

Invitation

Virtual event: Introducing an Excel-based model to design policy responses to COVID-19

COVID-19 is an unprecedented socio-economic crisis and calls for unprecedented policy responses. The Asia-Pacific region is no exception.

Against this backdrop, during the 76th Session of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific in May 2020, ESCAP published [a policy framework](#) to support member States to build back better through integrated policy responses aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals.

Under the framework, ESCAP has developed an Excel sheet-based model to help countries design effective policies and to embed sustainability in the policy responses. The model produces a snapshot of the socio-economic situation of the Asia-Pacific economies in the time of COVID-19, introduces the channels through which the economies are affected, and allows simple policy scenarios to be studied.

This Virtual Event will introduce the participants on how to access the model, how it works and how the users can run policy simulations to inform policymaking.

When: 14.00-16.00 (Bangkok time), Monday 17 August 2020

Where: Microsoft Teams (A link to the event will be sent to registered participants in due course.)

Tentative agenda:

(The event will last for 1.5-2 hours)

5 mins	Opening remarks by Mr. Hamza Malik, Director, MPFD, ESCAP
20 mins	Presentation, part I: Overview of the model
20 mins	Presentation, part II: Using the model for policy simulation by Ms. Dawn Holland, Fellow, National Institute of Economic and Social Research (UK); Former Chief of Global Economic Monitoring Branch, Economic Analysis and Policy Division, Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA), United Nations
40 mins	Questions and Answers moderated by MPAS staff
5 mins	Closing remarks by Ms. Sweta C. Saxena, Chief, MPAS, MPFD, ESCAP

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(The model will be shared with the pre-registered participants ahead of the meeting.)