

Strengthening public finances in Caribbean SIDS

UNECLAC Development account project

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Objectives

- UN Development account project - Strengthening the technical capacity of public finance managers in Selected Caribbean SIDS to manage(improve) their public finances
- Emphasis on capacity building based on needs and priorities of members states - some countries are interested in citizen participation in the budget process and others on monitoring and evaluation
- Focus on country priorities and uniqueness with regional focus as well



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Focus

- Part of broad UN efforts to promote a global post-2015 agenda, consistent with the outcome of the Rio+20 conference in 2012 and its mandate to foster an inclusive intergovernmental process to build sustainable development goals. Thus, any efforts to promote improved fiscal management must also promote economic, social and environmental sustainability.
- Also in line with financing for development as mechanism for raising resources efficiently and equitable
- The project is driven by member state priorities - one size does not fit all



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Focus

- Raise capacity to conduct transparent public expenditure reviews (PERs) in areas of need
- Strengthen the mechanisms and procedures for revenue and expenditure planning forecasting and their efficacy in supporting public expenditure reviews.
- Examine the challenges of the budgetary process to fiscal transparency, with a view to designing relevant adjustments
- No cost to member states except time of personnel



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Structure

- Six countries invited initially for three years – proposal to be expanded
- Four countries on board
- National focal points - critical to success of project
- National consultants - scoping studies to identify priorities
- International consultant - reference/training manual/to reflect individual needs and general concerns
- ILPES - consultant capacity building
- Technical cooperation



Project timeline (approx.)

- Oct to Nov 2014 - Identification of national focal points and consultants
- Nov 2014 to April 2015 – Consultants' work in-country
- Feb 2015 to Aug 2015 – International consultant + ECLAC + ILPES collaboration to develop training manual
- Aug 2015 into 2016 – Regional training workshops



Indicators of achievement

- The project is evaluated on the basis of three indicators of achievement.
- Increased number of public finance practitioners applying the skills and techniques acquired from the workshops in day to day fiscal management, including the use of the reference guide.
- At least 75% of workshop participants acknowledging the their capacity to manage and forecast government and revenue has increased
- All beneficiary countries are in the process of integrating the programmes and techniques of the training in their public finance management systems.



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ECLAC contribution

- A UN perspective with a focus on country priorities
- Consultation and collaboration with CARTAC/World Bank/SEMCAR/CARICAD
- Interested in coordination and collaboration



Communication and information -sharing

- Project website and access
- Sharing of sensitive information (other scoping studies, public expenditure and financial accountability (PEFA) studies)
- Determining sequence of events in collaboration with focal points, ILPES and consultants
- Schedule of meetings



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Thank you!

Questions/comments/suggestions

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