



AFRITAC SOUTH SEMINAR PLAN FY2023 MAY 2022-APRIL 2023



AFRITAC
South

IMPROVING MACROECONOMIC MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORKS TO FOSTER SUSTAINABLE GROWTH AND POVERTY REDUCTION IN SOUTHERN AFRICA

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7th Floor, BRAMER HOUSE, EBENE, MAURITIUS

AFRITAC South Seminar/Course- recently held and forthcoming The venue is AFS, Ebene, Mauritius, unless otherwise stated	Dates
High Level Conference on Corporate Governance Webinar Coordinator: AFS Jointly with ATI/AFW/AFW2/AFC/AFE) Botswana/Hybrid mode	June 13- 14, 2022
Webinar on Fundamentals of Sound Central Bank Communication Webinar Coordinator: Mr. Marin Molosag (Jointly with AFE/AFW2) Zoom online platform	June 13-15, 2022
Webinar on Modernizing Central Bank Communication Webinar Coordinator: Mr. Marin Molosag (Jointly with AFE/AFW2) Zoom online platform	June 20-22, 2022
Seminar on Cyber Risk Supervision Webinar Coordinator: Mr. Benjamin Stefanou In person-Hennessy Park Hotel- Ebene, Mauritius	June 27-July 01, 2022
Webinar on Compiling Producer Price Indices (PPIs) Webinar Coordinator: Ms. Donna Grcman Zoom online platform	June 27-July 01, 2022
Webinar on Nowcasting OT 22.309V Webinar Coordinators: Messrs. Fei Han, Ian Nield and Ms. Xie Jing Zoom online platform	September 19-30, 2022
Webinar on Corporate Governance Webinar Coordinator: Mr. Benjamin Stefanou (Jointly with MCM) Zoom online platform	September 26-30, 2022
Webinar on Climate Risk Analysis Webinar Coordinator: Mr. Benjamin Stefanou (Jointly with MCM) Zoom online platform	October 3, 2022
Webinar on Digital Money: Balancing Innovation and Regulation for a New Frontier Webinar Coordinator: Mr. Anrich Daseman (Jointly with AFE/AW2) Hybrid Mode, South Africa	October 24-28, 2022
Webinar on International Financial Reporting Standards 17 (IFRS 17) Webinar Coordinator: Mr. Benjamin Stefanou (Jointly with AFE/AW2) Hybrid Mode, South Africa	October 24-November 4, 2022
Course on Central Bank Digital Currencies OT22.314 Webinar Coordinator: Ms. Celine Rochon (Jointly with ICD) (Overview Forthcoming) In person, Mauritius	November 7-11, 2022
Webinar On Modernization of Monetary Policy Operational Frameworks and Financial Market Development	November 14-18, 2022

<p>Webinar Coordinator: Mr. Marin Molosag (Jointly with AFE/AFW2) Zoom online platform</p>	
<p>Seminar on Fiscal Risks Management For Sovereign Guarantees Webinar Coordinator: Ms. Trish Chiinze (Jointly with FAD/AFE/ATI) In person, South Africa</p>	November 14-18, 2022
<p>Webinar on National Accounts Webinar Coordinator: Ms. Elka Atanasova In person, venue TBC</p>	November 21-25, 2022
<p>PIM Workshop Coordinator: Ms. Trish Chiinze MOFED, Mauritius</p>	February 6-10, 2023
<p>Webinar on Cyber Security-Examination Manual drafting Webinar Coordinator: Mr. Benjamin Stefanou (Overview Forthcoming) Zoom online platform</p>	February 13-17, 2023
<p>Workshop on Price Statistics Fundamentals Workshop Coordinator: Ms. Donna Grcman In person, venue TBC</p>	February 27-March 3, 2023
<p>Webinar on application of GovTech solutions to improve public financial management Webinar Coordinators: Mr. Moulay El Omari (AFS) and Mr. Palmeira Bardella Felipe (FAD) Jointly with HQ FAD Hybrid mode, Mauritius</p>	March 7-10, 2023
<p>Webinar on Cross Border Payments in the Era of Digital Payments Webinar Coordinator: Mr. Anrich Daseaman (Overview Forthcoming) Zoom online platform</p>	March 13-17, 2023
<p>Webinar on Financial Development and Financial Inclusion Webinar Coordinator: Mr. Sami Ben Naceur (Overview Forthcoming) Platform TBC</p>	March 20-31, 2023
<p>Repo Seminar Webinar Coordinator: Mr. Marin Molosag (Overview Forthcoming) Jointly with AFE/AFW2 Zoom online platform</p>	March 20-24, 2023
<p>Webinar on Improving Transparency and Accountability in the public sector through adopting International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS) Webinar Coordinator: Mr. Moulay El Omari (AFS) and Mr. Palmeira Bardella Felipe (FAD) Hybrid</p>	April 10-14, 2023
<p>Webinar on Financial Sector Surveillance- 23 - CBDC Webinar Coordinator: Mr. Ebrahimi Ehsan and Ms. Celine Rochon (ICD) (Overview Forthcoming) Platform TBC</p>	April 17-21, 2023

