

# PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING IN RUSSIAN INTERMEDIARY CITIES



**THE WORLD BANK**  
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*Chefchaouen, Morocco– July 07, 2018*

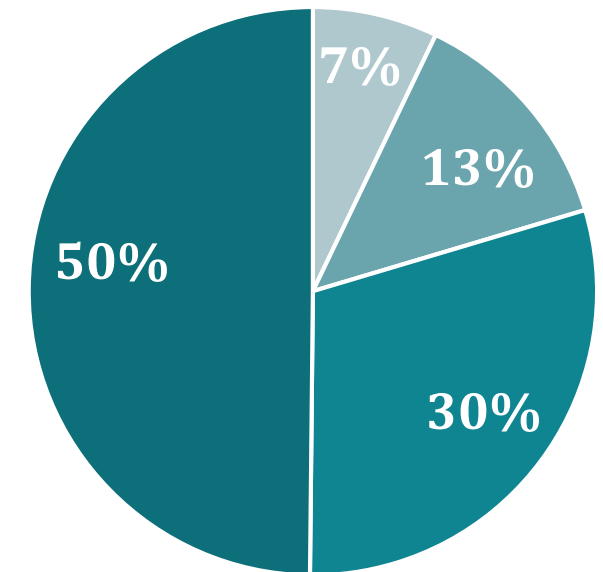
# Structure

- 1. Context of developing PB in Russia**
- 2. Case of Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk city:**  
**achievements, challenges and lessons learnt**
- 3. Recommendations**

# Intermediate cities in Russia

- **310 intermediary cities in Russia (population 50,000 – 1,000,000)**
- **Dominating majority of intermediary cities have serious financial constraints**
  - Only 25-30 cities (less than 10%) do not receive subsidies from regional level and can experiment with launching own PBs

Population of intermediate cities in Russia



- 500 thous - 1 mln
- 250 - 500 thous

# PBs in Russian intermediary cities

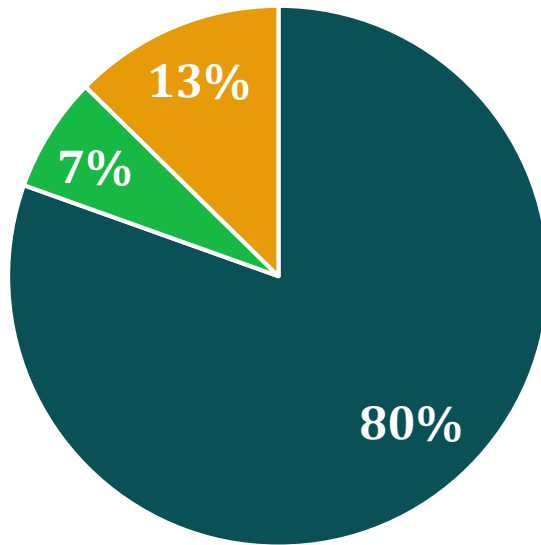
## Around 75-80 ICs are engaged in PB

- ~70 cities participate in regional PBs
- Only 5-10 cities implement own municipal PB
  - ✓ Most of them are located in Khanty-Mansi region (the richest Russia gas and oil producing region)
  - ✓ Municipal PBs are still small in size and imperfect in terms of methodology



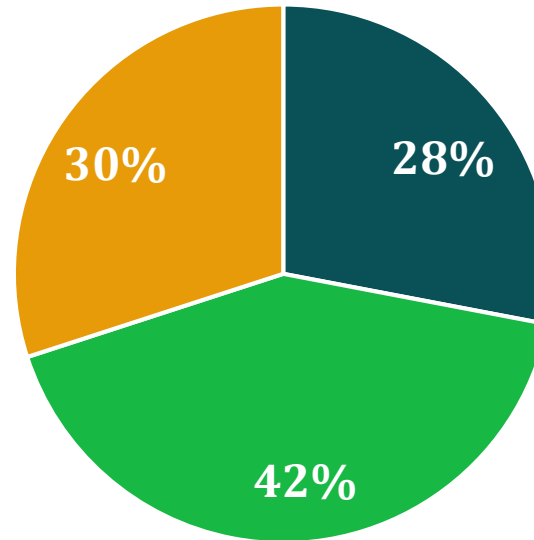
# Different priorities in different types of municipalities

Small municipalities  
(villages)



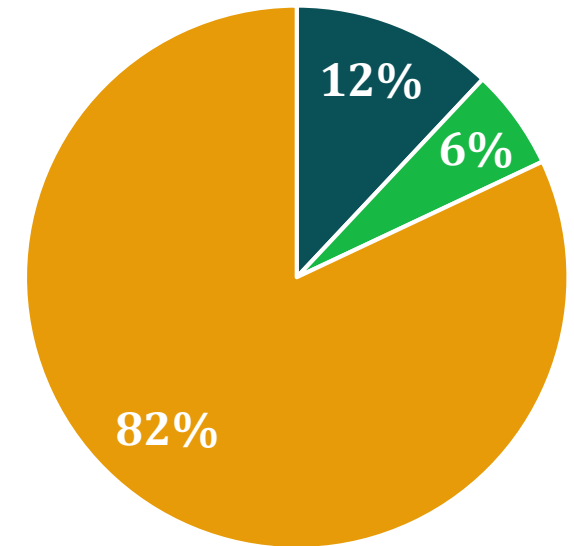
*Kirov region, 2017*

Intermediate cities



*Kirov region, 2017*

Big cities - megapolis



*St. Petersburg, 2017  
17 projects*

-  **Basic infrastructure**
  - Roads and pedestrian streets
  - Water supply system
  - Lightening
-  **Territorial improvement**
  - Renovation of public squares, parks, courts

