

RMI State-owned Enterprises (SOEs)

Performance Review and Reform Priorities

Session 1 Presentation 1d

by Ben Graham



Outline

- Background
- Summary of performance
- Revisiting SOE reforms
- Next steps
- Possible assistance requirements



Background

- SOEs established to provide 'critical' infrastructure and services
- Scale/scope of portfolio has grown over time
- But performance a major concern
- Earlier attempts at SOE reform very limited
- MEC's steady deterioration (and near-collapse in 2008) demanded renewed attention



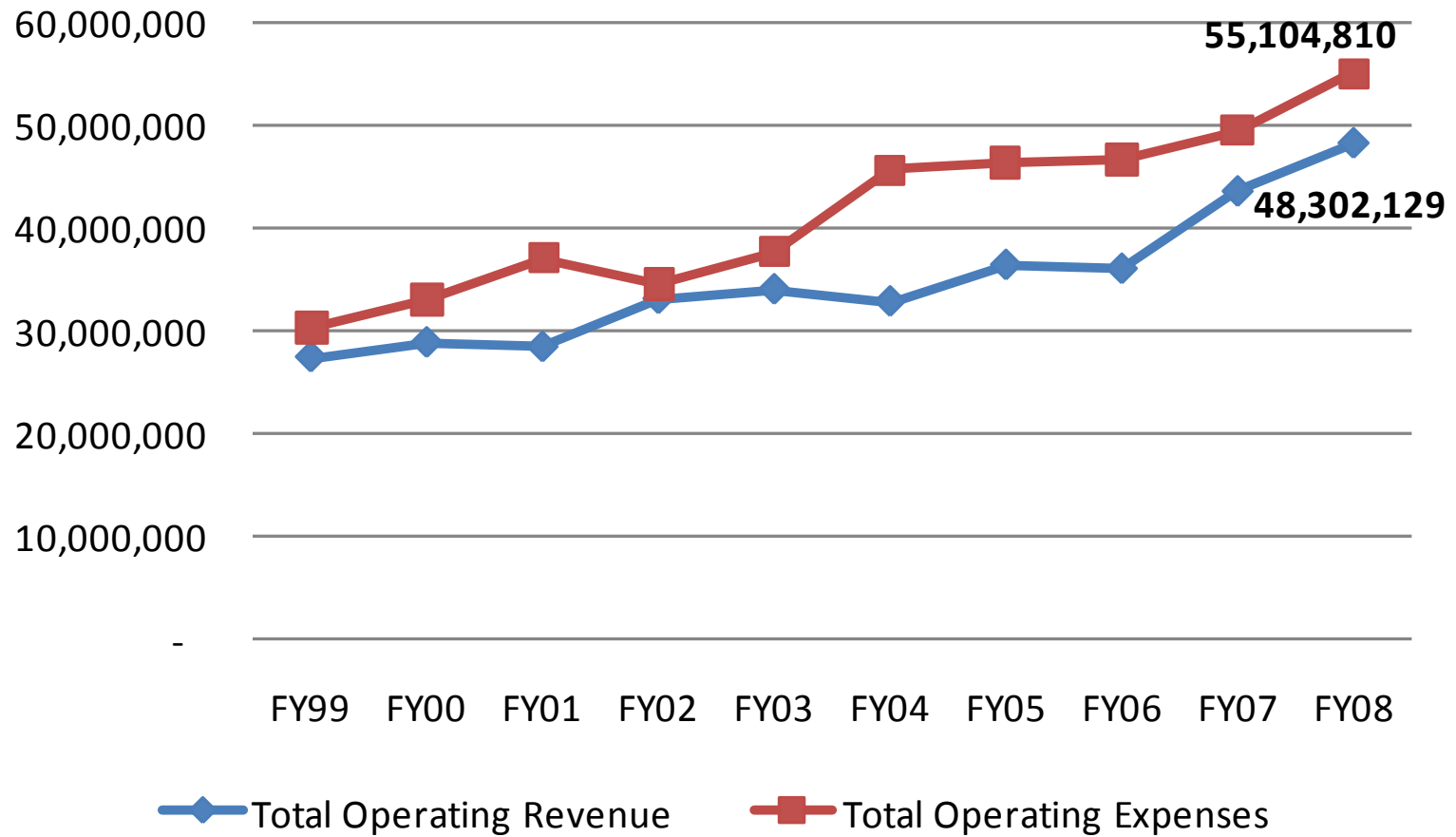
Summary of performance

- Financial reviews show severe weaknesses, growing fiscal and economic risks
- Persistent shortfalls, most SOEs insolvent
- SOEs absorb large and growing amounts of scarce public resources, but returns are very low
- Subsidies a growing burden on fiscal system
- Some SOEs drive up costs of business, crowd out private sector, and constrain growth



