). Additionally, the mechanism should be open to any CSO and/or individual members of the public who wish to participate. By selecting this answer, the researcher must present evidence to support the presence of a public dialogue among citizens and government official. Examples include public meetings and online deliberative exchanges.

Answer "b" applies if an open consultation mechanism is in place whereby members of the public (i.e., individuals and/or CSOs as well as academics, independent experts, policy think tanks, and business organizations) can provide their input in the formulation or implementation of the annual budget. This answer applies if the government is using a mechanism that is structured and well established, and not ad-hoc. The researcher must present evidence to support the presence of consultative processes through which a line ministry seeks out inputs from citizens. Examples include surveys, focus groups, report cards, published policy consultation exercises, and online platforms that government officials actively manage to solicit inputs.

Answer "c" applies if a line ministry has established a mechanism or mechanisms to allow citizens to participate in the budget formulation phase, but:

1) The mechanisms are not structured and happen only on ad-hoc basis, or not regularly.

and/or

2) A line ministry consults with and/or interacts with, citizens, but there is discretion in who is allowed to participate, and the line ministry determines fully or partially such selection process by inviting specific groups (for example by making an open call but just to experts from a particular sector, or naming specific organizations). While it is not possible for all citizens and/or CSOs to participate in this or other phases of the budget process, options "a" and "b" apply if the government does not exercise any discretion in determining who is allowed to participate. While there is likely going to be self-selection, it is important that the selection is not made by the executive.

In cases where there is discretion in who is allowed to participate, to select answer choice "c", there should be some sort of public record (held in public, minutes of meetings released to public) so that the all CSOs and individual members of the public can have knowledge of the meeting, who participated, and what was discussed.

The researcher must present evidence to support selection of a "c" response.

Examples of mechanisms that might qualify as a "c" response include hotlines, Facebook announcements, and one-off meetings with NGOs in which there is a public record.

Answer:
c. Yes, at least one line ministry uses participation mechanisms during the budget formulation or implementation phase, but either these mechanisms capture only some ad-hoc views, or the executive invites specific individuals or groups for budget discussions (participation is not, in practice, open to everyone).

Source:
N.A.

Comment:
While the National Participatory Budget System actively engages the line ministries in their review of the proposals from the citizens, there is no engagement mechanisms between the individual ministries and the citizens during the budget formulation process. Obviously there much be substantial dialogue between the ministries and those beneficiary groups. But, such dialogues have yet to be formalized via a system that openly engages the public.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Disagree
Suggested Answer:
a. Yes, at least one line ministry uses open participation mechanisms through which members of the public and government officials exchange views on the budget.
Comments: All line ministries have a section of public communication through which the public propose new ideas/projects or report cases of budget waste. Government officials of the ministries need to respond to such proposals or reports. Following URLs are some examples of such participation mechanisms. https://www.mafra.go.kr/mafra/331/subview.do (Public Communication, the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs) https://www.mohw.go.kr/react/cy/scy0101mn.jsp?PAR_MENU_ID=02&MENU_ID=020203 (Participation, Ministry of Health and Welfare)

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Disagree
Suggested Answer:
a. Yes, at least one line ministry uses open participation mechanisms through which members of the public and government officials exchange views on the budget.
Comments: 1. Any citizens can suggest ideas on national budget via national participatory budgeting homepage(www.mybudget.go.kr). And there are on & off-line meetings where citizens and ministries can discuss about the suggested items. - On-line discussion press release:

https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000032658&menuNo=4010100 - Off-line meeting images: https://www.mybudget.go.kr/variousSides/sideViewTotal 2. Participatory Budgeting Citizen's Committee is a group of 2,000 people selected via statistical sampling proportionate to gender, age and regional district. We chose this statistical sampling selection method in order to make a group which can represent the whole Korean population. They participate in several pre-education session, at least 4 times of on&off-line discussion and voting on PB projects. Any ministries related to suggested PB items participate in the discussion. - Press release: https://www.moef.go.kr/nw/nes/detailNesDtaView.do?searchBbsId1=MOSFBBS_000000000028&searchNttId1=MOSF_000000000045167&menuNo=4010100

IBP Comment

IBP acknowledges reviewers comments. However, participatory budgeting is being assessed in indicator 125, 126, 127, 131, 132 and 133. This indicator is specifically asking about line ministries engagement with citizens on their respective sector budgets.

