**Lead Stewards Meeting**

**Washington D.C., December 20, 2017**

**Work plan for GIFT for 2018 (revised version including the meeting’s remarks)**

The GIFT coordination team proposes to continue working on the following work streams during 2018:

1. Strengthening of global norms, emphasizing public participation;
2. Technical cooperation and peer-learning for country level fiscal transparency implementation;
3. Developing practical tools for public participation and transparency (ICT and open data) and working with network members to fully use them.
4. Engagement, network consolidation and outreach

The following lines describe these areas of work. The table includes indicators, targets and outcomes. We kindly request the lead stewards for their feedback on this proposal.

1. Work on strengthening global norms harmonization, emphasizing public participation and areas that directly affect citizens (this work stream represents 25% of the budget approx.)

GIFT will continue to work on global norms convergence and complementarity, leading the effort of promoting public participation in fiscal policies, emphasizing the rights perspective of public participation and aiming to link fiscal transparency with the effective use of information.

1. Guide on Public Participation Principles and Mechanisms: GIFT will continue discussing and disseminating the principles and practices with partners and stewards. In order to stimulate a more sustained use of the Guide, GIFT will organize seminars/webinars to discuss the cases, engaging the practitioners to share their experience with peers from other countries as respondents. GIFT will also seek to translate the materials into French, Spanish and Russian. Finally, GIFT will re-run the international contest in 2018 seeking new cases confined to central government level.
2. The 2017 Open Budget Survey will provide valuable data on how 115 countries perform on public participation against the GIFT principles. IBP will focus some of its regional and international events on public participation, which could be a topic in which the World Bank and the IMF join forces for a series of high-profile events of the fiscal transparency and participation agendas, introducing the importance of including more the revenue side in the fiscal equation.
3. As the IMF Manual on the Fiscal Transparency Code will be published in April 2018, GIFT will provide comments on the draft and support the IMF team in obtaining feedback from selected audiences. The Manual, and the OECD Budget Transparency Toolkit will be presented in a fiscal forum during the IMF/World Bank Spring meetings.
4. Framed under the high-level principles, GIFT will continue the work on the disclosure of useful information for citizens, such as procurement, and public service delivery data, following examples and models on granularity that GIFT government stewards and partners are required to report on their budgets at the national level.
5. Led by the World Bank and following the mandate from the General Stewards Meeting, GIFT will organize an event on revenue transparency, and the relationship with taxpayer compliance, building of state capacity for development, and citizen trust in government, which should tie into OGP efforts on “Rebuilding Trust in Government”.
6. Technical cooperation and peer learning for country level fiscal transparency implementation (this work stream represents 23% of the budget approx.)

GIFT will continue to facilitate the exchange of experience, lessons and technical expertise, playing the critical role of running a peer learning group with countries that aspire to become part of OGP, countries that are working on defining ambitious fiscal transparency commitments in their National Actions Plans, and countries that are implementing these commitments.

1. A Memorandum of Understanding with OGP will replace the fiscal openness working group framework, with more specific activities and more result-oriented, aiming at allowing the network to deepen the work that has been done so far with OGP countries on fiscal transparency. As such, the GIFT network will amplify the fiscal transparency and participation work in the OGP engagement, and promote greater collaboration/leveraging by GIFT of the OGP platform in global and regional contexts (including providing advice on draft Action Plans in at least 4 countries, and country level support via peer learning and field tours and workshops, including side events during the 2018 OGP Summit in Georgia).
2. GIFT will devote special attention to 2 regions. In Africa, in close collaboration with IBP and CABRI, 1 or 2 workshops will be organized, and countries from the region will be engaged in 1-2 learning field visits. GIFT will be supported with our recently-appointed Africa Officer (David Abouem). Special emphasis will be devoted to countries such as Nigeria, Mali, Benin, Madagascar, Guinea Conakry and Cote d’Ivoire. In Conakry, a workshop will be hosted by the Ministry of the Budget of Guinée in February 2018, after the release of the OBS 2017 results. In Europe, a constructive collaboration with the PEMPAL network and the OECD Senior Budget Officials will continue. GIFT will organize a workshop on the use of technologies for public participation in the region and will continue to assist PEMPAL in its effort to establish public participation experiences in the budget processes in several member countries.
3. GIFT will begin in 2018 to scale-up its learning methods, following the recommendations of the [assessment](http://www.fiscaltransparency.net/presentations/Assessment-PeerLearning-FINAL_Dec2017.docx) of this work stream. Particularly, GIFT will bring more technical content to members, on a more permanent and adaptive basis, reviving and restructuring its online Community of Practice in order to create and facilitate access to information about the network members’ current work agendas, future plans, preferences regarding meeting content, and need for support.
4. In coordination with the World Bank, in a selected number of countries where revenue transparency will be part of the WB operations, GIFT will seek to facilitate collaboration with CSOs to develop government-led public consultation processes around tax reform.
5. Developing practical tools for public participation and transparency working with stewards to fully used them (this work stream represents 16% of the budget approx.)
6. GIFT will continue developing the open data tool for publishing fiscal information, to help non-experts use financial data. GIFT has successfully piloted the Open Fiscal Data Package in six countries and will continue to support governments willing to use it. Taking it a step further, the Mexican Treasury has started working with GIFT steward Open Contracting Partnership to implement the Open Contracting Standard, linking federal budget data with detailed (transaction-level) procurement information. From there, citizens and CSOs should be better able to use budget information to monitor budget implementation.
7. During 2018, GIFT will continue working on an adequate methodology for building or redesigning fiscal transparency portals, based on the accumulated experience of network members’ processes, while additionally continuing the technical assistance, via peer learning methods, to South Africa, the Dominican Republic and El Salvador.
8. Related to the open data international day celebration on March 3rd, GIFT will facilitate the coordination among steward countries and partners of an international event in which citizens use budget open data to monitor public services, following the Mexican example, where the event “los datos en tu calle” has been organized twice (for citizens to use budget data their communities). To date, Mexico and Colombia and willing to coordinate in such an effort, that could become an innovative and coordinated effort to engage citizens to use fiscal open data.
9. Engagement, network consolidation and outreach (this work stream represents 24% of the budget approx.)

