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**Regional Workshop on The Macroeconomics of Climate Change:
Policies in the Middle East and North Africa**

5-7 March 2024, Amman, Jordan

The Middle East Regional Technical Assistance Center hosted a regional workshop on “The Macroeconomics of Climate Change: Policies in the Middle East and North Africa” in collaboration with various IMF departments in Amman, Jordan. The workshop discussed the macro-criticality of climate change, policy options for mitigation and adaptation, and related good public financial management practices, resilience of financial institutions to climate risks, and climate finance tools. It also discussed how the IMF engages its member countries to address climate change issues.

The three-day workshop was delivered to 42 in-person participants from 13 countries (9 METAC countries and 4 GCC countries) as well as 7 remote participants. The event brought together policy-oriented mid- and senior-level officials of central banks, ministries of finance, environment, energy transition and sustainable development, and planning and economic development, to enhance their understanding of climate change-related economic policies. The Jordanian Minister of Environment Dr. Muawieh Radaideh provided opening remarks and highlighted the importance of addressing climate change challenges in the region.



Jordanian Minister of Environment Dr. Muawieh Radaideh speaking to the participants during the opening session.

The 12 workshop sessions included lectures, discussion sessions, and participant presentations that fostered an interactive peer exchange. The workshop also showcased toolkits developed by the IMF to analyze the effects of different climate change scenarios on fiscal projections and public

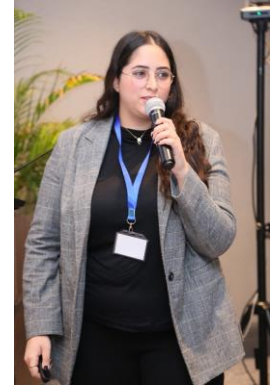
debt dynamics as well as tools to estimate the macroeconomic effects of climate mitigation policies. The lectures and tools were presented by nine facilitators from the IMF Institute for Capacity Development (ICD), Middle East and Central Asia Department (MCD), Fiscal Affairs Department (FAD), and the Research Department (RES).



Tjeerd Tim (FAD) and Chen Chen (ICD) during the lectures on green Public Financial Management and Mitigation Policies, respectively.

Dedicated discussion sessions featured regional country experiences in responding to climate challenges. Mr. Abdelali Eddebbagh from the Moroccan Ministry of Economy and Finance presented the Moroccan experience with the IMF-supported Resilience and Sustainability Facility (RSF) program and the Technical Assistance (TA) Morocco receives in this regard. Discussants from the IMF outlined reform measures contributing to Morocco's climate objectives and how IMF TA helps the Moroccan authorities in assessing climate change-related fiscal risks. In an additional discussion session, Mr. Belal Shqarin from the Jordanian Ministry of Environment discussed key tools and strategies for setting up climate finance policies and highlighted the Ministry's efforts in supporting Jordan's national climate strategies.

In peer-to-peer exchanges, workshop participants shared valuable country experiences. For instance, Dr. Kais H. Alwan from the Ministry of Environment in Iraq illustrated Iraq's main climate challenges, and the Ministry's strategies to reducing the adverse impact of climate change on Iraq's agricultural sector. Ms. Salma Alnaggar from the Central Bank of Egypt (CBE) gave an overview of the CBE's efforts to strengthen the resilience of Egypt's banking sector to transition and physical risks from climate change. Ms. Sarah Jamali from the Ministry of Economy and Finance in Morocco described the Ministry's efforts in scaling up green private finance. Several other workshop participants made highly appreciated interventions.



Participants providing interventions and showcasing their country's efforts to deal with climate change.

The event was well received and benefitted from lively discussions with and among the participants, who shared their views and examples of regional challenges and experiences. METAC is planning further events on climate change policies in collaboration with IMF departments and regional partners.



Formal participant interventions were contributed by:

- Mr. Aiad Shwekat (Ministry of Finance, Libya)
- Mmes. Christine Ragai and Nada Yacoub (Ministry of Planning and Economic Development, Egypt)
- Dr. Kais H. Alwan (Ministry of Environment, Iraq)
- Eng. Lydia Elewa (Ministry of Environment, Egypt)
- Mr. Manar Abu Hazeem (Ministry of Environment, Jordan)
- Ms. Menna Fahmy (Ministry of Finance, Egypt)
- Ms. Mira Aktouf (Ministry of Finance, Algeria)
- Mr. Mustafa Al-Behadili (Central Bank of Iraq)
- Ms. Pauline Girot de Langlade (Embassy of France in Jordan)
- Ms. Salma Alnaggar (Central Bank of Egypt)
- Ms. Sarah Jamali (Ministère de l'Économie et des Finances, Morocco)
- Ms. Souad Idriss Farah (Ministry of Budget, Djibouti)
- Ms. Zeineb Sammouda and Mr. Brahim Mehdi Benlallouna (Central Bank of Tunisia)