Regional Capacity Development Centers
Strong economic and fiscal institutions are critical for development.

That’s why the IMF provides capacity development on macroeconomic issues to countries, helping enhance their economic policies and institutions. Our regional capacity development centers are at the forefront of this effort, responding quickly to our members’ emerging needs and helping them build stronger and more inclusive economies.
For more than 50 years, we have worked with our member countries to modernize their institutions, train their people, strengthen their economic policies, and promote peer learning. In doing so, we focus on our core areas of expertise, such as raising public revenues and enhancing the management of these resources, modernizing banking systems, advising on related legal frameworks, and improving economic analysis, forecasting, and the reporting of macroeconomic and financial statistics.

Our global network of regional centers coordinates much of the IMF’s capacity development delivery on the ground. Tailored to each region’s priorities, our centers work closely with member countries and development partners and respond quickly to emerging needs. Close cooperation and sustained follow-up support to institutions such as finance ministries, central banks, and statistical agencies help traction and ownership and contribute to their success.

These centers would not be possible without the support of our partners and host countries. They provide more than three-quarters of the resources needed to run our centers. They also contribute their expertise to ensure optimal coordination, efficient delivery, and sharing of best practices, for maximum benefit to our members.
TOP PARTNERS FOR OUR REGIONAL CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT CENTERS

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The stories you will find here showcase the breadth of our work, but we have many more to share.

**CARIBBEAN**

2021 marked CARTAC’s 20th anniversary. The Center continues to assist Caribbean countries on issues such as debt management as they deal with widening financing requirements, rising debt levels, and other challenges related to the global pandemic and the ever-present risk of natural disasters in the region.

**WESTERN AFRICA**

AFRITAC West recently organized an inter-regional seminar to raise the awareness of the Supervisory Authorities on the risks that climate-related changes pose on the banking and financial systems and present them with first approaches to taking these risks into account, through the presentation of an initial corpus of principles and by illustrating the approach followed in this area by two supervisory authorities.
Middle East and North Africa

METAC’s recent activities include supporting the Jordanian Income and Sales Tax Department to establish a Risk Management Unit. A risk register was put in place, and a tax risk management strategy focusing on the four pillars of compliance was developed, setting out risk ratings and strategies to tackle various risks. With METAC assistance, the authorities developed compliance improvement plans for large taxpayers and for independent professionals. These measures help the Jordanian tax authorities manage compliance risks more effectively and address tax avoidance and evasion, thereby contributing to stronger revenue mobilization. Higher revenues enable the government to provide better public services, including hospitals, schools, and roads. As result of the implementation of the CIP for the independent professionals, a medical professionals’ campaign was approved and has been implemented, contributing to an increase of tax filings by 24% and declared tax by 140% between 2020 and 2021.

Europe, The Caucasus, and Central Asia

Created in Vienna in 1992, JVI provides policy-oriented training primarily to participants from countries in Central, Eastern and Southeastern Europe, the Caucasus, and Central Asia. JVI offers courses in economics, financial sector analysis and management, trade policy, corporate governance, and related topics for public officials and selected private sector executives. The JVI, with extensive support from Austria and its other partners, has extended its curriculum recently with two courses and a webinar series on the economics of climate change and policy options to address it.
ASIA-PACIFIC

Several Pacific Island Countries are highly dependent on tourism, a sector that has been severely impacted by the COVID-19 lockdown. PFTAC assisted them with revenue enhancing strategies. For example, PFTAC advised the Cook Islands on tax compliance strategies responding to the COVID-19-induced economic crisis that is now easing as borders begin to reopen. The aim was to safeguard taxpayer compliance and protect tax collections that finance significant government spending needs to address the crisis, such as expanded government social protection programs.

SOUTHERN AFRICA

AFS recently helped revenue administrations strengthen compliance risk management, tax audits, and business continuity plans. It assisted countries in bolstering the transparency of large spending programs to mitigate the impact of the pandemic. The center also delivered workshops to enhance government officials’ skills to run stress tests and assess the impacts of crises, and plans to increase its support on governance, climate resilience, gender, and digitalization.
CAPTAC-DR

CAPTAC-DR assisted Costa Rica’s customs authorities in setting up a new portal—Aduana Fácil—that facilitates procedures and interactions with users, based on the provisions of the WTO’s Trade Facilitation Agreement. After one year of its launch, the portal has reached over 330,000 visitors from 100 different countries, who accessed different portal resources, including customs laws and procedures. The portal is helping facilitate trade and fostering efficiency, transparency, and voluntary compliance.

