

**Regional Training Course on System of National Accounts 2008,**  
**Daejeon, Republic of Korea**  
**13-17 June 2011**

The Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific (SIAP), in collaboration with the Statistics Korea and the ESCAP Sub-Regional office for East and North-East Asia, conducted a Regional Training Course on the System of National Accounts 2008 from 13<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> June 2011 at the Korea National Statistical Office, Daejeon, Republic of Korea. The main objective of the course was to strengthen the capacity of national statistical offices in implementing the recommendations of 2008 SNA and reviewing the current compilation practices for improving the quality and coverage of national accounts statistics of the respective countries.

A total of 18 participants – 8 from Republic of Korea and 10 from other member countries – attended the training course. From the Republic of Korea, five participants were from the National Statistical Office (NSO) and three from the Bank of Korea – the central bank of Republic of Korea. All these participants were selected by the Statistics Korea. The other 10 participants were selected by SIAP from among the nomination forms received from different member countries. They were from: China, Fiji, Hong Kong (China), Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Malaysia, Mongolia, Singapore, Tajikistan and Viet Nam.

Most of the participants were middle-level government statisticians with long experience in compilation of national accounts. These included officials directing or actually compiling national accounts or regional (sub-national) accounts, who could benefit from getting a better understanding of the concepts of the 2008 SNA. Some of the participants were, however, new to the field of national accounts.



The discussions and the issues raised by the participants indicate that all the participants could gain a fairly comprehensive understanding of the newly introduced concepts and recommendations made in the 2008 SNA. In addition, those with little exposure to national accounts got a chance of getting familiar with basic concepts and definitions of national accounts. The course is expected to have equipped the participants with the ability to identify the additional data needs for implementation of the 2008 SNA and suggest areas for improving the quality and coverage of the national accounts statistics.

In spite of the diverse levels of exposure to national accounts, a majority of the participants (61 %) stated that the course level was just right, while others found it at an advanced level. The course content was found to be 'useful' by all and 'very useful' by about a third of the participants. But, about 44 % of the participants found the duration of the course too short. One even commented that the topics covered during the course need at least 10 days of detailed discussion. All participants thought the course was relevant to their work. The course materials/handouts were assessed positively by the participants, most of them (94%) rating them either 'very good' or 'good'. The additional reading materials were rated as either 'good' or 'very good' by all the participants who could find time to go through them.