news and developments

in the field of tax and development

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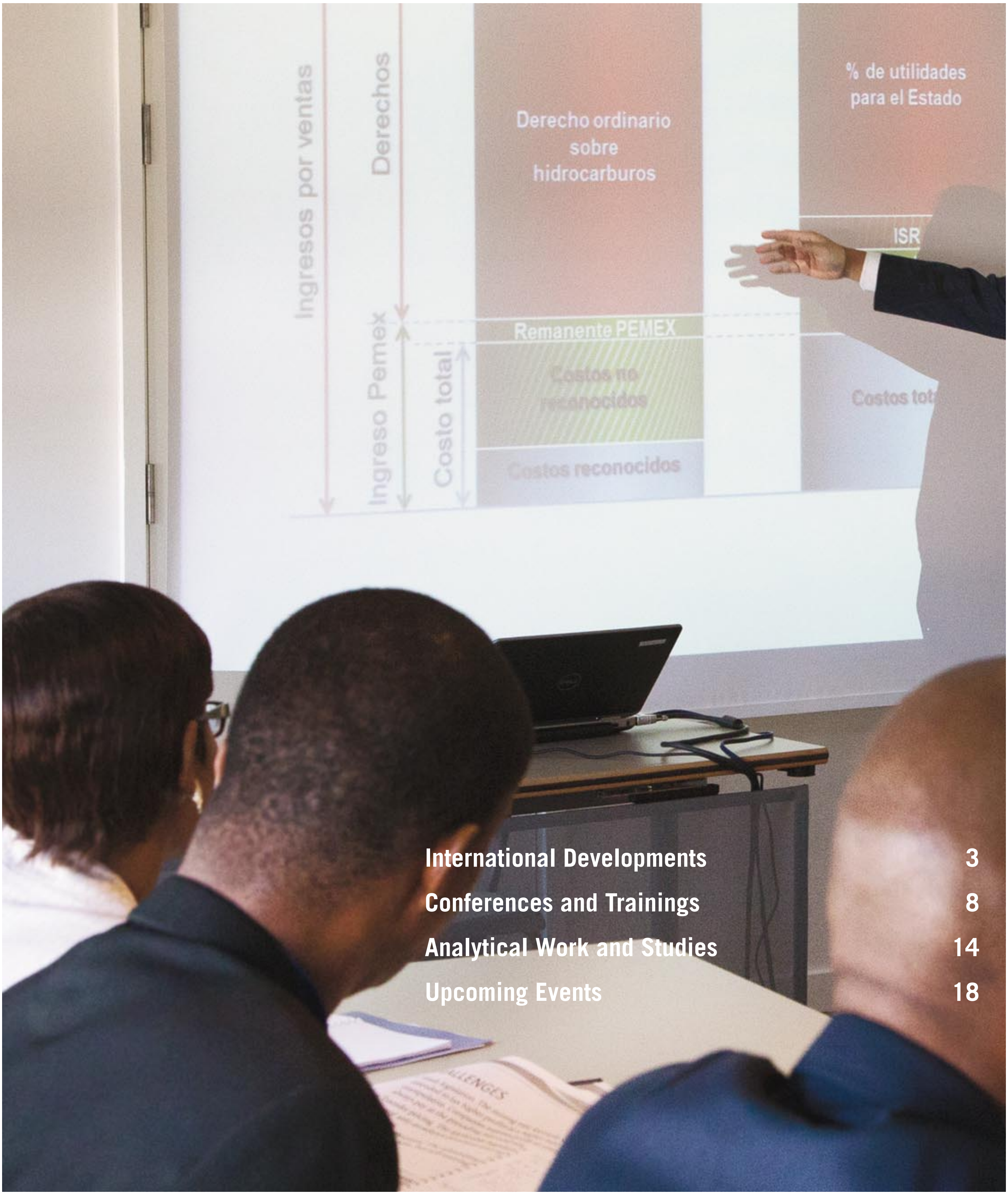

Welcome to the New Edition of the ITC Newsletter

Dear Reader,

The Third International Conference on Financing for Development (FfD) to be held in Addis Ababa from 13 to 16 July marks the kick-off for a defining half-year in international development politics. With the Post-2015 Summit in September and the UN Climate Change Conference in December, the international community is currently debating ambitious goals, the joint pursuit of which is of utmost importance. Addis will have to lay a solid foundation for these two major events that will define the development agenda in the decade to come.

Strengthening sustainable Domestic Resource Mobilisation (DRM), with a specific focus on taxes, lies at the very heart of the discussion within the FfD process. Apart from leading to more stable and sustainable flows than international resources, DRM creates positive incentives for ownership of public policy and development spending. It also inherently assumes a strong governance dimension by stimulating the social contract between citizens and the state. Tax reforms aiming to mobilise domestic resources are a powerful instrument because they provide a strong leverage effect, with every single Euro of investment in tax systems yielding 100 euros of additional revenue according to OECD estimates.

