BUDAPEST INSTITUTE

The Budapest Institute and Public (Budget) Data

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Budapest Institute for Policy Analysis

2017

who we are

Independent think tank (2008-)

- **Mission:** contributing to public policy making both in Hungary and the EU grounded in research evidence and promoting evidence-informed public discourse and policy debates

- **Activity:** producing public policy analyses and impact assessments to assist the planning, monitoring and evaluation of policy interventions

- **Facts:** economists and political scientist (12, full-time eq.), own office (210m^2), EUR 400.000 annual turnover (2016)

what we do

- Evaluation and impact assessment of public policy programmes in the fields of:
  - Employment and social policy
  - SME policy/ entrepreneurship and business environment
  - Education and health
  - Open government and better regulation
- Working with government data (incl. budget data)
- Mining, cleaning and analysing specific datasets managed by government agencies
- Advising policy makers and data holders in the public sector

what we do

Specific Analysis of administrative burden in the business sector
Data: Ministry of Economy - survey data
Hungarian Competition Authority

What do they promise? (2010, 2014) Data: party election programmes
Civil initiative

Transparency of municiaplity-owned enterprises in HU and in the V4 countries
Data: website content analysis, indexing
Visegrad Foundation

Transparency of state-owned enterprises in HU
Data: website content analysis, indexing
Open Society Foundation

Our Money! Visualization of the Hungarian budget
Data: national budget data
Open Society Institute

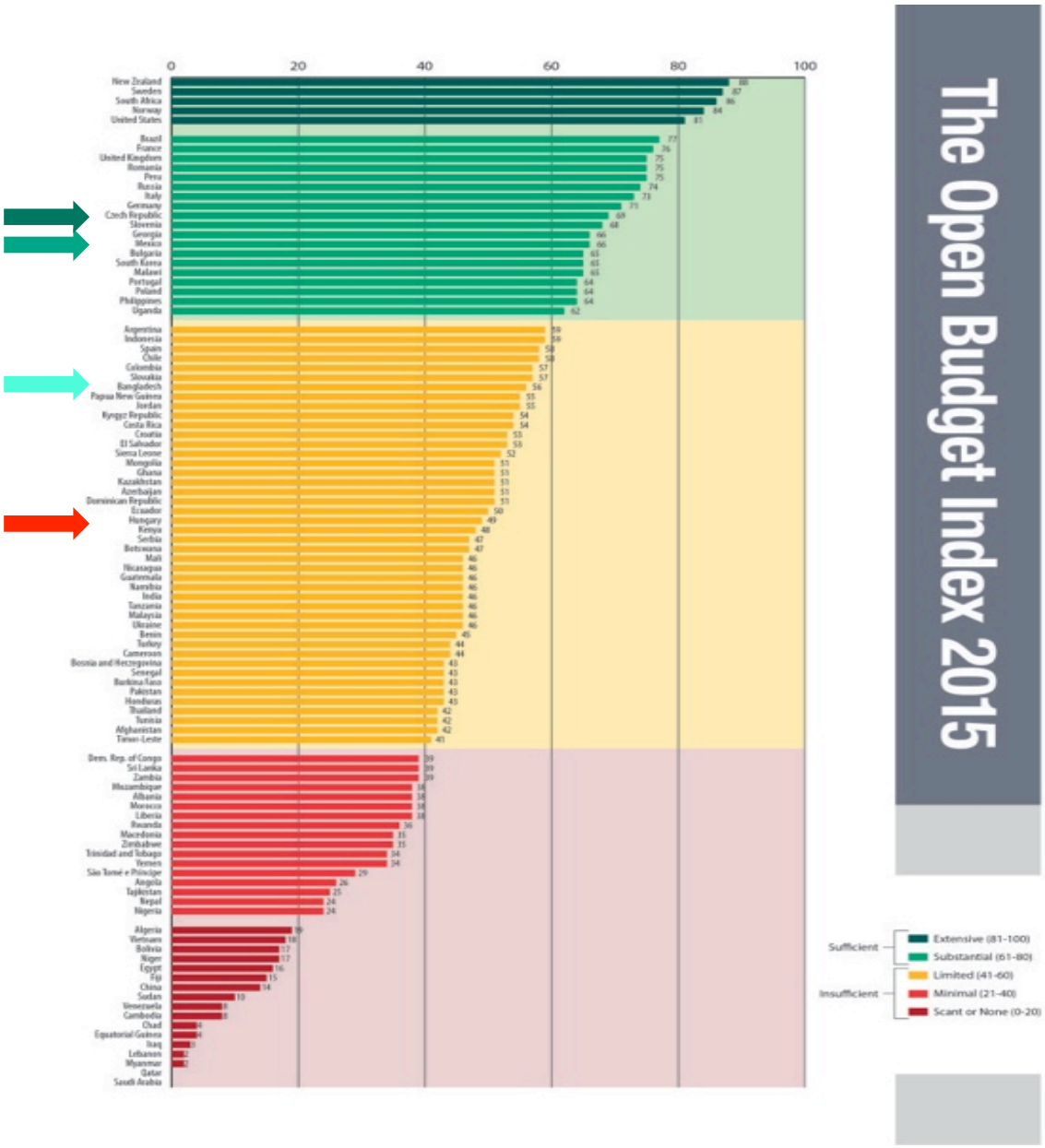
Transparency and accountability in national budget/ in public procurement
Data: stakeholder survey, media & admin.data
IBP, Visegrad Fund

