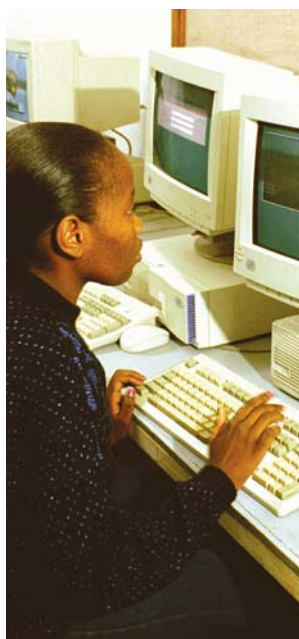


Bringing citizens into the flow of service delivery

Participatory Budgeting

Knowledge and Action Support Facility for Africa
A partnership enabling local government capacity

Municipal Development Partnership for East and Southern Africa (MDP-ESA)



Participatory budgeting brings citizens into the process of making municipal governance decisions on spending and service delivery. This growing movement has met with success in developing countries in Asia, Latin America and, more recently, Africa. Participatory budgeting is especially critical in low-income countries, where citizens in the poorest communities need to be empowered to help bring about the public policies and budgets that will directly affect their own development.

The PB Facility was established in 2005 with financial support from the World Bank and Swiss Development Cooperation (SDC), and collaborates closely with the International Centre for Urban Management (CIGU) in Ecuador. The MDP-ESA facility, established in 1998, collaborates closely with the International Centre for Urban Management in Ecuador, to share knowledge and, where possible, involve other regional networks for peer-to-peer learning opportunities.

MDP-ESA aims to:

- Raise awareness of participatory budgeting and how it can bring more people into the democratic process for more effective, decentralised government.
- Share materials and experience on participatory budgeting across Africa, through newsletters, training and online materials.
- Facilitate knowledge exchange between different regions, countries, institutions and networks.
- Build capacity and networking on participatory budgeting in areas of decision making, implementation, monitoring and evaluation.
- Organise and deliver conferences, workshops and distance learning courses on participatory budgeting for government officials, civil servants, technical professionals, university staff, NGO staff, civic groups and members of local government associations.
- Support local authorities, initiatives and networks as a link to international organisations and programmes involved in participatory budgeting. Such organisations include UN-Habitat, UNDP, ANUMI, EU, the African Development Bank, CIDA, ANSA-Africa and the World Bank.



Since its establishment in 1991, MDP-ESA has helped to strengthen local governments to deliver more effective services and improve the quality of life for struggling communities. MDP-ESA programmes include:

- Participatory action research
- Participatory budgeting and social accountability
- Intergovernmental fiscal relations and local government finance
- Strategic planning and urban management
- Local economic development and poverty reduction
- Decentralised cooperation
- Urban agriculture
- Knowledge management and sharing

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