



Capacity Building Programs of DA Project 2nd Regional Meeting of DA Project Focal Points

Overview

- EDID is currently implementing a 3-Year Development Account project entitled “Towards the Arab Horizon 2030: Enhancing Integrated National Development Planning in the Arab Region”.
- The project aims at supporting member countries in their national planning processes and identifying challenges for an integrated, strategic and better-coordinated development planning that contribute to the achievement of the 2030 Agenda.

Overview

- ESCWA offers capacity-building programs in two substantive areas related to national development planning (National Development Budgeting and Regularity Reforms).
- The workshops include a mixture of lecture and integrative and dynamic format such as breakout sessions and working groups that support the processing of the material and formulation of recommendations and results tailored to the specific situation in each country.

Regulatory Reform: Strategic Management

Objectives and components:

- a. Being strategic in governing
- b. The importance of communicating
- c. Achieving impact
- d. Changing behavior

Regulatory Reform: Strategic Management

- Achieving administrative simplification, involves cutting red tape.
 - Red tape originates from excessive regulation that can be redundant or bureaucratic, and thus hinder action or decision making.
- Advantages in cutting red tape:
 - Encouraging innovation.
 - Promoting entrepreneurship; better allocation of resources.
 - Better more public governance, due to the allocation of more effective tools.

Regulatory Reform: Strategic Management

- Communicating a strategy's objectives and elements, lead to better enhance transparency.
- Transparency fosters co-ordination inside the administration, which eases communication with stakeholders and promote a cultural change in administration's approach on administrative simplification.
- Communication assist in breaking the following barriers:
 - Resistance to change.
 - Lack of understanding administrative simplification

Regulatory Reform: Better tools

Objectives and components:

- a) What is Better Regulation?
- b) Importance of Better Regulation
- c) Tools of Better Regulation (access to regulations, review of the stock of regulations, consultation, regulatory impact assessment, admin simplification, inspection)

Regulatory Reform: Better tools

- Evidence-based enforcement;
- Selectivity;
- Risk focus and proportionality;
- Responsive regulation;
- Long-term vision;
- Co-ordination and consolidation;
- Transparent governance;
- Information integration;
- Clear and fair process;
- Compliance promotion;
- Professionalism;

Regulatory Reform: Legislative Landscape

Objectives and components:

- a) Features of regulation in designated country
- b) Legislative drafting cycle in designated country
- c) Cost of the current status to business
- d) Regulatory reform attempts in designated country
- e) Designated country's experience with Better Regulation: ERRADA

Regulatory Reform: Regulatory Impact Analysis

Objectives and components:

- a) Overview of RIA
- b) Pre-requisites for implementation of RIA
- c) RIA steps: problem definition, objectives

Regulatory Reform: Regulatory Impact Analysis

RIA requires to ask the following 3 questions:

- What, in general terms, is the problem to be addressed?
- What is the specific policy objective to be achieved? and
- What are the different ways of achieving it?

Regulatory Reform: Regulatory Impact Analysis

Objectives and components:

- a) Identify options aimed to address the defined problem (including non-regulatory alternatives).
- b) Conduct stakeholder analysis
- c) Development of consultation plan (including method, duration and analysis and publishing results of consultations)

Regulatory Reform: Regulatory Impact Analysis

A good quality RIA is of little value unless its outcome can be communicated effectively to decision-makers. You should try to ensure that:

- The results of RIA are presented in a clear and easily understandable form.
- The results of RIA are provided to decision-makers in a timely way.
- The results of RIA are published to help promote acceptance of, and support for, the regulatory choice that has been made.

Regulatory Reform: Regulatory Impact Analysis

Objectives and components:

- a) Impact on identified stakeholders such as SMEs, and marginalized groups.
- b) Unintended consequences of options.
- c) Methods of assessment of options.
- d) Identify best possible option to address defined problem and meet desired objectives.

Regulatory Reform: Regulatory Impact Analysis

- Assessment of the nature and the size of the policy problem that is intended to be solved by the regulation or policy action.
- This involves identifying:
 - What groups in society are being affected;
 - What is the size of each group;
 - What is the nature of the impact on each group;
 - How large are these effects;
 - How long will these effects persist?

Regulatory Reform: Regulatory Impact Analysis

Objectives and components

- Steps to ensure enforcement and compliance with preferred option.
- Setting roles and responsibilities of relevant entities in monitoring implementation of selected option.
- Establishing an M&E plan.
- Evaluate effectiveness and efficiency of selected option in achieving set objectives.

