



Research Project on Parliamentary Monitoring Organizations

International Conference on Benchmarking and Self-Assessment for Democratic Parliaments

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PMO Project

- Purpose
 - -Global mapping of PMOs
 - Identify best practices & facilitate sharing
 - Suggest opportunities for supporting PMOs to international donor community
- Methodology
 - -Survey: 63 responses
 - Interviews: PMOs, international orgs & institutions
 - Document review

Why PMOs?

- PMOs show potential for improving citizen knowledge of their parliaments, citizen participation in parliamentary processes and, ultimately, incentive structures that govern parliamentary behavior
- PMOs can be catalysts for discussion of emerging international benchmarks for democratic parliaments
- Despite unnecessarily confrontational approach practiced by some, PMOs can be effective in supporting MPs and reform efforts
- Greater engagement of PMOs on the international level and development of tools to facilitate sharing of information and best practices among them can enhance PMO support for parliamentary reform
- PMOs are going to monitor and evaluate parliaments whether like it or not, so let's make it a more useful endeavor

Definition of PMOs for Mapping Project

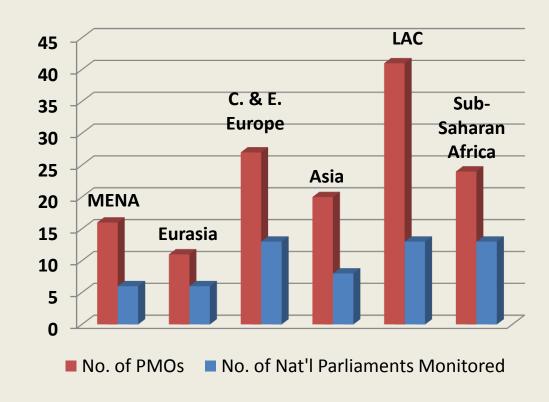
- Monitoring, assessing, or evaluating the performance and functioning of legislative institutions with a purpose of providing greater public access to those institutions.
 - ✓ National, sub-national and international parliaments
 - ✓ One substantial project within past 5 years
 - ✓ Primarily non-profits (some with for-profit arm), volunteer groups
 - x Groups that only do budget monitoring
 - x Single-issue monitoring unrelated to parliamentary processes
 - x External parliamentary support projects

Preliminary Findings: Global Context for Parliamentary Monitoring

- Financial support: Around 90% of PMOs in developing countries rank int. donor support in top 3 financing sources
- Technical assistance providers: OSI, TI, NDI, IBP; mySociety/OSI initiative
- Limited international networking:
 - Budget monitoring: International Budget Partnership
 - Regional: Latin American Legislative Observatories Network (nascent)
 - eDemocracy Summit
- Limited awareness of international tools:
 - Only 30% affirmed that democracy assessment or parliamentary monitoring and assessment tools produced by international organizations have contributed to their methodologies
 - Only 15% referred to benchmarks and assessment tools discussed at this conference

