The IMF at a Glance

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) promotes international financial stability and monetary cooperation. It also seeks to facilitate international trade, promote high employment and sustainable economic growth, and reduce poverty around the world.

Christine Lagarde
Managing Director

Washington, D.C.
Headquarters

188
Membership countries

24
Executive Board Members

2600
Employees, from...

142
...countries

Publications

- World Economic Outlook (WEO)
- Global Financial Stability Report (GFSR)
- Fiscal Monitor
- Regional Economic Outlook (REO)
  - AFRICA/ASIA & PACIFIC
  - EUROPE/MIDDLE EAST & CENTRAL
  - ASIA/WESTERN HEMISPHERE

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Roles and Activities

Monitoring of regional economic developments
Through its on-the-ground presence, OAP monitors economic and financial developments in the region to help bring a more regionally focused perspective to the Fund’s surveillance.

Assessing progress and issues in regional economic integration/cooperation
OAP takes the lead role in the Fund’s on-the-ground work with current and emerging regional policy fora, including APEC and ASEAN.

Conducting outreach
OAP organizes and participates in conferences and events that offer fora for discussion of current topics regarding the international financial system and other issues central to the Fund’s work. Its external relations activities aim to enhance the public understanding of the work of the Fund and its visibility in the region, and to help implement the broader IMF communications strategy. Activities include seminars, press briefings, university outreach, recruitment seminars, the maintenance of a website, and participation in public events.

Managing capacity building programs
The Japan-IMF Scholarship Program for Asia (JISPA) is a scholarship program for junior government officials from Asia who wish to pursue graduate-level economics studies at Japanese universities. It is funded by the Government of Japan and administered by OAP.

The Japan-IMF Macroeconomic Seminar for Asia (JIMS) is an annual one-week seminar for senior Asian government officials, which serves as a forum for current policy discussions.

OAP also arranges capacity building seminars for officials from Asian and Pacific countries, focused on current economic policy issues.

Facilitating the work of IMF headquarters in the region
OAP provides logistical and staff support for visits to Japan and the region by IMF management and other headquarters staff.

Asia and the IMF

Member countries and offices in the region

- Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific
- Resident Representative Office
- 1 Technical Assistance Office for the Lao PDR and the Republic of the Union of Myanmar (TAOLAM)
- 2 The Pacific Financial Technical Assistance Center (PFTAC)

The Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (OAP) is the International Monetary Fund’s window on the region, and it contributes to economic surveillance and research, takes the lead in the IMF’s on-the-ground involvement in regional cooperation, manages regional capacity building programs, and promotes the understanding and two-way dialogue of the IMF in Asia and the Pacific.