<p>Webinar on Central Bank Digital Currencies Webinar Coordinator: Mr. Anrich Daseman <i>(Overview Forthcoming)</i> Jointly with HQ In person, venue TBC</p>	<p>April 17-21, 2023</p>
<p>Webinar on Financial Sector Surveillance- 23 - CBDC Webinar Coordinator: AFR- Mr. Ebrahimi Ehsan and Ms. Celine Rochon <i>(Overview Forthcoming)</i> Jointly with HQ Zoom online platform</p>	<p>April 17-21, 2023</p>
<p>Regional Seminar on BCP (CCCDI) Webinar Coordinator: Mr. Philip Wood <i>(Overview Forthcoming)</i> Zoom online platform</p>	<p>TBC</p>
<p>Webinar on Illicit Trade-SADC Webinar Coordinator: Mr. Philip Wood Zoom online platform</p>	<p>TBC</p>
<p>Workshop on FPAS-MP Process Workshop Coordinator: Mr. Marin Molosag <i>(Overview Forthcoming)</i> (Jointly with AFE/AFW2) Zoom online platform</p>	<p>TBC</p>
<p>Webinar on Fiscal Data Governance Webinar Coordinator: Mr. Robert Clifton <i>(Overview Forthcoming)</i> Jointly with HQ Delivery Mode TBC</p>	<p>TBC</p>
<p>Webinar on Role of Legal Frameworks in Tackling Gender Inequality Webinar Coordinator: TBC <i>(Overview Forthcoming)</i> Delivery Mode TBC</p>	<p>TBC</p>



HIGH LEVEL CONFERENCE ON CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

WEBINAR COORDINATOR: AFRITAC SOUTH



AREA OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE:	<i>Monetary Policy Implementation</i>
Targeted audience:	High level officials
Participation:	One or two participants per country
Dates:	June 13-14, 2022
Venue:	Botswana, Hybrid Mode

Conference description

The high-level conference on governance and corruption responds to calls from within Africa to advance governance reforms and ramp up the fight against corruption, to make African economies more resilient to shocks. Within the scope of their respective mandates, the AUC and the IMF have given governance and anti-corruption a higher priority in their work.

The conference will offer a platform to discuss progress on strengthening governance, present the IMF’s framework for enhanced engagement and discuss its implications on the IMF’s lending, surveillance, and capacity development operations. The specific objectives of the conference include (i) discussing reforms of governance and anti-corruption frameworks on the continent, including those initiated during the COVID-19 pandemic, (ii) discussing the AUC strategy and the IMF framework on governance and corruption; (iii) building consensus on the macro-critical impact of poor governance and corruption and their transmission channels, and (iv) disseminating key IMF and AUC findings on governance and corruption issues, including the 2019 Fiscal Monitor (Curbing Corruption) and the Multi-Donor Action to curb IFFs from Africa..

