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**Fiscal Reform and Economic Governance**

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**Program Description for the  
USAID Training Workshop:  
Fiscal Policy and Management**

**April 2 – April 6, 2007**

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**Fiscal Reform and Economic Governance  
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### **Fiscal Policy and Management (April 2 – April 6, 2007)**

As an integral part of USAID's Fiscal Reform and Economic Governance Project, the Andrew Young School of Policy Study at Georgia State University will develop and deliver a week-long training program on **Fiscal Policy and Management**. The program will be held on the campus of Georgia State University in Atlanta, Georgia.

The course, which deals with the different aspects of fiscal policy and management and their implications for fiscal reform activities in developing and transitional economies, is being offered from April 2 – April 6, 2007. The course is designed for USAID practitioners and host-country policy planners and does not require a formal background in economics or public finance.

The week-long course is geared toward the needs of policy planners and USAID managers in field missions and Washington who have responsibility for technical assistance projects or capacity building projects with implications in the area of fiscal policy. Fiscal policy reform projects are generally located within economic growth or democracy and governance offices, and could include support for public expenditure management reform, tax reform, decentralization and local government reform.

The purpose of the Fiscal Policy and Management course is to refresh and deepen participants' technical and critical understanding of fiscal policy issues. The course reviews key principles, concepts and best practices in fiscal policy and management and explores the implications of public finance and public administration on the reform of fiscal policies in developing and transition countries.

This topic-driven course will consist of lectures, seminars, and roundtable discussions. Topics covered by the course include:

- The economic roles of the public sector;
- Budget policies and public expenditure management;
- Tax policy design and tax administration issues;
- Decentralization and local government finance issues;
- Public Procurement, e-government, and economic governance; and
- Building fiscal infrastructure in post-conflict countries.



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### Additional Course Information

#### USAID's Fiscal Reform Project II

In September 2006 USAID initiated the Fiscal Reform and Economic Governance (known as Fiscal Reform II) Task Order under SEGIR Macro II IQC. Fiscal Reform II is lead by prime contractor, Development Alternatives, Inc., in collaboration with Georgia State University, Louis Berger Group, and the Center for Global Development.

Fiscal Reform II is a technical leadership project working with USAID's Office of Economic Growth (EGAT) to support rapid, sustainable and equitable economic growth in USAID-assisted countries by enabling USAID to better address fiscal and other selected governance issues that arise in developing and transitional countries. This includes, among other things: 1) the identification of best practices and development of toolkits and guidelines; 2) seminars, workshops, and training sessions; 3) field support to analyze the situation, diagnose the problems, and help initiate the resolution process; and 4) quick response field support for bridging or short-term implementation efforts to strengthen local capacity for fiscal management and economic governance. Collectively these activities will strengthen USAID's understanding of the issues and potential solutions and facilitate access by missions and bureaus to the economic governance expertise and training resources needed.

Additional information about the Fiscal Reform Project can be found online at: [www.fiscalreform.net](http://www.fiscalreform.net).

#### Participant Background

The training program *Fiscal Policy and Management* has been designed to be useful for project officers, program managers and practitioners who are planning and implementing fiscal programs in developing and transitional countries. However, participants are not required to have previous experience in economics, budgeting or public administration.



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### Program Dates, Location, Lodging Fees, and Funding

The one-week training course Fiscal Policy and Management will be held from April 2- April 6, 2007, on the campus of Georgia State University in downtown Atlanta. While all training-related costs -- including instruction, course materials, local transportation and social events -- are covered by USAID Washington and the University, the participants' sponsoring USAID mission or office is obliged to cover the costs of airfare to Atlanta, lodging, meals, or other incidental expenses.

Based on our past experience, we recommend all our training participants to stay at the Marriott Residence Inn Downtown, which is conveniently located (a 3 minute walk to the Andrew Young School Building) and provides a special rate for our workshop participants at \$109/day. This is a flat rate regardless of whether you get a double or single room, and is well below the maximum GSA lodging rate for Atlanta.

