The Ministry of Economy and Finance (Haiti)

Information Systems Division (ISD/MEF)
The ISD has made great forward strides in the Public Finance Reform in Haiti.

What are the main achievements that justify these forward strides?
Quick reminder on the context surrounding the creation of the ISD

- The creation of the IT Master Plan (IMP) within the Ministry of Economy and Finance in 2013
- The following were some IMP Recommendations
  - Transform the IT Unit of the MEF into the Information Systems Division (ISD)
  - Broaden the Framework of its competences
  - Facilitate the creation of a pool of IT Resources of the entire MEF
- The ISD therefore was born with the mission to act on 3 major priority areas:
  - In the area of Exploitation:
    - Restructure the MEF IT Network (MAN / WAN)
  - In the area of development
    - Create an Integrated Software for the Management of State Financial Resources; ISPFM or IFMIS
  - In the area of Computer Network Security
    - Implement the Recommendations of the ISSP
The MAN / WAN Network

The MEF metropolitan network links four DATA-CENTERS including:

One at the local NOC of the ISD;
One at the General Directorate of Taxes (GDT);
One at the General Administration of Customs (GAC);
One at the Haitian Institute of Statistics and Informatics (HISI).

The DATA-CENTER located at the NOC of the ISD is equipped with 35 servers, and hosts the busiest information systems across the network.
Communication that channels through the WAN network serves basically two types of application:

Data flow of business applications;

the transfer of inter-site files. (Internet traffic is not affected by the WAN network)

VOIP (Voice over IP).

Hence, there was need for:

An increase in the bandwidth to improve the quality of the link between the different sites.

A reinforcement of the Technical Team that will be able to Work on the Network

An enhancement of the Data Centre’s Performance (Installing a Virtualization System, a Backup Solution and a Monitoring Solution)
MAN / WAN Network Alternative

Since the MAN / WAN network consists essentially of a Radio link with all the risk of Interference and weather disturbance, it was necessary to think of a more reliable and robust infrastructure to facilitate the interconnection of information systems.

As a result, the Haitian Government was able to negotiate and secure a contract with NATCOM for the concession of 2 Optic Fiber lines to establish the Intranet of the Government. Through a Memorandum of Understanding with PWTC, signatories of the Contract, MEF intends to launch the implementation of this network as part of its ISPFM and ISHRM projects.
Priority No. 2 Systems Development

Creation of the Integrated Public Finance Management System, ISPFM / IFMS

OBJECTIVES OF IFMIS

• To manage Haitian public resources in a modern, efficient and effective manner;
• To protect and secure all financial and budgetary data from all Haitian public administration;
• To provide Haiti with an indispensable tool to attain emergence by 2030;
• To make Haiti a model country to emulate in the area of public financial management;
• Etc.
Prerequisites for the implementation of the ISPFM

Through the ISD, MEF launched a set of initiatives in preparation for the introduction of the Integrated Public Finance Management System, ISPFM:

- Development of the data exchange portal & Automation of inter-application exchanges
- Automation of inter-system transfers between BRH and the Treasury
- Creation of a CMMS
- Online Payment Support of the Final Tax Return (e-declaration)
- Provide MEF with an internal messaging system and handover the management and administration of the mef.gouv.ht domain name
- Improve cash Balance Database which goes through a thorough analysis of the SYSPAY Application (Haitian Civil Servants Payment System)

Most of these initiatives are either completed or in the process of being completed and should be finalized no later than September 30, 2018.
Priority No. 2 Systems Development

Creation of the Integrated Public Finance Management System, ISPFM / IFMS

Mapping the IT Master Plan
What is the ISPFM?

The previous map clearly shows that the integration of all these applications shall pose a serious problem.

Integration means answering the following questions:

- How will information be exchanged between all the modules?
- How will the consistency of information be guaranteed?
- How will reports be produced with the use of specialized IT tools?
- How will consistent ergonomics between the various applications be guaranteed?
- How will efficiency, effectiveness, security (no bugs) be guaranteed?
- How will the system upgrade be guaranteed?
- Etc.

The answer to these questions is of course that IFMIS is unquestionably MEF’s largest structural public finance management project for the next few years.
The World Bank Mission has finalized the agreement on Scope of the Installation and Operationalization Component of the Integrated Public Finance Management System (ISPFM).

The Scope of the Project focuses on business processes covering the preparation and execution of the state budget, cash management, accounts management, and the production of state financial statements for business processes covering the preparation and execution of the state’s budget, cash management, accounts management, and the production of the state financial statements.

Finalization of the DAO by the MEF team supported by the consultants, no later than the end of March 2018.

Preliminary review and no objection from the Bank on the DAO that requires the approval of the Regional Director of Procurement for Latin America and the Caribbean before the end of April 2018.

Launching of the call to tender during the month of May 2018.

The Project Team was set up with a Project Leader formally appointed by the Minister.
Priority No. 3: MEF Network security

Implementation of ISSP (MEF Information System Security Plan)

- Create the organizational framework necessary for the governance, management and operational management of ISS.
- Raise the level of technical and managerial competence in the field of IT security (Training, Recruitment).
- Establish rules for the new IS security policy while ensuring the normalization and harmonization of security practices at the different directorates.
- Minimize the multiplication of security tools and solutions deployed in directorates at MEF.
- Outline and establish the cross-departmental processes required for the application of ISSP rules (access management, incident management, security in development projects ...) and the resulting procedures.
- Establish activity continuity processes in the event of a serious disaster.
ISSP Objectives

What are the objectives pursued within the framework of the implementation of the MEF Information Systems Security Plan (ISSP)?

- Reduce the attack surface by creating a closed MEF network (INTRANET) and minimizing the number of connection points (ideally one point) to the Internet.
- Establish an integrated security architecture for the entire MEF network.
- Secure incoming and outgoing Internet and mail flows by applying a unique access control and filtering policy with a centralized administration of the existing technical security solution.
- Secure internal mail by:
  - ensuring that email exchanges between all MEF directorates occur on the Ministry’s internal network (WAN, LAN).
  - prohibiting access to free Webmail messaging systems (gmail, hotmail, etc.).
- Allow a coherent and effective management of the workstations by integrating all the domains throughout MEF (organization of the AD domains in hierarchical tree (forest)) and by applying policies and strategies common to all MEF entities.