METAC Monthly Newsletter
Issue No. 89 – July 2017

DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS: European Union | France | Germany | Switzerland | The Netherlands
MEMBERS - CONTRIBUTORS: Algeria | Egypt | Iraq | Lebanon | Sudan
MEMBERS: Afghanistan | Djibouti | Jordan | Libya | Morocco | Syria | Tunisia | West Bank & Gaza | Yemen

Technical Assistance (TA) and Training Missions

Banking Supervision

Afghanistan

METAC continued its support to Da Afghanistan Bank (DAB) on how to supervise weak and problem banks and address the weaknesses and poor governance practices in the banking sector. The mission developed a framework’s structure to deal with weak banks together with guidelines on corrective actions that DAB may take against these banks. It also advised reorganizing DAB’s Financial Supervision Department to improve the supervision of weak banks.

Jordan

As part of its support to the Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ), METAC assisted the CBJ supervisors on the use of the Next Generation Liquidity (NGL) ’s model, and helped identify and set up the data for some sections of the model, which had remained unused. The mission also provided training on the interaction between liquidity and solvency in a single bank and multi bank scenarios, as well as on stress testing interest rate risk in the banking book (IRRBB) and on stress testing Domestic Systemically Important Banks (DSIBs). Last, the mission explained how to incorporate the stress test results of DSIBs in the solvency and liquidity stress-test of the banking sector.

Lebanon

To enhance the risk-management capacities of the Banking Control Commission of Lebanon (BCCL), METAC trained the BCCL supervisors on the concepts and practices of stress-testing implemented by banks, and their role in the Internal Capital Adequacy Assessment Process (ICAAP); integrating the review of ICAAP stress-testing in their supervisory review and evaluation exercises; and how to set up and administer a bottom-up stress testing process, and collate and evaluate results. The mission also introduced to the BCCL supervisors the concepts of multi-period stress-testing, and associated issues in preparation for the subsequent multi-period related training.

Public Financial Management (PFM)

Iraq

Iraq is strengthening control on budget execution to improve the quality of spending and prevent the accumulation of payment arrears. The Fiscal Affairs Department of the IMF and METAC have supported the design of templates and procedures to improve the budgetary and financial reporting on the key stages of the expenditure process. As the authorities are implementing these recommendations in their internal procedures, METAC organized a seminar during July 18-20, 2017 to develop related capacities within the Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Planning, and Bureau of Supreme Audit. Building on recent IMF research, the relevance to the specific context of Iraq of good practices and international experiences on commitment control was extensively
discussed. METAC’s PFM Advisor also advised on ways to address operational and practical issues related to the implementation of the new mechanisms, including change management challenges. METAC will provide further support to Iraq on budget execution control and cash management in the coming months.

**Sudan**

The Fiscal Affairs Department of the IMF and METAC assist the Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning of Sudan in designing and implementing public financial management (PFM) reforms. These reforms are essential to cope with macroeconomic challenges arising, inter alia the loss of oil revenues following the secession of South Sudan in 2011 and US sanctions. In this context, METAC supported the development of capacities related to macro-fiscal forecasting within the Sudanese government. The mission delivered hands-on training on forecasting and reporting and provided support to update the macrofiscal framework, using in-year forecast of the 2017 budget.

**Revenue Administration**

**Morocco**

METAC’s revenue administration advisor, Mr. Patrick De Mets, visited Rabat to confirm with the authorities the focus and scope of future METAC TA in selected priority areas. Meetings were held with the Director General of the Tax Administration, senior directors of the Moroccan Customs Administration and the resident European Union (EU) twinning advisor. A roadmap for further TA was discussed, and METAC’s future TA was coordinated with the resident EU twinning advisor.

**Statistics**

**Afghanistan**

METAC assisted the Central Statistics Office (CSO) of Afghanistan in updating the base year for GDP estimates to 2013/14 (1393 Solar year). The off-site mission, which took place in Amman, assessed the household surveys results, and trained the CSO staff on using the data to estimate independently household final consumption expenditure and informal household production. It recommended updates on the household survey questionnaire to more comprehensive data needed for estimating the informal activities of households. Data sources for government accounts were also reviewed and recommendations provided. The authorities aim to complete a provisional version of the benchmark GDP estimates for 2014/15 by December 2017.

**Egypt**

METAC continued its assistance to the Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics (CAPMAS) and the Ministry of Planning (MOP) on national accounts statistics. The mission focused on improving the consolidation of sources and the compilation of procedures for consistent measurement of GDP in the annual and quarterly accounts (in the MOP), and supply and use tables (SUT) in the CAPMAS. Special attention was paid to the treatment of VAT (introduced in September 2016), and the procedures for measuring product taxes and subsidies in volume terms. The mission assisted the national compilers in CAPMAS in compiling the 2014/15 SUT, to be finalized in October-November 2017.

**Jordan**

METAC continued to assist the Department of Statistics (DOS) of Jordan on the compilation of the 2013 supply and use table (SUT), and integration of the results into the regular national accounts compilation system. The compilation of the SUT was done by focusing on source data and procedures for the valuation of the resources of goods and services at purchaser prices, and their proper allocation to user categories. Hands-on training was provided to the staff on the allocation of output, associated fees, and incidental market sales of non-market producers in the frame of SUTs. Further technical assistance is scheduled in the following months to support the authorities in completing the table before the end of 2017.
The following TA reports were uploaded on METAC’s website during July 2017. Steering Committee members of countries and donors who have signed a confidentiality agreement with the IMF can request the reports by sending an email to metacss@imf.org

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TA Reports</th>
<th>METAC Planned Missions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Banking Supervision</strong></td>
<td><strong>Country</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Djibouti</td>
<td>Egypt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jordan</td>
<td>Libya</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Public Financial Management</strong></td>
<td>Sudan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Statistics</strong></td>
<td>West Bank and Gaza</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Egypt</td>
<td>Jordan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Accounts</td>
<td>Statistics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sudan</td>
<td>National Accounts</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**IMF Online Courses**

Available to government officials and, in some cases, to the general public through [www.imf.org/institute-online](http://www.imf.org/institute-online) and [https://www.edx.org/school/imfx](https://www.edx.org/school/imfx). Current and forthcoming online courses include:

- **Financial Programming and Policies, Part 2: Program Design (FPP.2x)**
  Language: English, August 30, 2017-October 18, 2017 (7 Weeks)
  Course conducted online
  **Apply online by August 23, 2017**

- **Financial Programming and Policies, Part 1: Macroeconomic Accounts & Analysis (FPP.1x)**
  Language: French, September 13, 2017-October 25, 2017 (7 Weeks)
  Course conducted online
  **Apply online by September 6, 2017**