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## PSIP NEWSLETTER





### templates have been designed to address these issues. **Proposal Template**

Has Evolved!

New proposal templates for FY2015-16 and Template User Manual October 2014 version developed by MFEPD with the support of JICA CEPSIP2 project were distributed to MDAs at PSIP Orientation Workshop and Seminar held in the first week of November 2014. MDAs were given practical training on using the templates with the handbook and the manual as reference document. The majority of participants were satisfied with the design of the new template according to the evaluation form filled by the attendees of the Workshop. While the old version was MS-Word format, the new version of the templates has been developed using Excel format. This change has managed to deal with hurdles that

### 2. Improve Accuracy Automatically!

The templates with Excel format have error signals and make users realize which parts are compulsory fields. Besides, the dropdown lists and list boxes in the template, and automatic calculation function can help to avoid users to mistakenly type the wrong information. This improves accuracy of the information filled in the proposal template.

were being experienced by practitioners that were using the previous format.

#### 1. Time Saving for PSIP Proposal Writing!

While users had to fill in all the data into blank On-going Project Templates in Word format in the past years, what needs to be done with new Excel Template is only to add and/or modify the template data distributed with pre-filled information loaded from PSIP Database. Additionally, once the templates are submitted, the data is automatically uploaded into PSIP database. This change dramatically reduces the working hours of preparing PSIP proposals, as well as updating the database with latest information.

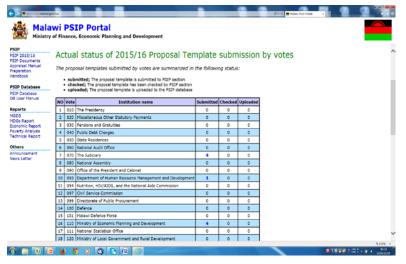
#### 3. Unified Format Helps Improve Quality of Proposal!

With the old version of the template, most of the proposals submitted did not follow requirements and some columns were left blank. With the new excel template, all MDAs were able to fill the template with adequate information.

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- Edward JOSHUA, Chief Economist, Ministry of Finance, Economic Planning and Development
- Yuki KOBAYASHI-SANGALA, Team Leader, JICA CEPSIP2
- Rena MIZUNO, IT Expert / Project Coordinator, JICA CEPSIP2



PSIP Database, which is linked to the Portal Web was upgraded to the new version 1.5.02 as of 8th of December, 2014. The new version basically shows the same design as the Excel Proposal Template Ver.1.5. Registered users are able to find the latest project information on the Web written above (Please note that database registration is necessary to access PSIP Web site).

# Submission Status appears on Website!

Please go to the Malawi PSIP Portal Website

and check your proposal status now!!

http://psip.malawi.gov.mw/

While there are a number of new functions in the PSIP Database Web, what particularly needs to be emphasized is the submission status of project proposals appearing on the top-page. The page would clearly show whether proposal templates are "submitted", "checked", or "uploaded". Users can check the number of proposals that have been submitted

by ministries, and how many proposals are checked and uploaded on the Website by the PSIP Section.

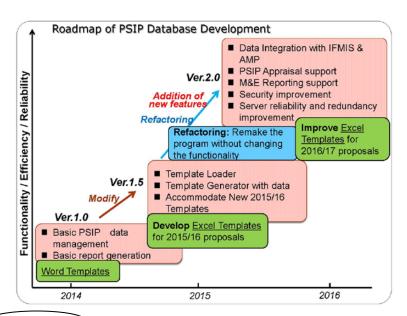
This enables monitoring the status of proposal submission by users, and can contribute to the smooth appraisal and budgeting process.

# What is the Future of PSIP Database?

Database Ver. 2.0.can bridge project information across the Government of Malawi!

The roadmap of PSIP Database development is shown in the figure on the right. With the support of CEPSIP2, redesigning the system program without changing any system functionality has been implemented. The redesigning programme, called refactoring, can accelerate the speed of system development in the future, and make the future development much easier. The refactoring was completed in March 2015, and Ver. 2.0.will be fully released with the new functions listed in the right column in August 2015.

- Data Integration with IFMIS as well as AMP (PSIP-IFMIS interface implementation schedule is not fixed yet. It is highly dependent on the new IFMIS development plan)
- PSIP Appraisal support
- M&E Reporting support
- Security improvement
- Server reliability and redundancy improvement
- Improve Excel Templates for 2016/17 proposals.



I cannot wait till the release of PSIP Database Ver. 2.0!!



### **CONTACT:**

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