

VALUE FOR MONEY IN PUBLIC SPENDING

The 10th Annual Seminar is on the theme ‘value for money in public spending’. Value for money is about maximising impact with limited resources and is determined by the relationship between inputs, outputs and outcomes. The Annual Seminar will review the efficiency of spending in some of the key sectors and discuss ways in which efficiency and effectiveness can be improved in the budget process. CABRI has been undertaking a series of research and small policy dialogues on value for money in various

sectors including health, education and agriculture. The Annual Seminar allows for this wealth of research to reach a larger audience and for high level discussions to take place on how senior government officials can better ensure value for money in financing public expenditure. The seminar ultimately aims to encourage a policy discussion among budget officials on value for money and debate some of the complex policy decisions related to financing and providing social services under budget constraints.

Day 1

Wednesday, 24 September 2014

08:30–08:45 REGISTRATION

08:45–09:15 WELCOME AND OPENING ADDRESS

PLENARY

Neil Cole, CABRI Executive Secretary

09:15–10:45 SESSION 1: ISSUES IN VFM AND EFFICIENCY SPENDING

PANEL

Governments across the globe face the dual challenges of budgetary constraints and ensuring that scarce resources are used efficiently and effectively. The likelihood of achieving the desired outputs and outcomes of a spending programme is dependent on a combination of the correct policy choices, appropriate funding levels, credible plans, and the proficiency to deliver services. Achieving ‘value for money’ is therefore dependent on several complex factors.

A panel of experts will briefly share their views on the myriad of factors that contribute to or impede ‘value for money’, for example availability of information/data, analytical tools, political considerations, etc. Inputs from the panellists will be followed by a 30 minute exchange with seminar participants.

The main objective of this session is to establish the context for the programme and flag the various issues that should be considered in more detail in later sessions.

Moderator: Neil Cole

Panel: Janah Ncube (Oxfam), Benedict Kunene (AfDB), Nana Boateng (CABRI), Amadou Sangaré (Ministry of Finance, Burkina Faso), Philipp Krause (ODI)

10:45–11:30 COFFEE BREAK & MEDIA BRIEFING

11:30–13:00 SESSION 2: IMPROVING VFM THROUGH THE BUDGET PROCESS

PLENARY/BREAK AWAY SESSIONS

Improving the comprehensiveness, credibility and depth of consultation of the 'budget process' has been a key feature of reform efforts in several African countries. A noticeable improvement has been the extent of iteration that occurs when considering the financial implications of policies/plans in order to achieve greater 'value for money'. This usually takes the form of a careful examination of opportunity costs; costs vs benefits; and trade-offs. This interactive session will be guided by three case studies that characterise the reality of many budget processes in Africa.

The main objective of this session is to simulate a budget negotiation scenario between finance and sector ministries and the compromises to be made in order to achieve service delivery under budget constraints.

Facilitators: Alta Fölscher, Aarti Shah, Emilie Gay, Peter Jonath, Philipp Krause

13:00–14:00 LUNCH

14:00–15:30 SESSION 3: USE OF PERFORMANCE INDICATORS – LESSONS FROM BURUNDI AND MAURITIUS

PLENARY

Performance indicators are the focus of this discussion. The allocation of resources in line with key performance indicators (KPIs) has made a significant difference in health outcomes in Burundi and education outcomes in Mauritius. These countries have a performance-based budgeting framework with robust accountability measures and a results-oriented focus. Each of the countries will focus their brief presentations on the functionality of the KPIs.

The main objective of this session is to discuss and learn from the experiences of two countries using performance indicators to drive results.

Moderator: Gert van der Linde

Presenters: Beatrice Samandari (Burundi), Maya Soonarane (Mauritius)

15:30–16:00 COFFEE BREAK

16:00–17:00 SESSION 4: ALTERNATIVE FINANCING OPTIONS

PLENARY

The use of non-traditional sources of finance can lessen the pressures on national budgets and enhance value for money. Various forms of financing – such as PPPs, special levies, insurance risk mechanisms and cash on delivery – are some of the untapped sources of finance. This will be an informative and interactive session to debate the various sources of alternative finance that enhance value for money. Countries will be asked to share relevant experiences.

