



Lebanon: Basic Budget Planning Workshop (5-7 April 2022)

Purpose of the workshop:

The workshop will focus on basic methods and tools for budget planning. Previous missions and workshops in Lebanon have revealed challenges to cope with basic requirements of (i) annual budgeting, and (ii) medium-term budget planning. The workshop will enhance dialogue and peer exchange among key staff of the Ministry of Finance and line ministries to raise awareness of underlying issues and identify entry points for a strengthening of budget institutions and processes in Lebanon.

Participants:

The workshop is targeted to senior level and technical staff from the Ministry of Finance (Departments of the Budget; Macro-fiscal; Public debt; Cash management, among others) and line ministries (mainly their financial departments).

Focus of the workshop:

Familiarizing participants with basic budget planning methods and tools and requirements will involve: (i) an introduction of basic standards for budget planning, derived from global assessment frameworks such as the IMF's Fiscal Transparency Code; (ii) highlighting good practices from other countries in budget planning both for the annual budget as well as the medium-term.

Timing:

5-7 April (Tuesday to Thursday), 2022, covering half day each (10:00-14:00 Beirut time).

Workshop schedule

Time	Topic	Facilitator
Tuesday, 5 April		
10:00 – 10:30	Workshop Introduction Welcome to participants Purpose and main elements of the workshop Administrative issues	
10:30 - 12:00	Session 1 - Presentation: “Key features of budget planning: Stages of the budget preparation and roles of stakeholders” Discussion to identify areas of improvement in Lebanon	
12:00 - 12:30	Break	
12:30 - 14:00	Session 2 - Presentation: “Macroeconomic projection as first step of the budget planning process and the role of a Medium-Term Fiscal Framework” Discussion to identify areas of improvement in Lebanon	
Wednesday, 6 April		
10:00 - 10:10	Recap of the previous day	
10:10 - 11:40	Session 3 - Presentation: “Forecasting expenditure and revenue: Budget baselines and the concept of fiscal space” Discussion to identify areas of improvement in Lebanon	
11:40 - 12:10	Break	
12:10- 13:40	Session 4 - Presentation: “Costing techniques to forecast expenditure and revenue” Discussion to identify areas of improvement in Lebanon	
Thursday, 7 April		
10:00 - 10:10	Recap of the previous day	
10:10 - 11:40	Session 5 - Presentation: “Setting and aligning expenditure ceilings – the role of a Medium-Term Budget Framework (MTBF)” Discussion to identify areas of improvement in Lebanon	
11:40 - 12:10	Break	
12:10 - 13:20	Session 6 - Round table: “Main lessons learned and key areas of improvement” Discussion among course participants, both from the Ministry of Finance and line ministries (<i>speakers to be identified</i>)	
13:20 – 14:00	Session 7 - Workshop evaluation (online modus led by IoF) and wrap up	