-  **Other soft and hard projects**

# Multiple level objectives of PB

- National level – effectiveness of budget spending (as formulated by Russia MoF)
- Regional level – variety of objectives – from improving basic infrastructure (in poorer regions) to improving dialogue between population and authorities
- Municipal level – could be just receiving subsidies from the higher level budgets (creates disincentives)
- Community level – ...



# Key challenge for PB in ICs – engaging population



Engaging population in IC is more challenging than in small municipalities / villages (population is more diverse, not used to face-to-face meetings, etc.)



**Yakutia LISP**

# Specific tools are needed

- Work with territorial and social groups (opportunities, but also challenges)
- More advanced format of public discussions
- Intensive and systematic technical support including strong local team and volunteers
- Broad multichannel information campaign to reach various groups of population (brochures, social media, TV, etc.)
- Use of internet technologies



# PB in Russia intermediary cities: example of Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk city, Sakhalin region, Russia



Population: **198 937 citizens**  
Area: **164 km<sup>2</sup>**  
Administrative division: **1 city**  
**and 10 villages (6 746 people)**

# Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk participates in 3 regional PBs

## **1) Local initiative support program (LISP) – since 2016**

- Small projects aimed to improve basic infrastructure (up to 50 thousand USD pre project)
- Co-financing by communities
- Total budget of the regional PB - 2 mln USD

## **2) School student PB – since 2017**

- All 24 schools participating
- Total budget of the regional PB - 6 mln USD

## **3) Project on public territorial development (PORT) – since 2018**

- Bigger infrastructure projects (up to 1,5 mln USD per project)
- Two – level public discussion (community meetings + meetings of delegates)
- Internet platform for on-line voting
- Total budget of the regional PB -16 mln USD

**Total budget for PB debated in Y-Sakhalinsk – approx. 4.5 mln USD**



# Key achievements



## (1) Re-design of public discussions (moderated discussions in small groups)





## (2) Engagement of volunteers





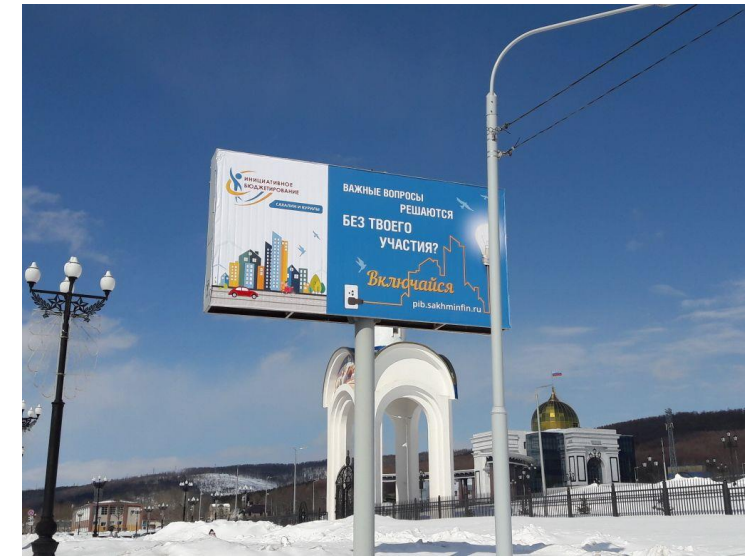
### **3) Involvement of territorial and social organizations, associations**





(4) Broad information campaign

(5) Online voting with the use of state e-services platform (open for everyone)



[home](#) | [Events](#) | [Open voting](#) | [What is of interest?](#)

## THE PUBLIC VOTE OF

7599 VOTED

Step 1 Authorization	Step 2 Vote	Step 3 the confirmation	Step 4 Completion
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### YOU MUST LOGIN

To participate in the voting, you need to register on the portal "State Service"

If you are already registered, click on the "Sign in through public services" button and after successful authorization, you will be able to continue voting.

[Войти через госуслуги](#)

## List of projects to be voted on

### ALEXANDROVSK-SAKHALINSKY DISTRICT



Construction in with. Hohe aqueduct with the device of public columns on the streets  
from Hohe (Alexandrovsk-Sakhalinsky district)  
53 400 000.48



Construction of a ski slope in with. Mgachi from Mgachi (Alexandrovsk-Sakhalinsky district)  
35 300 000.11



# Key challenge

Most actors like PB but are not prepared to it!

# Recommendations in relation to PB in intermediate city:

**Investments in design and methodology development  
- all PBs are context-specific**

**Intensive capacity building for all participants!**

**Municipal authorities**

**Citizens**

**Volunteers**

**Associations**

# Thank you!

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