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WORLD ATLAS OF

PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING

2020

www.oficina.org.pt/atlas2020.html

ATLAS

The Atlas of Participatory Budgeting represents the widest compilation of data, to date, on the situation of these processes worldwide.

This is the result of collaborative work and the enormous generosity of more than 70 authors, who voluntarily made themselves available to collect and analyse information that would enable to understand the reality of these initiatives in very diverse quadrants.

The first edition of the Atlas, presented in October 2019, achieved very significant results, some of which were surprising:

- **The creation of a network of 76 authors,**
- **The mapping of Participatory Budgeting in 71 countries,**
- **The identification and analysis of the nine national legislations on PB that exist on the planet,**
- **The analysis of regional and continental trends in these processes,**
- **The identification of some of the most relevant innovations.**

This edition of the Atlas is available at the following address: www.oficina.org.pt/participatory-budgeting-world-atlas-2019.html



AUTHORS

These are the authors who participated in the first edition of the Atlas in 2019:

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MEMBERS OF THE ATLAS TEAM IN CHARGE OF COLLECT DATA FROM SEVERAL AFRICAN COUNTRIES Mamadou Bachir Kanoute and Tiago Peixoto.



METHODOLOGY

The elaboration of the Atlas is based on a very simple methodology:

- a common concept of Participatory Budgeting,
- a network of authors responsible for characterizing the reality in their countries,
- a common questionnaire,
- a battery of indicators, allowing comparability of data between countries and continents, as well as between editions of the Atlas.

Once the data are collected, they are processed at three territorial levels: national, continental and global.

The 2020 Atlas will benefit from the network of authors that participated in the first edition and will grow based on contacts made over the past year, thus allowing to cover a larger number of countries.



ATLAS 2020

The year 2020 will be forever marked in human history. The health emergency caused by the covid-19 disease pandemic has had gigantic repercussions on people's lives, on the actions of states, on the activities of companies, on teaching, on human relations, on the functioning of cities, among many other dimensions of the contemporary world.

Democracies, which had been experiencing a setback for some 13 consecutive years, experienced various restrictions with the imposition of states of emergency in many countries.

Participatory processes, especially those that depend on face-to-face interactions, have been affected on a large scale, with their suspension or their reconversion through the adoption of digital channels.

The decision to carry out the Atlas in 2020 in the circumstances described is therefore based on two essential elements:

- **To carry out the statistical update of the Participatory Budgeting worldwide, based on data from 2019, i.e. prior to the pandemic situation;**
- **Understand the impacts of covid-19 disease on the functioning of Participatory Budgets, a unique moment in the life of these processes on a global scale, so that we can have a documenting record for posterity.**



CONCEPT

The Atlas is based on a definition of Participatory Budget which must respect the following technical characteristics.

It must be a process that involves a specific portion or the entire amount of an institution's budget, so that can be freely and independently decided for all the citizens participating in the project. This means that within the Atlas only deliberative processes are accepted, in which the participants have the power to present and decide projects. This feature comprises two more items:

- **The type of the institution.** Despite the fact that the majority of initiatives are promoted by the local government, it's important to take into consideration those experiences organized by other levels of government such as: regional, state and national. Also processes developed by private, lucrative and associative organizations should be included. Processes promoted by other public or private entities, such as universities, schools, associations, professional organizations and companies should also be accounted for;
- **The participants.** There are different models. The most common is the universal access, which is open to individuals of a certain territory or institution. However, those processes aimed at more specific audiences will also be taken into account, such as initiatives addressed to a particular social sector like young people, women, immigrants, etc.; or at a much more precise target (students of a school, employees of an entity or company, members of an association, among other options). Also, representative groups or larger communities (lottery system).

Finally, the proposed definition requires that the process be organized on the basis of two sequential cycles, namely that of the decision, in which the participants can submit and decide on proposals, and that of implementation, in which the winning projects are implemented.



COLLABORATION

There are multiple ways to collaborate with the Atlas, such as:

- signaling a country not represented in the book;
- becoming one of the authors, collecting data from that country or indicating someone who can do it in better conditions;
- collaborate with other authors in collecting and analyzing data;
- support the translation of texts;
- be responsible for editing the Atlas in a different language, among others.

Do you have other ideas for collaboration? Contact us. Be part of this team.



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