

# International Monetary Fund



**Middle East Regional Technical Assistance Center, Lebanon**

**Vacancy Announcement:**

**Local Economist**

## **RECRUITMENT NOTICE OF AN ECONOMIST**

Duty station: Beirut, Lebanon

Duration of commitment: One (1) year but the contract can be renewed multiple times.

Start date: [June/July 2024]

## **JOB DESCRIPTION**

### **Organizational Setting**

The Local Economist position is in the IMF's **Middle East Regional Technical Assistance Center (METAC)** located in Lebanon. METAC was established in 2004 as a collaborative venture between the International Monetary Fund ([IMF](#)), member countries, and bilateral and multilateral development partners to assist its member countries in implementing reforms to address macroeconomic challenges and to build stronger macroeconomic institutions. The center provides [capacity development](#) (CD) services to member country authorities in the fiscal, monetary, financial, general macroeconomic, and statistics areas. Technical assistance and training activities are tailored to the needs of METAC's [14 member countries](#).

METAC's team includes about a dozen regional advisors covering METAC's CD workstreams, the director, the office manager, two economists, and a team of administrative assistants.

### **Duties and Responsibilities**

Under the general guidance and supervision of the METAC Director, the Local Economist undertakes the following duties and responsibilities:

The local economists are primarily responsible for supporting METAC's capacity development and outreach work. In close collaboration with METAC regional advisors and IMF country teams, the economists monitor and provide analysis on economic developments and capacity development issues in METAC member countries. The local economists undertake analytical

work on economic issues and contribute to METAC reports, newsletters, and other publications. They support the organization of outreach events and country missions, as well as the day-to-day dialogue and cooperation with technical counterparts in government, development partners, civil society, and other stakeholders in the METAC region.

The local economists need to exercise appropriate discretion in dealing with sensitive materials and cooperate closely with METAC staff and IMF Headquarters (HQ) in Washington, DC. Given time differences with IMF HQ and different working days for member countries, occasional work hour flexibility is required.

Specifically, the local economists' main duties and responsibilities are to:

1. Support the METAC Director and Regional Advisors in the preparation, execution, and monitoring of METAC's workplan.
2. Develop contacts with counterparts in member authorities, development partners, civil society, and other stakeholders, and participate in meetings with the Director and Regional Advisors as needed.
3. Undertake broader analysis of political, economic, and capacity development issues in coordination/cooperation with METAC Regional Advisors and IMF HQ.
4. Contribute to METAC's Steering Committee and Annual Reports, Newsletter, Regional Notes, and other publications.
5. Organize and support the delivery of webinars, conferences, and regional workshops related to cross-cutting work programs, including climate and gender economics.
6. Provide content to the METAC website and IMF digital outreach media.
7. Organize and contribute to weekly METAC team meetings.
8. Monitor and support METAC and IMF HQ-led capacity development missions.
9. Support METAC Regional Advisors, including by coordinating data and information requests and helping with meeting logistics as needed.

### **Competencies:**

**Professional Competence** – (a) sound knowledge of econometric and statistical analysis techniques, and related principles underlying IMF economic work, (b) ability to diagnose and develop solutions to economic problems, (c) ability to interpret and present statistical information, (d) ability to apply IMF software programs for economic/financial research and analysis and database management, (e) familiarity with macroeconomics and economic issues

in the METAC region, (f) sound knowledge of principal sources and retrieval systems of economic and social development data, (g) strong analytical and conceptual skills, and (h) strong digital and social media skills.

**Program/Task Management** – (a) understanding of policy and technical issues, (b) ability to develop clear goals for programs/projects, and own managed work that are consistent with country goals; ability to plan and organize work assignments independently within agreed objectives, (c) proven ability to anticipate, adjust to and prioritize a variety of complex, evolving tasks, e.g., assessing macro policy issues, monitoring soundness of country economic problems, and (d) act decisively; adapting and renegotiating plans as changes and problems occur.

**Client Focus** – (a) ability to monitor ongoing developments inside and outside the client’s environment to keep informed and anticipate problems, (b) understanding of problems and issues from the client’s perspective (c) ability to work in partnership with client contacts, seeking feedback to improve work processes and enhance client satisfaction, and (d) gain trust and confidence by delivering quality work, advice, and expertise.

**Communication** – (a) demonstrate proficiency with respect to communications skills (listening effectively, speaking persuasively (as appropriate), writing clearly and concisely) in the performance of job, (b) deal effectively and diplomatically with member government officials, and (c) actively promote teamwork and collaboration to achieve METAC’s objectives.

**Personal Leadership** – (a) develop effective relationships with colleagues, inside/outside the organization; gain their confidence and trust, (b) actively contribute to meeting the objectives of the team, (c) accessible to other staff, mentoring and offering guidance to colleagues, (d) take initiative to share knowledge and experience, (e) accept and give constructive feedback and (f) take initiative to improve and pursues personal development and training programs.

**Teamwork** – (a) Proven ability to develop effective relations within/outside the METAC office, and to promote collaboration within the team to meet joint objectives.

#### **Qualifications and Experience:**

MA in macroeconomics, financial economics, or relevant fields, e.g., international economics, monetary economics, public finance, econometrics, labor economics, political economy, or international trade and finance, or equivalent combination of education and experience. Five or more years of relevant work experience (e.g., economics, econometrics, statistics, finance) or equivalent experience preferred.

Proficiency in MS Office is required, including Excel. Proficiency in econometrics packages such as Stata, R, or equivalent, and knowledge of statistical and econometrics techniques and macroeconomic relationships are highly desirable.

Fluency in Arabic and English is required. French proficiency desirable.

**Deadline for applying is March 31, 2024.**

Please send resume and cover letter to METAC-Recruitment@IMF.org.

(Please state in the subject of the email: Job Application to Local Economist)

Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.

For further information about the Center, please visit [www.imfmetac.org](http://www.imfmetac.org).