



AFGHANISTAN	EGYPT
IRAQ	JORDAN
LEBANON	LIBYA
SUDAN	SYRIA
WBG	YEMEN

Regional Workshop in Jordan on Debt Management Strategies

METAC organized a regional workshop on “Developing Debt Management Strategies” in Jordan, from June 28-30, 2011 with the participation of nine countries. The seminar focused on developing sound and effective debt management strategies that aim at mitigating a comprehensive set of risks. The workshop dealt with risk factors that go beyond the more standard approach while taking into account macroeconomic vulnerabilities, exposure to contingent liabilities, potential cross-country spillovers, and vulnerabilities in the investor base.



The workshop was moderated by Ms. Nelly Batchoun, METAC Public Debt Management Resident Advisor, Ms. Allison Holland, International Monetary Fund (IMF) Senior Financial Sector Expert and Mr. Patrick van der Wanssem, IMF Consultant on Debt Management and Market Development.

Sukuk Workshop and Technical Assistance in Dubai

METAC Public Debt Management Resident Advisor joined an IMF Headquarters based mission in Dubai from July 24-28, 2011 to conduct a workshop for the Afghan authorities on Sukuk. The purpose of the workshop was to introduce the Ministry of Finance and Central Bank of Afghanistan (DAB) officials to Shariah compliant financial instruments, Shariah financing and key Shariah principles and prohibitions, principal Islamic Finance structure and techniques and preconditions for a Sukuk market in Afghanistan. The workshop also provided the authorities with country examples and a Sukuk roadmap for the months ahead.

METAC Participation in an IMF Headquarters Mission to Egypt

In response to a request for technical assistance on tax administration from the Minister of Finance of Egypt during the April 2011 Spring meetings, a mission from the IMF Fiscal Affairs Department (FAD) visited Cairo from July 11-24, 2011. The mission comprised Mr. Peter Barrand (FAD Deputy Division Chief), Mr. Thomas Story (FAD Senior Economist), Ms. Manal Assir (METAC Revenue Administration Advisor) and Mr. William Crandall (Fiscal Expert).

The mission took stock of the current status of the Egyptian Tax Administration (ETA) modernization program, examined the ETA preparedness to evolve the Goods and Sales Tax (GST) into a Value-Added Tax (VAT) in line with recent FAD tax policy advice, and developed advice and recommendations on reform priorities and their broad sequencing and likely timing.

Islamic Banking Workshop in Sudan

A technical assistance mission visited Khartoum, Sudan from July 24-28, 2011 to deliver a workshop on Islamic Banking. The mission was led by Mr. Rachid Awad, METAC Banking Supervision Resident Advisor, and comprised Mr. Shehzad Tarique, a short-term expert.

The purpose of this workshop was to train the banking supervision staff of the Central Bank of Sudan on some very important Islamic banking supervision standards and practices. These included an analysis of the risks inherent in Islamic banking products and the application of various prudential measures to these products, with a particular focus on capital adequacy.

