IMF SARTTAC News

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South Asia Regional Training and Technical Assistance Center

6th Floor, Worldmark 2 Building, Aerocity, New Delhi 110037 INDIA

> Tel. +91 11 49281000 www.sarttac.org

I. HIGHLIGHTS

A mid-year meeting of SARTTAC's Steering Committee (SC) was held virtually on January 19, 2021. The meeting focused on SARTTAC's capacity development (CD) work in FY2021 (i.e. May 1, 2020 – April 30, 2021), the impact of the pandemic on SARTTAC operations, the adoption of virtual delivery, and updates to SARTTAC's workplan for the rest of the fiscal year. The SC was also apprised of recent global developments in CD delivery, new CD demand areas and funding initiatives in response to COVID-19, and IMF's enhanced engagement with South Asia during the COVID-19 crisis. The meeting was well attended with nearly 75 participants from member countries, development partners, and IMF headquarters, in addition to SARTTAC staff. The SC members praised SARTTAC's work during the COVID-19 crisis and highlighted the importance of staying engaged in the region going forward, as member countries themselves recovered from the economic shock of the pandemic.



SARTTAC Mid-Year Steering Committee Meeting, January 19, 2021

STAFF CHANGES

A number of staff changes took place in SARTTAC in FY2021 Q3. Mr. Brooks Robinson, Government Finance Statistics and Public Sector Debt Statistics Advisor, completed a nearly four-year assignment and retired at end December 2020, with highlights of his tenure in an interview below. He was replaced by Mr. Andrew Evans at the beginning of February 2021, previously serving as a national accountant in the UK government, including in HM Treasury. Mr. Andrew Ceber, Macroeconomic Advisor, who joined the Center in June 2017, started a new position in mid-January 2021 as an economist in the IMF Fiscal Affairs Department (FAD).

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

As a result of COVID-19 related travel restrictions, technical assistance (TA) continued to be delivered remotely. In total 19 TA missions were started in the third quarter— same as previous quarter, with some reaching completion in the fourth quarter. While country authorities and IMF staff and experts have adapted to the virtual model, coordinating delivery across different time zones and technology and bandwidth limitations have posed some challenges.

TRAINING AND WEBINARS

Training activity picked up during the quarter, with a total of eight courses delivered virtually in FY2021 Q3, up from three in the first quarter and four in the second quarter. Five of the eight courses were open to participants from the region, while the remaining three were organized for revenue officials from India. In total, nearly 200 participants attended these courses. A total of 13 webinars were organized by SARTTAC during the quarter. The key topics covered by the webinars included bank supervision, budget preparation and communication, and fiscal risk management.









FORTHCOMING TRAINING

SARTTAC will continue to ramp up training activity, with 13 courses planned for the fourth quarter (Table 1), out of which nine will be regional. New reports have been disseminated on SARTTAC's secure site (Table 2), and a number of IMF online courses are currently open for registration (Table 3).

A CHAT WITH BROOKS ROBINSON—SARTTAC'S FIRST STATISTICAL ADVISOR AND MUCH MORE

Brooks Robinson recently completed a nearly four year assignment in SARTTAC, starting as one of the Center's first expert advisors, initially covering Real Sector Statistics (RSS) when hired in 2017 and then switching to Government Finance Statistics (GFS) and Public Sector Debt Statistics (PSDS) in 2018. Retiring at the end of 2020 from an illustrious career as a national accountant, Brooks was influential in SARTTAC both as a respected and amiable colleague and trusted advisor and mentor in the six member countries. Below, SARTTAC's Mudit Mittal discusses with Brooks his work in SARTTAC and connection to the region.



Mudit: What motivated you to join SARTTAC in 2017?

Brooks: When my wife and I learned about SARTTAC's startup, we were at East AFRITAC, an IMF Regional Technical Assistance Center in Tanzania. Given a previous incredibly positive experience of living and working in New Delhi for the U.S. Foreign Commercial Service at the U.S. Embassy during 1998-2000, we agreed that I should apply to work at SARTTAC and possibly enjoy life in Delhi again. Fortunately, the opportunity materialized

You originally started as SARTTAC's RSS Advisor, and then shifted to a GFS/PSDS Advisor. How was the transition?

