BACKGROUND NOTE

IOTA Workshop

"Use of data received through (spontaneous or automatic) exchange of information on foreign assets in enforcement procedures"

4-5 November 2026

Budapest, Hungary

BACKGROUND

The increasing digitalisation and globalisation of economic activity have significantly expanded the availability of data exchanged between tax administrations, particularly through spontaneous and automatic exchange of information mechanisms. These frameworks, including exchanges related to financial accounts, assets, and cross-border economic activities, provide tax administrations with valuable insights into taxpayers' foreign-held assets and income streams.

At the same time, tax administrations continue to face challenges in enforcing the recovery of tax debts where debtors hold assets abroad. Traditional enforcement measures are often limited in their effectiveness when assets are located outside domestic jurisdictions, and recovery procedures may be constrained by legal, administrative, operational or technological barriers.

The growing volume of exchanged data presents new opportunities to strengthen tax debt recovery processes. Information obtained through exchange mechanisms can potentially support earlier identification of foreign assets, improve risk assessment and debt segmentation, and enable more targeted and timely enforcement actions. However, tax administrations may encounter difficulties in fully utilising such data in practice. These challenges include issues related to data quality, timeliness, accessibility, legal restrictions on use, and the integration of exchanged data into existing enforcement frameworks and IT systems.

Furthermore, effective use of exchanged information in enforcement procedures often requires close coordination between different functions within tax administrations, national law enforcement bodies, as well as cooperation with foreign counterparts. The complexity of cross-border cases, combined with differences in legal frameworks and procedural requirements across jurisdictions, can further limit the practical application of available data in debt recovery.

In line with the IOTA Forum on Tax Debt Management mandate for 2026–2027, which emphasises the importance of exploring data-driven approaches to collection and recovery and the use of information obtained through automatic exchange mechanisms, there is a clear need to examine how such data can be more effectively leveraged in enforcement procedures.

The aim of this workshop is to explore how tax administrations use data received through spontaneous or automatic exchange of information to support enforcement actions, with a particular focus on foreign assets, and to identify practical approaches, challenges, and good practices in integrating such data into tax debt recovery processes.

OBJECTIVES

The specific objectives of the workshop are to:

• Explore how exchanged information on foreign assets is currently used and processed by Tax Administrations in tax debt enforcement procedures.

• Identify key challenges in accessing, processing, and applying exchanged data for debt recovery purposes.

• Examine the limitations of existing enforcement tools and legislation when dealing with assets located abroad.

• Encourage discussion on practical approaches and good practices to improve the use of exchanged information in enforcement actions.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES

The expected outcomes of this Workshop are:

• Improved understanding of how data obtained through exchange of information can support enforcement procedures.

• Greater awareness of the operational, legal, and technical challenges in using foreign asset data for debt recovery.

• Exchange of experiences and practical insights on integrating exchanged data into tax debt management processes.

METHODOLOGIES

The Workshop will provide an exceptional interactive environment with a mix of plenary sessions and group discussion sessions that foster collaborative learning amongst participants.

Office Dohány Street 12-14., V Floor, Budapest, Hungary, 1074
E-mail secretariat@iota-tax.org
Website www.iota-tax.org

Selected presentations will illustrate how tax administrations use data received through spontaneous or automatic exchange of information to support enforcement actions, with a particular focus on foreign assets, and to identify practical approaches, challenges, and good practices in integrating such data into tax debt recovery processes. The group discussion sessions will provide an opportunity for all delegates to explore new technologies and methods for a more effective tax debt management process. Participants will compare approaches, share experiences, and discuss outcomes in ways that enhance the use of data received through exchange of information on foreign assets in enforcement procedures.

The key topics of the group discussion sessions are:

1. Early Use of Exchanged Data in the Tax Debt Lifecycle
   How can exchanged data on foreign assets be operationalised earlier in the tax debt lifecycle? What processes or tools enable early detection and intervention before debts become harder to recover?
2. Barriers to Using Exchanged Information for Enforcement
   What are the main obstacles your administration faces in using exchanged information for enforcement (e.g., legal, technical, organisational), and how have you addressed them? Which barriers are the most critical, and where do you see realistic opportunities for improvement?
3. Integrating Exchanged Data into IT Systems and Risk Models
   How can tax administrations better integrate exchanged data into existing IT systems and risk assessment models? Are there examples of successful data integration or automation that improved debt recovery outcomes? Are there examples of successful data integration or automation that improved debt recovery outcomes?
4. Cooperation in Cross-Border Debt Recovery
   In cross-border debt recovery cases, what forms of cooperation with foreign tax administrations are most effective? What practical steps or frameworks could strengthen this cooperation further?

Please see more details in the draft Agenda of the workshop.

TARGET AUDIENCE

The target audience is IOTA member tax administrations' experts who are involved in the process of tax debt collection and recovery.

REQUIRED INPUT

Please note that IOTA expects that all participants will have sufficient English language skills for active participation in workshop sessions.

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