BUDGET MAPPING EXERCISE (NA5E)

Module
Negotiations & Accountability

Format
Pairs/small group exercise

Purpose
This activity contributes to the module learning objectives by refining the concepts of budget mapping in a country-specific context.

Time Required
- 30-45 minutes, depending on time allotted for group presentations

Activity Description
This exercise supports the NA4L component of this session, which introduces basic concepts of budget mapping and entry points for negotiation. Once learning those concepts through the presentation format, the exercise asks participants to break into pairs or small groups. Each pair or small group should choose a single country with which they are as familiar as possible (ideally their own country).

The pairs/small groups should fill out the worksheet, which identifies decisions, decisionmakers, timeframes, and potential challenges in each of the five main stages of the budget process in their selected country. Participants should be given at least 20 minutes to complete the exercise in their pair or small group. Inform participants that while they may not be certain of all of the information requested in the worksheet, they should complete it to the best of their ability, using informed guesses if necessary. They can confirm the information later, but during this training, it is most important for them to understand how the pieces and sequencing of a budget process fits together.

After the groups have completed the worksheet, bring the participants back into a single group, and invite each pair/small group to share one-two noteworthy findings from their worksheet. It may be most interesting to share the potential challenges that they identified at certain stages. To conclude the session, offer comments about some of the recurring or varying themes you heard the pairs/small groups present.

Key Learning Concept(s)
- Decisions, decisionmakers, timing, and challenges of each stage of the budget process.
Materials Needed

- Worksheet (one copy per participant), pens

Associated Sessions

- What Next? Why Negotiation Matters in the Policy Process (NA1L)
- Budget Mapping (NA4L)

Required Preparation

- Participants should complete the NA4L session and its required reading before undertaking this exercise