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IMF's Middle East Regional Technical Assistance Center Concludes Workshop on the Tax Administration Diagnostic Assessment Tool (TADAT)

The International Monetary Fund (IMF)'s Middle East Regional Technical Assistance Center (METAC) held a workshop on the recently launched Tax Administration Diagnostic Assessment Tool (TADAT) in Amman, Jordan from December 9 - 11, 2015. The workshop was held in association with the TADAT Secretariat in Washington DC and was attended by senior representatives of tax authorities and finance ministries from the METAC countries. In total, 23 delegates from 6 countries attended. The countries represented were: Afghanistan, Egypt, Iraq, Lebanon, Sudan and the West Bank and Gaza.

The workshop provided a detailed introduction to the TADAT methodology, which has been developed by the IMF in conjunction with a range of development partner organizations, and provides a rigorous and objective method for reviewing current performance in tax administration against standardized definitions of international good practice. The outcome of a TADAT assessment provides a strategic framework for future development, investment, resource allocation and Technical Assistance (TA) support. It also sets a baseline for evaluating the future progress of a tax administration.

In the three days prior to the regional workshop, the TADAT Secretariat ran a dedicated national workshop for 23 senior staff from the Jordanian authorities. This was funded by USAID Jordan Fiscal Reform Project and supported by METAC, and represents a good example of inter-agency coordination.

The lively discussion during both workshops indicated a high level of interest in the use of the TADAT approach. Delegates also had the opportunity to sit the TADAT assessors' examination.

METAC will be providing future TA support for TADAT assessments throughout the region, in partnership with other development partners where appropriate.