AFRITAC WEST II

AFW2 continues to provide advice on building institutional resilience and protecting revenue in the current COVID-19 crisis to the Cabo Verde National Directorate of State Revenues, Ghana Revenue Authority, and Sierra Leone National Revenue Authority senior management, among other capacity development support activities to build stronger economic institutions in West Africa.

Central America, Panama, and the Dominican Republic Regional Technical Assistance Center (CAPTAC-DR)

West Africa II Regional Technical Assistance Center (AFW 2)
AFRITAC EAST

AFE—which turned 20 in 2022—provided technical assistance in various areas such as revenue mobilization, public financial management, monetary and financial sector policies, and macroeconomic statistics. AFE advised Kenya and Rwanda on preparing annual fiscal risk statements, which emphasized deeper analysis of risks arising from public-private partnerships and state-owned enterprises. In South Sudan, a fragile state, AFE supported the strengthening of treasury cash management, as well as banking supervision.

AFRITAC CENTRAL

Recent activities carried out by AFRITAC Central and the IMF’s Fiscal Affairs Department include providing methodological support to the Democratic Republic of Congo in drafting the 2020 supplementary budget law and the 2021 initial budget law, with a special focus on the management of COVID-19 funds.
Following its virtual launch in February 2021, CCAMTAC quickly started to assist its member countries on macro-frameworks, public financial management, revenue administration, banking supervision and regulation, monetary and foreign exchange operations, and statistics. Bilateral technical assistance is complemented by regional events, including on emerging topics related to exiting from the pandemic, climate, digitalization, and regional analytical work and research.

SARTTAC and CDOT held a regional workshop on digitalization and public financial management (PFM). A first of its kind for SARTTAC, the workshop was joined by more than 125 officials from 14 South and Southeast Asia countries. The workshop took stock of the progress achieved by countries in the region in the digitalization of their PFM systems, explored the potential offered by emerging technologies elsewhere, and identified strategic issues and choices, as countries move further along in their digitalization efforts.
CDOT

Based in Thailand, CDOT strengthens capacity in macroeconomic and public financial management and statistics in support of countries’ reform priorities in mainland Southeast Asia. It recently assisted its members on topics such as digital payments, crypto ecosystems, the role of finance ministries in addressing climate change, fiscal forecasting, and the consumer price index continuity.

STI

Created after the 1998 Asian crisis, STI has provided training to economic policymakers in the region for almost 25 years. In addition to courses on core topics, STI launched two new courses on climate and fintech and is increasingly providing technical assistance. For example, in January 2022, STI staff led a technical assistance mission in Cambodia. The team supported Cambodia’s Ministry of Economy and Finance in developing a model-base macroeconomic framework and finetuning the communication of its results. Also, given the considerable interest in digital money and technology issues, STI launched a new Peer-Learning Series that is open to the public and covers case studies from the region.
CICDC

The CICDC was established in May 2017 by the IMF and the People’s Bank of China and was inaugurated in Beijing in April 2018. Its purpose is to provide IMF training to help government officials in China and some additional member country counterparts to successfully design and implement growth-oriented macroeconomic policies. CICDC training courses cover topics such as fiscal framework, dynamic stochastic general equilibrium modelling for fiscal and monetary policies, banking restructuring and resolution, systemic macro-financial risk, and inclusive growth.

Middle East Center for Economics & Finance (CEF)

Based in Kuwait, CEF offers a comprehensive program of courses for government officials from 22 Arab countries on issues such as macroeconomic diagnostics, macro-stress testing, financial sector surveillance, gender and climate budgeting, among others.

China-IMF Capacity Development Center (CICDC)

ATI delivers a broad curriculum of courses to officials from 45 countries in Sub-Saharan Africa, from fiscal, monetary, and exchange rate policies to debt sustainability, financial sector supervision, and the macroeconomic management of resource-rich countries complemented by courses in emerging areas such as governance and corruption, macroeconomics of gender, and climate change.

Africa Training Institute (ATI)