

Framework conditions for effective public investment across levels of government





The OECD Recommendation on the Governance of Public Investment

Pillar 1

Co-ordinate across governments and policy areas

- · Invest using an integrated strategy tailored to different places
- · Adopt effective co-ordination instruments across levels of government
- Co-ordinate across SNGs to invest at the relevant scale

Pillar 2

Strengthen capacities and promote policy learning across levels of government

- Assess upfront long term impacts and risks
- Encourage stakeholder involvement throughout investment cycle
- Mobilise private actors and financing institutions
- Reinforce the expertise of public officials & institutions
- · Focus on results and promote learning

Pillar 3

Ensure sound framework conditions at all levels of government

- Principle 9: Develop a fiscal framework adapted to the objectives pursued
- Principle 10: Require sound, transparent financial management
- Principle 11: Promote transparency and strategic use of procurement
- Principle 12: strive for quality and consistency in regulatory systems across levels of government



Principle 12: Strive for quality and consistency in regulatory systems across levels of government

– RATIONALE:

- To promote quality and coherence of regulations. In many OECD countries, SNGs face inflationary regulation, overlapping/contradictory regulation across levels of government.
- To enhance the regulatory capacity of SNGs.

POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS:

- Implementation of formal co-ordination and harmonisation mechanisms between levels of government that impose specific obligations in relation to regulatory practice e.g. intergovernmental platforms, mutual recognition policies, regulatory harmonisation agreements, and regulatory uniformity agreements
- Review regularly the stock of regulations, assessing costs and benefits of new regulations and taking compliance costs for SNGs innto accounts
- Implement effective RIA mechanisms across levels of government
- Implement programmes fostering SNG capacity for regulatory quality.

GOOD PRACTICES IN THE OECD COUNTRIES

Australia: Council of Australian Governments: common framework for benchmarking, measuring, and reporting regulatory burden across levels of government, and to set quantifiable targets for reducing red tape

Canada: A Federal, Provincial and Territorial Working Group on Regulatory Reform has been created as a forum to help build a shared approach to regulatory reform. Its work includes developing common regulatory principles, developing a consistent approach to regulatory impact analysis and sharing best practices



Principle 11: Promote transparency and strategic use of procurement

RATIONALE

- Procurement is integral to public investment. But it also the government activity most vulnerable to waste, fraud and corruption.
- On average, 55% of public procurement spending occurs sub-nationally but many SNGs lack the capabilities to conduct procurement.
- Need of transparency through the procurement cycle, professionalisation, better accountability and control mechanisms and.
- POTENTIAL SOLUTIONS
- Provide guidance and stability for SNGs for procurement
- Collaborate for procurement e.g. purchasing alliances, framework agreements, central purchasing bodies
- Encourage the use of e-procurement tools and harmonise procurement practices
- Professionalize procurement through training programmes.
- Encourage the use of procurement by SNGs as a strategic tool to foster green development and innovation.

GOOD PRACTICES

Chile: creation of Chile Compra

Slovenia: simplification of administrative procedures and technical assistance to municipalities

Ireland: National Procurement Service

Spain/Galicia: web platform w/one-stop shop for procurement for all public entities, including municipalities; e-procurement system

Sweden/Skane: collaborative procurement in the health sector

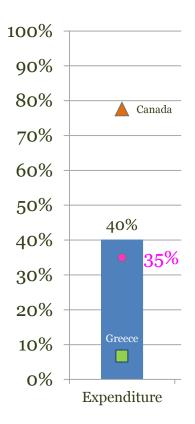
✓ Within the EU, corruption is estimated to cost EUR 120 billion per year

√ 41% of quantifiable errors for absorption of EU funds in 2006-09 are associated with procurement



