

Technical Assistance (TA) and Training Missions

Banking Supervision



Algeria

As part of its assistance to Algeria in implementing the Pillar 2 of Basel II/III, a METAC mission helped Banque d'Algérie (BA) develop a framework for the Internal Capital Adequacy Assessment Process (ICAAP). The framework focused on assessing capital adequacy on solo and consolidated bases under normal and stressful situations, while recognizing the principle of proportionality regarding its scope, frequency of reporting, reference, and remittance dates. The mission advised BA to discuss with banks' management and external auditors the draft ICAAP framework prior to its formal release, to test banks' readiness for its implementation and detect its impact on banks' capital adequacy. The mission also reviewed the applicable regulations/instructions enforced by BA related to Pillar 2 of Basel II, and advised BA to develop additional regulations to assess banks' risk profiles.



West Bank and Gaza

In response to the Palestine Monetary Authority (PMA) request, METAC provided capacity development on the implementation of the International Financial Reporting Standard (IFRS) 9 of the International Accounting Standards Board, and assisted PMA in upgrading its current supervisory guidance on "loan loss provisioning" taking into account the requirements of this standard. IFRS 9 defines the accounting approach for recording the impairment of financial assets based on expected credit losses instead of incurred losses. The mission also assessed the preparedness of banks, auditors and PMA supervisors with respect to IFRS 9's classification, measurement and provisioning, and provided several recommendations for the smooth and robust implementation of IFRS9.

Public Financial Management (PFM)



Afghanistan

In the context of the ongoing program supported by the Extended Credit Facility, the authorities are committed to continue to implement strong fiscal reform efforts. In the PFM area, their priorities include (i) improving formulation, execution and reporting of the budget, (ii) ensuring a pro-growth composition of expenditures, and (iii) strengthening commitment control and cash management. To support the ongoing consolidation of PFM reforms, METAC organized a one-week seminar aiming at deepening the understanding of PFM issues among staff who are engaged in capacity building projects and institutional reform. Using a mixture of lectures and group discussions, the seminar built understanding of priority reforms, their effective sequencing, and the linkages between the components of PFM and improved economic and fiscal performance.



Jordan

In the context of the ongoing program supported by the Extended Fund Facility, Jordan is committed to reduce public debt and strengthen the fiscal policy framework. Measures to strengthen PFM aim at improving the management of fiscal risks and the monitoring of government's underlying fiscal position, including by reforming public sector accounting practices. Since November 2014, an "International Public Sector Accounting Standard (IPSAS) Implementation Roadmap" has aimed at publishing the 2019 government financial statements in compliance with the requirement of IPSAS. Following the publication of the 2015 cash-flow statement in line with Cash-Basis IPSAS, the authorities have initiated the development of accounting and reporting of all assets and liabilities. A METAC expert supported the authorities in (i) reviewing the consistency of the IPSAS action plan with actual capacities, and (ii) analyzing the organization and process required to produce timely and reliable financial and fiscal reports.



Following up on its earlier training and advice in December 2016, METAC organized a seminar to support the convergence of the Lebanese government’s financial reporting with international standards. Eighteen representatives from the Ministry of Finance of Lebanon participated in the discussions. The seminar included a combination of lectures, case studies, and group discussions. Participants discussed the progress made by the Lebanese Ministry of Finance to prepare its first financial statements in accordance with the Cash-Basis IPSAS and the way to overcome the remaining challenges. METAC presented international experiences and provided technical advice to improve the overall quality of financial reporting, fiscal transparency, and accountability. The IPSAS committee is working to finalize a first draft of financial statements, in accordance with the Cash-Basis IPSAS, in the upcoming months. METAC will continue to support the authorities’ efforts to implement the IPSAS and bolster fiscal transparency.

Statistics



METAC assisted the Central Administration of Statistics of Lebanon in continuing to improve the consumer price index (CPI). The mission addressed the treatment of missing prices in the calculation of the index; data collection issues, including the management of field work; the collection of prices for electronic goods and select services; the treatment of promotions and sales in the index; and the lack of detailed metadata on CPI methods. It advised enhancing the monthly analysis of the analysis in the monthly CPI press release, by better describing the key contributions to the overall change in CPI. The mission also discussed and agreed with the authorities on a program to develop a Producer Price Index, by focusing on the elaboration of weights and a sample frame of establishments.

TA Reports

The following TA reports were uploaded on METAC’s website during October 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

	Sudan
Revenue Administration	Progress in Implementing Risk Management in Customs
	Lebanon
Statistics	Residential Property Price Index

IMF Online Courses

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

- Debt Sustainability and Debt Management for Low-Income Countries (DSLx)**
 Language: French, October 2, 2017-December 29, 2017 (13 Weeks)
 Course conducted online
Apply online by December 15, 2017
- Debt Sustainability Analysis (DSAx)**
 Language: English, October 2, 2017-December 29, 2017 (13 Weeks)
 Course conducted online
Apply online by December 15, 2017

METAC Planned Missions

METAC planned missions for November 2017 are:

Country	Topics	Resident Advisor	Short-Term Expert	Dates
Banking Supervision				
Egypt	Capacity development on securitization	Ahmad El Radi	Tijs de Bie	11/05-09
Tunisia	Consolidated Supervision	Ahmad El Radi	Luc Riedweg	11/20-24
Public Financial Management				
Algeria	Medium Term expenditure frameworks, fiscal risk, and budget information system	Xavier Rame	-	11/07-16
Algeria	Medium Term expenditure frameworks	-	Thomas Kurkdjian	11/07-21
Regional Workshop	Cash Management	Xavier Rame	Mike Williams	11/26-29
Revenue Administration				
Tunisia	Review the existing practices for management of large taxpayers	Patrick De Mets	Chaouki Hamad	11/19-30
Statistics				
Jordan	National Accounts	Todor Todorov	-	11/19-30
Regional Workshop	Price Indexes	-	Muhanad Sammar	11/06-09