Language requirements:

The conference will be delivered in English with simultaneous interpretation into French, Portuguese and Arabic



WEBINAR ON FUNDAMENTALS OF SOUND CENTRAL BANK COMMUNICATION

WEBINAR COORDINATOR: MR. MARIN MOŁOSAG



AREA OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE:	
	<i>Monetary Policy Implementation</i>
Targeted audience:	Staff and Management officials
Participation:	Four to five participants per country
Dates:	June 13-15, 2022
Venue:	Zoom- Platform

Workshop description

The workshop is targeting countries within the regions of AFE, AFS and AFW2 that have not yet transitioned into inflation targeting (IT) or IT lite. The focus of the workshop will be on relevant considerations in the context of targeted countries, including specific issues such as how and why to start developing the central bank communication, the central banks’ role and mandate in the political economy, and prioritization of tools, target groups and channels of communication. The aim of the workshop is to deepen the understanding of central bank communication, for countries to share their experiences, bring new ideas and spur developments in the area of communication. In addition to the traditional mix of lectures, the agenda of the workshop will include interactive sessions, group work and discussion panels. A total of 12 countries are invited, all operating under money targeting or pegged/fixed exchange rate regimes, thus faced with the challenge of communicating clearly about monetary policy. This workshop will hence provide for a unique opportunity to discuss and share experiences among peer countries with similar challenges.

The workshop will cover international good practices, regional initiatives and country experiences, encourage peer learning, and guide technical assistance needs, objectives and deliverables for inclusion in AFE, AFS and AFW2 capacity development work plans.

The workshop primarily targets staff and management at communications departments but also staff and management from economic research/monetary policy departments involved in monetary policy communication.

Language requirements:
The webinar will be delivered in English



WEBINAR ON MODERNIZING CENTRAL BANK COMMUNICATION

WEBINAR COORDINATOR: Mr. MARIN MOLOSAG



AREA OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE:	<i>Monetary Policy Implementation</i>
Targeted audience:	Staff and Management officials
Participation:	Four to five participants per country
Dates:	June 20-22, 2022
Venue:	Zoom- Platform

Workshop description

The workshop is targeting countries within the regions of AFE, AFS and AFW2 that have already made solid progress in communication. The focus of the workshop will be on modernizing the central bank communication through strategic communication guided by a communication policy and strategy, including analyzing the media landscape to reflect upon tools, channels and target groups and to evaluate the impact of communication. Price stability and monetary policy is the main responsibility of the central bank and communication plays an essential role for anchoring inflation expectations and thus monetary policy communication will play a central part in this workshop. In addition to the traditional mix of lectures, the agenda of the workshop will include interactive sessions, group work and discussion panels. A total of 15 countries are invited, operating under different monetary policy regimes and all with a certain degree of transparency and communication.

The workshop will cover international good practices, regional initiatives and country experiences, encourage peer learning, and guide technical assistance needs, objectives and deliverables for inclusion in AFE, AFS and AFW2 capacity development work plans.

The workshop primarily targets staff and management at communications departments but also staff and management from economic research/monetary policy departments involved in monetary policy communication.

Language requirements:
The webinar will be delivered in English



WORKSHOP ON CYBER RISK SUPERVISION

WEBINAR COORDINATOR: MR. BENJAMIN STEFANO



AREA OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE:	
	<i>Financial Sector Supervision</i>
Targeted audience:	Supervisors
Participation:	Five participants per country
Dates:	June 27 to July 1, 2022
Venue:	In person, Hennessy Park Hotel, Ebene, Mauritius

Webinar description

Training on the off-site and on-site supervision of cybersecurity, covering:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ICT / cyber risk supervision – concepts, components and coverage - Off-site Supervision – Range of information collection, Analysis and Utility - Onsite Supervision of Cyber Risk – People, Processes, Performance - Onsite Supervision – Scoping, Planning, Pre-Inspection activities - Supervisory Insight sessions covering – - Governance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Risk Management - Incident Reporting and responding to them - Data Center - Business Processes - Security Operations Center - BCP arrangements - Third Party / Outsourcing - Report writing - Quality Assurance - Discussing the report outcome
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Language requirements:

