



AFGHANISTAN	LIBYA
EGYPT	SUDAN
IRAQ	SYRIA
JORDAN	WBG
LEBANON	YEMEN

Follow-up on Strengthening Enforcement Framework Afghanistan

In response to a request from Da Afghanistan Bank (DAB), Mr. Rachid Awad, METAC Banking Supervision Resident Advisor conducted a technical assistance (TA) mission in Kabul, from January 15-22, 2013 to follow up on the enforcement framework and to assist in preparing a medium-term action plan for strengthening banking supervision.

The mission reviewed the self-assessment made by DAB staff on the compliance with Basel Core principles for effective banking supervision and the recommendations in this respect. Based on this, the outline of the medium-term action plan was discussed and a roadmap for drafting the plan was agreed upon. The mission also provided DAB with recommendations on enhancing the enforcement framework in order to better address the weaknesses in the Afghani banking sector.

Building Cash Management Egypt

In response to a request from the Ministry of Finance (MOF), a TA mission visited Cairo from January 13-21, 2013 to assist the authorities with the implementation of the November 2011 Fiscal Affairs Division mission's recommendations related to financial planning and cash management. The mission was led by Mr. Jacques Charaoui, METAC Public Financial Management Resident Advisor and comprised Mr. Farooq Khan, METAC short-term expert.

The mission identified main issues and provided recommendations in key areas of budget execution reforms in Egypt. Implementing these reforms in an integrated manner would enable the MOF to perform all the functions of a modern central fiscal management agency and lead to a more efficient and effective budget execution process.

Revenue Administration Mission Sudan

A METAC mission visited Khartoum, Sudan, from January 20-31, 2013 to strengthen the capacity of the Taxation Chamber in designing and administering efficient tax compliance programs. The mission was headed by Ms. Manal Assir, METAC Revenue Administration Advisor, and comprised Mr. Georges Maarrawi, METAC short-term expert.

The mission held intensive meetings with the authorities and organized on-site workshops and hands-on training sessions aiming at strengthening the role and operations of the central tax compliance unit. As such, the organizational structure and functional statements of this unit were revised and clarified, and training sessions on risk-based audit planning and risk analysis were delivered. The authorities were very appreciative of METAC's assistance in this critical tax reform area and valued the substantial input of the mission.

Developing Capacities for Expenditure Policy Analysis Jordan

A TA mission to the General Budget Department (GBD) in Jordan took place from January 13-21, 2013 with a series of seminars for budget analysts on the techniques of expenditure policy analysis and review. Mr. David Webber, METAC short-term expert, described to GBD staff various methods of policy analysis and presented two case studies for analyzing current expenditure issues in Jordan. It is expected that, as a follow-on activity, GBD will develop a formal program of expenditure policy reviews to be undertaken as part of the annual budget cycle.

National Accounts – Sudan

Mr. Kotb Salem, METAC short-term expert, visited Khartoum from January 6-17, 2013 to assist the Central Bureau of Statistics in constructing price index files, setting up a work plan for economic and agricultural censuses, collecting data from the Ministry of Finance and National Economy, and in building the national accounts compilation system.

