

Technical Assistance and Training Activities

Banking Supervision

LEBANON

METAC assisted the Banking Control Commission of Lebanon (BCCL) in building capacity in multi-period solvency stress testing, and single period contagion testing. Whereas previous assistance focused on assembling and validating the required data for the tests, this activity dealt with residual data issues, start-date analysis (i.e. to rigorously assess the position of the banks as at the date set for the start of the tests), scenario building, stress assumption development, and model configuration for the tests. The mission culminated with preliminary tests designed to flush out problems prior to conducting full tests. The mission collaborated with the Risk Assessment Department, which has principal responsibility for the tests, the Macro Studies Department, which develops the macroeconomic assumptions for the tests model, and the Electronic Data Processing Department, which is building a streamlined data gathering process.

TUNISIA

METAC continued supporting the Central Bank of Tunisia (CBT) in developing a framework on internal capital adequacy assessment. Within this framework, METAC helped the CBT supervisors enhance their bank risk-profile assessment and supervisory rating system (SYNTEC). During the mission, two draft regulations on internal capital adequacy

assessment process (ICAAP) and interest rate risk in the banking book (IRRBB) and corresponding supervisory reporting requirements were finalized. They are expected to be issued by the authorities soon. In addition, METAC made proposals to the CBT to enhance the reporting framework by collecting, on a yearly basis, reports aimed at reflecting liquidity transformation and interest rate transformation, which will further support the risk-profile assessment processes and allow for assessing potential adverse developments (notably on liquidity risks) due to unsound transformation of sight deposits. Further training was delivered with the aim of building supervisory capacity on liquidity management, critical review of ICAAP reports, asset and liability management (in line with the IRRBB draft regulation). Workshops were also organized with the different teams in charge of improving and documenting the new SYNTEC methodology, introducing interactions and risk-leverages with regard to their combined actual/potential impacts on the overall liquidity and solvency conditions.

Public Financial Management

LEBANON

Following the July 2018 Public Investment Management Assessment, the IMF's Fiscal Affairs Department and METAC assisted



the authorities in producing a medium-term action plan to support strengthening of infrastructure governance. In this context, this workshop aimed at developing capacity in the Ministry of Finance to assess the fiscal implications of Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) and identifying institutional arrangements to control the related fiscal risks. The workshop assisted key stakeholders of PPPs management within the Ministry of Finance in reaching common understanding of key concepts related to PPPs and their respective roles. Looking forward, Lebanon will need to further develop its analytical tools and governance infrastructures to support this function of fiscal management.

SUDAN

A METAC expert supported the Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning to increase the time-horizon of cash programming from one to three months. This will improve the ability of spending units to implement their budget, and the overall effectiveness of cash management by the Treasury. The expert worked with key stakeholders to prepare the inclusion in the Treasury Single Account (TSA) of extra-budgetary funds and selected public corporations. Discussions focused on the selection of entities, the sequencing of their inclusion into the TSA system, required changes to the TSA design, and impacts on cash forecasting practices. A template for daily

cash forecasting for 30 days ahead was developed for the cash management unit.

A METAC expert assisted the authorities in preparing their first draft Fiscal Risk Statement, in line with international standards and practices.

The document discloses some key fiscal risks and identifies the areas requiring further analysis. A fiscal risk reporting roadmap was defined, proposing a step-by-step approach to be implemented until the end of 2019, starting with the most significant fiscal risks. Last, an action plan to develop a reporting process on fiscal risks was prepared.

Statistics

JORDAN

METAC evaluated current practices in the compilation of national accounts and proposed improvements to concepts definitions and methodologies. It also developed the knowledge capacity of staff to improve current practices.

SUDAN

METAC provided technical assistance on price statistics to the Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS). It worked with staff to assess the methodological and data source challenges they currently face in estimating the consumer price index (CPI), and to develop plans for improvements.

METAC also conducted training to CBS staff to enhance their knowledge in the concepts and preparation of national accounts. The workshop was attended by 13 participants, 9 of whom were new employees in the National Accounts section.

TUNISIA

METAC worked with the Tunisian Institute of National Statistics to review the rental survey and made recommendations for its improvement, in line with good practice. The results of the survey are to be incorporated into the CPI and published as a regular stand-alone report.

WEST BANK AND GAZA

METAC assisted the Central Bureau of Statistics in preparing the data files for the 2017 supply and use tables, which are planned to be published in the second quarter of 2019. The mission focused on specific technical topics such as trade and transport margins, trade valuation (cost, insurance, freight/free on board) adjustments, and taxes on products and production.

Regional Workshop

GENDER RESPONSIVE BUDGETING

Delegations from 9 countries (Afghanistan, Algeria, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Morocco, Sudan, Tunisia, and West Bank and Gaza) and representatives of the European Union, UNICEF, and civil society organizations attended the workshop.



