

Abstract

Building Capacity: The Perspective of the Trainer

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Training is one means for building capacity. The Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific (SIAP) has been in this business for almost 45 years. It was established in 1970 in response to the dearth of statistical training providers in Asia, with the mandate to strengthen, through training, the capability of national statistical offices to produce data and statistics in support of development planning and policy making. As the need for statistical capacity building has not waned and, in fact, continues to grow in light of new and increased demands for data and statistics facing national statistical systems, SIAP's core mandate continues to be highly relevant to its stakeholders. To effectively respond to the changing landscape of statistics development needs— more recently, in light of the SDGs and the opportunities for statistical systems to benefit from joining the data revolution-- SIAP continually transforms how it carries out its core business. The first part of this presentation describes the current state of this evolution as a way of triggering discussions on the question: are we on the right track?

The second part of the presentation suggests that building statistical capacity through training can bring about better results through:

- Identifying new knowledge, skills and attitudes required for benefitting by joining the ongoing data revolution (e.g., using big data)
- Using a learner-centred model for training
- Transforming statistical institutions into learning organizations
- Leadership embracing innovation as a core principle of statistical offices
- Strengthening and expanding partnerships through a global network of statistical training institutions for coordinating statistical training