# THE REVIEWED AND UPDATED GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTANCY TRAINING CENTER CURRICULUM

### 1. Introduction

The Republic of South Sudan is striving to enhance a responsible and vibrant system in every sector of government. In this regard, the Public Financial Management (PFM) is key to controls the entire country Financial system. Therefore, it is very important to develop a curriculum for training its staff.

This revised Curriculum in Public Financial Management (PFM) is an extract from the Curriculum developed for the Government Accountancy Training Center (GATC) in 2015 for training of *Accounts* and *Budget Officers* in the Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning (MoFP) of the Republic of South Sudan.

This training carried out by Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning is a deliberate and systematic activity aimed at "developing appropriate skills, knowledge and attitudes in ensuring transparency, accountability and good stewardship to acceptable standards at individual, organizational, societal and national levels". Training and capacity development include equipping public servants with the ability to assimilate and understand public accounting, financial management and associated ethical standards and seize opportunities for good governance, social development, economic growth and individual fulfilment. All training programmes shall be guided by the Reviewed Master Curriculum developed for the government of South Sudan in 2022.

The following benefits should accrue from prudent investment in the training of the employees in the Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning:

- 1. Development of the full potential of employees
- 2. Disciplined and motivated employees;
- 3. High levels of competence, which lead to prompt, and efficient service delivery;
- 4. Reduced costs resulting from improved performance and updated with technology; and full appreciation of the role of MOFEP in creating an enabling environment for private

sector as well as national development.

## 2. Goals

The Ministry of Finance and Planning in the Republic of South Sudan shall be driven towards meeting the following goals:

- i. Equipping the civil servants with essential knowledge and understanding, and skills in Accounting and public financial management.
- ii. Ratifying public procurement laws and regulations of Republic of South Sudan and their application.
- iii. Increase efficiency in performance, accountability to match the current changes in technological advancements.
- iv. . Strengthen institutions for efficient, transparent, Accountable and inclusive governance.
- v. Build up a competent, committed and accountable Finance staff.

#### 3. The Rationale

# Why a comprehensive Reviewed GATC Curriculum?

A new cross-country study of public financial management reforms in post conflict situations shows that substantial progress is possible even in difficult circumstances. However, the impact on state building remains less than what might be hoped. That impact could be strengthened by persistently targeting sustainable capacity, challenging areas such as procurement, greater public awareness, and more rapid coverage of line ministries and sub national levels. (Verena, Edward and Ana 2011)

The Directorate of Accounts in the Ministry of Finance and Planning made an assessment that identified that officers from the departments of accounts have various gaps in academic and professional qualifications. This prompted a concern of grading them for purposes of eventually training them accordingly. The Directorate wants to raise their accounting and budgeting skills to international best practices by developing tailored curriculum.

The curriculum review is driven by the Government of South Sudan with the support from the UNDP with joint partnership with the Centre for Strategic and Policy Studies (CSPS).

The training will be conducted by Government Accountancy Training Centre (GATC) which is entrusted with the training of government staff in Public Financial Management (PFM). The training targets government accountants and budget officers including supports staffs at the National, States, and local government.

### 4. The Vision

"A united and peaceful nation, built on strong foundations of good governance, economic prosperity and enhanced quality life for all"

The South Sudan Vision 2040 is motivated by collective national aspiration for a better society by the year 2040. This Vision guides the strategic thinking and policy-making process in the coming years and forms the rallying point around which all the people of South Sudan unite and together contribute to the ultimate achievement of the national dream. The Vision is the guiding star that directs, inspires, and propels efforts of the citizens to collectively deliver the national dreams.

The Vision is guided by four principles and values, namely:

- 1) Democracy
- 2) Rule of law
- 3) Socio-economic
- 4) International relations

The South Sudan vision 2040 has identified Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning as a key contributor to pillar of "prosperous, productive and innovative nation" together with the other pillar of "educated and informed nation". All pillars require a human resource base, which is globally competitive and adaptive. South Sudan is in a great need of a modernized Accountants in both the public and private sector with adequate levels of education, schemes, competency, integrity, Transparency and accountability, creativity and innovation. The human resource should also be well managed, rewarded and steered to global competitiveness. All this will depend on the ability to create Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning staffs that are constantly subjected to retraining and access to technology in all sectors of the economy and development.

The Vision 2040 has been disaggregated into seven pillars to facilitate effective management of its delivery by every sector of the economy. The seven pillars provide the key aims for the Public Service Reviewed Master Curriculum and they are:

- 1. Educated and informed nation;
- 2. Prosperous, productive and innovative nation;
- 3. Free, just and peaceful nation;
- 4. Democratic and accountable nation;
- 5. Safe and secure nation:
- 6. United and proud nation;
- 7. Compassionate and tolerant nation.

# 5. The Key Aims

This vision provides the key aims for the curriculum. These define what the nation wants the Ministry of Finance and Planning staff to be pursuing by the time they completed the training.

# The Key Aims of the Curriculum

The seven key aims will provide the direction and the motives of the training areas in the curriculum.

#### The Key Aims of the Curriculum Democratic Safe and Productiv Educated Free Just United Compassion and e and Secure and ate and and Accountabl innovativ Nation and informed Peaceful Proud e National Tolerant Accounta e Nation Nation Accountant Accounta nt nt •Educated and informed who: Is creative and problem **Educated and Informed Accountant** solversCollaborate with International Monetary Fund (IMF), World Bank and other stakeholders. Productive and innovative Accountant who Understands Public Financial Management, Public Procurement and Productive and Inovative Accountant promote the transparency and accountability in Managing the finances in the Republic of South Sudan. Democratic and Accountable national who: Investigate and reconcile financial issues based on the underlined laws, Democratic and Accountable regulations, policies, procedures and practices. Wage **National** negotiations

Free and Just National

•Free and just national who Guide and support State Finance Offices on transactions such as Procurement, Budget allocation, Audit independence. Respect rules of law and apply it respectively

Safe and Secure Nation

•Safe and Secure Nation with staff who: Are dedicated and reliable staff with understanding of Public financial management and free from corruption and embezzlements of public funds. Set standards in managing the public financial management. Understand and apply the public financial management and accountability act. Respect disabled and observe gender equity with fairness

**United and Proud National** 

• United and proud national who: Respect diversity and learn how to live together. Take pride in South Sudan culture and heritage. Have sense of belonging and love for his or her nation

Compassionate and Tolerant Accountant

•Compassionate and Tolerant Accountant Who: Understands the county's financial challenge and can work in resolving financial crisis. Respect individual with disability and have equal treatment. Respect the rights of every worker regardless of his or her culture, tribes, religion and political affiliation