The main objective of this session is to increase awareness and discuss the viability of alternative financing options that enhance value for money.

Facilitator: Peter Jonath

Presenters: Selibe Tsepe (PPP Hospital), Yaw Asamoah-Aning (Special levies, Eurobond), Ekhosuehi Iyehen (Drought Risk Insurance Financing), Benedict Kunene (AfDB Instruments)

18:30 COCKTAIL RECEPTION

Day 2

Thursday, 25 September 2014

09:00–10:30 **SESSION 5: FRAMEWORK FOR IMPROVING VALUE FOR MONEY** *PLENARY*

This is a session that draws from the lessons of the previous day and presents a framework for improving value for money. Notwithstanding the difficult trade-offs, SBOs and line ministries need to consider the appropriateness of the policy response; cost effectiveness; cost efficiency; feasibility; scale of impact; relevance; and sustainability.

The main objective of this session is to discuss a framework for SBOs in evaluating value for money in sector budgets.

Moderator: Nana Boateng

Presenter: Gary Bandy

10:30–11:00 **COFFEE BREAK**

11:00–12:30 **SESSION 6: CASE STUDIES ON VALUE FOR MONEY (World Café)** *PLENARY*

Participants will receive three short case studies (one page each) on Zanzibar (health sector), Ghana (agriculture sector) and Mozambique (education sector). Each case study will have questions that illustrate the trade-offs often required between service delivery and financing. This will be done in a table-based discussion similar to a world café format. Delegates will have about 25 minutes to discuss each case.

The main objective of this session is to encourage a debate that demonstrates the complexity of policymaking and financing. It will be based on real country case-studies.

Case study 1: VALUE ADDITION IN THE COCOA SECTOR IN GHANA

Case study 2: ERADICATING MALARIA IN ZANZIBAR

Case study 3: THREE EDUCATION FINANCING MECHANISMS IN MOZAMBIQUE

Moderator: Nana Boateng

12:30–14:00 **LUNCH**

14:00–16:00 **SESSION 7: MASTER CLASSES** *PLENARY*

There will be three master classes to provide practical tools/techniques that will help SBOs to extend their understanding of VFM in a practical way. The expectation is that SBOs will take steps to ensure that their offices are well capacitated with these important analytical skills.

The main objective of this session is to provide SBOs with practical tools which are needed in their respective institutions in assessing value for money.

PARALLEL SESSIONS

CLASS A: APPLYING VFM ANALYTICAL TOOLS IN HEALTH

Facilitators: Dr Michael Borowitz (Global Fund), Tomas Roubal (WHO), Prof. Karen Hofman (Wits University)

CLASS B: APPLYING VFM ANALYTICAL TOOLS IN EDUCATION

Facilitator: Dr Meltem Aran (Development Analytics)

CLASS C: APPLYING VFM ANALYTICAL TOOLS IN AGRICULTURE

Facilitators: Ceren Bayson (Development Analytics), Dr Samuel Benin (IFPRI)

16:00–16:30	COFFEE BREAK	
16:30–17:00	CLOSING REMARKS Neil Cole	<i>PLENARY</i>
19:00	OFFICIAL DINNER	

Day 3

Friday, 26 September 2014

09:30–10:00	SESSION 8: PEFA INDICATOR REVISION The Public Expenditure and Financial Accountability (PEFA) Programme is currently undertaking a revision of its public finance management performance measurement framework. This session serves to provide participants with an overview of the proposed indicator changes and provide an opportunity to supply the PEFA Secretariat with input on the proposed changes. Presenter: Phil Sinnett	<i>PLENARY</i>
10:00–10:30	COFFEE BREAK & GROUP PHOTO	
10:30–12:00	SESSION 9: REPORT ON CABRI DEVELOPMENTS AND STRATEGIC PLAN This session will provide participants with the opportunity to learn about CABRI's work and achievements over the past ten years (2004–2014). The Secretariat will also elicit input from delegates on the technical areas of focus for the coming few years. Presenters: Neil Cole, Aarti Shah, Emilie Gay	<i>PLENARY</i>
12:00–13:00	LUNCH	