

Ninth Intermediate-level e-learning Course on System of National Accounts (SNA): Integrated Transaction Accounts

12 June– 21 July 2017

Course Information

A. Introduction

The intermediate-level e-learning course on the System of National Accounts (SNA) is the second of three courses comprising the SIAP training programme on the SNA. The courses progressively introduce SNA concepts and compilation methods and the changes introduced in the latest update of SNA standards—the SNA 2008. The first course is a basic-level e-learning course that introduces the basic tenets of the SNA 2008; its target participants are junior statisticians engaged in some aspect of compiling national accounts statistics or data collection of its source statistics.

The intermediate-level course looks more closely at the transaction accounts and its target participants are statisticians with experience in the compilation of national accounts statistics. Participants must have prior knowledge of the SNA 2008 at the level of the basic-level e-learning course.

B. Course Objectives & Expected Learning Outcomes

The course is designed with the following objectives:

1. To provide an overview of the main changes in the SNA 2008 relative to the SNA 1993 and the effects of these changes in the compilation of national accounts statistics;
2. To demonstrate methods and techniques for compiling transactional accounts in the SNA 2008; and
3. To explain and demonstrate techniques for using volume measures to break down key national accounts aggregates using a system of price indices.

At the end of the course, participants are expected to be able to:

1. Apply the SNA 2008 concepts, standards and methods in the compilation of their national accounts;
2. Demonstrate the effects of the SNA 2008 changes relative to the SNA 1993 on their national accounts statistics;
3. Guide the compilation of transaction accounts, and where applicable, the transition to the SNA 2008 concepts, standards and methods.

C. Contents of the Course

The course consists of ten lessons on the transaction accounts of the system of national accounts, as follows:

- Lesson I: Review of Basic Concepts – A Brief Recap
- Lesson II: Major Changes in SNA 2008
- Lesson III: Money Balance Identity
- Lesson IV: Integrated System of Transaction Accounts
- Lesson V: Production and Generation of Income Accounts
- Lesson VI: Distribution and Use of Income Accounts: Main entries & data needs
- Lesson VII: Expenditure Components of GDP
- Lesson VIII: Domestic Economy and External Transactions
- Lesson IX: Capital and Financial Accounts: Main entries & data needs
- Lesson X: Price and Volume Measures

D. Delivery of Course and Course Materials

The course has been designed to be completed in five weeks. Participants are expected to complete two lessons each week.

For each lesson, the course materials consist of:

- Notes for reading, called *Reading Material* specific to each lesson
- Online presentations with embedded quizzes and;
- Assignments.

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. After completion of each lesson, the participants are required to take an on-line lesson completion test. Participants will be able to proceed to the next lesson only if they pass the completion test of the preceding lesson. This test will be based on the materials provided and reference materials that participants are expected to read.

The course will be delivered using online presentations. In addition to the presentation slides, participants are expected to read the accompanying reference materials. Instructors will open discussion forums and participants are expected to actively participate in these forums.

Note: Several acronyms are consistently used in the reading materials and the presentations. Participants are advised to print out the document containing the acronyms and what they stand for to use as reference while going through the course materials.

E. Assessments

Trainee performance will be assessed through the following:

- Quizzes
- Lesson completion test
- Assignments
- Participation in discussion forums
- Final test

In addition to taking the required tests after completion of each lesson, all the participants are required to complete the assignments. Assignments and lesson completion tests are designed to prepare participants for the final test.

A final test will be administered at the end of course. The final grade will take into account the results of: lesson completion tests, quizzes, participation in discussion forums and the final test. A final grade of at least **70%** is needed to obtain a certificate of successful completion of the course.

F. Certificate of Successful Completion

Certificates will be awarded through the system starting from 18 July 2017 till 28 July 2017. *To be able to download the certificate, the participants have to pass the course, fill and submit a course evaluation form.*