Fiscal transparency in Hungary – A stakeholder analysis
Data: survey, conten analysis
Internaitonal Budget Partnership

Monitoring of Open Government Action Plan of Hungary
Data: admin.data, interviews
OGP Indepentent Report Mechanism

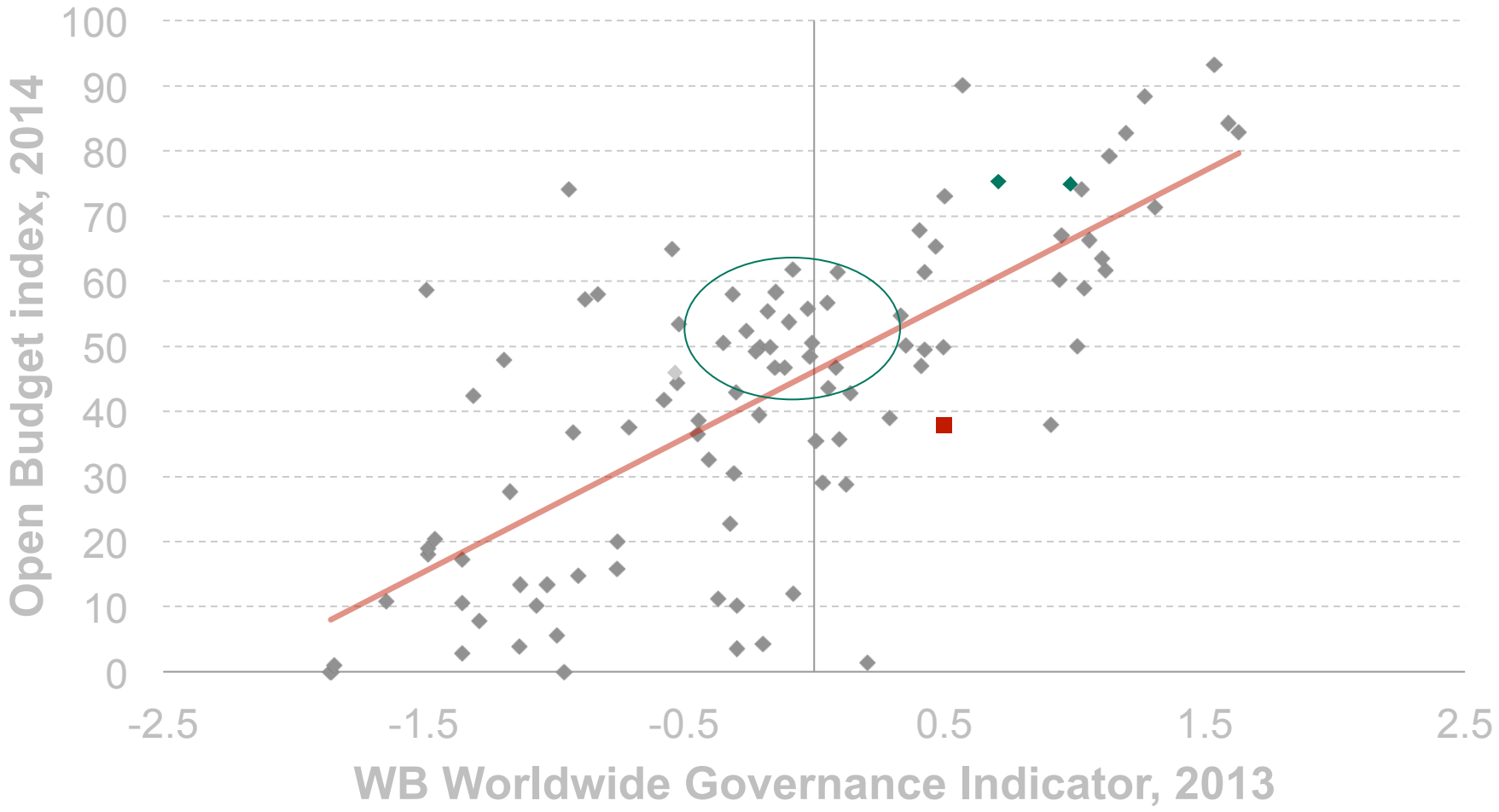
Impact assessment of SME-development measures (ERDF, GOP 2.1.1.)
Data: NDA, State Tax Authoriry; admin.data
NDA

