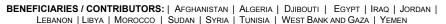


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IMF's Middle East Regional Technical Assistance Center and the Statistics Department Conclude Workshop on Price Index Compilation Issues

The International Monetary Fund (IMF)'s Middle East Regional Technical Assistance Center (METAC) and the Statistics Department held a workshop on "Price Index Compilation Issues" in Beirut, Lebanon from February 23-27, 2015. The workshop addressed specific price statistics compilation issues of participating countries. International standards and best practices were discussed with emphases on the compilation of the Consumer Price Index (CPI) and the Producer Price Index (PPI).

The active discussions involved case studies and practical exercises. In a final wrap-up session, participants were given the opportunity to identify potential areas for future METAC technical assistance support.

Officials from national statistical offices involved in the compilation of price statistics in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region attended the workshop. In total, 31 participants from ten countries attended. The countries represented included: Afghanistan, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Oman, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, West Bank and Gaza, and Yemen.