


## Are you a government official in the Middle East and Northern Africa (MENA) region? If so, please register for a professional development training course on

## Public Financial Management (PFM)

### Who is the course for?

We invite government officials who are ambitious and like to learn more about professionalising their public services in Public Financial Management to register for this training course. This is a unique opportunity to share your knowledge and skills with other participants and be inspired by colleagues abroad.

This training course is for government officials in
the target countries of Algeria, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon,
Libya, Morocco, Oman, Palestinian Territories, Syria, Tunisia and Yemen.

To register, you must have between 5 to 10 years of relevant work experience in Public Financial Management. Since this is a once in a lifetime experience, you can only participate in a Shiraka training once, and only if you have not previously participated in another Shiraka training programme.

Since we value diversity among our participants, we encourage women to take part.

This training programme is part of the 'Shiraka' training programme, an initiative of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Shiraka aims to strengthen and improve bilateral relations between the Netherlands and the MENA region in the public sector and offers an opportunity to improve public services through reciprocal inspiration. For more information on the Shiraka Training Programme please watch this video.

## Training course goals

The Ministry of Finance of the Netherlands is organising the PFM professional development course with the following goals:

- gain comprehensive insight into the budget cycle of the Netherlands: from budget preparation to accountability;
- learn about decentralized budget responsibility and the importance of independent institutions;
- discuss with the Inspectorate of the Budget on best practices in monitoring, controlling and evaluating public expenditures;
- share your knowledge and skills in your home country;
- develop a valuable network of peers in your region, country and in the Netherlands;
- strengthen your connections with the Netherlands and the Dutch government; especially between Dutch government service and their counterparts in the target countries.

## Training course topics

The two-week training course is divided into two distinctive elements. It will focus in the first week on the PFM system in the Netherlands and the budget cycle. In the second week of the training, attention will shift to PFM systems of the countries of the participants themselves and a number of case studies will be discussed. The following topics will be covered:

- the Dutch PFM system is internationally acknowledged for its transparency and high level of decentralization. Strong independent institutions safeguard the system's transparency and independence;
- the Dutch financial system within the central government is to a large extent decentralized, i.e. line ministers are responsible for their own budget chapter and defend their budgets in parliament;
- implementation and evaluation is largely mandated or delegated to agencies. The focus of the course is on the central government, as local government is a separate and largely autonomous tier of government. Moreover, the Netherlands has years of experience with programme based budgeting, which will also be an element of the course.

## Training course details

- Since all the sessions are in English, we recommend an intermediate level of English.
- Live interpretation during meetings and sessions into Arabic and/or French is available.
- We can offer the training course to 25 people. We will allocate these places to the participating countries based on the quality of the applications.
- The entire training course will last for 2 weeks (10 working days). We expect you to attend all sessions.
- Study visits and social activities are part of the training course.
- You will receive a certificate of participation upon completing the course.

### Training course itinerary

The training course will be in 2 parts, and held at 2 locations:

| | Dates | City | Country |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Part 1** | 15 - 19 March 2027 | The Hague | The Netherlands |
| **Part 2** | 31 May - 04 June 2027 | To be determined | To be determined |

## For all participants



- You must organise and pay for your journey to the airport in your home country.
- You are responsible for organising your visa in your home country.

## Costs for participants from countries on the OECD-DAC list



- The Dutch government will cover all relevant costs. This includes international travel, accommodation, meals during training days, visa, insurance and tuition fees.
- If you travel from an international airport outside your home country, you will need to cover local travel costs yourself. You will receive compensation for the international leg of your journey.

## Costs for participants from countries not on the OECD-DAC list



- You must organise and pay for your own international travel and visa.
- The Dutch government will cover the cost of accommodation, meals during training days, insurance and tuition fees.

## No-show or cancellation costs



- If you cannot attend or cancel your participation within 4 weeks prior to the training course, the organisation has the right to claim all the associated costs from your employer.

## How to apply

- Applications should be made online before **11 Januari 2027**.
- Visit our Shiraka training courses overview and select the course of your choice by clicking on 'apply'.
- Log in or create an account using the 'register' button.

**More information**
shiraka@rvo.nl (for questions concerning your application and the database)
Ms. Shafien Golamun (for questions concerning the course)
Programme Leader PFM | Email: s.golamun@minfin.nl

The Shiraka Training Programme is an initiative of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of the Netherlands. The Department for International Entrepreneurship of the Netherlands Enterprise Agency implements the Shiraka Training Programme. The Public Financial Management professional development course will be organised by Ministry of Finance – National Academy for Finance and Economics.

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Ministry of Finance
National Academy for Finance and Economics
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## Information on the training course

### Experts

Experts who are involved in this training course



Maarten works as a strategic advisor for the Netherlands Court of Audit and as a part time professor of public management at Erasmus University Rotterdam. For the last two decades he has been working in public financial management in the Netherlands at both the national and subnational levels. At the Netherlands Ministry of Finance he initiated major reforms in the fields of performance budgeting and budget transparency. Internationally he has been involved in technical assistance in support of budget and governance reforms in over 20 countries on behalf of the Netherlands government or contracted by international organizations such as the OECD, the EC, the World Bank, the IMF, and the WHO.



A. Miro (b. 1978) holds a degree in General Economics from the Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam. Since 2018, he has served as a senior economist in the Fiscal Policy Department at the Ministry of Finance, specializing in public finances, as well as national and international fiscal rules and statistics. Prior to this, Miro held a position at the Dutch Central Bank, where he worked as a policy advisor on health insurance supervision. Miro has also substantial international expertise, having worked as a consultant for the German Development Bank (KfW) and as Director General of the Syria Recovery Trust Fund. He is a lecturer at the National Academy for Finance and Economy, where he provides insights and guidance to both national and international delegations on public finance.



Menno is responsible for all audit services for the ministries of Foreign Affairs and Infrastructure (from 2017 - 2022 for the ministries of Education, Social Affairs and Health) and management of audit staff. Responsible for productivity and the planning of the professionals in relation with the organization-wide goals. Menno works with the political and institutional stakeholders at the highest levels within the ministries and the Court of Audit and participates in the ministerial consultation forums.

### Study visits

During the training course the following study visits may be organised

**The Dutch Parliament - the House of Representatives of the Netherlands**.
The Dutch Parliament is called the States General. It consists of two chambers: the Senate and the House of Representatives.

**The Netherlands Court of Audit**
The Netherlands Court of Audit checks whether the Dutch central government spends public funds economically, efficiently and effectively.

**The Ministry of Finance**
The Ministry of Finance guards the national treasury and works towards ensuring the Netherlands is financially healthy and prosperous. The Ministry of Finance oversees the responsible and effective spending of government resources, makes rules to ensure a stable financial system and oversees the quality of financial institutions. The Ministry of Finance also works on equitable and solid tax legislation. The Dutch Tax Administration, part of the Ministry of Finance, levies and collects taxes

### Alumni quote

"What impresses me during this training is how much effort has been made to understand our culture and context. I believe in development, I believe in human transformation. And I think the place where I work, the Institute of Finance in Lebanon, also believes in this. That's why we work on networking and sharing expertise to strengthen this belief and put it into practice."