Assessment of the business environment development initiatives
Data: Ministry of Economy; firm-level data
National Development Agency



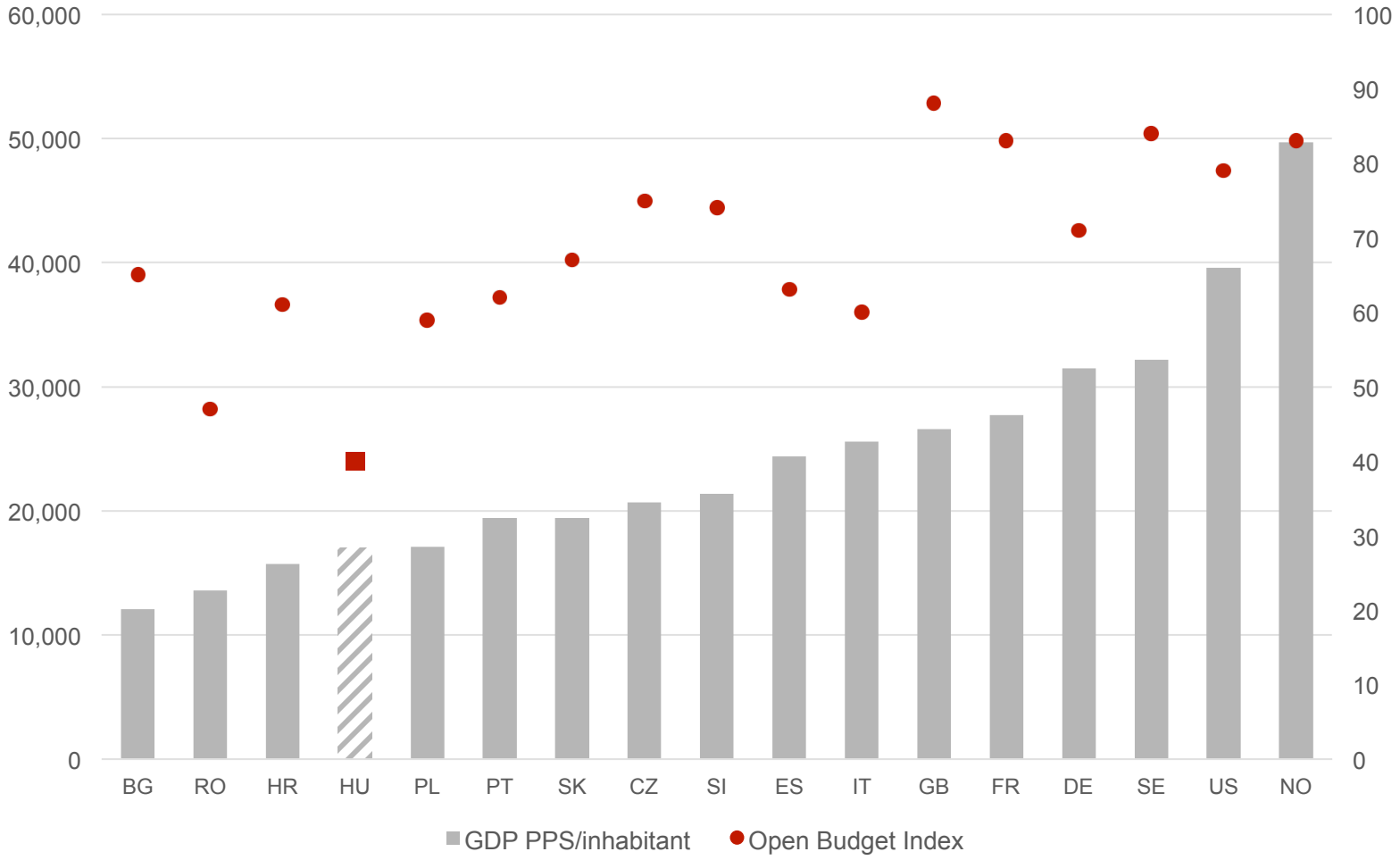
Sources: OBI 2015

government effectiveness and open budget



Sources: OBI 2014, WGI 2013, BI-KFIB 2014

economic development & open budget



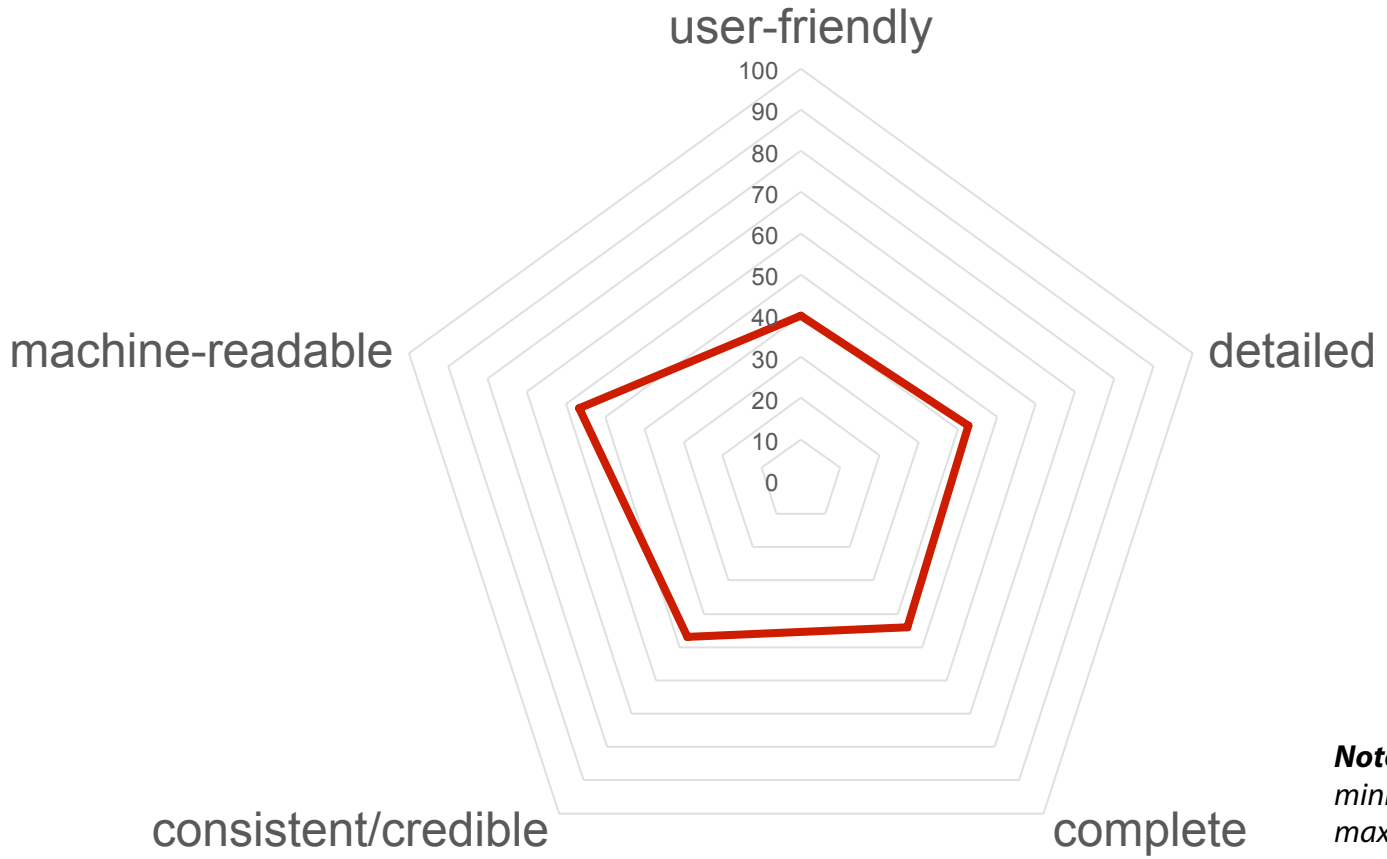
Sources: OBI 2013: http://survey.internationalbudget.org/#rankings, EUROSTAT, FRIB 2013: http://www.kfib.hu/uploads/up_20130314_111107_7468_Fiscal_transparency_in_Hungary_measured_by_the_methodology_of_the_Open_Budget_Index_merged.pdf

what we missed, 2014

Document	Current Status	Date of Publication	Next Publishing Period
Pre-Budget Statement	Not produced	Unavailable	Before 30 Nov 2014
Executive's Budget Proposal	Publicly available	30 September 2013	Before 31 Dec 2014
Enacted Budget	Publicly available	21 December 2013	Before 31 Mar 2015
Citizens Budget	Not produced	Unavailable	Same as either the Executive Budget Proposal or Enacted Budget.
In-Year Report	Publicly available	21 August 2014	Publishing period for each report is one to three months after a particular month/quarter ends.
Mid-Year Review	Not produced	Unavailable	Before 31 Dec 2014
Year-End Report	Publicly available	29 August 2013	Before 31 Dec 2014
Audit Report	Publicly available	29 August 2014	Before 30 Jun 2015

Source: Open Budget Survey Tracker:, 2014 http://obstracker.org

what we missed, 2014



***Note**: 0 stands for minimum, 100 for maximum satisfaction*

Source: BI 2014
http://budapestinstitute.eu/index.php/projektek/adatlap/a_koezponti_koeltsegvetes_atlathatosaga_a_magyarorszagi_helyzet_felterkepez/en

what we wanted to achieve – Our Money!

