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## GENERAL INFORMATION

### What are the Annual and Spring Meetings?

The Annual and Spring Meetings of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank Group (WBG) each year bring together central bankers, ministers of finance and development, private sector executives, civil society representatives, and academics to discuss the state of the global economy and issues of international concern, such as the growth outlook, financial stability, and poverty reduction. The Meetings are the only gathering of its kind in the world and a unique forum for discussion on economic policymaking.

### What Happens at the Annual and Spring Meetings?

The Annual Meetings of the [Boards of Governors](#) of the IMF and World Bank Group take place in October in Washington, DC. and every third year in a city of another member country.

The Board of Governors consists of a high-level representative from each of the 190 member countries, typically the finance minister, central bank governor, or minister of development. During the Meetings, the Governors participate in a plenary session and discuss the challenges for the global economy. They also decide on major policy issues related to the future work of the two organizations, which are subsequently implemented by their respective Executive Boards.

In addition, the IMF's [International Monetary and Financial Committee](#) (IMFC) and the [joint IMF-World Bank Development Committee](#) (DC) meet to discuss progress on the work of the two organizations.

The IMFC has 24 members drawn from the Board of Governors and oversees the work of the IMF. It focuses discussions on the global economy, developments in financial markets, as well as other pressing issues within the IMF's mandate. For its part, the DC advises the Board of Governors of the World Bank on critical development issues and financial resources required to promote economic development and poverty reduction in developing countries.

At the conclusion of these meetings, the IMFC and DC release statements that provide guidance to the Executive Boards of the two institutions. For a list of past statements, please see [IMFC](#) and [DC](#).

### [Past Annual and Spring Meetings](#)

### Who attends the Meetings?

Over 10,000 people have traditionally attended the Annual and Spring in person, with this number continuing to expand as the Civil Society Policy Forum (CSPF) is held in a hybrid format. Participants include the governors themselves and their alternates, as well as members of their delegations, observers from other intergovernmental organizations, such as the [Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development](#) (OECD), the [World Trade Organization](#) (WTO), and representatives from financial institutions and bodies, such as the [Financial Stability Board](#) (FSB), as well as numerous [journalists](#), academics, and representatives of [civil society organizations](#).

## **What events take place during the Meetings?**

Several events take place on the side of the Annual and Spring Meetings, some of them are open to the general public and others are by invitation only.

- **Country group meetings:** Various country groups, such as the Group of Twenty (G-20), the Group of Twenty-Four (G-24), and the Commonwealth hold ministerial-level meetings ahead of or during the Annual and Spring Meetings. These meetings are by invitation.
- **Civil Society Policy Forum:** A Civil Society Policy Forum (CSPF) is also held during the Annual and Spring Meetings. The forum is the largest platform for CSOs to engage with the Fund and Bank on critical, time sensitive issues and areas of concern through a series of CSO-led sessions, Townhalls with the President and Managing Director, and a Roundtable with the Executive Directors of the World Bank. The sessions included in the CSPF are open to the public.
- **High-Level events, seminars, and talks:** The Program of Seminars is a premier global forum where leaders in policymaking, academia, civil society, private sector, and media, among others engage in public dialogue on the pressing global economic and financial issues of the day. In parallel, expert in-depth discussions take place as part of established talk series, such as the New Economy Forum, Analytical Corner, Capacity Development Talks, Governor Talks, and other forums. The High-Level seminars and Talks are open to the public.
- **Press Conferences:** The Managing Director of the IMF and the President of the World Bank, as well as senior officials from the institutions, hold press conferences on global and regional economic outlooks and other topical issues. The press Conferences are for journalists.

## **Where can I find the agenda of the Meetings?**

The agenda of the Spring and Annual meetings is available on-line and can found [here](#) and [here](#).

## **Do I need to register to attend the Meetings?**

Yes, all the participants who would like to attend the Spring and/or Annual Meetings must register. The registration process is online and free of charge. Additional information can be found [here](#).