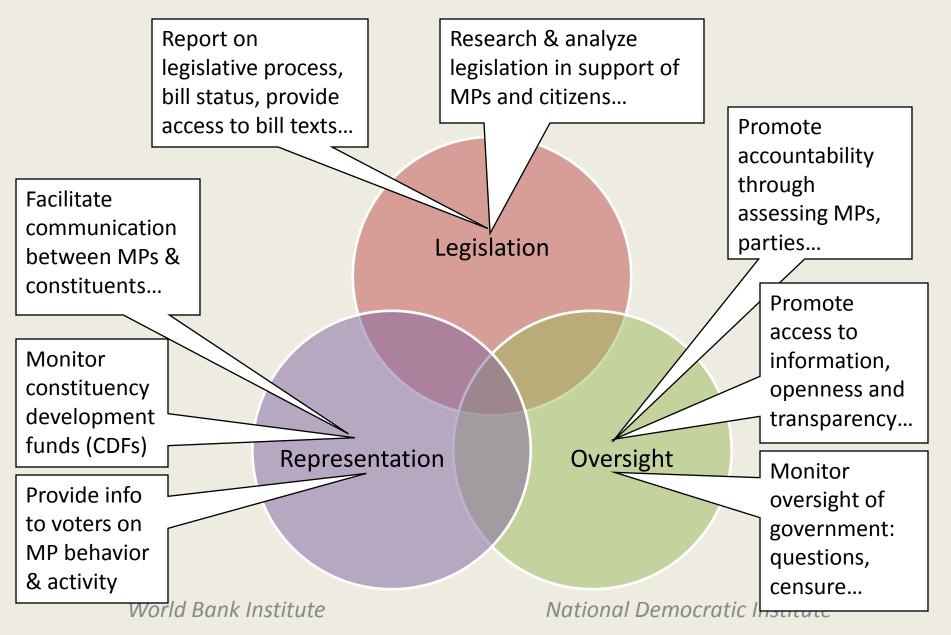
Mapping PMOs

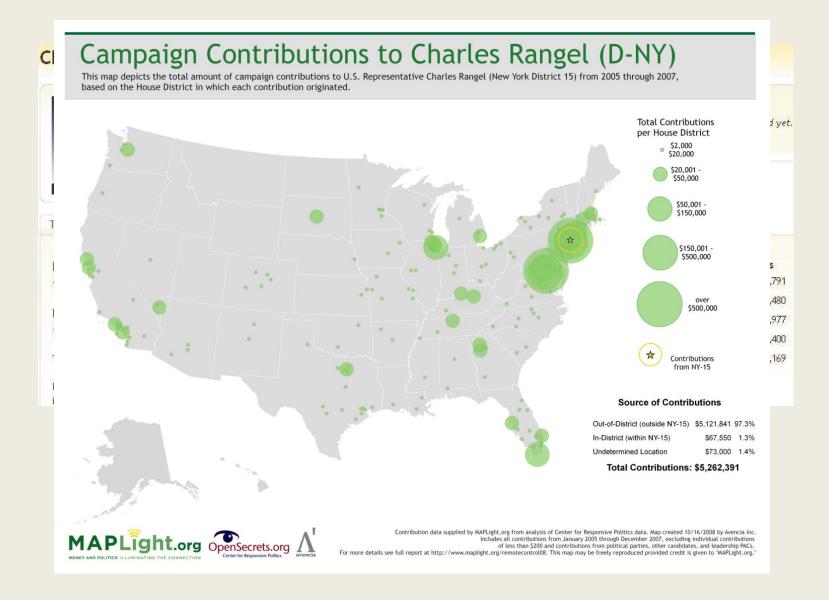
- Total PMOs: 187 and counting
- Countries: 69, EP &
 UN
- Most monitoring national parliaments
- 18% monitor nat'l and sub-nat'l parliaments (survey)
- 71% conduct
 assessments or
 scorecards of MPs,
 parliaments, etc.
 (survey)



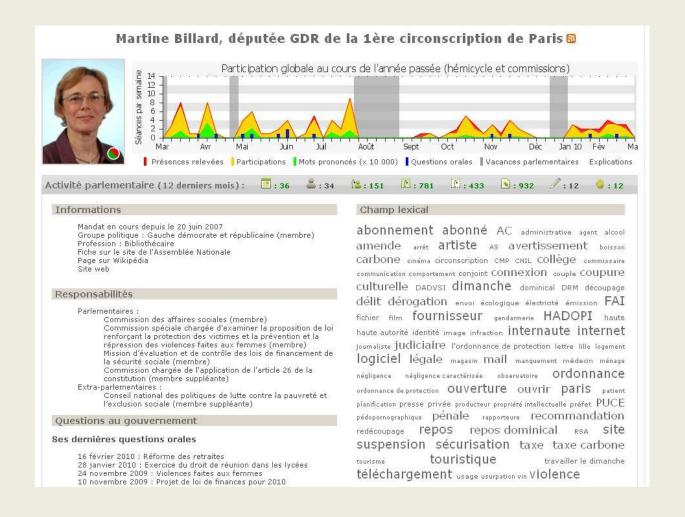
U.S. & Canada: 18; W. Europe: 22; New Zealand & Australia: 3; EP & UN: 8

What do PMOs do?