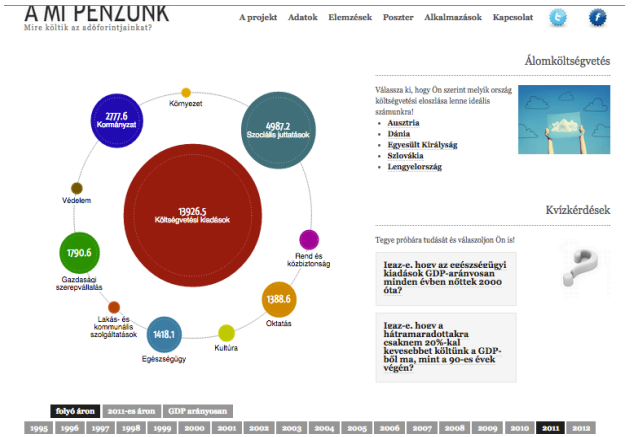
- to publish budget data in an easy-to-understand way
- share information on what is it spent for (*COFOG*)
- to help citizens/ journalists to understand spending items and budget tradeoffs
- to encourage problem-oriented data mining and analysis

what we did – Our Money!

- interactive online visualisation

www.amipenzunk.hu

- historical database (1996-2013)
- posters
- small stories
- teaching materials (v1.0)
- interactive gadgets (quiz, „dream budget")



➢ **target groups: secondary school teachers, journalists (collaborative workshops)**

what we've faced - challenges

- **Ąccess to data**: neither easy nor quick
- **Data quality**: lack of machine readable formats (.csv), lack of functional breakdown of budget data, time-inconsistencies
- **Professional knowledge**: "translation" of the numbers & extensive cleaning, additional data-gathering/-linking
- **IT trade-offs: "***free but fixed"*, difficulties in adapting open-source data visualization tool to specific needs

what we've learned - lessons

- **Ownership and motivation:** government agencies who use the data for analysis themselves tend to be more cooperative (*State Treasury*)

- **Participatory approach**: engaging with representatives of the main target groups / users, meeting their interests & questions

- **Web/IT development**: long, meticulous, iterative process, *3 (work in small steps, with strict deadlines!)

➢ **Budget visu is sexy but only one shot**: difficulties in keeping people's interest 'alive' (10000 unique visitors / day down to dozens w/in weeks)

