BLACKBIRD FOR TRAINING

IPSAS-Based Budget Preparation, Variance Analysis, and Expenditure Reporting

23 – 27 November 2026
Vienna (Austria)



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Introduction

Public sector budgeting is increasingly aligning with global best practices, especially the International Public Sector Accounting Standards IPSAS. This training course is designed to equip finance professionals with the necessary tools to prepare IPSAS-compliant budgets, perform accurate variance analysis, evaluate financial performance, and generate expenditure reports that support transparency, efficiency, and evidence-based decision-making.

The course is ideal for budget officers, financial controllers, auditors, accountants, planners, and public finance managers aiming to enhance their budgeting and reporting capabilities in line with IPSAS standards.

Course Objectives

By the end of this training, participants will be able to:

- Understand the fundamentals and application of IPSAS in budgeting.
- Prepare comprehensive operating and capital budgets that comply with IPSAS.
- Perform variance analysis and interpret financial deviations effectively.
- Evaluate financial performance using key performance indicators KPIs and benchmarking tools.
- Create and present expenditure reports that support strategic decisions and resource optimization.

Course Outlines

Day 1: Introduction to IPSAS and Budgeting Concepts

- Overview of IPSAS and its relevance to public financial management.
- Types of budgets and core budgeting principles.
- Differences between traditional budgeting and IPSAS-based budgeting.
- The budgeting cycle and its integration with strategic planning.
- Roles and responsibilities in the budget preparation process.

Day 2: Preparing Budgets According to IPSAS

- Budget classification and the chart of accounts under IPSAS.
- Preparing operating and capital budgets.
- Linking performance goals to budget planning.
- Forecasting revenues and expenditures.
- Hands-on exercises and practical examples of IPSAS-compliant budgets.



Day 3: Variance Analysis and Financial Performance Evaluation

- Understanding variance concepts: favorable vs. unfavorable.
- Techniques for variance analysis: cost, volume, and efficiency.
- Interpreting and reporting budget deviations.
- Tools for performance measurement: KPIs, benchmarking, and analysis models.
- Case study: Real-world budget variance analysis.

Day 4: Expenditure Reporting and Financial Controls

- How to structure and develop expenditure reports.
- IPSAS guidelines for financial disclosures and reporting.
- Role of internal controls in financial reporting.
- Using reports to support managerial decision-making.
- Introduction to tools and automated financial reporting software.

Day 5: Enhancing Efficiency and Practical Applications

- Strategies to improve budget execution and operational efficiency.
- Linking budgets to outcomes and service delivery.
- Identifying and overcoming common challenges in IPSAS budgeting.
- Group workshop: Develop a comprehensive IPSAS-based budget and conduct variance analysis.
- Final review, Q&A session, and practical takeaways.

Why Attend this Course: Wins & Losses!

- Acquire in-depth knowledge of IPSAS-based budgeting processes.
- Improve skills in financial analysis, variance reporting, and expenditure tracking.
- Gain confidence in evaluating financial performance using measurable indicators.
- Learn how to link budget planning to performance outcomes.
- Utilize automated tools and best practices to ensure efficient and transparent reporting.

Conclusion

This course provides a practical and comprehensive framework for implementing IPSAS standards in public sector budgeting. Participants will leave with the knowledge, tools, and confidence to develop effective budgets, analyze variances, and produce high-quality expenditure reports.

By integrating theory with real-life case studies and hands-on activities, the course ensures that each participant is ready to make a significant impact in their organization's financial management and reporting processes.

