

Revising the PEFA Performance Measurement Framework

In 2011, the PEFA Partners agreed to undertake a comprehensive review of the Performance Management Framework. The twin objectives of this review are to enhance the relevance of the Framework while preserving comparability over time as far as possible. It should be noted that by recognising developments in accepted “good practice” since it was launched in 2005, the Framework has now been applied on more than 360 occasions.

At the recent Steering Committee meeting, the PEFA partners made significant progress toward finalising a draft revision of the framework, based on work completed over the past months by four ‘Technical Task Teams’ (established to examine specific groups of indicators) and the Secretariat. Proposals included adding a limited number of new indicators and modifying the current framework in the light of the evolution of what is now considered to be “generally accepted good practice”.

The Partners also agreed on a process to test and consult Stakeholders on the revised Framework. The testing will have two distinct phases, both of which will essentially involve ‘parallel running’ of the revised Framework alongside (scheduled) applications of the existing version. The first phase will be restricted to a small number of volunteer countries where the Secretariat will support the standard assessment team to gather the data required to rate those indicators that have been introduced or modified in the revised Framework. Following this initial testing, the revised framework will be released for a period for all stakeholders to offer comments. During the consultation period, opportunities will be sought to link with regional events, and the PEFA Partners will also arrange dedicated events where detailed discussions can take place.

Once stakeholder comments have been received and considered, adaptations to the revised Framework will be made before a period of parallel running begins – ensuring that an appropriate diversity of countries (in terms of both stage of development and also heritage) are included. The lessons from this phase of testing will be distilled into a final set of recommendations to the PEFA Steering Committee in December 2014, and are expected to result in the release of the revised Framework early in 2015.

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