A strong focus on DRM will be a central pillar of the global strategy to finance the sustainable development agenda, with implications for all professionals working in the field of taxation. ITC will be organising a DRM side event at the FfD Conference in order to promote international support for tax reforms as a key to more sustainable financing of development.

The following articles present a short overview of the latest developments in international tax cooperation. Please note that the perspectives and opinions expressed in this newsletter are entirely those of the contributing institution and do not necessarily reflect the views of the ITC.

If you have any questions or suggestions regarding the newsletter, or if you would like to contribute an article for the next issue, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Enjoy the articles!
Best regards,
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strengthening
effective, efficient and fair
tax systems

Porter McConnell is currently Director of the Financial Transparency Coalition, a global network of civil society, governments and international experts with the aim of curtailing illicit financial flows by promoting a transparent, accountable, and sustainable financial system.

McConnell previously worked for Oxfam America. Before joining FTC, she had founded and managed a Bogotá-based network of Latin American NGOs implementing social enterprise activities.

Interview with Porter McConnell, Director of Financial Transparency Coalition

ITC: The term financial transparency is a very broad concept. What exactly is FTC's mission?

McConnell: The FTC works to promote a transparent, accountable, and sustainable financial system that works for everyone. The way the global financial system operates impacts all of us. Unfortunately, the current system is marked by secrecy and a lack of disclosure. We're trying to change that.

We focus on advocating common-sense transparency measures that would cut down on illicit financial flows – money that's illegally earned, transferred, or utilised.

Illicit financial flows out of developing countries added up to almost USD 1 trillion in 2013. The money moving out of some of the world's poorest countries by way of tax evasion, tax avoidance and corruption simply dwarfs the amount of money coming in by way of official aid. And financial secrecy is a problem for rich countries, too. In the past 6 months, we've seen a number of secret documents revealed (LuxLeaks, SwissLeaks) that showed just how corporations and wealthy individuals were using opacity to their advantage.

Whether the culprit is a corrupt politician embezzling public funds, a multinational corporation shifting profits to tax havens, or wealthy elites hiding their assets in a secret bank account, one thing remains constant – the tools used to move the money. With a few straightforward measures to increase the transparency of the global financial system, we'd be able to identify, track and stop illicit flows much more easily.

ITC: Your network covers a wide variety of different stakeholders. How does this network function?

McConnell: The FTC is a global network of civil society, governments and experts spanning five continents. We are governed by a Coordinating Committee made up of nine of our civil society members. Coordinating Committee organisations come from five different continents and a variety of expert fields, from tax justice or corruption to budget transparency. Together, these organisations determine the policy and direction of the Coalition.

ITC: Could you explain the benefit of FTC for your Allied Organisations?

McConnell: The FTC is grateful to be able to exchange ideas and information with more than 150 organisations that have endorsed our goals and mission. The Allied Organisation Network spans across 40 countries and allows us to understand local and regional contexts in a way that wouldn't be possible otherwise. We can also serve as a facilitator of collaboration between regions, especially when organisations are facing similar challenges or are feeding into the same set of global standards on financial transparency.

ITC: What have been main accomplishments of FTC lately? You mentioned IFF earlier. What measures are you advocating to curb Illicit financial flows from developing countries?

McConnell: Five or six years ago, if you typed the term 'illicit financial flow' into an internet search engine you would have found barely any results. Fast forwarding to 2015, world leaders are incorporating financial transparency measures into all sorts of policy documents, from the G20 Communiqué to the UN's Financing for Development agenda. Financial transparency has become a cornerstone of our discussions on mobilising resources for development. While this is certainly not solely the work of FTC, we can take some credit for getting the issue onto the map.

We are also making a big push globally for automatic exchange of financial information between countries. We are making the case to the OECD, the UN, the G20 and key governments that for a temporary window of time, developing countries should be able to receive information about their own citizens' accounts abroad on a non-reciprocal basis, while they build up their capacity to share their own information. After all, a relatively small amount of money is moving from rich countries to poor ones, yet vast sums are moving the other way. It's only sensible to offer developing countries a grace period.

ITC: What main challenges do you see regarding the work of FTC in the near future?

McConnell: One of the biggest challenges is keeping up with the newest ways criminals and their counterparts use secrecy to their advantage. Whether it's aggressive tax planning by a multinational corporation or the advent of a new type of company ownership structure for a criminal that wants to stay anonymous, when one loophole is closed, another gap in the system undoubtedly crops up. We really need to be on top of our game to keep up.

How the financial transparency debate is framed and how new standards are developed and set is another area we need to watch closely. While low-income countries are the ones that suffer the most from illicit financial flows and tax evasion, when it comes to negotiating new global standards, they are either on the periphery or not at the table at all. This is a global problem, and all countries need to have a say in the solution, not just a select group of rich ones.

ITC: What is the current work programme of FTC?

McConnell: There are a number of promising solutions that we are working on right now:

- **Automatic exchange** of financial information between countries, so authorities can cooperate to detect financial irregularities.

- **Transparency of beneficial ownership,** which would require anonymous companies to disclose who's really behind them. Lifting the veil of secrecy over 'letter-box' or shell companies would make it harder to hide money laundering, corruption and all manner of criminal activity.

