

IMF Launches New Phase of T A Program in Central America

In July 2014, the Central America, Panama, and the Dominican Republic Regional Technical Assistance Center (CAPTAC-DR*) launched its second five-year program phase (2014-19). Since it was first established in 2009, CAPTAC-DR has become an effective instrument to step up capacity building in the region, offering strategic advice in key areas such as modernizing tax and customs administrations, enhancing public financial management, strengthening regulation and supervision of the financial sector, and improving economic statistics. In the coming years, the center will continue to be a key resource for member countries as they respond to the challenges facing the region. The center is an office of the International Monetary Fund and benefits from generous contributions from the European Union and Luxembourg and firm pledges by Mexico and the Inter-American Development Bank. Fundraising efforts for the second five-year phase with several previous and new donors are ongoing.

**CAPTAC-DR started operations in May 2009 in Guatemala. It serves Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, and Panama.*