

# PFMConnect Ltd

supporting good Public Financial Management

**Principals: David Fellows and John Leonardo** 

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## **PFMConnect Limited: Summary of Services for Development Partners**

PFMConnect Ltd is a company dedicated to the improvement of public financial management, particularly in developing countries, through a combination of:

- Research, analysis and strategic advice for project development purposes;
- Problem-solving and intermittent support, as necessary, to assist project delivery; and
- Capacity development of staff employed by public service organisations

PFMConnect also seeks to use its extensive knowledge of public policy, regulation and operational capacity to facilitate the development of constructive working relationships between private sector clients and public sector organisations throughout the world.

PFMConnect exploits and develops the use of digital communication channels as a key medium by which it can deliver its services, engage the public in its work and enable governments to improve their financial management performance.

PFMConnect regards its service delivery as an opportunity to transfer knowledge and skills to the organisations that it works with. This is regarded as an essential feature of project design.

As a fundamental part of its work PFMConnect draws public attention to the need for improvement in public financial management as a key aspect of the transformation process for developing countries. To further this work it publishes relevant articles on its blog site http://blog-pfmconnect.com and via online journals including the World Policy Journal, the IMF's PFM blog and the Australian National University's Devpolicy blog. It also has an extensive presence on Twitter, Pinterest and Facebook.

## **Principals**

# **David Fellows**

David Fellows spent much of his early career as head for finance and computer services in various local authorities and the police service throughout the UK becoming President of the Society of Municipal Treasurers. He gained various national and international awards for the development of digital service delivery.

David also acted as Principal Advisor on Local Government Reform in the UK Cabinet Office and as public service advisor to various private sector public service providers. David has worked regularly in South Africa at the National Treasury and at metropolitan municipality and provincial government level before founding PFMConnect Ltd with John Leonardo. He recently led PFMConnect's evaluation of the Commonwealth Secretariat's anti-corruption programme in Africa.

#### John Leonardo

John Leonardo has over twenty years professional consulting experience including more than fifteen years' consulting field experience on a wide range of donor funded public financial management (PFM) design, evaluation, implementation, institutional strengthening, performance monitoring and reform projects gained from assignments in sub-Sahara Africa, the Middle East, South Asia, South-East Asia and the South Pacific. He has worked at central, state and local government levels and with state-owned-enterprises.

John has undertaken a wide range of PFM diagnostic studies, including PEFA assessment and has prepared comprehensive packages of prioritised, sequential, costed and integrated medium-term plans to improve PFM performance in a number of countries.

## **Services**

PFMConnect is available to work with development partners in resolving internal PFM-related challenges and in making a difference with them in the field. Most of the services described below could apply to either situation.

Topic	Description
PFM Strategy development	Support for the development of approaches to achieving PFM goals over a planned period including performance management, public engagement and VFM considerations
Control of corruption	Support for the development of corruption control strategies, the design of administrative improvements to combat particular forms of corruption and corruption risk assessment.
PFM Evaluation	The assessment of the cost-effectiveness of PFM-related policies and programmes together with recommendations for improvement.
Cost-benefit analysis	Broad-based consideration of new operational or capital investment proposals from the perspective of the longer-term costs and benefits involved with recommendations concerning improvements to proposals that could produce greater value in given conditions
Opinion Research	The provision of opinion research using digital technology. Recent projects include an online survey of course participants in the Commonwealth Africa Anti-corruption Centre in Botswana, a survey of collaborative working between anti-corruption agencies in Africa and a survey of barriers faced by women entrepreneurs in Kenya.
Advice & problem- solving support concerning PFM- related matters	The provision of support for specific reforms or problem-centred initiatives to agreed objectives within an agreed timescale. The responsibility of the advisor in this situation is to help the subject analyse the situation and think through the necessary design, planning and delivery processes and then support them in resolving emergent difficulties. It is about lending experience to provide structure and maintain momentum. Support would be tailored to the specific national context, the institution(s) in question and the skills and the experience of those involved. It is assumed that this and the mentoring service below would be mostly delivered using digital media.

Mentoring	The provision of support by the mentor to help the mentee explore the
concerning PFM-	issues and situations that he/she faces, consider the range of responses that
related matters	may be appropriate and the factors that they may wish to take into account
	in making their decisions. Here mentors act primarily as sounding boards to
	help mentees review the options available to them. Mentors may offer
	insights and encouragement but will not instruct the mentee on actions to
	be taken, that responsibility rests with mentees. This may prove helpful to
	officials, politicians and non-executive board members of public sector
	organisations.
PFM Systems,	The development of proposals for improved financial service performance
policies, practices,	throughout the very extensive range of public financial management
roles and	activities, including: procurement, budgeting, taxation, revenue generation
responsibilities	and governance arrangements. PFMConnect believes in the practice of good
	financial management that is <b>sustainable</b> within the capacity of staff,
	technology and financial resources of a client state.
Collaborative	The development of collaborative ways of working using digital media to
working using	facilitate real-time and offline collaboration either within an administration
digital media with	or state or between states. We are concerned that where collaboration
particular	surrounds a developmental agenda that such arrangements should include
relevance to public	an appropriate mix of skills, knowledge and experience from practitioners,
policy and	academics and those from other relevant backgrounds and theatres of
administration	operation.

## **Contacts**

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*Blog-site*: http://<u>blog-pfmconnect.com</u>

Pinterest: https://uk.pinterest.com/pfmconnect

Twitter: @PfmcLeo

Locations: PFMConnect works from bases in Brisbane, Liverpool and London and has a network of

associates across the world.