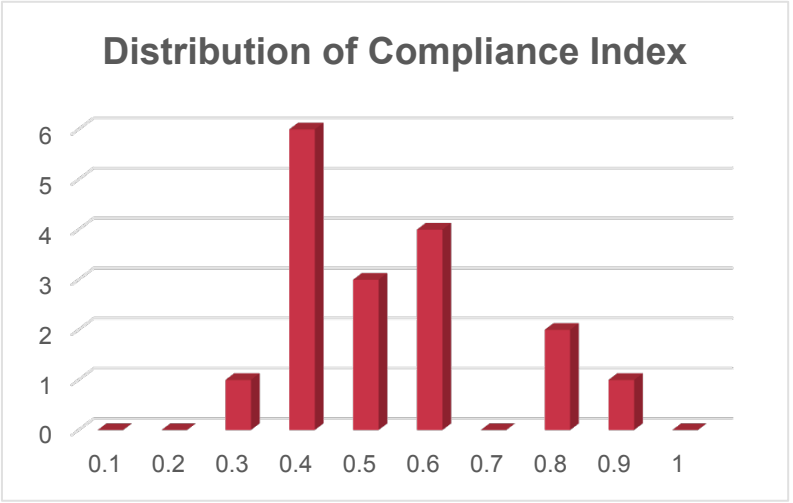
what we would prefer - recomms

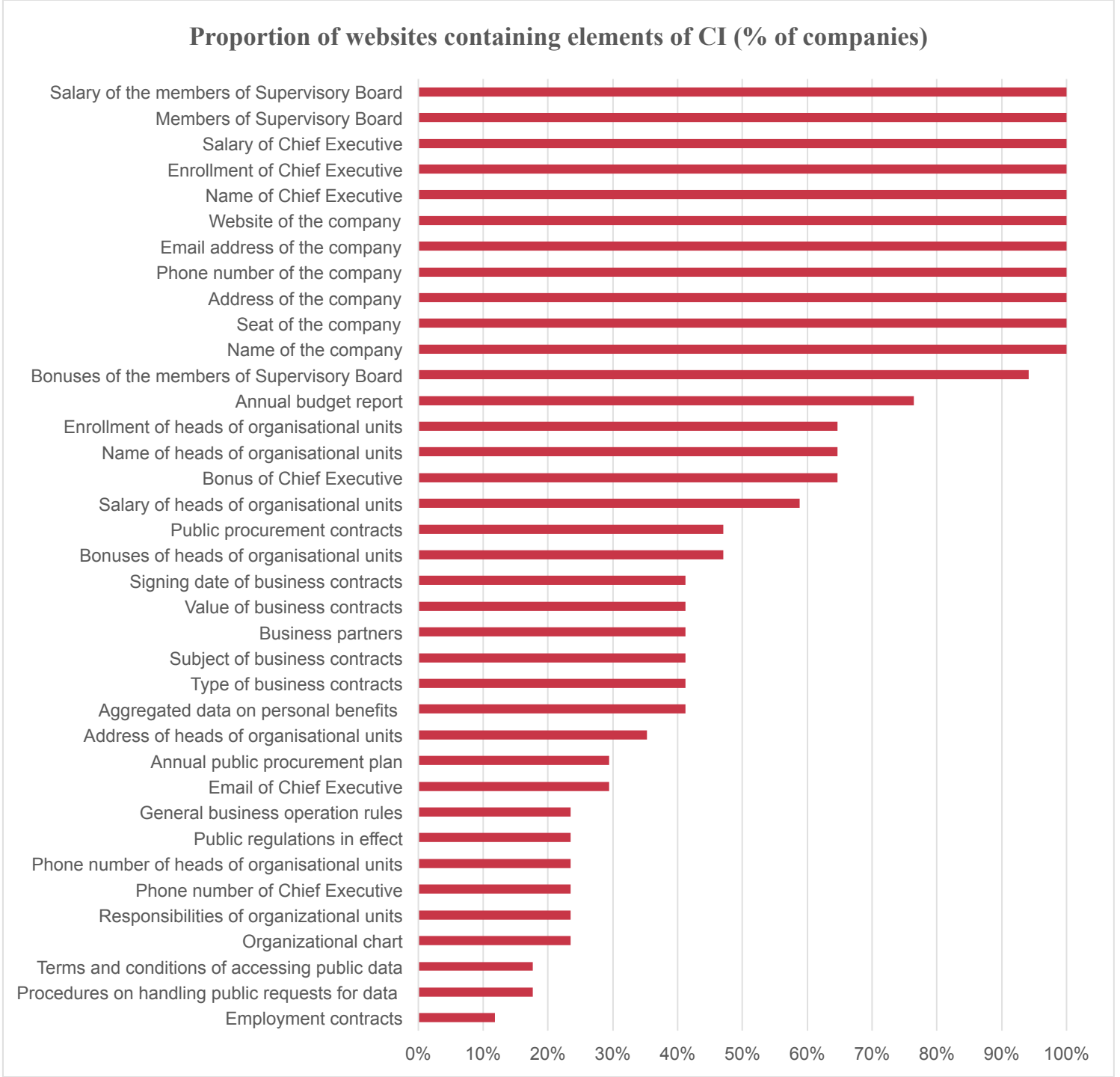
- ✓ *Go local!*
- ✓ *Link data to public services /quality of services in the focus of local communities!*
- ✓ *Start small and see how far it can be mainstreamed (one community for first step)*
- ✓ *Team up with local advocacy groups, activists!!*

what we did next

what we did – Compliance Index

Ranking	Company	CI
1	Szegedi Vízmű zrt	0.86
2	Szegedi Szabadtéri Nonprofit Kft.	0.74
3	Szegedi Közlekedési Kft.	0.73
4	Szegedi Vadaspark Nonprofit Kft.	0.55
5	Szegedi Sport és Fürdők Kft.	0.53
6	Szegedi Városkép és Piac Kft.	0.51
7	IKV Ingatlankezelő és Vagyongazdálkodó Zrt.	0.51
8	Szegedi Környezetgazdálkodási Nonprofit Kft	0.48
9	RITEK Zrt	0.46
10	Szeged Pólus Fejlesztési Nonprofit Kft.	0.43
11	Cserepes Sori Piac Kft.	0.38
12	Ligetfürdő Ingatlanfejlesztő és Fürdőüzemeltető Kft.	0.38
13	Szegedi Rendezvény- és Médiaközpont Nonprofit Kft	0.38
14	Szegedi Testamentum Nonprofit Kft.	0.36
15	Dorozsmai Nagybani Piac Üzemeltető Kft.	0.34
16	Szeged és Térsége Turisztikai Nonprofit Kft.	0.32
17	Szegedi Víziközmű Működtető és Fejlesztő Zrt.	0.25




