

Brazil and Budgeting Priorities – 60 pts.

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Objectives: **Understand** how citizen involvement can be an effective means of allocating funds through participatory budgeting. **Research** a unique development situation within Brazil. **Create** a professional presentation which accurately and persuasively represents needs of citizens in the situation so as to influence the class participatory budgeting process vote. Finally, use a democratic process to **allocate** limited funds based on class presentations.

The following social studies topics will be addressed:

- How do geography, climate, and natural resources affect the way people live and work?
- How do competing interests influence how power is gained, distributed, and exercised?
- What knowledge and skills are needed to participate effectively in a political system?
- How do scarcity and competition influence decision-making at the personal, business, and government levels?
- What are the characteristics, benefits, and challenges of a diverse society?

Challenge: You are part of a new participatory budgeting program for Brazil. Our class will have \$1 million to spend and will vote to determine which projects will be funded and how much each project will receive. Your challenge is to research your issue and present an argument for funding so as to convince classmates that your project is important for the people of Brazil and deserves their votes.

Background: Porto Alegre, Brazil started the first full participatory budgeting (PB) process in 1989 for its municipal budget. In Porto Alegre, as many as 50,000 people have participated each year, to decide as much as 20% of the city budget. Since 1989, PB has spread to over 1,500 cities in Latin America, North America, Asia, Africa, and Europe. In the U.S. and Canada, PB has been used in Toronto, Montreal, Guelph, Chicago, New York City, and Vallejo (California). You can find out more about participatory budgeting by going to the website www.participatorybudgeting.org.



Source: http://www.occupy.com/sites/default/files/participatory_budgeting.jpg

1. Why are the local council comments in the cartoon a concern?

"I know the village wants water but I think we should budget for a road."

"My uncle is in the business."

2. Who gains in this type of decision-making process?

3. Could the citizens under the tree influence the political system? How?

What knowledge and skills would they need?

First, we will watch as a class and discuss how participatory budgeting works in Porto Alegre, Brazil by watching 8 mins. of *Beyond Elections*,

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HXel5JX3Pmk&list=PLdIL4rRcYaon631yqtxAmGZsUxIESA32T>

Next, select and research one of the topics below: (The video links below are starting points to provide an introduction to the topic.) **You must use at least two additional credible sources and cite them by making accurate citations on citation machine.**

Water supply Install rainwater collection systems.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YvxZLBwpN3M>

Mexico example <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LwtCwglzxdM>

Trash and Community <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZDVBUVrSnUM> Improve the lives of catadores, wastepickers, who earn a living by sorting recyclables in the garbage dumps.

Light Provide sustainable light to poor, remote areas of Brazil

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zl8UZN7ApGk>

See how it has worked in the Philippines <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kDL52ITri5c>

Housing Re-shape the slums, or favelas. <http://www.bbc.com/future/story/20121129-shaping-the-slums> <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gZj1V40qjGI>

Desertification Combat desertification which threatens Brazilian water supply <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a49FRUxLSrg>

Deforestation Increase education to stop deforestation for logging and farming. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M4jhjt1_eyM

<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-latin-america-33449788>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Tk9BntFE_BY

Protecting indigenous people Support efforts to protect rainforest tribe.

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2012/apr/22/brazil-rainforest-awa-endangered-tribe>

Medical care Provide funding for an additional mobile medical care unit.

<http://www.dw.com/en/social-entrepreneur-roberto-kikawa-medical-care-for-brazils-poor/av-17515765>

Fair trade Invest in fair trade cooperatives and marketing fair trade

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xRP6t3N79GM>

Create a presentation citing two additional sources including:

- Topic explanation
- Impact on the people
- Proposed solution
- Conclusion which conveys the importance of voting to allocate money to address this issue

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CATEGORY	Great Work	Very Good Work	Some Elements Missing	Major Elements Missing
A. Professionalism	10 pts. – Visual is highly effective with clear, useful info. Presentation is excellent with good organization, eye contact, and speaking quality.	8 pts. – Overall a good presentation though some areas could use more work.	6 pts. – Final product needs work on visual and/or presentation.	4 pts. - Project is lacking several key elements for a professional product and presentation.
B. Topic Explanation	10 pts. – Thorough presentation of the topic including specific data and/or examples.	8 pts. - A good overview which needs more specifics.	6 pts. – Explanation is missing elements.	4 pts. - Major elements missing.
C. Impact on the People	10 pts. - Thorough presentation of the issue and its impact on the people and planet including specific data and/or examples.	8 pts. - Overall, good presentation but missing more details would have helped understanding..	6 pts. - Project is missing some elements describing the impact of the issue.	4 pts. - Major elements regarding the issue are missing.
D. Proposed Solution	10 pts. - Highly effective explanation which includes many details about the proposed solution and how it can help.	8 pts. - Includes most reasons how the proposed solution can be beneficial.	6 pts. - Project is missing elements about how the solution can help solve the problem.	4 pts. - Significant information missing about how the solution can help.
E. Conclusion which conveys the importance of voting to allocate money to address this issue.	10 pts. – Thorough summary and clear direction given for how much money should be allocated and why a vote supporting this project is so important.	8 pts. - Good overall but missing some part of the summary, how much money should be allocated or why a vote in favor of this project is so important.	6 pts. - Incomplete summary and/or incomplete direction for the participatory budget vote.	4 pts. – Summary needs much more development.
F. Additional Sources with accurate citations	10 pts.- Two additional sources correctly cited using citation machine.	8 pts. - Two additional sources though citations are not completely accurate.	6 pts. - One additional source with accurate citation.	4 pts. - One additional source though citation is not completely accurate.

Total = _____ of 60 pts.