

International Conference on Performance Budgeting Mexico City, 9-10 June 2008

Performance Information

Marc Robinson Fiscal Affairs Department, IMF

Performance information (PI)



- Focus on PI needs of performance budgeting
 - Not on overall PI system
 - Which should serve results-oriented management
 - Type of PI needed depends of PB model
- PB to inform government budget preparation
 - Better prioritization & increased pressure to perform
- Requires:
 - Program classification of budget
 - Information on program objectives and results
- PI usable by central budget decision-makers
 - MoF, political executive, possibly also Congress

Results Information



- Objectives and logic of program:
 - Outcomes it aims to deliver
 - How activities and outputs achieve this
 - Intervention logic
 - Valuable to decision-makers in itself
- Limits on Performance Measures
 - Some things hard to measure
 - E.g. output quality
 - Problem of contextual factors
 - Can sometimes adjust indicators
 - By often not possible



Making Measures Relevant to **Budget Decision-Makers** Danger that not useful and not used Too many, with unclear significance Small number of key measures - Key central agency role in defining these Summary Measures? - The PART model - Politically problematic in many countries Linking to Targets But don't rush into target-setting

Crucial Role of Evaluation



Because of limits of measures in isolation

Chile's ten years record of success

- Australia's Strategic Review Framework
- Canada's Strategic Reviews
- How to keep evaluation relevant to budget decision-makers:

- Keep it practical, timely, use judgment

Choosing what will be evaluated

- Routine vs. strategic selection

Cost Information



- Programs classified on objectives
- Programs meaningfully costed
- Budget execution monitored by program
 - Accounting system must incorporate
 - IFMIS also
- Indirect cost attribution challenge
 - Administration programs as a compromise

6



Overarching Considerations

PI is costly

Financial, and of skilled human resources
Continued operation as well as set-up
Aim should not be best possible PI
Careful selection of relevant PI
Develop in tandem with capacity to use
Analytic skills and role of MoF