

**PRESS RELEASE**

July 8, 2021

1. The *Cluster Finance Services* of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forests (MoAF), Thimphu was launched jointly by the Royal Civil Service Commission (RCSC), the MoAF, and the Ministry of Finance (MoF) on 8 July 2021.
2. The launching ceremony was graced by Hon'ble Chairperson, Royal Civil Service Commission (RCSC).
3. The *Cluster Finance Services* is the collaborative initiative of the Royal Civil Service Commission and the Ministry of Finance.
4. This initiative is based on the concept of *sharing of services* by leveraging the use of ICT.
5. It will bring together all finance personnel working in various regional/autonomous/branch offices under one cluster office. All finance services would be catered from the office of *Cluster Finance Services* irrespective of the location of the agencies. However, this initiative does not include the Finance Sections of the Dzongkhag administration.
6. The initiative will optimize and rationalize the deployment of finance personnel and eliminate the current practice of their placement in individual agencies and achieve the objective of *doing more with less*.

**Ministry of Finance**  
**Department of Public Accounts**

7. This initiative is expected to enhance prudent fiscal discipline through proper check and control mechanism, and adequate internal control system in the agencies.
8. It is also expected to improve the performance and delivery of finance services through enhanced efficiency of finance personnel and standardized service delivery across agencies.
9. The *Cluster Finance Services* is expected to contribute towards restructuring the budget process and financial norms as enshrined in the Royal Kasha on Civil Service Reform.
10. This initiative was piloted for the regional offices under Paro, Bumthang and Trashigang Dzongkhags starting in March, April and May 2021 respectively.
11. This initiative is being carried out with the financial support of multi-donor fund (MDF) contributed by the European Union (EU) and Austrian Development Agency (ADA), and administered by the World Bank (WB).

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