

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

**e-Learning Course**

**INTERNATIONAL ACCOUNTS**

**24 November - 25 December 2020**

**I. About the Course**

This e-Learning course, developed by SIAP, provides a strong foundation on International Accounts based on Balance of Payments and International Investment Position Manual (BPM6). The aim of the course is to introduce participants the components of international accounts: International Investment Position (IIP), Balance of Payments (BOP) and Other changes in financial and liabilities accounts.

This course comprised of five modules (lessons). First module starts with an overview on international accounts and explains the harmonization between national accounts and international accounts. Second module continues with definitions and accounting rules used 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. Last module highlights the importance of foreign direct investment on sustainable development and introduces the sustainable development goals (SDGs) and relevant investment sector. Covid-19 impacts on investment flows will be also examined in this module.

## **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 and 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 Objectives**

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

- a) Identify the international accounts framework and its harmonization with national accounts
- b) Explain the main components of international accounts: IIP, BOP and other changes
- c) Obtain deeper knowledge on instrument classification and functional categories of international accounts and demonstrate their relationship
- 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

## **IV. Course Design and Content**

The course covers the following five modules and each module consists of voice over slides with explanation. Interactive lessons can be printed in pdf format. Each module

is expected to take 45 minutes to 75 minutes to complete. The course is expected to take a maximum of 10 hours to complete.

<b>Module</b>	<b>Coverage</b>
1. Overview of the Framework	Part 1. Harmony between national accounts and international accounts Part 2. International accounts
2. History of BPM6, Basic Definitions and Accounting Principles	Part 1. History of BPM6 Part 2. Main concepts and definitions Part 3. Accounting rules
3. Financial Assets and Liabilities by type of instrument and Functional categories	Part 1. Financial Assets and Liabilities by type of instrument Part 2. Functional categories
4. International Investment Position and External Debt Statistics and data sources for compilation	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 Part 3. Covid-19- Investment flows

For each module, the course material consists of *interactive lesson* with embedded quizzes. The course also includes lesson completion tests for each module and two assignment regarding the special aspects raised in the course. Active participation and interaction in the discussion forum are strongly advised by the lecturer.

Lesson materials will be made available on a staggered basis to help learners to follow the required sequence in mastering the material and achieving the learning outcomes.

There will be two webinars to supplement the e-Learning course.

## V. Evaluation

Evaluation will be based on

- Participation in discussion forum for five weeks (30% of score, 6% each):  
Posting questions/replying to questions in the discussion forum (at least one post in the forum per week)
- Two webinars-Participation in webinars (20% of score, 10% each)  
**First webinar:** 10 December- Thursday-4pm Japan time  
**Second webinar:** 17 December- Thursday-4pm Japan time

Further instruction on joining the webinars 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-November 30 at 11pm Japan time  
Due date for Test 2-December 7 at 11 pm Japan time  
Due date for Test 3-December 14 at 11pm Japan time  
Due date for Test 4-December 21 at 11pm Japan time  
Due date for Test 5-December 25 at 11pm Japan 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 January**.

## **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) and other sources.