Overview of progress, objectives and programme

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(UN-DESA)

First intensive training workshop on "Strengthening Macro-Micro Modelling Capacities to Assess Development Support Measures and Strategies in Uganda", Entebbe, 7-9 March, 2012.

What are we focusing on?

- Enhancing capacities to use analytical and training tools, fundamentally for modelling, tailored to Uganda needs.
- Specifically to:
  - design coherent macroeconomic and social policies and strategies;
  - enable a more adequate use of benefits derived from the LDC category;
  - reduce vulnerability to volatility in the global economy.
- Primary objective is to institutionalise the use of the tools
  - we train and provide technical support, Ugandans become owners of the tools, update them, and put them to work

Key questions remain unanswered

- Will reform policies recommended in previous MDG analysis be feasible if:
    - there is a global economic crisis?
    - Uganda faces external adversities (high food and energy prices, drops in export demand or declines in worker remittances)?
    - oil revenues do not start to flow as expected?
- Will it help if potential development impacts of existing international support measures to LDCs are maximized to accelerate progress towards development goals?
    - enhanced official development assistance (ODA)
    - preferential access to foreign markets
    - special treatment regarding WTO obligations

What tools?

- **MAMS: *Maquette* for <u>M</u>DG <u>S</u>imulations.**
  - Economy-wide (dynamic-recursive CGE) model to analyze MDG financing strategies in different countries.
  - Dynamic MDG module, with MDG determinants
- **Sector analysis of MDG determinants and of interventions** needed to achieve MDGs in education, health, water and sanitation
  - Microeconomic analysis of determinants of access to schooling, child and maternal mortality, etc.
  - Cost-effectiveness analysis
- **Microsimulation approach**
  - Translate labour market outcomes of CGE simulations into impact on poverty and income distribution at household level using micro datasets

Project implementation in ten steps ("What" and "Who")

1. **Scoping mission and first workshop**
   - UN-DESA, UNDP, "technical unit" (and "data team")
2. **Consolidation of "technical unit" (final arrangements)**
   - UNDP and MFPED
3. **Disaggregation of Social Accounting Matrix, updating and improvement of existing dataset**
   - UN-DESA's international consultant and "data team"
   - **Re-estimation of key elasticities? By "technical unit" or an international/national consultant?**

MVS(

MVSC10   I would add more detail on how country teams are ideally expected to be formed, work and organize themselves.

Important is to highlight that there should be a team leader and that country-team members must have some specific qualifications.

Make explicit the point that we expect the "right" people to be participating in the workshops.

All of this can be brought up in light of the experience for LAC and the Arab countries.
Marco Sanchez, 14/08/2008

Project implementation in ten steps ("What" and "Who")

4. **Calibration of MAMS for Uganda with new dataset**
   - UN-DESA (led by international consultant)

5. **First intensive training: MAMS (and ISIM-MAMS), updating of data set, initial runs of scenarios**
   - UN-DESA, UNDP and "technical unit"

6. **Final fine-tuning of MAMS for Uganda**
   - UN-DESA, assisted by technical unit

7. **Second intensive training workshop: policy assessments through scenario simulations in MAMS and microsimulations (in STATA)**
   - UN-DESA, UNDP and "technical unit"

Project implementation in ten steps ("What" and "Who")

8. **Implementation of policy simulations and elaboration of policy notes/briefs in selected areas**

   - "technical unit", with support from UN-DESA

9. **Final workshop: presentation/discussion of policy notes/briefs, definition of follow-up steps for maintenance of modelling tools, uses to support policymaking, and engagement of policy makers in a dialogue.**

   - UN-DESA, UNDP, "technical unit" and **high-level policymakers**

10. **Policy dialogues; presentations that provide inputs for decision making, and identification of new demands for policy simulations that are deemed useful by the Government.**

    - "Technical unit" (with support from UNDP and UN-DESA?)

Time schedule (deadlines)

Step	Task	Original Deadline	Comment
Step 1	**Workshop 1: Project inception**	**17-19 Oct 2011**	**completed**
Step 2	Formation of technical unit	31 Oct 2011	completed
Step 3	Completion of data collection, SAM construction Reality check and **estimation of key elasticities**	31 Dec, 2011 (?)	**Done, but!**
Step 4	Calibration of MAMS with new dataset	29 Feb, 2012	**Done, but!**
Step 5	**Workshop 2: MAMS: what is it? How is it calibrated/updated? How are policy simulations run?**	**27-29 March 2012**	Conducted earlier!

Objectives of first intensive workshop

- Describe the MAMS in detail.

- Take stock of data availability, present a recently updated dataset for MAMS for Uganda (including a newly updated Social Accounting Matrix), and agree on future data collection.

- Describe the Excel-based interface known as ISIM-MAMS.

- Conduct practical sessions to explain the use of ISIM-MAMS.

- Undertake practical sessions to conduct policy simulations in three (interrelated) blocks: exogenous policy and external shocks, support measures and achievement of human development goals.

- Revisit the timeline and agree on newly-revised deadlines (if needed).

Programme: main sessions

- Detailed overview of MAMS

- MAMS file structure

- MAMS data files: an example for Uganda

- A SAM for Uganda

- ISIM-MAMS: Excel interface for MAMS
  - reference path scenario
  - generation of new scenarios
  - generation and interpretation of results
  - review of scenarios and results (many practical sessions!)
    - external shocks
    - support measures
    - human development goals

Interesting resources:

http://www.un.org/en/development/desa/policy/capacity/uganda.shtml

http://www.un.org/en/development/desa/policy/capacity/macromicro_model/uganda_mm.shtml

See also recommended readings!