A preliminary block of rooms has been reserved at the hotel. After registration with USAID in Washington, participants planning to stay at the Marriot Residence Inn Downtown should send Shereen Bhan a confirmation email ([sbhan@gsu.edu](mailto:sbhan@gsu.edu)) by **March 7<sup>th</sup>** to allow her to complete your room reservation at the special rate. On March 7<sup>th</sup>, all rooms for which we have not received a confirmation will be released. Additional orientation materials will be emailed to all participants.

### Training Instructors

The training sessions are taught by senior Andrew Young School faculty members and other policy experts with extensive experience in real-world policy reform, technical assistance and training around the world. Program instructors include Professor James Alm, Professor Roy Bahl, Professor Jorge Martinez-Vazquez, Professor Mark Rider and Dr. Andrey Timofeev. These faculty members and other participating instructors have real-world policy experience in over forty developing and transition countries around the world.



**Fiscal Reform and Economic Governance**

**USAID/EGAT TRAINING ON  
FISCAL POLICY AND MANAGEMENT**

**Program Schedule\***

Date	Morning Session (09:00 – 12:00)	Afternoon Session (13:00 - 16:00)
Monday, Apr 2	<b>Session 1</b> <b>Principles of Fiscal Policy</b> (Roy Bahl, GSU)	<b>Session 2</b> <b>An Overview of Tax Policy – Concepts and Practices</b> (Jorge Martinez-Vazquez, GSU)
Tuesday, Apr 3	<b>Session 3</b> <b>Budget Planning and Expenditure Management</b> (George Guess)	<b>Session 4</b> <b>Public Expenditures and Poverty Reduction</b> (Andrey Timofeev, GSU)  <b>Fiscal Incidence Analysis</b> (Mark Rider, GSU)
Wednesday, Apr 4	<b>Session 5</b> <b>An Overview of Fiscal Decentralization Reform</b> (Roy Bahl, GSU)	<b>Session 6</b> <b>Tax and Customs Administration in a Developing Country</b> (Mark Gallagher, DAI/Fiscal Reform Project)
Thursday, Apr 5	<b>Session 7</b> <b>Taxpayer Education, Services &amp; Compliance</b> (TBD and James Alm)	<b>Session 8</b> <b>Building Fiscal Management in Post-Conflict Countries</b> (William Fox, Univ. of Tennessee)
Friday, Apr 6	<b>Session 9</b> <b>Procurement Reform</b> (Jose Luis Syquia)  <b>IT, E-Govt issues affecting Public Financial Management</b> (Malcolm Lane)	<b>Session 10</b> <b>The Reform of Intergovernmental Fiscal Systems</b> (Jorge Martinez-Vazquez, GSU)

*\*Projected as of January 2007.*



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### **Thematic discussion sessions**

In addition to the regularly scheduled course sessions, a number of thematic group sessions will be scheduled that will allow participants to discuss specific fiscal policy reform issues with program instructors and fellow participants in the context of smaller groups. Participation for these thematic group sessions is strictly optional, although participants are encouraged to attend the group session most closely associated with their main policy interests.

### **Reception at the home of Professor Martinez-Vazquez**

Participants to the *USAID Fiscal Policy Reform* training program are cordially invited to a reception at the home of Professor Jorge Martinez-Vazquez, Director of the International Studies Program at the Andrew Young School of Policy Studies. The reception date and time will be announced. Transportation to and from Professor Martinez's house will be provided. Casual attire is suggested.



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### **The Andrew Young School of Policy Studies**

The Andrew Young School of Policy Studies at Georgia State University is recognized worldwide for its contributions to economic and policy reforms through technical assistance and training in developing and transition economies. This reputation has been built serving a diverse client base, including multilateral development organizations such as the US Agency for International Development, the World Bank, the United Nations, foreign governments, legislative bodies and private sector institutions.

The Andrew Young School of Policy Studies was established at Georgia State University with the objective of promoting excellence in the design, implementation, and evaluation of public policy. The mission of the International Studies Program is to provide academic and technical training, research and technical assistance in support of sound public policy and sustainable economic growth in transition and developing economies. The International Studies Program specializes in the provision of technical assistance and training in the areas of fiscal policy, budgeting and fiscal management, intergovernmental fiscal relations (fiscal decentralization) as well as economic and fiscal policy analysis in developing and transition economies.