The webinar will be delivered in English



WEBINAR ON COMPILING PRODUCER PRICE INDICES (PPIS)

WEBINAR COORDINATOR: MS. DONNA GRGMAN



AREA OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE:	<i>Real Sector Statistics</i>
Targeted audience:	Beginners in compiling national accounts from statistical agencies
Participation:	Two participants per country
Dates:	June 27-July 1, 2022
Venue:	Zoom- Platform

Workshop description

This is the second workshop on PPIs which follows the one conducted in October 2021. This virtual workshop will be held during March 28 – April 1, 2022.

The purpose of the virtual workshop is to continue strengthen the participants’ knowledge of PPI concepts and methods. The focus will be on specific data sources and compilation procedures for specific industries including the services sector. This virtual workshop will also focus on specific issues and challenges identified by the participants and on the implementation of international standards and best practices regarding the compilation of these price indices.

The following topics will be covered:

- Strategies to improve respondent participation in the PPI
- Quality change and imputation techniques
- Rebasing the PPI
- Development of the PPI for agriculture
- PPI for services, the concepts, methods, and specific industry issues.

The virtual workshop will be conducted in English with simultaneous interpretation into French and Portuguese, utilizing the Zoom platform. To ensure a hands-on and interactive training, presentations will be provided each day, followed by an exercise which will be reviewed during that session. A further exercise will be provided to be completed before the session on the next day which is when it will be reviewed. Online sessions will be restricted to a maximum of three hours each day but support to complete the longer exercise will be available. Proficiency in Microsoft Excel is required.

Language requirements:

The webinar will be delivered in English with simultaneous interpretation in French and Portuguese



COURSE ON NOWCASTING-OT22.309V

WEBINAR COORDINATORS: MESSRS. FEI HAN, IAN NIELD and MS. XIE JING



<i>AREA OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE:</i>		<i>ICD</i>
Targeted audience:	Staff and Management officials	
Participation:	Four to five participants per country	
Dates:	September 19-30, 2022	
Venue:	Zoom- Platform	

Workshop description

This two-week course is designed to provide to relevant organizations in sub-Saharan Africa the cutting-edge tools and the types of data in-use or developed at the IMF to aid in the estimation of economic indicators in the recent past, present and near future ('nowcasting'). Nowcasting can be defined as real-time evaluations of variables based on a series of relevant, timely and higher-frequency indicators and familiarize the region's officials with the concepts and methods to incorporate High-Frequency economic indicators into the modeling process.

Through lectures and workshops, participants will be introduced to nowcasting methods and to the type of data and techniques that countries can use to develop high-frequency indicators (HFI) using a hands-on approach. The course will cover nowcasting and HFI data sources, two types of modeling approaches (factor models and machine learning), that enable the incorporation of mixed-frequency data indicators to the nowcasts and forecasts of GDP. Using applications to different countries, it will emphasize the following practical aspects: How to adapt to the data context? How to deal with mixed frequencies and delays in the release of data? How to evaluate (and combine) different nowcasting models? Given the course's focus, the target audience is staff conducting short/near term macroeconomic analysis and forecasting and possibly mid-level to senior managers responsible for public financial management or monetary policy decision-making who have modelling and forecasting skills.

Participants are expected to have an advanced degree in economics and econometrics or equivalent experience. It is strongly recommended that applicants have completed at least two general macroeconomic courses, such as Macroeconomic Forecasting and Analysis (MFA), Macroeconomic Diagnostic (MDS), delivered either in-person, virtually or online. In addition, ideally, participants should have experience of EViews and Matlab

Language requirements:

The webinar will be delivered in English with simultaneous interpretation in French and Portuguese



WEBINAR ON CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

WEBINAR COORDINATOR: MR. BENJAMIN STEFANO



AREA OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE:	
	<i>Banking Sector Regulation</i>
Targeted audience:	Senior supervisory agency officers and supervisors
Participation:	Open
Dates:	September 26-30, 2022
Venue:	Zoom- Platform

Workshop description

High-Level Bank Corporate Governance Regional Webinar and Regulation Workshop. The webinar and workshop will be distinct parts, with the webinar providing an update on international standards and compliance with Basel Core Principles (BCP) with senior supervisory agency personnel and supervisors; and with the workshop providing more detailed training on corporate governance regulatory frameworks and a self-assessment against international standards by each participating country.