- **Country by country reporting** of multinational companies' profits, sales and taxes where authorities and the public can see them. This would make it much easier to spot tax evasion and avoidance and discrepancies that might hint at other types of illicit flows.

FINANCIAL TRANSPARENCY COALITION

We've recently expanded our policy tasks to include some new issues:

- Getting governments and companies to follow **open data** standards, because the financial information we want shared with the public needs to be accessible and easy to use.

- Exploring who gets to make the rules, since right now the **institutional architecture** that sets financial standards is not representative and risks leaving developing countries out. As these norms and standards can affect people all over the world, it's only fair that the bodies responsible for them be as equitable as possible.

- And finally, putting the focus on the **enablers** – the bankers, lawyers and accountants who make it possible for money launderers and tax evaders to hide their money from the public. Without these enablers, the criminals moving illicit money would have a much harder time cheating the system.

Fiscal Policy – a Development and Gender Issue

Women and girls continue to be affected disproportionately by inequality – economically, socially and culturally. In spite of what is characterised as 'major strides since 1990', continuing discrimination against women and girls has profound 'negative repercussions for development of their capabilities and their freedom of choice' **(United Nations Gender Inequality Index)**.

Equality is at the core of the **Sustainable Development Goals** (SDGs); they mark a new global endeavour to change the life experiences of millions of women and girls. But the potential for change depends on a seismic shift in political will, institutions, fiscal policy and accountability.

The struggle for gender justice is a struggle for tax justice, and we now have a unique opportunity to understand and share new perspectives on tax justice and human rights. In April this year human rights and tax justice organisations, scholars and activists convened in Lima to explore precisely such new perspectives. UN Special Rapporteur on Extreme Poverty and Human Rights, Philip Alston, explained this succinctly in a special video message: 'At present, the bottom line is that most human rights specialists don't appreciate the centrality of tax and the vast majority of tax specialists have very little idea about how human rights are relevant'. The Lima collaboration holds promise and purpose for broader, more inclusive discussions to support gender equality and engage new stakeholders.

Contributors to the Tax Justice Focus edition on **Gender (May 2015)** assert the need for a new narrative on progressive and gendered taxation, providing a counterpoint to the long practised mantra that fundamental human rights 'are not affordable'. The Gender edition examines

May Day demonstrations, Lima 2015 (photos: John Christensen)

tax and gender from a range of fiscal, political, cultural and sociological perspectives, and collectively they illustrate that gender is much more than a variable in fiscal policy and economic structures. Gender shapes institutions, systems and minds.

Liz Nelson is a director at Tax Justice Network and is developing TJN's programme of work on tax justice and human rights.

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Conferences and Trainings

ATAF Conference on Cross-Border Taxation in Africa Held in Johannesburg, 21 – 22 April 2015

The Council of the African Tax Administration Forum (ATAF) convened the second consultation on Cross Border Taxation in Africa for Heads of African Tax Administrations, bringing together participants from 26 African countries as well as ATAF international partners, representatives of civil society and the business community to discuss a wide range of issues on Cross Border Taxation in Africa, including Africa's participation in the OECD Base Erosion and Profit Shifting (BEPS) process.

Participants emphasised that taxation plays a key role in financing the development needs of Africa, where multinational enterprises (MNEs) share a very significant proportion of the tax base. It was also stressed that the BEPS project should take Africa's needs into account, and that its perspectives must inform the policy decisions on and solutions to cross-border taxation. Africa must protect its own tax base and advance domestic resource mobilisation (DRM) through a common voice and action plan. African losses from trade misinvoicing are more than US$50 billion per year. This is fundamental to building capacity for addressing the issue and undertaking analytical studies to quantify the drivers and impact of tax incentives, which are key elements of revenue loss. Therefore, the scale of BEPS and illicit financial flows is a major concern for the continent. The approval by the ATAF Council of a draft Model African Double Taxation Agreement is regarded as an extremely valuable tool for African Treaty negotiators.

Furthermore, African countries need to ratify and accede to the ATAF Agreement on Mutual Assistance in Tax Matters (AMATM), a multilateral instrument that allows the exchange of information. The African leaders, Ministries of Finance and the African Union are urged to drive the signing of this agreement, and to do more to coordinate and support African initiatives on tax policy and administration. Finally, it was agreed that Africa should play a role in the Financing for Development (FfD) process. The conference welcomed the idea of organising side events at the 3rd International Conference on Financing for Development (FfD) in Addis in July 2015.

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CIAT2015
Lima-Perú
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49th CIAT General Assembly

From 4 to 7 May, Lima, Peru was the venue of the 49th CIAT General Assembly, sponsored by the National Superintendence of Customs and Tax Administration of Peru (SUNAT). The central topic of the event was ‘Risk Management as a tool to improve tax compliance’.

The event was attended by 78 delegations from 5 continents, 32 CIAT member countries, 18 delegations from invited countries, and international organisations and institutions that have cooperation relationships with CIAT.