136. Does the legislature or the relevant legislative committee(s) hold public hearings and/or use other participation mechanisms through which the public can provide input during its public deliberations on the formulation of the annual budget (pre-budget and/or approval stages)?

GUIDELINES:
This question reflects the GIFT principle on "Sustainability,""Transparency," and "Complementarity" and assesses the extent to which the participation mechanism(s) used by the legislative are interactive and involve a two-way conversation between citizens and the legislature, rather than being limited to allowing the public to attend or hear public budget deliberations.

Please consider participation mechanisms that the legislature (both in its whole institution or its relevant budget/public accounts/finance committees) has put in place and is using to allow the public to participate in their deliberations on the annual budget. This includes deliberations during the pre-budget phase (i.e., when the executive is still in the process of formulating the draft budget) and the budget discussions after the budget has been tabled to parliament and before it is approved. In the comment box, please specify during which stage of the budget cycle the legislature has put in place a public participation mechanism.

Mechanisms through which members of the public reach out to individual Members of Parliament as opposed to the legislature (both in its whole institution or its relevant budget/public accounts/finance committees) or unofficial hearings organized by a subset of committee members should not be considered in answering this question.

If there is more than one mechanism, please select a mechanism that best shows/reflects the legislature's efforts to incorporate citizens into the formulation of the annual budget. The participation mechanisms can involve a range of different issues, such as revenues, policy selection, and macro-fiscal planning (please note that the issue of coverage is covered in a subsequent question).

To answer "a," the legislature must hold public hearings where citizens are allowed to testify. This answer applies only if the legislature does not exercise discretion in determining which citizens and/or CSOs can testify (for example, participation takes place on a first-come-first-served basis).

Answer "b" should be selected if the following applies:

- *The legislature holds public hearings on the budget;*
- *Testimony is not allowed from members of the public or CSOs; but*
- *There are other means used by the legislature to receive and collect views from citizens and CSOs on the budget, and the legislature does not exercise discretion in determining which citizens and/or CSOs can provide input. The researcher must provide evidence to support the presence of those alternative processes through which the legislature seeks inputs from citizens. For example, there should be a public record indicating that views from citizens and the public were sought.*

Answer "c" should be selected if the following applies:

- *The legislature holds public hearings on the budget;*
- *Testimony is not allowed from members of the public or CSOs;*
- *No other means are used by the legislature to receive and collect views/input from citizens and CSOs on the budget, but*
- *The legislature invites a few individuals/groups to provide input (through public hearings or elsewhere)*
- *The legislature has a provision (via standing orders or in law) through which the public can submit their inputs, and members of the public or CSOs actively use it to submit opinions on the budget.*

Answer "d" applies if the requirements for a "c" response or above are not met or if the legislature does not use public participation mechanisms during its deliberations on the annual budget

Answer:
c. Yes, public hearings on the budget are held. No testimony from the public is provided during the public hearings, and there are no other mechanisms through which public contributions are received, but the legislature invites specific individuals or groups to testify or provide input (participation is not, in practice, open to everyone).

Source:
The Legislative Bills Information System
http://likms.assembly.go.kr/bill/billDetail.do?billId=PRC_P2Z0B0V9G0C3E0C9Y1D7J0L7L7N7I9

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SwRBKZhNSIU

Comment:
The Special Committee on Budget and Accounts held a expert-based public hearing on November 2, 2020 for the budget for FY2021, whose recording is available from the YouTube video whose URL is copied in Source. Having said that, the Legislative Biils Information System does not provide an official transcript for the hearing.