The transition from RSS Advisor to GFS/PSDS Advisor was easy. The more challenging transition was resurrecting all of my national accounting skills when assuming the RSS Advisor's position at SARTTAC after having worked for several years on GFS/PSDS issues in East Africa. On the other hand, both positions allowed me to utilize skills that I had developed as a national accountant in the USA.

What were some of the positive changes in the six member countries on strengthening GFS and PSDS during your assignment?

The most fundamental of positive changes was the general establishment of GFS/PSDS improvement programs in the countries. The fact is that now all six countries can compile, or are on the verge of compiling, GFS in accordance with international standards—the Government Finance Statistics Manual 2014 (GFSM 2014). Also, already achieved or on the horizon is expanding GFS sectoral coverage to the general government sector. Finally, and very importantly, countries are beginning to consider compiling high-frequency GFS, which is critical for timely and effective macroeconomic policymaking—something that should be a high priority in a COVID-19 environment.

You performed a lot of technical assistance (TA) missions and training events over the course of your assignment. What aspects of your work did you find the most rewarding?

The most rewarding aspect of my work was witnessing the growth in GFS and PSDS knowledge and expertise in all of the countries by the counterparts with whom I worked. Country officials amassed a significant amount of GFS/PSDS knowledge under the SARTTAC program, and it was apparent in the challenging questions that they posed when we met.



GFS-PSDS Technical Assistance Missions to SARTTAC member countries

What should be the focus areas in GFS and PSDS for the six member countries, going forward?

As already hinted, countries should move forward on expanding GFS/PSDS coverage to the general government and the public sectors, and to compiling and disseminating high frequency GFS.

You were based in New Delhi (India) for almost four years. How was your overall experience of living in India? Any Indian food / dish you developed a strong liking for or events / celebrations you particularly enjoyed?

Interestingly, given my previous and SARTTAC experiences in New Delhi, I have spent almost one-tenth of my life in India. My wife grew up in South Asia, so I was already familiar with South Asian cuisine. But I did develop a very special place in my heart for the Holi Festival.



Holi festival celebrations at SARTTAC, New Delhi

Given your long and distinguished career, what special satisfaction did work in SARTTAC bring to you?

Like so many of my SARTTAC and IMF colleagues, it was all about sharing knowledge and expertise in order to see evolving nations rise. In the end, as the Bhagavad Gita emphasizes, just doing the "work" brings its own reward.

What are several prominent strengths which SARTTAC should focus and build upon? How can the Center better serve the member countries?

An especially important SARTTAC asset is its flexibility and adaptability. SARTTAC should be certain to retain that characteristic so that it can meet member countries' needs as they arise. SARTTAC should use the tools that the IMF is now developing to help countries anticipate their future needs and to prepare to meet them even before they arise. Most important would be "Big Data" analytical tools.



First regional training in SARTTAC delivered virtually during COVID-19 pandemic: Regional Public Sector Debt Statistics Workshop (June 15-19, 2020), led by Brooks.

With your many years of experience working on macroeconomic statistics, what are a few major upcoming changes that may affect how countries collect, compile, and report data on GFS/PSDS?

As your question infers, macroeconomic statistics in emerging market and developing countries are poised for improvements based on technological innovations. In South Asia, the most important such change will be the integrated financial management information systems (IFMIS) that countries are now, and will be, implementing. New IFMIS will increase the speed and accuracy of GFS/PSDS compilation, which is very favorable. However, after IFMIS are operational, countries must turn their attention to ensuring that governmental operations are actually cost efficient.

Now that you have left SARTTAC, what's next?

I continue to hope that there are many possibilities on the horizon

Any inspiring words for our readers?

South Asian countries have proven over and over again that they are capable of rising to meet challenges. This is Asia's century. Great developments are in the offing.

II. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE: November 2020 – January 2021

BANGLADESH

Government Finance Statistics: Assistance was delivered to officials from Bangladesh's Ministry of Finance on compilation of Government Finance Statistics (GFS) that are compliant with international standards (December 6-15). The mission also discussed with the Controller General of Accounts (CGA) an earlier recommendation for the CGA to take over the compilation and dissemination of GFS.