SNGs are key economic and policy actors across the OECD: SNGs expenditure





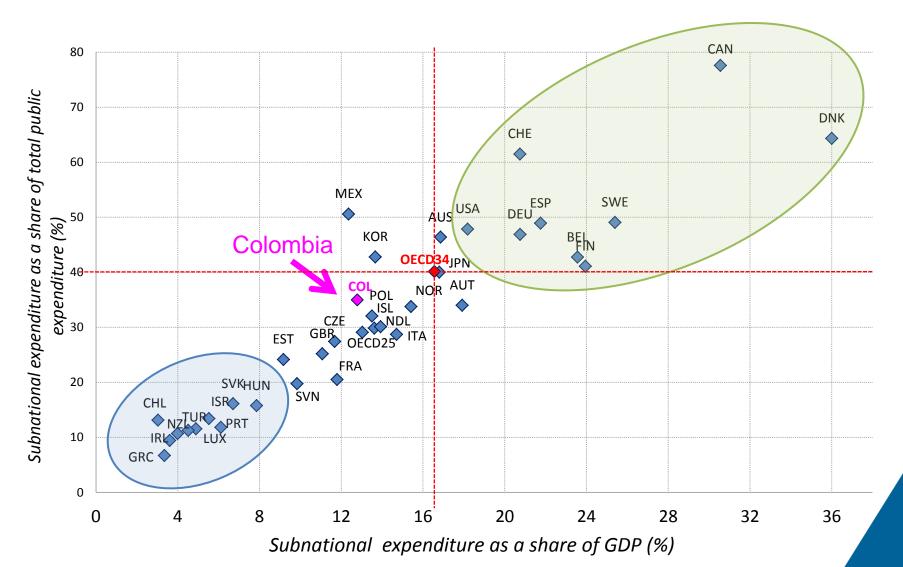
^{*: 2013} data for Colombia for all indicators except debt (2014)

^{**:} No data for Chile and Australia

^{***:} Debt OECD definition ie including, in addition to "financial debt", insurance reserves and other accounts payable. No data for Mexico, Chile and New Zealance

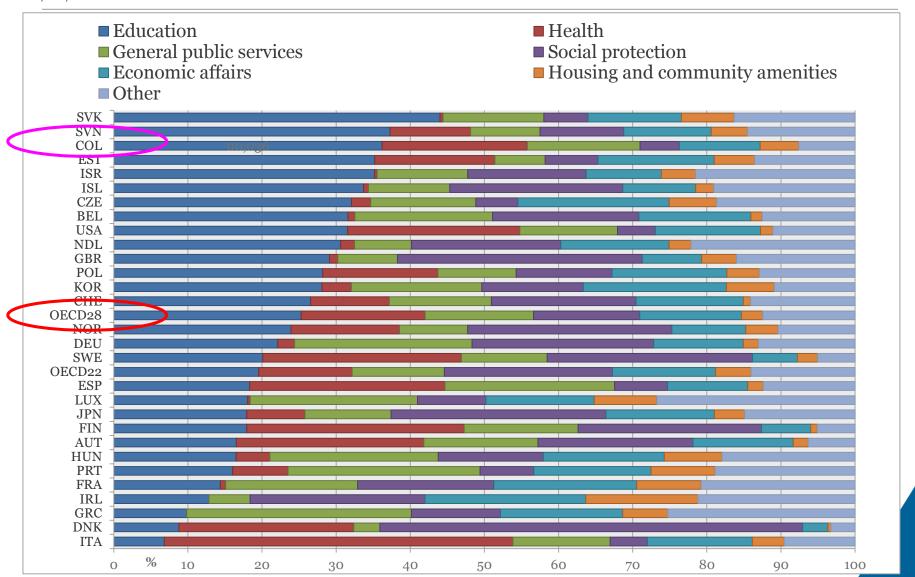


SNGs expenditure as a % of GDP and public expenditure in 2014 in the OECD and Colombia



