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Regional Workshop on "Tax-Customs Cooperation"

April 14-17, 2025, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

How can effective tax-customs cooperation enhance compliance and mitigate risks? What challenges do tax and customs authorities currently face that hinder this collaboration? How can international good practices and shared experiences from various countries assist in strengthening collaboration among tax and customs agencies?



To address these critical questions, the International Monetary Fund's (IMF) Middle East Regional Technical Assistance Center (METAC) and the IMF Fiscal Affairs Department (FAD) co-hosted a regional workshop on "Tax-Customs Cooperation" with the Saudi Arabian Tax Administration in Riyadh from April 14 to 17.

The workshop, which was attended by 20 tax and customs officials from MENA countries, discussed international good practices in tax-customs cooperation, including legal frameworks, data exchange mechanisms, and common risk management approaches. Participants discussed common risk criteria, audit selection, data analysis and other business processes to facilitate better tax and customs co-operation. Interactive sessions promoted peer learning and direct sharing of lessons from countries' experiences. The workshop explored better regulatory

frameworks and data exchange to improve compliance and mobilize revenue within region-specific constraints.

