



## Technical Assistance Missions

### Jordan

#### Public Financial Management

METAC provided technical assistance (TA) to the Ministry of Finance in Jordan on International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS) cash basis to enable the production of financial statements for the central government, and to assist in classifying the trust accounts and consolidating them into the fiscal tables published in the government finance bulletin.

#### Statistics

A METAC mission assisted the Department of Statistics (DOS) of Jordan in further development of national accounts, notably in rebasing the annual and quarterly GDP time series to 2010, adopted as a new base year. The mission reviewed and assessed the ongoing work and provided recommendations for finalizing the rebasing procedures. According to the agreed action plan, the GDP time series updated to 2010 base year will be ready for dissemination in July 2016. A follow up mission will be conducted for final assessment of the results before publishing the data.

### Iraq

#### Statistics

An offsite mission on national accounts was conducted in Jordan to assist the Central Organization of Statistics and Information Technologies (COSIT) of Iraq. The mission reviewed the progress achieved in recent years, mainly with regards to the adopted new benchmark year for national accounts estimates, replacing the previous one which was more than 27 years old. Recommendations on rebasing procedures and price and volume measures were provided. Furthermore, along with the planned methodological improvements, the development of the data sources for regular national accounts compilation is one of the key priorities for future TA.

### West Bank and Gaza

#### Revenue Administration

METAC provided TA in Ramallah to review the extent to which the forensic requirements for the successful litigation in cases of tax fraud and tax debt recovery are reflected in the working practices and procedures of the Tax Directorates. The mission also liaised with the General Prosecution Service of the government, as well as representatives of the judiciary, in order to make recommendations about improvements to be made.

### Lebanon

#### Banking Supervision

A METAC mission visited the Banking Control Commission of Lebanon (BCCL) and finalized a risk-based bank's examination procedure manual which is in line with international best practices. This manual will be implemented soon by the BCCL supervisors when examining banks. This will save the BCCL resources and efforts. The manual is the result of several peripatetics on and off-site missions conducted over seven months.

#### Participation in "Tax Policy and Administration: Theory and Practice" Workshop

METAC Revenue Administration Advisor participated as a presenter at a Fiscal Affairs Department (FAD) course at the Center for Economics and Finance in Kuwait. The subject of the course was Tax Policy and Administration: Theory and Practice, and was attended by participants from both METAC and non-METAC countries in the Middle East and North Africa region. This was the first time FAD had run a course covering both policy and administrative issues in the area of taxation. Participants were drawn from Finance Ministries, Central Banks and Tax Authorities.

## Technical Assistance Reports

Following the completion of the secured part of our website, we are pleased to announce that going forward; we will list in our newsletter all TA reports uploaded on our website for the month.

TA reports are available for member countries and donors who signed confidentiality agreement with the Fund. All uploaded TA reports can be accessed using the below link. An invitation to grant access is required and can be provided by METAC.

<https://extauth.imf.org/>

## METAC PLANNED MISSIONS

METAC planned missions for February 2016 can be found on our website at [www.imfmetac.org](http://www.imfmetac.org)

