11th meeting of the Steering Group for the Regional Programme for the Improvement of Economic Statistics in Asia and the Pacific

2-3 November 2021 (Virtual)

CONCEPT AND PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Summary decisions from the 10th meeting of the SGRPES

The Steering Group for the Regional Programme for economic statistics (“SGRPES,” “The Steering Group” and “SG”) held its 10th virtual meeting on 28th January 2021¹.

During this 10th meeting, the Steering Group:

- elected Ms Nilima Nal (Pacific Community-SPC), Ms Aishath Shahuda (Maldives), Ms Wai Yee Yen (Singapore) and Mr Mohd Yazi Kasim (Malaysia) as co-chairs of the Steering Group;
- endorsed the proposed work plan for 2021-2023, as contained in the Programme Matrix for 2021-2030;
- agreed to use virtual platforms and webinars to share experience at the technical level;
- emphasized the need to make the 2021-2023 work plan easy to implement with increased virtual implementation of activities;

The Steering Group listed the following topics as priorities – the digital economy, integrated statistics, regional GDP, big data, and tourism satellite accounts. The Steering Group also noted the continuous need for advocacy for economic statistics.

¹ https://www.unescap.org/events/2021/10th-meeting-steering-group-regional-programme-improvement-economic-statistics-asia-and
Additionally, the Steering Group agreed to include the measurement of the economic impact of Covid-19 as a priority topic in 2021. Moreover, the Steering Group prepared the following list of activities\(^2\) to be undertaken in 2021:

- The start of the Steering Group operating as a community of practice;
- The review, update and expansion of existing training packages;
- Outreach to training partners to offer e-learning on various topics;
- The conduct of in-depth technical forums to discuss topical issues;
- More direct contribution to global work through engagement in the update of the 2008 SNA and other global matters

**Objectives of the 11\(^{th}\) meeting of SGRPES**

The objectives of the upcoming meeting are as follows:

- Share information on economic statistics development in the region
- Review progress in implementing the SGRPES 2021 work plan and agree on the SGRPES 2022 work plan
- Discuss potential for collaboration between SGRPES and the Steering Group on Population and Social Statistics to advance integrated statistics (action area A of the Collective Vision and Framework for Action)
- Discuss SGRPES participation in global statistical community activities

Provisional Agenda

Agenda Item 1: Introduction

Introduce members, provide an overview and objectives of the meeting

Agenda Item 2: Round Table: Economic statistics development in the region

A round-the-table update by each member on activities that have been implemented at country and regional level since the 10th meeting in January 2021. Members to highlight successes, challenges and upcoming plans/activities related to economic statistics.

Agenda Item 3: Review of Regional Programme progress and planned activities

The co-chairs will provide a progress update on implementing the regional programme, 2021. The session will review and agree on activities for 2022 and discuss planned activities for 2023 in view of the progress made.

Agenda Item 4: Highlight initiatives

Select initiatives will be presented in this session. This will include initiatives on big data, tourism, economic statistics training, price indices and the ongoing SNA revision.

Agenda Item 5: Advancing Integrated Statistics

The session will discuss potential for collaboration between SGRPES and the Steering Group on Population and Social Statistics to advance integrated statistics.