The success of the International Studies Program reflects the breadth and depth of the technical expertise that the International Studies Program can draw upon. The Andrew Young School's faculty are leading experts in economics and public policy and have authored books, published in major academic and technical journals, and have extensive experience in designing and implementing technical assistance and training programs. As a result, the technical assistance efforts and training programs offered by the International Studies Program uniquely complement the academic research and the educational mission of the Andrew Young School.



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### The Andrew Young School Building

Since July 2004, the Andrew Young School of Policy Studies is housed in its own building at 14 Marietta Street. At this prime location, the Andrew Young School overlooks Woodruff Park and the Five Points intersection that defines the very heart of downtown Atlanta. The School is located within minutes from Underground Atlanta, CNN Center, Centennial Olympic Park, the Five Points MARTA Station, and the Marriott Residence Inn Downtown.



The offices of the International Studies Program –along with the Economics Department- are located on the 5th floor of the Andrew Young School Building.

The Andrew Young School’s Seminar Room –where most training activities take place- is located on the 7th floor of the building. The Seminar Room was specifically designed for workshops, seminars and training activities organized by the International Studies Program and the School’s other research centers.

In addition to the Seminar Room itself, two computer labs on the 7th floor are available to training program participants during business hours, providing participants with internet access and printer access.



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### Fiscal Policy Summer Training Courses

In addition to customized training courses such as *Fiscal Policy and Management*, each summer the Andrew Young School of Policy Studies offers a series of fee-based annual professional development courses in the field of public policy. The training courses are designed for government officials and policy makers from developing and transition countries as well as their counterparts with international donor agencies. This year's program consists of four courses:

- ***Macroeconomic Policies for Sustainable Development***  
(June 25 - July 6, 2007)
- ***Fiscal Decentralization and Local Governance***  
(July 9 - July 27, 2007)
- ***Tax Policy, Fiscal Analysis and Revenue Forecasting***  
(July 30 - August 10, 2007)
- ***Education Policy and Development***  
(July 30 - August 10, 2007)
- ***Public Budgeting and Fiscal Management***  
(August 13 – August 24, 2007)

In previous years, our training programs have attracted participants from countries around the world, including officials from Albania, the Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, China, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Guinea, Jamaica, Kenya, Macedonia, Malawi, Nepal, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Palestine, Serbia and Montenegro, South Africa, Tanzania, Thailand, Uganda, Ukraine, Venezuela, Vietnam and Zambia. Previous participants further included officials from USAID, DFID (United Kingdom), the Swiss Agency for Development Cooperation, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the UN Capital Development Fund (UNCDF), and the World Bank.



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### Andrew Young Faculty & Policy Experts

Course sessions will be led by a panel of distinguished faculty from the Andrew Young School with worldwide experience, supported by a number of senior policy experts and practitioners.

**James Alm** is the Chair of the Department of Economics at the Andrew Young School of Policy Studies at Georgia State University. He teaches and conducts research in the area of Public Economics, or the study of government taxation and expenditures. Much of his research has examined the responses of individuals and firms to taxation, in such areas as tax reform, the tax treatment of the family, the line item veto, social security, housing, indexation, tax and expenditure limitations, and, especially, tax compliance. He has also worked extensively on fiscal reforms overseas, including projects in Bangladesh, Indonesia, Jamaica, Turkey, Egypt, Hungary, China, Nigeria, the Philippines, and the Russian Federation. Professor Alm has been a member of Advisory Committees to the Governor and the General Assembly of the State of Colorado on health care and tax reform issues. He is currently the Editor of *Public Finance Review*, on the editorial boards of *Economic Inquiry* and the *Review of Economics of the Household* and on the Advisory Board of the National Tax Association.