This webinar and workshop will commence the AFS-CGI and cover:

- Update on International Standards
- Compliance with Basel Core Principles, where do we stand?
- Conceptual issues of corporate governance, evolution, lessons and recent developments;
- Principles issued by various standard setters relating to corporate governance;
- Strengthening corporate governance in banks— role, structure and competency of boards; role of executives; transparency; and promotion of sound corporate and risk culture;
- Supervisory practices in evaluating governance structure, functioning and adherence to fit and proper requirements;
- Regulatory framework self-assessments

Language requirements:

The webinar will be delivered in English with simultaneous interpretation in French and Portuguese



WEBINAR ON CLIMATE RISK ANALYSIS

WEBINAR COORDINATOR: MR. BENJAMIN STEFANO



AREA OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE:	<i>Banking Sector Regulation</i>
Targeted audience:	Deputy Governors and senior staff
Participation:	Suitable senior officers per country
Dates:	October 03, 2022
Venue:	Zoom online Platform

Workshop description

The scope of this webinar is to introduce financial stability policy makers and national prudential supervisors to climate risk analysis from a regulatory perspective, focusing on the respective unique challenges. The scope mainly focuses on banks, but its principles are largely applicable to any type of financial institution. The topics that are covered are: i) The channels through which climate risk will influence macro-financial dynamics and systemic risk. ii) The different types of climate risk and how they are intertwined. iii) Climate scenarios design and the sources of data and uncertainty. iv) How to model the impact of climate risk on the real economy and the banking sector. The webinar illustrates concepts from examples of applications from recent FSAPs.

The webinar targets Deputy Governors and senior staff dealing with the impact of climate risk to the financial sector. At the end of the webinar, participants will be able to identify the climate risks their national financial systems are mostly exposed to and the suitable approaches to manage them. Furthermore, they will have developed an understanding of how they should adapt their overall supervisory framework to incorporate climate risk analysis and the implications for regulatory policy making.

Language requirements:

The webinar will be delivered in English with simultaneous interpretation into French and Portuguese



WEBINAR ON DIGITAL MONEY: BALANCING INNOVATION AND REGULATION FOR A NEW FRONTIER

WEBINAR COORDINATOR: MR. ANRICH DASEMAN



AREA OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE: <i>Financial Market Infrastructures</i>	
Targeted audience:	Mid to senior level officials of central banks and regulatory/supervisory agencies from member countries
Participation:	Three delegates per country
Dates:	October 24-28, 2022
Venue:	Johannesburg, South Africa

Workshop description

The program is sponsored jointly by AFRITAC South, AFRITAC East, AFRITAC West 2 and the South African Reserve Bank (SARB) in collaboration with the IMF’s Monetary and Capital Markets Department. Digital money services have evolved in conjunction with a rapid growth in technology, mobile networks, and access to the internet. The objective of this seminar is to explore the potential implications of the digital and information technology innovations in the financial system for the adoption of digital money and provide an opportunity for countries to exchange knowledge and experiences on digital money.

The seminar will consider issues related to digital money, with a focus on legal and regulatory considerations, financial sector supervision and oversight, as well as monetary policy and financial stability implications. It provides a forum for inter and intra-regional exchange on key issues and concepts, guided by legal, policy and technical experts conversant with international best practices and standards. The seminar will also include a dedicated session for specific industry practitioners to provide further insights on the developments and trends of digital money.

