

REGIONAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CENTER FOR SOUTHERN AFRICA



Quarterly Bulletin: February 2023 - April 2023

AFRITAC South ([AFS](#)) is part of the IMF's global network of Regional Capacity Development Centers. This quarterly bulletin covers highlights of the support provided to member countries over the period **February 2023 - April 2023**.



Highlights by Sukhwinder Singh AFS Center Director

FY23 has been a successful year for AFRITAC South (AFS). Around 180 technical assistance (TA) missions, 23 training events, and several in-country workshops contributed to meet urgent capacity development (CD) needs of member countries still struggling to recover from multiple shocks. A large reform agenda still lies ahead of AFS countries. Structural reforms aimed at building resilience, mobilizing revenue, diversifying financing sources, and investing in climate resilience, digital solutions, and improving governance remain critical for countries to move to a higher growth path and to cope with the funding squeeze which is creating serious challenges for the development plans of governments across the region.

The new program for [AFS phase III \(FY24-FY28\)](#) and the [FY24 CD plan endorsed by AFS countries](#) at the recent Steering Committee meeting in the Comoros, places emphasis on supporting countries in traditional areas – PFM, financial stability, macroeconomic statistics – while integrating cross cutting themes such as climate, digitalization, and improved governance into reform strategies. The work also supports regional integration initiatives to tap the great potential for increasing trade within the region. The center, in collaboration with IMF HQ, the Africa Training Institute (ATI), the regional technical assistance centers and partners, will continue to adapt CD content and delivery modalities to ensure demand driven support.

This newsletter highlights the CD services delivered through the last quarter of FY23 and includes TA and training provided by advisors at AFS that are funded by non-AFS financing vehicles. It also informs stakeholders of missions completed and/or planned in the first quarter of FY24. In this edition, AFS is pleased to begin with a farewell interview with H.E Vincent Degert, Ambassador of the European Union (EU) to Mauritius and Seychelles, and ardent supporter of the work of ATI and AFS. More generally, the EU remains a critical partner of IMF CD work across the globe, including AFS.

Interview with H.E Mr. Vincent Degert, Ambassador of the European Union (EU) to the Republic of Mauritius and to the Republic of Seychelles



The EU is a major CD partner in Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA). Can you tell us about EU's priorities for the region?

The policy framework for the EU's development cooperation was laid out in the European Consensus on Development, which sets the political vision underlying the financial proposals of the Multi-Annual Financial Framework (2021-2027). The core objective of EU development cooperation at global level remains the eradication of poverty and the implementation of the SDGs of the UN's 2030 Agenda. ([Read more](#))

CD SUPPORT TO MEMBER COUNTRIES

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 - [ICD-led Courses](#)
 - [LEG-backstopped CD on Financial and Fiscal Law](#)
 - [CCCDI-Funded Tax Administration Projects](#)
 - [CCCDI-Funded Debt Management Projects for AFS Countries](#)
 - [Thematic AML/CFT Funded CD in the AFS Region](#)
 - [Feedback From Participants](#)
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TA REPORTS PRODUCED BY THE CENTER

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The Regional Technical Assistance Center for Southern Africa (**AFRITAC South – AFS**) is a collaborative effort between the International Monetary Fund (IMF), beneficiary countries, and external development partners aimed at providing technical assistance (TA) and cooperation in core macroeconomic and financial management areas to countries in the Southern Africa and West Indian Ocean region. The center provides TA and training to Angola, Botswana, Comoros, Eswatini, Lesotho, Madagascar, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.

DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS



MEMBER COUNTRIES



Angola



Botswana



Comoros



Eswatini



Lesotho



Madagascar



Mauritius



Mozambique



Namibia



Seychelles



South Africa



Zambia



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