

# The Use of Performance Information by Citizens

*Transparency and Public Use of Performance Information*

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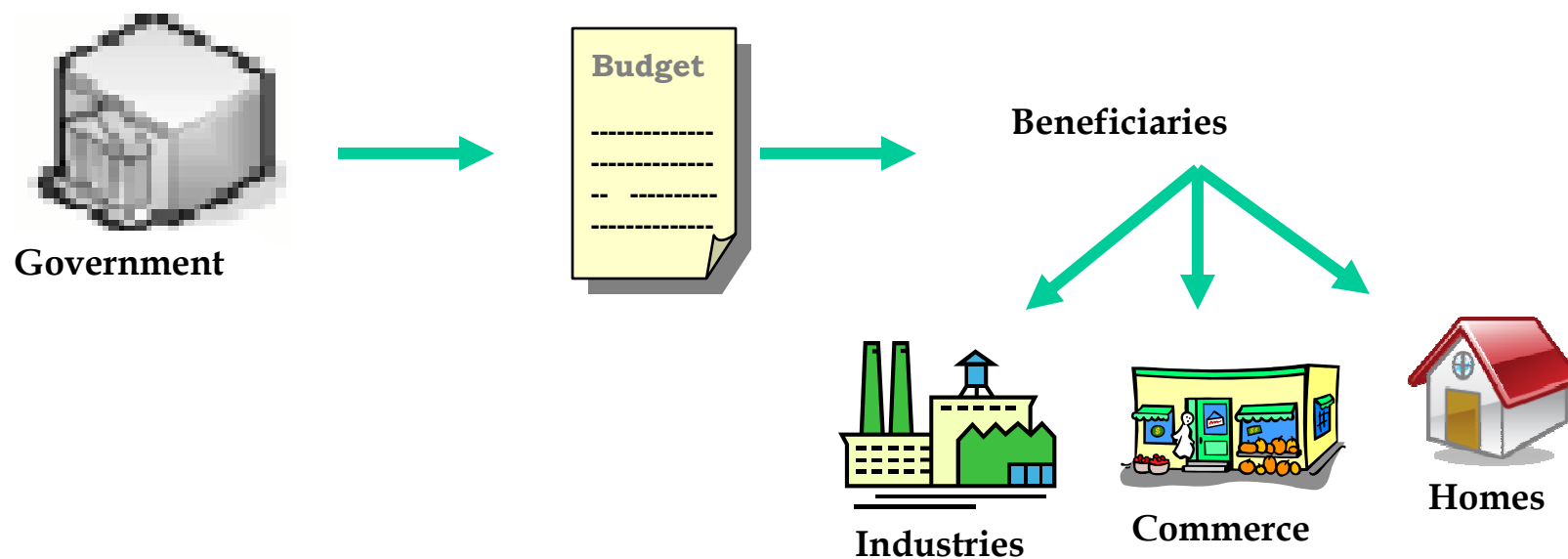


## Outline

- Why monitor the budget?  
Social Accountability Mechanisms
- Public Use of Performance Indicators
- Some specific experiences
- Conclusions

# Why monitor the budget?

- The budget has –direct or indirectly- an impact on everyone.



## Participation along the budget cycle

**Participatory budgeting,  
advocacy**

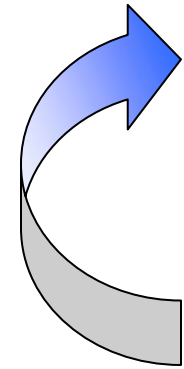
**Budget  
formulation**

**Budget Review and  
Analysis**

**Debate and  
Approval**

**Contributes to:**

- **Transparency: Access to Public Information**
- **Citizen Participation**
- **Service delivery efficiency**
- **Needs fulfillment**