Proportion of websites containing elements of CI (% of companies)
Salary of the members of Supervisory Board
Members of Supervisory Board
Salary of Chief Executive
Enrollment of Chief Executive
Name of Chief Executive
Website of the company
Email address of the company
Phone number of the company
Address of the company
Seat of the company
Name of the company
Bonuses of the members of Supervisory Board
Annual budget report
Enrollment of heads of organisational units
Name of heads of organisational units
Bonus of Chief Executive
Salary of heads of organisational units
Public procurement contracts
Bonuses of heads of organisational units
Signing date of business contracts
Value of business contracts
Business partners
Subject of business contracts
Type of business contracts
Aggregated data on personal benefits
Address of heads of organisational units
Annual public procurement plan
Email of Chief Executive
General business operation rules
Public regulations in effect
Phone number of heads of organisational units
Phone number of Chief Executive
Responsibilities of organizational units
Organizational chart
Terms and conditions of accessing public data
Procedures on handling public requests for data
Employment contracts
0%
10%
20%
30%
40%
50%
60%
70%
80%
90%
100%

what we did – Hard Information Index

Ranking	Company	HII
1	Szegedi Vízmű zrt	0.36
2	Szegedi Szabadtéri Nonprofit Kft.	0.36
3	IKV Ingatlankezelő és Vagyongazdálkodó Zrt.	0.36
4	Szegedi Közlekedési Kft.	0.36
5	Szegedi Sport és Fürdők Kft.	0.32
6	Szegedi Környezetgazdálkodási Nonprofit Kft	0.32
7	RITEK Zrt	0.29
8	Szeged Pólus Fejlesztési Nonprofit Kft.	0.29
9	Szegedi Testamentum Nonprofit Kft.	0.25
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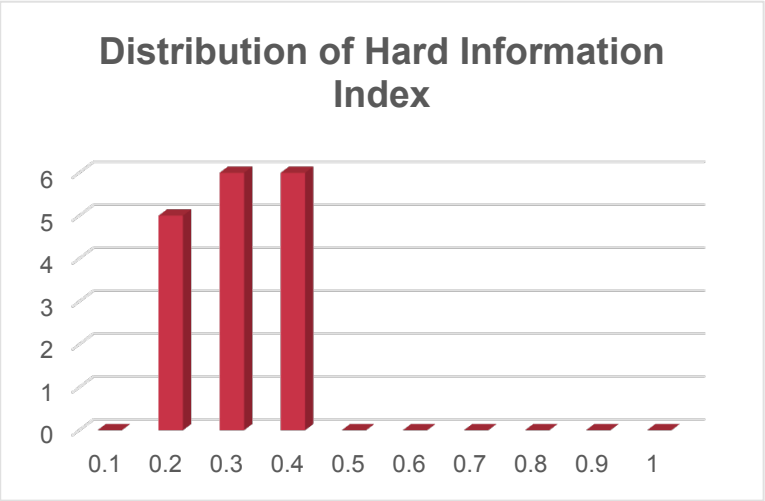
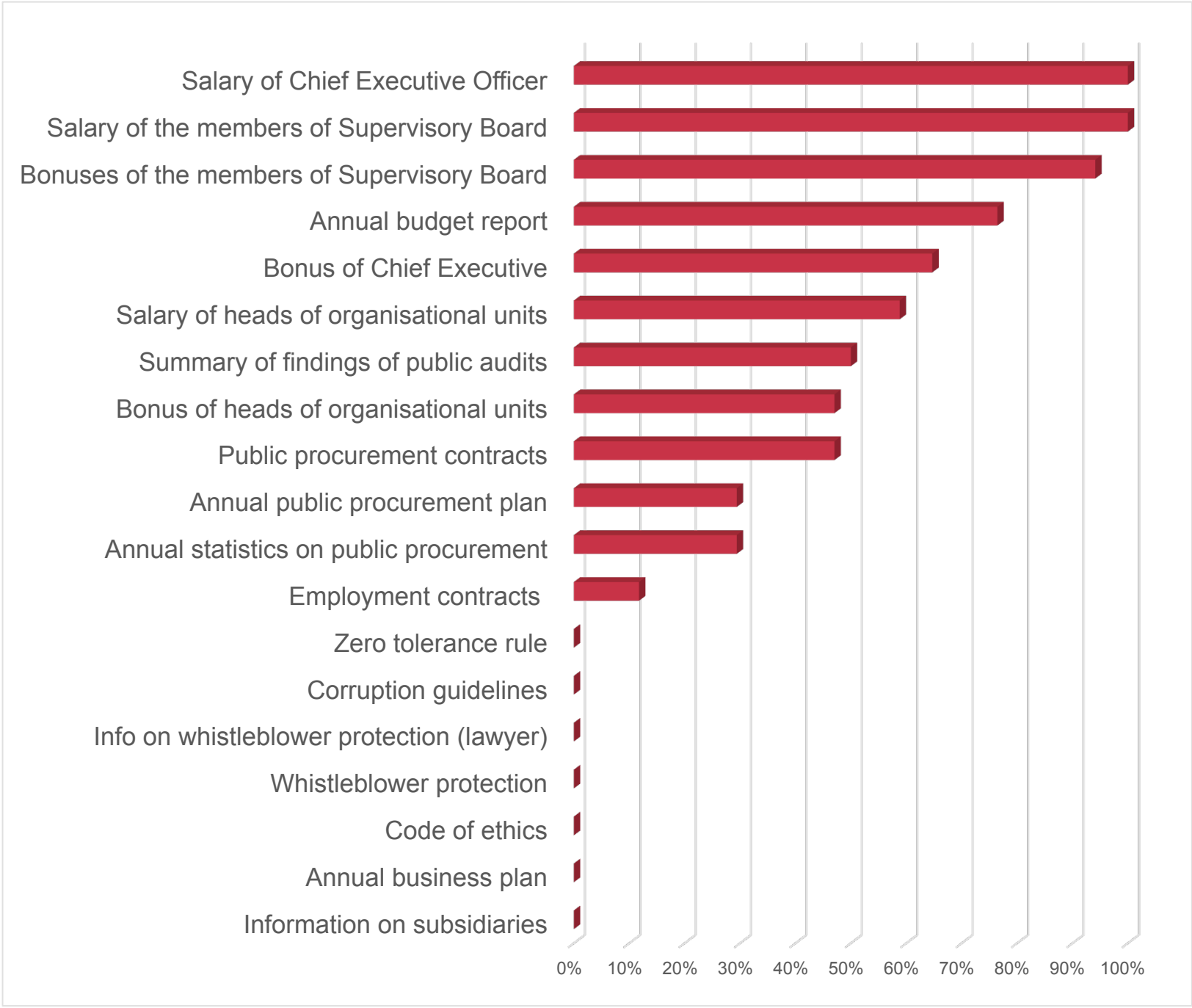
11	Szegedi Városkép és Piac Kft.	0.21
12	Szegedi Víziközmű Működtető és Fejlesztő Zrt.	0.21
13	Dorozsmai Nagybani Piac Üzemeltető Kft.	0.14
14	Cserepes Sori Piac Kft.	0.14
15	Ligetfürdő Ingatlanfejlesztő és Fürdőüzemeltető Kft.	0.14
16	Szeged és Térsége Turisztikai Nonprofit Kft.	0.14
17	Szegedi Rendezvény- és Médiaközpont Nonprofit Kft	0.11




