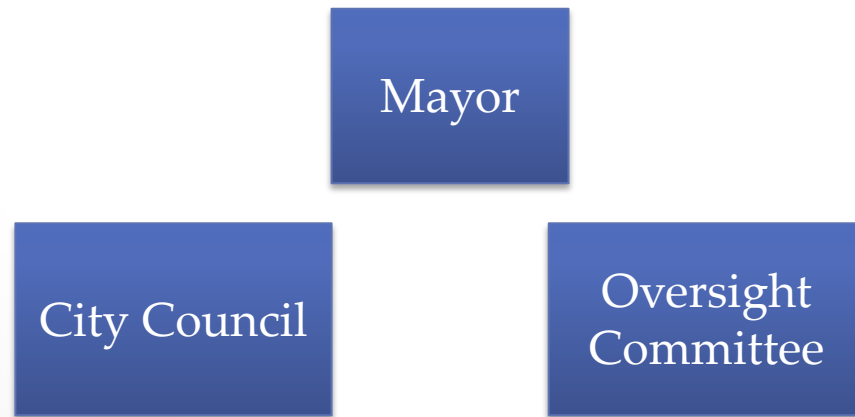


Governance from Above? Exploring “Top-down” Participatory Democracy Experiments in Latin America

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Bolivia's Participatory Institutions (1993)

- Oversight Committees made up of elected representatives from territorially-based organizations (neighborhood groups)
- Oversee public spending



Bolivia's Participatory Institutions (1993)

- Participatory municipal planning cycle to decide:
 - a) five-year strategic plan and
 - b) annual investment budget (Annual Operations Plan)

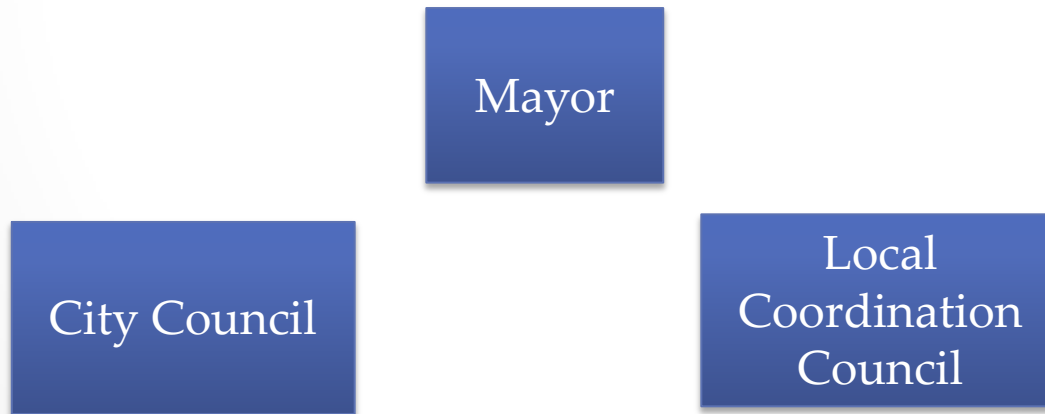
Sample Participatory Planning Cycle, Bolivia		
January - August		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing planning and oversight
September	Summit 1 (Oversight and Information)	The government presents: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An update on spending to-date, progress on city projects • The five-year strategic plan • District budget ceilings for upcoming year
October	NEIGHBORHOOD MEETINGS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Neighborhood groups meet to determine their needs for the next fiscal year • They present a list of "demands" to mayor
November	Summit 2 (Project lists are finalized)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participants discuss and prioritize projects • A final list is sent to the mayor
November/December	GOVERNMENT DECISIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mayor presents list to the city council, which approves • Oversight Committee also has to approve
December 15-31	Summit 2 (Project lists are finalized)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final approval announced, Annual Operational Plan presented to council and oversight committee, all officials sign document • Civil society trained to oversee spending

Peru's Participatory Institutions (2002)

- Participatory budgeting in 25 states (regions), 195 counties (provinces), and 1838 cities and towns (districts)
- Phases:
 1. Preparation: Call for participation and training.
 2. Deliberation: Participants (civil society and government) meet to discuss and debate projects.
 3. Finalization: The final list of projects is sent to the city council and local coordination council for approval. The approved list is sent to the Treasury Department.

Peru's Participatory Institutions (2002)

- Local (and State) Coordination Councils with elected representatives from civil society
- Councils approve annual budget and strategic plans



Guatemala's Council System (1985)

- Council system made up of civil society representatives; runs parallel to representative governmental institutions; should channel civil society demands and oversee government spending.

