



RECIPIENT COUNTRIES

AFGHANISTAN LIBYA
EGYPT SUDAN
IRAQ SYRIA
JORDAN WBG
LEBANON YEMEN

2015 Small and Medium Enterprises (SME’s) Business Development Conference in Egypt

Mr. Mohamad Elhage, METAC Coordinator, participated in the 2015 Small and Medium Enterprises (SME’s) Business Development Conference on the “Role of Regulators in Promoting SME’s financing” that was held in Cairo during January 14 to 15, 2015. The conference was organized by the Arab Monetary Fund, in cooperation with the World Bank, the International Finance Cooperation, and the Central Bank of Egypt. Mr. Elhage represented the IMF and gave a speech on the “Opportunities and Changing Landscape in SME Business in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) Region”. His remarks focused on: (i) the opportunities and challenges that SMEs face in the MENA region; (ii) an analysis of changes that might further impact the ability of SMEs to access finance; and (iii) the needed reforms that could ensure sustainable SME banking.

Workshop in Egypt



METAC provided training in the area of Government Financial Management Information Systems (GFMIS) to the Ministry of Finance (MOF) in Cairo, during January 12 to 15, 2015. The workshop, attended by more than 50 staff members of the MOF, was moderated by Mr. Jacques Charaoui, METAC public financial management (PFM) advisor and consisted of several presentations by Messrs. Ali Hashim and Farooq Khan, METAC short-term experts.

The workshop was designed to discuss (i) good practices, pre-conditions and practical examples of GFMIS implementations; (ii) the prevailing situation in Egypt (through focused groups sessions); and (iii) how best to move forward within the given context leading to development of an agreed action plan which could then be considered by the senior administration of the Ministry.

METAC Taking Part in a Regional Workshop in Abu Dhabi

Mr. Malik Bani Hani, METAC statistics advisor, participated in a regional workshop on the “Compilation of Trade in Services Statistics”, in Abu Dhabi, during January 25 to 28, 2015. The workshop was organized by the Arab Monetary Fund and the World Trade Organization in cooperation with the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia and the United Nations Statistics Division. Mr. Bani Hani presented the status of the Arab region in compilation of residents and non-residents trade in services statistics, data gaps, and users’ needs, and discussed the gaps, issues and recommendations in compilation of such statistics.

PFM Workshop in Sudan

A workshop, led by Mr. Charaoui and comprising Frans Van Schaik, METAC short-term expert, was held in Khartoum, during January 19 to 25, 2015 to provide training on International Public Sector Standards (IPSAS) in Cash Accounting. The workshop, gathering more than 100 participants, was delivered during the first four days and the mission dedicated the last day to discuss the next steps required to produce IPSAS-compliant financial statements.

Technical Assistance Missions

Sudan
Banking Supervision: to assist the “Credit Information and Accreditation Scoring Agency”, in the development of a credit scoring system, and to follow up on the progress achieved in the implementation of the recommendations provided to the authorities during METAC July 2013 mission.

Revenue Administration: to review the implication of the work of the tax reform committee for revenue administration.

Lebanon
Statistics: to assess the national accounts compilation system, review the methodology used to compile the Gross Domestic Product estimates, and assist the Central Administration for Statistics in making any appropriate improvements.

West Bank and Gaza
Banking Supervision: to assist the Palestinian Monetary Authority in the development of a risk-based framework and in drafting a procedural supervision manual.