Language requirements:
The webinar will be delivered in English with simultaneous interpretation into French and Portuguese



TRAINING ON INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL REPORTING STANDARDS 17(IFRS 17)

TRAINING COORDINATOR: MR. BENJAMIN STEFANO



AREA OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE:	<i>Banking Sector Regulation</i>
Targeted audience:	Senior supervisory agency officers and supervisors
Participation:	Open
Dates:	October 24-November 04, 2022
Venue:	Zoom- Platform

Workshop description

The purpose of the training is to provide a wider understanding on IFRS 17 implementation processes that will enhance insurance supervisors' own level of preparedness and assist in the development of adequate processes to accommodate the transition. Moreover, it will assist supervisors in holding discussions with the insurance sector to assess readiness and issue any circular letter to insurers informing them of the requirements to implement the IFRS 17 under specific implementation plans.

Language requirements:

The webinar will be delivered in English with simultaneous interpretation in French and Portuguese



COURSE ON CENTRAL BANK DIGITAL CURRENCIES-OT22.314

COURSE COORDINATOR: MS. CELINE ROCHON (ICD)



AREA OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE:	<i>Banking Sector Regulation</i>
Targeted audience:	Senior supervisory agency officers and supervisors
Participation:	Two participants per country
Dates:	November 7-11, 2022
Venue:	In person, Mauritius

Course description

The course is designed to give participants a foundation in central bank digital currencies. It will assess the business case for CBDC adoption from the perspective of users and central banks. After some motivations and introductory remarks on digitalization, the course will discuss the different forms of CBDCs, and present considerations for CBDC design and a conceptual framework. The course will present the benefits, costs and risks related to CBDCs. In addition, CBDCs will be studied in terms of their implications for financial stability and bank intermediation, the monetary policy transmission, financial integrity, and financial inclusion. Some time will be devoted to regulatory considerations, both at the national and international level.

Language requirements:
The training will be delivered in English



WEBINAR ON MODERNIZATION OF MONETARY POLICY OPERATIONAL FRAMEWORKS AND FINANCIAL MARKET DEVELOPMENT

WEBINAR COORDINATOR: MR. MARIN MOLOSAG



AREA OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE: <i>Banking Sector Regulation</i>	
Targeted audience:	Middle to senior level officials from the Financial Markets as well as Economics and Research Departments
Participation:	4-5 participants per country
Dates:	November 14-18, 2022
Venue:	Zoom online Platform

Workshop description

The objective of the workshop is to interrogate the inter-linkage between monetary policy frameworks and financial markets as well as the need for functional financial markets as a pre-requisite for effective monetary policy implementation. The focus will therefore be to: (i) strengthen the participants’ understanding of the fundamentals of effective monetary policy implementation; (ii) discuss progress with the modernization of monetary policy implementation frameworks and financial markets in the region, and (iii) peer-to-peer sharing of country experiences on challenges with monetary policy implementation, including constraints to financial market development.

The workshop will cover international good practices, regional initiatives and country experiences, encourage peer learning, and guide technical assistance needs, objectives and deliverables for inclusion in AFE, AFS and AFW2 capacity development work plans.

Language requirements:
The training will be delivered in English with simultaneous interpretation into French and Portuguese



WEBINAR ON FISCAL RISKS MANAGEMENT FOR SOVEREIGN GUARANTEES

WEBINAR COORDINATORS: MESSRS. BRYN BATTERSBY; TRISH CHIINZE;
MATTHEW MOUILLINAN; IAN NIELD



AREA OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE:	<i>Public Financial Management (PFM)</i>
Targeted audience:	Officials from macro, fiscal risk, or debt management units
Participation:	Up to two participants per country
Dates:	November 14-18, 2022
Venue:	South Africa

Workshop description

This is a joint FAD/ATI/AFS/AFE workshop to provide guidance on assessing fiscal sustainability using the ICD Debt Dynamics Tool (DDT) and long-term fiscal sustainability using the new FAD climate change fiscal sustainability tool. Participants will also be exposed to the full fiscal risk toolkit.

Language requirements:

The webinar will be delivered in English.



