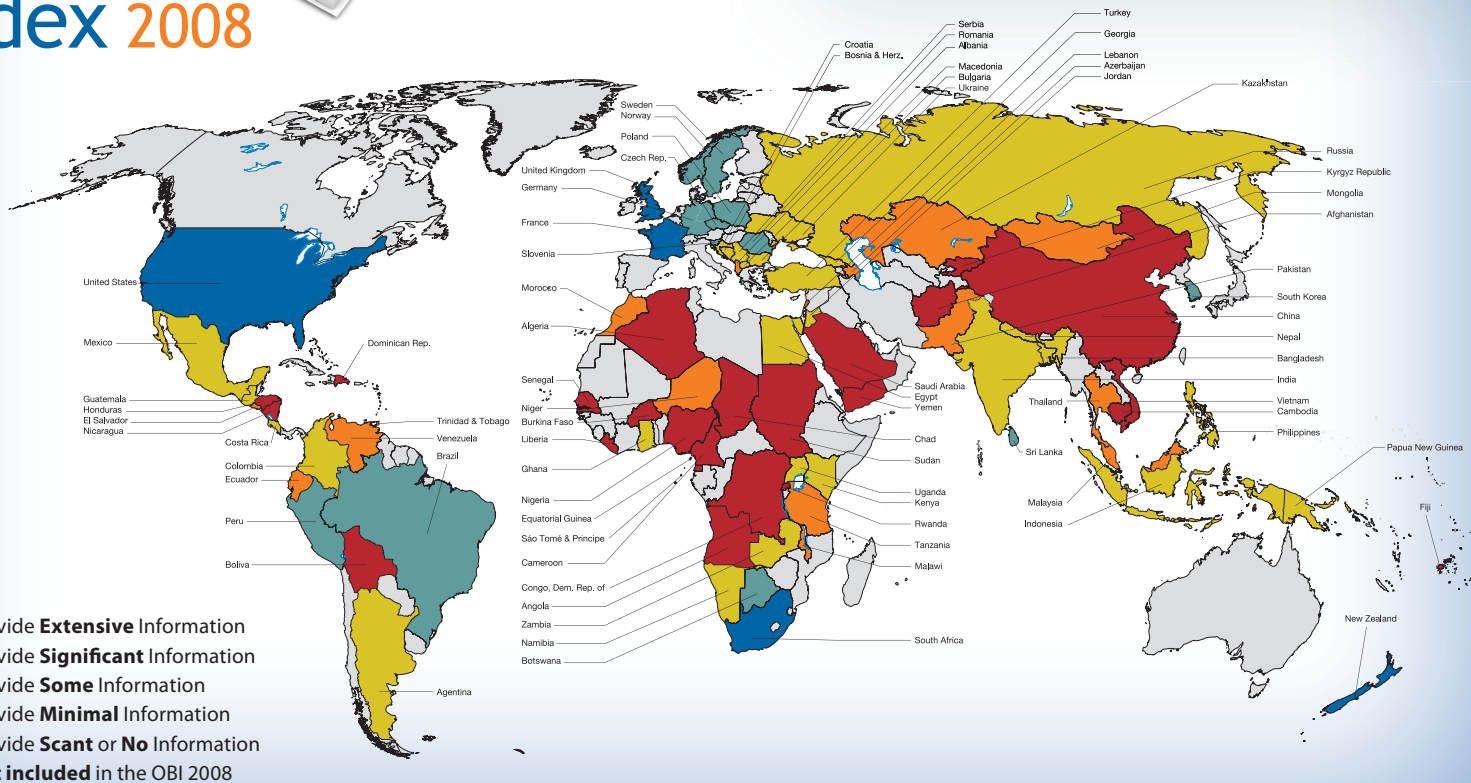




INTERNATIONAL BUDGET PARTNERSHIP
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The Open Budget Index 2008

The only independent measure of government budget transparency across 85 countries

The OBI evaluates the quantity of information made available to the public during the course of the budget year so that the people can see how the government is collecting and spending public funds.

A high OBI score — the public has access to extensive information to help them hold their government to account and to actively participate in the nation's spending decisions.

A low OBI score — the government makes decisions about the public's money behind closed doors, shutting out the public from meaningful participation in decision making.

The International Budget Partnership (IBP) collaborates with civil society around the world to use budget analysis and advocacy as a tool to enhance governance and reduce poverty. The Open Budget Survey 2008 was produced by the IBP and its civil society partners in the 85 countries studied. All civil society researchers for the Survey were independent of the government and political parties in their countries.