During four days of fruitful meetings, the participants were able to share experiences and discuss fundamental issues that are crucial when evaluating risk management strategies, such as the need for a fair tax system, the quality of the services that the state provides to taxpayers, the creation of a friendly environment for the taxpayer with a friendly and comprehensible language, as well as clear and precise rules, the analysis of predictive rules for the study of risk, the cross-referencing of information and the importance of technological tools.

All the materials from the 49th CIAT General Assembly are available online: **http://bit.ly/1AyB7kM**

For further information please contact Francisco Beiner: **fbeiner@ciat.org**

Workshop on 'Technology for Better Compliance: Advances in Science and Technology to Support the Tax Administration' Within the Framework of the CIAT-ITC Collaboration Programme

On 8 May in Lima, Peru, a workshop organised jointly by the Inter-American Center of Tax Administrations (CIAT), the World Bank Group and the International Tax Compact (ITC) was held on the topic of 'Technology for better compliance: Advances in science and technology to support the tax administration'.

This event, attended by participants from more than 60 countries and two private sector companies, allowed both public and private sector actors to discuss and share advances in science and technology relevant to tax issues. Special attention was paid to the improvement of compliance with pre-filled returns, as well as to complex analysis and pattern recognition to create models that accurately anticipate taxpayer behaviour.

The event served as a prelude to the CIAT Technology Fair that will be held in Miami in 2016. This fair will allow tax officials to interact directly with product providers and could translate into substantial benefits for their respective administrations.

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IBFD Training for the Kenya National Treasury on International Taxation, Held on 23 – 27 March 2015 in Nakuru, Kenya

The training session in Kenya was a follow-up activity at country level to the 2014 seminar for nine African partner countries organised by the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs (see ITC newsletter Dec. 2014).

The IBFD lecturers delivered a one-week training unit for 25 Kenyan officials. The training was basically divided into two main areas: (1) basic principles of international tax law in relation to domestic law; and (2) tax treaties focusing on current versions of the OECD and the UN Model Conventions. This was a rather unique training event as the Kenyan Treasury had gathered officials from various governmental departments involved in tax treaty negotiations, i.e. the National Treasury, the Kenya Revenue Authority, but also the non-tax departments such as the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, the Kenya Investment Authority and the State Law Office. The training unit provided better understanding of the significance and impact of domestic law and tax treaties, and also better understanding of the viewpoint of each governmental department. This broad setting also served to foster team-building among Kenyan officials and it allowed the participants to meet at a personal level to share views from their respective institutions. This could certainly promote joint future work on international tax matters.

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ATAF Conference on VAT in Africa: Designing and Implementing Effective VAT Systems in a Globalised Economy

Members of the African Tax Administration Forum (ATAF), the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and a delegation of senior representatives of the global business community met 2015 in Accra, Ghana, from 13 – 15 May for an interactive seminar on the design and operation of effective VAT systems in Africa. This event was hosted by the Ghana Revenue Authority.

The meeting focused primarily on the practical implementation of the International VAT/GST Guidelines, which the OECD is developing with partner countries as a set of international standards to reduce risks of non-

taxation and of double taxation. This phenomenon becomes a reality where there is uncoordinated application of domestic VAT systems. With an increasing number of African countries redesigning VAT systems or introducing the tax for the first time, this interaction was both crucial and necessary.

ATAF members belonging to the Working Group on Indirect Taxes, including Ghana (as Chair of the Group), South Africa and Uganda, used the opportunity to share country experiences of the neutrality principle and the destination principle for business-to-business (B2B) and business-to-consumer (B2C) trade.

These Guidelines set out the core design features of VAT systems and present standards concerning VAT neutrality, the allocation of taxing rights over cross-border trade flows, and international cooperation between tax administrations in the area of VAT. Earlier drafts of these Guidelines had been discussed at meetings of the OECD Global Forum on VAT in 2012 and 2014, to which ATAF and its member countries contributed actively.

The intensive discussions in Accra showed solid general support for these Guidelines as a set of robust standards that have great potential for enhancing the efficiency and revenue raising capacity of African VAT systems. Participants expressed a strong desire for more detailed guidance, training and technical assistance to support the effective and consistent implementation of these Guidelines. One option could be to develop a set of model legal provisions at the level of ATAF to support swift and coherent implementation of the international standards embodied in the Guidelines by ATAF member countries. This idea was generally welcomed by participants.

Participants at the event in Accra expressed their great appreciation for the genuinely inclusive spirit of the debate with the involvement of all stakeholders, and for the unique opportunity to obtain a better understanding of technical issues and approaches adopted by a wide variety of VAT systems, to share experience and 'know-how' with colleagues and fellow experts, and to network. The ATAF Secretariat will be launching a new VAT project to address board concerns raised by member countries. The announcement will be made later this year.