As far as this researcher understands the hearing, the participants are exclusively experts in public finance in various institutional settings, with no inputs from the ordinary citizens.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: I choose not to review this question
Comments: The question itself comprises two types of participation mechanisms, that is, public hearings and other participation mechanisms, but the answers mention public hearings only. The National Assembly also uses its homepage as a public participation mechanism. When I browse the "public proposal" site of the homepage, I can find many opinions and/or proposals on budget.
https://www.assembly.go.kr/assm/commuity/proposal/proposal/proposalList.do#

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

137. During the legislative deliberations on the annual budget (pre-budget or approval stages), which of the following key topics does the legislature's (or relevant legislative budget committee) engagement with citizens cover?

For the purpose of this question, key topics are considered to be:

1. Macroeconomic issues
2. Revenue forecasts, policies, and administration
3. Social spending policies
4. Deficit and debt levels
5. Public investment projects
6. Public services

GUIDELINES:
This question reflects the GIFT principles of "Transparency" and "Timeliness". Please consider the range of mechanisms currently used by the legislature to promote public participation during legislative deliberations on the annual budget.

Please note that while the public engagement can/may cover other topics, for the purpose of answering this question, "key topics" are considered to be only the ones listed above. If the legislature's engagement with the public covers topics other than the six listed above, please specify these topics in the comments.

Note also that this question assesses only the coverage of public engagement (i.e., "what issues is the public invited to engage on?") and issues related to the depth of engagement or selectivity of engaged are not dealt with by this question.

If written materials about the public engagement, such as an invitation, do not specify the coverage of the public engagement, but the researcher has personally participated in the engagement, s/he may respond to this question based on firsthand experience of the coverage of the public engagement.

Answer "d" applies if the requirements for a "c" response or above are not met or if the legislature does not use public participation mechanisms during its deliberations on the annual budget.

Answer:
c. The legislature seeks input on at least one (but less than three) of the above-mentioned topics.

Source:
The Legislative Bills Information System
http://likms.assembly.go.kr/bill/billDetail.do?billId=PRC_P2Z0B0V9G0C3E0C9Y1D7J0L7L7N7I9

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SwRBKZhNSIU

Comment:
If the public hearing by the Special Committee on Budget and Accounts is qualified as a legislative public engagement, then the answer should be "a". However, the Korean National Assembly does not practice public engagement via public hearings. Since still such hearings are better than nothing, this researcher would like to go with "c".

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree
Comments: If the term "engagement with citizens" of the question means just public hearings, then I agree with the researcher.

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

IBP Comment
IBP agrees with researchers assessment of answer choice C for reasons cited above.

138. Does the legislature provide feedback to the public on how citizens' inputs have been used during legislative deliberations on the annual budget?

GUIDELINES:
This question reflects the GIFT principles of "Transparency" and "Sustainability", and examines the extent to which the legislature provides information to citizens on which public inputs were received and how inputs were used during legislative deliberations (please note that these deliberations can refer to the pre-budget and approval phases). By "written record" in this question, we mean a document that is produced and released by the legislature.

Answer "a" applies when the legislature provides a written document with:

- *The inputs received from the public (e.g., a written transcript) and*

- *A detailed report on how the inputs were used or not used (such report should include information on which inputs were used or not used, why, and how).*

Answer "b" applies when the legislature provides a written document that includes:

- *The inputs received from the public (e.g., a written transcript) and*

- *A not-so-detailed report on how public inputs were used or not used. This document only gives a general idea on how those inputs were used or not used in legislative deliberations on the annual budget (please note that these deliberations refer to the pre-budget and approval phases).*

Answer "c" applies when the legislature makes available a video recording of the relevant legislative session or provides a written document that includes:

- *The inputs received from the public (e.g., a written transcript) or*

- *A report (being it detailed or not-so-detailed) on how public inputs have been used or not used.*

Answer "d" applies if the requirements for a "c" response or above are not met or if the legislature does not use public participation mechanisms during its deliberations on the annual budget.

Answer:
c. Yes, the legislature provides a written record which includes either the list of the inputs received or a report or summary on how they were used.

Source:
The Legislative Bills Information System
http://likms.assembly.go.kr/bill/billDetail.do?billId=PRC_P2Z0B0V9G0C3E0C9Y1D7J0L7L7N7I9

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SwRBKZhNSIU

Comment:
Please refer to the response to the previous question. At least the recording of the hearing is available from YouTube. However, its transcript is not available from the National Assembly's Bill Information System.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

139. Does the legislature hold public hearings and/or use other participation mechanisms through which the public can provide input during its public deliberations on the Audit Report?

