

## **Real Sector Statistics**

### **Capacity Development Activities in Fiscal Year 2024**

#### **Egypt**

September 17-21, 2023: As part of a project to assist the Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics of Egypt (CAPMAS) to implement an improved supply and use tables (SUTs) compilation process to produce 2019/20 SUTs, METAC conducted hybrid missions during July and September 2023. The missions helped with generating most of the remaining outstanding initial SUT estimates, and with integrating them into the central compilation file. CAPMAS staff are now entering in the product balancing phase of the SUT compilation.

December 18-22, 2023: Four national accounts staff of MPED and two staff from CAPMAS participated in a peer-to-peer activity at the High Commission Plan in Morocco. The peer-to-peer activity increased staff capacities on the full integration of annual national accounts and supply and use tables.

January 21-February 1, 2024: At the request of the Egyptian Ministry of Planning and Economic Development (MPED), the mission assisted MPED with the improvement of GDP volume measurement. The mission reviewed the volume and price data available and advise on other methods of estimating the GDP by the production and expenditures approaches at constant prices. National accountants and price statisticians from the Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics (CAPMAS) joined the mission as prices and some volume indicators are produced and compiled by this institution. As this was Elirjeta Pepaj's first visit in Egypt as METAC's new regional statistics advisor, the mission visited CAPMAS offices to meet Mr. Mustapha Saad Badawi, the Head of the Economic and Mobilizing statistics and other key staff and to discuss their capacity development needs and priorities.

March 10-25, 2024: The mission assisted the Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics of Egypt (CAPMAS) to progress in compiling 2019/20 supply and use tables (SUT). Key outcomes were: i) the integration of all initial SUT estimates into the central file; ii) developing control aggregate tables for the goods-producing industries; and iii) initiating the balancing process and manually balancing several products.

#### **Iraq**

July 2-12, 2023: Following up on the mission held in February 2023, METAC assisted the Central Statistical Organization (CSO) of Iraq to progress significantly in the production of 2018 Supply and Use Tables (SUTs). The July 2023 mission helped with balancing the supply and use of all products and move the compilation exercise into the final validation and dissemination phase.

August 13-17, 2023: METAC assisted the Central Statistics Organization of Iraq to improve the residential property price indexes (RPPIs). The mission advised on applying hedonic regression techniques rather than stratification methods, which require significant effort and result in many unreported strata in the survey. Training was provided on using online listings, including how to collate and tidy them, how to analyze them, and how to calculate the resulting RPPIs.

November 26-28, 2023: METAC assisted the Central Statistics Organization (CSO) of Iraq in creating an experimental CPI compilation system based on chained short-term relatives and geometric means in Excel. The new compilation system was tested on real data from August 2023, and the results compared to those generated by the current system. CSO plans to introduce the new compilation system in early 2024.

February 25-March 7, 2024: METAC assisted the Iraqi Central Statistics Organization (CSO) with implementing a new CPI compilation system based on chained short-term relatives and geometric means in Excel, and partially updating the index weights. This new compilation system and updated index weights was introduced by the end of March 2024.

### **Jordan**

May 28-June 8, 2023: A METAC mission assisted the Jordanian Department of Statistics (DOS) in assessing the use of administrative records to compile national accounts for financial corporations. Using administrative data to replace or complement field surveys could result in higher quality data with less response burden and cost, thereby increasing the accuracy of national accounts compilation and increasing efficiency in producing them. The mission developed templates to acquire administrative data on banks, insurers, and money exchangers from the Central Bank of Jordan and developed a method to compile GDP estimates from the source data.

December 3-14, 2023: In response to a request from the Jordan Department of Statistics, the mission assisted the authorities in the assessment of the data sources and developing methods for the compilation of the non-observed economy in Jordan national accounts. Key outcomes included: i) training on concepts, definitions, and estimation methods; ii) review of source data for the non-observed economy; and iii) identification of improvements required to enhance GDP exhaustiveness and accuracy.

### **Lebanon**

April 22-26, 2024: A remote mission assisted the Central Administration for Statistics (CAS) of Lebanon with the development of a Construction Cost Index (CCI). The mission reviewed all of the development work completed by the CAS to date, identified potential methodological improvements, and helped to plan the remaining work required to publish the final index.

## **Syria**

April 25 – 29, 2024: An off-site mission in Egypt provided training and technical assistance to the Syrian Central Bureau of Statistics on the compilation of quarterly GDP (QGDP). This is the first METAC mission to Syria on national accounts. An inventory of the available annual and quarterly data sources was made and a roadmap for the compilation of QGDP statistics was drafted.

## **Tunisia**

October 9-12, 2023: The mission assisted the Tunisian National Institute of Statistics (INS) with the development of quarterly estimates of GDP by the expenditure approach (QGDPE). The mission recommended using detailed turnover and Value Added Tax (VAT) revenue data from VAT declarations to further improve QGDPE.

February 19-23, 2024: At the request of the Tunisian Statistical Institute (INS), the mission assisted with the development of sectoral non-financial balance sheets (NFBS) statistics. A first plausible estimate of total non-financial assets of dwellings held by household was compiled (time series 2014-2022). However, a close cooperation with other stakeholders remains key for the successful compilation of the NFBS held by corporations and government.

April 22-26, 2024: At the request of the Tunisian Statistical Institute (INS), the mission assisted with the treatment of certain statistical issues and discrepancies between the current account and the non-financial account for the rest of the world.

## **West Bank and Gaza**

August 13-24, 2023: The mission assisted the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS) to enhance the compilation system for fixed based year annual estimates of production-based GDP and develop one for chain-linked estimates. The key areas of improvement were identified, and more disaggregated quantity and price indicators were used to estimates volumes using both deflation and extrapolation methods.

## **Yemen**

April 13–18, 2024: An off-site mission was organized in Jordan to provide training on national accounts compilation to the Central Statistical Organization of Yemen (CSO) national accounts staff. In addition, the mission created an inventory and assessed the existing data sources for GDP compilation in Yemen.