

PLANNING & CONSOLIDATION FOR THE PUBLIC SECTOR

Agility and Transparency for Public Governance

Leaders in the public sector face unprecedented challenges, the scale of which has not been seen in decades. The global economic crisis has resulted in record budget deficits, which will require deep spending cuts across many government programmes. Meanwhile, government finance organisations are under pressure to boost efficiencies as a way to deliver more programmes and services despite lower budgets. This may require reworking strategic budget priorities at every level of government. All of these changes are occurring at a time when government executives are faced with public demand for greater accountability and transparency.

To do more with less public sector entities must be ever more vigilant about the scale, efficiency and relevance of spending. The transparency of financial and non-financial information needs to be increased and more efficient, agile planning and budgeting processes introduced and enforced across the organisation.

Unfortunately, in many cases, public sector organisations rely on disconnected point solutions to support these processes, each creating silos of data and misalignment between strategy and execution. Data from transactional systems gets duplicated across these silos, requiring multiple tools to transfer and control data transfer – a costly maintenance nightmare. Not only is the data not available in real time, but multiple versions of the same information are created that make accurate planning, budgeting, consolidation, and forecasting nearly impossible.

What managers across the organisation need is a solution providing a definitive, single version of the truth, with which they can answer questions such as:

- How can we align and optimise outcomes with limited resources?

- How do I contain the growing costs of service delivery?
- How can I integrate budgets, costs, and performance objectives and results for better visibility and control?
- How can I increase operational efficiency and productivity?
- How do I provide more transparency and accountability to the public?

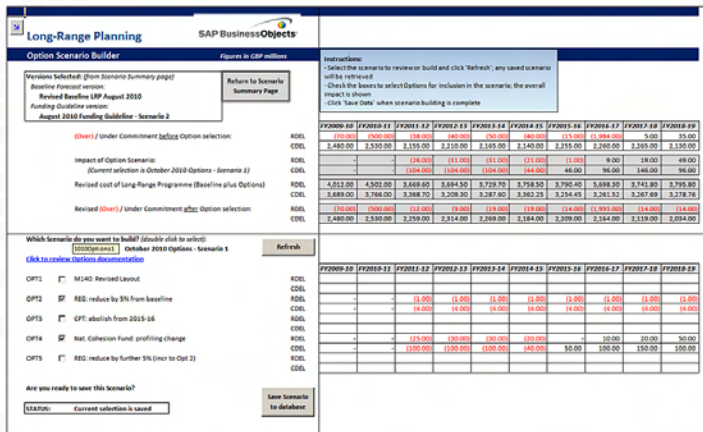
A Clear Line of Sight for Best-Run Governments

SAP® BusinessObjects™ Planning and Consolidation for Public Sector has been developed in conjunction with expertise from Rinedata to provide a comprehensive, integrated and ready-to-deploy solution to these problems. Long-range planning, budgeting, forecasting, financial consolidation and management reporting functionality are all included as standard, and because all of this functionality is supported by a single, integrated application and centralised data source there is no longer a need to use multiple, fragmented tools.



The planning and performance management processes are supported by automation that helps ensure the right people participate at the right time. Unstructured data, such as e-mails and Adobe pdf documents, can be incorporated to provide supporting documentation and evidence for the

strategic or near-term planning, and what-if modelling functionality is provided enabling the manipulation of variables to see their potential impact on funding by program.

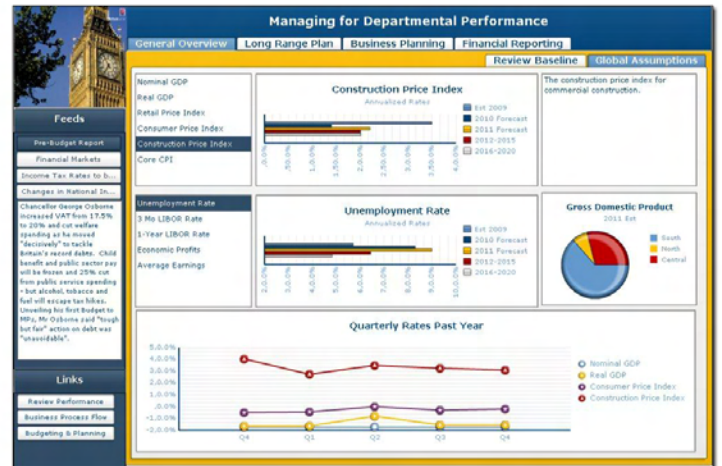


Throughout the process each manager can see the committed funding that will be expended on pre-existing programmes - the 'baseline' - compared with expected and potential funding limits to provide a composite view year to year. To make informed planning decisions the affordability of different programmes and proposed programme changes can be tested in isolation and in combination to create alternative scenarios, which in turn can be implemented to create a revised baseline as the basis for detailed budgeting and business planning.

The application supports top-down funding allocation, enabling the allocation of funds to each organisational or functional unit by programme so they can, in turn, be allocated to cost centres and line-items. At the cost centre level, this top-down approach can be aligned with bottom-up budgeting functionality, for example for detailed headcount planning. Funds can be viewed by programme and project activity – even when multiple resources across different organisational units are supporting the same programme.

Because the central data repository contains the latest actual results from your operational finance systems - whether SAP or non-SAP - significant savings can be made in the time and resource-intensiveness of your routine consolidation and reporting processes, even where your organisation requires complex routines such as intercompany elimination or reporting through multiple hierarchies. Through this integrated view of performance it is possible instantly to generate clear and transparent performance reports and financial statements.

At the same time, the software helps improve compliance with various regulatory and financial standards (including International Financial Reporting Standards) and provides a full audit trail. With this improved visibility comes the ability to make adjustments to the plan using ready-built reforecasting templates.



About Rinedata

Established in 1996, Rinedata is dedicated to providing full project life cycle services across Financial Consolidation, Budgeting, Forecasting and Business Intelligence initiatives. Since our inception we have solely focused on delivering improved performance management systems across a wide range of businesses and in a multitude of differing infrastructure landscapes. We can demonstrably help our clients unlock the value of their IT investment, no matter where they may be in their financial systems evolution.

Rinedata is a fully accredited SAP Services Partner. We also have been awarded Special Expertise Partner status for planning and consolidation in the public sector. This recognises our particular experience and skills in understanding and addressing the requirements of Government organisations.

As a testament to the quality of our delivery services, Rinedata was featured in the Gartner BI, PM and IM Services Vendor Guide. (Publication Date: 10 September 2009 ID Number: G00170597)

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