

Pointers of the Role of Parliament in Budgeting

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- Common issues, problems, concerns around security sector governance and budgeting are shared by legislature despite system differences
- Importance of staff/human resources independent from executive/departments
- Budget process-”power of the purse” and micro-management, including separation of authorization and appropriation powers

- Ability of Congress to initiate budgetary items
- Features of budgetary process liable to political influences
- Oversight ensures accountability to elected officials representing the people
- Supporting 'infrastructure' such as Congressional Research Service, Government Accountability Office

- Physical facilities and layout of committee chambers could serve as comparative model
- Organizational structure of committee staff enables substantive issues to be addressed efficiently
- Power and prerogative of committee chair and ranking members

- “Earmarks”-positive and negative aspects; allowed by controversial
- Legislators should get to know security sector leadership to talk, learn about what they do and share vision for the country
- Independent auditing of the Department of Defense
- Check and balances can be recipe for not getting things done

- Provide Support for development of parliamentary infrastructure:
 - Information technology
 - Libraries
 - Research services and resources (e.g. similar to CRS)
 - Specialized parliamentary support units (e.g. auditing services similar to GAO)

- Support capacity for development programs
 - Parliamentarians
 - Parliamentary staff
 - Research staff
 - Military personnel

- Support sharing of information and best-practices
 - Parliamentary structures and process
 - Committee structures, powers, and processes
 - Budgetary process (from authorization through to implementation)
 - Policy-making processes (relationship between House and DoD)
 - Role of other government departments and agencies in oversight

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- Structure of the defense department and civilian oversight
- System of checks and balances
- Separation of powers and functions
- Parliamentary ethics
- Military liaison within legislatures
- Channels of communication and dialogue

THANK YOU