WEBINAR ON

Managing Fiscal Risks to Ensure Sound Public Finances and Achieve Macroeconomic Stability in Indian States

FRIDAY, JULY 24, 2020 FROM 2:00 P.M. – 4:00 P.M.



REGISTER HERE

REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS TUESDAY, JULY 21, 2020

The International Monetary Fund's South Asia Regional Training and Technical Assistance Center (SARTTAC) and the Fiscal Affairs Department (FAD) is pleased to continue its training and capacity development in Indian States with a series of webinars on Managing Fiscal Risks to Ensure Sound Public Finances and Achieve Macroeconomic Stability in Indian States. The first of the series with focus on Fiscal Risk Frameworks will take place on Friday, July 24, 2020 from 2:00 P.M. – 4:00 P.M. IST. Additional sessions covering specific topic areas of risk and implementation mechanisms will be held over the coming months.

Sound public financial management institutions are important to allow fiscal policy to assist in stabilizing economic activity in the short run and contribute to growth in the long run. However, various risks to the fiscal outlook may impair government's ability to implement stable fiscal policy and could undermine growth objectives. For instance, bailouts to the financial sector and the collapse of commodity prices during the recent global financial crisis led to historically high public debt ratios and limited government's ability to enact policies that could boost long-term growth.

Fiscal risks may be broadly defined as factors which may cause fiscal outcomes to deviate from expectations or forecasts. Examples include macroeconomic shocks, contingent liabilities (obligations triggered by an uncertain event), bailouts or guarantees to the electricity sector, guarantees to Public Private Partnerships, natural disasters, reduction in revenue (own source or central transfers) and legal cases. Deviations may apply to the level of government expenditures, revenues, assets, and liabilities, and public debt that are not anticipated in the budget estimates. The COVID-19 health pandemic, given its severity, has amplified government's risk exposure and made the fiscal outlook more uncertain than ever before.

BENEFITS FOR INDIAN STATES

- This Webinar series will focus on identifying, quantifying and mitigating fiscal risk exposure particular to most Indian States
- The series will propose a framework for identifying and managing fiscal risks, demonstrate analytical tools and techniques to quantify risk exposure and recommend disclosure requirements to manage the risks.
- The sessions will enable peer to peer learning from existing practices in some States and establish a network of practitioners to share ideas and identify common challenges.
- Presentations will cover Fiscal Risk practices in selected Indian States, polling, questions and answer session to address specific issues raised by the participants and to determine interest in future webinar topics including
 - building institutions like a fiscal risk unit and fiscal risk committee:
 - * developing fiscal risk statements; and
- understanding tools for quantifying macroeconomic, specific, or institutional risks.

TARGET AUDIENCE

This webinar is designed for senior/middle level government officials in Indian states.

There is no limit on the number of attendees. The event is open to all those interested. You are encouraged to share this invitation with colleagues in your agency and other state officials whose professional engagements are closely related to the topic and will benefit from attending this webinar.

WEBEX PRACTICE SESSION

To ensure a smooth delivery of the webinar, a practice session will be conducted on **Wednesday**, **July 22**, **2020** at **3:30 P.M. (IST)** with registered participants to familiarize them with the software and to demonstrate protocols for participating, Q&A and polling.

Details on the practice sessions will be provided on registration in a separate communication .

If you have any specific questions, please send them to **Celeste Kubasta**, SARTTAC Public Financial Management Advisor (**ckubasta@imf.org**).

For any assistance regarding registration and participation, please contact **Debraj Chaudhuri** at (<u>dchaudhuri@imf.org</u>) or **Mudit Mittal** at (<u>mmital@imf.org</u>) at SARTTAC.