

## Opening of the Second Group Training Course in Application of Information Management and Related ICT for Official Statistics

Second Group Training Course in Application of Information Management and Related ICT for Official Statistics begins in Chiba, Japan on May 16, 2011. The course will be conducted for 2 months from 16 May – 15 July 2011 and is jointly organized by the Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific, SIAP, and the Japan International Cooperation Agency, JICA. This course aims to equip participants with different aspects of ICT to increase productivity in all phases of the operations of their national statistical organizations. Emphasis will be placed upon production, analysis and dissemination of official statistics, and to understand the possible implications upon adoption of such technology.

This course brings together 17 participants from 11 countries namely, Azerbaijan, Ethiopia, Georgia, India, Myanmar, Rwanda, Solomon Islands, Tajikistan, Thailand, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan.



The main objectives of this course are three-fold. First, participants will be trained on the principles of electronic data processing, management and dissemination, and the technologies available for data processing including the use of statistical software like the Census and Survey Processing System (CS Pro), International Household Survey Network (IHSN) toolkit and REDATAM. Second, participants will be equipped with necessary knowledge and skills to become trainers so that they would be able to train other staff members in their organizations upon completion of the training. Third, participants would share experiences in the use of ICT for statistical operations and build informal networks among professionals.

The course contents include the topics on Information architecture of national statistical system, data capture and processing, statistical database, data dissemination and micro data access, data analysis techniques and software including STATA and R software, training of

trainers and Japanese ICT experience. One of the course components is the project work where participants will develop data processing system of a demonstration survey in groups. They will present the results of their work towards the end of the course.

This work is expected to be complemented by the preparation of an action plan which will be implemented within six months after the return to respective countries.

Several field visits are also planned to Japanese government statistical organisations and advanced IT companies, and to observe work at distance prefecture in Japan relating their work on the use of ICT in the statistical system. The work is progressing with full attention and participation of the trainees.