

## **PEM PAL BCoP Study Visit to Tbilisi, Georgia, April 15-18, 2013**

### **- Survey Results**

On April 15-18, 2013, representatives from six PEM PAL BCoP countries (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia) held a Study Visit to Georgian Ministry of Finance to examine Georgian IT System.

After the event, the survey was distributed to the participants, with the aim to receive event feedback.

Survey was distributed to all of the eleven participants on the final day of the Study Visit (April 18<sup>th</sup>). In this report, we analyze all received responses – total of nine responses. For further calculation, we take this quantity as 100%.

The questionnaire comprises five parts: Information, Event Delivery, Event Administration, Overall Impression, and Plans for the Future. Total number of questions is 19.

## *INFORMATION*

### **Q1 You are...**

9 (100%) respondents gave answers, all of which are representatives of PEMPAL member country.

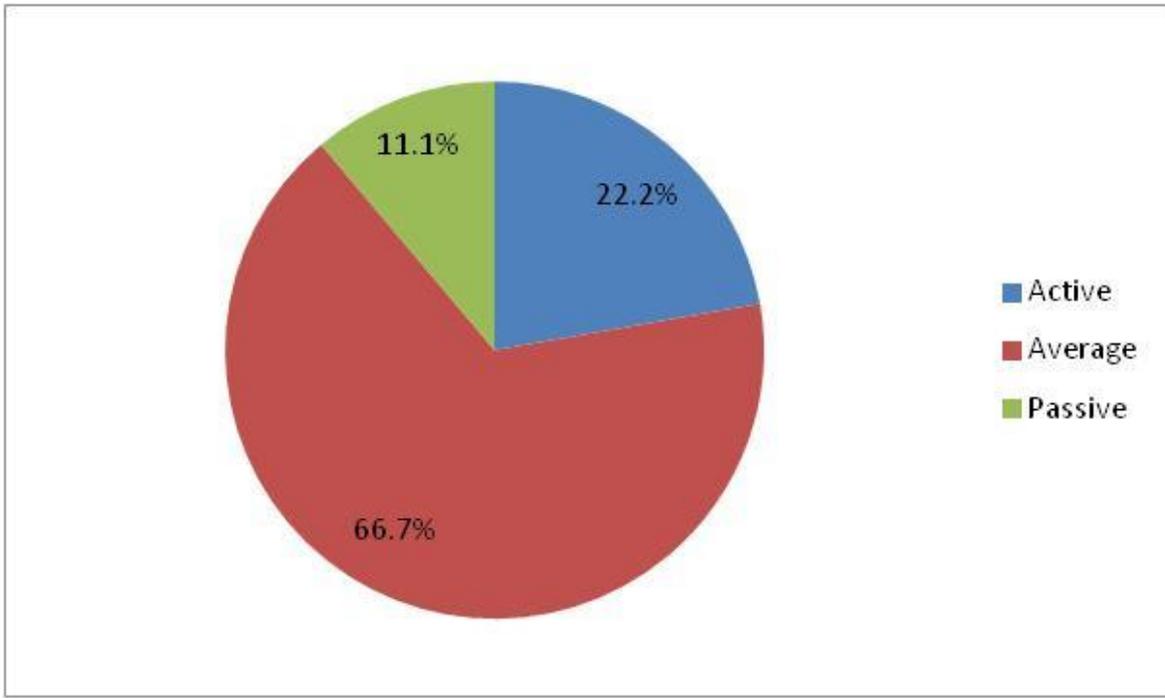
### **Q2. Was this your first participation in PEMPAL BCoP event?**

9 respondents (100%) answered this question. And 66.7% of them replied “Yes” (for six out of nine participants this was the first participation in PEMPAL BCoP event)

## ***PART I EVENT DELIVERY***

### **Q3. How do you rate your participation in this event?**

9 (100%) answers were given. 2 (22.2%) respondents think that their participation in the event was ‘Active’. 6 (66.6%) respondents think that their participation was ‘Average’. 1 (11.1%) chose the option “Passive”.



### **Q4. How do you rate BCoP meeting duration?**

9 respondents (100%) answered this question. All of them rated the meeting duration in a positive way (duration being about right).

**Q5 Did you like the approach of having one day of general presentations on different aspects of Georgian Budget System from budget planning perspective, followed by a day of demonstration of the system through budget calendar, and ending with a day of follow up PEMPAL participant meeting?**

8 respondents (89%) answered this question. All of them replied “Yes”.

**Q6. In your opinion, will you be able to apply the knowledge you have acquired at this meeting to your daily work?**

9 respondents (100%) answered this question. Average rating is positive.

Answer Options	1 not at all	2	3	4	5 completely	Response Count	Average
	0	1	4	4	0	9	3,4

**Q7. Did you feel enough time was allowed for questions and free discussions?**

9 (100%) respondents answered this question.

Answer Options	1 not enough	2	3	4	5 enough	Response Count	Average
	0	0	1	0	8	9	4,8

**Q8. Please read the following statements, and tell us if you agree or disagree with each of them. (Please rate each item):**

9 respondents (100%) replied to this question.

