

PEMPAL Budget Community of Practice (BCOP) 2024 Plenary Meeting

*April 16-17, 2024, Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina
Hotel Novotel Sarajevo Bristol*

BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON PEMPAL AND BCOP:

Public Expenditure Management Peer Assisted Learning (PEMPAL) is a peer-learning platform that facilitates knowledge exchange among public finance practitioners from the Europe and Central Asia (ECA) region. The platform allows members to develop solutions to common public financial management (PFM) problems in the areas of budget, treasury, and internal audit. The network is organized around three thematic communities of practice: Budget Community of Practice (BCOP), Treasury Community of Practice (TCOP), and Internal Audit Community of Practice (IACOP). The main overall objective of BCOP is to strengthen budget methodology, planning, and transparency in member countries. Members are typically mid- to high-level officials in budget planning or budget methodology/policy units in Ministries of Finance. BCOP's strategic priorities are: i) sharpening tools for effective fiscal management, ii) strengthening fiscal transparency and accountability, and iii) expanding internationally available fiscal data on PEMPAL countries.

MEETING OBJECTIVES:

The general objective of the BCOP 2024 Annual Plenary Meeting is to provide the opportunity for BCOP member countries to examine and discuss members' priority budgeting topics and to plan BCOP's future activities.

Specific objectives are:

- i. to learn about Bosnia and Herzegovina's public finance management system and supporting IT tools
- ii. to gather feedback on the new BCOP's knowledge product on linking strategic planning and budgeting and to learn Armenia's experience in this area
- iii. to examine the preliminary results of BCOP's thematic survey on the current program and performance budgeting practices in PEMPAL countries
- iv. to get familiarized with the potential use of artificial intelligence in budgeting-related practices
- v. to discuss new practices in budget openness in Uzbekistan and Georgia
- vi. to share developments from BCOP's activities and collect member countries' feedback on their priority topics for the BCOP's FY25 activities.

MEETING MATERIALS:

- **PEMPAL BCOP Factsheet** and **BCOP knowledge resources** (knowledge products, meeting presentations, translated reports, etc.) will be available on the [PEMPAL event website](#).
- **Presentations** will also be available on the [PEMPAL event website](#).

AGENDA

Arrivals - Monday, April 15

Arrivals

19.00-22.30 Dinner in the hotel

Day One – Tuesday, April 16

Moderators: *Aynura Bakaybaeva*, Division Head in the State Budget Policy Department of the Ministry of Economy and Finance of Uzbekistan, BCOP Chair, and *Iryna Shcherbyna*, World Bank Senior Public Sector Specialist and Coordinator of BCOP

8.30-9.00	<i>Registration</i>
9.00-9.30	<p>Welcome and opening</p> <p><i>Srđan Amidžić</i>, Minister of Finance and Treasury of Bosnia and Herzegovina <i>Toni Kraljević</i>, Minister of Finance and Deputy Prime Minister of Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina <i>Iryna Shcherbyna</i>, World Bank Senior Public Sector Specialist and Coordinator of BCOP <i>Aynura Bakaybaeva</i>, Division Head in the State Budget Policy Department of the Ministry of Economy and Finance of Uzbekistan, BCOP Chair <i>Brief introductions of all participants</i></p>
9.30-11.30 SESSION 1: Budgeting in Bosnia and Herzegovina	<p>Presentation 1: <u>Structure of Public Administration and PFM System in Bosnia and Herzegovina</u></p> <p><i>Igor Bevanda</i>, Assistant Minister for Budget in the Ministry of Finance and Treasury of Bosnia and Herzegovina</p> <p>Presentation 2: <u>New PPB System Planned for Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Envisaged New IT System</u></p> <p><i>Alija Aljovic</i>, Assistant Minister for Budget and Public Expenditures in the Federal Ministry of Finance of Bosnia and Herzegovina, and <i>Nijaz Avdukic</i>, Acting Director, Development Programming Institute of Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina Q&A</p>
11.30-12.00	<i>Group Family Photo and Coffee and Networking Break</i>
12.00-13.30 SESSION 2: Linking Strategic Planning and Budgeting	<p>Presentation 3: <u>PPBWG's Knowledge Product on Linking Strategic Planning and Budgeting</u></p> <p><i>Ivor Beazley</i>, Thematic Consultant for the PPBWG, World Bank</p> <p>Presentation 4: <u>Linking Budget with Strategic Planning and SDGs in Armenia</u></p> <p><i>Ruzanna Gabrielyan</i>, Head of the Department of Organization of Budgetary Processes, Ministry of Finance of Armenia Q&A</p>
13.30-14.30	<i>Lunch</i>
14.30-15.00 SESSION 3: Taking Stock of PPB Practices in PEMPAL Countries	<p>Presentation 5: <u>Update on the Survey Results: PPB Practices in PEMPAL Countries, Benchmarked to the Practices in OECD countries</u></p> <p><i>Naida Čaršimamović Vukotić</i>, BCOP Resource Team Member, World Bank Q&A</p>
15.00-16.30 SESSION 4: Group Discussions on PPB <i>Coffee served at 15.00</i>	<p>GROUP DISCUSSIONS to gather additional feedbacks and collect proposals for the next year BCOP topics in PPB (parallel group discussions)</p> <p><i>There will be language-based groups. Proposals from each participating country are to be presented in group discussions. A scribe and presenter should be appointed at the beginning of the discussions.</i></p> <p>At 16.00, all participants will convene back together, and group presenters will present the outcomes of their group discussions.</p>
16.30-17:00	<p>Closing of the First day: Conclusions and Recommendations</p> <p><i>Aynura Bakaybaeva</i>, Division Head in the State Budget Policy Department of the Ministry of Economy and Finance of Uzbekistan</p>