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CRAFT Participants Elaborate Joint Agenda for Fair Tax Research and Advocacy at Strategy Meeting in Bangladesh

From 10 to 12 March 2015 the 8th Capacity for Research and Advocacy for Fair Taxation (CRAFT) Strategy Meeting took place in Dhaka, Bangladesh. Participants from 11 different CRAFT countries gathered to exchange experience on fair taxation, strengthen the CRAFT alliance and work together on a common research framework for fair tax research and advocacy. The meeting was hosted by the Bangladesh CRAFT partner SUPRO and organised in collaboration with Tax Justice Network-Africa and Oxfam. The three-day event had both an internal and an external focus. On the first day an open conference was organised with government representatives, INGOs and CSOs, while the other two days were devoted to closed sessions for internal stakeholders.

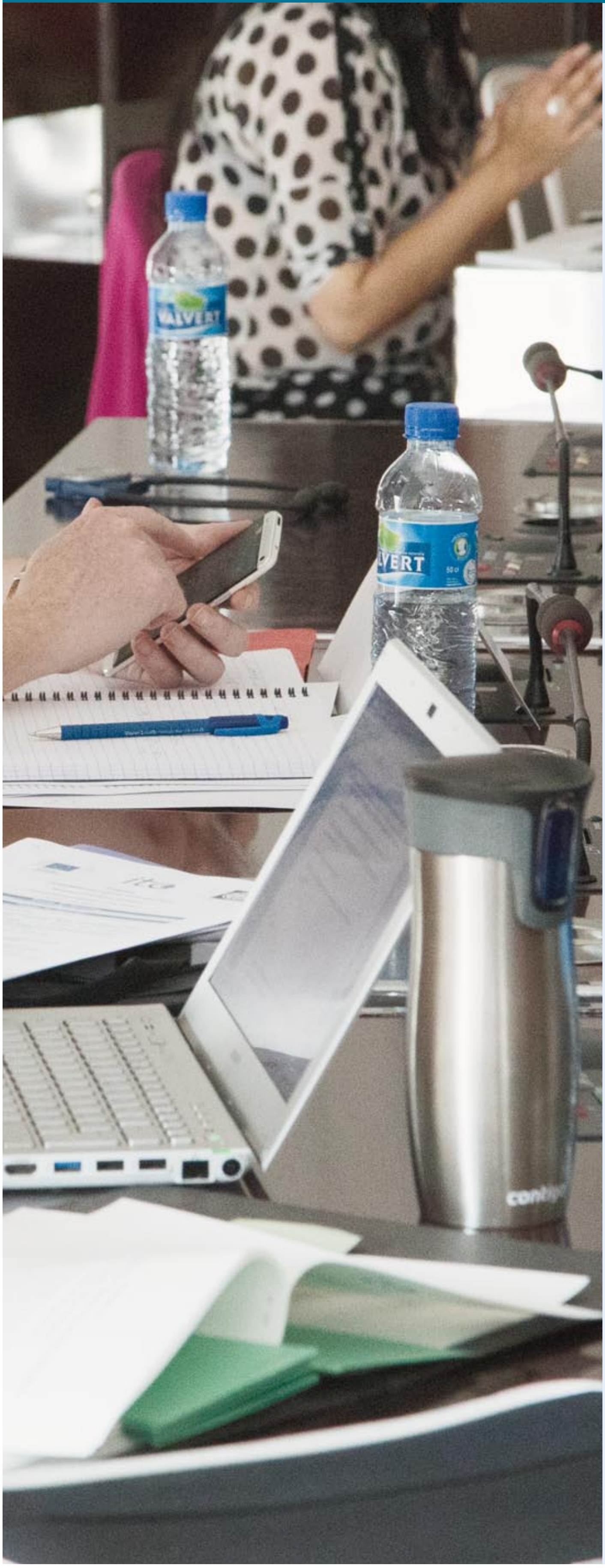
During the open conference two main topics were on the agenda, Tax Incentives and Exemptions and Financing for Development, which were discussed during two panel discussions with active participation from the audience. There were reports on the meeting in a number of Bangladesh newspapers, highlighting the link between tax justice, pro-poor policies and poverty reduction.

During the final two days, the CRAFT stakeholders took stock of the main achievements and constraints regarding fair taxation at country level and discussed steps for the future. Highlights of the meeting included a capacity building session on quantitative data analysis, joint work on the CRAFT common research framework for country level tax research, and brainstorm sessions on the advocacy strategy. The results of these sessions will feed into further project developments in the course of 2015.

The CRAFT project has been developed through collaboration between Oxfam, Tax Justice Network-Africa and other country-based partners in Uganda, Mali, Senegal, Nigeria, Ghana, Egypt and Bangladesh with a view to achieving accountable, fair and pro-poor tax systems.