## **What is the Civil Society Policy Forum (CSFP)?**

The [CSPF](#), which takes place two times per year during the WBG and IMF Spring Meetings (April) and Annual Meetings (October), is a robust and well-established platform bringing together over 800 CSO representatives from all over the world for a weeklong forum for CSOs to dialogue and exchange views with World Bank Group and IMF staff, their peers, government delegations, and other stakeholders in an open and collaborative space. The CSPF is made up of approximately 30 sessions, selected from an open call for proposals by a CSO working group. It is held in the same venue as the Spring and Annual Meetings, in-person with hybrid components. Participants and speakers can participate in-person or virtually.

## Who can participate in the Forum?

**CSOs from all over the world can submit session proposals to be considered for the CSPF and engage in the discussion of events.** CSOs include non-governmental organizations, community groups, labor unions, indigenous peoples' movements, faith-based organizations, professional associations, foundations, think tanks, charitable organizations, and other not-for-profit organizations. The CSPF sessions are open to the general public. Those willing to attend in-person must be registered in advance.

## How are the CSPF sessions and speakers selected?

The sessions are selected through a transparent process: the Bank and Fund launch an open Call for Proposals approximately four months before the CSPF; proposals are then reviewed by the World Bank and IMF to ensure they were submitted by an eligible organization, and reviewed and selected by a Working Group made up of [eight elected CSO representatives](#) from around the world. This is a very competitive process that strives to select the strongest, most impactful sessions.

The CSPF Working Group and CSO teams from the Bank and Fund, base selections on the following criteria:

- **Relevance:** Does the session discuss development topics that are a priority for civil society? How does this session engage with the IMF/Bank? Is the CSPF the best venue for the discussion?
- **Timeliness:** Is this a time-sensitive subject? Are there new reports or discussions that can be included? Can this session inform discussions at the Spring/Annual Meetings?
- **Partnership:** Does the session engage with various stakeholders, including regional organizations? Are CSOs from the global south included?
- **Strength:** Will this session be interesting for attendees? How are the organizers proposing to use their 90-minute slots? Is there anything particularly innovative? Is there a geographical and gender balance?

## Do I need to register to attend the Civil Society policy Forum?

The Civil Society Policy Forum is part of the Spring and Annual Meetings, therefore anyone interested in joining the Forum in-person will need to register to attend the Spring or Annual Meetings.

## Where can I find the agenda of the Forum?

A detailed and up to date schedule for the CSPF is available [here](#). The sessions of the CSPF are included in the general scheduler of the Spring/Annual Meetings, available in the [Annual Meetings' official website](#) and [IMF Connect](#).

## ANNUAL MEETINGS 2023

### **Earthquake and security related questions.**

We are in the process of updating the [Guide for Participants](#) to reflect the recent events in Morocco. This document includes key logistical information for participation in the Annual Meetings 2023, including logistical details,

### **Advocacy activities**

To ensure the safe, respectful, and meaningful participation of all the attendees, all participants are kindly reminded to act with an appropriate level of decorum while on the Bab Ighli campus.

In addition to the dedicated CSO Center with hybrid capabilities for the sessions of the CSPF on the main Annual Meetings' campus, there is a dedicated demonstration space, outside the campus, near the main entrance for advocacy activities.

Behavior that disrupts the proceedings and events will be addressed in accordance with Annual Meetings protocols and local laws. Please note, per Moroccan law, permits are legally required for all demonstrations, including those taking place on the demonstration space. Attendees are reminded to follow local laws. For more information on the permitting requirements, please contact: [CSO@MoroccoAM2023.ma](mailto:CSO@MoroccoAM2023.ma)

### **Registration for the Annual Meetings**

CSO registration for the 2023 Annual Meetings is open until September 29<sup>th</sup>. More information on the registration process is available [here](#). Applications can be submitted online [here](#). All registrations must be completed before the Meetings begin. There is no option for registration on site.

### **Meetings Badges**

All persons must display their Annual Meetings photo identification badges to board the shuttle buses and enter the campus. The Bank and Fund staff in Marrakech will be unable to reprint lost or damaged badges.

