

TAX INSPECTORS WITHOUT BORDERS

Welcome to our new Tax Inspectors Without Borders (TIWB) website which reflects a new corporate identity reflecting our vision of expansion of tax knowledge and expertise for tax administrations worldwide. The new website is geared towards enhancing our capacity to engage with our stakeholders and partners on this exciting journey.

Following agreement by the global community in September 2015 of 17 universal and transformative **Sustainable Development Goals** and targets set under the **Addis Ababa Action Agenda**, there are now comprehensive and far-reaching goals on support to developing countries on domestic resource mobilization. The targets include substantially reducing illicit financial flows by 2030, with a view to eventually eliminating them, including by combating tax evasion and corruption through strengthened national regulation and increased international cooperation.

The TIWB is a programme focused on providing support to developing countries in this regard mainly by working with tax administrations to facilitating improvements in the quality and consistency of tax audits and related practices, providing greater certainty for taxpayers and encouraging a culture of compliance through more effective enforcement.

Launched in June 2015 during the Addis Ababa UN Financing For Development Conference as a joint initiative of OECD and UNDP, the **TIWB Programme** has continued to scale new heights as a global initiative with resounding results. Both the **UNDP** and **OECD** have committed through their joint partnership to deliver the **TIWB Programme** to strengthen international co-operation to support efforts to build tax audit capacity in developing country tax administrations in support of domestic resource mobilization.

The **TIWB Programme** experts will help to even the playing field and help requesting developing countries strengthen their ability to challenge complex evasion and avoidance schemes and improve overall tax compliance in international tax. With the launch of our **Governing Board** in April 2015, the Secretariat has set an ambitious goal to facilitate at least 100 experts deployments all over the world between 2016 and 2019. It is not intended to act as a substitution of local tax audit staff or to carry out audit work where no local audit personnel would otherwise exist. Rather, the role of TIWB is to facilitate the provision of experts who must balance 'getting the job done' with the development of capacity in the local administration.

The OECD/UNDP jointly run Secretariat is committed to strengthening global partnership and both North-South and South-South co-operation. Our ultimate goal is to support the achievement of the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals which spell better lives for all people.

We thank you for your interest and welcome your support for the TIWB Programme.

James KARANJA
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