Improving synergies between social protection and Public Finance Management: Country Analysis

The course includes one brief country analysis. As the assigned time for the analysis is 90 minutes, it will be more of an overview of the country situation.

Every week we will provide a brief exercise on data collection to ease the completion of this task. You do not need to send us the exercise, but we will be happy to provide support in case of difficulties.

As mentioned last week, for this week it was important to have chosen a country with publicly available PEFA assessments.

The exercise this week for the eventual country analysis is as follows: our objective to provide recommendations on financing options for social protection. This means we should have a reasonable sense of how much is being spent on social protection and the coverage-cost gaps that have to be filled.

This knowledge of social protection expenditures comes from the country budget. **Are these numbers reliable?**

PEFA's Pillar I is on Budget Reliability. What is the score of the country of your interest? Even more relevant to what we want to do, countries often score better on the aggregate expenditure outturn (PI-1) than on the expenditure composition outturn (PI-2) and revenue outturn (PI-3). In other words, the aggregate budget might be a close approximation of reality but the specific numbers for Social Protection expenditures might be less reliable (or revenue numbers for fiscal space estimates). Is this the case in the country of interest? Should you be concerned?

Write a brief summary –one or two paragraphs- of your findings. Please note that if you wish, the annexes may have more detailed information, but it is not required to review them.