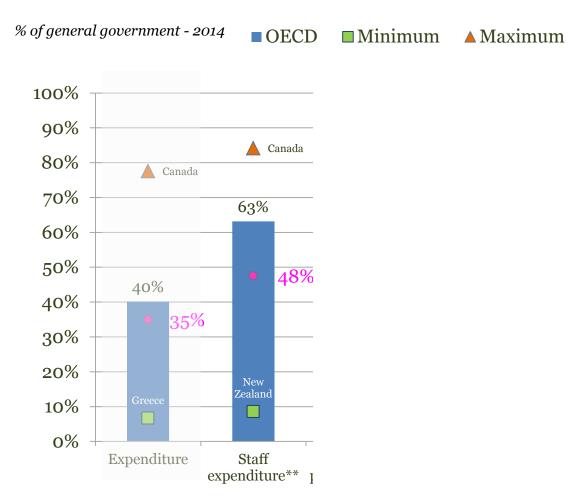


SNGs spending responsibilities in the OECD and Colombia





Colombia*



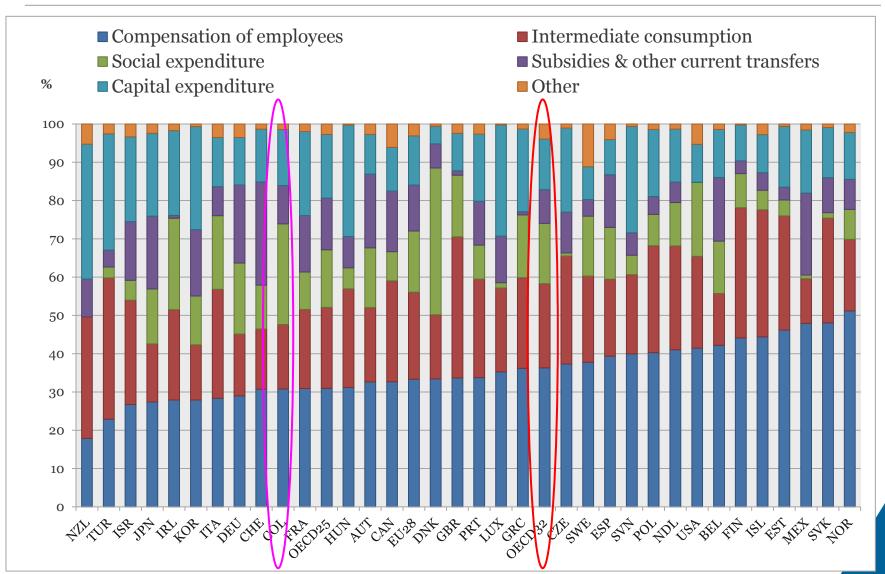
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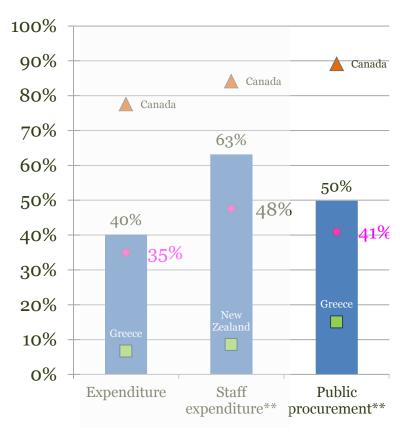


Breakdown of SNG expenditure by type (%, 2014)







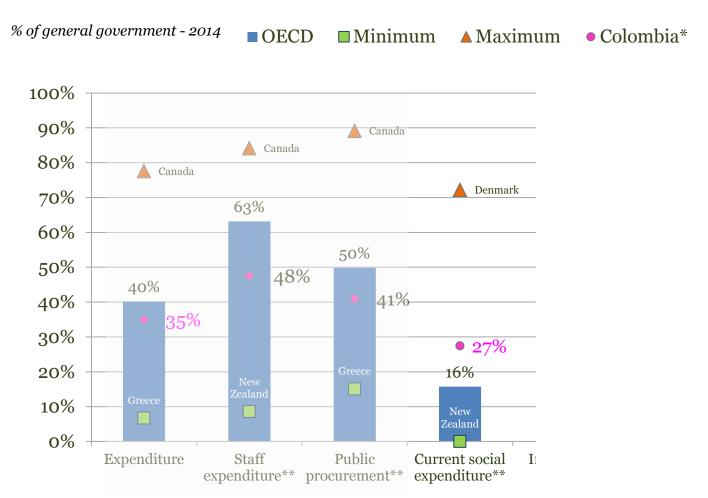


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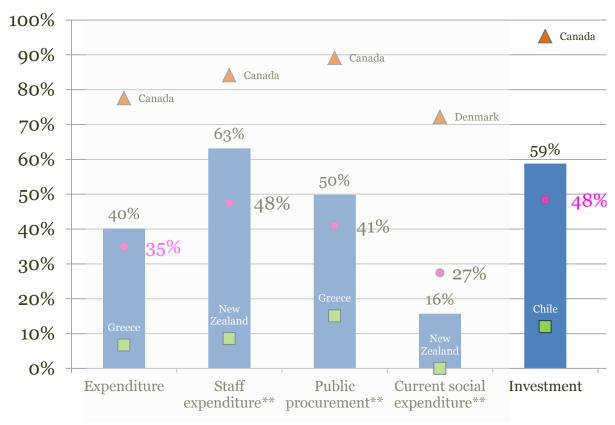
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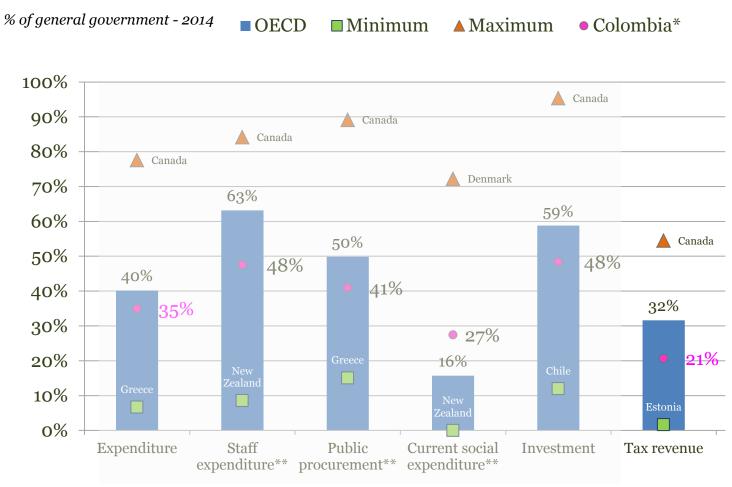