### **Badge Collection**

In order to collect their badges, participants must present their registration confirmation letter and a government-provided ID at the registration site on the main campus. Attendees may collect their registration badges at the registration site starting on Sunday, October 8 through Sunday, October 15.

Registration hours of operations are the following (subject to change):

**Sunday, October 8**

12:00 noon to 6:00 p.m.

**Monday, October 9**

7:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

**Tuesday, October 10 – Sunday, October 15**

8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

**VISAS**

**Simplified entry formalities for Annual Meetings participants.**

Participants should use the Moroccan Ministry of Foreign Affairs’ online visa application platform <https://www.acces-maroc.ma/>. The platform provides information for whether you need a visa to travel to Morocco, and if required, you can apply for the visa on this platform. Please note that you must be registered for the 2023 Annual Meetings prior to applying for visa via the evisa platform

**Meeting Venues**

The Meetings Campus is located at the “Bab Ighli” site (GPS: 31.605315, -7.993524). The main entrance is on Avenue Mehdi Ben Barka.

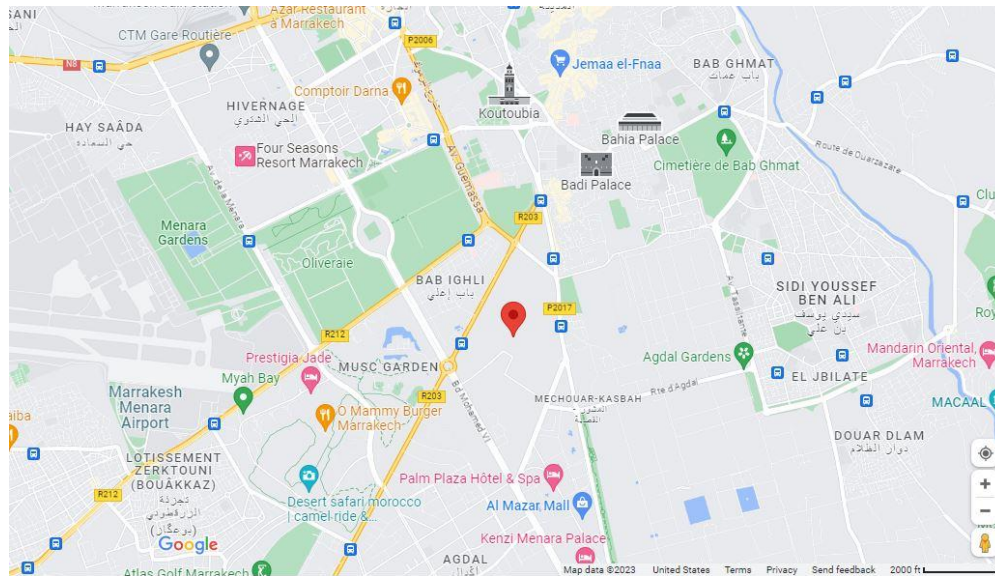
**CAMPUS PLAN**





## Map:

### Bab Ighli, Route d'AMIZIZ, Marrakech, Maroc/Morocco



## Hotels

The World Bank and IMF have blocked rooms at several hotels throughout Marrakech for the 2023 Annual Meetings for registered participants. To inquire about availability, please send an email to [housing@worldbank.org](mailto:housing@worldbank.org) and include a copy of your registration confirmation.

Reservations are subject to availability until the hotels are sold out or the cut-of date of September 8. Please note that confirmed Annual Meetings registration is not a guarantee of hotel accommodations in the WBG/IMF hotel block.

During the week of the Meetings, shuttles will be provided between the airport, the [official hotels](#), popular locations, and the event venue.

The Host Government has also provided an [online accommodation platform](#) to check availability and make bookings at alternative hotels.

## Complementary Shuttle Bus Service

Complementary shuttle service will be provided for attendees between both the Casablanca and Marrakech airports and the official hotels in Marrakech. Attendees will need to present their registration confirmation letter and photo ID to board the shuttle.