	<i>Iryna Shcherbyna, World Bank Senior Public Sector Specialist and Coordinator of BCOP</i>
19.00-21.00	<i>Dinner in the hotel</i>

Day Two, Wednesday, April 17

Moderators: *Emil Nurgaliev, State Expert in the Budget Methodology Division of the Budget Directorate, Ministry of Finance of Bulgaria, and BCOP Deputy Chair and Naida Čaršimamović Vukotić, BCOP Resource Team Member, World Bank*

Time	Activity
09.00-10.30 SESSION 5: Innovative Uses of Technology for Budgeting	Presentation 6: <u>Use of Artificial Intelligence for Budget Openness and Connections with the Policy Priorities</u> <i>Aura Martínez, Coordinator for Knowledge, Technical Assistance and Collaboration, GIFT</i> Presentation 7: <u>Potential of Artificial Intelligence in PFM</u> <i>Brian Finn, Senior Policy Analyst in the OECD Public Management and Budgeting Division</i> Q&A
10.30-11.30 SESSION 6: Budget Openness Updates-PEMPAL Country Cases	Presentation 8: <u>Updates and Plans on Budget Openness Practices in Uzbekistan</u> <i>Aynura Bakaybaeva, Division Head in the State Budget Policy Department of the Ministry of Economy and Finance of Uzbekistan, BCOP Chair</i> Presentation 9: <u>Updates and Plans on Budget Openness Practices in Georgia</u> <i>Natia Gulua, Head of the Budget Department in the Ministry of Finance of Georgia</i> Q&A
11.30-13.00 SESSION 7: Group Discussions on Budget Openness <i>Coffee served at 11.30</i>	GROUP DISCUSSIONS to gather proposals for the BCOP next topics in budget openness (parallel group discussions) <i>There will be language-based groups. Proposals from each participating country are to be presented in group discussions. A scribe and presenter should be appointed at the beginning of the discussions.</i> At 12.30, all participants will convene back together, and group presenters will present the outcomes of their group discussions.
13.00-14.00	<i>Lunch</i>
14.00-15.30 SESSION 8: Reporting and Planning BCOP Activities <i>Coffee served at 15.30</i>	Presentation 10: <u>Update on BCOP Activities</u> <i>Aynura Bakaybaeva, Division Head in the State Budget Policy Department of the Ministry of Economy and Finance of Uzbekistan, BCOP Chair and Emil Nurgaliev, State Expert in the Budget Methodology Division of the Budget Directorate, Ministry of Finance of Bulgaria, and BCOP Deputy Chair</i> Q&A ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION to gather participants' feedback and proposals for non-Working Group topics for FY25 Action Plan and beyond
15.30-16:00	Closing of the Second Day: Conclusions and Recommendations <i>Aynura Bakaybaeva, Division Head in the State Budget Policy Department of the Ministry of Economy and Finance of Uzbekistan, BCOP Chair</i> <i>Iryna Shcherbyna, World Bank Senior Public Sector Specialist and Coordinator of BCOP Resource Team</i>
17.30-22.00	<i>Guided city walk and dinner reception with a cultural program in the Sarajevo City Hall, hosted by the Federal Ministry of Finance of Bosnia and Herzegovina</i>

Day Three – Thursday, April 18

9.00-11.30 **BCOP Executive Committee meeting** (only for the Committee members, agenda and the materials will be sent separately to the members)

Departures on Thursday. Lunch will be served from 12.00 to 13.00 for those departing in the afternoon.

Simultaneous interpretation in English / Russian / Bosnian-Croatian-Serbian will be provided during the event.