

DMFAS Programme News

June 2012

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Mandate of DMFAS Programme reaffirmed in Doha

The thirteenth UNCTAD ministerial conference took place in Doha from 21 to 26 April 2012. This quadrennial conference established the mandate of the organization for the next four years.

The mandate adopted in Doha reaffirms, inter alia, the importance and the role of the DMFAS Programme in supporting effective debt management. The mandate states: "UNCTAD should [...] continue [...] providing technical assistance and support for developing countries in building national capacities through the DMFAS Programme, in cooperation, where appropriate, with the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank, and other stakeholders".

It further states that "many countries have managed to sharply reduce their overall debt-to-gross domestic product (GDP) ratio, in some cases assisted by the Debt Management and Financial Analysis System (DMFAS) Programme".

Relocation of the DMFAS West Africa Regional Office

The DMFAS West Africa Office in Bamako, Mali, has been temporarily closed since the beginning of April 2012 due to the deterioration of the security situation in Mali. The West Africa Office has been relocated to Geneva headquarters until further notice to continue its activities. Mr. Ricardo Murillo and Ms. Valentina Sanna continue to follow-up and implement activities as planned.



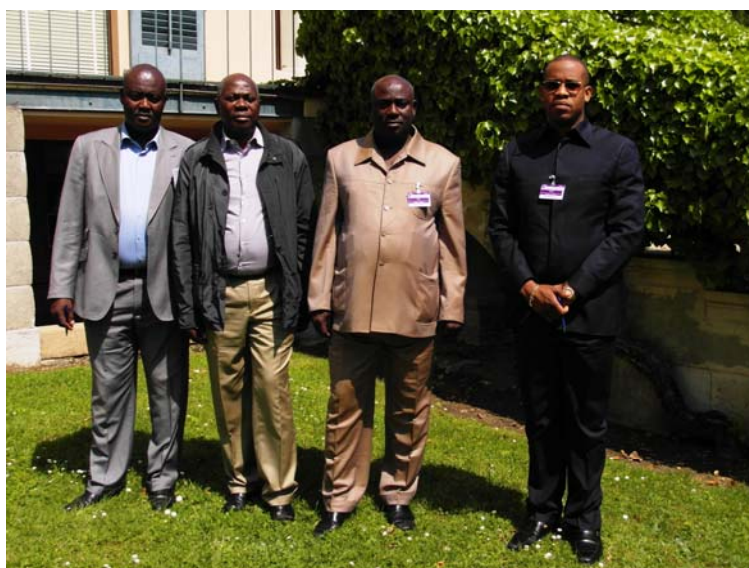
Highlights on technical cooperation in Central Africa

Interview with a delegation from the Republic of Congo

A delegation from the Republic of Congo comprising representatives of the Caisse Congolaise d'Amortissement (CCA) came to Geneva from 21 to 25 May 2012 to participate in the conversion of the debt database from DMFAS 5.3 to DMFAS 6.

During a short interview, the delegation expressed its views on DMFAS 6. In particular, the delegation expressed its satisfaction on the improvements related to the new design and the eased navigation within the system, the web interface facilitating the updates, as well as the new functionalities of DMFAS 6, including the coming debt reorganization module, the possibility to save aggregated data and the analysis module.

The installation of DMFAS 6 in the Republic of Congo as well as in other countries of the sub region, including Gabon, the Democratic Republic of Congo and soon the Central African Republic and the Côte d'Ivoire, will strengthen the already existing collaboration within the region. Such collaboration is essential in the context of the development of the domestic markets within the Monetary Community of Central Africa (CEMAC) and in the sub region. The use of a common debt management system will contribute, at the regional level, to the harmonization of the reporting, and, more generally, will allow an exchange of experience, knowledge and competencies within the countries of the region.



Delegation from the CCA, Republic of Congo. L-R: Serge-Dimitri Ouadzi, David Ngali, Moise Bamba, Kevin Gouloubi.

Extended collaboration between Gabon and the DMFAS Programme

The collaboration between Gabon and the DMFAS Programme started in 2001 with the installation of DMFAS 5.3. Building on the close relationship developed over the years, Gabon agreed to participate actively in the development of the new reorganization module of DMFAS 6.

