

**United Nations Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific (SIAP), the World Bank Group (WBG) and Ministry of Data and Statistics (MODS)**

**Regional Training Course on Poverty Measurement and Statistics (SDG 1.2)  
(F2F training) | Daejeon, Republic of Korea 24 – 28 August 2026**

**Concept Note**

**I. Background and Rationale**

Effective measurement of poverty is essential for understanding the scale, depth and distribution of deprivation, and for designing policies that respond to the needs of the poorest and most vulnerable. Accurate, timely, and comparable poverty statistics enable governments to better target interventions, monitor progress, and assess the impact of economic and social shocks. In the context of the Sustainable Development Goals, particularly SDG 1 (No Poverty), robust poverty measurement is indispensable for ensuring that policy responses are evidence-based and effective.

Consistent methodologies and measurements across countries and population groups are critical for producing reliable poverty estimates and for SDG monitoring. In this regard, the World Bank’s revision of the international poverty line in 2025, from USD 2.15 to USD 3.00 per person per day, to align with the 2021 purchasing power parities (PPP) and updated global price data represented an important development. While this update improved the relevance of the global poverty benchmark<sup>1</sup>, it introduced significant challenges for comparability, trend analysis, and the communication of results. It also requires that countries recalibrate poverty estimates and reassess historical series.

The Asia-Pacific region is characterized by immense diversity, not only in income levels but also in living standards, data availability, and institutional capacity to produce and analyse poverty statistics. Strengthening capacity in poverty statistics is therefore essential to ensure that estimates are robust, comparable across countries and over time, and sufficiently disaggregated to capture inequalities within populations.

Against this backdrop, a 5-day regional training course will be organized to strengthen technical capacity in key aspects of poverty measurement aligned with international standards, with the aim of improving the quality, comparability and policy relevance of poverty estimates across the region.

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<sup>1</sup> This revision reflects updated globally comparable price data while incorporating new information on standards of poverty around the world. Both factors provide a more accurate representation of deprivation. See [here](#) for additional information.

This course is jointly organized by the Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific (SIAP), the World Bank (custodian agency for SDG 1) and the Ministry of Data and Statistics (MODS) It will be hosted in Daejeon, Republic of Korea, from 24 to 28 August 2026.

## II. Objectives

The main objectives of this training are:

1. To build the capacity of government officials to monitor poverty and the livelihoods of households through the utilization of internationally accepted methodologies.
2. To equip participants with the skills to inform policy-relevant questions by using welfare and poverty estimates grounded in hard evidence.

## III. Learning Outcomes

By the end of this training, the participants will be able to:

- (a) Construct a consumption-based welfare aggregate — including its food, non-food, durables, and housing components — using household survey data and internationally accepted methodologies;
- (b) Establish a poverty line, estimate the associated poverty rate;
- (c) Identify various types of poverty lines and interpret poverty statistics accordingly;  
and
- (d) Support the monitoring of living standards.

A range of training methodologies will be used in the delivery of the training, such as lectures (theoretical components), group/country presentations, discussion sessions, and hands-on and practical exercises.

## IV. Target Countries and Participants

This training will target staff from national statistical offices of selected countries in Asia who are directly involved in compiling, analyzing and disseminating poverty statistics. This includes national statisticians or data analysts working on household surveys, poverty measurement, or SDG reporting (particularly SDG 1).

The following countries will be invited: Armenia, Cambodia, Nepal, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, and Viet Nam.

To ensure the workshop objectives and expected outcomes are met, nominees should be individuals with previous experience working with household surveys and their data and be comfortable with using basic statistical concepts. Each country will be invited to nominate two participants meeting the following requirements:

### *Essential*

- Is a technical staff or statistician from the National Statistical Office whose primary responsibility is currently or has been analyzing the Household Income and

Expenditure Survey data.

- Is proficient in English
- Has the statistical knowledge typically covered in an introductory statistics course.
- Has some familiarity with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
- Has access to a personal laptop. Microsoft Office and STATA software must be installed on the laptop.

### ***Desirable***

- Experience working with data from Household Income and Expenditure Surveys.
- Strong familiarity with welfare measures.
- Strong familiarity with STATA, or ability to quickly code in R.
- Prior experience with poverty or inequality measurement.

## **V. Methodology and Content**

This training will be conducted using STATA statistical software and organized into 2 parts:

Part I – This part will focus on the step-by-step construction of a consumption-based welfare aggregate using household survey data. It will cover the measurement of food and non-food consumption, treatment of durable goods and housing, and adjustments for household size and composition, as well as spatial and temporal price deflators. Emphasis will be placed on practical implementation using STATA, including addressing common data challenges such as outliers and differences in survey design across countries.