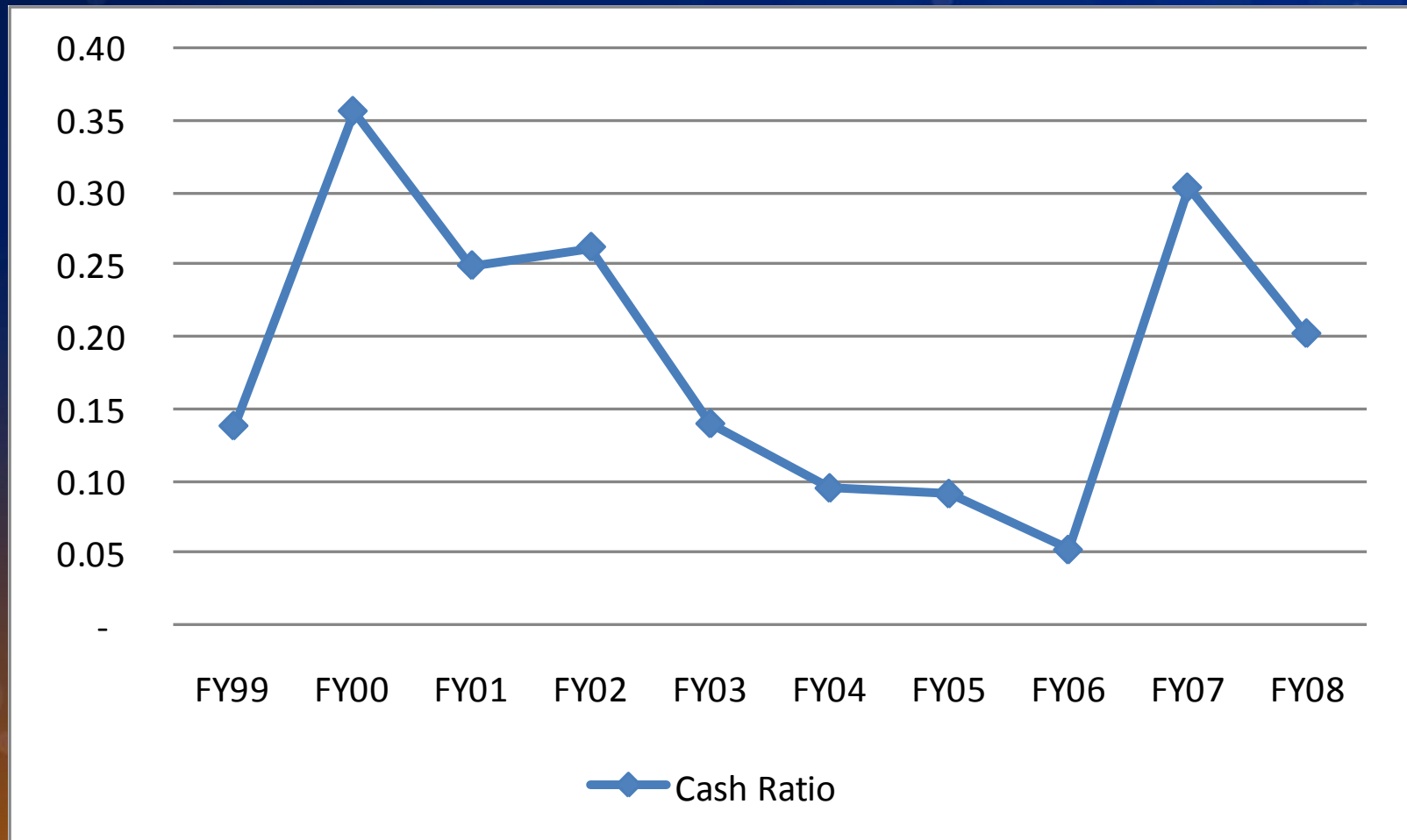
Summary of performance

SOE portfolio Revenues versus Expenses



Summary of performance