WORKSHOP ON ANALYTICAL SKILLS FOR NATIONAL ACCOUNTS

WORKSHOP COORDINATOR: MS. ELKA ATANASOVA



AREA OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE:

Real Sector Statistics (RSS)

Targeted audience:	National Account compilers from the statistical agencies responsible for official GDP statistics data
Participation:	Two participants per country
Dates:	November 24-28, 2022
Venue:	South Africa

Workshop description

The main objective is to strengthen the participants' analytical skills in compiling and disseminating GDP estimates.

This workshop will focus on the fundamental analytical skills required to compile and disseminate GDP estimates. Topics will include analysis of source data including estimation techniques; revisions analysis; data visualization techniques; data validation; quality assurance issues; and data dissemination issues. Participants will be engaged in undertaking several group exercises to strengthen their skills throughout the workshop.

Language requirements:

The workshop will be conducted in English with simultaneous interpretation into French and Portuguese, if required.



WORKSHOP ON PRICE STATISTICS FUNDAMENTALS

WORKSHOP COORDINATOR: MS. DONNA GRGMAN



AREA OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE:	<i>Real Sector Statistics</i>
Targeted audience:	Price statistics compilers from the statistical agencies
Participation:	Two participants per country
Dates:	February 27-March 3, 2023
Venue:	In person, venue TBC

Workshop description

The main objective is to strengthen the participants' knowledge of price indices concepts and methods relating to the implementation of international standards and best practices.

This five-day seminar will focus on the challenges compilers face in developing, maintaining and updating price indices. Topics will include issues with the development and updating of weights, re-referencing the index period, selecting and maintaining samples, quality adjustment issues, the introduction of new/replacement items, and pricing difficult items. Participants will be invited to list specific questions, topics, issues which will be discussed during the seminar.

Language requirements:

The workshop will be delivered in English with simultaneous interpretation in French and Portuguese, if required



APPLICATION OF GOVTECH SOLUTIONS TO IMPROVE PUBLIC FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

WEBINAR COORDINATORS: MR EL OMARI (AFS) AND MR. PALMEIRA BARDELLA FELIPE(FAD)



AREA OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE: <i>Public Financial Management (PFM)</i>	
Targeted audience:	Mid-level to senior officials from budget, Treasury, and macro-fiscal departments, Audit units, and ICT departments from selected AFS Member countries and selected MEFMI, and other AFRITACs countries
Participation:	2-3 participants per country
Dates:	March 7-10, 2023
Venue:	Hybrid mode (In-person and virtual), Ebene/Zoom/Webex- online Platform

Workshop description

GovTech solutions present new opportunities and challenges for digitalizing public financial management. They offer the potential to dramatically improve data collection and storage, increase the speed of transactions, and facilitate government interactions with citizens.

Building up on the previous regional workshops on PFM and digitalization 1 this workshop, jointly organized with FAD, will provide a peer-learning platform to the participants to share their experiences and to learn from international and regional best practices in digitalizing PFM. It will explore how PFM digital solutions should evolve and interact within the whole-of-government approach to modernize the public sector.

Acknowledging the role of digitalization in delivering public services — especially during the COVID19 pandemic— and in enhancing fiscal transparency through improving fiscal reporting, member countries are even more demanding of capacity development in this area.

Objectives:

The workshop will discuss:

- The role of digital technology in the modernization and enhancement of Public Financial Management (PFM) systems, and the associated risks, challenges.
- The innovative GovTech solutions and trends for public financial management.

Participants will also:

- get familiar with examples of good practices PFM digitalization from the international and regional environment
- connect with peers that are undergoing an accrual reform program.

