



ИНСТИТУТ БЮДЖЕТНЫХ РЕШЕНИЙ

# PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING IN RUSSIA

Aleksander Kovalevskiy  
February 2022

# What is participatory budgeting?

Participatory budgeting is a form of direct public participation in the implementation of local governance by proposing projects aimed at addressing priority problems for residents.

Through the mechanism of participatory budgeting, projects proposed by residents are implemented, such as landscaping, construction of a playground or sports field, and others.

Residents and entrepreneurs can participate in the implementation of the project by making small voluntary payments or providing materials and equipment. Residents can also participate by providing unpaid labor.

Most of the funds for the project are provided by local and, in some cases, regional budgets.

Residents have significant rights to monitor and control project implementation

# Preconditions for participatory budgeting:

1

DISTANCING OF PEOPLE FROM  
THE AUTHORITIES OF THE  
COUNTRY BY

Reducing the number of  
representative bodies (the  
number of residents per deputy  
has increased tenfold)

Enlargement of municipalities

2

INTEREST OF THE AUTHORITIES  
IN SUPPORTING THIS TYPE OF  
CIVIC ACTIVITY

Instruction from the president - at  
least 5% of the local budget  
should be spent taking into  
account the opinion of citizens

The Russian Ministry of Finance -  
methodological recommendations  
for regions and municipalities,  
monitoring of PB development,  
taking into account the  
development of PB when  
assessing the quality of regional  
and municipal finance  
management

# Cycle of participatory budgeting:

1. Idea (putting the project forward)
2. Finding supporters (door-to-door visits, social networks...)
3. Finding out what residents think about the project (meetings, citizen conferences, surveys, collecting signatures)
4. Development of pre-selected projects
5. Submission of the projects to the local administration
6. The local administration reviews the projects (compliance with the authorities, financial possibilities, technical feasibility)
7. Refinement of the project
8. Municipal calls for proposals
9. In some cases - nomination of the project by the municipality to the regional contest for co-financing
10. Project implementation (municipal procurement, citizen participation)
11. Public control of the results of project implementation



## What are the benefits of participatory budgeting?

### 1. For residents

- implementation of priority projects for them, as close as possible to the consumer of public goods; in some cases, the possibility of attracting additional extra-budgetary funds

### 2. For business

- ensuring favorable conditions for its employees outside working hours (corporate social responsibility)

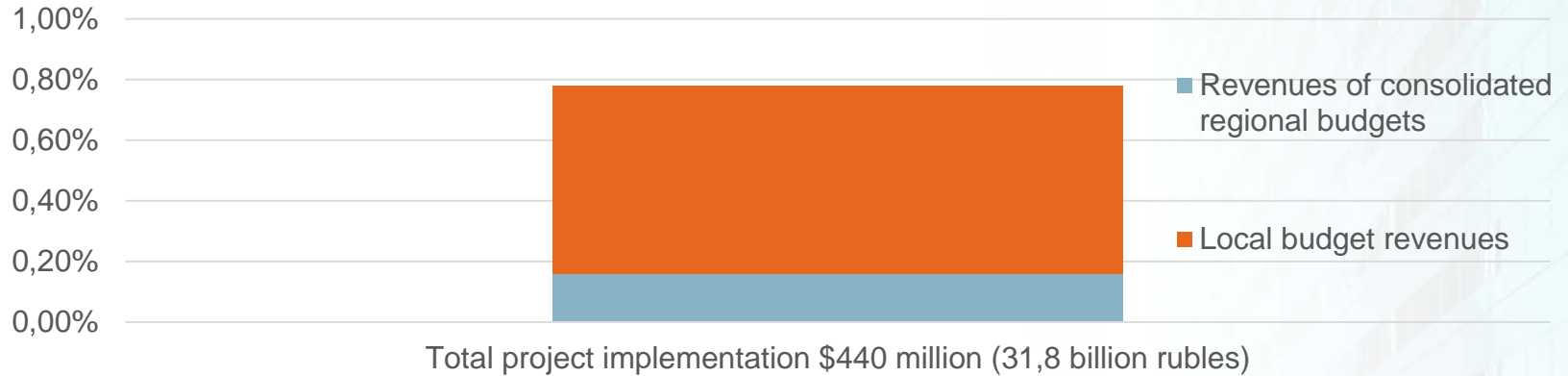
### 3. For authorities

– dialogue with the population, taking into account the priority problems of the population, increasing the efficiency of budget expenditures

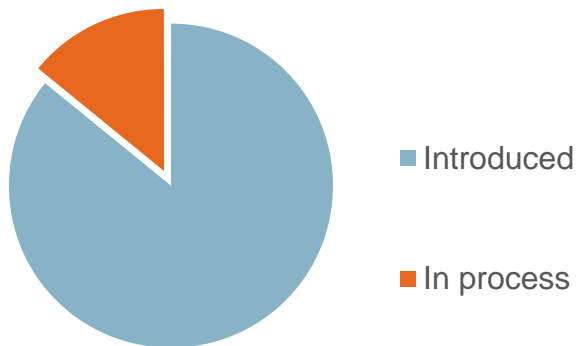
## RESULTS

- Residents behave responsibly towards the facilities created by the PB
- Authorities get more trust from the residents

