



The IMF and 2030 Development Agenda

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INITIATIVE: scaling up support for countries' efforts to boost domestic revenue mobilization for essential public sector delivery



IMPLEMENTATION: technical support for building tax systems was scaled up by 46 percent between 2015 and 2018

EXAMPLE: with IMF's support, Mongolia began a three-year project in 2017 to reform its tax administration—through December 2018 nominal tax revenue increased by 22 percent reflecting among other factors administrative reforms.

2

INITIATIVE: increasing assistance for countries seeking to address large infrastructure gaps



IMPLEMENTATION: assistance for building state capacity to oversee the scaling-up of infrastructure investment was expanded with public investment management assessments undertaken in over 50 countries

EXAMPLE: Following IMF's advice, Togo terminated the practice of disbursing funds without verifying the completion of projects and Serbia has created a single project pipeline and detailed rules for project appraisal and sections

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INITIATIVE: intensifying engagement on policy issues affecting inclusion



IMPLEMENTATION: the volume of research on economic inclusion has steadily increased; inequality, gender and financial inclusion issues have been included in the bilateral surveillance work for about half of the member countries

EXAMPLE: A variety of inclusion-related issues were discussed with country authorities, ranging from how to minimize the possibly adverse distributional effects of fiscal consolidations in Republic of Congo and Honduras to reform of gender discriminatory tax policies and law in Morocco and Pakistan to improving legal credit infrastructure to expand access to finance in Saudi Arabia and Paraguay

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INITIATIVE: strengthening support for the development of domestic financial markets



IMPLEMENTATION: technical support to countries seeking to develop domestic financial markets rose by 13 percent between 2015 and 2018

EXAMPLE: The IMF provided technical support to around 130 countries since 2015—including in the context of IMF-supported programs—to help strengthen their financial stability framework



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INITIATIVE: enhancing support for fragile and conflict-affected states



IMPLEMENTATION: technical support for fragile and conflict-affected states has risen, accounting for about one-quarter of all IMF capacity development support, with a new plan being implemented to strengthen the effectiveness of IMF engagement with these countries

EXAMPLE: With the support of two IMF programs, Côte d'Ivoire made impressive progress in economic management and performance—it regained access to international financial markets and, thanks to a rapid expansion of public and private investment, experienced an annual average growth rate of about 9 percent over 2011–17.

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INITIATIVE: scaling up technical support for macroeconomic data collection and dissemination



IMPLEMENTATION: support for statistical capacity building has increased by about one-third since 2014

EXAMPLE: the IMF is the official custodian of four SDG indicators measuring financial access and soundness, and government revenue.

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INITIATIVE: strengthening the financial safety net for developing countries



IMPLEMENTATION: a 50 percent increase in access to IMF concessional resources was implemented in 2015; access further increased by a third in May 2019

EXAMPLE: Between 2015 and 2018, the IMF approved 52 financial arrangements with 44 countries, predominantly developing countries

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INITIATIVE: supporting member countries in dealing with macroeconomic challenges of climate change



IMPLEMENTATION: actions have focused on policy advice to contain carbon emissions (energy price reform, carbon pricing) and policy work on how to support countries vulnerable to natural disasters, which is now moving to the implementation phase

EXAMPLE: Since 2016, disaster risks were incorporated in 40 percent of those countries prone to large natural disaster risk—scenarios to analyse the macroeconomic impact of policies to build resilience were conducted for St. Lucia and Vanuatu.



Since 2015, the IMF has undertaken other initiatives supporting the 2030 development agenda. These include:

- (i) developed a methodology to identify the additional spending needed to meet key SDGs in developing countries
- (ii) scaled-up engagement on governance/corruption issues, tackling a key barrier to inclusive growth
- (iii) extensive advocacy activities in support of the agenda by IMF Management



Important cross-cutting lessons from implementation of the various initiatives to date include:

- (i) the importance of maintaining country ownership of reform programs over time;
- (ii) the need to work with a medium-term time frame when seeking to build institutional capacity
- (iii) the importance of strategic coordination across development partners operating in a sector, with a clear division of labor and responsibilities