Public Sector Accounting Reform Priorities in the EU Context Panel Discussion

#### PULSAR Launch Event 11 December 2017

Moderators: Bonnie Ann Siros, Sr. Financial Management Specialist, CFRR, The World Bank Iwona Warzecha, Sr. Financial Management Specialist, The World Bank





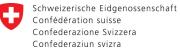




Public Sector Accounting and Reporting Program

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## **Background - Improving Fiscal Transparency**

- Fiscal shocks G20 calls for a focus on the public sector balance sheet to assess public debt sustainability and the need for improving transparency and comparability in public sector reporting
- EC directive 2011/85/EU on requirements for budgetary frameworks sets obligation to have in place reliable public accounting systems covering all sub-sectors of general government to generate accrual data for ESA 95 reporting. Those public accounting systems shall be subject to internal control and independent audits.
- EC recommends development of EPSAS (European Public Sector Accounting Standards) based on IPSAS for adoption by member states EPSAS working group created in Sept 2015

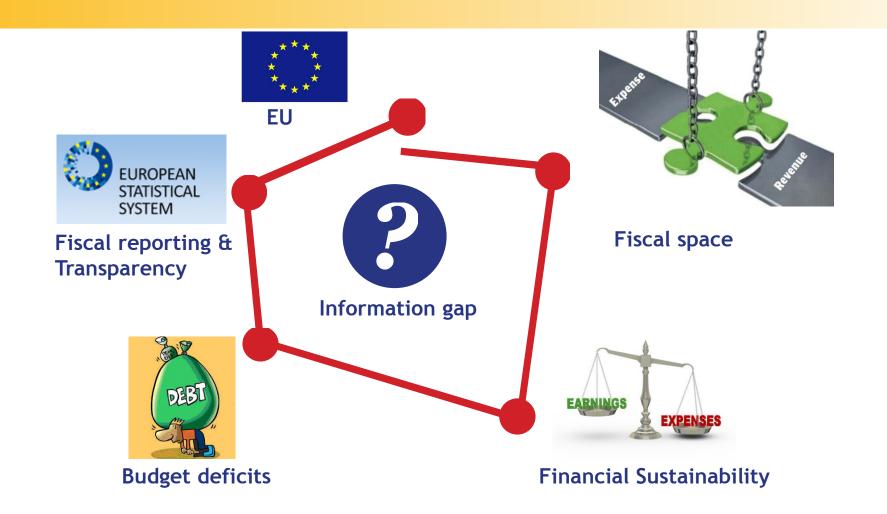
# Fiscal Transparency, Accountability and Risk

- Analysis of the nature and scale of fiscal shocks during the crisis unanticipated increase o public debt 26,4% of GDP (2007-2010)
- Emergence of a business case for PFM improvement including financial and fiscal reporting
- BUT substantial shortcomings in fiscal transparency (including both budget transparency + assets, liabilities, contingent liabilities, risks):
  - Gaps and inconsistencies in fiscal transparency standards
  - Lags in governments' implementation of international accounting and statistical reporting standards

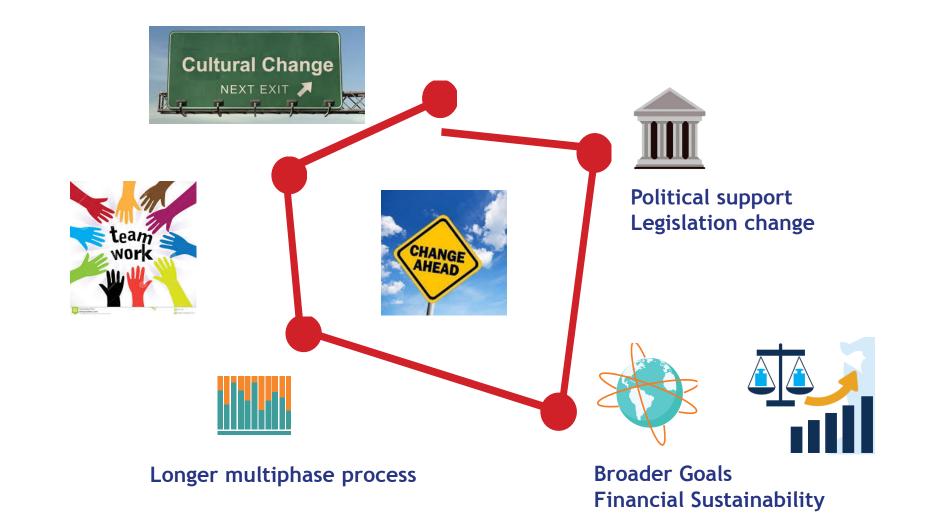
# Fiscal Transparency, Accountability and Risk

- Strengthening fiscal transparency standards and practices through:
  - O Implementation of Standards IPSAS, GFSM, ESA, SNA
    O Increased coverage focus on General Government but Public Corporations important (accrual practice is better in public corporations)

#### What are the real drivers of PSA reform



## **PSA reform supporting elements**



### Panel Discussion – Panelists

- **Dritan Fino**, Director of Harmonization of Financial Management and Control, Ministry of Finance and Economy, **Albania**
- Hana Zoričić, Head of Department in the Sector for State Accounting and Non-Profit Organizations Accounting, Ministry of Finance, Croatia
- Lyudmila Guryanova, Deputy Head of the State Treasury, Ministry of Finance, Belarus
- Tanja Mrkalj, Coordinator for Financial Reporting and Methodology in the Sector for Budget Accounting and Financial Reporting of the Treasury Administration, Ministry of Finance, Serbia