**TEAM GAMBIA** Ismaila Bah **Fatou Kinney Jobe** Lamin Manneh Maria Azzi **Abdou Salam Jatta** Awa Touray

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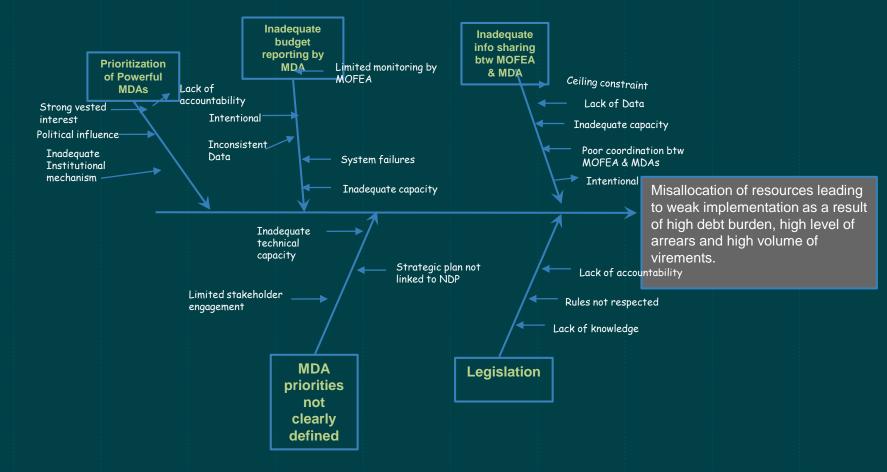
**CONNECT • SHARE • REFORM** 

# **Initial Problem**

Misallocation of resources leading to weak implementation as a result of high debt burden, high level of arrears and high volume of virements.

High virements and arrears leading to misalignment in the *appropriated budget and spending*.

## Fishbone



# **Entry Points**

Entry Point- Inadequate Budget Reporting

 Develop guidelines, templates and timelines on budget reporting
 Engage Management (for authority and support)

Progress made --•Guidelines and templates developed and to be disseminated before 2018 budget implementation --•Engaged Minister, PS, Directors on numerous occasions to support implementation of activities.

		Draft MDA Reporting Template			
onth or Date	Allocated Amount	Distribution to line items	Specific Activity used for	<b>Remaining Balance</b>	Objectives for Next Qtr
		Insert amount distributed and to which budget line	Insert activity that cash was spent on	, 0	
				Insert remaining balance after spending on activity	

## Entry Point - Inadequate Budget Reporting

Understand the reason
 Survey AAA (entry point)
 Progress made:
 Developed survey tool
 Results analyzed and first draft
 of report from survey produced
 and shared with Management

#### REPUBLIC OFTHE GAMBIA MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND ECONOMIC AFFAIRS THE QUADRANGLE, BANJUL, THE GAMBIA.



#### Expenditure Reporting Survey

 Are you aware that your MDA is mandated to send quarterly budgetary (expenditure) reports to MOFEA?

 Has your MDA submitted any quarterly reports to MOFEA in the past? Please list period

3. If not? Why has your MDA not submitted quarterly reports to MOFEA?

4. Are you aware and knowledgeable about the different reports available in the IFMIS system that can used to produce budget reports

**Entry Point – Inadequate Information Sharing Initial Actions** - 5<sup>th</sup> June – Getting authority: MOFEA PS to sign letters to MDAs on data requests -•7<sup>th</sup> June – Engage MDAs to further sensitize and deepen acceptance **Progress made** -Data was collected, analysed and initial report drafted and submitted to Management. -Workshop on preventing and managing arrears was conducted to sensitize vote controllers. - Results of data anaylsis was presented to stakeholders to show the impact of both arrears and virements on the budget.



Act	tivity	Timeline
1.	Engaged management to solidify support for our activities, by making presentation on the PDIA program	Week of 16 <sup>th</sup> June
1.	Sent out letters requesting for data on MDA arrears	
1.	Distributed surveys on financial records management and reporting processes of MDAs	
4.	Collected data on MDA arrears	Week of 7 <sup>th</sup> July
5.	Reviewed budget execution guidelines and developed draft MDA reporting template	
6. Engaged the Internal Audit Directorate for the verification and validation of collected data on arrears		Week of 20 <sup>th</sup> September
7. Started using data on arrears and virements during budget bilaterals to address to problem for 2018 budget		Week of 27 <sup>th</sup> Sept.
8.1	st & 2 <sup>nd</sup> Revision of Fishbone	28 <sup>th</sup> September, 11 <sup>th</sup> October

Activity	Timeline
<ul><li>9. Sent out invitation letters to support internal audit arrears verification exercise</li><li>10. Met with stakeholders to revise fishbone for the final time</li></ul>	Week of 10 <sup>th</sup> October
11. Conducted a training workshop on arrears, for vote controllers, accountants and procurement officers	Week of 1 <sup>st</sup> November
12. Developed policy brief and circulated to Minister and some members of Management	Week of 22 <sup>nd</sup> November
13. Discussed policy brief with the Permanent Secretary and incorporated comments	Week of 29 <sup>th</sup> November
14. Met internal audit to discuss findings from arrears verification exercise	

# **Key Stakeholders and Why**

- Minister for Finance & Economic Affairs
- Permanent Secretary MoFEA and
- Director of BudgetAuthority



- Directorate of Internal audit
- Key in arrears verification to establish authenticity of submissions
  Ability

- Vote Controllers, Accountants, Procurement Officers
- Cooperation key in minimizing arrears and virements
- Workshop and survey understanding of constraints, sensitization and deepening acceptance
- Acceptance