Since the start of the project in 2012, CRAFT has been supported by the ITC, the EU and the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

For further information please visit **www.maketaxfair.net** or contact Ilse Balstra: **ilse.balstra@oxfamnovib.nl**

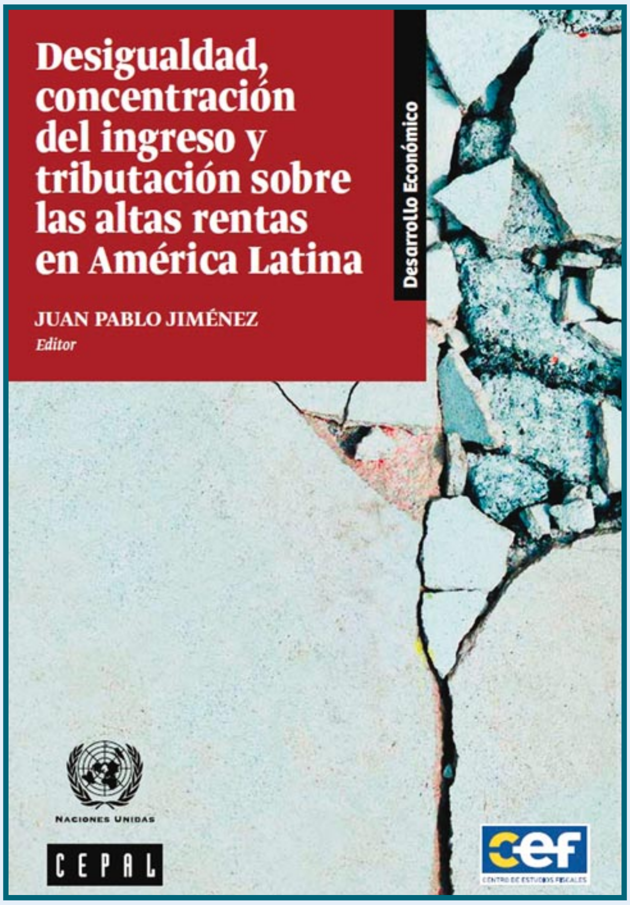


IMF Releases Policy Paper on Tax Compliance

Noncompliance with tax obligations raises profound challenges, not only for government revenues, but also for fairness and wider trust in the tax system, and is receiving increased attention from policy makers. An FAD paper on 'Current Challenges in Revenue Mobilization — Improving Tax Compliance' examines the impact of the crisis on tax compliance (and the lessons learned), what is known about the drivers of compliance, and ways that revenue administrations can strengthen such drivers. It also sets out a broad strategy for improving compliance, by regularly measuring and monitoring compliance trends, better understanding noncompliance and its underlying causes, and strengthening institutional management of revenue administrations. The paper also highlights some new tools (RA-FIT, RA-GAP and TADAT) that the Fund has been spearheading, in collaboration with development partners, to support the improvement of tax compliance.

Find the full text online at **http://bit.ly/1HRvd0j**

For further information please contact Katherine Baer: **KBaer@imf.org**



Latin American Countries Must Take Advantage of the Tax Data to Better Map Inequality

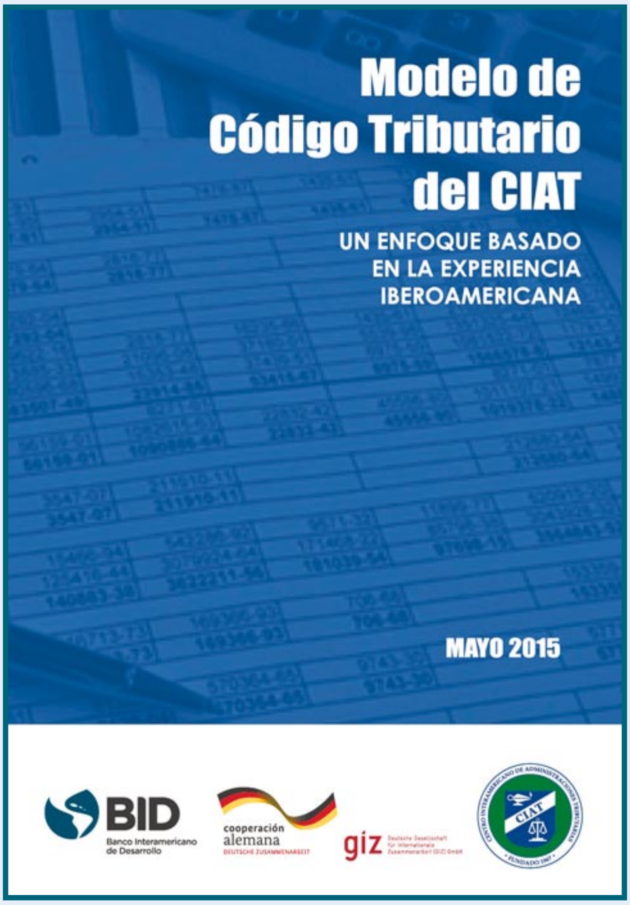
In the past years, discussion on the social and economic impact of inequality has increased globally. In Latin America this discussion has been permanently on the social agenda because of the high levels of inequality and high concentration of income.

