

INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND

Middle East Regional Technical Assistance Center



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Webinars on Macro Fiscal Planning in the METAC Region

Fiscal Risks and COVID-19: Relevance for the METAC Region

The final session in a series of three webinars on macro fiscal planning in the context of COVID-19 was held on June 24, 2020. More than a hundred participants from 11 METAC countries attended the three webinars. The final session highlighted that fiscal risks rarely appear in isolation; in fact, in recent years a series of fiscal risks have materialized in METAC countries, among others related to state owned enterprises, pension liabilities, guarantees, and the financial sector. The session also presented tools and practical experiences that are useful to deepen countries' efforts on fiscal transparency. The economic challenges related to COVID-19 are likely to accentuate fiscal risks over the medium term, highlighting the increasingly important role of macro fiscal planning in METAC countries.