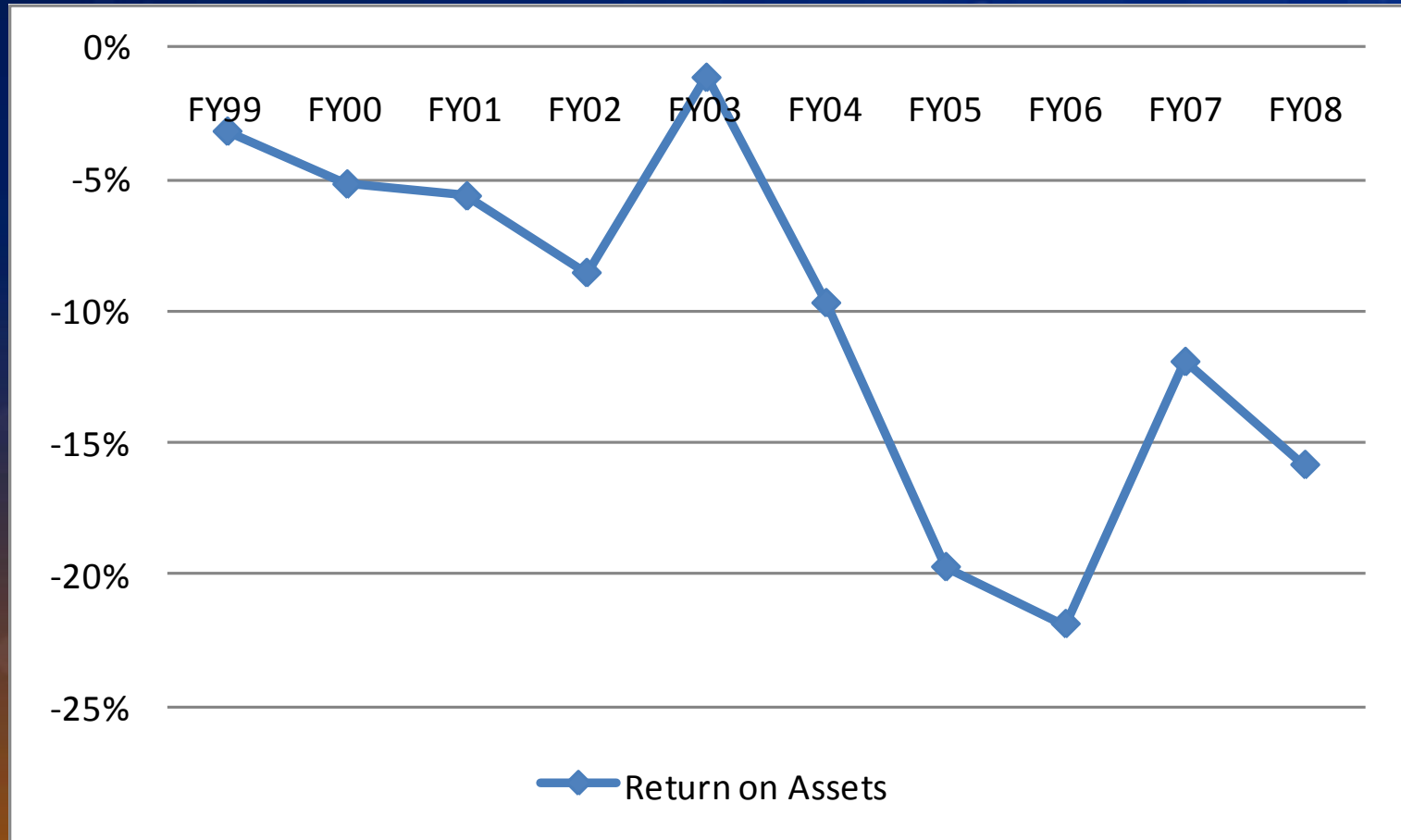
SOE portfolio median Cash Ratio



Summary of performance

SOE portfolio median Return on Assets