To be sustainable, GIFT’s plan for 2018-20 requires a stronger engagement from the GIFT lead stewards, including assuming a leadership role in one or more GIFT activities. From this perspective, it is very significant that IBP, the World Bank and IMF, founding lead stewards, have expressed their contributions to GIFT going forward, which are reflected on this proposal. The network will be stronger to the degree that the stewards participate and, simultaneously, benefit from a network that can provide more easily what they would struggle to achieve independently.

On outreach, the stewards have indicated that the membership should expand to achieve more global coverage, with additional Stewards sought in Africa, Europe and Asia. It was also agreed, however, that while the geographic representation within GIFT needs to be broader, any move to expand membership should be manageable under the current working model. The specific goals could therefore be to include 14 additional members in the period 2018-2020, including 8 additional governments of which at least 4 should located in Sub-Saharan Africa. While the composition of Lead Stewards should include more governments and civil society organizations to increase membership diversity, the current governing model works for now and should be maintained for the next period.

**Indicators, Targets and Outcomes for Period 2018-20**

**(FT=fiscal transparency / PP=public participation)**

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| **Type of activities** | **Indicators & targets** | **Baseline 2017** | **2018 Outcomes** | **2019 Outcomes** | **2020 Outcomes** | **Measurements** | **Ultimate Outcomes Y3 – 2020** |
| **1 Strengthening global norms**  **1a Improving coherence of global norms & standards of FT, increasing role of PP principles and practices, including PP in revenue policies** | Initiatives, actions and efforts to increase the coherence, complementarity and usefulness of FT norms and standards, focusing especially on more recommendations for the adoption of the PP principles, while addressing gaps on the revenue side of fiscal policies | Global norms are better aligned with GIFT High Level Principles and are more consistent and complementary; the Guide on PP in Fiscal Policies was published and endorsed by diverse communities | Standards setters take actions to continue increasing coherence of norms | Standards setters take actions to continue increasing coherence of norms, stressing the benefits of PP practices | Standards setters take actions to continue increasing coherence, recommending PP practices & addressing revenues too | Number of initiatives, actions and efforts within the network for increasing the coherence and consistency and comprehensives of norms and standards, including the revenues, documented by minutes, reports, blogs and communications on initiatives and actions towards these goals | **A more coherent & consistent and comprehensive global architecture of norms & standards on FT, including bold & practical recommendations on PP in fiscal policies and concretely addressing the revenue side of the fiscal equation** |
| **1b PP in fiscal policies: countries increasingly learn & share innovative experiences & adopt PP practices** | Number of countries engaging in GIFT discussions on the PP principles, the implementation of PP mechanisms such as the ones illustrated on the Guide, and sharing experiences on PP in fiscal policies | Use of the PP principles at international & country level discussions, with more adoption & sharing of practices. Mexico, Guatemala, OECD-SBO and PEMPAL countries have formally discussed PP and 20 countries have shared country level practices | 3 new countries + 1 group of countries use the PP GIFT resources for learning and sharing experience | 6 new countries + 2 groups of countries use the PP GIFT resources for learning and sharing experience | 9 new countries + 3 groups of countries use the PP GIFT resources for learning and sharing experience | Reports on the number of countries discussing the GIFT principles on PP, on the way in which they consider them at country level, including the progress towards implementation, and on the peer experience, shared with the GIFT community | **An increasing number of countries, networks, regional organizations and groups of governments use the PP principles and Guide & provide feedback with experience on practices, and new PP practices are introduced in countries GIFT has engaged with; the GIFT network inspires, provides peer-pressure and supports sharing, learning and country level implementation of PP in fiscal policies in an increasing number of countries.** |
