

Welcome to the PULSAR May 2022 Newsletter, which highlights key activities of the Public Sector Accounting and Reporting Program (PULSAR), implemented by the World Bank's Centre for Financial Reporting Reform – CFRR. This issue summarizes recent achievements, activities and publications.

Since our last September 2021 edition, we have launched a series of virtual events on PULSAR EduCoP and FinCop to continue offering our virtual products in the light of COVID19 challenges. Please watch [PULSAR page on CFRR website](#) for news and [CFRR Upcoming Events page](#) for PULSAR upcoming events.

## Upcoming PULSAR events and publications

### [Accounting Education in the Public Sector: international experiences and PAO engagement, May 19, 2022](#)

This Smart Interactive Talk (SIT) will aim at exploring different international models for Public Sector Accounting education and reviewing the local and regional approaches to promoting accounting education in the Public Sector from PAOs prospective.

The key objectives of the upcoming SIT will be: (i) to learn from Program partners on the activities being implemented at a local and regional levels aiming at encouraging PAO engagement in public sector accounting education; (ii) to review PSA education models implemented in different countries and regions; (iii) to exchange views on presented materials among the event participants.

The Workshop will be delivered in English with simultaneous interpretation to Albanian, Bosnian/ Croatian/Serbian, Russian.

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### [Dissemination Webinar “Benefits of Accrual Accounting in the Public Sector”, May 23, 2022](#)

The implementation of accrual accounting is a long-term project in the public sector, and understanding of its benefits and costs is important to support successful reform implementation and achieving the goals and positive outcomes.

The main objective of this webinar is to: (i) present key findings and messages from the new paper on Benefits of Accrual Accounting in the Public Sector, (ii) Share Country Experience on main benefits from accrual accounting from Cyprus and Greece, (iii) Discuss what are key implications for the PULSAR participants, how PULSAR beneficiary countries can better harness such benefits to lead accounting reforms.

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**[Smart Interactive Talk “Pathways to Accrual: Insights and Lessons Learned”, May 26, 2022](#)**

The main objectives of this webinar are: (i) present the structure and key findings of the tool; (ii) discuss insights and lessons learned from implementation of Public Sector Accounting (PSA) reforms; (iii) discuss IFAC’s activities in support of the adoption and implementation of IPSAS; (iv) share country experiences in terms of transitioning from cash to accrual accounting and IPSAS implementation.

The event will be simultaneously translated into Albanian, Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian, Portuguese, Russian, and Spanish.

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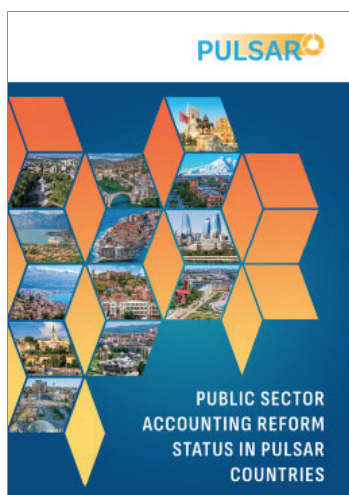
**Upcoming publication:** Data Storytelling Guide – for government authorities communicating Public Finances

## New Publications in PULSAR Library



### **[Benefits of accrual Accounting in the Public Sector](#)**

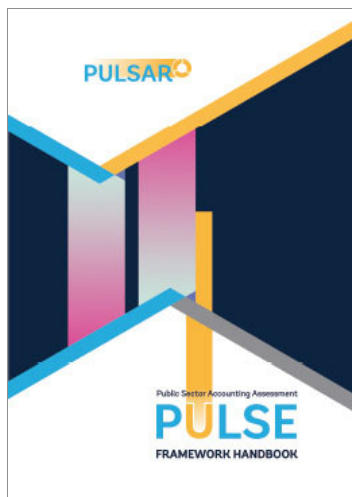
This paper focuses on the application of accrual accounting in public sector entities. The objective of the study is to illustrate benefits – but also costs – related to the implementation of this accounting system.



### **[Book on Public Sector Accounting Reform Status in PULSAR Countries](#)**

The book aims to share the status of implementation of Public Sector Accounting Reforms in PULSAR’s beneficiary countries in a harmonized manner and discuss the relevance of the continuation of PSA reforms across PULSAR countries given their positive impacts in general on transparency and accountability of the countries.

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### [Public Sector Accounting Assessment \(PULSE\) Framework Handbook](#)

The Public Sector Accounting Assessment (PULSE) aims to support national and subnational governments in developing efficient and effective PSA systems. It provides one single tool to measure and report on both: the conceptual and actual implementation of accrual accounting standards for the public sector according to the International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS).

In turn, the objective of the PULSE handbook is to describe PULSE structure, process, scoring methodology, and its quality assurance mechanism, among other relevant aspects of the PULSE framework.

## Past PULSAR events

### [Presentation of the Public Sector Accounting Assessment \(PULSE\) Framework, April 5, 2022](#)

The PULSE methodology also aims to serve public sector entities to develop an understanding of the local PSA system and environment, the gap between national and international PSA frameworks, and the gap in actual application between national PSA and IPSAS in systematic way enabling to assess compliance with the IPSAS framework . In particular, the PULSE enables governments and benchmark the performance of the current PSA systems in a user-friendly way, through a web-based assessment tool.

The main objectives of this webinar were to: (i) present the PULSE methodology, including its structure, assessment process, and scoring methodology; (ii) discuss the next steps in terms of completion and piloting of the methodology.

The event was attended by more than 150 participants from a number of ECA and LAC countries.

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### [Smart Interactive Talk "International Public Sector Financial Accountability Index: Challenges and Trends of PSA", October 6, 2021](#)

Accrual accounting reporting, which means recording the economic substance of transactions when they occur regardless of the occurrence of their respective cash settlement, is fundamental to good decision making, transparency and accountability.

In June 2021, IFAC and CIPFA published the updated International Public Sector Financial Accountability (IPSFA) Index. The main goal of the Index is to collect, verify, and analyze current financial reporting bases and frameworks used by federal and central governments around the world. It also provides an overview of public sector accounting (PSA) and reporting trends.

The main objectives of this webinar were to: (i) present the key findings of the 2021 IPSFA Index status report; (ii) discuss the common challenges and lessons learned associated with the PSA and IPSAS implementation reforms; (iii) discuss the role of the Multilateral Development Agencies.

The Workshop virtually hosted about 70 participants from 20 countries.

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## Let us know what you think

We hope you find this issue of the newsletter interesting and useful. Please let us ([cfr@worldbank.org](mailto:cfr@worldbank.org)) know if you have any comments or suggestions for topics that could be featured in future editions.

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