

Analysis of Financial Management at a District Level in the South African Health Sector

Choonara, S.1* Eyles, J. Goudge, J. Nxumalo, N.

*PhD Research Intern, Shakira.Choonara@wits.ac.za/ +2711 717 3438

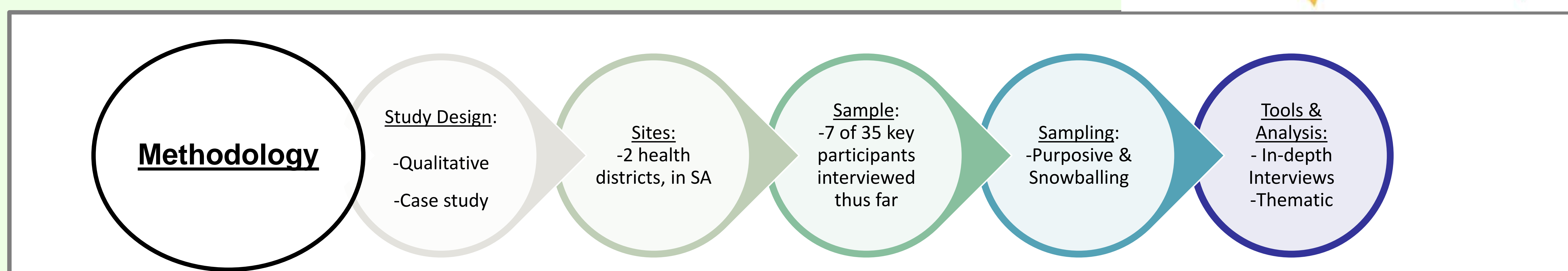


Background:

- Effective financial management (FM) is required across developed and developing countries which face the dilemma of curbing health expenditure yet ensuring the delivery of quality health services [1].
- Presently, the South African (SA) health system is characterised by inadequate FM [2].

Aim (Phase 1-Ongoing):

- To provide an in-depth analysis of the district's (local level) finance unit.



Preliminary Results (1 District)

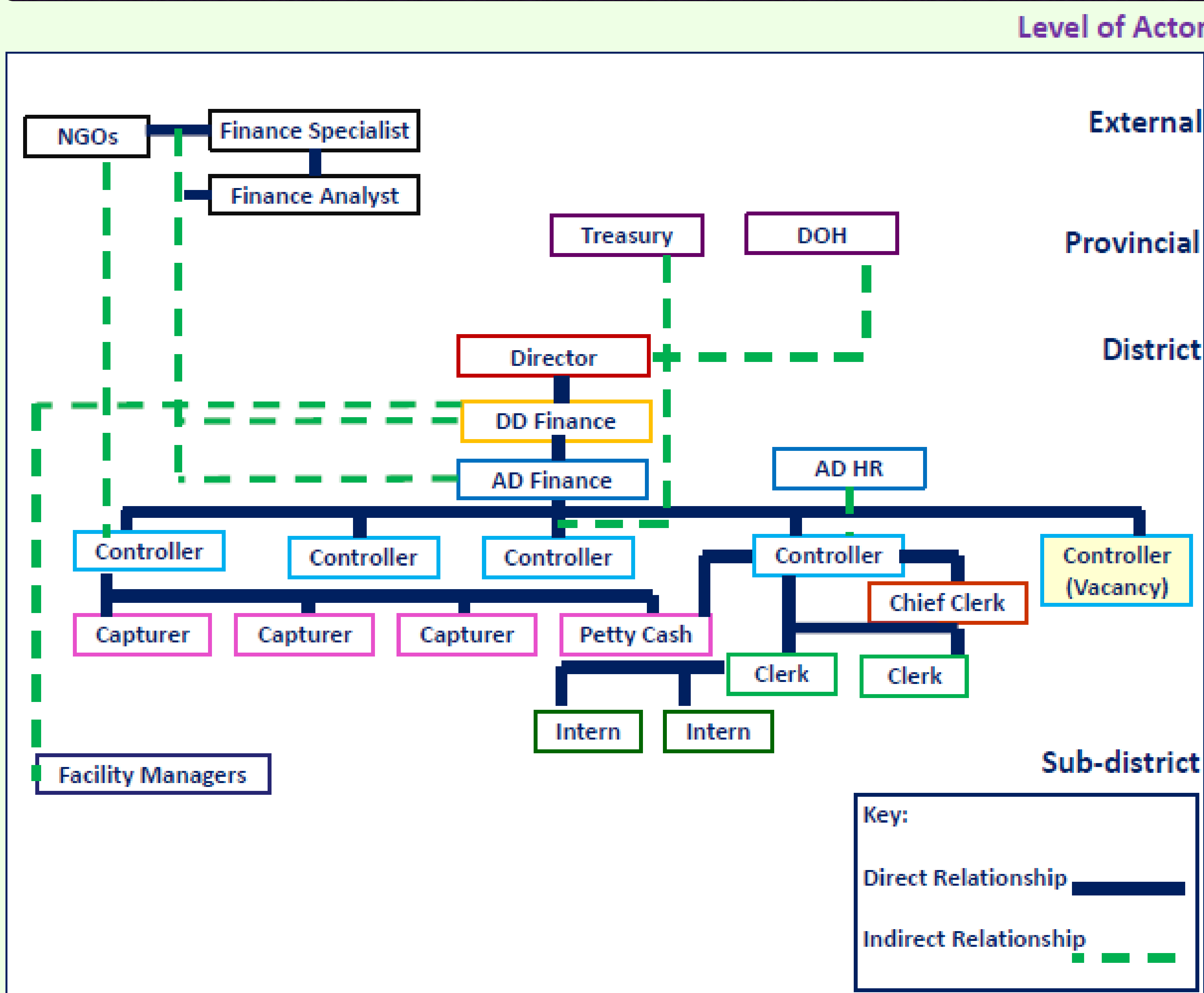


Figure 1: Actor Map (Organogram) District Finance Unit

By: S Choonara

- Health systems in SA currently operate in chaos this organogram is useful for internal communication and staff understanding the structure of the finance department.