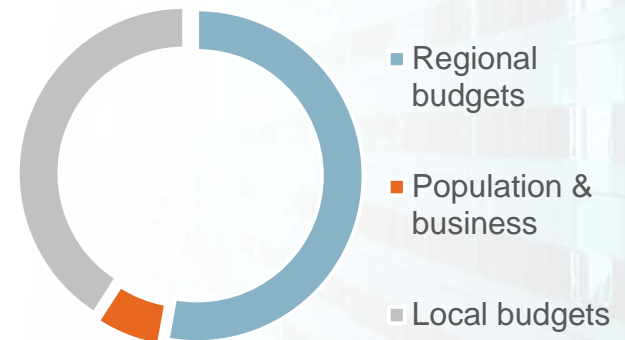
# Scope of participatory budgeting (2020)



Implementation of participatory budgeting in the RF regions, 2020



Sources of financing



## Legal framework

Until 2020 there was no legal regulation at the federal level

From 2020, amendments to the Budget Code and the law “On the General Principles of Local Self-Government Organization”

Budget Code: initiative payments are spent exclusively on financing participatory projects

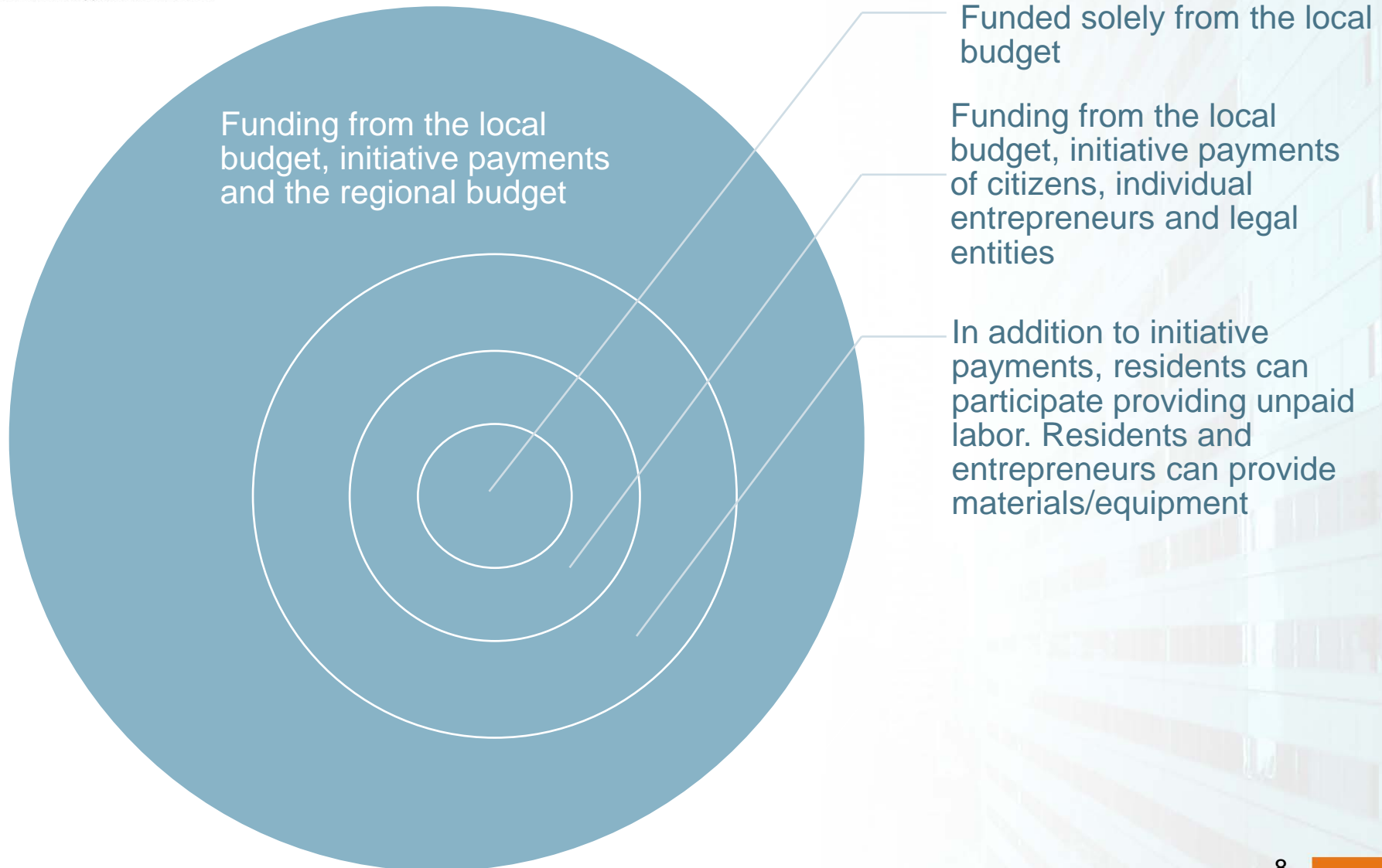
Law on local self-governance - LSG bodies are obliged to create conditions for the implementation of participatory projects