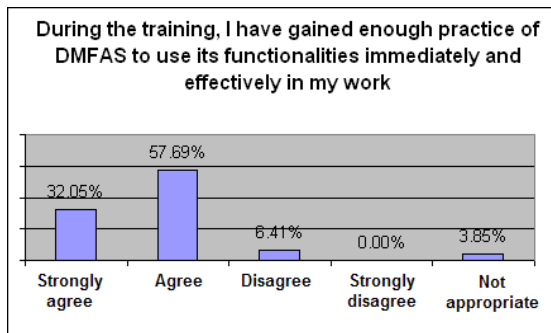
Through a new project, which became effective in late 2011, DMFAS 6 was installed in the new debt office (Direction Générale de la Dette, DGD) in March 2012. The project foresees, beyond strengthening reporting and analytical skills, the finalization before end 2012 of the debt reorganization module, leaning in particular on Gabon's successful debt buy-back operation conducted in 2008. The project is funded directly by the Government of Gabon and the DGD has indicated its interest in hosting a new DMFAS regional office for Central Africa, a further confirmation of the close collaboration between the two institutions.

Evaluation of DMFAS 6 functional training

Together with the first installations of DMFAS 6 and their related trainings, the DMFAS Programme launched a systematic evaluation of the functional training of DMFAS 6. This initiative is part of the efforts of the Programme to measure the effectiveness of its services and track its clients' satisfaction.

Out of the 15 DMFAS 6 functional training events conducted in 2011, 14 were evaluated.

The questionnaire covers several aspects of the training delivered: training facilities, content of the training, training material, effectiveness of the training, satisfaction of participation, trainer's expertise and skills, etc. Some of the main results are shown in the graphs below (level of practice and overall satisfaction).



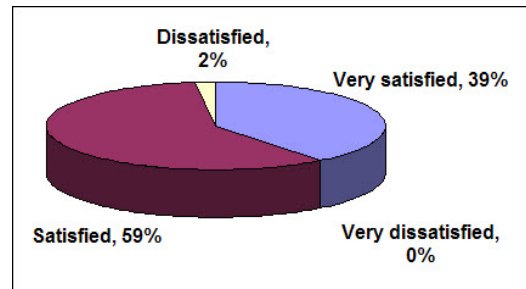
DMFAS 6 update

As of the end of May 2012, DMFAS 6 was installed in 20 institutions distributed in 17 countries. In parallel, preparations have already begun for the implementation of DMFAS 6 in the Republic of Congo, the Democratic Republic of Congo and Honduras.

Upcoming developments

Within the context of the organization of a regional data validation workshop in Harare in June, in collaboration with MEFMI, the query tool in DMFAS 6 will undergo a significant enhancement which will allow users to access a greater number of tables and views in the database, as well as to export data to Excel. These enhancements will allow user-friendly use of the standard data validation queries offered by the system and improve the user defined queries. They will also contribute to maintaining complete, accurate, and consistent debt databases.

Overall level of satisfaction on the DMFAS 6 functional training received



With regard to the overall effectiveness of DMFAS 6 functional training, almost all the participants rated the training as good (52%) or excellent (41%).

The main recommendations for training improvement relate to:

- Appropriate number of computers during the training, to allow individual practice of the application.
- Strengthened customization of the training to the institution's and individual learners' needs;
- Increased time devoted to practice and exercises with DMFAS 6.

These comments will be taken into consideration in future DMFAS 6 functional training.



Selected current and upcoming events

Project evaluation mission, Argentina, May

Workshop on creating interface - conceptual design, Honduras, May

DMFAS 6.0 Basic functional training, Indonesia, May

DMFAS 6.0 Installation and functional training, Republic of Congo, May

DMFAS 6.0 Training on analytical features, Rwanda, May

Follow-up Debt statistics workshop, Angola, May

Debt Portfolio analysis review, Burundi, May

DMFAS 5.3 Advanced functional training and debt data reconciliation, Zimbabwe, May

DMFAS 6.0 Installation and functional training, Democratic Republic of Congo, May-June

DMFAS 5.3 Basic functional training, Republic of Congo, June

Debt data validation workshop, Cambodia, June

Regional debt data validation workshop, Zimbabwe, June

DMFAS 6.0 Installation and maintenance training, Honduras, July

DMFAS 6.0 Advanced functional training, Madagascar, July

DMFAS 6.0 Basic functional training, Honduras, July

Debt statistics workshop, Cambodia, July



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