13 TH UNCTAD Debt Management Conference

Relief, Restructuring and Recovery: Dealing with Debt in Times of Global Crisis

5-7 December 2022 Palais des Nations, Geneva

Operational Risks in Public Debt Management

by

Mr. Luis Felipe Vital Nunes Pereira

Coordinator of Debt Operations, Ministry of the Economy, Brazil



The views expressed are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of UNCTAD.



2022

Operational Risks in Public Debt Management Brazil National Treasury Experience

13th UNCTAD Debt Management Conference Geneva, 5-7 December 2022





Operational Risks



What is it?

Sudden undesirable event that affects the DMO routine operations



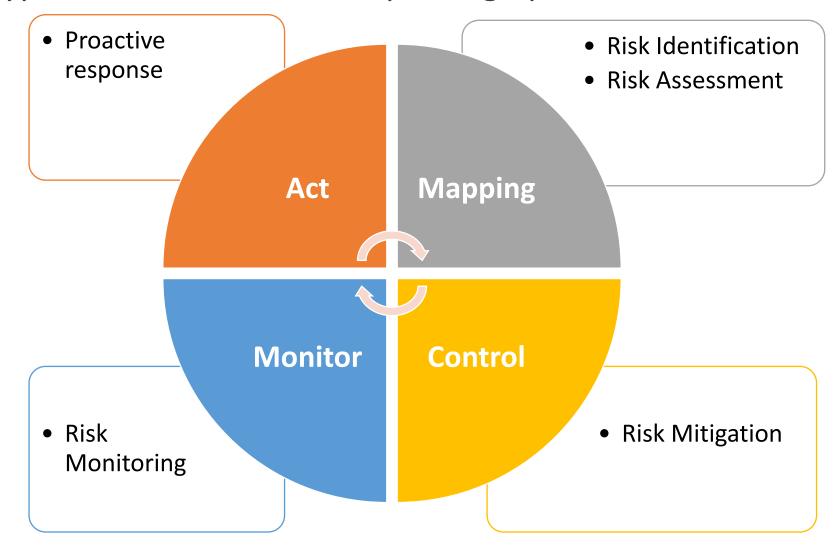
Possible Causes

Cyber attacks Human error Unsafe practices **Outdated IT systems** Etc.



Operational risk management

Adapted typical PDCA model for improving operational standard

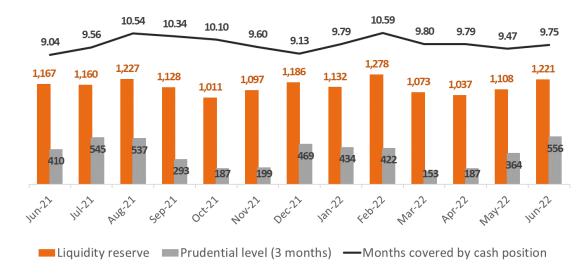




Brazil – Public Debt Context

Indicators	2021	Jun/22
Stock of FPD* held by the public (BRL Billion)		
	5,613.66	5,845.54
FPD Profile (%)		
Fixed Rate	28.90	27.23
Inflation Linked	29.30	31.55
Floating Rate	36.83	36.69
FX	4.96	4.53
FPD Maturity Structure		
Percentage Maturing in 12 Months (%)	21.02	23.11
Average Maturity (years)	3.84	3.88
Average Life (years)	5.15	5.20

Public debt liquidity reserve (BRL bn)



- ✓ Financing needs over BRL 1 Trillion (200 billion USD) per year
- √ 100 auctions per year
- √95% in local markets and denominated in reais
- √90% held by local investors



1

Brazil – Public Debt Context



 Weekly auctions – typically BRL 20-30 billion (USD 5-6 billion);



FX Operations



Treasury Direct
Program - 2 million
retail investors



Brazil – Public Debt Context

1st line of defense

- Within the DMO
- Risk mapping, controlling and monitoring

2nd line of defense

- Within the MoF
- Internal Controls and Risk Management

Internal Audit (CGU)

- Within the Executive branch
- Financial audit and specific topics.

External Audit (TCU)

- Legislative branch
- Continuous audit process

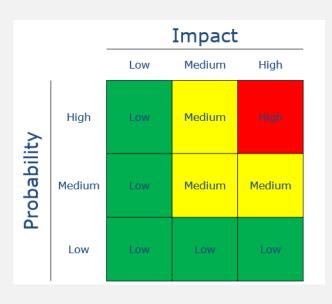




Risk Identification and Assessment

Identifying Risks

- Key performance indicators mapping
 - What may affect a KPI will be a great source for possible risks
- Incidents history
 - Incidents not handled has a greater chance of recurrence
- Legal stuff
 - Internal rules and applicabe laws
 - Compliance reports



Identified risks should be assessed in a probability of ocurrence / impact way

Level of review during pandemic:











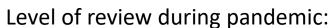
Risk Mitigation

Segregation of duties

- Front-office and back-office duties and capabilities imposed by systems' constraints
- Mandatory segregation along processes

Remote First Policy

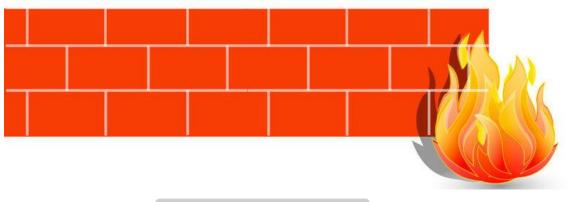
- All processes can be executed remotely
- Very small team (one representative by unit) working on premises during auctions as fail safety measure

















Risk Mitigation

Multiple Layers of security

- Segmentation of critical systems from general purpose systems
- Corporate VPN required to access critical systems, with strong user control and limited access window
- Two factor authentication required for all systems.

Secure communication channels

- IT controlled channels for internal communication
- Market standards for market communication (Ex. Bloomberg IM)



Level of review during pandemic:











Risk Monitoring

- Automated monitoring
 - Use of IT tools for online monitoring wherever is possible
 - Allocation of professionals with granted privileges to act when alerts are trigged
- KPI logging
 - Log of KPI result over the time: outliers could indicate unattended incidentes
- Teams integration
 - Collaborative work beetwen IT and DMO teams

Level of review during pandemic:













Typical risk event in Brazil

Risk Event:

- Truck driver's strike (2018)
- 2020 Pandemic

Market Turmoil

- Increased volatility
- Disfunctional 2ary markets

Increase in Financing Needs

 Fight economic impacts of pandemic
New subsidy or public polic



6 Conclu

Concluding Remarks

- ✓ Countries with higher market presence must have robust Contingency and Business Continuity Plans
- √ The pandemic demanded significant review in risk policies for DMOs.
- ✓ Updated Contingency and Business Continuity Plans rely more on IT systems, virtual environments and redundancy.
- ✓ New working environments (ex: virtual and hybrid) come with new risks, to be mitigated.



Thank you

luis.n.pereira@tesouro.gov.br