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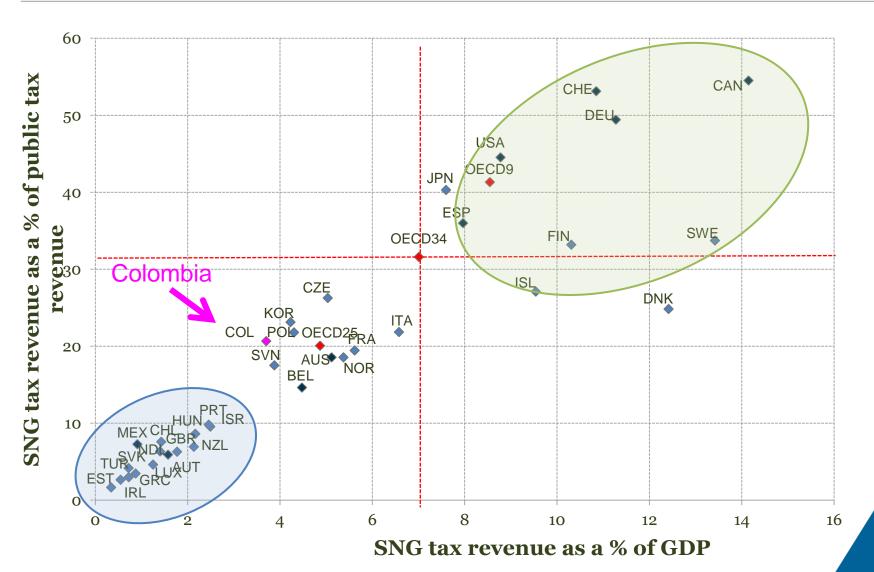
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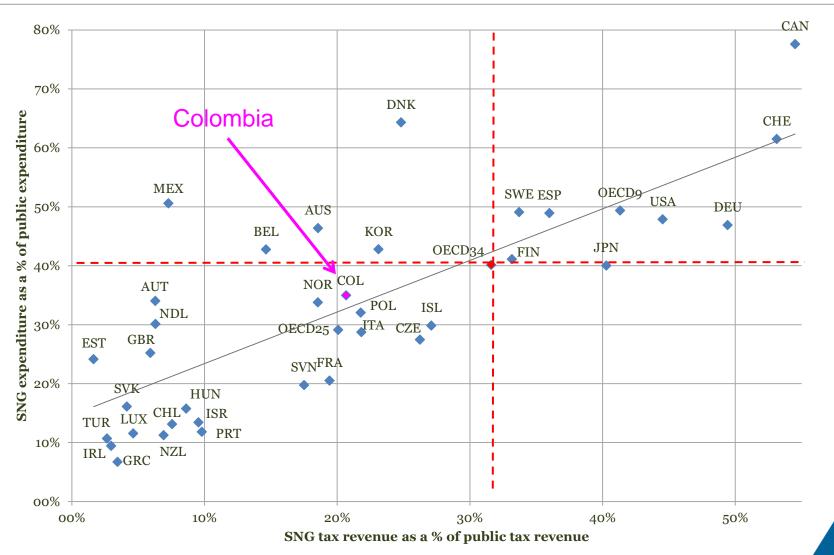


Subnational government tax revenue as a % of public tax revenue and as a % of GDP, 2014



