

Government Resource Planning (GRP) Controls Brief

Situation

- Budgets are the legal embodiment of public policy, requiring governments to ensure that spending does not exceed plans without legislative approval
- Governments leverage Financial Management Information Systems (FMIS) to manage spending through commitment controls

Complication

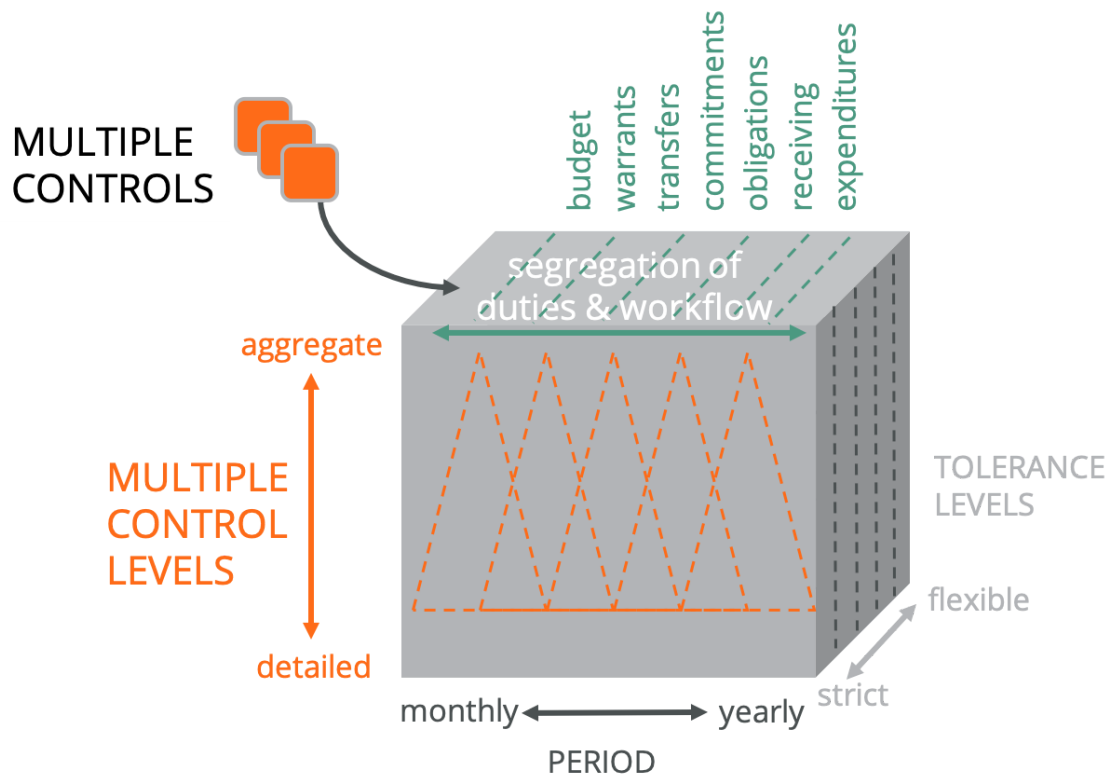
Governments often experience:

- lack of budget and commitment controls across all financial functions resulting in non-compliant spending, and increased arrears
- limited warning to decision-makers about potential deficits in order to take action
- limited flexibility to adjust controls during the year to reflect changes in fiscal conditions
- inefficient use of manual processes or line-item controls

Question

- Can governments leverage flexible budget and commitment controls that quickly adjust to changing circumstances while ensuring compliance without a significant burden on staff?

Solution



The FreeBalance Accountability Suite supports multiple flexible controls ensuring compliance:

- **Control Levels:** One or more controls from detailed to aggregate levels of the Chart of Accounts
- **Periods:** With controls for different time frames
- **Tolerance Levels:** With strict cannot exceed to warning only
- **Segregation of Duties:** Supported across the financial the expenditure workflow
- **Adjustable:** Changes in controls across the year, support for supplementals, budget transfers, and virements based on government rules
- **Automation:** Elimination of unnecessary routine budget functions

Appendix: Supporting Material

FreeBalance blog entry

- [Good Practices in Chart of Accounts Design](#)