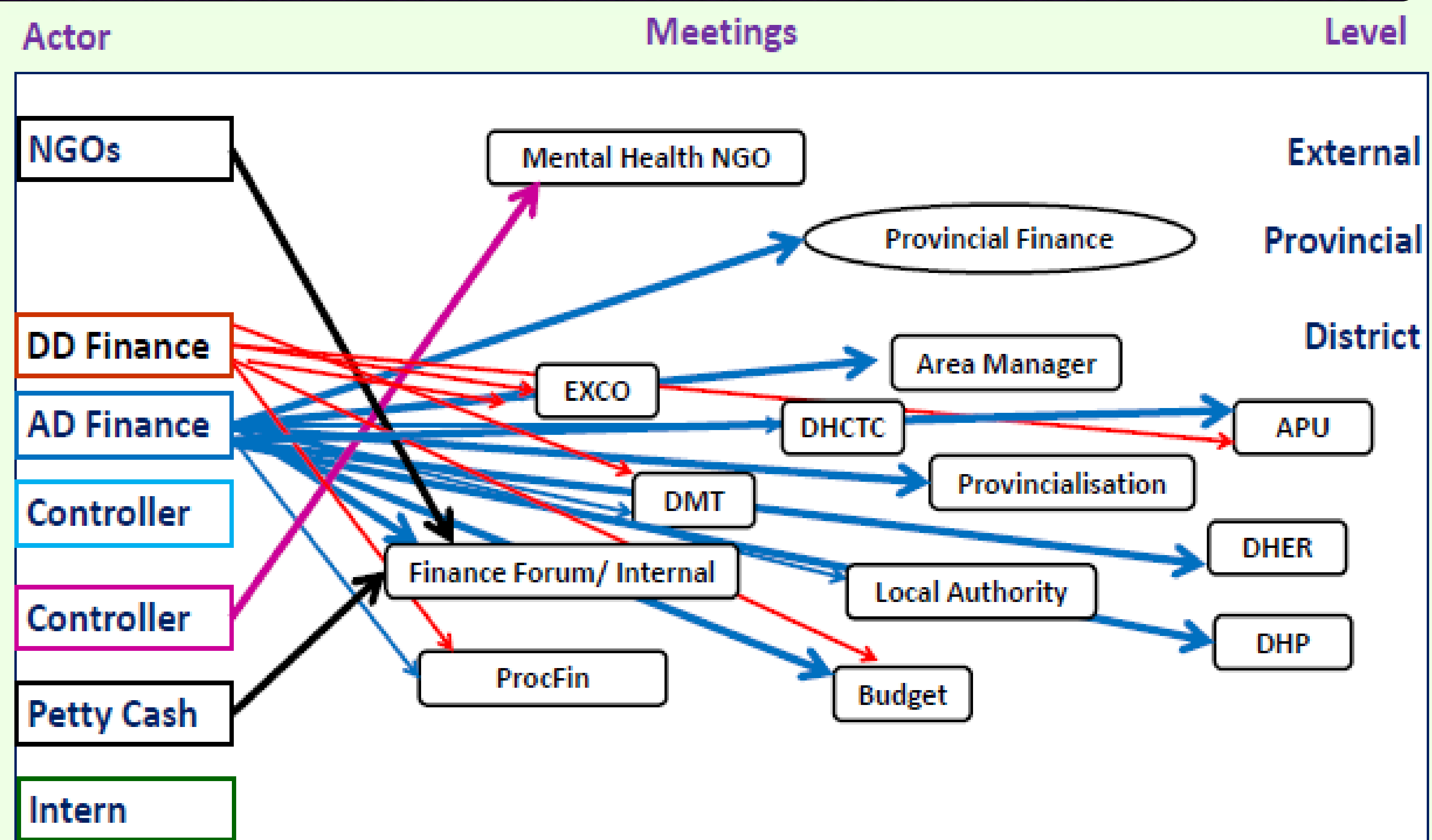


Figure 2: Meetings Attended District Finance Unit

By: S Choonara

- Senior staff attend a high number of meetings and do not have the time to attend to the workload/ FM tasks adequately.
- Junior staff attend few or no meetings & have no knowledge of the content/ key points of meetings.
- There is a disjunction between the junior & senior staff indicating a lack of teamwork which is possibly affecting the district's FM.

-Presently staff members in the district's finance unit operate in isolation, there is a lack of teamwork.
 -There is a lack of communication and the high number of meetings attended by senior staff is hampering functioning of the district's FM.
 -It is evident that minor changes are required to yield big improvements in FM at a district level.

References & Acknowledgement(s):

