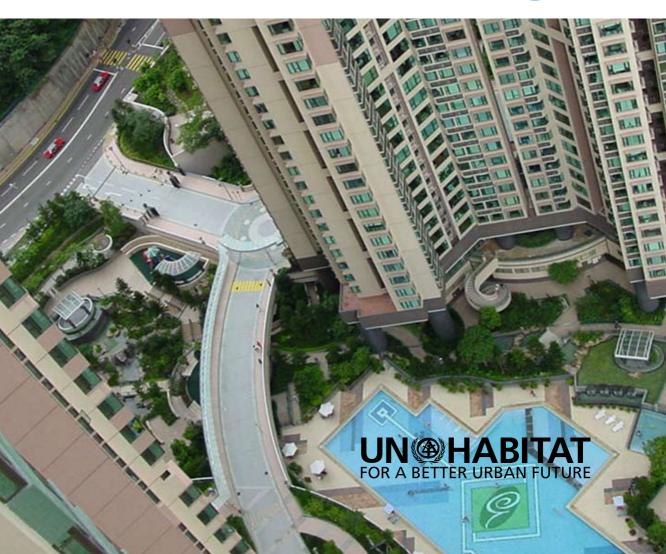


GUIDE TO MUNICIPAL FINANCE



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The Human Settlements Financing Tools and Best Practices Series

Guide to Municipal Finance

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

CHAPTER 1	Definition of Municipal Finance and Objectives of the Guide	1
	Definition of Municipal Finance Objectives of the guide Outline of the guide	1 1 2
CHAPTER 2	Municipal Finance Issues, Challenges, and Trends	3
	State of Municipal Finances Issues and challenges Recent trends in Municipal Finance	3 10 14
CHAPTER 3	Principles of Municipal Finance	17
	Role of local government in the economy Major functions of municipal governments The benefit model of local government finance Public finance principles	17 18 18 19
CHAPTER 4	Municipal Revenues	21
	Sources of municipal revenue Characteristics of a good local tax Taxes User fees Intergovernmental transfers Types of transfers Rationale for transfers Design of transfers Problems with transfers Implementation and management of municipal revenues	21 22 23 33 35 35 36 38 38
CHAPTER 5	Financing Capital Expenditures	41
	Funds from operating revenues Intergovernmental transfers Mobilizing private capital Municipal borrowing Public-private partnerships Development charges Tax increment financing Land value capture taxes	41 42 43 44 45 50 54

CHAPTER 6	Municipal Budget, Financial Reporting and Auditing	56
	Expenditures at the local level Municipal budgeting Accounting standards Accounting concepts Auditing Performance-based measurement	56 56 61 62 63 63
CHAPTER 7	Municipal Borrowing and Access to the Capital Market	65
	Role of municipal borrowing Capital markets Pooling municipal debt Borrowing instruments Credit ratings	65 66 66 67 68
CHAPTER 8	Concluding Comments	71
	REFERENCES APPENDIX	78 78

LIST OF TABLES ,FIGURES AND BOXES

Tables	
Table 1 Distribution of Municipal Expenditures, Selected OECD Countries, 2006 (%) 4
Table 2 Distribution of Municipal Expenditures, Selected Countries in	
Central and Eastern Europe, Asia, Africa, and Latin America, 2006 (%)	5
Table 3 Distribution of Municipal Revenues, Selected OECD Countries, 2006 (%)	6
Table 4 Distribution of Municipal Revenues, Selected Countries in Central and Eastern Europe, Asia, Africa, and Latin America, 2006 (%)	7
Table 5 Local Government Expenditures as a Percentage of GDP and Total Government Expenditures	9
Table 6 Urban Population by Major Area, Selected Periods, 1950-2050	10
Table 7 Percentage Urban by Major Area, Selected Periods, 1950-2050	11
Table 8 Sources of Municipal Operating Revenues for Selected Cities	22
Table 9 Base for Property Taxes	27
Table 10 Types of Intergovernmental Fiscal Transfers	36
Table 11 Development Charges, Greater Toronto Area, 2007	49
Table 12 The Steps in the Capital Budget	58
Figures	
Figure 1 Public Debt, Spending and Investments – the Role of Local Governments	(2000) 15
Figure 2 Different Financing Tools for Different Services	18
Figure 3 Calculating the Tax Increment	53
Figure 4 Steps in the Budgetary Process	59
Boxes	
Box 1 Public Finance Principles	20
Box 2 Characteristics of a Good Local Tax	22
Box 3 How Property Tax Capitalization Works	23
Box 4 Road Pricing in Singapore	34
Box 5 Public Finance Principles for Designing Fiscal Transfers	39
Box 6 Types of Public-Private Partnerships	44
Box 7 Calculating Development Charges	47
Box 8 Implementation of Tax Increment Financing	50
Box 9 Steps for Tax Increment Financing	52
Box 10 Citizen Involvement Participatory Budgeting in Porto Alegre	60
Box 11 Municipal Finance and Management Initiative in Ghana	67
Box 12 Illustration of a Tax-Free Bond	67

ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

CBD Central Business District

ERPS Electronic Road Pricing System

GDP Gross Domestic Product

IMF International Monetary Fund

IPSAS International Public Sector Accounting Standards

IU In-vehicle unit

GAAPs Generally Accepted Accounting Principles

MDGs Millennium Development Goals

OECD Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development

PAYG Pay-as-you-go

P3s Public-Private Partnerships
TIF Tax Increment Financing

VAT Value added tax

FOREWORD



The global housing crisis, especially in the developing world, is getting worse by the day making the right to adequate shelter a quest that is becoming more and more difficult to meet, despite the targets set

by the Millennium Development Goals.

Such is the rate of urbanization – the influx of people into towns and cities, and their natural growth – that the world has now reached a point where for the first time now, half the global population lives in towns and cities.

By the year 2050, six billion people – twothirds of humanity – will be living in towns and cities. And as urban centres grow, the locus of global poverty is moving into towns and cities, especially into the burgeoning informal settlements and slums, of the developing world. In the developing world, this is happening so fast that slums are mushrooming in what is termed the urbanization of poverty. And for this, we need innovative governance, and local thinking and reporting if we are to bring hope to the urban poor. Equally importantly, we need to support our towns and cities, indeed our countries, to adopt propoor policies and strategies that will obviate the need for further slum creation.

It is against this background, that the Human Settlements Financing Tools and Best Practices series focuses on the development of know-how, knowledge and tools in human settlements financing, from which Member States can learn in delivering affordable housing to the poor.

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