

EXECUTIVE EDUCATION PROGRAM

Local Public Finance and Fiscal Decentralization for Myanmar

Background

The Fulbright School of Public Policy and Management (FSPPM) in cooperation with the Renaissance Institute (RI) will conduct an executive education program, sponsored by The Canadian International Development Research Centre, on local public finance and fiscal decentralization. This program is designed specifically for government officials, member of the parliaments, and researchers from universities or research organizations in Myanmar who are responsible for managing and analyzing local public finance. The five-day course, from June 3 to 7, will be conducted in Naypitaw, Myanmar. Instructors and speakers are from Fulbright University Vietnam and some of the most prestigious universities (tentatively Harvard University and/or Duke University).

Objectives

The program responds to a gap in technical capacity which has emerged as the Myanmar government progressively devolve responsibility for public finance decisions to state and regional administrative levels. The course will better enable participants to design and implement fiscal decentralization policy reforms to improve local public financial management.

Over a five-day period, the program will cover topics on fiscal federalism, allocation of expenditure and revenue responsibilities, local revenue systems, intergovernmental transfers, and local government borrowing.

Participant Eligibility

Education – Bachelor’s degree (Master’s degree is a plus).

Experience – Minimum 3 - 5 years of working experience in public finance and economic development or closely related areas. Women are strongly encouraged to apply. (Preference for senior government officials- Assistant Directors and up).

Attendance – Applicants must commit to attend the full length of the program (five-day training course followed by a group applied research project)

Authorization – Written approval for attending the training course from the head of department or senior official at the participant’s workplace is required.

Language Proficiency – Since there will be reading materials in English, proficiency in English has an advantage for participants.

Tentative Participant Composition

Ministry/ Organization	Department	Nay Pyi Taw	Yangon	Bago	Mandalay	Shan
Ministry of Planning and Finance	Planning Department	1	1	1	1	1
	Budget Department	2	1	1	1	1
	Internal Revenue Department	2	1	1	1	1
	Intergovernmental Fiscal Relation Department (IFRD)	2	-	-	-	-
	Joint Public Account Committee (JPAC)	2	1	1	1	1
Parliament	Support Staff to the Public Account Committee	-	1	1	1	1
Research/ Academic Institutions		-	5	-	-	-
Total		9	10	5	5	5
Grand Total						34

Faculty

Vu Thanh Tu Anh, Fulbright University Vietnam
 Huynh The Du, Fulbright University Vietnam
 Jay Rosengard, Harvard University
 Nguyen Xuan Thanh, Fulbright University Vietnam

Financial Assistance

The course will be fully funded by the Canadian International Development Research Centre.

Participants will receive:

- Travel and lodging allowance.
- A stipend to cover meals and incidental expenses.
- Travel and health insurance for the duration of the training course.

Contact

If you have any questions or concerns about the training, please do not hesitate to contact the Renaissance Institute.

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Course Outline

Day 1 (June 3): Fiscal Decentralization

Session 1 (09:00-10:30): Fiscal federalism and public choice – **Nguyen Xuan Thanh**

Coffee Break (10:30-10:45)

Session 2 (10:45-12:15): The political economy of fiscal decentralization – **Jay Rosengard**

Lunch (12:15-13:30)

Session 3 (13:30 -15:00): Decentralization challenges facing low and lower-middle income countries – **Jay Rosengard**

Coffee Break (15:00-15:15)

Session 4 (15:15 – 16:45): Case Study Presentation (Yangon) – **Vu Thanh Tu Anh**

Day 2 (June 4): Fiscal Decentralization and Political Reforms

Session 1 (09:00-10:30): International trends in political, administrative and fiscal decentralization – **Nguyen Xuan Thanh**

Coffee Break (10:30-10:45)

Session 2 (10:45-12:15): Roles of central and sub-national governments – **Jay Rosengard**

Lunch (12:15-13:30)

Session 3 (13:30 -15:00): Allocation of expenditure and revenue responsibilities – **Jay Rosengard**

Coffee Break (15:00-15:15)

Session 4 (15:15 – 16:45): Case Study Presentation (Naypyitaw) – **Vu Thanh Tu Anh**

Day 3 (June 5): Local Revenue Systems

Session 1 (09:00-10:30): Income taxation – **Jay Rosengard**

Coffee Break (10:30-10:45)

Session 2 (10:45-12:15): Sales taxation – **Nguyen Xuan Thanh**

Lunch (12:15-13:30)

Session 3 (13:30 -15:00): Property taxation – **Jay Rosengard**

Coffee Break (15:00-15:15)

Session 4 (15:15 – 16:45): Local Revenue Mobilization: A Case study on China and Vietnam – **Nguyen Xuan Thanh**

Day 4 (June 6): Local Revenue Systems

Session 1 (09:00-10:30): Excise tax – **Jay Rosengard**

Coffee Break (10:30-10:45)

Session 2 (10:45-12:15): User charges, business taxation, license fees, and permits – **Jay Rosengard**

Lunch (12:15-13:30)

Session 3 (13:30 -15:00): Case Study Presentation (Shan State) – **Huynh The Du**

Coffee Break (15:00-15:15)

Session 4 (15:15 – 16:45): Case Study Presentation (Bago Region) – **Huynh The Du**

Day 5 (June 7): Local Government Borrowing, Fiscal Transfers, and Indonesia Case Study

Session 1 (09:00-10:30): Local government debt financing – **Nguyen Xuan Thanh**

Coffee Break (10:30-10:45)

Session 2 (10:45-12:15): Intergovernmental fiscal transfers – **Huynh The Du**

Lunch (12:15-13:30)

Session 3 (13:30 -15:00): Indonesia Decentralization Case Study: Part 1 – **Jay Rosengard**

Coffee Break (15:00-15:15)

Session 4 (15:15 – 16:45): Indonesia Decentralization Case Study: Part 2 – **Jay Rosengard**