UNITED NATIONS
ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC
STATISTICAL INSTITUTE FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC (SIAP)

Official Statistics for SDGs

(e-Learning course)

1– 31 May 2019

Guidelines

I.   OVERVIEW OF THE COURSE

This e-learning course introduces fundamental knowledge on official statistics. This course will help you understand how to compile and monitor Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) indicators from official statistics. The course comprises five lessons. Each lesson comprises 40 slides and their explanations. The first lesson introduces fundamental key words prerequisite to understanding official statistics including definition and rationale. The lesson 2 provides the overview of organizations for production, dissemination and coordination of official statistics. The lesson 3 introduces quality and communication of official statistics. The lesson 4 outlines statistical methodologies whose standards, guidelines or manuals are compiled internationally. The last lesson picks up some examples of official statistics which are used for compilation of SDG indicators.

After studying all lessons, a test will be given, necessary to achieve the certificate of this course.

II.   TARGET PARTICIPANTS

Target participants are early-career staff of statistical offices and users of official statistics with an interest in how they are produced. Neither formal education in statistical theory nor experience in a statistical office is a prerequisite for the course, though prior knowledge of statistical methods will aid understanding.

III.   LEARNING OUTCOMES

By the end of the course, participants will be expected to:

   (a)   understand fundamental knowledge on official statistics

   (b)   understand how to compile and monitor Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) indicators from official statistics

IV.   COURSE DESIGN AND CONTENT

Each lesson consists of slides with explanations. After all lessons have been completed, participants will be required to complete a final test that will cover all Lessons. The course is expected to take a maximum of 5 hours to complete.

Outline

Chapter	Coverage
1. **What is Official Statistics and Why Official Statistics is Important?**	• Definition and Roles • History • Evidence Based Policy Making and Official Statistics • Generic Law on Official Statistics • Source of Data • Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics
2. **Statistical System of Official Statistics**	• National Statistical Systems • Generic Statistical Business Process Model • National Strategy for the Development of Statistics • Programming of National Statistical Activities • Transformative Agenda • Global Statistical System
3. **Quality and Communication of Official Statistics**	• Concept and Frameworks • European Statistics Code of Practice • IMF's Data Quality Assessment Framework • Quality Assurance Framework of Canada • UN National Quality Assurance Framework • Communication
4. **Measurement Standards of Official Statistics**	• Statistical Standards • Classifications • Survey Methodologies • Statistical Registers • Dissemination Methodologies • Rough Sketch of Official Statistics by Scope
5. **Official Statistics Useful for SDGs**	• SDGs • Roles of Statistics for SDGs • Organization for Compiling and Monitoring Indicators • Indicator Examples • Main Challenges • Practices of Countries

V. EVALUATION

Participants must receive a 80% or higher in the test at the end of this course.

Participants will be given 45 minutes to complete the test. They may take the exam up to three times and retain their best score. Participants **may not work together on the test**. The course facilitator reserves the right to deny course certificates to participants suspected of cheating on the test.

The supervisor is expected to ensure that the test of the course is taken in his/her presence.

VI. SOURCE MATERIAL

This course draws upon various sources, including international statistical standards and case studies from national statistical offices. A reference document introducing statistical repository of SDGs is included as an appendix of this course.