Section Title	Description
1. Objective	Clearly state the policy objective(s) and goal of the regulatory proposal
2. Problem	Describe your assessment of the nature and extent of the problem to be addressed by the regulatory proposal
3. The Regulatory Proposal	<p>Explain the regulatory proposal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Describe the regulations Outline the legal authority to make the regulation List the groups likely to be affected by the regulation (citizens, business and within government) Outline the enforcement regime and proposed strategy for ensuring compliance
4. Analysis of Benefit and Costs	<p>Clearly outline the benefits and costs expected from the regulatory proposal for each group:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Administrative Economic Social Environmental Enforcement and Compliance
5. Compare the Costs and benefits	Include a table comparing the cost and benefits for each of the above categories, listing the monetary values of each or providing a description.
6. Identify Alternatives	List the practical alternatives, including any non-regulatory approaches that have been considered as options instead of the proposed regulatory approach.
7. Compare the Costs and benefits of Alternatives	Describe the benefits and costs for each practical alternative that was considered
8. Compare the Alternatives with the Regulatory proposal	Outline how and in what ways the identified regulatory proposal is superior to the alternatives that were considered.

Regulatory Reform: Building Better Institutional Governance

Objectives and components:

- Institutional Governance.
- Establishing effective institutions.
- Organizational Behavior.

Regulatory Reform: Roadmap for “better” legislation and policy

Objectives and components:

- Prioritization and sequencing of initiatives (keeping Agenda 2030 priorities in mind).
- Clarification of roles and responsibilities of government actors involved.
- Proposal for a reform timeline.
- Monitoring and evaluation.

Regulatory Reform: Roadmap for “better” legislation and policy

There are five main areas of work for cutting red tape

i) regulatory management reform to improve the framework of the administrative system

ii) organisational reengineering

iii) use of information and communication technologies (ICTs)

iv) better information on the delivery of services and administrative requirements

v) co-ordination of multiple requirements stemming from the public administration

Budgeting: Institutions for the sustainable development goals

Objectives and components:

- A substantive preview on the analysis included in the 2019 WSPR report, thus giving an international perspective on national budget processes and the SDGs.
- A review of typology of approaches, necessary national actions to link SDGs and budgets so far in the international context as well as drivers of SDG integration into budget processes.

Budgeting: Budgeting processes

Objectives and components:

- A summary of the ongoing experiences in Arab countries with respect to effective budget processes.
- Transparency, limited citizen inclusion in the budget-making process; and problematic energy subsidies, which accounted for a third of all government expenditures.
- Further experiences from other countries in the region will help the identification of Arab strategies towards budget formulation and of gaps in comparison to international best practice.