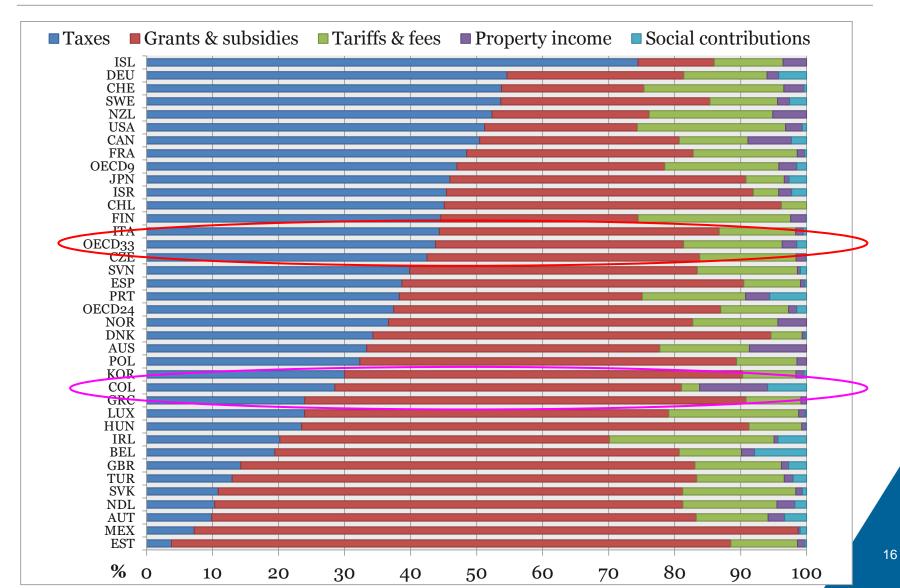


Share of SNG expenditure and tax revenue in general government



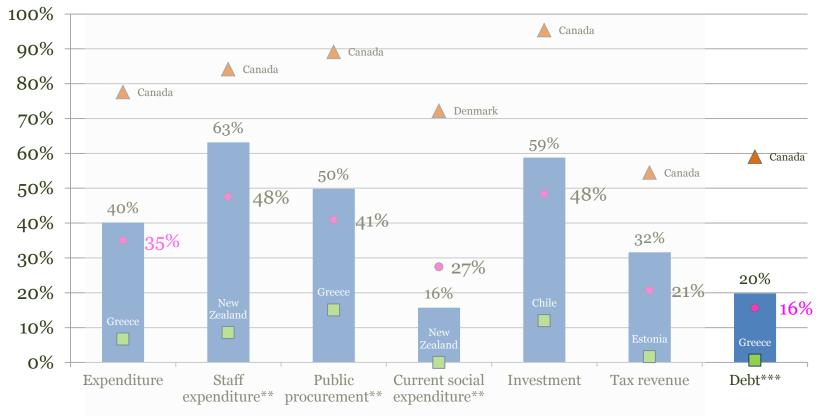


Sources of SNG revenue in the OECD and Colombia (Breakdown of SNG revenue by category, %, 2013)









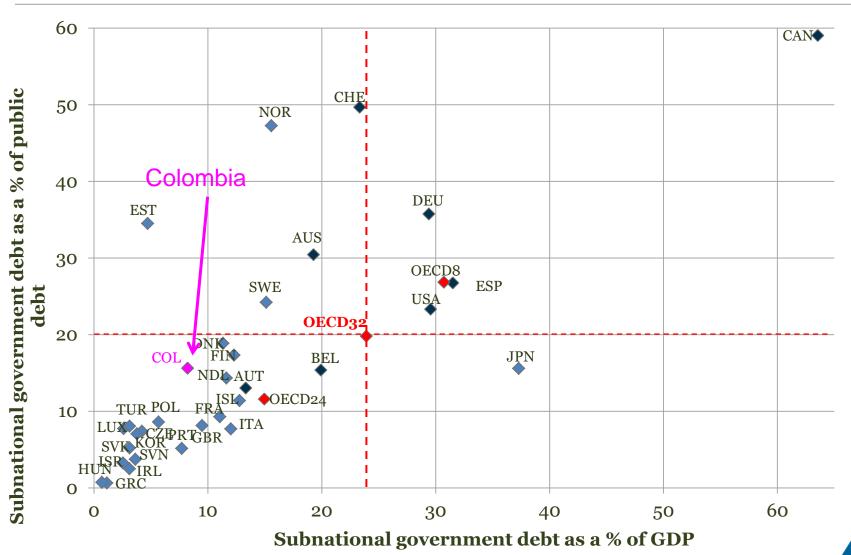
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Subnational government debt as a % of GDP and of public debt, 2014





Conclusion: Principles 9 and 10: appropriate fiscal framework and financial management

DEVELOP A FISCAL FRAMEWORK ADAPTED TO THE OBJECTIVES PURSUED

- To define appropriate fiscal arrangements in terms of transfers, own revenues and recourse to borrowing which reflect SNG spending responsibilities to avoid unfunded or under-funded mandates and to preserve SNG financial capacity to invest
- To encourage SNGs to play an active role in investment and development
- To align priorities across levels of government

REQUIRE SOUND AND TRANSPARENT FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT AT ALL LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT

- To ensure budgetary and financial accountability at all levels of government:
- To enhance transparency with citizens and other stakeholders
- To ensure national fiscal stability while preserving investment: find the right balance