Managing Spending and Keeping the Budget on Track
December 15–17, 2014

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Workshop Report

January 30, 2015
Managing Spending and Keeping the Budget on Track

The workshop provided government officials with a framework to assess the level of vulnerability of public financial management (PFM) systems; understand the interdependencies of controls during budget execution; and explore strategies for tackling problems if they do arise. It looked at the core features of the PFM system which will help to keep the budget on track, how the various controls interact to ensure effective budget execution and examples of good practice in the region for effective budget execution control.

Topics covered:

- Regional challenges in ensuring budget credibility and regulating the budget
- Means of controlling different types of expenditure, managing in-year budget execution and multi-year projects
- The importance of managing cash effectively during execution of the budget
- Implications for IT systems
- Clarifying institutional roles and coordination
- Managing arrears if and when they become a problem

Lecturers:

- Duncan Last, PFM Advisor for South East Europe, International Monetary Fund
- Suzanne Flynn, Senior Economist, Fiscal Affairs Department, International Monetary Fund
- Edina Halapi, Program Manager, EU Delegation in Albania

Participants:

There were 34 participants from Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia, Slovenia and Turkey.
Evaluation:

Overall satisfaction with the course

No. of all responses: 29, Average mark: 4.73

The workshop met my expectations

No. of all responses: 29, Average mark: 4.66

Selected Participants’ Comments:

- I’m planning to tell my colleagues first what I have learned from this seminar, and then later to implement it in my working area.
- First, I am going to share my experience and knowledge from this workshop with my colleagues and try to implement it practically.
- It was organized in highly participatory way. It was excellent organization. Thanks.
- I think this workshop has been successful and useful for participants.