



DONORS



EIB



EU



FRANCE



JAPAN



KUWAIT



OMAN



RECIPIENT COUNTRIES

- | | |
|-------------|--------|
| AFGHANISTAN | EGYPT |
| IRAQ | JORDAN |
| LEBANON | LIBYA |
| SUDAN | SYRIA |
| WBG | YEMEN |

Public Financial Management in Jordan

At the request of the Jordanian authorities, a METAC technical assistance mission visited Amman, Jordan, from May 22-29 to support the Ministry of Finance (MOF), the Ministry of Planning and the General Budget Department in the preparation of the capital budget. This included appraisal, planning and budgeting, recording and reporting of capital projects as part of a medium-term fiscal framework. The mission was headed by Mr. Pierre Messali, Public Financial Management Resident Advisor, and comprised Mr. David Webber, short-term expert.

Statistics in Lebanon

Mr. Jean Galand, METAC Statistics Advisor, visited the Banque du Liban during May 23-26 to review the preparatory work aimed at the publication of the first International Investment Position statement for Lebanon in the 2011 version of the Balance of Payments Statistics Yearbook.

Debt Management in Sudan

Ms. Nelly Batchoun, METAC Debt Management and Money Market development Advisor, conducted two back-to-back missions to Sudan during May 7-17. The objectives of these missions were to develop the capacity of the MOF and the Central Bank of Sudan staff in managing domestic and external debt. In particular, the mission provided assistance in the reorganization of the domestic debt department at MOF; prepared a new organizational structure with main functions and responsibilities of a debt management office; and conducted a workshop on debt management strategy.

Coordinator's Visit to DC

Mr. Saade Chami, METAC Coordinator, visited IMF Headquarters (HQ) in early May where he met with technical assistance departments, the Office for Technical Assistance Management, and country teams in the Middle East and Central Asia Department. In his meetings, Mr. Chami discussed the work plan for FY2012 and the need for contingency planning given the events in the region. It was also an opportunity to review with relevant departments various initiatives taken by METAC and discuss ways in which cooperation with HQ and donors could be enhanced further to respond more efficiently to member countries' needs.

METAC New Banking Supervision Advisor

We are glad to announce that Mr. Rachid Awad joined METAC in May 2011 as the new Banking Supervision Resident Advisor. Before joining METAC, Mr. Awad served for more than two years as the IMF resident advisor for Banking Supervision at the Central Bank of Libya. Prior to that, Mr. Awad worked for more than eleven years at the Banking Control Commission of Lebanon (BCCL) as a senior examiner in the off-site supervision function. During his career at the BCCL, Mr. Awad played an active role in drafting many regulations and developing supervision practices, in particular those related to implementing international financial reporting standards and Basel standards in the Lebanese banking sector.

Upcoming Events

“Developing Debt Management Strategies” Workshop in Jordan

METAC and the Central Bank of Jordan are organizing a joint regional workshop on “Developing Debt Management Strategies: Designing a Strategy for Effective Risk Mitigation” in Jordan, from June 28-30. The workshop will focus on developing sound debt management strategies. It will give some prominence to risk factors that go beyond the more standard approaches and focus on developing a strategy that more fully takes account of macroeconomic vulnerabilities, exposure to contingent liabilities, potential cross-country spillovers and vulnerabilities in the investor base.

Revenue Administration Missions in Lebanon and Jordan

METAC is planning two missions in the area of tax administration in June. The first mission to the MOF in Lebanon aims to assist the tax authorities with the establishment of integrated HQ functions in the tax administration in preparation for the merger of income tax and value added tax departments. The second mission to the Income and Sales Tax Department of Jordan aims to review progress in implementing effective integrated HQs, strengthen the related structural and organizational arrangements, and improve the strategic and operational planning.

