UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

STATISTICAL INSTITUTE FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC (SIAP)

and

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANIZATION (ILO)

Regional Course on SDGs Indicators: Measuring decent work using microdata from labour force surveys

30 September – 4 October 2019, Chiba, Japan

Collaborating agencies: United Nations Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific (**SIAP**), Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (**ESCAP**); International Labour Organization (**ILO**).

I. Introduction:

The adoption of the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda by the United Nations in September 2015 and the subsequent identification of a comprehensive global indicator framework for measuring progress on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) have re-emphasised the need to produce statistics at the national, regional and global levels as indispensable for monitoring progress towards the defined goals and targets. Being universal, the agenda requires more empirical evidence and benchmarks and has led to the call for a "data revolution".

Decent work is central to efforts to reduce poverty and is a means for achieving equitable, inclusive and sustainable development. The importance of decent work as a driver of sustainable development has been recognized by the 2030 Agenda with the inclusion of Goal 8 to "Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all". Elements of decent work are also enshrined in many other Goals and Targets of the SDGs which reflects its crosscutting nature.

To contribute to the monitoring of SDG decent work related Targets, countries will need to further strengthen their labour market statistical systems across a range of activities including:

- Strong coordination between various data producers and data users;

- Capacity to collect labour market data to provide timely, credible and internationally comparable labour statistics;

- Capacity to produce and disseminate relevant and sound analysis, and to monitor progress towards decent work within the context of SDGs; and

- Enhance international comparability of statistical concepts while adapting global indicators to national realities.

Building on long experience in delivering training on labour market statistics, the ILO Department of Statistics, the ILO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, and the UNESCAP Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific have prepared this Regional Course of SDGs, with a focus on processing and standardising microdata to disseminate SDG decent work indicators. The course is a shortened version of the ILO Labour Market Statistics Academy (LMSA), organised annually in Turin by the ILO Department of Statistics and the ILO International Training Centre (ITC).

II. Objectives:

The main objective of the Course is to better equip and situate national and international stakeholders in the new SDGs statistical monitoring system. It is designed to enhance institutional capacity to identify, collect, analyse and disseminate labour market information and indicators related to decent work. It emphasizes the importance of processing Labour Force Surveys (LFS) microdata to produce and disseminate SDG indicators.

More specifically, the Course will aim to:

- Enhance understanding about the new SDG indicator framework including the link to the international system defined by the UN for national and global SDG monitoring;

- Expand knowledge on how decent work-related SDGs and targets could be monitored using existing international statistical standards;

- Promote gender mainstreaming in the production of labour statistics and in the definition of the relevant SDG indicators;

- Promote sound statistical data processing and analysis of indicators by demonstrating good practices in labour market information systems and SDG monitoring strategies

- Promote compilation, standardisation, documentation, and sharing of labour related microdata.

III. Target audience:

Representatives of ILO member States in Asia and the Pacific (a) with existing regular data collection systems of labour statistics, such as those with labour force surveys, aiming to review and improve their data; and (b) countries with immediate plans to implement labour statistics systems or related surveys.

The target qualification of the Course includes:

- Labour Statisticians from national statistical offices and ministries of labour;

- International organisations (ADB, ASEAN) and donor organisations; and

Countries will be invited to nominate potential participants. Nominees should be middle-level to senior-level with the above qualifications. Nominees should have experience working on labour force statistics as survey statisticians, and/or data analysts in support of policy analysis on labour market information, and have some awareness of sustainable

development goals. At most two *qualified* participants per country will be accepted for the training; selection will be based on the information provided in the nomination form for the course.

The provisional list of proposed countries for the 2019 Course is as follow**: Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Maldives, Myanmar, Mongolia, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Timor-Leste, and Viet Nam**. Additional institutions to be invited will include: **ADB, and the ASEAN**.

IV. Course methodology and content, main modules:

The training methodology for this course is designed to ensure a 'learning-by-doing' process that encourages the sharing of knowledge, experiences and best practices among participants. It will combine lectures by experts and practitioners with participatory individual exercises and group work. Country experience and examples will have a great part in the content.

