

# Strengthening the IMF-Singapore Regional Training Institute (STI) and Pacific Financial and Technical Assistance Center (PFTAC) Partnership

The IMF-Singapore Regional Training Institute (STI) continues to expand its partnership to increase and improve support to Pacific Island Countries (PICs), through training courses and technical assistance on macroeconomic modeling and forecasting. STI is also joining forces with PFTAC to significantly increase the number of officials from PICs participating in its training course activities. Japan is a key partner of both PFTAC and STI, while Singapore is a key partner in STI and has expressed interest in potentially supporting PICs through its existing capacity development programs in the Asia-Pacific region.

Against this backdrop, the PFTAC and STI Directors (Samir Jahjah and Paul Cashin, respectively) met separately with senior representatives from Singapore's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and with the Ambassador of Japan to Singapore, H.E. Hiroshi Ishikawa. The discussions centered around how greater synergies between PFTAC and STI are already benefiting PICs - and how this collaboration can be further strengthened.

On December 1, 2025 the Japanese Ambassador to Singapore delivered opening remarks at the *Debt Management, Debt Reporting, and Investor Relations* training course co-organized by STI and PFTAC and hosted at STI. He reaffirmed the importance of the longstanding partnership between Japan and the IMF in advancing regional capacity development in the Pacific.