Any participation of residents and entrepreneurs (financial, labor, property) is exclusively voluntary for each resident (entrepreneur)

At the same time, financial and/or non-financial contributions are often mandatory for the selection of the project

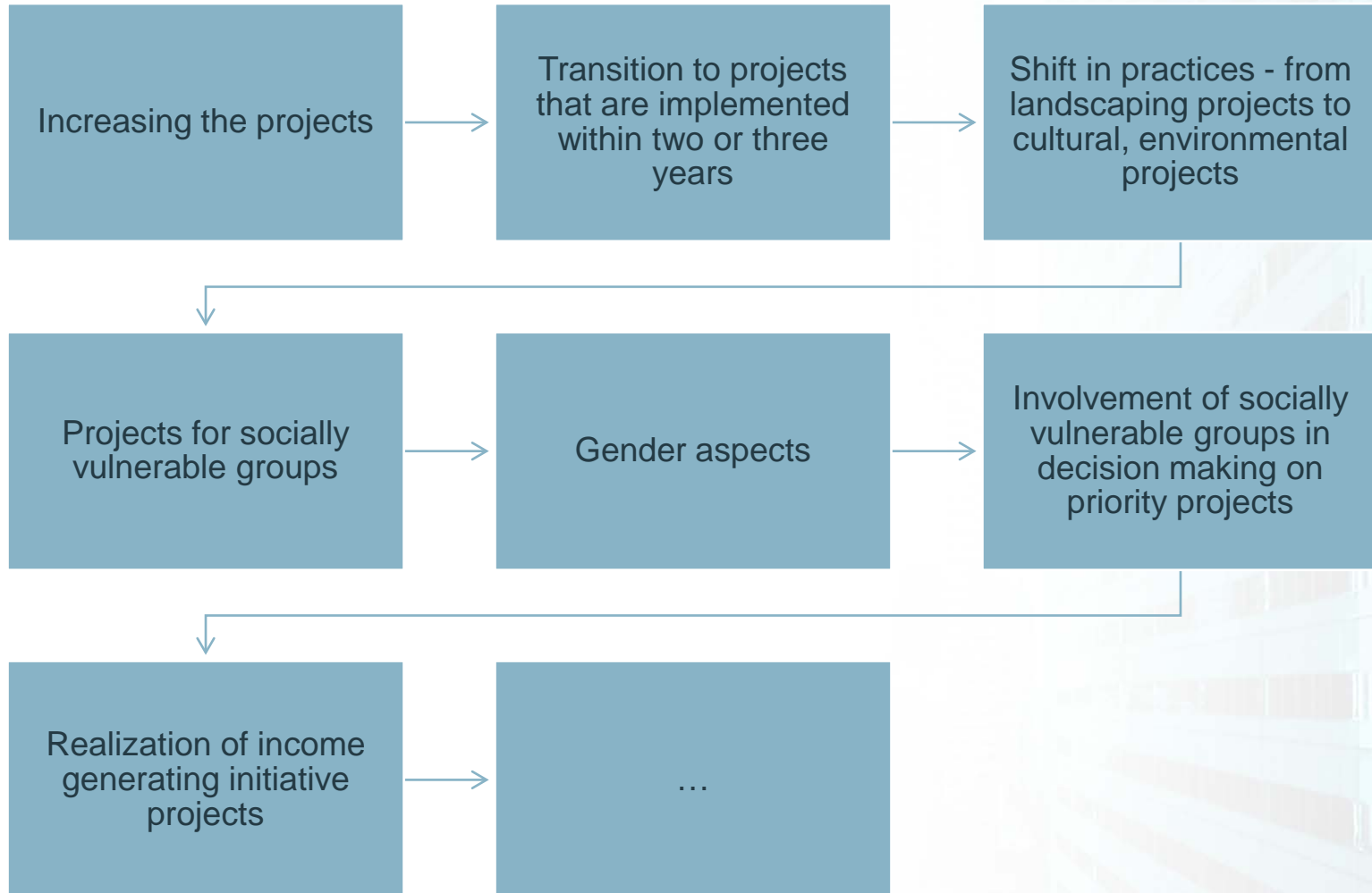


## Sources of funding and practices





## Tendencies



## Support. Project centers of participatory budgeting:

Developing the design of participatory budgeting practices and necessary documents

Training for employees of local government bodies, NGOs and volunteers

Collection of project ideas, organization and moderating discussions

Technical analysis and finalizing of project proposals (project co-design)

Organizing and conducting citizens' votes for the implementation of participatory budgeting

Informing the residents in different stages of the project

Process automation (development and support of information systems of PB practices management, development and maintenance of the participatory budgeting portal, etc.)

Monitoring of the implementation of participatory budgeting projects

Analysis of results, assessment of the socio-economic effects of participatory budgeting

Send us your questions!  
[info@budget-solution.ru](mailto:info@budget-solution.ru)

