

**SECOND GROUP TRAINING COURSE IN PRODUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT OF
OFFICIAL STATISTICS IN SUPPORT FOR NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT INCLUDING
THE ACHIEVEMENT OF MDGS
22 August-22 December 2011**

Above training course was conducted in the premises of the Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific (SIAP) for four months from 22 August-22 December 2011 for the junior and middle-level statisticians from developing countries in the ESCAP region as well as outside region. Course was organized by SIAP jointly with Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA).

All together 30 participants from 14 countries completed the full course of three modules. 14 countries were Bangladesh, Cambodia, Ethiopia, India, Lao P. D.R., Lesotho, Micronesia, Mongolia, Pakistan, Philippines, Samoa, Tanzania, Timor-Leste, and Zambia.

The aim of the course was to improve knowledge and skills of the participants on compilation, analysis and dissemination of official statistics. It is expected that after the completion of the training course participants will be able to define, analyze and interpret key official statistics and MDG related indicators in support of policy analysis as well as to demonstrate ability to carry out and take part with understanding full survey operations and to have a good understanding of SNA framework and compilation of main economic aggregates including GDP.

During the training, all participants were involved in the project work where participants experienced all the process of statistical survey cycle, from planning to production of statistics and its dissemination. It kept participants attention in tact through out the course. They also developed their respective action plan which should be implemented after their return to their counties. This enables participants, who should now play the role of trainers there, to disseminate their acquired knowledge and skills during the training to their colleagues. Participants also observed with interest the prefectural level statistical activities and advanced technological application in the industries in Japan while enjoying the rich cultural and social values experienced during the field visits to Japanese prefectures of Shimane and Yamaguchi.

The training course was conducted by SIAP faculty members and many other excellent lecturers from the universities and government agencies in Japan, and international organizations including the Asian Development Bank, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, International Labour Organization, International Monetary Fund, UNESCO Institute for Statistics and the World Bank.

Closing ceremony was attended by representatives from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications, JICA, Institute of Developing Economies of JETRO and many Embassies of the countries who sent their government officials for training in this course.