Medium Term Budgeting
May 29 – May 31, 2013

This training activity has been delivered as part of the Strategic Planning and Budgeting project, funded by the European Union. The overall objective of the project is to contribute to strengthening of beneficiary countries’ capacity to design and implement medium-term macro-fiscal policy. For more information on the project, please refer to: www.cef-see.org/bcpdi/spb.

Workshop Report

May 31, 2013
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The potential benefits of effective medium-term budgeting are well documented. A well-designed and well-managed framework for medium-term budgeting should contribute to improved fiscal discipline and control, allocative efficiency and cost-effectiveness of service delivery, through increased clarity of policy objectives, greater predictability in budget allocation, increased comprehensiveness of budget information and enhanced accountability and transparency in the use of resources. The course was given by practitioners and professionals with extensive international experience, and consequently the emphasis was on discussions and examples based on country practices; with theoretical discussions kept to a minimum. It focused on the lessons learned in both advanced and less advanced economies and the challenges that need to be taken into account when designing medium-term budget frameworks.

Topics covered:

- Introduction to medium-term budgeting: Theoretical background, key concepts and definitions
- Medium-term budgeting reforms: International experiences
- The role of fiscal institutions
- A practical model for South East Europe to build a medium-term budget framework from a top down perspective
- Challenges and bottlenecks for medium-term budgeting
- Medium-term budgeting in practice.

Lecturers:

- Dirk-Jan Kraan, Public Financial Management Advisor for South East Europe of the IMF
- Karl Bergstrand, Ministry of Finance of Sweden
- André Lundvall, Ministry of Finance of Sweden
- Peter Van Den Berg, Budget Director, Ministry of Finance, the Netherlands
Participants:
There were 22 participants from Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Kosovo, Latvia, Macedonia, Montenegro and Turkey.
Evaluation:

**Overall satisfaction with the course**

No. of all responses: 21, Average mark: 4.66

**The seminar addressed issues that are important to my work**

No. of all responses: 22, Average mark: 4.50

**Selected Participants’ Comments:**

- I’ll share the knowledge with my colleagues when I got back in my country and also I have strong arguments to defend benefits of MTB.
- Very effective team of experts who were very open to any type of questions. Good mixture of theoretical and practical knowledge.
- Thank you for your excellent and professional organization.