Shuttle service to and from the Marrakech and Casablanca airports will be provided for attendees from October 5 until October 17. Shuttle service from the official hotels to the campus

will be provided during the week of the Meetings. Further details on scheduling can be found in the [Guide for Participants](#).

Attendees should bring their registration confirmation letter for boarding the airport shuttles and will be required to show their Annual Meetings badge prior to boarding the campus shuttle.

## **Travel**

### **Customs and Changes**

Morocco is subject to foreign exchange controls and regulation that restricts the export of foreign currency and dirhams (MAD), the national currency. [Click here to know more](#)

### **Insurance**

Participants are strongly advised to arrange for their own insurance for individual travel, medical care and personal effects while attending the Meetings. Participants at the 2023 Annual Meetings are not covered for insurance purposes by the World Bank Group, IMF, or the Government of Morocco, nor will these institutions accept responsibility for costs related to re-booking travel, personal injuries, loss or damage to participants' personal properties.

### **Tourism**

The host Government has provided information regarding local tourism packages for participants who may wish to explore Morocco. Information on the Tourism program is available on the Host Government [website](#).

platform and get ready for an unforgettable journey through the wonders of Morocco. [Click here to explore the program](#)

**Moroccan Pavilion:** Within the Annual Meetings Campus, a Moroccan Pavilion will showcase the history, culture, and industry of Morocco. Performances will also be featured within the campus Town Square.



## Helpful Phrases

### English

Good morning / Good evening

Goodbye

How are you?

Fine, thank you, and you?

I understand / I don't understand

It was delicious

Yes / No

Thank you (very much)

My name is...

I would like to go to ...

How much is it?

Taxi

Where is ...? / How can I get to ...?

Hotel

Help!

I'm lost

Water

I am allergic

Have a nice day!

### Arabic

Salam Alekum / Msal'khir

Bsslama

Labass

Labass hamdoullah

Fhamt / Ma Fhamtch

Lay i âtik ssaha !

Wakha / La

Choukran (choukran bezaf)

Brit Nemchi

Tolong saya

Bch-hal

Taxi

Fayne ? / Kif nemchi li... ?

Foundouk

Aâtkouni !

Jlit rassi

El Ma

Fiya al hassassiya

Lay i aâouen !

## TRANSPORTATION

### Car Rental and Taxi Airport

At the exit of both Casablanca and Marrakech airports, passengers could either take shuttle buses, taxis or call a car rental agency. [Click here to know more](#)

### Air Links

No less than 25 leading airlines serve Morocco. Beyond the political and economic capitals, Rabat and Casablanca, all the major regional industrial centers and tourist destinations are widely served, first and foremost Marrakesh, but also Agadir, Tangier, Fez, Meknes, Essaouira, Oujda and more. [Click here to know more](#)

## CONTACTS

Registration: [csoregistration@worldbank.org](mailto:csoregistration@worldbank.org).

Hotels: [housing@worldbank.org](mailto:housing@worldbank.org)

Visa Information:

[Visa entry to Morocco](#)

[eVisa@moroccoAM2023.ma](mailto:eVisa@moroccoAM2023.ma)

### Other questions

[publicaffairs@imf.org](mailto:publicaffairs@imf.org)

[civilsociety@worldbank.org](mailto:civilsociety@worldbank.org)

## LOCAL EMERGENCY CONTACTS

 POLICE : 190


 FIREFIGHTERS : 150

 ROYAL GENDARMERIE : 177

 EMERGENCIES : 150

 PASTEUR INSTITUTE : +212 5 22 26 20 62

 SOS DOCTORS : +212 5 22 98 98 98

 POISON CONTROL CENTER : +212 5 37 68 64 64 / +212 8 01 00 01 80

 ONCF TRAIN STATIONS : +212 890 20 30 40

 INFORMATION CENTER : 160

 INTERNATIONAL INFORMATION CENTER : 120

 MOHAMMED V AIRPORT, CASA ANFA, PHONE : +212 5 22 53 90 40

 MARRAKECH AIRPORTS, PHONE : +212 5 24 44 79 10