Financial Sector Regulation and Supervision: As a followup to previous missions to assist Bangladesh Bank in strengthening its supervisory capacity, a mission started on January 25 to review the progress made on the implementation of the risk based supervision action plan. This mission will conclude in February 2021.

BHUTAN

Revenue Administration: SARTTAC's support to Royal Government of Bhutan, Department of Revenue and Customs (DRC) in their plans to implement a Goods and Services Tax continued during the quarter. A mission assessed the DRC's Goods and Services Tax project team's capabilities with respect to data analysis, system definition, and risk control, and provided advice based on that assessment (November 10-January 8).

Public Financial Management: Two PFM missions were delivered to Bhutan during the quarter. The first mission provided guidance on preparing financial statements that comply with the revised International Public Sector Accounting Standards (i.e. Cash-basis IPSAS) and GFS reporting guidelines. The mission also advised the authorities on improving fiscal reporting (November 16-30). To support the objective of transitioning towards medium-term budgeting, a second mission commenced on strengthening fiscal planning within the context of the national planning system (January 11-April 30). Training on producing clear budget documents that support transparency and policy implementation is also being delivered as a part of the mission.

Monetary Policy and Foreign Exchange Market Operations: The Royal Monetary Authority (RMA) was provided support with the implementation of its recently launched domestic liquidity management framework (January 4-26). The mission also assessed the new framework and provided recommendations to enable it to support fully the exchange rate peg. In addition, hands-on training was provided to RMA staff on conducting monetary policy operations.

INDIA

Public Financial Management: A mission worked with officials from Government of Odisha to pilot FAD's new fiscal risk identification and quantification tool (January 11-February 12). The tool will help the authorities finalize their fiscal risk register in the context of the financial year 2022 budget.

MALDIVES

Revenue Administration: A total of four revenue administration missions were delivered to the Maldives Inland Revenue Authority (MIRA). The first mission provided assistance with developing processes to manage refunds—a new feature in the Income Tax Act, which became effective January 1, 2020 (November 3-30). Another mission supported the Ministry of Finance and MIRA in developing a framework to manage the negotiation process for tax treaties and provided training on tax treaties (January 4-18). The third mission is currently assisting the MIRA with developing systems capability to support automated refunds with the help of an IT expert (January 7-March 5). The last mission of the quarter—also ongoing—is working with MIRA in finalizing a Business Continuity Plan (January 18-April 17).

Government Finance Statistics: A mission was conducted in response to a request from Maldives's Ministry of Finance with the goal to assist the authorities in advancing improvements in GFS/PSDS quality, coverage, and timeliness (January 10-21).

Real Sector Statistics: Two missions reviewed the GDP compilation systems for the national accounts program (NAP) (November 29-December 3 and January 17-28). The missions focused on the compilation system for production based GDP (GDP-P), upgrading the compilation system for the NAP by integrating the compilation of Expenditure based GDP and GDP-P into a single Excel based system, automating manual adjustments and better tracking them, and creating a single source data file. Another mission assisted the National Bureau of Statistics with developing and expanding the producer price index (December 6-10).

NEPAL

Public Financial Management: A mission delivered assistance to strengthen fiscal reporting especially by subnational governments and supported the preparation of accurate and timely fiscal reports at both the subnational and general government level (January 24-February 5). This mission contributed to the broader objective of supporting Nepal's transition to federalism.

Government Finance Statistics: A one week mission assisted authorities in finalizing GFS for budgetary central government (BCG) for fiscal years 2016/17 - 2018/19 and explored the

authorities' efforts to expand GFS sectoral coverage to provincial and local governments subsectors (November 23-27). The mission also assisted in finalizing general government GFS for FY 2018/19, excluding GFS for BCG extrabudgetary units (EBU), making Nepal the first SARTTAC member country to compile and disseminate GFS for general government.

SRI LANKA

Real Sector Statistics: Two real sector statistics missions were delivered to Sri Lanka. The first assisted the Department of Census and Statistics (DCS) with updating and expanding the producer price index (November 16-20). The second mission assisted the DCS in reviewing the preliminary estimates of value added for all industries from 2010-2019 as part of the rebasing GDP from the 2010 to 2015(November 16-20).

