Managing Uncertainty through Fiscal Councils: Communication, Analysis, and Practical Instruments

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Abstract: This report explores the role of fiscal councils in strengthening democratic governance through responsible public administration, particularly in contexts of economic and policy uncertainty. Fiscal councils serve as independent advisory bodies, providing expert analysis and recommendations on public budgets, fiscal policies, and economic risks. Their tasks include evaluating fiscal sustainability, assessing revenue and expenditure policies, modeling potential scenarios, and advising both national and local authorities on prudent financial management. Effective communication is central to their function: transparent reporting, public briefings, and consultations enhance accountability, build trust with citizens, and facilitate informed decision-making. To support knowledge exchange and benchmarking, this study proposes practical tools such as survey cards and questionnaires that can be circulated to other fiscal councils to collect information on their practices, challenges, and innovative approaches. By combining analytical rigor with structured communication and collaborative instruments, fiscal councils contribute to reducing uncertainty, promoting sustainable fiscal policies, and strengthening democratic institutions.