GUIDELINES:
This question reflects the GIFT principle on "Sustainability,""Transparency," and "Complementarity" and assesses the extent to which the participation mechanism(s) used by the legislative are interactive and involve a two-way conversation between citizens and the legislature, rather than being limited to allowing the public to attend or hear public budget deliberations.

A key constitutional role of the legislature in almost all countries is to oversee the government's management of public resources. While the Supreme Audit Institution is responsible for checking the government's accounts and publishing the outcome of their audits, for accountability purposes it is essential that the legislature reviews and scrutinizes those reports, and checks on whether the executive is taking the appropriate corrective actions based on the Supreme Audit Institution's recommendations.

Holding public hearings to review audit findings allows the public to learn more about how the government has managed its resources for the budget years that have ended, and demand accountability in case of mismanagement and irregularities. Reviewing and discussing those reports in public is therefore a key responsibility of a legislature.

Please note that by "Audit Report" we refer to the same audit report assessed in the transparency section of this Survey, i.e., one of the eight key budget documents that all governments (in this case, the Supreme Audit Institution) must produce, according to best practice.

Please consider participation mechanisms that the legislature (both in its whole institution or its relevant budget/public accounts/finance committees) have put in place and using to allow the public to participate in their deliberations on the Audit Report.

Mechanisms through which members of the public reach out to individual members of parliament as opposed to the legislature (both in its whole institution or its relevant budget/public accounts/finance committees) or unofficial hearings organized by a subset of committee members should not be considered in answering this question.

To answer "a," the national legislature must hold public hearings where citizens are allowed to testify. This answer applies only if the legislature does not exercise discretion in determining which citizens and/or CSOs can testify (for example, participation takes place on a first-come-first-served basis).

Answer "b" should be selected if the following applies:

- *The legislature holds public hearings on the budget;*
- *No testimony is allowed from the public; BUT*
- *There are other means used by the legislature to receive and collect views from citizens and CSOs on the budget, and the legislature does not exercise discretion in determining which citizens and/or CSOs can provide input. The researcher must provide evidence to support the presence of those alternative processes through which the legislature seeks inputs from citizens. For example, there should be a public record indicating that views from citizens and the public were sought.*

Answer "c" should be selected if the following applies:

- *The legislature holds public hearings on the budget;*
- *No testimony is allowed from the public;*
- *No other means are used by the legislature to receive and collect views/input from citizens and CSOs on the budget, BUT*
- *The legislature invites a few individuals/groups to provide input (through public hearings or elsewhere)*

Answer "d" applies if the requirements for a "c" response or above are not met or if the legislature does not use public participation mechanisms during its deliberations on the Audit Report.

Answer:
d. The requirements for a "c" response or above are not met.

Source:
http://likms.assembly.go.kr/bill/billDetail.do?billId=PRC_G2Y0B0S6Y0D1R1C4U1L6C5P4T4Q6Q7&ageFrom=21&ageTo=21

Comment:
Please refer to the response to the previous question.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Disagree
Suggested Answer:
a. Yes, public hearings on the Audit Report are held, and members of the public/CSOs testify.
Comments: The legislature held public hearings on the settlement of accounts. (Contact Special Committee on Budget and Accounts for more details.)

IBP Comment
This indicator is asking if any legislative committee sought inputs from civil society, during discussions on the financial audit report as of 31st December 2020. In absence of any evidence, the answer choice remains D.

140. Does the Supreme Audit Institution (SAI) maintain formal mechanisms through which the public can suggest issues/topics to include in the SAI's audit program (for example, by bringing ideas on agencies, programs, or projects that could be audited)?

GUIDELINES:
This question assesses whether the Supreme Audit Institution (SAI) has established mechanisms through which the public can provide suggestions on issues/topics to be included in its audit program. When deciding its audit agenda, the SAI may undertake audits for a sample of agencies, projects, and programs in the country; and such a selection could be based on complaints and suggestions made by members of the public. To receive such suggestions, the SAI may create formal mechanisms, like setting up a website, hotline, or office (or assigning staff to liaise with the public).