**Roy Bahl** is Professor of Economics and Dean of the School of Policy Studies (Georgia State University). Dr. Bahl is internationally known in the field of public finance and fiscal policy and has served widely as a consultant to developing and transition economy countries for the IMF, World Bank, Asian Development Bank, and various other organizations and governments. In addition to several years as a senior staff economist for the IMF and World Bank, he directed the USAID funded Jamaican & Guatemala Tax Reforms and has held numerous positions as chief-of-party for development projects in several regions of the world. He has published numerous books, including *Urban Public Finance in Developing Countries* (w/ J. Linn), 1992, Oxford University Press. In 1991, he was invited to be a special adviser on local government finance issues to the People's Republic of China Finance Ministry, a position that he still holds.



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**William F. Fox** is the William B. Stokely Distinguished Professor of Business and the Director of the Center for Business and Economic Research at the University of Tennessee. He is a past President and recipient of the Steven D. Gold Award from the National Tax Association and former Chairman of the Economics Department at the University of Tennessee. He has held visiting appointments as Professor at the University of Hawaii, scholar at the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City, and Distinguished Fulbright Chair at the University of Frankfurt, Germany. Dr. Fox has served as a consultant in more than 10 U.S. states and approximately 25 countries and on a wide range of public policy issues. For instance, he has worked as a public finance specialist in: Bosnia and Herzegovina, Colombia, Croatia, Egypt, Hungary, Jordan, Kosovo, Kyrgyzstan, Palestine, Philippines, Rwanda, Slovakia, Sudan, Russia and others. He has published extensively in academic and nonacademic journals and is a frequent speaker to business, government, and academic audiences around the world.

**Mark Gallagher** is Chief of Party of the USAID-funded Fiscal Reform II Project, and is a seasoned economist with wide experience working with donor agencies and counterpart governments. His expertise ranges from tax policy and tax administration, to budget and public expenditure management, to macro-fiscal analysis and planning. As the first Chief of Party of USAID's Fiscal Reform I, he worked closely with USAID's Office of Economic Growth to develop a high-quality technical leadership activity in all areas of fiscal reform. Dr. Gallagher has evaluated, designed, and managed fiscal reform projects in a variety of countries, including: Liberia, Egypt, El Salvador, Bosnia, Tanzania, and Guatemala. He is fluent in Spanish and German, and has published books, monographs, journal articles and consulting reports and models in public finance and economics. He holds a Ph.D. in economics and has taught several university-level courses in the United States and abroad. His latest research is on the impact of the fuel exports on economic instability, and he is presently preparing a paper on tools to mitigate the "resource curse."

**George Guess** is Director of Research for the Local Government and Public Services Reform Initiative at the Open Society Institute based in Budapest, Hungary. George recently served as the head of the budget/finance team for the USAID-financed local government project based in Bucharest, Romania. For the past eleven years, he was also a staff member for Development Alternatives, Inc (DAI) in Bethesda, Maryland. In this capacity, he wrote contract proposals for public budgeting, decentralization, and local government development projects to most of the major donors. He provided technical assistance and training in the areas of public sector financial management and fiscal decentralization for



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projects funded by: Asian Development Bank, World Bank, British DFID and USAID. This work was performed in countries such as: Ecuador, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, Ukraine, Bulgaria, Macedonia and Albania. For two years prior to that, he worked for the Fiscal Affairs Department at IMF and served on public expenditure management missions to countries such as Armenia and Poland. Before entering full-time public sector field work, he was a tenured professor of public administration specializing in public budgeting and finance at the Andrew Young School of Public Policy, Georgia State University in Atlanta. At GSU, he founded and directed the Urban Transportation Research Center. He holds a Master of Public Administration from University of Southern California and has a Ph.D. in Political Science from University of California, Riverside.