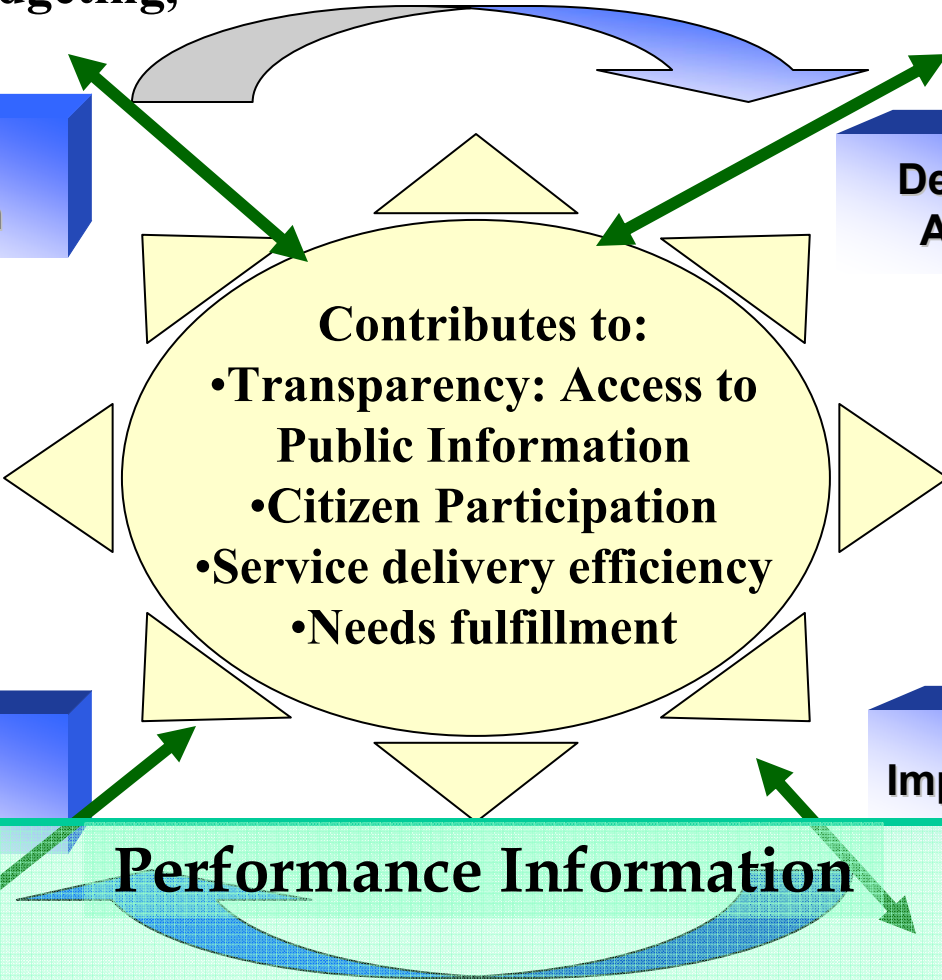
**Audit and  
control**

**Implementation**

**Performance  
Monitoring**

**Expenditure  
Tracking**

**Performance Information**



## Social Accountability Mechanisms and Performance Budgeting:



Focus Area/Sector (“analytical glasses”)

Demystify Technical Content



Public Expenditure Tracking

Advocacy and Public Campaigns



## Public Use of Performance Indicators helps to diminish the asymmetry of information

- ✓ Helps to generate accessible information and understandable to all citizens
- ✓ Strengthens the relation between Government and civil society
- ✓ Generates indicators that civil society can use to monitor Government performance
- ✓ It can result, then, in more efficiency and equity in the distribution of public funds.

## OPPORTUNITY: synergize performance budgeting initiatives with CSO work

- ✓ Examples
  - ✓ Monitoring the educational financing law in Argentina
  - ✓ Database of subsidies

# CHALLENGES: to strengthen the participation in using performance indicators

- ✓ **Integrate social monitoring** and participation as part of the performance indicators system
- ✓ Make **information available** to reduce the asymmetry of information
- ✓ Make the **budget more transparent**, using performance indicators that will facilitate social monitoring
- ✓ Generate **capacity of articulation** with government and among civil society

**The main challenge is to relate participation to government evaluation of performance so that the resources are more suited to solve social demands**

## RISK: vicious cycle

- ✓ **Closed government, that perceives participation, transparency and accountability as a threat to its authority**
- ✓ **Reactive civil society, with low technical capacity**

## Conclusions

- ✓ **Macro trends favour successful implementation of PB and social accountability in Latin America**
  - ✓ **Macroeconomic stability and growth**
  - ✓ **Consolidation of democracy**
  - ✓ **Technology diffusion**
  
- ✓ **Performance budgeting is gathering momentum**
  
- ✓ **As is strengthening of CSOs**