¹ 2021 regional workshop on “Digitalization and transparency in PFM” and the 2022 regional workshop on “Fiscal transparency portals and open data”

Duration and format:

This 4-day workshop will be delivered in hybrid mode (In person and virtual)

Language requirements:

The webinar will be delivered in English with simultaneous interpretation in French, if required



IMPROVING TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY IN THE PUBLIC SECTOR THROUGH ADOPTING INTERNATIONAL PUBLIC SECTOR ACCOUNTING STANDARDS (IPSAS)



WEBINAR COORDINATORS: MR EL OMARI (AFS) AND MR. PALMEIRA BARDELLA FELIPE(FAD)

AREA OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE: <i>Public Financial Management (PFM)</i>	
Targeted audience:	Mid-level to senior officials from budget, Treasury, and macro-fiscal departments, and Audit units from selected AFS Member countries and selected MEFMI countries
Participation:	Two participants per country
Dates:	April 10-14, 2023
Venue:	Hybrid mode (In-person and virtual), Ebene/Zoom/Webex- online Platform

Workshop description

Sound public sector accounting and financial reporting practices promote transparency and accountability, which are essential to improving macro-economic stability, public service delivery, and more efficient use of public resources. The financial crisis of 2008-2009 and the COVID-19 pandemic have shown the full extent of negative repercussions that can occur when fiscal and financial reporting is lacking.

The 2020 International Public Sector Financial Accountability index² shows that 30% of 165 jurisdictions, included in the index, reported on accrual in their 2020 published financial statements, 40% already had some elements of accrual “partial accrual³” in their financial reports, and 30% reported under cash basis.

According to 2020-index, only 6 countries⁴ in Southern-Africa and West Indian Ocean regions, are on “partial accrual” o/w two⁵ are expected to report on accrual by 2025.

While some countries, in the region, have already stated implementing a multi-year roadmap to move to accrual accounting, others are still on cash-basis, which obscures important elements of the balance sheet, and increases fiscal risks that may arise from contingent liabilities.

Acknowledging the role of accrual accounting in enhancing fiscal transparency and comparability of financial information, and the difficulties and challenges in moving towards IPSAS, this 5-day workshop, jointly organized with FAD, will provide a platform for peer-learning in the region and for learning from international best practices. It will combine theory and practices.

Objectives:

Participants will

² The index The Index collects, verifies, and analyzes current financial reporting bases and frameworks used by federal and central governments around the world. The 2020 index contains data from 165 jurisdictions, compared to 150 in the 2018 Index

³ PARTIAL ACCRUAL: some transactions recognized on cash, some on accrual

⁴ Botswana, Eswatini, Madagascar, Mauritius, Seychelles, and South Africa

⁵ Mauritius, South-Africa

- learn what are the requirements and benefits of accrual-based accounting and its role in improving fiscal transparency and fiscal risk management.
- better understand usage and impact of the accrual-basis IPSAS, and the linkage between accrual reporting framework and other frameworks such as GFMS 2014
- address specific IPSAS through practical work in smaller groups
- get familiar with examples of good practices of IPSAS adoption from the international and regional environment
- connect with peers that are undergoing an accrual reform program.

Duration and format:

This 5-day workshop will be delivered in hybrid mode (In person and virtual)

Language requirements:

The webinar will be delivered in English with simultaneous interpretation in French and Portuguese, if required



WEBINARE ON ILLICIT TRADE (JOINT WITH SADC)

CONFERENCE COORDINATOR: MR. PHILIP WOOD



AREA OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE:	
	<i>Revenue Administration (Customs)</i>
Targeted audience:	Senior officials from revenue authorities and other selected regional stakeholders
Participation:	Three participants per country
Dates:	TBC
Venue:	TBC

Workshop description

Illicit trade results in a substantial loss in tax revenue across the Southern African Development Community (SADC), much needed for funding public expenditure on health, education, and infrastructure. Strong cooperation across the SADC member states is required to tackle illicit trade, mutually enhance revenue collection, and improve fiscal firepower to repel exogenous shocks. The illicit trade regional conference will provide an excellent opportunity to deepen coordination and synergies with other development partners on anti-corruption and illicit trade within the region.

Delegates will include representatives from a range of government departments, academia, international organizations, and the business community. Additional delegates will be able to observe conference discussions via remote links

Language requirements:
The conference will be delivered in English with simultaneous interpretation in French and Portuguese, if required