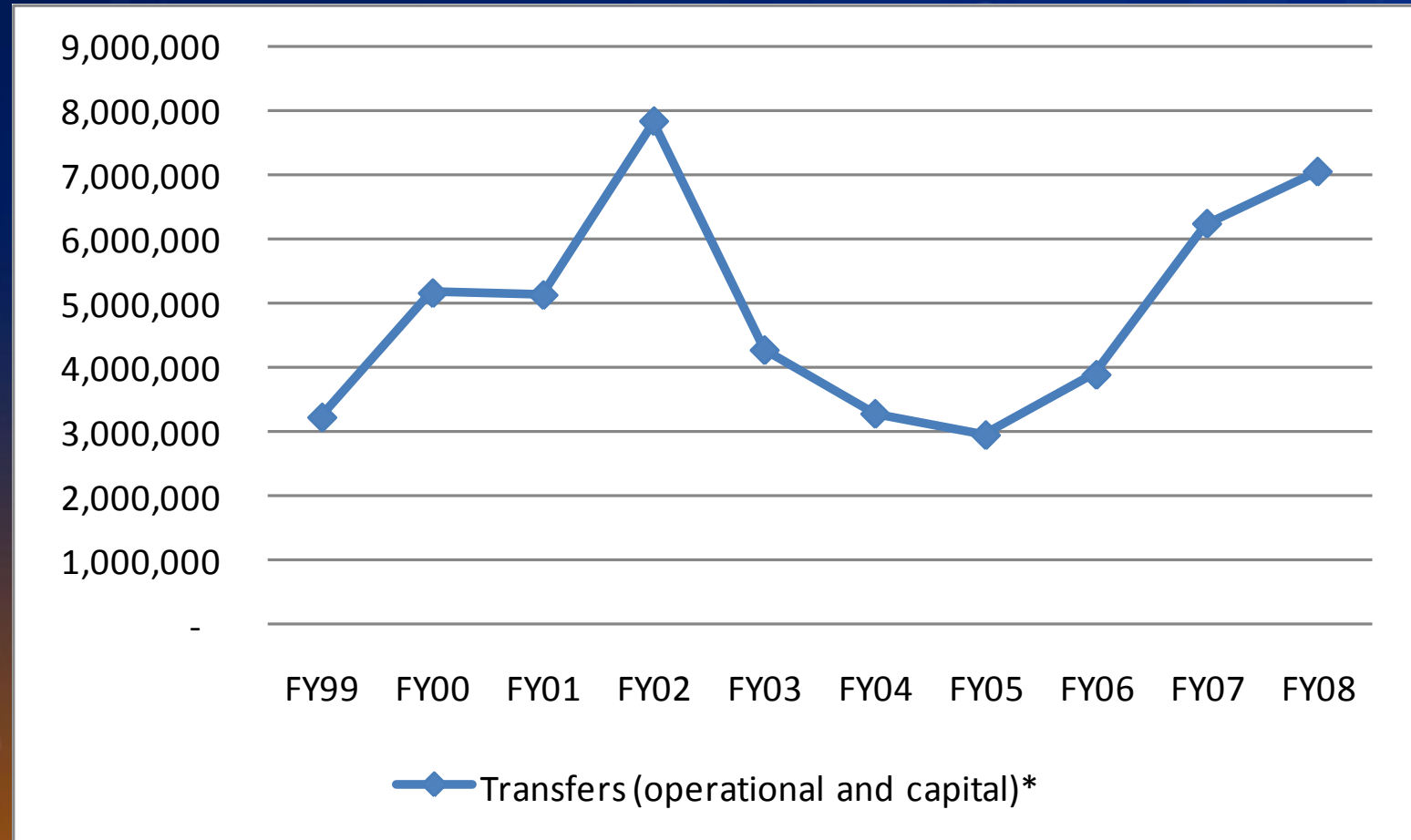
* As derived in annual Economic Statistics Tables



Summary of performance

SOE portfolio transfers (subsidies)

