

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

e-Learning Course

INTERNATIONAL ACCOUNTS

19 July – 27 August 2021

I. About the Course

This e-Learning course, developed by Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific (SIAP), covers the fundamentals of International Accounts based on Balance of Payments and International Investment Position Manual (BPM6). The objectives of this course are to provide a strong foundation for the concepts, methods and framework of international accounts and highlight foreign direct investment's potential contributions to sustainable development.

The course comprised of six modules (lessons). Each module consists of 35~50 slides and will be accompanied by a question bank for certification purposes. First module starts with an overview on international accounts and explains the harmonization between national accounts and international accounts. Second module continues with main concepts and definitions in international accounts. Instrument classification and functional categories under international accounts are defined in Module 3. Following module demonstrates possible data sources for compilation IIP and External debt statistics. Module 5 describes

the importance of foreign direct investment on sustainable development and last module highlights the impact of Covid-19 on foreign direct investment flows.

II. Target Audience

Target participants are early and mid-level government statisticians with some knowledge of the BOP, IIP and SNA or involved in the collection and compilation of statistics that support BOP, IIP, SNA statistics. It is also recommended for users of BOP/IIP statistics outside the compiling agency or those who are planning to develop their career in these fields.

III. Learning Outcomes

By the end of the course, participants will be able to

- a) Identify the international accounts framework and its harmonization with national accounts
- b) Define the main components of international accounts: IIP, BOP and other changes
- c) Classify financial assets and liabilities by type of instrument and differentiate functional categories under international accounts
- d) Compare possible data source for the compilation of IIP and external debt statistics
- e) Identify importance of foreign direct investment on sustainable development and get familiar with relevant SDG indicators
- f) Assess the Covid-19 impact on foreign direct investment flows and observe latest trends in foreign direct investment

IV. Course Design and Content

This e-learning course has been developed as an interactive training comprised of the following six modules. Each module includes self- assessment quizzes and hands on practice exercises to reinforce the major concepts taught. Participants are expected to complete one module each week. There will be two online meetings and one webinar, each one hour long. First online meeting will be held during second week of the course and cover modules 1 and 2; second online meeting will be held during week 4 and cover modules 3-4. Webinar will be held during week 6 and cover modules 5 and 6. Online meetings and webinar will start with a short presentation to supplement the e-Learning course. Participants can ask questions about the content covered in the relevant modules and lecturer can also ask questions to engage participants attention and encourage discussion.

The course is expected to take an average 15 hours to complete including participation in online meetings and other course activities.

Module	Coverage
1. Overview of the Framework	Part 1. Harmony between national accounts and international accounts Part 2. International accounts
2. Main concepts and definitions	Part 1. History of BPM6 Part 2. Main concepts and definitions Part 3. Accounting rules

3. Classification of Financial Assets and Liabilities	Part 1. Type of instrument Part 2. Functional categories
4. International Investment Position and External Debt Statistics	Part 1. IIP Part 2. Possible data sources in IIP compilation Part 3. External debt statistics
5. Foreign Direct Investment and Sustainable development	Part 1. Contribution of direct investment to the sustainable development Part 2. SDG-Relevant investment sectors
6. Impact of Covid-19 pandemic on Foreign Direct Investment (FDI)	Part 1. Impact of Covid-19 pandemic on global FDI Part 2. Impact of Covid-19 pandemic on FDI in Asia and the Pacific

The course is hosted on the SIAP Learning Management System (LMS), which contains a discussion forum for general questions and interactions with the developers of the course material. Active participation and interaction in the discussion forum are strongly advised by the lecturer(s).

V. Evaluation

Evaluation will be based on

- Participation in discussion forum for six weeks (30% of score, 5% each): Posting questions/replying to questions in the discussion forum (at least one post in the forum per week)
- Participation in the online meetings (10% of score, 5% each)

Two online meetings

First online meeting: 29 July- Thursday-4pm Tokyo time

Second online meeting: 12 August- Thursday-4pm Tokyo time

- Participation in the webinar (10% of score)
(Date and time will be announced later)
Further instruction on joining the online meetings and webinar will be communicated separately via email in due course.
- Five open book on-line module completion tests (50% of score, 10% each):
Maximum three attempts per test, with the highest score out of the three attempts to be recorded.

Due date for Test 1-July 26 at 11pm Tokyo time

Due date for Test 2-August 2 at 11pm Tokyo time

Due date for Test 3-August 9 at 11pm Tokyo time

Due date for Test 4-August 16 at 11pm Tokyo time

Due date for Test 5-August 23 at 11pm Tokyo time

The overall evaluation of the participants' performance is based on the total score obtained in the above. A certificate of successful completion will be issued to participants securing the total score of at least 70%.

NO EXTENSION WILL BE GIVEN TO PARTICIPANTS WHO FAIL TO COMPLETE THE COURSE DURING THE DESIGNATED PERIOD.

Successful participants are required to complete a **course evaluation form**, which will be available to them immediately after the completion of the course. Participants will be able to print the certificates in the system in the first week of September.

VI. Source Material

This course draws upon Sixth Edition of the IMF's Balance of Payments and International Investment Position Manual (BPM6), OECD Benchmark Definition of FDI Fourth Edition, System of National Accounts Manual (2008), UNCTAD World Investment Report WIR/ 2020 and other sources.