III. TRAINING AND WEBINARS: November 2020 – January 2021

Nearly 200 officials participated in 13 training events delivered during the third quarter of FY2021 (excluding webinars), representing a large increase from the first and second quarters (with 90 and 127 participants, respectively). The largest share of participants was from India, followed by Bangladesh, with females around 27 percent of the total.

REGIONAL TRAINING

Macroeconomic Analysis and Training: Three regional macroeconomics training events were delivered during the quarter. Training on financial sector surveillance was done in two batches to allow closer virtual engagement with participants (November 9-13 and November 16-20). They were introduced to key concepts and tools used in the identification and assessment of financial sector vulnerabilities and sources of strength. Training on macro-econometric forecasting and analysis was also delivered (January 15-29). The participants were familiarized with various model specifications and applied modeling techniques to country



Regional Training on Financial Sector Surveillance (November 16-20)

data, with groups presenting forecasting projects at the end of the training.

Public Financial Management: Hands-on training on fiscal risk management tools developed by FAD was delivered to participants from the region (January 11-14). Topics covered included risks from state-owned enterprises (SOEs), government guarantees and public-private partnerships (PPPs). The training followed a series of webinars on various aspects of fiscal risk management conducted during the second half of 2020. One of the tools presented to the participants was the PPP Fiscal Risk Assessment Model (PFRAM), an analytical tool to assess the potential fiscal costs and risks arising from PPP projects. The tool can be downloaded here.



Regional Training on Fiscal Risk Management Tools (January 11-14)

Real Sector Statistics: A regional course was delivered on advanced issues in compiling national account statistics (November 2-6). The goal of the course was to assist countries with their national accounts programs and promote consistency in the statistical treatment of these issues.

NATIONAL TRAINING

Revenue Administration: Three national training events for revenue officials from India were delivered during the quarter. The first was focused on taxpayer registration and was delivered to trainers belonging to India's Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) (December 10-18). At the request of the Goods and Services Tax Council of India, a Tax Administration Diagnostic Assessment Tool (TADAT) workshop was conducted to train state government officials in the TADAT methodology and international good practices in tax administration (December 14-22). Another training delivered to officials of CDBT dealt with collections and arrears management (January 11-15).

WEBINARS

Thirteen webinars were delivered—five regional and eight national ones, with 430 officials joining in total. Highlights are as follows:

REGIONAL WEBINARS

Public Financial Management: Five regional webinars were conducted during the quarter. Two webinars related to government budgets were budget communications (November 23) and budget preparation and execution during times of fiscal stress (November 27). The third webinar dealt with preparing a fiscal framework in times of uncertainty (November 25). Continuing with a series of webinars on fiscal risks since June 2020, two other webinars were delivered during the quarter. One looked at the oversight and monitoring of SOEs and public sector undertakings (December 11) and the other at fiscal risks stemming from PPPs (January 7).



Regional Webinar on Budget Preparation and Execution (November 27)

NATIONAL WEBINARS

Financial Sector Regulation and Supervision: Webinars on banking related regulatory and supervisory issues were delivered to Nepal (November 4), Maldives (November 5), Bhutan (November 6), Bangladesh (November 9), and Sri Lanka (November 10); following a set of regional kick-off webinars on the topic in late October. Presentations were made by SARTTAC experts and by supervisors from each country's central bank on the effects of the pandemic on the banking system, measures taken to buttress its strength, and challenges the authorities were facing in addressing financial stress. The presentations were followed by question and answer sessions. Three remote CD webinars were delivered to the Reserve Bank of India on the supervision of the management of credit risk (December 17), liquidity risk (December 18) and operational risk (December 21).