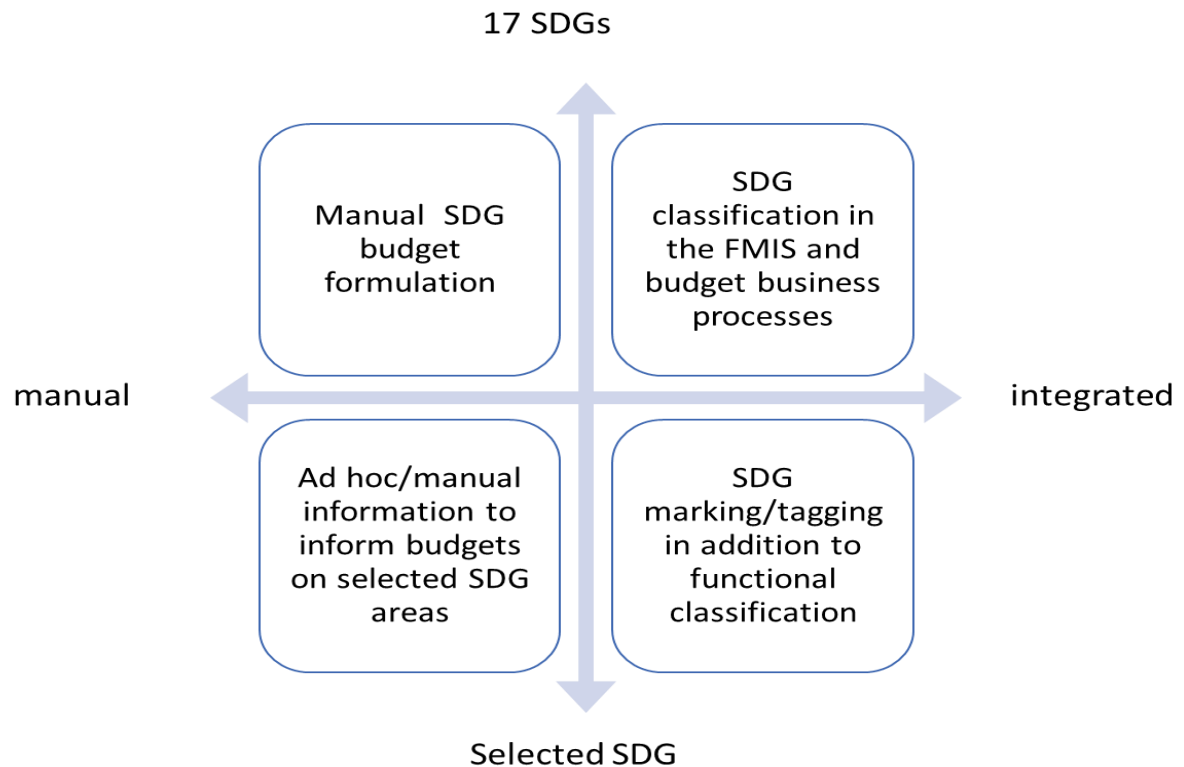
Budgeting: Budgeting processes

Budgeting process/steps:

- Establishment of a system that links revenue collection with resources allocation.
- Performance monitoring of the achievements.
- Integrate the SDGs into the sustainable development financing strategies.
- Have classification systems that enable tracking public expenditures on specific programs or policy objectives in a detailed way

Budgeting: Budgeting processes

Linkages of Budgeting to the SDG:



Budgeting: Credibility and Accountability

Objectives and components:

- To inform national development planning efforts in the Arab region in terms of improving transparency, accountability and participation.
- Discussion of the importance of the quality of reasoning in government budget documents.
- Discuss the assessment criteria for judging both retrospective and prospective reasons governments give for budget choices and deviations in public budget documents.

Budgeting: Credibility and Accountability

Transparency and Availability:

- Public spending is vulnerable not only to waste and misuse, but also to fraud. “Sunlight is the best policy” for preventing corruption and maintaining high standards of integrity in the use of public funds.
- Publishing the Executive’s Budget Proposal online in time.
- Increasing the information provided in the Budget.
- Publishing the Pre-Budget Statement and Citizens Budget.
- Citizen involvement in the evaluation process.
- Make the budget data easy to read for journalists and non experts.

Budgeting: Domestic public resources

Objectives and components:

- Present the recent trends in domestic public resources in the Arab countries.
- discuss some policy proposals, with a focus on raising domestic revenue mobilization in the Arab region.

Budgeting: Domestic public resources

- Improving tax fairness – Increase progressivity especially in direct tax collection, harness potential tax base (property tax/wealth tax, non-wage incomes)
- Improving effectiveness of tax systems -- Administrative reforms to control tax evasion, mandatory filing of tax (at residents'/businesses' end)
- Controlling illicit financial flows necessitates strengthened international cooperation (also adjusting domestic tax laws)
- Oil-rich countries need to diversify revenues through promoting economic diversification and better public finance management, including debt and SWFs

Budgeting: Domestic public resources

Expenditure Efficiency:

- Improving expenditure efficiency is essential to meeting greater social expenditure needs toward achieving the SDGs
- Enhancing progressivity in fiscal redistribution and better targeting public budgets to social development priorities
- Monitoring social expenditure and reprioritizing: ESCWA tool on Social Expenditure Monitor (SEM) is currently being developed

Budgeting: Risk management

Objectives and components:

- Explore how transparency policies and oversight in various areas contribute to more effective planning, budgeting and implementation processes.
- How corruption risks affect the different stages of the planning and budget process, and how associated issues can be addressed.
- How budget and planning processes can be structured to promote non-discrimination and inclusiveness.

Budgeting: Risk management

- a. Developing risk register – identification, assessment, response planning, management planning, monitoring and control.
- b. Periodic spending review.
- c. Performance, evaluation and value for money are integral to the budget process – financial and programmatic audit.
- d. Risk-based programmatic and budgetary planning.
- e. Financial and programmatic audit.
- f. HR strategy to develop a culture of accountability for financial, programmatic and operational results.

Budgeting: Effective budgeting

This component is an open platform for discussion to summarize based key concerns, lessons learned, best practices, etc. from the previous sessions and to draw out implications for the Arab region as well as ideas for problem-solving.