Answer Options	1 strongly disagree	2	3	4	5 Strongly agree	Response Count	Average
a) The meeting addressed issues important to my work	1	0	0	0	7	8	4,5
b) I learned from the experience of other participants in the meeting	0	0	2	0	7	9	4,6
c) The level of the meeting was appropriate for a person with my experience and knowledge	0	0	1	0	8	9	4,8
d) Participants had about equal level of prior expertise relevant to the meeting topics	0	0	2	0	6	8	4,5
e) The presentations demonstrated during the meeting were relevant and provided useful information	0	0	1	0	8	9	4,8
f) The time allocated to asking questions of the panel speakers was adequate	0	2	0	0	8	9	4,7

## ***PART 2 EVENT ADMINISTRATION***

### **Q9. Please rate the quality of organization (pre-event administration and logistics, etc.) and administration (staff responsiveness, etc.) of the meeting:**

Answered question – 8 (89%). All the ratings are positive.

Answer Options	1 low	2	3	4	5 high	Response Count	Average
	0	0	0	0	<u>8</u>	8	<u>5,0</u>

### **Q10. Did you receive agenda and event information in sufficient time before the event for them to be useful?**

8 (89%) answers were given. All the ratings are positive.

Answer Options	1 low	2	3	4	5 high	Response Count	Average
	0	0	0	0	<u>8</u>	8	<u>5,0</u>

### **Q11. Did you receive practical information (about the accommodation and other facilities, etc.) prior to the event?**

8 (89%) answers were given. All the ratings are positive.

Answer Options	1 low	2	3	4	5 high	Response Count	Average
	0	0	0	0	<u>8</u>	8	<u>5,0</u>

## ***PART 3 OVERALL IMPRESSION***

### **Q12. Overall, my satisfaction with the event was...**

Answered question – 9 (100%). All the respondents marked maximum level of satisfaction.

1 not satisfied	2	3	4	5 satisfied	Response Count	Average
0	0	0	0	<u>9</u>	9	<u>5,0</u>

### **Q13. Did the meeting disappoint, meet, or exceed your expectations?**

Total of 9 participants (100%) answered question.

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
	all	all
Disappoint	0%	0
Meet	<u>66.7%</u>	<u>6</u>
Exceed	33,3%	3

#### **Q14. What did you like best about the meeting?**

6 comments were left.

Participants liked best:

*Presenters and expertise of MF representatives and WB representatives - PEMPAL choose very good, relevant and high-level presenters*

*Entire organization and opportunity to learn all of the details of a system*

*Readiness of the host to answer all of our many questions.*

*Concreteness.*

*Detailed information on IT system functioning and connection to program budgeting.*

*A visit to Ministry of Finance of Georgia was impressive. Moreover, the Academy of MoF was a perfectly organized structure.*

#### **Q15. Which elements of the meetings you did not like?**

4 comments were left, out of which one reflected on negative parts, while the remaining three were positive.

Quotes of the comments are:

*Presentation Electronic system of Budget in Georgia was in some parts too technical (from IT perspective rather than from budget planning perspective), so I was not able to follow it entirely.*

*Everything was good.*

*There was nothing I did not like.*

*I liked everything.*

#### **Q16. Have you any suggestions to improve the content, approach and other aspects of the BCOP meetings:**

2 comments were left.

Quotes of the comments are:

*In general, for future events, perhaps it would be useful to survey PEMPAL members on their training need and then find the countries with best practices to visit (this may be already taking place, but I have not been present at most PEMPAL meetings.*

*To ensure active participation of all participants from different countries, it may be useful to send list of questions to all participants few weeks before the event with the obligation to prepare short answers and explanations, which the participants would then present at the beginning of the event. This would ensure better reviews of similarities and differences of different systems and would surely lead to further discussions. Also, on the basis of these inputs, a common consolidated presentation could be made in the form of comparative analysis.*

**Q17. Do you plan to brief your colleagues on this meeting?**

There were 6 answers (66.7% of respondents), all of which choosing option Yes.

6 comments were also left.

Quotes of the comments are:

*I will brief the colleagues on how a country can progress significantly in a relatively short period of time in terms of budgeting, program budget and PFM in general.*

*I will organize a short presentation upon coming back to work to share the main lessons from this Study Visit with other staff and to share all of the materials.*

*Surely and I expect to receive all materials via e-mail to share them further.*

*Yes, I plan to share my experiences with my colleagues and present the advantages of Georgian system in comparison to our current system.*

*Yes, it is necessary for me to inform my colleagues.*

*I will write a memo to the Budget Director in my country, where I will point the most important aspects of this meeting, such as budget documentation, the well integrated IT system, the way MoF is organized...*

**PART 4 PLANS FOR THE FUTURE**

**Q18. Would it be useful for you or your colleagues to attend the future BCOP meetings?**

8 persons (89%) responded to this question and 100% of the answers are positive.

Answer Options	Response Percent	
	all	all
Yes, BCOP plenary meeting next year	37,5%	3
Yes, BCOP plenary meeting next year and small working group meetings,	<b>62,5%</b>	<b>5</b>
No	0,0%	0

**Q19. Are there any other products, research or services that PEMPAL could provide that would be useful for your work?**

6 persons (66.7%) responded to this question, all indicating that additional products would be useful.

8 comments were also left.

Quotes of the comments are:

*Fiscal effect of acts.*

*I am satisfied with the services provided by PEMPAL. However, I will consult with colleagues and possibly send additional information later.*

*It may be useful to prepare a report on budget planning process of a spending unit in Georgia throughout the budget cycle.*

*I think that by organization of such events is ensuring experience exchange which is useful for improvements for all countries. It provides benchmarks for setting up realistic goals in reform priorities and contributed to successful implementation. Perhaps a research on impact of new acts and strategic plans on budget could be prepared. Format of budget instructions.*

*Any products which can contribute to improve easier, more transparent and more comprehensive management of public funds.*

*More of study visits as this one, where practical examples on budgeting process are presented.*