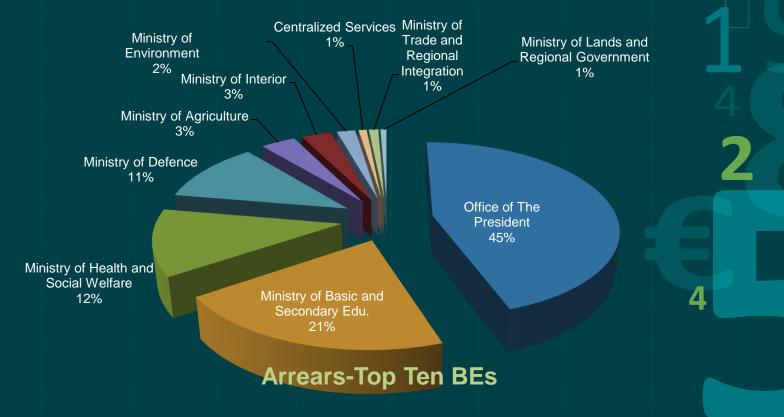
# Key Outputs

**Strengthened Authorization** 

Minister Permanent Secretaries Deputy Permanent Secretary, Fiscal Affairs Director of Budget

 Established guidelines and templates for budget reporting to strengthen M&E of the budget

## Established stock of government arrears



MDA	% of 2016 Expenditure
Office of The President	28.2%
Ministry of Basic and Secondary Edu.	11.7%
Ministry of Health and Social Welfare	10.8%
Ministry of Defence	13.7%
Ministry of Agriculture	10.4%
Ministry of Interior	3.8%
Ministry of Environment	7.5%
Centralized Services	1.2%
Ministry of Trade and Regional Integration	10.4%
Ministry of Lands and Regional Government	9.7%
Total	6.6%

É Δ R -•Arrears verified and authenticated by the Internal Audit. •Ensure arrears legally incurred •Avoid settlement of fraudulent invoices - Trained and sensitized vote controllers, accountants and procurement officers on: Budget reporting Fiscal risks related to arrears

# Lessons Learnt

## Working as a Team-Lessons Learnt

-Important to learn how each works best so as to get optimum output

→We can be each other's pick me up

-•Must be self-motivated and take ownership of our individual roles

- Important to have everyone's' voice count

-Consistent behavior key to team discipline



**Tackling the Problem -Lessons Learnt** 

-•Arrears are being developed in expenditure areas that are not critical

 Contributions to international organisations that are not adding value
 Travel related expenses

<sup>•</sup>Vehicle related expenses – i.e. maintenance

#### However.....

-• Expenditure arrears in critical areas like utilities – SOE (NAWEC) bail out a significant fiscal risk

**Tackling the Problem -Lessons Learnt** 

-•Need to introduce sanctions for fiscal indiscipline

-•Tackling the issues require significant collaboration with other Directorates and continued engagement with the MDAs

-•Corruption a root cause (indicative in types of suppliers engaged)

Insufficient oversight function by MoFEA enables the problem to certain extent

-• Limited response to audit queries provides MDAs little incentive to do better

-•Need for MoFEA to be better example



## **Tackling the Problem -Lessons Learnt**

-075% cap for viremenst high in comparison to other countries (5-10%)

990 virements in 2016
 1044 virements in 2015
 873 virements in 2014



### **Working With Others -Lessons Learnt**

-•Engaging and collaborating made it a "we" problem and made things less of an imposition

-•Helped learn more about the problem through other perspectives



## Authorizing Environment -Lessons Learnt

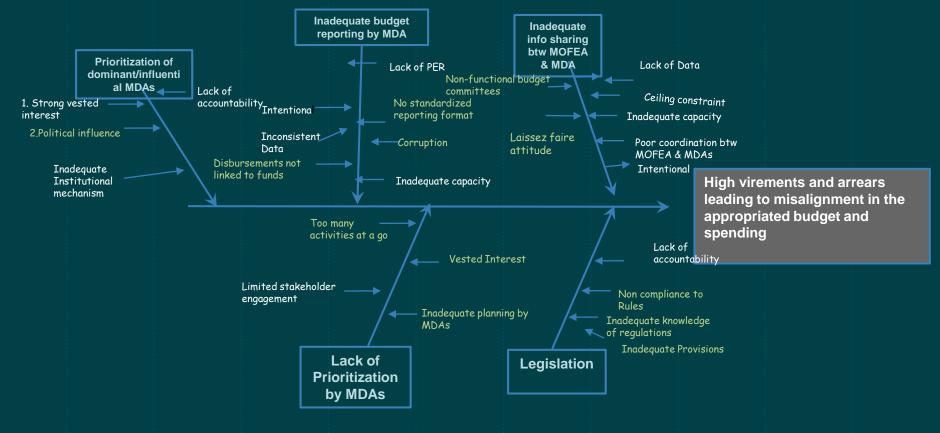
-•Once you can demonstrate the importance of issues, you are likely to get the required support

-Support may not come all at once and may not be continuous



# What Next ?

## **Revised Fishbone**



## Legislation?

- Revising the 75% cap on virements

-•Clearly define arrears in Public Finance Act



# **Immediate Next Steps**

----Workshop for suppliers - MoFEA & GPPA

→Press Release

-•Put MDAs that are on post paid electricity on pre-paid - Release new budget execution guidelines -Posting of internal auditors to MDAs -Curb the levels of virement approvals by MoFEA -Quarterly meetings between audit and budget  $\rightarrow$ IFMIS Training for accountants

# Thanks!

# Any questions?

