



Press release

Bank Al-Maghrib, the IFC and CEMLA organise an international seminar on financial inclusion

Marrakech, Morocco, 14 July 2017

Bank Al-Maghrib (the Bank of Morocco) and the **Irving Fisher Committee on Central Bank Statistics (IFC)** of the **Bank for International Settlements (BIS)** hold an international seminar on financial inclusion with the collaboration of the **Center for Latin American Monetary Studies (CEMLA)** on 14 July 2017 in Marrakech, Morocco. This event is organised, according to tradition, as a Satellite Meeting in conjunction with the 61st World Statistics Congress of the **International Statistical Institute (ISI)**.

The seminar brings together experts and practitioners on statistics and financial inclusion, from different continents, in particular representatives from IFC member central banks, other national authorities and international organisations, to discuss financial inclusion data-related issues.

Financial inclusion is a key enabler for sustainable development, reducing poverty and fostering economic welfare. When properly developed, it can also contribute to a better transmission of monetary policy and thus enhance financial stability. Many central banks therefore consider financial inclusion as a major policy objective.

In this context, policymakers are increasingly recognising the importance of reliable data to measure and assess the impact of their financial inclusion policies. Several international initiatives undertaken by public and private sector bodies have contributed to the setting-up of a general framework for developing reliable financial inclusion indicators and disseminating them.

This seminar is an opportunity to discuss the policy and regulatory challenges and the data needs posed by financial inclusion. The four main themes covered are: (i) financial inclusion and the role of central banks; (ii) data on financial inclusion; (iii) the promotion financial inclusion and related policy challenges; and (iv) international collaboration on assessing financial inclusion.