

Feasibility Study - Common Treasury Services

PROJECT STATUS REPORT

Status Date: 1 October 2010
Project Name: Feasibility Study - Common Treasury Services
Lead Agencies: IFAD/WHO
Project Budget: US\$ 904,150

Project Summary

Project Overview

The project aims to identify best treasury management practices in the UN system and to gather and exchange information about treasury processes where increased administrative efficiency and economies of scale could be achieved through a common approach and joint operations.

Opportunities for harmonized treasury practices for UN system organizations, potential common treasury services and institutionalisation will be reviewed and identified.

Expected Benefits:

- The project represents an opportunity to realize, potentially, several millions of annual savings across the UN system through a combination of better investment returns, better foreign exchange rates, lower payment processing costs (bank charges), and improved contractual conditions with other investment and treasury service providers. Nevertheless, to achieve any of the above savings, it would be required to address difficult legal, operational and accountability issues, given separate governance arrangements.

Project Activities

- Preliminary interagency survey to identify and assess potential areas for common treasury services, including the possibilities of assigning the delivery of specific services to a single or a few organizations.
- Development and management of a communications platform for knowledge sharing in the areas of Treasury operations to know how agencies operate, identify best practices and explore/discuss areas of collaboration.
- Feasibility study on common treasury services to identify and prioritize common service opportunities, evaluate costs/benefits of these services, identify major divergences and legal framework options for delivery of common services.

Project Duration Estimates

Project Milestone	Date Estimate	Implementation Level
Project Start Date	September 2008	
Interagency survey	January 2009	Completed
Launch of the web based treasury knowledge sharing platform	October 2009 (Group A) January 2010 (Group B)	Completed
Maintenance and content management of web based treasury knowledge sharing platform	Throughout the project lifetime	On-going
Project coordination & liaison with the network and leading agencies	Throughout the project lifetime	On-going
Selection of consultancy firm to carry out the Feasibility Study	August 2010	Completed
Contract awarded to selected contractor	31 October 2010	Completed
Consulting firm submits programme of work	15 November 2010	Completed
Consulting firm submits its final report	15 May 2011	Completed
Project End Date – Assessment of research results¹	30 May 2011	Completed
Follow up: The FBN will review the recommendations from the report and Working Group and agree on what initiatives to take forward in the short, medium and long term.	30 September 2011	Preparatory work started

¹ The project evaluation is ongoing and will be completed in Q1 of 2012. The project will be closed subsequently.