Salary of Chief Executive Officer
Salary of the members of Supervisory Board
Bonuses of the members of Supervisory Board
Annual budget report
Bonus of Chief Executive
Salary of heads of organisational units
Summary of findings of public audits
Bonus of heads of organisational units
Public procurement contracts
Annual public procurement plan
Annual statistics on public procurement
Employment contracts
Zero tolerance rule
Corruption guidelines
Info on whistleblower protection (lawyer)
Whistleblower protection
Code of ethics
Annual business plan
Information on subsidiaries
0%
10%
20%
30%
40%
50%
60%
70%
80%
90%
100%

what we've faced - challenges

Complete ignorance: lack of information & minimum capacities

"One of our colleagues is taking care of our webpage, though this is not her main task." (CEO of a small company)

Aversity to disclosure: misunderstandings, overestimating the political risks

"What is the purpose of disclosures … it can appear in the tabloids and the public can chew on it" (CFO of a medium-sized company)

what we've faced - challenges

Law-abiding but not strategic: unaware of the strategic values & benefits

"In terms of transparency, we are fully in compliance with the law. As a lawyer, I couldn't say anything else." (CEO of a medium-sized company)

"Our ethical code determines our business conduct and teaches us in how to respect our clients, our business partners in order to do the best in our job. We did not find it though important to publish on the website" (CEO of the largest local company)

what we've learned - lessons

- **Need for awareness raising:** transparency as first step towards corporate integrity, inherent business values (leading to goodwill/ profitability gains)

- **Need for tailor-made consultancy:** checklists, "low hanging fruits" (e.g. single window, cross-linking, max. two-clicks)

- **Yardstick competition:** regular ranking helps benchlearning

what we would prefer - recomms

- ✓ *Rank local transparency in a comprehensive way (municipality, MOEs – composite indexes)*
- ✓ *Pilot in couple of municipalities, linked also to consultancy*
- ✓ *Provide specific support*
- ✓ *Team up with local advocacy groups (media, activists)*

More …

Feel free to contact us and/ or check our website

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www.budapestinstitute.eu

Thanks for your attention!