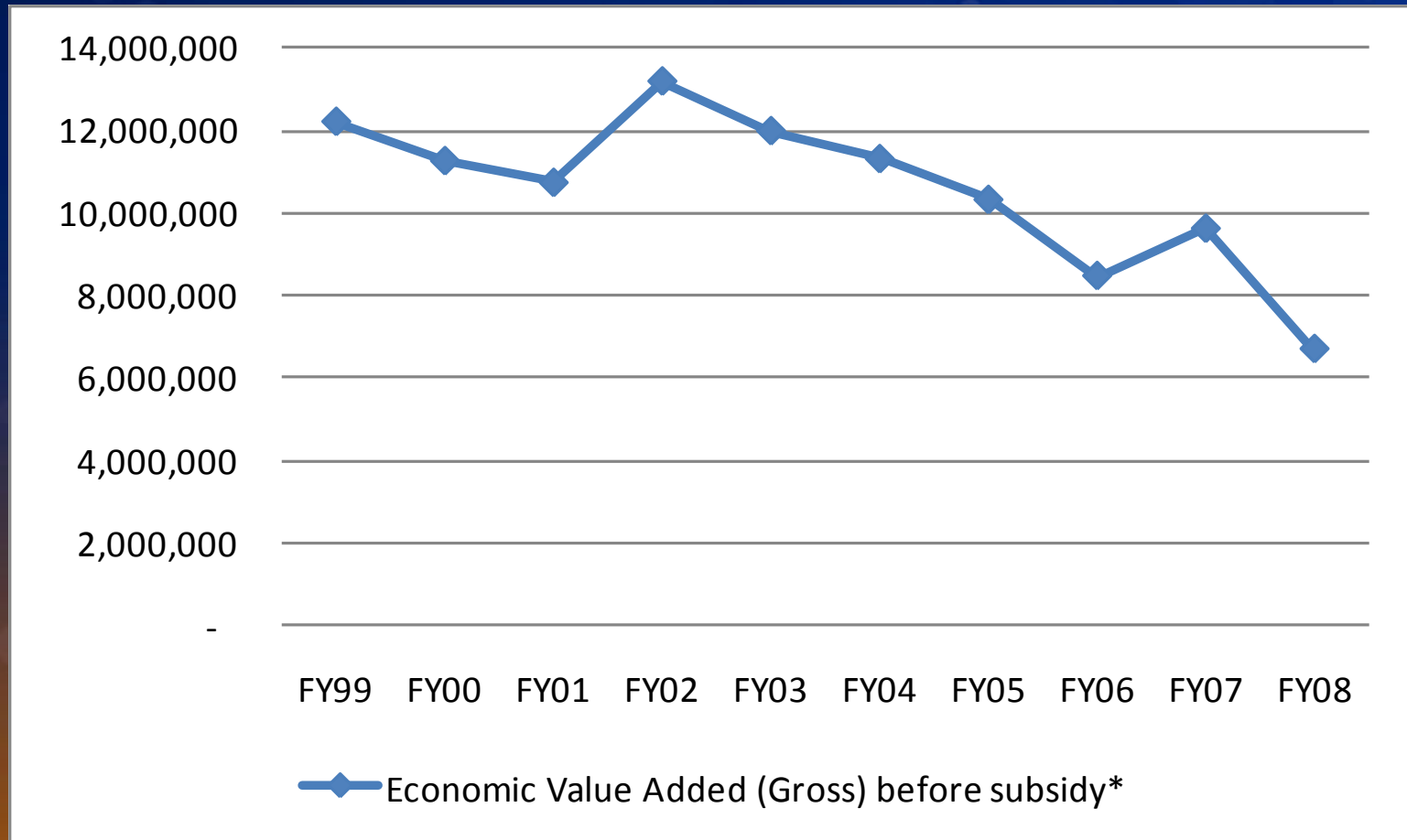
* As derived in annual Economic Statistics Tables



Summary of performance

SOE portfolio Economic Value Added

* As derived in annual Economic Statistics Tables



Revisiting SOE reforms

- MEC highest-risk SOE, developed Comprehensive Recovery Plan (CRP) in 2009
- CRP now underway, supported by several partners
- Other high-risk SOEs being reviewed, preliminary reform options analyzed and soon presented
- Cabinet approved *Six Good Principles for SOE Management* and call for new SOE Act
- SOE reform a key component of broader reform effort



Next steps

- RMI SOE review (ADB 2010) recommended:
Follow an integrated approach:
(a) focus on enterprise- and sector-specific reforms as well as broader institutional and legislative reforms to strengthen the governance and accountability frameworks in which public enterprises operate; and
(b) harmonize public enterprise reforms with other ongoing reform and development efforts



Next steps

- In next two years, RMI will strive to:
 - a. Maintain MEC reform momentum
 - b. Assess performance, risks, and reform options in next-priority SOEs (AMI, MISC, Tobolar, etc.)
 - c. Develop and begin executing reform plans for next-priority SOEs
 - d. Establish and enforce new, stronger SOE governance and accountability policy and framework



Possible assistance requirements

- MEC still requires TA and project funding for several critical reform areas
- TA required for assessment and reform planning for next-priority SOEs, including expertise in key areas such as aviation and shipping
- TA also required for new SOE Act and policy
- Some SOE reforms may require project financing
- TA should not only cover analysis and planning but also implementation and monitoring (i.e. a medium term approach)



Kommool Tata

Republic of the Marshall Islands Development Partners Meeting: December 1-2, 2010.



For addition details on RMI SOE reform issues,
refer to:

- “A Review of 11 Public Enterprises and Options for Reform,” ADB
- “Finding Balance II: Making State-Owned Enterprises Work” ADB (forthcoming)
- RMI Public Enterprise Database FY99-FY08
- MEC Financial Review FY99-FY08
- AMI Financial Review FY99-FY09

