

Fiftieth Year Anniversary of SIAP in the Committee on Statistics, Seventh Session [26 August 2020]

During the opening of the session of the Committee on Statistics, Ms. Armida Salsiah Alisjahbana, United Nations Under-Secretary-General and Executive Secretary of ESCAP congratulated the Institute on its fiftieth anniversary and launched a fiftieth anniversary publication which gives the history of the Institute including the contribution the Institute made in the past fifty years and its future perspective. The volume has been shared in electronic format with the national statistical offices in the region and is viewable from: <https://my.ebook5.net/ESCAP-SIAP/in8m7W> In the opening, Congratulatory speech from Ms. Takaichi Sanae, Minister of Internal Affairs and Communications, Japan was streamed in a video. Mr. Yoshikai Shojiro, Director General for Policy Planning on Statistical Standards, Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications, Japan also joined the celebration and delivered congratulatory remarks.

Seminar on Transforming Human Resource Management in the Committee on Statistics, Seventh Session [28 August 2020]

On 28 August, during the discussion on agenda Item 4c of the Committee: Transforming human resource management to build statistical institutions in Asia and the Pacific for the future, Director, SIAP moderated the discussion on the presentations made by the Chief Statistician of Philippines, Director, Training and Research centre, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Chief Statistician of Maldives and Director international Affairs in the Ministry of Internal Affairs, Japan.

Stats Café [4 August 2020]

Asia-Pacific Stats Cafe series: Human resource management to build statistical institutions was held as a side event of the Committee on Statistics related to agenda the Item 4c: Regional and national efforts to transform human resource management to build statistical institutions in Asia and the Pacific for the future of the Commission.

Director, SIAP moderated the session with the support from Director, Statistics Division of ESCAP which had panellists- Sr Statistician, NSO, Mongolia, Chief Statistician of India, Deputy Statistician, Australia and Deputy Director, ROSTAT, Russian Federation. The panellists were invited to make a 10-minute presentation addressing specific issues relating to human resource management and statistical capacity-building adopted in their countries. The session which was held virtually had participants from national statistical offices and from international organisations. Recording and materials of the session can be accessed from <https://www.unescap.org/events/asia-pacific-stats-cafe-series-human-resource-management-build-statistical-institutions>

Special webinar on the fiftieth anniversary of the Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific [24 August 2020]

A webinar session to mark the fiftieth anniversary of the Institute was held on 24 August 2020. The session was held on the topic '50 years of Statistical Capacity Building by UN Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific (SIAP): Perspectives from Alumni Chief Statisticians' and, was organised in the context of the Committee on Statistics..

The session was opened by Ms Armida Salsiah Alisjahbana, United Nations Under-Secretary-General and Executive Secretary of ESCAP and, was moderated by the Director, SIAP. The panel for discussion included alumni Chief Statisticians/ Heads of national statistical offices from Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia and Sri Lanka, Director General, International Statistical Affairs, Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications of Japan, representing the host agency of the Institute and Director, Statistics Division of ESCAP.

Webinar session on 'Challenges of measuring the mortality of COVID-19 Pandemic' [20 August 2020]

The session provided insights into the advantages and limitations of metrics used in measuring the risk of losing life from COVID-19 and, to share experiences in measuring excess mortality and the multi-dimensional aspects of COVID-19. Officials from national statistical offices as well as from the Ministry of Health and related agencies participated in the session. Dr Raffaele Vardavas from RAND Corporation, Dr Sarah Nowak from Larner College of Medicine at the University of Vermont as well as Dr Reiko Hayashi from Japan National Institute of Population and Social Security Research were guest speakers.

Intermediate level e-learning course on the System of National Accounts (SNA): Integrated transaction accounts

[29 June-31 August 2020]

Ninety-five government officials accessed this course. A webinar session was delivered on 27 July by Mr Rajiv Sharma as a guest speaker on the topic 'Main macroeconomic aggregates in the SNA'. Mr Sharma, currently, Vice President of Indian Association of Research in Income and Wealth, worked for the Indian government, as a statistician in various areas of official statistics and has specialised in national accounts statistics and revenue statistics. He also worked as a national accounts expert in Middle East.

Another webinar session was held on 17 August delivered by the Director, SIAP on the topic 'COVID-19 recording options and their impact on key national accounts aggregates'.

E-learning course on Compiling National Metadata for the Sustainable Development Goals [10 August-11 September 2020]

Four hundred government officials accessed this course. A webinar session for the former modules was held on 18 August 2020.

Upcoming e-learning courses:

E-learning course on Introduction to energy statistics and energy accounts (scheduled between 14 September and 16 October 2020)
E-learning course on climate change indicators based on an accounting approach
E-learning course on crime statistics from gender perspectives
E-learning course on international accounts
E-learning course on statistics using ICT
E-learning course on gender statistics