

**WEBINAR**

# Building effective procurement systems

Complementarities of MAPS and PEFA Tools

28 SEPTEMBER 2021



## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

During the joint MAPS-PEFA webinar on 28 September we did not get an opportunity to address questions sent in to us through the chat so, as promised, we are very pleased to communicate to you inputs on some of the topics that attendees raised.

| QUESTION   | ANSWER  |
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| <b>Will the session be available afterwards?</b>   | Yes, it is published in <a href="https://www.mapsinitiative.org/resources/events/webinar-maps-pefa-tools.htm">https://www.mapsinitiative.org/resources/events/webinar-maps-pefa-tools.htm</a>   |
| <b>Do countries have the same discretion to publish MAPS reports as they do with PEFA reports? What can both</b> | For both PEFA and MAPS, it's a crucial part of the process to have government buy-in from the beginning, including for publication of the reports. For this reason, it is recommended to have the commitment to publish final reports included in the |



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| <b>Secretariats do to ensure better public access to these reports?</b>   | concept note. We also support the publication as a good practice in all trainings. Ultimately, however, no reports are published without approval from the authorities of the assessed country.   |
| <b>Is there a separate MAPS module for sub-national governments?</b>  | The core MAPS framework can be deployed on a sub-national level as well. We have seen this in assessments of federal countries, where assessments of individual regions/states have been assessed and consolidated into a main report in combination with an assessment of the federal level as well. There are also planned assessments of subnational governments. In addition to this, a supplementary module focusing on individual entities is forthcoming.  |
| <b>Are country data collected under MAPS and PEFA available to the public in a downloadable format, as is the case with GDDP and Doing Business?</b>  | In the case of PEFA, all public reports are published in the PEFA website. In addition, we have published a global report that includes a lot of data and is accompanied by a downloadable database. CSV data files can be found at: <a href="https://www.pefa.org/global-report-2020/report/a-call-to-action">https://www.pefa.org/global-report-2020/report/a-call-to-action</a><br>The MAPS Secretariat will publish MAPS reports that receive the MAPS Seal of Approval. All quantitative data is interconnected with the qualitative analysis of the assessed jurisdiction and as such, all data, both quantitative and qualitative, is included in the reports themselves, however not in a spreadsheet format. |
| <b>If a PEFA assessment has been done recently in a country, does that make a subsequent MAPS assessment more effective?</b>  | It is certainly the case that a recent PEFA report will provide up-to-date information that will be extremely valuable to a MAPS assessment team, especially for indicators 1, 7, 9 and 12.   |
| <b>In preparing technical cooperation projects in the area of public financial management and accountability, PEFA reports are of utmost importance and utility. So would be MAPS reports, however, they are mostly not publicly available. What are the reasons behind? How could information from procurement assessments be made available else?</b> | Similarly, to PEFA reports, MAPS reports undergo a rigorous quality assurance process before publication of reports. For MAPS reports, the result of this process is that the Secretariat issues the MAPS Seal of Approval, certifying that the assessment complies with the methodology. All certified reports will be published on the MAPS website: <a href="https://www.mapsinitiative.org/assessments/">https://www.mapsinitiative.org/assessments/</a><br>As the MAPS Secretariat has only been in operations since the beginning of 2021, and past reports are only now being submitted to the Secretariat, we expect to begin publication of these over the next few weeks.                                   |
| <b>What is the position of MAPS vis-à-vis PEFA in India (my country)?</b>   | A core MAPS assessment was concluded in India in 2020, and the report is currently undergoing the final stages of quality assurance.<br>The last PEFA report at national level in India was issued in 2010.   |



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| <p><b>How does a country get started with a MAPS assessment? It seems like PEFA assessments are done periodically in many countries, but I don't see the same with MAPS at the moment.</b></p>                           | <p>The main pre-requisite for starting a MAPS assessment is backing from key stakeholders. We encourage country authorities interested in assessing their procurement through MAPS to contact the MAPS Secretariat, in order to receive information and guidance.</p> <p>A template for the request letter, along with a user guide for the entire process, is available on our website: <a href="https://www.mapsinitiative.org/methodology/templates-guidance/">https://www.mapsinitiative.org/methodology/templates-guidance/</a></p> <p>Part of the reason for establishing the MAPS Secretariat, which began operations in 2021, is to increase awareness and use of the MAPS framework.</p> |
| <p><b>While MAPS and PEFA are complimentary, how does these assessment identify variances in governance structure as part of wider reforms which include autonomy and decentralisation?</b></p>                          | <p>MAPS and PEFA can be carried out in countries with centralised or decentralised government structures. Recommendations stemming from the reports should take into account the country context to make them feasible and implementable. Coordinated or consecutive PEFA assessments at national and subnational levels, as it was the case in Rwanda or Serbia, can help better understand the links between national and subnational PFM systems. However, PEFA is not fit for assessing political or administrative decentralization arrangements.</p>  |
| <p><b>Is the World Bank thinking of running a certification course regarding MAPS and linking PEFA with it?</b></p>  | <p>Training is provided to both Partners (MDBs or Bilateral) and Government officials prior to conducting the PEFA assessment. Periodically, PEFA also offers trainings open to all. An online PEFA e-training course is also coming soon. However any PEFA training does not certify assessors. A general course may be considered in collaboration with MAPS Secretariat. The MAPS Secretariat will explore the possibility of creating certification courses in the near future.</p>   |
| <p><b>How does MAPS assess procurement done under secrecy and emergency decrees and/or hidden under complex partner countries trust funds?</b></p>   | <p>The relationship between the main procurement system and specialized legislation, e.g. on defence procurement or emergency procurement, is part of the MAPS framework, especially Pillar I.</p> <p>We have already seen some examples of MAPS assessments conducted during the COVID-19 pandemic where the assessment team took the opportunity to focus specifically on emergency procurement.</p>  |
| <p><b>The procurement cycle, including contract management, is embedded in the public financial management cycle.</b></p> <p><b>How does PEFA tool assess the long term (budget) planning and procurement plans?</b></p> | <p>The annual procurement plan is included in the dimension PI-24.3 as one of the elements to be publicly available.</p> <p>Indirectly, procurement plans are part of the budget preparation process, which is covered by PI-14, PI-15, PI-16 and PI-17.</p> <p>The MAPS framework goes into more detail with all elements of the procurement cycle, starting with planning and budget for procurement.</p>   |