Demand on the social side has focused mainly on calling for a better and more progressive tax system in which those families and individuals who have greater ability to contribute (in terms of wealth and income) should pay a higher proportion of taxes. This makes it possible to acquire more fiscal resources for public goods and public services and then to improve the distributional impact of fiscal policy. However, wealth and income inequality may have been underestimated in Latin America. According to the new ECLAC publication, this is in part because the evidence comes from household surveys. The new book, 'Inequality, income concentration and taxation on high income in Latin America', edited by Juan Pablo Jimenez, proposes greater use of tax bases in order to achieve a more realistic view of this public problem, making it possible to select and implement the most appropriate instruments for mitigation.

The book is organised in three chapters. The first chapter presents a current panorama of inequality and its evolution and significance in tax policy. It focuses on progressive taxes which pertain to the sectors with greater contributory capacity. The second chapter analyses the evolution of income taxes and connections to variation in both the tax burden and the tax rates recorded. Finally, chapter three show an example of tax data utilisation in Uruguay. Looking at the share of the richest 1% in total income, it was found that when measured by tax data, this proportion increases by about 3 percentage points compared with measurements based on household surveys.

This work is an important contribution for those interested in taxes and distributional issues.

The complete book can be downloaded from:
http://bit.ly/1IGvW3f
For further information please visit:
www.cepal.org
or contact Juan Pablo Jiménez:
juanpablo.jimenez@cepal.org



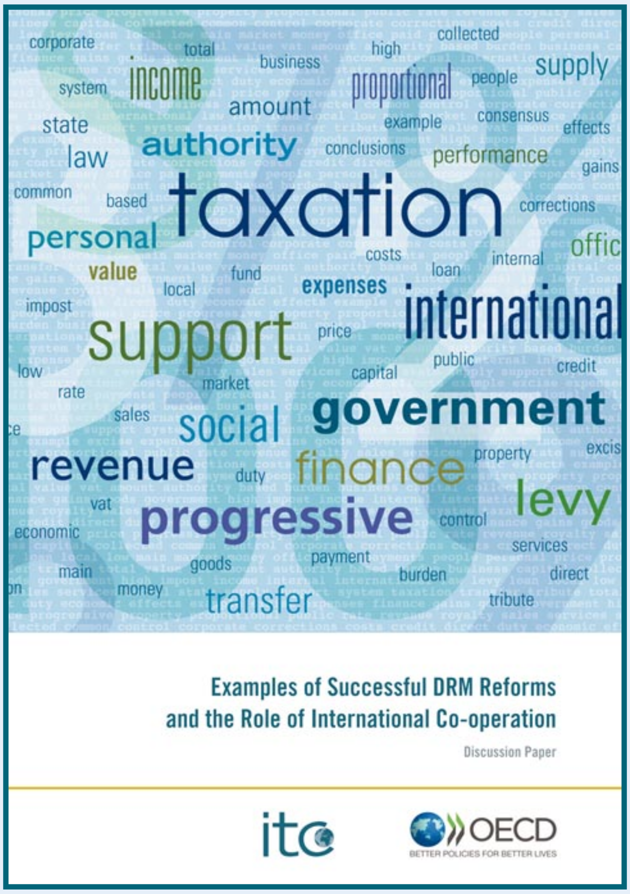
2015 Update of CIAT Tax Procedures Code Model

Well into the 21st century, no one in Ibero-America denies the advantages of codifying and systematising tax procedural regulations, namely lending greater stability and clarity to the tax system, giving legal certainty and legitimate trust to taxpayers, and, of course, ensuring the effectiveness of the Tax Administration System (Revenue Authorities, both national and sub-national, Treasuries, Administrative Tribunals and Judicial Courts). In that sense, a Tax Procedures Code Model is a useful tool in guiding the efforts to regulate tax legal relationships. The first version of the CIAT Tax Procedures Code Model (hereinafter referred to as 'the Model') was published in 1997 and resulted from the conviction that to implement tax reforms properly, it is necessary to ensure the effectiveness of the Tax Administration System. The second version was published in 2006 and its principal objective was to update the Model in light of the new trends in information and communications technology, the globalisation of taxpayers' economic operations, and the need to adopt regulations in the field of tax controversies and dispute resolution not contained in the 1997 version.

The 2015 update of the Model has sought to achieve a better balance between the stakeholders of the tax legal relationship by introducing greater protection of taxpayer rights. A thorough review of the organisation of the Model was also carried out in order to improve the didactic effectiveness. The most innovative aspect is undoubtedly the increase in the number of comments to each article. Not only have many more examples and extensive explanations been included, but also, in some cases, alternative wording has been proposed for the articles commented on.

The structure of the new Model is similar to the one published in 2006. It consists of five major titles: i) Title I contains rules relating to the scope of application, the general tax principles and definitions of general applicability; ii) Title II governs the substantive content of the tax legal relationship among the parties; iii) Title III contains the regulation of the tax procedures and mutual administrative assistance in tax matters; iv) Title IV deals with rules regarding non-compliance and penalties, and v) Title V regulates the procedures of tax controversies and dispute resolution. The Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) and the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) sponsored the publication of the Model. The 2015 CIAT Tax Procedures Code Model was formally presented at the 49th CIAT General Assembly held in Lima, Peru, on 4-7 May.

