Towards a more robust, secure, Efficient IFMIS for improved financial management
Dell EMC converged infrastructure housing the New IFMIS platform at Malawi Revenue Authority (MRA)- designated DR Site
Country: IFMIS Overview

System name: New Integrated Financial Management Information System (IFMIS)

System modules: Budgeting, Cash and Bank, Procurement and Inventory management, Payment (Accounts Payables), Revenue (Accounts Receivable), Assets management, Projects and Contract Management, General Ledger, Helpdesk and Electronic Document Management.

Interfaces: Human Resources Management Information System (HRMIS) for Payroll and Pensions, Reserve Bank of Malawi, Malawi Revenue Authority (MRA), Debt and Aid System (CSDRMS), e-Procurement.

Application SW: SAP S/4HANA 1809 SP 2

Use of open source: N/A

Scope: Central government with possibility of rolling to Local Government.

# of system users: 336  # of concurrent users: 2,000

# of central gov entities connected: 10 out of 81

# of local gov entities connected: N/A

Operational since: July 2020

Hosting environment: Main data center and Disaster recovery center.

Gov service bus & APIs: Proprietary interoperability

Other platform info: Currently using GUI access. Moving towards SSL once certificate is installed
Country: IFMIS Results Achieved

Please list several important results achieved:

- Partially gone live to 10 Votes out of planned 81 votes. Only key modules have gone live fully. These are: (i) Budget; (ii) Cash and Bank; (iii) Procurement; (iv) Payment; (v) General Ledger; (vi) EDMS; (vii) Helpdesk. We have partially operationalized (viii) Asset Management and (ix) Projects Management.

- We are able to record assets and update the Asset register immediately once an asset has been procured.

- Commitment control – This functionality aims at reducing or eliminating incidence of commitments outside the system. IT will now be possible to know total commitments of an MDA as well as Government wide.

- The use of a small number of Pool Expenditure Accounts (Towards TSA) enhances the oversight and management of government cash.

- The implementation of Electronic Document Management System (EDMS) will address the loss of documentation for transactions when required.

- Helpdesk functionality is ensuring that issues are logged and followed up to resolution. The helpdesk also will be used as a knowledge management tool which informs the training needs of users thus ensuring focus and targeted training for end users.
Malawi: Selected IFMIS good practice case

Summarize one of the important achievements:

- The recording and updating assets as they are procured is one of our most important achievements. As Government, maintaining an updated Asset register has been a challenge and a recurring Audit query of our financial reports.
Country: IFMIS Challenges

Please list key issues experienced during development or operations:

- The New IFMIS was expected to Go Live with EFT in place. This was not possible because the Government EFT requirements could not be handled by the existing version of the core banking system at Reserve Bank of Malawi (Central Bank). An interim solution is being worked out to be used for roll out from 1 July, 2021.

- It took time to resolve the issue of procuring and recording assets. The main reason was that the Assets were budgeted on lines that could not be used for purchases. Accrual versus Cash basis/ expensing items

- The Helpdesk functionality has not been used effectively. Users are still used to reporting issues through phone calls and physical contact
Country: IFMIS Modernization Plans & Future Directions

Please list planned / ongoing IFMIS improvements:

- Roll out the core modules to the remaining Votes/MDAs
- Finalized the upgrading of the Primary Data Center
- Interface the New IFMIS with other systems
- Operationalize the remaining modules in all the votes/MDAs
- Enhance security of authentication for critical transactions by incorporating additional level of approval through Bio Lock (fingerprint)
- Enhance revenue management module by incorporating recommendations that came from the Business Process Review (BPR) on Revenue management
- Operationalize workflow in the implementation
- Conduct an independent quality assurance of the New IFMIS
Thank you so much

“Zikomo kwambiri”