

MINUTES

Stakeholder Advisory Group Meeting



Global Network of Institutions
for Statistical Training (GIST)

23rd January 2024

Participants

GIST SAG: Samuel Kobina Annim (Ghana), Ashiyath Shazna (Maldives), Eric Manuel Rodriguez Herrera (Mexico), Samir ISSARA (Morocco), Said Bsharat, Sokaina El Khamlichi, Josie Almeda (Philippines)

GIST board: Elena Proden, Mitali Sen, Sokol Vako, Shailja Sharma, Sophie Ditlecadet, Pedro Campos, Bianca Walsh, Hedi Sadi, Vibeke Oestreich Nielsen, Alla Rybina and Charlotte Juul Hansen.

Agenda

1. Opening by GIST Chair, Ms. Elena Proden
2. Update from the board on work carried out since the last meeting
3. The new translation group – and discussion around priorities for translation
4. The Statistical Training needs Assessment Tool (STAT) – how do we take it forward, and what is feasible/needed?
5. Priorities Task Team 2 on Online Gateway and e-learning community of practice
6. AOB

1. Opening by GIST Chair, Ms. Elena Proden

Ms. Proden welcomed the participants to this second meeting of the GIST annual cycle (from UNSC to UNSC). GIST values the feedback from SAG to help guide the work of GIST.

2. Update from the board on work carried out since the last meeting – By Vibeke Nielsen

- The UNSC background document on GIST is in the making and will be shared with SAG
- The GIST annual meeting will be held online on 12 February
- Based on the earlier requests by SAG and others, a translation group was established in 2023, and three meetings have been held (see item 3)
- Task Team 1 on addressing NSO demands: Statistical Training Assessment Training tool (STAT) is in the final process and will be launched on 27 February.
- Task Team 2 has worked on guidance on certification and online learning. Documents are to be shared with SAG after the meeting. A new mandate for Task Team 2 is under consideration.
- Task Team 3 on statistical literacy has started a series of online seminars. The Statistical Literacy Inventory is online – more examples would be useful and countries can contact GIST if they have

statistical literacy examples, and a template will be shared. There will also be a side-event during the UNSC (6 February)

- GIST is looking into fundraising to support more work.

3. The new translation group – By Elena Proden

The Arab Institute for Training and Research in Statistic (AITRS) is co-lead of the new translation group. The second co-lead is still to be found.

Scope of work:

- Identifying what are key resources that are valuable to translate.
- Based on this, carry out a “matchmaking” with those who can support the translation, incl. asking owners of relevant resources;
- define best practices for translation

The group has identified priority resources to start translating into French, Spanish, and Arabic (possibly Portuguese) that were presented at the meeting. This included GIST products such as STAT and documents like “Effective Online Training; Approaches and Recommendations”; “Initial assessment and potential template for certification of courses”; “Introducing e-learning in NSOs” and “Sustainable Statistical Training Programs at NSOs”. The GIST Chair presented an Excel sheet with priority documents for translation.

Besides the organisation of translation, a quality assurance partner for different languages should be chosen for each translation.

The group has also started to look into the translation of e-learning, which is a more extensive exercise. The group used statistics on the number of hits (to be interpreted with some care) on available e-learning at UNSDG: Learn (Top three e-learning courses: “Environmental SDG Indicators”, “Energy Statistics” and “Using Gender Statistics: A Toolkit for Training Data Users”). The High Commission for Planning of Morocco (HCP) will start the translation of an e-learning course from English to French as a test.

GIST SAG encouraged to also share their views on priority learning materials for translation.

The Statistical Training needs Assessment Tool (STAT) – By Charlotte Juul Hansen

(A power point presentation was made which will also be shared with SAG members.)

The Statistical Training needs Assessment Tool (STAT) helps the NSO to create awareness of NSO’s staff skills and training needs. It is a country-owned tool. The tool helps NSO think more strategically about training staff and integrate training as a regular task. It identifies skills gaps and prioritizes training needs. And also helps NSOs to think about where resources can come from (internal, national, regional/international).

Several of the SAG members have been involved in testing and piloting STAT which has been invaluable.

The next steps for STAT are the following:

- Finalize STAT based on recent input from the pilots
- Advertise and make it available on GIST's website
- Launch STAT at the UNSC 2024, 27 Feb at 8.15 am
- Translation into Spanish and French

Input from participants on how to promote STAT:

- Ghana/GSS provided input on areas that would need additional attention in STAT: 1) How to guide the organizations within the National Statistical System (NSS); 2) Developing a training strategy based on STAT results; and 3) How to work with cultural/behavioral change to increase knowledge sharing and training outcomes.
- HCP offered to translate STAT into French and is interested in testing the tool and learning from Ghana and Colombia on their experiences and challenges with STAT
- AIRTS is interested in the tool and could be used to promote STAT in Arab-speaking countries

Other remarks:

- Linking what three Task Teams are doing? Prioritise UN SDG:Learn courses and match them with the identified needs by the STAT tool (Course match-making)
- How do we ensure that e-learning courses have the required quality?

4. Priorities Task Team 2 on Online Gateway and e-learning community of practice – By Shailja Sharma

In 2022 and 2023, Task Team 2, among others, worked on good practices in delivering online training and certification of courses. Two webinars have been held on these two topics to allow for exchanging experiences. The work on UNSDG: Learn has been a big undertaking with the page up and running.

Task Team 2 needs a new mandate as the current mandate is fulfilled and activities thus winding down.

New areas of work for Task Team 2 could include:

- Linking identified training needs (STAT) with available e-learning, at least those that are available on UNSDG: Learn (or should this be integrated into Task Team 1 as a sub-group?).
- Culture and behavior related to training and knowledge sharing (to sustain training outcomes)
- How to link AI with training (e.g. automatic translation)

Alternatively, the Translation Group could become Task Team 2.

As SAG members potentially needed more time to consider, it was proposed to send an email to SAG members and ask for their input on new work areas for Task Team 2 based on their needs.

The new mandate of Task Team 2 will be on the agenda for the annual meeting on 12 February 2024.

5. AOB

- GIST products should be promoted and advertised much more.
- GIST website is undergoing updates

- Task Team 3 is arranging the second GROW-webinar together with ISLP: Feb 6th, 9.00 am NYC time called “Promoting Stats Literacy worldwide”. GIST and ISLP will discuss statistics literacy and the inventory And showcase projects and discuss challenges and how to increase statistics literacy initiatives.