

OUR WORK:

- **KNOWLEDGE TOOLS:**

- **[The Macroeconomic Resilience Dashboard](#):** a handy dashboard that compares the macroeconomic resilience of countries in 2020 (during COVID-19), against the macroeconomic resilience they had in 2019 (before COVID-19).
- **[The Tax Policy Reform Primer](#):** provides a broad and accessible overview of tax policy. This includes thorough explanations of several tax categories and their relationship with a country's political economy, a clear outline of the standard stakeholders in the tax ecosystem in USAID partner countries, and key ideas for the design of tax policy reform.
- **[The Debt Transparency Monitor](#):** provides useful insights into public debt issues in low and lower-middle income USAID partner countries with practical guidance to inform prospective USAID programming in this space.

- **LONG & SHORT-TERM IMPLEMENTATION:**

Modernizing the Procurement System in the Kyrgyz Republic

What started as a two-year program in 2020 to modernize the Kyrgyz Republic procurement system has now been extended as a result of successful implementation. The program addresses both the supply and demand side of procurement. On the supply-side, FAST is working directly with the Department of Public Procurement to improve efficiency and transparency in the procurement of public goods and services across all sectors, including basic service delivery; on the demand side, it's working with civil society and the media to improve accountability and reduce corruption. FAST's engagement with civil society organizations contributed to the revision of a public procurement law, which is now in parliament for approval. The FAST team is now developing associated regulations for the law. Click [HERE](#) to learn more.

Strengthening Expenditure Management in South Sudan

FAST assistance to South Sudan focuses on efficient and accountable expenditure management. This implementation program lays ground to help the Ministries of Finance and Planning (MOFP) reduce the huge amount of domestic arrears (unpaid salaries and pensions of its workers and unpaid bills for goods and services received from suppliers). The program is strengthening and modernizing MOFP's capacity to collect and validate accumulated arrears as well as creating a roadmap to prevent future accumulation. Following the implementation of FAST's arrear-related interventions, seventeen line ministries submitted 1,235 arrears claims totaling \$258.68 million to MOFP. Click [HERE](#) to learn more.

- **ASSESSMENTS AND DESIGNS**

Providing On-Demand, Tailored Assessments in Bangladesh, Sudan, and Kenya

Through rapid, on-demand assessments, FAST has helped Missions in Bangladesh, Sudan, and Kenya to make informed programmatic choices and gauge the probability of achieving intended results. Both the Bangladesh and [Sudan assessments](#) are focused on each country's capacity to support sustainable development through domestic resource mobilization. [The Bangladesh assessment's](#) political economy analysis provided USAID/Bangladesh with information on the likely obstacles to reform that the Mission might encounter while working with the National Bureau of Revenue (NBR). In Kenya, the assessment took the shape of a comprehensive trade capacity building study covering 20 negotiating areas. It helped Kenya identify its overall ability to negotiate and implement a comprehensive, high-standard, free trade agreement with the United States. As part of the assessment, FAST fielded fourteen expert teams and held a vast number of key informant interviews within a span of seven months. The final Report was described as "world class" by USAID/TRR and USTR.