



COUNTRIES-DONORS: EGYPT | JORDAN | LEBANON | LIBYA |  
COUNTRIES: AFGHANISTAN | IRAQ | SUDAN | SYRIA | WEST BANK & GAZA | YEMEN

## Technical Assistance Missions

### *Iraq*

#### Banking Supervision

During November 3-4, 2015, METAC Banking Supervision Advisor joined an IMF HQ mission for Iraq in Jordan. Discussions with the head of the Bank's Supervision Department at the Central Bank of Iraq (CBI) focused on the progress made in reviewing and assessing the CBI prudential regulations in banking supervision, a project that METAC is assisting the CBI with.

Also for Iraq, METAC hired a short-term expert to review and assess the CBI's regulatory framework in banking supervision. The mission identified the regulations that need to be improved to be in line with the guidelines of Basel Committee on Banking Supervision and International best practices and new regulations that the CBI should implement to enhance and complete this framework.

#### Statistics

A mission on price statistics was conducted for Iraq in Jordan during November 22 –26, 2015. The mission reviewed and assessed the price indexes compiled by the Central Organization of Statistics and Information Technologies (COSIT) of Iraq. Recommendations were provided for possible further expansion of the coverage of the indexes, better methodological compliance with the international standards, and good compilation practices. The mission established and agreed with the authorities on a program for further development of price statistics.

#### Public Financial Management (PFM)

METAC PFM Advisor joined an IMF HQ mission during November 3- 11, 2015 to provide guidance on the steps to review the latest draft of the PFM law, design a commitment control system and advise of program-based budgeting. The mission met with the Iraqi authorities in Jordan and overlapped with a Middle East and Central Asia Department mission.

## Revenue Administration

### *Lebanon*

A mission on the use of indirect audit methods that took place during October 26- November 6, reviewed the current practices for raising assessments and making adjustments to taxpayers' returns in cases where fraudulent behavior is suspected, or supporting documents and records are inadequate. The mission made recommendations for assessing such taxpayers' liabilities at a realistic and legally supportable level.

On a related matter, following a METAC technical assistance mission in 2014 to review the risk based audit program for Large Taxpayer Office (LTO) taxpayers, LTO compliance have implemented a risk differentiation framework. This enables the LTO to prioritize their efforts to focus on the highest risk taxpayers, based on a set of objective and consistent parameters.

### *Jordan*

A mission was undertaken during November 1-12 to evaluate current impediments to maintaining an accurate and up-to-date taxpayer register, and make recommendations to address such impediments based on international good practice. Changes to the current legal and regulatory framework were suggested, based on examples from other countries.

### Postponement/Relocation of Regional Workshops

Given the recent security developments in Beirut, our regional workshop on Tax Administration Diagnostic Assessment Tool that is planned for December 9-11 will be moved to Jordan. The workshop on Statistics will be postponed until March 2016.

### METAC PLANNED MISSIONS

METAC planned missions for December 2015 can be found on our website at [www.imfmetac.org](http://www.imfmetac.org)

