The way forward in Asia-Pacific

Expert meeting on the framework to measure South-South cooperation
Brasilia, Brazil, 11-13 July 2023
Jan Smit, Regional Adviser on Official Statistics
Asia and the Pacific comprises:

- **40%** of the world land area
- **60%** of the world population
ESCAP’s membership

• 62 in total
• 4 outside the region (all OECD/DAC members)
• 1 as classified in Europe as per UN regional groupings
• 4 OECD/DAC members inside the region
• 9 associate members, i.e., non-self-governing territories

Which leaves 44 of interest for SSC
Possible countries for project

• 19 responded to survey

• Of which 12 said that they are mainly a provider of SSC or both a provider and recipient of SSC

• Conversations have been held with several of these candidate countries, but nothing has been settled yet

• In case of interest of more than 2 countries, we can see how they can be supported through other resources

13 July 2023
Regional event

• Asia-Pacific Directors General Forum for South-South and Triangular Cooperation
• 5th session scheduled to be held on 10 Nov 2023 in Bangkok
• Theme: Digital Innovation and South-South Cooperation: Driving Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific
• We’re exploring the possibility of including the regional event in the forum session; if that isn’t possible, the regional event could be held on 8 Nov
Drawing upon own specific SSC projects

- E.g., such as through the project **South-South Collaboration to Strengthen Statistics for Ocean-related SDGs**

- Similar specific SSC work has been undertaken in the areas of regional drought monitoring; policy environment for inclusive business; transport & trade connectivity; protecting & empowering persons with disabilities; tackling marine plastic pollution; production & use of natural resources
Informing member states and partners

• The **Committee on Statistics**, which brings the Asia-Pacific Chief Statisticians together biannually, sets priorities for our work on statistics development and is informed of related activities.

• The **Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development** regularly features conversations on the role of SSC in accelerating progress towards the SDGs.

• We convene the **Working Group on Statistics of the UN Regional Collaborative Platform** that brings together the 16 UN entities working on data & statistics in the region (plus PARIS21, ADB & Pacific Community).
E-learning course

• Our Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific (SIAP) is highly experienced in the development and delivery of e-learning courses for official statistics.

• If there is interest, we can explore whether SIAP can help to develop the course (and/or host it).
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