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Regional Workshop on Macro-Fiscal Policy Planning and Advisory October 9-12 2023

The four-day course on Macro Fiscal Planning was conducted at the IMF CEF in Kuwait, involving 33 participants from 13 countries, bringing together mid-to senior-level officials of central banks, ministries of finance, economy and planning in the region. The objective was to enhance their understanding as well as share practical experiences in macro-fiscal policy planning and advisory. The course was delivered through lectures, roundtable discussions, and workshops, including through live policy simulations.

Most Ministries of Finance in the MENA region have started to develop macro-fiscal functions. Other ministries and central banks have also put policy formulation as a key priority in their list of reforms. Macro fiscal planning is becoming increasingly important in the MENA region: For instance, for crisis management when countries need to best manage their scarce resources; or when they need to efficiently plan the use of natural resource windfall profits over the medium term. While centralized to serve staff working on Medium-term Fiscal Frameworks (MTFF), this training program was designed to open new horizons for policymakers' aides towards deploying multi-layered, wide-scoped, and diligent thinking, as they address their core functions, including macro-fiscal and policy planning. The course addressed theories, concepts, and selected intuitive lessons to serve the purpose.