**Malcolm G. Lane** is Professor and Head of the Department of Computer Science at James Madison University since 2000. Dr. Lane has over 20 years of experience in international information and communications technology projects with state and federal governments around the world. He is a specialist in the application of computer technology to tax and fiscal administration and financial systems with experience working in more than 30 countries. As Managing Principal of the IBM Revenue and Fiscal Management Consulting Practice and Managing Director at KPMG Barents Group, he was responsible for the development of solutions for government revenue, accounting, and treasury systems in World Bank and USAID projects around the world and in U.S. state governments. These projects included the Russia Stock Trading, Kazakhstan Treasury, Indonesian Tax, Egyptian General Sales Tax, Republic of China Tax, Kenyan Income Tax, and Guatemalan Income Tax and the U.S. state of California non-filer systems. Dr. Lane served as Professor of Computer Science at West Virginia University and as AT&T Visiting Professor of Telecommunications at the University of Pittsburgh. He was an IT consultant to the Government of Vietnam in 2006 and is currently serving as a World Bank IT consultant. Dr. Lane completed his PhD in mathematics with a research emphasis in computer science at Duke University in 1971.

**Jorge Martinez-Vazquez** is Professor of Economics and Director of the International Studies Program in the School of Policy Studies (Georgia State University). Dr. Martinez enjoys worldwide recognition as a leading expert on fiscal decentralization, tax policy and administration and fiscal management. He is a Member of the Panel of Fiscal Experts of the International Monetary Fund, and frequently consults to the IMF, USAID and World Bank on tax policy, tax administration, fiscal decentralization and structural adjustment loan issues in transitional economies and developing countries. Dr. Martinez has directed,



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managed and served as a senior economist on projects in over 30 countries around the world. He has also developed a number of modeling and microsimulation tools for national and subnational governments, and is the author of numerous articles and books on tax reform, tax administration and intergovernmental finance reform issues.

**Mark Rider** is an Associate Professor of Economics at Georgia State University and a Senior Associate with the International Studies Program. Dr. Rider is a specialist in public finance and applied microeconomics. Dr. Rider worked on revenue forecasting and tax analysis projects for Georgia State University's Russia Fiscal Reform Project and the Sri Lanka Tax Policy Training Program. Before returning to academia, Dr. Rider worked for the U.S. Treasury's Office of Tax Analysis where he was responsible for forecasting current law tax revenues for a number of different taxes and estimating the revenue impact of proposed tax legislation. He has authored a number of scholarly articles on tax evasion and behavioral responses to taxes.

**Jose Luis Syquia** has been a member of the Philippine Bar for 10 years, and is presently a Partner in the Syquia Pascual-Lopez and Santos Law Offices (est. 1954) practicing in corporate law, intellectual property law, contracts and government projects. However, most of his time has been focused on local and international consultancies dealing primarily with public procurement, government policies, legislation and anti-corruption for various government agencies, the World Bank, the European Commission and USAID projects. In 2001, he was tapped to assist in the legislation of the Philippines' public procurement reform law - from advocacy, and he was then designated to be the first Executive Director of the newly-established Government Procurement Policy Board (GPPB) Technical Support Office (TSO) and, at the same time, as the Project Manager of the Philippine Government E-Procurement System. He continues to render his services in the field of public procurement, covering Country Procurement Assessment Reports, the harmonization of procurement rules, standard bidding documents and generic procurement manuals, the development and conduct of training courses, procurement assessments and fiduciary reviews, as well as the development and roll-out of procurement performance indicators at both the national and agency levels. At present, his experience covers the Philippines, Vietnam, Thailand and Lao PDR. He has lectured in public and private trainings and seminars throughout the Philippines and abroad, on behalf of the Philippine Government and upon personal invitation. Joel holds a Master of Laws degree on International and Comparative Law from the University of Pittsburgh, PA, U.S.A.



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**Andrey Timofeev** is a Research Associate with the International Studies Program at the Andrew Young School. In this capacity, he has contributed to numerous reports on intergovernmental fiscal relations, tax policy, budget transparency, and poverty reduction. Dr. Timofeev teaches as part of various training programs focused on fiscal decentralization and intergovernmental transfers, including the Andrew Young School's Fiscal Policy Summer Training Courses and country-specific training courses. Previously, he was engaged as an independent consultant in projects aimed toward promoting budget transparency and citizen oversight of public finances in the transitional economies. From 1999 to 2000, he served as an advisor to Russian regions' governments under the USAID Fiscal Reform Project in the Russian Federation through Georgia State University.