Table 1. SARTTAC Trainings and Webinars: February – April 2021

Macroecon	nomic Anal	ysis and Training		
Country	Type	Subject	Date	Expert(s)
Regional	Training	Monetary Policy	February 15- 26	Philippe Karam and Chao He (IMF HQ) and Jan Vlcek (STX)
Regional	Training	Fiscal Policy Analysis	March 1-12	Hui He, and Arunish Chawla (IMF HQ) and Alain Jousten (STX)
India	Training	Financial Programming and Policies	March 15-26	Bhaswar Mukhopadhyay (SARTTAC) and Arunish Chawla and Evan Tanner (IMF HQ)
India	Training	Macroeconomic Diagnostics	March 30- April 9	Mario Catalan, Ehsan Ebrahimy, and Arunish Chawla (IMF HQ)
Regional	Training	Fiscal Sustainability	April 27-May	Ehsan Ebrahimy, Rasool Zandvakil, and Santiago Acosta (IMF HQ)
Revenue A	Administrati	ion		
Country	Type	Subject	Date	Expert(s)
Regional	Training	Compliance Risk Management	February 1-5	Elizabeth Goli (SARTTAC) and Rob Woods and John Box (STX)
Regional	Training	Taxpayer Registration	April 12-16	Elizabeth Goli (SARTTAC) and Cheryl-Lea Field and Alison Lendon (STX)
India	Training	TADAT Training and Accreditation	April 22-30	Munawer Khwaja and Ashok Sinha (STX)
India	Training	Audit and Investigation Techniques	April 26-30	Elizabeth Goli (SARTTAC) and Gayle Ciceri and Peggy Gavaghan (STX)
Public Fin	ancial Man	8		
Country	Type	Subject	Date	Expert(s)
Regional	Training	Public Investment Management Assessment	February 8-12	Raju Sharan and Celeste Kubasta (SARTTAC), Nicoletta Feruglio, Suphachol Suphachalasai, and Eivind Tandberg (IMF HQ), and Richard Emery (STX)
Regional	Training	Fiscal Transparency	March 1-4	Raju Sharan and Celeste Kubasta (SARTTAC), Sailendra Pattanayak, Gemma Preston, and Lorena Rivero del Paso (IMF HQ), and Joe Cavanagh (STX)
Real Secto	r Statistics			
Country	Type	Subject	Date	Expert(s)
Regional	Training	Supply and Use Tables, Input-Output Tables and Extensions	February 8-12	Rodger Sceviour (SARTTAC) and Massimiliano Iommi (STX)
Regional	Webinar	Consumer Price Index manual	March 17	Rodger Sceviour (SARTTAC) and Brian Graf (IMF HQ)
Regional	Training	Consumer Price Index	April 12-16	Rodger Sceviour (SARTTAC)
Financial S	Sector Regu	lation and Supervision		
Country	Type	Subject	Date	Expert(s)
Regional	Webinars (three)	Insurance Regulation and Supervision	March 29-31	Jacques Loubert (SARTTAC) and Mimi Ho and Mala Nag (STX)
Regional	Webinar	Insurance Regulation and Supervision	April 1	Jacques Loubert (SARTTAC) and Mimi Ho and Mala Nag (STX)
India	Webinar	Insurance Regulation and Supervision	April 2	Jacques Loubert (SARTTAC) and Mimi Ho and Mala Nag (STX)

Sri Lanka	Webinar	Insurance Regulation and Supervision	April 5	Jacques Loubert (SARTTAC) and Mimi Ho and Mala Nag (STX)
Bangladesh	Webinar	Insurance Regulation and Supervision	April 6	Jacques Loubert (SARTTAC) and Mimi Ho and Mala Nag (STX)
Nepal	Webinar	Insurance Regulation and Supervision	April 7	Jacques Loubert (SARTTAC) and Mimi Ho and Mala Nag (STX)
Maldives	Webinar	Insurance Regulation and Supervision	April 8	Jacques Loubert (SARTTAC) and Mimi Ho and Mala Nag (STX)
Bhutan	Webinar	Insurance Regulation and Supervision	April 9	Jacques Loubert (SARTTAC) and Mimi Ho and Mala Nag (STX)

