IMF’s Capacity Development Activities in Asia and the Pacific

Tokyo Fiscal Forum
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Continued strong growth...

Challenges

- **Rising financial vulnerabilities**
- **Increasing trade and geopolitical tensions**
- **Historically high global debt**
  - High public debt and deficits
  - Need to support medium-term growth
    - Fiscal buffers to create room for fiscal support when needed
    - Growth-friendly fiscal policies supported by structural reforms to enhance productivity
Asian context

- Population aging

- Need to strengthen productivity
  - Substantial infrastructure needs
    - Public investment efficiency
    - Private sector involvement including PPP

Discussed at Tokyo Fiscal Forum from 2015 to 2017
Maximize synergies...

Tokyo Fiscal Forum
- Country experiences
- Best/good practices
- Interactions with international experts and policymakers

Capacity development
- Technical assistance
  Better-tailored application to country specific issues
- Training
- Online courses
IMF Regional Capacity Development Centers in Asia and the Pacific

Essential to strengthen technical expertise and analytical tools…

…Benefit from technical assistance and training opportunities
Linking discussions at Tokyo Fiscal Forum to further capacity development...

**Tokyo Fiscal Forum**

1. **Fiscal rules**
   - European experience in design and implementation of fiscal rules and fiscal management since the global financial crisis
   - Country experience in China
   - Second generation fiscal rules: balancing simplicity, flexibility, and enforceability

*IMF Staff Discussion Note (2018)*

**Capacity development (CD) at IMF regional CD centers**

*Related areas (planned courses)*

- Institutions to design and conduct fiscal policy including fiscal rules and medium-term budgeting
- Macro-fiscal framework
## Linking discussions at Tokyo Fiscal Forum to further capacity development...

### Tokyo Fiscal Forum

#### 2. Infrastructure governance
- IMF’s Public Investment Management Assessment (PIMA)
- Quality infrastructure
- Country experiences (Sri Lanka and Indonesia)

#### 3. Public-private partnership (PPP) Fiscal risk management
- Frameworks for managing PPP projects
- Fiscal risk assessment
- Country experiences (Bangladesh and Malaysia)

### Capacity development (CD) at IMF regional CD centers

**Related areas (planned courses)**
- IMF’s Public Investment Management Assessment (PIMA)
- Infrastructure planning and investment
- Fiscal risk management
- Managing fiscal risks in low-income countries
Linking discussions at Tokyo Fiscal Forum to further capacity development...

4. Digital innovations in public financial management
   - Using digital technology for more efficient public service provision
   - Country experience in Korea

"Digital Revolutions in Public Finance" International Monetary Fund (2017)

Capacity development (CD) at IMF regional CD centers

- Fiscal accounts, analysis, and forecasting
- Fiscal reporting
- Improving cash and debt management
- Modern tax administration
Further human resource development

JISPA (Japan-IMF Scholarship Program for Asia)

- For junior officials at key economic agencies (e.g. ministry of finance, central bank, ministry of economy...)
- Aimed at institutional capacity building of key macroeconomic management agencies
- Graduate-level study of economics at Japanese universities
- Administered by the IMF Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (OAP)
- OAP to provide various activities for the scholars and alumni, including new initiatives starting in 2018:
  (1) career-long support for the alumni
  (2) practical training for the current scholars
- Since 1993
  - More than 700 scholarships
  - Alumni include Governor, Deputy Governors, and Vice Ministers