



RECIPIENT COUNTRIES

AFGHANISTAN	EGYPT
IRAQ	JORDAN
LEBANON	LIBYA
SUDAN	SYRIA
WBG	YEMEN

Credit Registries in West Bank and Gaza and Sudan

METAC short term expert, Mr. Jim Aziz, conducted two missions to West Bank and Gaza (WBG) and Sudan. The mission to the WBG aimed to conduct a final assessment of the credit registry at the Palestine Monetary Authority (PMA) in line with international standards and best practices. The PMA credit registry has incorporated many additional features like credit scoring and consumers' rights protection and is considered one of the best in the region.

The mission to Sudan was to follow up on the implementation of the credit registry at the Central Bank of Sudan (CBOS). The CBOS credit registry project is in its final stage. The current mission aimed to review the status of the credit registry software implementation and the pending issues pertaining to data quality, in addition to providing additional recommendations to further upgrade the credit registry in line with international standards and best practices.

FAD and METAC in West Bank and Gaza

At the request of Dr. Salam Fayyad, Prime Minister and Minister of Finance of the Palestine National Authority, Mr. David Webber, METAC short term expert, participated in a diagnostic mission to WBG from December 1 to 12, 2011 led by the IMF Fiscal Affairs Department (FAD). The mission assessed overall progress in the implementation of the Public Financial Management (PFM) reform agenda that was agreed in 2009 and further updated in 2010. The mission also recommended an updated framework for PFM reforms for the period 2012-2014 and provided further strategic advice on advancing the reform process across the four main pillars: (i) legal and regulatory framework for PFM; (ii) budget integration reforms; (iii) PFM infrastructure reforms; and (iv) external accountability.

Balance of Payments Statistics West Bank and Gaza

As part of METAC's work program, Mr. Jean Galand, METAC Statistics Advisor, conducted a technical assistance (TA) mission on external statistics in Ramallah, West Bank and Gaza, from November 27 to December 1, 2011 to: (i) review the first recently compiled international investment position (IIP) statement; (ii) discuss the implementation of previous recommendations on the compilation of remittances and the classification of current and capital transfers; and (iii) assess TA needs for the WBG's intended subscription to the Special Data Dissemination Standard (SDDS).

ESCWA Expert Group Meeting

On December 16, 2011, Mr. Chami, METAC Coordinator, participated in an ESCWA expert group meeting to review the Survey of Economic and Social Developments in the ESCWA Region. It was an opportunity to discuss the draft report and provide some recommendations and suggestions on various chapters dealing with a range of economic and social issues that are relevant to policymakers in the region.

METAC staff Celebrating the Holidays



METAC staff spent a wonderful time on December 20 celebrating the holidays over lunch, taking pictures and exchanging gifts.

METAC family would like to wish you joyful holidays, a healthy, prosperous and happy 2012.

