

Effective Public Financial Management

Aim:

Since the 1990s, there has been a surge of interest among international agencies in the way public sector budgets are set, managed, and reported on. This reflects not only an increased demand for transparency, but also recognition that effective public financial management (PFM) is pivotal to economic and developmental success.

This five-day programme provides a thorough insight in public finance management (PFM) for those who are involved in policy work, sector programmes, or have management responsibilities in government ministries, departments and agencies. It has been designed specifically with the developing country context in mind. This programme has been designed to better equip the participant to understand the full breadth of PFM functions that impact upon the work in their sectors.



What you will learn:

- Be aware of the complex nature of PFM reform – the political dimension, the macro-economic context, the legal and regulatory framework, the institutional framework, the constraining dimension of functional linkages and the financial administration network
 - Understand what is meant by political economy analysis
 - Be equipped with some basic frameworks for identifying the strengths and weaknesses of a country's PFM systems.
 - Be equipped with some basic analytical frameworks for looking at Public Finance Management – based upon the objectives for sound PFM: fiscal discipline, allocative efficiency and technical efficiency.
- Understand Budget Formulation; Budget Classification; Budget Preparation; Budget Execution encompassing Budget Releases, the Treasury Single Account, Commitment Control Systems, Establishment Control, the Expenditure Cycle, elements of payroll management and procurement, Financial Management and Reporting, and Internal Control; External Audit and Parliamentary Oversight
 - Understand elements of revenue management (tax, non-tax, royalties, grants and dividends) as well as debt management
 - Be able to question the nature of relevance of some popularly promoted PFM reforms – such as performance budgeting, budgeting by objectives, activity based budgeting, the use of MTEF, accrual accounting, IFMIS, and public-private partnerships



Benefits of attending – You will be able to:

- Gain in-depth knowledge of best practice government finance processes
- Understand how all government finance roles should fit together
- Take your public sector finance skills to an advanced level
- Understand how to communicate with people who don't have a finance background
- Be able to move into a different public sector finance role

PROGRAMME OUTLINE

Day 1

Current approach to public finance

- What is perceived as excellent financial management
- Key principles and themes in public finance
- Responsibilities of the Treasury, Ministers, National Audit Office and Parliament
- Conditions for use of public funds
- Conditions for access to the contingencies fund
- Governance structure in Central Government and Arm's Length Bodies

Obtaining funds

- Sources of finance for Central Government Departments
- Sources of finance for Non-Departmental Public Bodies and Public Corporation
- Outsourcing
- Criteria for using private finance arrangements
- Tax system

Day 2

Planning for public spending

- Types of expenditure (Resource/Capital, DEL/AME)
- Processes of budgeting (Spending Review, Budget)
- Constraints and flexibilities (Budget Exchange, New burdens principle)
- Capital ranking exercise

Financial reporting

- Sources of guidance: The Government Financial Reporting Manual
- Preparation and presentation of financial statements: annual report and accounts
- The statement of Parliamentary Supply
- Whole of Government Accounts
- Financial Reporting Advisory Board

Day 3

Sources of financing

- Outsourcing
- Public-Private Partnership
- Social impact bonds

Study visit – Alternative financial instrument – social impact bonds

- Greater London Authority

Day 4

Measurement and evaluation

- Evaluation and performance monitoring
- Sources of guidance in the UK, e.g. The Green Book and The Magenta Book
- Case examples of value for money assessment and impact Evaluations

Study visit – Government's approach to Value for Money

- Department for Communities and Local Government

Day 5

Scrutiny of public finance

- The role of internal audit
- Future of internal audit services in the public sector: a single integrated internal audit service?
- UK Bribery Act 2010
- Case studies on risk management, code of ethics and whistleblowing

Financial accountability

- The role of the Public Accounts Committee
- The role of the Treasury Select Committee
- The role of the National Audit Office
- Managing Public Money Guidance
- Ministers and Accounting Officers

Duration: 5 days

Fees: £2,150

**Date: 24th–28th July 2017
& 23rd–27th October 2017**

Location: London

For further details and programme booking, please email Ade Arimoro on ade@civilservicecollege.org.uk, or telephone him on +44 (0)20 8 069 9003



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