The Course will follow a path that starts from reviewing the understanding of main SDGs decent work indicators, data sources, and data collection methods; to data processing of microdata and other sources to produce the indicators; and the interpretation and use of the indicators for analysis and policy formulation.

The Course will be organised in the following 3 modules:

Module One: Conceptual framework of SDG decent work indicators

- Statistical definition of main SDGs decent work indicators

- Mapping national practices and definitions to international definitions: Issues and practices in aiming for international comparability

- Main sources of data: international recommendations and national practice

- Data collection programmes: international recommendations, national experiences.

Module Two: Data production and analysis based on national LFS microdata

- Focus on data preparation, micro data management, and the use of statistical software ensuring alignment with international standards, metadata and data quality; data interpretation. Concrete work groups using STATA.

- Producing estimates of main SDGs decent work indicators: international and national practices, and comparability issues.

- Presenting and using statistics on main SDGs indicators for identifying target groups left behind, national policy making, and international reporting.

Module Three: Way forward

- Country plans for SDGs decent work indicators data production, microdata dissemination, etc;

- Possible support from ESCAP Regional Programmes (Economic Statistics, Population and Social Statistics, Gender Statistics, SIAP training courses, etc.).

V. Training Design:

The training course will cover the topics listed above. It is designed to present/review concepts and definitions and measurement methods and to discuss practical issues and possible solutions relating to their applications and use. The course is organized into modules; each module consists of a set of training sessions. Training activities within each training session will be a mix of expert presentations on the main topics, country-led discussions and presentations on applications, issues and lessons learned and working-with-data/design small-group work.

VI. Preparatory Activities:

Participants to the course need to have:

- Participants are required to bring at least one full microdata set from a recent labour force or other household survey including labour market and demographic data;
- Knowledge of the use of Stata;
- Knowledge of labour market statistics;
- Presentation of available key SDGs and other decent work related indicators at national level.

ILO-SIAP Regional Course Measuring decent work in the context of the SDGs through microdata processing
Draft Summary Programme: 30 September – 4 October 2019

	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5
9:00 – 10:30	Opening Course overview and structure Ashish, Tite Group Photo	STATA basics Getting started and Managing data ILO Geneva (Yves)	SDGs Goal 8: Informal employment (SDG 8.3.1) Concepts and measurement ILO ROAP (Tite)	Country Work Deriving key labour market variables with your existing microdata	Country Work Prepare brief labour market fact sheet based on survey data
10:30 – 11:00	*Coffee break*	*Coffee break*	*Coffee break*	*Coffee break*	*Coffee break*
11:00 – 12:30	Decent work in the 2030 Development Agenda; SDGs decent work indicators ILO ROAP (Tite)	Group Work Deriving key labour market variables with STATA ILO Geneva (Yves + Eunkoo)	Group Work Deriving informality with STATA ILO Geneva (Yves + Eunkoo)	Country Work Deriving key labour market variables with your existing microdata	Country Work Presenting fact sheet and results of microdata work (5 minutes per country) + Q/A
12:30 – 13:30	*Lunch break*	*Lunch break*	*Lunch break*	*Lunch break*	*Lunch break*
13:30 – 15:00	Defining and measuring key labour market indicators (employment, unemployment, NEET, time-related underemployment…) ILO ROAP (Peter)	Classification of ICSE, ISCO and ISIC including Women in managerial positions (SDG 5.5.2) ILO ROAP (Peter)	Review of existing and available Labour Market Microdata (LFS, HIES, other Household Surveys) ILO (Tite, Yves, Peter)	Country Work Prepare key outcome tables with key labour market indicators	The way forward Plans for future surveys, availability of Microdata, dissemination through ILOSTAT ILO (Tite, Yves, Peter, Eunkoo)
15:00 – 15:30	*Coffee break*	*Coffee break*	*Coffee break*	*Coffee break*	*Coffee break*
15:30 – 17:00	SDGs Goal 8: Unemployment (8.5.2); Youth NEET (8.6.1) ILO ROAP (Tite)	Group Work Deriving classifications with STATA ILO Geneva (Yves + Eunkoo)	Merging and cleaning of microdata ILO (Tite, Yves, Peter)	Country Work Prepare key outcome tables with key labour market indicators	Closing Ashish, Tite