Debt Transparency

Financial Reporting for Debt and Investment Transparency December 1, 2020

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GLOBAL MACRO AND DEBT



Transparency in public debt reporting

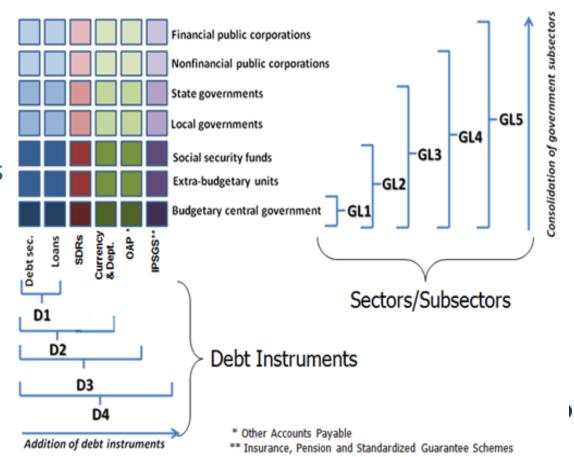
Most LICs have only a **D1 / GL1** coverage

Sectors under-reported:

- Local governments debt
- Extra-budgetary units / social security funds
- SOEs

Instruments under-reported:

- Guarantees
- Accounts payable
- Currency and deposit



Why does debt transparency matter?

For Borrowers - to make better informed borrowing decision with respect to level, terms and composition of debt

For Creditors - to take better decisions about their lending decisions

For Analysts or Rating Agencies - to better identify emerging risks and assess sovereign credit worthiness

For Citizens -to better hold governments accountable



Debt reporting in ECA - IDA countries

	1. Public Debt Reporting							2. Public Debt Management	
	Data accessibility	Completeness			Timeliness		Debt	Annual	debt
		Instrument	Sectorial	Information	Periodicity	Time range	Management	borrowing	statistics/
		coverage	coverage	on last			Strategy	plan	contingent
				loans					liabilities
				contracted					(CLs)
Kosovo									
Kyrgyz Republic									
Moldova									
Tajikistan									
Uzbekistan									



Debt Valuation

Method for valuing debt (Market value, nominal or face value)

Reference time should be reflected

Accrual accounting versus cash accounting

Criteria for external debt: creditor residency (preferred) / currency / place of issuance

Issues:

- Claims in dispute
- Claims subject to debt restructuring



Debt transparency - key dimensions

- (i) Comprehensive and Timely Reporting of PPG Debt Availability of easily accessible, comprehensive and timely public debt statistics
- (ii) Transparent Borrowing and Lending Practices
 Transparent borrowing processes, e.g. audits
 Prudent and transparent use of non-standard instruments, such as
 collateralized loans, Central Bank swap lines, etc.
- (iii) Transparent Debt Restructuring
 Disclosure of post-restructuring terms



Debt management audits in ECA

- Annual financial audits of budget execution, including debt operations, are undertaken regularly and often published at the websites of the supreme audit entities.
- Several countries in the region report **regular compliance audits** of debt management operations, as well as **occasional performance audits** (Armenia, Georgia, Moldova).
- Further capacity building efforts are needed to assist supreme audit entities in adopting performance audit methodologies in the area of government debt management

Main constraints

INSTITUTIONAL	OPERATIONAL	CAPACITY		
Fragmented responsibilities and uncoordinated institutional arrangements	Weak procedures and processes on data administration and management	Insufficient and/or not qualified staff		
Narrow mandate for the DMOs to collect debt data for the whole public sector. As a result, narrow coverage in debt recording / reporting	Weak IT infrastructure for debt recording and outdated software	Weak incentives for the DMOs to produce reliable data (limited public scrutiny, lack of integration in PFM)		
Limited audits	Multiple data requests from different internal / external stakeholders			



Thank you!