| **2 Technical cooperation for FT & PP commitments and country-level implementation in the OGP framework and beyond (for countries willing to become part of OGP)** | Number of countries requesting support from GIFT for reforms and improvements in FT and PP (in National Action Plans commitments or implementation processes) | 14 OGP countries’  budget departments have received GIFT advice on NAP: Paraguay, Liberia, Sierra Leone,  Italy, Tunisia, Macedonia, Guatemala, South Africa,  Uruguay, the Philippines,  Ghana, Indonesia, Mexico & Nigeria | 18 | 22 | 26 | With the aim of defining commitments in NAPs or implementing policies at country level, governments request GIFT for in-depth support (meetings, peer-to-peer seminars, in-field TA, etc.), and the network provides and documents such support for country level implementation of global norms and standards on FT | **26 countries have benefited from GIFT as a reliable and resourceful network for providing TA to advance the transparency & participation agendas in fiscal policies in dialogue with civil society organizations, for implementation of FT & PP standards, attention will be focused on countries in East & West Africa, Asia, & Central, Eastern & Southeastern Europe.** |
| **3a Portals and dissemination: TA and peer-to-peer learning on methods and practices for meaningful information disclosure & dissemination that responds to users’ needs** | Number of countries requesting support from GIFT on FT portals, interactive tools and use of social media for meaningful information dissemination | 5 countries: Budget departments of Uruguay, Indonesia, South Africa, El Salvador, Dominican Republic, have used the network to build/redesign FT portals | 7 | 9 | 11 | Workshops, seminars, field missions, in person & virtual meetings, learning processes and other TA activities have taken place on experiences, tools and practices about FT and budget information dissemination | **11 countries have used & collaborated in the network to improve systems, tools and platforms for disclosure of fiscal information, in dialogue with users** |
| **3b Open Data (pilot): TA on the use of open data tools for FT** | Number of countries piloting the Open Fiscal Data Package (OFDP) | The budget departments of 6 countries: Mexico, Croatia, Uruguay, Paraguay, Guatemala and Brazil, have piloted the OFDP | 8 | 10 | 12 | Piloting: sharing and charging fiscal data sets with the GIFT team and Open Knowledge International, in accordance to the Introduction Manual to Piloting the OFDP/OpenSpending | **12 countries have piloted the OFDP and tested the GIFT open data tool to publish information** |
| **3c Open Data (publishing): TA and support for dissemination of fiscal information on open data formats** | Number of countries publishing information on open formats using the Open Fiscal Data Package or similar tools | 2 countries: Mexico and Paraguay have published fiscal information using the OFDP | 3 | 5 | 8 | Countries that commit to formally and continuously adopt the OFDP or similar tools thanks to GIFT working with them | **8 countries have published fiscal information on open data formats as a result of their collaboration with the GIFT network** |
| **4 Engagement & Network consolidation & outreach** | Number and quality of stakeholders actively joining the general stewards group, with emphasis on the number of governments joining | 44, including 15 gov.:  Brazil  Philippines  USA  South Africa  Mexico  Dominican Rep.  Tunisia  Indonesia  El Salvador  Paraguay  Croatia  Uruguay  Guatemala  Nigeria (pending)  Ukraine (pending) | 48 (including 17 gov. of which 1 Sub-Saharan) | 54 (including 20 gov. pf which 3 Sub-Saharan) | 58 (including 23 gov. of which 4 Sub-Saharan) | Actively joining means providing feedback (emailed, phone, Skype, or similar) and participating regularly in the general stewards’ meetings or work meetings. Application must be accepted by the Lead Stewards | **GIFT network has a membership of at least 58 stewards, actively involved in frontline discussions, actions & commitments on PP in fiscal policies, tax transparency & disclosure of granular information on services, as well as in peer learning and technical assistance activities to advance more transparent, participatory, and accountable fiscal policies around the world**  **Stewards include governments from East & West Africa, Asia, and from Central, East & Southeastern Europe** |

**Note:** All the information will be based on official communications, lists of attendance, agendas, minutes, reports and summaries of meetings approved by the stewards and lead stewards, and published. Target numbers are cumulative.