The gender aspects of inclusive growth have attracted significant attention from policymakers and researchers in recent years. The purpose of this workshop was to bring

some of the practices and analytical tools to METAC members. It facilitated extensive peer-to-peer discussions of METAC countries' practices, challenges, and possible solutions. It also provided a venue to present the IMF analytical work on gender responsive budgeting and inclusive growth in the MENA region. Discussions focused on how public financial management institutions and practices can support the operationalization of gender-responsive fiscal policies and, more broadly, shape more inclusive societies.

A METAC survey conducted prior to the workshop highlighted the achievements and challenges of member countries in incorporating a gender-sensitive lens in their budget process. In addition to cultural obstacles, many countries face challenges in gathering relevant data. At the same time, countries shared highly inspiring achievements. During the wrap-up session, participants discussed the need to go beyond gender issues and make budget institutions more sensitive to the specific needs of the most vulnerable parts of the population, such as children, and ensure that no one is left behind.

Meet METAC's New Advisor

Mr. Didier Casier is METAC's new banking supervision advisor. Didier has 25 years of central banking experience, with in-depth



knowledge of banking regulation and supervision, gained in the National Bank of Belgium and as a resident advisor of the IMF in Ukraine. During 2016-2019, Didier supported the efforts of the

National Bank of Ukraine in implementing far reaching banking sector reforms and developing the institutional capacity in banking regulation and supervision. He animated numerous workshops for the National Bank of Ukraine school of banking supervision, and hands-on training to the banking inspectors and supervisors during the performance of their off-site and on-site supervision activities. We welcome Didier to METAC and look forward to working with him.

Technical Assistance Reports

The following TA reports were uploaded to METAC's website. Steering Committee members of countries and donors who have signed a confidentiality agreement with the IMF may access the reports @ www.imfmetac.org

Revenue Administration	Afghanistan
	Implementation of a Single Large Taxpayers Office
	Jordan
	Dispute Resolution Acting Upon Outcomes

IMF Online Courses

Available to government officials and, in some cases, to the general public through <http://imf.smartcatalogiq.com> and <https://www.edx.org/school/imfx>

Current and forthcoming online courses include:

- **Financial Programming and Policies, Part 2: Program Design (FPP.2x)**
 Language: English, March 6, 2019 – April 24, 2019
 Course Conducted Online
Apply online by March 4, 2019
- **Macroeconomic Management in Resource-Rich Countries (MRCx)**
 Language: French, April 10, 2019 – May 29, 2019
 Course Conducted Online
Apply online by April 3, 2019
- **Financial Programming and Policies, Part 1: Macroeconomic Accounts and Analysis (FPP.1x)**
 Language: Arabic, May 1, 2019 – October 31, 2019
 Course Conducted Online
Apply online by April 24, 2019
- **Macroeconomic Diagnostics (MDSx)**
 Language: English, May 1, 2019 – June 12, 2019
 Course Conducted Online
Apply online by April 24, 2019
- **Financial Programming and Policies, Part 2: Program Design (FPP.2x)**
 Language: French, May 22, 2019 – July 10, 2019
 Course Conducted Online
Apply online by May 15, 2019

Planned Activities in March 2019

Country	Topics	Resident Advisor	Short-Term Expert	Dates
Banking Supervision				
Algeria	Supervisory Review and Evaluation Process	Didier Casier	Francois Gomez	17 - 21
West Bank and Gaza	Training on SREP	Didier Casier	Roland Raskopf	24 - 28
Public Financial Management				
Iraq	Chart of Accounts and Budget Classification	Xavier Rame	Nouaman Al Assaimi	03 - 05
Lebanon	Workshop on Gender Responsive Budgeting	Xavier Rame	Johann Seiwald	26 - 28
Morocco	Fiscal Costs and Risks related to PPPs	Xavier Rame	Katja Funke	14 - 22
METAC Countries	Brief Analysis -Gender Responsive Budgeting	Xavier Rame	Johann Seiwald	04 -06
Revenue Administration				
Egypt	Development of a Medium-Term Revenue Strategy	Stoyan Markov	-	26 - 31
Lebanon	Development of a compliance improvement plan	Stoyan Markov	Paul Martens	18 - 29
West Bank and Gaza	Follow up mission on the establishment and functioning of a modern LTO	Stoyan Markov	John Box	10 - 21
Statistics				
Afghanistan	To improve the compilation of the current account and to further implement the sixth edition of the Balance of Payments and International Investment Position Manual (BPM6) recommendations and methodological changes	-	Renato Perez	March 31 - April 11
Lebanon	To review and expand quarterly GDP compilation system	Issam Alsammak	-	March 25 - April 05

Development Partners



Members - Contributors



Other Members



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