

BUDGET TRANSPARENCY – REGIONAL PRACTICE NOTE

PROPOSED DATES | May 14-17, 2024

TARGET GROUP | Mid-level and senior government officials from ministries of finance and economy, from the budget or related departments. Participants are expected to have a degree in economics/finance/public policy and/or work experience in budget policy and formulation.

DESCRIPTION | The four-day workshop will be delivered in person, by the Caucasus, Central Asia, and Mongolia Regional Capacity Development Center. The workshop will focus on budget transparency practices in the region, which currently vary greatly. Some countries have adopted methods associated with strategic budgeting initiatives, which encourage early and high-level discussions on budget priorities and are usually reflected in a fiscal or budget strategy document. Other countries have maintained more legalistic approaches to presenting and appropriating budget documents, which have wide-reaching coverage, but can be difficult for the public to understand and digest. The workshop approach will involve a mix of lectures, country presentations, and an exercise to start the formulation of a regional practice note. Participants are expected to actively contribute to presentations on country practices and exercises. Peer learning will be an essential element of the workshop. Following the workshop, a draft regional practice note will be developed, and countries will have the opportunity to comment and provide inputs.

OBJECTIVES | Upon completion of this workshop, participants will:

- have an understanding varying definitions of budget transparency, drawing on international best practices.
- appreciate different institutional roles and responsibilities, and coordination arrangements for producing budget documents in a transparent way to support decisions making.
- have an overview of different ways the digitalization can support budget transparency.
- have expanded understanding of country practices in the region to improve transparency of budget information at different stages of the budget calendar.

LANGUAGE | The workshop will be delivered in English language, with simultaneous interpretation to Russian.