Please note that formal mechanisms that do not explicitly seek the public's input in the audit program (such as general comment submission boxes on the SAI's website) should not be considered for this question.

Answer:
a. Yes, the SAI maintains formal mechanisms through which the public can suggest issues/topics to include in its audit program.

Source:
The Website of the Board of Audit and Inspection:

https://www.bai.go.kr/bai/html/audit/auditdemand/auditdemandstep.do?mdex=bai49&mdex=bai50
https://www.bai.go.kr/bai/cop/bbs/listBoardArticles.do?mdex=bai53&bbsId=BBSMSTR_100000000038

Comment:
The webpages of the Board of Audit and Inspection provide a channel through which citizens can suggest topics of audit and inspection. Along with detailed instructions, the webpage also provides exemplary cases fo citizens' petition for auditing.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

141. Does the Supreme Audit Institution (SAI) provide the public with feedback on how citizens' inputs have been used to determine its audit program?

GUIDELINES:

This question reflects the GIFT principles of "Transparency" and "Sustainability", and examines the extent to which the Supreme Audit Institution provides information to citizens on which public inputs were received, which ones are used to determine the Supreme Audit Institution's audit program. By "written record" in this question, we mean a document that is produced and released by the Supreme Audit Institution.

Answer "a" applies when the Supreme Audit Institution provides a written document with:

- *The inputs received from the public and*

- *A detailed report on how the inputs were used or not used (such report should include information on which inputs were used or not used, why, and how).*

Answer "b" applies when the SAI provides a written document that includes:

- *The inputs received from the public and*

- *A not-so-detailed report on how public inputs were used or not used. This document only gives a general idea on how those inputs were used or not used to determine the SAI's annual audit program.*

Answer "c" applies when the SAI provides a written document that includes:

- *The received from the public or*

- *A report (being it detailed or not-so-detailed) on how public inputs have been used or not used.*

Answer "d" applies if requirements for a "c" response or above are not met or if maintain formal mechanisms through which the public can suggests issues/topics to include in the SAI's audit program.

Answer:
b. Yes, the SAI provides a written record which includes both the list of inputs received and a summary of the how the inputs were used to determine its audit program.

Source:
The Website of the Board of Audit and Inspection:

https://www.bai.go.kr/bai/cop/bbs/listBoardArticles.do?mdex=bai53&bbsId=BBSMSTR_100000000038

https://www.bai.go.kr/bai/cop/bbs/listBoardArticles.do

Comment:
Please refer to the response to the previous question. In addition to the exemplary cases, the BAI also provides feedback (responses) to the suggestions by the citizens regarding the audit procedures and activities as available from the webpages whose URLs are copied in Source.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

142. Does the Supreme Audit Institution (SAI) maintain formal mechanisms through which the public can contribute to audit investigations (as respondents, witnesses, etc.)?

GUIDELINES:
This question mirrors question 140, but instead of covering public assistance in formulating the SAI's audit program, it focuses on whether the Supreme Audit Institution has established mechanisms through which the public can participate in audit investigations. In addition to seeking public input to determine its audit agenda, the SAI may wish to provide formal opportunities for the public and civil society organizations to participate in the actual audit investigations, as witnesses or respondents.

Answer:
b. The requirements for an "a" response are not met.

Source:
The BAI Website:

https://www.bai.go.kr/bai/html/audit/auditreport/info.do?mdex=bai44&mdex=bai45

https://www.bai.go.kr/bai/cop/bbs/detailBoardArticle.do?mdex=bai11&bbsId=BBSMSTR_100000000004&nttId=115254

Comment:
As far as this researcher searched the BAI's website and other webpages, such formal mechanism is not found. Back in 2015, the BAI has signed a MOU with the World Bank to promote citizens' participation in the audit activities. However, such efforts do not seem to have been materialized with a formal mechanism yet.

Peer Reviewer
Opinion: Agree

Government Reviewer
Opinion: Agree