Part II – This part will focus on constructing poverty lines and estimating poverty and inequality indicators, including the application of the Cost of Basic Needs (CBN) method. It will also cover sensitivity analysis and the interpretation of results for policy use, including comparisons between national and international poverty lines.

The training will also include discussion sessions and applied exercises. Time permitting, specific sessions how methodologies can be adapted to country contexts will be held.

The provisional agenda is provided in Annex 1.

## **VI. Evaluation**

This training will include several homework assignments to allow participants to apply their understanding of the concepts and techniques. After the conclusion of the training, participants will be eligible to receive a certificate of participation. They will also be required to complete an electronic feedback form.

## **VII. Language**

The training will be conducted in English. All training materials, presentations and related documents will be available only on English. Accordingly, nominees are expected to have a strong command of the English language.

## **VIII. Recommended reading**

The slides, reading materials, STATA do files syntax and tests data sets will be shared prior to the training. Useful references include:

Mancini, Giulia and Vecchi, Giovanni (2022) “[Inequality and Poverty Analysis](#)” World Bank.

Ravallion, Martin (1998) [Poverty Lines In Theory and Practice](#).

## ANNEX 1 – OUTLINE OF THE AGENDA

Date/Time	Session	Presenter
<i>Part I –</i>		
Day 1: (24 Aug.)	<p>Opening session: 8:30am – 9:30am Opening remarks; Introductions and general overview of objectives</p> <p>Morning session 1: 9:30am – 10:30am Introduction to Poverty Measurement — definitions of poverty, welfare theory, key concepts of the Nominal Consumption Aggregate (NCA), and the main steps of poverty measurement</p> <p>Coffee break</p> <p>Morning session 2: 10:45am – 11:30 am Measuring food consumption (including food at home, food away from home, and valuation methods, and practical considerations across different survey instruments, including treatment of outliers and unit values in food consumption data)</p> <p>Lunch 12-2:30pm</p> <p>Afternoon session 1: 2:00-3:30 pm NCA — non-food consumption: reference periods, outlier detection, and treatment of health and education expenditures</p> <p>Coffee break</p> <p>Afternoon session 2: 3:45-5:00pm NCA (cont.)</p>	
Day 2: (25 Aug.)	<p>Morning session 1: 8:30am – 10:00am NCA — Durable goods: the user-cost method for estimating consumption flows from durable assets</p> <p>Coffee break</p> <p>Morning session 2: 10:15am – 12:00pm NCA — Housing consumption flows: imputed rent and methods for valuing owner-occupied housing</p> <p>Lunch 12-1:30pm</p> <p>Afternoon session 1: 1:30-3:00pm Imputed rent (cont.) Adjusting for household size and composition — per capita vs. adult equivalent scales</p> <p>Coffee break</p> <p>Afternoon session 2: 3:15-5:00pm Price frameworks and spatial/temporal deflators + Homework</p>	
Day 3 (26 Aug.)	Cultural Activity planned by MODS (full day)	N/A

**Part II -**

<p>Day 4 (27 Aug.)</p>	<p>Morning session 1: 8:30am – 10:00am Recap of days 1 and 2 Constructing the final welfare aggregate — bringing together all NCA components, applying deflators, and producing a comparable per-capita consumption measure, and conducting consistency checks and validation of results.</p> <p>Coffee break</p> <p>Morning session 2: 10:15am – 12:00pm Poverty line construction — the Cost of Basic Needs (CBN) method: food poverty line (caloric requirements and food basket costing) and non-food allowance</p> <p>Lunch 12-1:30pm</p> <p>Afternoon session 1: 1:30-3:00pm Revision of PL Case studies</p> <p>Coffee break</p> <p>Afternoon session 2: 3:15-5:00pm Coursework/ Homework</p>	
<p>Day5 (28 Aug.)</p>	<p>Morning session 1: 8:30am – 10:00am Recap of day 3 Case studies II</p> <p>Coffee break</p> <p>Morning session 2: 10:15am – 12:00pm Calculating poverty and inequality measures — FGT indices (headcount, depth, severity), the Gini coefficient, and shared prosperity indicators</p> <p>Lunch 12-2:30pm</p> <p>Afternoon session 1: 2:30-3:30 pm (optional) National vs. international poverty lines — comparing national lines with international benchmarks (e.g., \$3.00/day); PPP adjustments and global poverty monitoring</p> <p>Coffee break</p> <p>Afternoon session 2: 3:45-4:30pm Homework</p> <p>Closing session 4:30pm – : Closing ceremony and evaluation</p>	