

Civic society network

# **CITIZENS' OVERSIGHT OF BUDGET**

# INTRODUCTION

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Since 2005, NGOs in Mongolia have started working in the field of budget monitoring process, research, forum and so on. As results of aforementioned activities, they have expressed civic society's estate on this matter to the government and initiated various kinds of ideas to enhance the law and make it more transparent to public.

# EFFECTS

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Positive effects:

- ✖ Public budget process have become more transparent
- ✖ This year, the budget law is being changed

Negative effects:

- ✖ Participation at national and community levels lacks
- ✖ There is a strong tendency to buy-off everything due to sudden increase of state budget coming from mining sector.



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Therefore, the NGOs which works on the ground of national budget monitoring, its planning and expenditure have united and established a civic society network called "Citizens' Oversight of Budget" (COB) in 2008.



# **PROCESS OF LOCAL BUDGET MONITORING**

Citizens' Oversight of Budget (COB) has conducted monitoring on approval of budgets for the city of Ulaanbaatar and its 7 districts by Citizens Representative "Hurals" (councils) and organized a discussion among representatives from civic society organizations and government officials in order to deliver the evaluation of the monitoring to the public.

(Dec, 2009 – Jan, 2010)

(Dec, 2008 – Jan, 2009)

# MONITORING ON BUDGET INFORMATION

As a network, we focus more on monitoring, the monitoring on budget information.

- ✖ For us, budget is money collected for specific objectives, the process of its expenditure, and a result reached. We would like to observe and study about it.
- ✖ We want to know more and knowledge is fundamental to monitoring
- ✖ We need to learn more about “numbers and digits” and



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- ✘ We need to specialize ourselves. For now, we are working on whatever field the donor agency funded for.
- ✘ We have developed general methodologies for “Monitoring on Budget Information”. But there is further demand to revise it and make it more flexible.

# WHAT WE NEED

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- ✘ In every business, the product that has public recognition is more likely to succeed. This principle applies to NGOs as well. We need to let the public know about what we are working on
- ✘ We would like to know more about tools and strategies on how to approach and conduct monitoring budget and its expenditure. Creativity is a virtue. But sometimes we need adopt directly from the resource. It saves time.



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