CACAO

Accounting and Organizational Data Storage and Consultation System
Open-Source Software for Tax Administrations

Fiscal Management Division
Inter-American Development Bank
What is CACAO?

CACAO is a web platform that allows for the receipt, validation, processing, and analysis of accounting data from taxpayers in a standardized manner. Developed in open-source code, the platform’s goal is to facilitate the transmission of taxpayer data and optimize the use and analysis of accounting data by tax administrations in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Why is CACAO important?

CACAO allows for simplifying, facilitating, and optimizing the tax compliance and control process.

From the taxpayer’s side, the solution allows companies to send their accounting data digitally, securely, and transparently to the tax administrations, eliminating the need for paper.

CACAO allows tax administrations to leverage existing company systems to improve tax management and make the process more agile and less burdensome.

With access to these data in digital format, tax administrations can quickly verify the compliance of the information declared by taxpayers with the recorded accounting facts. This process allows for rectifying declarations, avoiding unnecessary tax audits, and increasing selection accuracy, all which help significantly to reduce the time required for an audit.

CACAO increases accuracy in risk management, facilitates the voluntary correction of declarations by taxpayers, and reduces the costs of complying with tax obligations.
What type of analyses can CACAO generate?

The solution provides a reliable source of companies’ accounting data, allowing tax administrations to have a complete and accurate view of the tax effects generated by these companies activities.

CACAO works with full accounting data for high-quality analytics, using all daily entries to provide a complete view of the company’s financial movement.

The tool helps establish a relationship between financial facts, such as the inflow of capital or the payment of salaries, and aspects of interest to the tax administration, such as taxable revenues or expansion of tax credit balance.

The platform offers graphical visualizations to support the analysis of accounting data and improve risk management.
Main features

CONVENIENCE
Offers taxpayers an easy-to-use platform for online and immediate submission of accounting files, according to one or more previously defined standards.

AGILITY
Provides efficient tools for taxpayer selection, allowing for comparison of accounting data by economic sectors, identification of outliers, and other comparative analyses between different taxpayers.

EASY TO USE
Provides audit tools that allow a graphical view of a company's accounting movements over time.

FLEXIBILITY
Allows for creating custom dashboards for viewing stored data and generating charts and tables from data sets collected on accounting.

SCALABILITY
Can be configured to collect and analyze accounting as well as other types of data through dashboards or tables.
How can I implement CACAO?

CACAO is a highly flexible and adaptable platform, allowing it to be configured according to the unique needs of each tax administration, including policies, legislation, administrative practices, and culture.

Thanks to its open-source software model, CACAO can be installed on the IT infrastructure of each tax administration.

Find the CACAO code repository here.

https://cacao.iadb.org/

Integration with other systems

CACAO is built using modern technologies and open standards, making it compatible with other tools and solutions in the tax administrations. This openness and ease of integration allow for better use of available resources and information, as well as a more speedy analysis and decision-making process.

The IDB provides technical support so that Latin American and Caribbean tax administrations can install and adapt the platform according to their specific needs.
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More information

Discover the main data visualization of CACAO.
See CACAO’s user manual.
Check the tutorials on how to install and set up CACAO.
Visit a step-by-step guide to building dashboards to visualize the data stored by CACAO.

These tutorials introduce CACAO’s features and help you to get the most out of this solution.