



A3511805

Executive Course on Pension Policy

EPF Learning Campus, Malaysia
17 – 21 December 2018



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ESCAP
Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific



HelpAge

International

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ITC
International Training Centre

Executive Course on Pension Policy

Background

Pension systems are a core area of public policy, central to ensuring income security in old age but also with profound impacts on wider families and societies. Across Asia and the Pacific there is growing recognition of the importance of effective pension systems in the context of changing family structures, demographic ageing and concerns to promote inclusive growth. The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development considers social protection systems for all essential to reduce poverty and inequality.

Yet pension systems in the region face an array of challenges in relation to coverage, adequacy and sustainability. Pension coverage has increased across the region in recent years, and latest figures show that just over half of older people (55 per cent) across the Asia Pacific region receive some form of pension income. However, this leaves an important gap and coverage is unevenly distributed, with fewer than one in ten older people receiving a pension in some countries. Coverage is also not always accompanied by adequacy, with major issues facing both contributory and non-contributory schemes. These systems also face the question of how best to ensure financial sustainability into the future, in particular in the context of the rapid population ageing the region is set to face.

This course will provide an executive training on pension policy, equipping participants with the skills to actively participate in national policy processes towards designing and reforming pension systems. An important feature of the course is to provide a whole systems approach to understanding pension

policy, covering design of both contributory and tax-financed (non-contributory) pensions, and exploring how they can best be integrated in to a system that serves all citizens and residents.

Participants

The course is designed for executives, managers, planners and other responsible professionals working in the field of pension and social protection policy and administration. The training will include a diverse range of participants from both in government and non-governmental sectors, including employers' and workers' organizations and civil society organisations.

Learning Objectives

- To gain a theoretical understanding of the core role and various functions of pension systems
- To learn about design choices for different kinds of pension schemes (contributory and non-contributory) and how they can be integrated
- To critically analyse case studies of pensions reforms in terms of their impacts on coverage, adequacy and sustainability and gender-responsiveness
- To apply acquired analytical skills and knowledge to formulation of pension design and reform proposals for specific country contexts

Content Areas

The course will include both plenary sessions (for all participants) and two elective courses that will run in parallel.

Core content

- Ageing in the Asia Pacific region and the world
- The role and functions of pension systems and how they can be achieved through different mixes of pension schemes
- Analysis of global and regional trends in outcomes of pension systems (coverage, adequacy and sustainability) and approaches to design and reform
- Design options for contributory and tax-financed social pensions, and lessons on best practice
- Country case studies assessing success and failure of pension policy formulation and reform
- International Labour Standards and how they can be used to benchmark the effectiveness of pension systems

Elective courses

Pension policy development

Participants will deepen their knowledge on the trade-offs between different pension policy design options, and the political dynamics that need to be taken into account. Through an interactive exercise based on a specific country context, participants will work through the process of situational analysis, policy formulation and presentation of proposals.

Actuarial analysis “light”

Participants will gain an understanding of the core building blocks of actuarial analysis, and how changes to the parameters of contributory pension schemes impact long term financial sustainability. Through an interactive exercise, participants will learn how to translate and communicate the findings of actuarial analysis into concrete pension reform proposals.

Methodology

The course will employ a combination of group work, lectures, panel discussions and interactive exercises. An eCampus platform will be used to support participants' preparation before, during and after the course. Technology will be integrated throughout the course to ensure interactivity.

Partners and training team

The course will be hosted by the Employees Provident Fund (EPF) of Malaysia and will be

held at the EPF Learning Campus in Bangi, Selangor. The training is being implemented in partnership between the International Training Centre of the ILO, the ILO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, UNESCAP and HelpAge International. Resource persons include technical experts from the partner organisations as well as researchers with extensive, international, regional and country experience.

You can apply directly on-line at the following address:

<http://intranetp.itcilo.org/STF/A3511805/en>



The EPF Learning Campus

The EPF Learning Campus is located in Bangi, Selangor, around 30 minutes from Kuala Lumpur and Kuala Lumpur International Airport (KLIA). Surrounded by lush greenery, EPF Learning Campus breaks away from the hustle and bustle of city life to provide a very conducive environment for serious learning.

The facilities include a multipurpose hall, seminar rooms, lecture rooms as well as smaller rooms for syndicated discussions and a moot court. It also provides accommodation in the forms of single/double occupancy rooms and apartments.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT

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