Table 2. SARTTAC: TA Reports Disseminated during FY2021 (through January 2021)			
Title of the TA Report	Delivery Department	Country	
National Accounts – Concepts and Definitions TA Mission Report (December 8-19, 2019)	STA-RSS	Bangladesh	
Consumer Price Index Technical Assistance Mission (February 16-20, 2020)	STA-RSS	Bangladesh	
Modernizing Cash Management through Improved TSA and Cash Flow Forecasting (January 22-31, 2020)	FAD-PFM	Bhutan	
Tax Administration - GST Implementation - Assistance with GST Outreach Program Design (December 2-20, 2019)	FAD-RA	Bhutan	
GST Bhutan: GST Basics and Understanding of the GST Law (November 18-22, 2019)	FAD-RA	Bhutan	
Preparing the Monetary Policy Implementation Framework (May 21-29, 2019)	MCM-MONOPS	Bhutan	
National Accounts – GDP Rebasing (January 27– February 7, 2020)	STA-RSS	Bhutan	
Report on Government Finance and Public Sector Debt Statistics Mission (January 19-30, 2020)	STA-GFS	Maldives	
National Accounts – Expenditure GDP (February 16-26, 2020)	STA-RSS	Maldives	
National Accounts – Quarterly GDP Methodology Review (June 28 – July 3, 2020)	STA-RSS	Maldives	
National Accounts – Quarterly GDP Review and Dissemination (July 22-27, 2020)	STA-RSS	Maldives	
Financial Supervision and Regulation at the Nepal Rastra Bank: Strengthening Supervisory Capacity (November 24 – December 6, 2019)	MCM-FSR	Nepal	
Strengthening Cash Management by Improving Cash Flow Forecasting (January 11-19, 2020)	FAD-PFM	Bangladesh	
Macro Fiscal-Forecasting and Budget Ceilings (August 26-31, 2020)	FAD-PFM	India	
Budget Formulation in Odisha (November 26-December 3, 2019)	FAD-PFM	India	
Financial Supervision and Regulation at the Maldives Monetary Authority Strengthening Supervisory Capacity (January 13-23, 2020)	MCM-FSR	Maldives	
Managing Fiscal Risks from State-Owned Enterprises (February 12-25, 2020)	FAD-PFM	Maldives	
National Accounts – Expenditure GDP (June 14-25, 2020)	STA-RSS	Maldives	
National Accounts – Review GDP Methodology (June 28–July 3, 2020) [new in FY2021 Q3]	STA-RSS	Maldives	
National Accounts – Quarterly GDP Review and Dissemination (July 22-27, 2020) [new in FY2021 Q3]	STA-RSS	Maldives	
Seasonal Adjustment of the Quarterly Business Survey (August 31- September 10, 2020) [new in FY2021 Q3]	STA-RSS	Maldives	
Implementing PFM reforms relating to Managing and Reporting of Fiscal Risks in Odisha (15 June - 15 September 2020) [new in FY2021 Q3]	FAD-PFM	India	

	Table 3. Upcoming IMF Online Courses	
	Compilation Basics for Macroeconomic Statistics (CBMSx) Officials who compile macroeconomic and financial statistics in national statistical organizations, ministries of finance, economy, or planning, or in central banks.	January 1, 2021 - April 15, 2021 <u>Apply online</u> by March 4, 2021
	Energy Subsidy Reform (ESRx) All government officials are welcome to register. Officials in finance, economy, and planning ministries who provide advice on macroeconomic policies or implement policy will find the course particularly beneficial.	September 1, 2020 - April 30, 2021 <u>Apply online</u> by March 19, 2021
	Financial Development and Financial Inclusion (FDFIx) Mid-level to senior officials from central banks and government agencies dealing with regulation of the financial sector. This course is offered in English.	January 1, 2021 - April 15, 2021 <u>Apply online</u> by March 4, 2021
11.34 1855.54 0 18.32 1855.54 0 1855.54 0	Financial Market Analysis (FMAx) All government officials are welcome to register. The course is particularly well-suited for officials in central banks, ministries of finance, and regulatory agencies who have experience with macroeconomics and are interested in building their expertise in finance.	January 1, 2021 - April 15, 2021 <u>Apply online</u> by March 4, 2021
	Financial Programming and Policies, Part 1: Macroeconomic Accounts & Analysis (FPP.1x) All government officials are welcome to register. The course is particularly relevant for officials in ministries of finance, economy, and planning and central banks who advise on macroeconomic and financial policies or who are involved in policy implementation.	January 1, 2021 - April 15, 2021 Apply online by March 4, 2021
WWW.	Financial Programming and Policies, Part 2: Program Design (FPP.2x) All government officials are welcome to register. The course is particularly relevant for officials in ministries of finance, economy, and planning and in central banks who advise on macroeconomic and financial policies, or who are involved in conducting policy.	January 1, 2021 - April 15, 2021 Apply online by March 4, 2021
PAME	Foundations of Central Bank Law (FCBLx) Legal advisors of central banks and ministries of finance.	January 1, 2021 - April 15, 2021 <u>Apply online</u> by March 4, 2021
	Macroeconometric Forecasting (MFx) All government officials are welcome to register. The course is particularly relevant for officials involved in developing forecasts that are used to design and implement macroeconomic policy.	January 1, 2021 - April 15, 2021 <u>Apply online</u> by March 4, 2021
	Macroeconomic Diagnostics (MDSx) All government officials are welcome to register. The course is particularly relevant for officials in central banks and ministries of finance or economy who are directly involved in diagnosing the state of the macro-economy and making projections.	January 1, 2021 - April 15, 2021 <u>Apply online</u> by March 4, 2021
	Macroeconomic Management in Resource-Rich Countries (MRCx) All government officials are welcome to register. The course is particularly useful for officials from central banks, ministries of finance, and other government agencies involved in the design and execution of policies in resource-rich countries.	September 1, 2020 - April 30, 2021 <u>Apply online</u> by March 19, 2021
The second secon	Model-Based Monetary Policy Analysis and Forecasting (MPAFx) All government officials are welcome to register. The course is particularly well-suited for officials in central banks that are in the early stages of introducing Forecasting and Policy Analysis Systems (FPAS) with IMF assistance.	January 1, 2021 - April 15, 2021 Apply online by March 4, 2021

