



# ECONOMIC POLICY & GOVERNANCE

SOLVING THE WORLD'S COMPLEX  
**ECONOMIC POLICY & GOVERNANCE**  
CHALLENGES

NATHAN

# Maximize economic growth impacts through sound policies and implementation

Prudent macroeconomic policy, sound fiscal policy and administration, robust capacity for evidence-based economic policymaking, and effective mechanisms for transparency and stakeholder inputs into policymaking are crucial elements of good economic governance.

Bolstering governance is not an end in itself, rather it is the foundational cornerstone to chart a country's economic growth and inclusive development prospects.

## CORE PRINCIPLE

Over seven decades, Nathan has helped policymakers, private sector partners, and development stakeholders make informed decisions by basing program implementation on objective economic principles and international best practices. From broader macroeconomic policy analyses to public administration and estimating impacts of proposed policies, we provide our clients with technically rigorous yet practicable solutions to tackle their most pressing development needs. No other consulting firm has the deep bench of in-house expertise and knowledge to rapidly respond to our clients' changing needs.

## KEY SERVICE OFFERINGS

- Macroeconomic analysis and forecasting
- Economic policy formulation and reform
- Monetary and capital markets
- Domestic resource mobilization
- Tax policy analysis
- Tax administration strengthening
- Public budgeting, such as program-based budgeting and gender budgeting
- Public investment management
- Public financial management
- Regulatory reform
- Sectoral analyses
- Impact and performance evaluations
- Program monitoring and evaluation
- Capacity building

## HIGHLIGHTED PROJECT EXPERIENCE

**Bolstering economic governance.** Nathan is helping Burma create more inclusive and transparent economic governance processes, and increase access to finance by working with reform champions within civil society, private sector, parliament, and government to advocate for or implement appropriate policies, laws, regulations, and processes. Nathan assisted Indonesia to improve laws, policies, regulations and procedures for non-bank financial institutions, labor markets, and trade by providing strategic support to the Ministry of Trade, National Development Agency, Ministry of Finance, and the Poverty Unit of the Vice President's Office.

**Macroeconomic policy and debt management.** Nathan worked with the Zimbabwe Economic Policy Analysis and Research Unit to strengthen its capacity for fiscal and monetary policy formation. Nathan drafted a debt strategy for the Honduran Central Bank and Ministry of Finance, and provided technical assistance to the Government in the Gambia on improving their design of debt instruments, and operationalizing their debt management strategy. We also improved the analytic capacity of Zimbabwe's Aid and Debt Management Office, and advised on the country's medium-term debt strategy. Nathan also advised the Government of Mozambique on its creation of a sovereign wealth fund.

**Assessing macroeconomic impacts.** Nathan supported the South African Treasury to use Computable General Equilibrium (CGE) modeling to forecast the distributional impacts of government policies. We also worked with the National Treasury to model the macroeconomic effects of HIV/AIDS. We trained staff at the Indonesian Ministry of Trade in the Global Trade Analysis Project (GTAP) software and CGE model to analyze impacts of changes in trade policies to the economy.

**Improving tax policy.** In Egypt, Nathan developed a training series for the tax policy unit to improve their capacity to analyze changes in tax policy, and to improve revenue forecasting techniques. In Ghana, Nathan helped develop the country's first-ever medium-term revenue policy, setting out the changes needed in revenue policy and administration needed to achieve the country's revenue goals.

### **Expanding domestic resource mobilization (DRM).**

Nathan supported the Uganda Revenue Authority to improve taxpayer education, registration, compliance and arrears management. As a result, tax debt collection grew by about US\$7 million from 2017 to 2018, and the international taxation office resolved a long-running audit case, generating an estimated US\$10 million in the first year and US\$5 million annually going forward. In Guyana, Nathan streamlined systems for tax filing and payment processing, and supported the implementation of a new Value Added Tax. Nathan is the only firm to collaborate with USAID, the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund to implement Tax Administration Diagnostic Assessment Tool (TADAT) assessments across Africa, Eastern Europe, and Latin America. Nathan also designed and launched USAID's new Collecting Taxes Database, providing information on more than 200 countries' tax systems.

Nathan implemented USAID's flagship Leadership in Public Financial Management II project from 2014-2018.

**Public service reforms.** Nathan analyzed Malawi's public sector compensation structure and supported functional reviews of the health and education sectors. In Tanzania, Nathan drafted a white paper providing a blueprint for a new public service reform program informed by a careful political economy analysis.

**Public expenditure planning and management.** In Kenya, Uganda, Zimbabwe, and Egypt, Nathan supported implementation of program budgeting, which helps government better align resources to its development priorities. In the Maldives, Nathan is helping to establish the basic budgeting framework, including advising on their appropriations law and budgeting formats. In Uganda, Nathan identified and addressed expenditure bottlenecks that were inhibiting the implementation of the health sector budget, improving their budget execution rate from 79.9 percent to 97.0 percent in two years.

Nathan was awarded the five-year, \$450 million USAID Public Financial Management II IDIQ.

**Transparency, accountability and anti-corruption.** Nathan helped the Government of Sri Lanka improve public sector audit and procurement. Our support enabled the new independent procurement regulator to become functional; developed more than seven manuals or tools to improve audit and procurement; helped the government develop nine significant regulatory or legal reforms, including a new Audit Bill and several cabinet circulars; and provided 3,000+ person days of training on audit and procurement. This improved the transparency and oversight of government finances, and the effectiveness of spending. In Guyana, Nathan strengthened parliamentary fiduciary oversight committees by training staff and helping institute policy reforms. In Zimbabwe, Nathan prepared an Economic Literacy Toolkit and Handbook for Parliamentarians, improving the legislature's ability to hold the executive accountable on Public Financial Management (PFM).

**Program monitoring and evaluation (M&E).** Nathan manages DFID's Girls Education Challenge Fund, which leverages M&E data to identify and reward innovative and effective approaches using a payment by results model. Nathan set up a rigorous M&E framework that uses methods such as randomized control trials and quasi-experimental research to identify good practice, enable learning, and promote effective approaches.



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### ABOUT NATHAN

Nathan is a private international economic and analytics consulting firm that works with government and commercial clients around the globe to deliver practical solutions and achieve lasting results. Whether building frameworks for economic growth or navigating regulatory hurdles, securing infrastructure financing or evaluating and assessing disputes, Nathan's experts serve as trusted partners, offering clients the analysis, technical advice, and strategies they need for sound decision-making. Known for both technical and service excellence, Nathan has corporate offices in the US, UK, and India and more than 40 program offices around the world. More information about Nathan can be found at [nathaninc.com](http://nathaninc.com)



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