INTERNATIONAL RESERVES STATISTICS

PROPOSED DATES: Match 2-6, 2026

TARGET GROUP | Officials responsible for the compilation of external sector statistics (ESS), preferably the compilation of international reserves, especially the international reserves and foreign currency liquidity (IRFCL), and who are familiar with the methodology of the Balance of Payments and International Investment Position Statistics Manual, sixth edition (MBP6) and the Guide for International Reserves and Foreign Currency Liquidity.

QUALIFICATIONS: Participants are expected to have a degree in economics or statistics or equivalent experience and have at least one year of experience in compiling official reserve assets.

DESCRIPTION | This course, presented by the IMF Statistics Department, targets compilers with a certain degree of experience in the compilation and/or analysis of the international reserves and the IRFCL. It aims at providing a deep understanding of the concepts, definitions, and compilation techniques for official reserve assets and their application for identifying those assets that meet the criteria to be considered reserves.

The course consists of a series of lectures and workshops analyzing country cases with a strong data component and is designed to allow peer learning and sharing of experiences. Recognizing the challenges in identifying reserve assets in emerging and complex transactions undertaken by the monetary authorities, the course emphasizes specific transactions, such as transactions on financial derivatives, pledged assets, securities under repo or foreign currency swaps between central banks. The course will also cover the definition of net international reserves and reserve-related liabilities. Participants will have the opportunity to share their experiences in the work of compiling the reserves data template (or IRFCL). The specific exercises are aimed at integrating the knowledge acquired during the course and understanding its practical application.

OBJECTIVES | Upon completion of the course, participants should be able to:

o Apply knowledge gained in dealing with complex methodological and compilation issues related to official reserve assets.

o Identify the assets that should be classified as international reserves and those that should be excluded for not meeting the necessary requirements, with the aim of improving the quality of international reserves.

o Understand and complete the four sections of the reserves data template (IRFCL).

o Estimate net international reserves according to the standard definition that is introduced in the updated balance of payments manual.

o Check the consistency between the reserves values included in different macroeconomic statistics.

o Describe the analytical uses of the reserves data template (IRFCL).

- **LANGUAGE** | The workshop will be delivered in English language, with simultaneous interpretation to Russian.