Find the full document online at: **http://bit.ly/1BqE7KG**
For further information please contact Miguel Pecho: **MPecho@ciat.org**



ITC/OECD Discussion Paper on ‘Examples of Successful DRM Reforms and the Role of International Cooperation’ to be Released in July

Over the past decade, the mobilisation of domestic resources by reforming revenue policy and administration in partner countries has become a key part of the international efforts to provide sufficient resources for financing development goals. Despite this increasing engagement of the international community, there has been no comprehensive compilation of successful tax reform programmes and associated support by international assistance providers from a developing country perspective.

The discussion paper provides evidence of and lessons learned from successful international support for taxation reform in developing countries from a partner country perspective. It analyses and synthesises government actions to reform their tax systems, assesses the reform outcomes and identifies where and how international organisations and bilateral donors have supported these efforts.

The discussion paper presents seven case studies covering countries in Asia, Central Asia, Europe, Latin America and sub-Saharan Africa. These case studies review the reforms that the countries have implemented, the results of these reforms, and the international cooperation that helped achieve the reforms. These seven case studies, coupled with other expert knowledge, yield a number of conclusions and lessons learned.

The main conclusion of this discussion paper is that there is clear support for the idea that international cooperation can be very helpful in bringing about reform, and that reform can have important developmental results. The final chapter of this report lays out the full range of lessons learned in more detail.

The full discussion paper is available for download at **http://bit.ly/1LuoWce**

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Upcoming Events

Joint Conference by the World Bank Group and Vienna University on International Tax and Transfer Pricing Issues

Between 6 and 9 July a conference jointly organised by the World Bank Group and the Vienna University of Economics and Business (WU) Institute for Austrian and International Tax Law will be held at the WU Campus in Vienna, Austria.

This joint conference will be organised under the auspices of the World Bank's peer learning platform TAXGIP (Tax Administrations exchange for Global Innovative Practices). The primary aim of the conference is to build capacities of East European and Central Asian (ECA) countries' tax administrators in International Tax and Transfer Pricing issues, focusing particularly on performing good and sound audits.

Day 1 will be devoted to high-level policy discussion on key international tax issues, and days 2 and 3 will take the form of a Transfer Pricing Deep Dive. These Transfer Pricing sessions will cover several emerging challenges faced by the region's tax policymakers and administrations, such as the application of TP methods, Transfer Pricing Compliance and Management of Transfer Pricing Audits, Intra-group Services, Financing, Intangibles and Business Restructurings, and Transfer Pricing issues in specific sectors (extractive industries, digital economy).

The conference will be attended by 24 countries and 65 participants from all over the region, including Croatia, Kazakhstan, Poland, Russia and Turkey.

Key speakers will include Mr Ilya Trunin, Head of Tax and Customs Policy, Ministry of Finance, Russia, and Mr Daulet Yerghozhin, Chairman, State Revenue Committee, Kazakhstan.

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Side Event on International Support to Domestic Resource Mobilisation on 15 July in Addis Ababa

In the course of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, the ITC along with Ethiopia, European Commission, Germany, Netherlands, OECD, United Kingdom and United States will organise a side event on International Support to Domestic Resource Mobilisation (DRM).

DRM will be a key part of the international efforts to provide sufficient resources for financing the Sustainable Development Goals. During the side event, high-level representatives from developing and donor countries will discuss how the international community can engage successfully in DRM reforms and how the increased political commitment for more and better reforms and development assistance to DRM can be translated into action in a timely and efficient manner.

Representatives from developing countries will present positive examples of jointly implemented DRM reforms. Afterwards the Addis Tax Initiative will be launched.

For further information please contact Heidi Wagner: **Heidi.Wagner@taxcompact.net**

Official Logo of the Financing for Development Conference

Conference on Local Financing in Iberoamerica to be Held in Santiago, Chile

On 1 to 2 September this year, the fourth Ibero-american Conference on Local Financing (IV Jornadas Iberoamericanas de Financiación Local) will be held at the headquarters of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) in Santiago, Chile. It is being organised by the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), the Public Affairs Institute of University of Chile, ECLAC and Urban Public Economic Review. The conference is a continuation of a conference series held in Toledo, Spain (2011), La Plata, Argentina (2013) and Sao Paulo, Brazil (2014).

The topics of this conference will be fiscal decentralisation, sub-national expenditure, intergovernmental reforms, territorial inequalities and the provision of public goods in urban agglomerations in Iberoamerica.

The Academic Committee is composed of Luis Caramés (Santiago de Compostela University), Vicente Fretes Ciblis (IDB), Juan Pablo Jiménez (ECLAC), Marcelo Garriga (La Plata National University), Leonardo Letelier (University of Chile), José Roberto Afonso (Getúlio Vargas Foundation and Fernando Henrique Cardoso Institute), Javier Suarez Pandiello (Oviedo University), Ernesto Rezk (Córdoba National University) and Ignacio Irarrázabal (Catholic University of Chile).

For further information about the Conference please visit:
http://bit.ly/1QfaxhW
or contact Nancy Rivas:
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international tax compact:
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for strengthening
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