FIVEFINANCIAL MANAGEMENT	Public Financial Management (PFMx) All government officials and staff from development agencies. The course is particularly relevant for mid-level to senior officials in ministries of finance, treasuries, debt management offices, ministries of economy, or financial planning divisions in line ministries. It is also targeted at officials involved in capacity strengthening functions related to public financial management (PFM).	May 1, 2020 - April 30, 2021 Apply online by March 19, 2021
	Public Sector Debt Statistics (PSDSx) Officials whose main responsibility is compiling and disseminating public sector debt statistics.	January 1, 2021 - April 15, 2021 Apply online by March 4, 2021
	RA-GAP - Tax Gap Analysis (VGAPX) All government officials are welcome to register. The course is particularly relevant for officials in ministries of finance and revenue administration involved in revenue performance analysis.	May 1, 2020 - April 15, 2021 Apply online by March 4, 2021
	Government Finance Statistics (GFSx) Government officials, economic analysts and others interested in gaining a better understanding of public finance statistics.	January 1, 2021 - April 15, 2021 <u>Apply online</u> by March 4, 2021
BONO 10 10 1	Public Debt, Investment, and Growth. The DIG and DIGNAR Models (DIGx) All government officials are welcome to register. This course is particularly useful for officials from ministries of finance, debt agencies, central banks, and other government agencies responsible for providing advice or implementing macroeconomic and debt policies.	February 24, 2021 - March 17, 2021 Apply online February 22, 2021
BONO 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10	Debt Sustainability Framework for Low Income Countries (LIC DSFX) All government officials are welcome to register. This course is particularly useful for officials from ministries of finance, debt agencies, central banks, and other government agencies responsible for providing advice or implementing macroeconomic and debt policies.	January 1, 2021 - April 15, 2021 Apply online by March 4, 2021

Learn more and register for free courses at: https://www.imf.org/en/Capacity-Development/training/icdtc

















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India

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David Cowen

Director

SARTTAC Staff

Deputy Director

Bhaswar Mukhopadhyay

Resident Advisors

Financial Sector Regulation and Supervision: Jacques

Government Finance Statistics and Public Sector Debt Statistics: Brooks Robinson (to December 31, 2020) and Andrew Evans (from February 1, 2021)

Macro-Fiscal Analysis: Andrew Ceber (to January 11,

Monetary and Foreign Exchange Market: Stefaan Ide

Public Financial Management: Raju Sharan and

Celeste Kubasta

Real Sector Statistics: Rodger Sceviour

Revenue Administration: Elizabeth Goli



European Union



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Feedback on this newsletter may be sent to pbhardwaj@imf.org.