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| <p><b>Can I get the link of the India MAPS report?</b></p>   | <p>The India MAPS report is currently undergoing the last stages of quality assurance. All published assessments will be available on:<br/> <a href="https://www.mapsinitiative.org/assessments/">https://www.mapsinitiative.org/assessments/</a></p>   |
| <p><b>In view of the Value for Money which is an important procurement principle in the new procurement reform/framework among MDBs as well as the sustainable public procurement perspective, to what extent do you, in Zambia, use the life cycle costing as part of the bid evaluation criteria as compared to the 'traditional' lowest evaluated acquisition cost?</b></p> | <p>Once the quality assurance process is completed, the Zambia MAPS report which includes detail on the use of evaluation criteria, will be published on:<br/> <a href="https://www.mapsinitiative.org/assessments/">https://www.mapsinitiative.org/assessments/</a></p>  |
| <p><b>Combien de temps moyen faut-il après une réforme pour son évaluation par le MAPS ou le PEFA?</b></p>   | <p>Du cote du PEFA, cela dépend du type de reformes. Un cycle juge idéal est de 4 a 5 ans entre les Évaluations PEFA. Le PEFA peut aussi être utilise en cours de réforme pour des raisons de monitoring. Du côté MAPS, cela dépend de l'étendu de la réforme. Comme règle générale, un pays pourrait utiliser MAPS quand les réformes soient complètement implémentées et qu'il soit nécessaire de vérifier d'autres aspects à améliorer.</p>  |
| <p><b>How many MAPS are available now?</b></p>   | <p>The reports currently available can be found on our website:<br/> <a href="https://www.mapsinitiative.org/assessments/">https://www.mapsinitiative.org/assessments/</a></p>  |
| <p><b>It'd be great to have at least a summary of findings regarding procurement systems and specialized legislation and emergency procurement. Where could we find those?</b></p>   | <p>The findings would be found in individual reports. Currently, as reports are meant as reform tools for the individual countries, we do not compile information across assessments. It is certainly a suggestion that we will consider.</p>   |
| <p><b>Has there been any work done on offering a recommended structure to procurement reporting as a sub-indicator (expanding on Pillar II, subindicator 5(b) )?</b></p>   | <p>Obviously this will change country to country, but there are essential elements to procurement reporting for strategic decision making that should address common issues (e.g. establishing reporting criteria or cycles that address how procurement overlaps year to year, and usually extend beyond planning year projections). Sub-indicator 5(b) assesses whether the institution in charge of the normative/regulatory function has a set of functions formally assigned, including preparing procurement reports for other parts of government. While MAPS criteria do not provide additional</p> |



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|   | indications regarding the structure of these reports, assessors should analyse whether this reporting is working in practice, and provide recommendations to improve it.  |
| <b>Une question : parlez nous SVP du processus MAPS pour la sélection des consultants qui réalisent les évaluations des systèmes des marchés publics ?</b>                        | The assessment steering committee is responsible for hiring a team to conduct the assessment. Extensive experience and a high level of integrity and independence is required from individual members of the team.<br>You can find the suggested profile of MAPS assessors as well as the template for Terms of Reference on our guidance webpage:<br><a href="https://www.mapsinitiative.org/methodology/templates-guidance/">https://www.mapsinitiative.org/methodology/templates-guidance/</a> |
| <b>Does PEFA is having any plan to add supplementary modules to make procurement and contract management is more visible .. and explicitly adding Key performance Indicators.</b> | PEFA does not plan to add supplementary drilling down modules. Other initiatives like MAPS, TADAT, DEMPA, INTOSAI, etc. do it very well   |

