

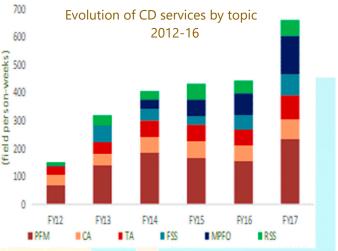
Building macroeconomic capacity in Southern Africa



AFRITAC South (AFS) forms part of a collaborative capacity development (CD) effort between the IMF, beneficiary countries¹, and external donor partners². The objective is to strengthen human and institutional capacity to design and implement growth friendly policies towards the sustainable development goals (SDGs). The center also contributes towards the regional harmonization agendas of member countries, including the reduction of intra- and inter-regional trade barriers.

AFS CD services –technical assistance, training, and peer learning- are demand-driven and in line with the reform priorities of

member countries. CD services have expanded significantly in the recent years in all areas –public financial management, tax and customs administration, financial sector supervision, monetary policy operations, financial market infrastructure (FMI) and payments, and real sector statistics. In addition to the traditional TA outputs, AFS also conducts customized regional seminars, in-country workshops, and supports regional peer-learning activities. The latter includes professional attachments, joint events



with regional organizations, and the participation of country officials in technical assistance missions. AFS work is complemented by IMF HQ-led technical assistance and training –the latter mainly through courses by the Africa Training Institute (ATI). All CD activities are guided and monitored through the newly developed results-based management tool of the IMF.

AFS works closely with regional organizations on emerging CD priorities. A growing number of regional organizations are engaging with AFS for their conferences, seminars, and other regional events. AFS regional partners include the Southern African Development Community (SADC), Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), Southern Africa Customs Union (SACU), Collaborative African Budget Reform Initiative (CABRI), Macroeconomic and Financial Management Institute of Eastern and Southern Africa (MEFMI), Eastern and Southern Africa Anti-Money Laundering Group (ESAAMLG), and African Tax Administration Forum (ATAF).

² These external partners are the European Union, Switzerland, Germany, China, United Kingdom (UK), Netherlands, European Investment Bank, and Australia. Additional funding comes from the IMF, Mauritius (the host country), and voluntary contributions from other member countries.



¹ The center covers 13 countries in sub-Saharan Africa (Angola, Botswana, Comoros, eSwatini, Lesotho, Mauritius, Madagascar, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, Zambia, and Zimbabwe).

The center shares information through different channels to keep stakeholders updated on the latest capacity building activities. These mainly include:

- Publications:
 - o annual work plan issued in March;
 - o annual seminar plan issued in May;
 - o quarterly bulletins published in the month following the end of each quarter;
 - o quarterly updated work plan in the month following the end of each quarter; and
 - o annual report published in June
- IMF and AFS external websites
- Facebook
- Local media

The above are complemented by outreach activities of the center coordinator and advisors in the field.

