

IMF Regional Capacity Development Initiatives

The IMF has an extensive network of regional capacity development centers (RCDCs) and training programs that helps implement its [capacity development](#) mandate to its member countries. These regional centers facilitate an enhanced ability to respond quickly to emerging needs, and ensure close coordination with other development partners on the ground. They also foster regional integration and better tailoring of advice and training, as countries advance toward the Sustainable Development Goals. The regional centers are financed by member and host countries, external development partners, and the IMF – and their activities are complemented by the thematic [funds](#) managed by the IMF.

Africa

The six regional centers in Africa form part of the IMF's [Africa Capacity-Building Initiative](#). Current partners include the European Union, the United Kingdom, Switzerland, Canada, the Netherlands, France, Australia, the [African Development Bank](#), Germany, China, the European Investment Bank, Kuwait, Luxembourg, Italy, Korea, Brazil, and Russia.

[AFRITAC East](#) was opened in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, in 2002, and works with Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi, Rwanda, Tanzania, and Uganda. [AFRITAC West](#) was established in 2003 and is in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, working with Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea-Bissau, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Senegal, and Togo. [AFRITAC Central](#) was opened in Libreville, Gabon, in 2007 to work with CEMAC countries: Gabon, Cameroon, Chad, Republic of Congo, Central African Republic, and Equatorial Guinea, as well as Burundi and the Democratic Republic of Congo. [AFRITAC South](#) was established in Mauritius in 2011, and works with Angola, Botswana, Comoros, Lesotho, Madagascar, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, Swaziland, Zambia, and Zimbabwe—it is co-located and jointly managed with the Africa Training Institute (see below). [AFRITAC West 2](#), opened in 2013 in Accra, Ghana, works with the English and Portuguese-speaking members of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS): Cabo Verde, The Gambia, Ghana, Liberia, Nigeria, and Sierra Leone.

The [Africa Training Institute \(ATI\)](#) opened in Mauritius in June 2013. It conducts hands-on training and regional workshops, for officials from 46 sub-Saharan African countries. Financial support is provided by Mauritius, Australia, China, Korea, Seychelles, Angola, and Togo.

Asia-Pacific

The [Pacific Financial Technical Assistance Center \(PFTAC\)](#), established in Suva, Fiji, in 1993, supports 16 Pacific island countries and territories: the Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Timor-Leste, Tokelau, Tonga, Tuvalu, and Vanuatu. Current external partners include New Zealand, Australia, the European Union, Korea, the Asian Development Bank, and the member countries.

The [IMF-Singapore Regional Training Institute \(STI\)](#) was established in Singapore in 1998 as a joint initiative with the Government of Singapore. The STI works closely with other capacity development providers in the region, including the [IMF's Technical Assistance Office for Lao PDR and the Union of the Republic of Myanmar \(TAOLAM\)](#), the South East Asian Central Banks (SEACEN) Research and Training Centre, [PFTAC](#), and the new [South Asia Regional Training and Technical Assistance Center \(SARTTAC\)](#). Financing is provided by Singapore and Japan, with additional support from Australia.

The Joint China-IMF Training Program (CTP) was established in 2000 with the People's Bank of China (PBC) to provide policy-oriented training in economics and related fields for officials from China. Most financing for the CTP is provided by China.

The [South Asia Regional Training and Technical Assistance Center \(SARTTAC\)](#) is the IMF's newest regional initiative and began operations in January 2017. This is the first center to fully integrate training and technical advice and is a model for the IMF's future capacity development work. Located in New Delhi, India, SARTTAC works with Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, and Sri Lanka. Member countries finance two-thirds of the center's budget, with additional funding from the European Union, Korea, the United Kingdom, and Australia.

Europe and Central Asia

The [Joint Vienna Institute \(JVI\)](#) was established in 1992 by the IMF, Austria (represented by the Federal Ministry of Finance and the Oesterreichische Nationalbank), and several other international institutions. In cooperation with the JVI, the IMF and the Ministry of Finance of Georgia have also established the Georgia Training Program to increase training for eight Caucasus and Central Asian countries. Financial support for the JVI is provided by its primary sponsors, Austria and the IMF.

Middle East

The [Middle East Regional Technical Assistance Center \(METAC\)](#) was established in Beirut, Lebanon, in 2004 and works with Afghanistan, Algeria, Djibouti, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, West Bank and Gaza, and Yemen. Current external partners include the host country, Germany, Switzerland, France, the European Union, the Netherlands, and member countries.

The [IMF-Middle East Center for Economics and Finance \(CEF\)](#) started operations in 2011 to work with Arab League member countries, and is hosted and fully funded by Kuwait, through the Kuwait Investment Authority. The CEF has also partnered with the Arab Monetary Fund to conduct training activities in various Arab countries, and with Bank Al-Maghrib to conduct training in Morocco.

Western Hemisphere

The [Caribbean Regional Technical Assistance Center \(CARTAC\)](#) was established in Bridgetown, Barbados in 2001. It serves 20 Caribbean countries and territories: Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Montserrat, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, and Turks and Caicos. Aruba, Curacao, and Sint Maarten are considering joining CARTAC in 2017. Funding for the current program cycle is provided by Canada, the United Kingdom, the European Union, and the host and member countries.

The [Central America, Panama and the Dominican Republic Regional Technical Assistance Center \(CAPTAC-DR\)](#) started operations in May 2009 in Guatemala City, Guatemala, and works with Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, and Panama. Its current program cycle is supported by the European Union, Canada, Mexico, Luxembourg, and member countries; it also collaborates with the Inter-American Development Bank.

The [Joint Regional Training Center for Latin America](#) (Brazil Training Center, BTC) was established in 2001 to host training on macroeconomic, fiscal and financial management, and statistics for Latin American officials. Currently a joint venture with Brazil's central bank (through its training arm, UniBacen), the center also serves as a platform to disseminate policy experiences and challenges.