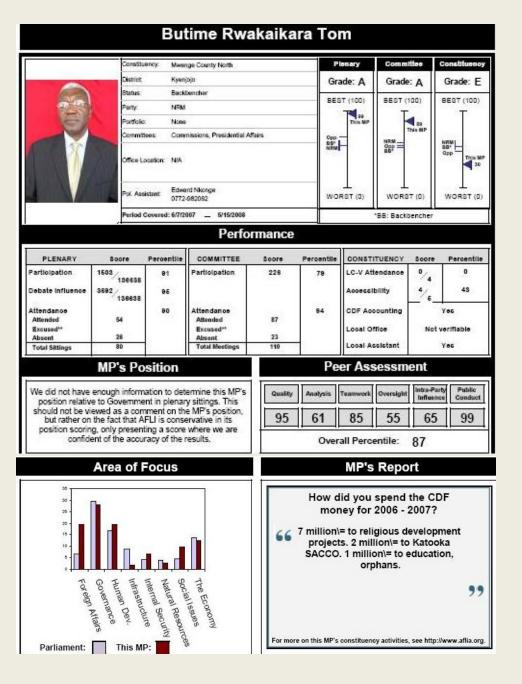


MAPLight.org - USA



NosDeputes.fr - France

African Leadership Institute Uganda

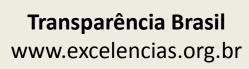


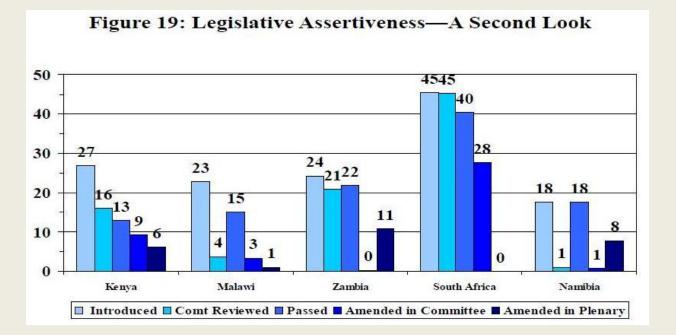


Muhuri – Kenya www.internationalbudget.org

African Legislatures
Project

www.africanlegislaturesproject.org





Casas Legislativas								Judiciários		Trib. Contas
Estado	Projetos	Presenças		Verbas		Orçamento 2009		- 2a	3.30.50	
		Plenário	Comissões	Indenizatória	Viagens	Por parlamentar	Per capita	Instância	Acórdãos	Decisões
Senado	Sim	Não	Não	5im	Não	33.863.899,44	14,47			
Câmara	Sim	Sim	Sim	Sim	Sim	6.886.571,33	18,63			
AC	Sim	Não	Não	Não	Não	3.435.188,53	121,23	Sim	Sim	Não
AL	Sim	1986	Não	Não	Não	4.200.000,00	36,26	Sim	Sim	Não
AM	Não	Sim	Não	Não	Não	5.947.166,67	42,72	Sim	5im	Sim
AP	Sim	Não	Não	Não	Não	3.786.946,88	148,23	Não	Sim	Não
ва	5im	Sim	Não	5im	Não	4.149.567,38	18,03	Sim	1450	Sim
CE	Sim	Sim	Sim	Não	Não	5.030.075,02	27,38	Não	Sim	Sim
ES	Sim	Sim	Sim	Não	Sim	3.300.080,07	28,67	Sim	Sim	Sim
GO	Não:	Sim	Não	Sim	Não	3.645.024,39	25,57	Não	Sim	Sim
MA	Sim	Sim	Não	Não	Não	3.159.317,14	21,04	Sim	5im	Sim
MG	Sim	Sim	Sim	Sim	Não	10.777.722,74	41,81	Sim	Sim	Não
MS	Sim	Não	Não	Não	Não	6.814.166,67	70,01	Sim	Sim	Sim

Approaches to Effective Parliamentary Monitoring

- Developing credibility within parliament and society is necessary for constructively adding to discussion on parliamentary performance
- Seeking cooperation with MPs and making greater efforts to avoid confrontation (e.g., Directorio Legislativo)
- Understanding political context
 - Moving from data that is available to data that catalyzes reform
 - Balancing a focus on MPs with a focus on parliamentary institution can highlight incentives that govern MP behavior
- Effectively using comparisons against regional or international norms and standards (shifting the debate from what parliaments should do to what has been done by other parliaments)
 - International tools & benchmarks provide possible frameworks

Areas of Consideration for the International Community

- Inclusion of PMOs in debate on benchmarks for democratic parliaments can help them engage in more constructive parliamentary monitoring
- Need to support sharing of experience and joint advocacy among PMOs
- Development of a generic website framework for PMOs can facilitate use of ICT for parliamentary monitoring around the globe

Next Steps

- Finalization of global PMO mapping report
- NDI side event for PMOs at World Movement for Democracy conference April 11-14, 2010 in Jakarta
- Development of online tools for sharing of PMO products and information
 - AGORA a possible forum for on-line PMO networking
- Regional videoconferences for PMO leaders, followed by a conference of PMO heads