

# DMFAS Programme News

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## Launch of DMFAS 6

The official launch of the new version of the DMFAS software was made at the DMFAS Advisory Group meeting in November 2009. Presentations on DMFAS 6 were made to four different language groups: Arabic, English, French and Spanish. Its readiness for implementation also follows the successful final beta testing that took place in Bolivia in October 2009, thanks to the active participation of Bolivia, Panama and Venezuela.

## First installation of DMFAS 6

DMFAS 6 is now successfully launched at the country level. Panama is the first country client to benefit from this much awaited entirely new and web-based version of the DMFAS software. The new version was installed on the server of the Public Debt Directorate in the Ministry of Economy and Finance.

Panama's MEF will use DMFAS 6 for back, middle and front-office functions. It will also be linked to their integrated financial management system. Back-office staff have now started to implement the system and are appreciating the new, user-friendly interface of DMFAS 6. They also enjoy its new features such as the improved reporting tool.

Several DMFAS 6 installations are foreseen for 2010. Projects for this latest version cover all regions. They include updates to DMFAS 6 from 5.3 in DMFAS user-countries. In addition, institutions not yet benefiting from the DMFAS software, have expressed interest in this new version.

More information about the Panama implementation and lessons learned are available on the DMFAS website at [www.unctad.org/dmfas](http://www.unctad.org/dmfas).

## 7th DMFAS Advisory Group meeting

### Summary of conclusions

The meeting concluded that the DMFAS Programme should:

- o Continue its support to beneficiary countries
- o Increase support in interfacing with other financial management systems, domestic and private external debt, and sub-national debt
- o Continue providing comprehensive and sustained capacity-building for debt management offices
- o Undertake a feasibility study for creating regional support offices.
- o Consider creating local networking forums for exchange among countries.
- o Coordinate particularly within the World Bank's Debt Management Facility and with regional organisations.
- o Implement as quickly as possible the new and much-needed version 6 of the DMFAS software.
- o Implement a graduation scheme for cost-sharing and increase the resources made available to the Programme from UNCTAD's budget.

The 7th meeting of the DMFAS Advisory Group took place in Geneva, 12-13 November 2009. Comprised of current and interested DMFAS clients as well as donors, its purpose is to advise UNCTAD on governance issues concerning the DMFAS Programme. 161 participants from capitals attended the meeting.

It included six regional group meetings, which were formed to facilitate discussion and obtain maximum feedback on issues of pertinence to each region.

The *Results of the 2007-2010 Mid-Term Review* of the Programme's performance, conducted by external consultants, was presented at the meeting. It concluded that the Programme was effective, efficient and very relevant. It also found that there was a high level of satisfaction with the Programme's performance amongst beneficiaries and donors. The review also made very useful recommendations that were discussed at the meeting.

## 7th Debt Management Conference

UNCTAD's 7th Debt Management Conference took place in Geneva from 9 to 11 November 2009. Organised every two years, this highly attended event provides a forum for sharing experiences and exchanging views between Governments, international organizations, academia, the private financial sector, and civil society on some of the most topical issues effecting sovereign debt management today.

This year four major themes were examined:

- The Development Role of Debt Management: Lessons from Financial Crises;
- Debt Strategies, Transparency and Impact on Debt Management: Necessity and Challenges;
- Responsible Lending and Borrowing, and
- New Developments: Capacity Building in Debt Management

The result was three days of excellent discussions and a series of comprehensive presentations made by expert panelists, which are available on the DMFAS website at [www.unctad.org/dmfas](http://www.unctad.org/dmfas).



## The Conference in figures

348 persons from 104 countries, 18 international and regional organizations and 10 NGOs registered for the Conference. The countries included 30 Low Income Countries (LIC), 31 Lower Middle Income Countries (LMC), 19 Upper Middle Income Countries (UMC), 16 High Income Countries/OECD and 6 High Income Countries/non-OECD.

All respondents to the evaluation questionnaire found that the conference was useful or very useful. Over 90% of the respondents rated the topics, speakers and organization of the conference as excellent or good.

75% of the participants were men and 25% percent women.

## Selected Upcoming Events

**Link validation workshop, Ministry of Finance of Jordan, 15 - 19 February**

**Testing and validation of converted database workshop, Ministry of Finance and Central Bank of Angola, with MEFMI, 6 - 11 February**

**Project appraisal and validation of interface workshop, Ministry of Finance of Burkina Faso, 8 - 12 February**

**Follow up debt portfolio analysis workshop, Ministry of Finance of Egypt, 21 - 25 February**

**Debt statistics workshop, Ministry of Finance of Mali, 8 - 12 March**



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