

Programme

'Tales of the unexpected: PFM reform in difficult environments' will explore the interface between the technical dimensions of public finance reform and the wider research and policy agenda on governance and the political economy of reform.

The conference will examine comparative experience of PFM reforms looking at reforms in countries where some of the standard dimensions of 'good governance' are weak or missing. It will consider what factors motivate and sustain PFM reform progress, the links with institutions and political processes and ask why some reforms are able to succeed in difficult environments.

The aim of the conference will be to draw out relevant lessons for policymakers in national governments and the international donor community on supporting effective reform processes together with broader reflections on the link between PFM progress and the 'good governance' agenda. The conference aims to shape current thinking about the interplay between public financial management reform and governance and define an agenda for future applied research in this area.

Day 1 – Wednesday 14 November 2007

09.00 Registration and coffee

09.30 Introduction

Introduction to the CAPE Conference 2007
Simon Maxwell, Director, ODI

Rationale and agenda: PFM reform in challenging environments
Edward Hedger, Research Fellow, ODI

09.50 Session 1: PFM and Governance – How are they related?

Chair: Alison Evans, Director of Programmes, Poverty and Public Policy Group, ODI

The Relationship between Governance and Public Financial Management
Sanjay Pradhan, Director, Public Sector Governance, World Bank

Plenary discussion

11.00 **Coffee**

11.30 **Session 2: What do we mean by successful PFM outcomes and performance?
How do we measure aggregate PFM reform progress?**

Chair: Andrew Lawson, Associate, ODI

Measuring PFM performance

*Paolo de Renzio, Research Associate, Global Economic Governance Programme,
Oxford University*

Good practices in PFM reform

Carole Pretorius, Independent PFM Specialist

Plenary discussion

13.00 **Lunch**

14.00 **Session 3: What kind of PFM reforms have succeeded and why? Reflections
from country reformers**

Chair: Malcolm Holmes, Independent PEM Specialist

The Chile experience

*Mario Marcel, Director, Politeia Public Solutions, Chile (formerly Director of Budget
Office, Ministry of Finance, Chile; Executive Board Member, IADB)*

The Cambodia experience: Four platforms toward international standards

*Sok Saravuth, Manager, PFM Reform Committee Secretariat, Ministry of Finance,
Cambodia*

The Bangladesh experience

*Ranjit Chakraborty, Joint Secretary and Project Director, Financial Management Reform
Programme, Ministry of Finance, Bangladesh*

Plenary discussion

Tea and coffee will be available during the afternoon session

18.00 **Drinks Reception**

The Drinks Reception will be at the Cut Bar at the Young Vic Theatre (66 The Cut, London, SE1 8LZ), which is a short walk from ODI. A map is enclosed in your delegate pack. Please ask any of the ODI staff if you require any assistance.

Drinks and canapés will be served until 21.00

Day 2 – Thursday 15 November 2007

09.00 Arrival and coffee

09.30 **Session 4: What are the key explanatory factors underlying successful PFM reform?**

Chair: Andrés Mejía Acosta, Governance Fellow, Institute of Development Studies

Good budgetary institutions and a good Civil Service: Two sides of the same coin?
Nick Manning, Sector Manager, Public Sector Group, LAC, World Bank

Influences on PFM Reforms other than that of the executive branch of government
Ian Lienert, Senior Economist, Fiscal Affairs Department, IMF

The political economy of budget reforms
Carlos Scartascini, Senior Research Economist, Research Department, IADB

Plenary discussion

Tea and coffee will be available during the morning session

13.00 Lunch

14.00 **Session 5: Implications for policy and research**

Conference Discussant
Paul Smoke, Professor of Public Finance and Planning, New York University

14.20 **Breakout Groups**

Four facilitated breakout groups will discuss preset questions that focus on the implications for future policy and practice. Participants will be divided into groups based on their profile:

- 1. Domestic reformers – facilitated by Andrew Lawson**
Room 1 (ground floor)
- 2. Donor community – facilitated by David Booth**
Room 2 (ground floor)
- 3. Research community – facilitated by Malcolm Holmes**
Main conference room
- 4. Consultancy/advisory community – facilitated by Paolo de Renzio**
Main conference room

On your name badge there is a colour dot to indicate which group you should join. ODI staff will be able to direct you to the relevant breakout room.

16.00 The Way Forward: Panel perspectives

Four panellists who are recognised specialists in their fields will be invited to offer short perspectives on next steps and the agenda for further work. The panellists will offer personal perspectives that draw upon the conference proceedings and their own views and experience in relation to the conference topics.

Chair: Paul Smoke, Professor of Public Finance and Planning, New York University

Panel:

Anwar Shakhan, National Coordinator of PFM Reforms Project, Ministry of Finance, Yemen Republic

David Gray, Senior Governance Adviser, FACT team, DFID

Chris Scott, Senior Lecturer in Economics, London School of Economics

Consultant / PFM reform adviser – to be confirmed

Tea and coffee will be available during the afternoon session

17.00 Conference close