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Global Network of Institutions for Statistical Training (GIST)

GIST Annual meeting

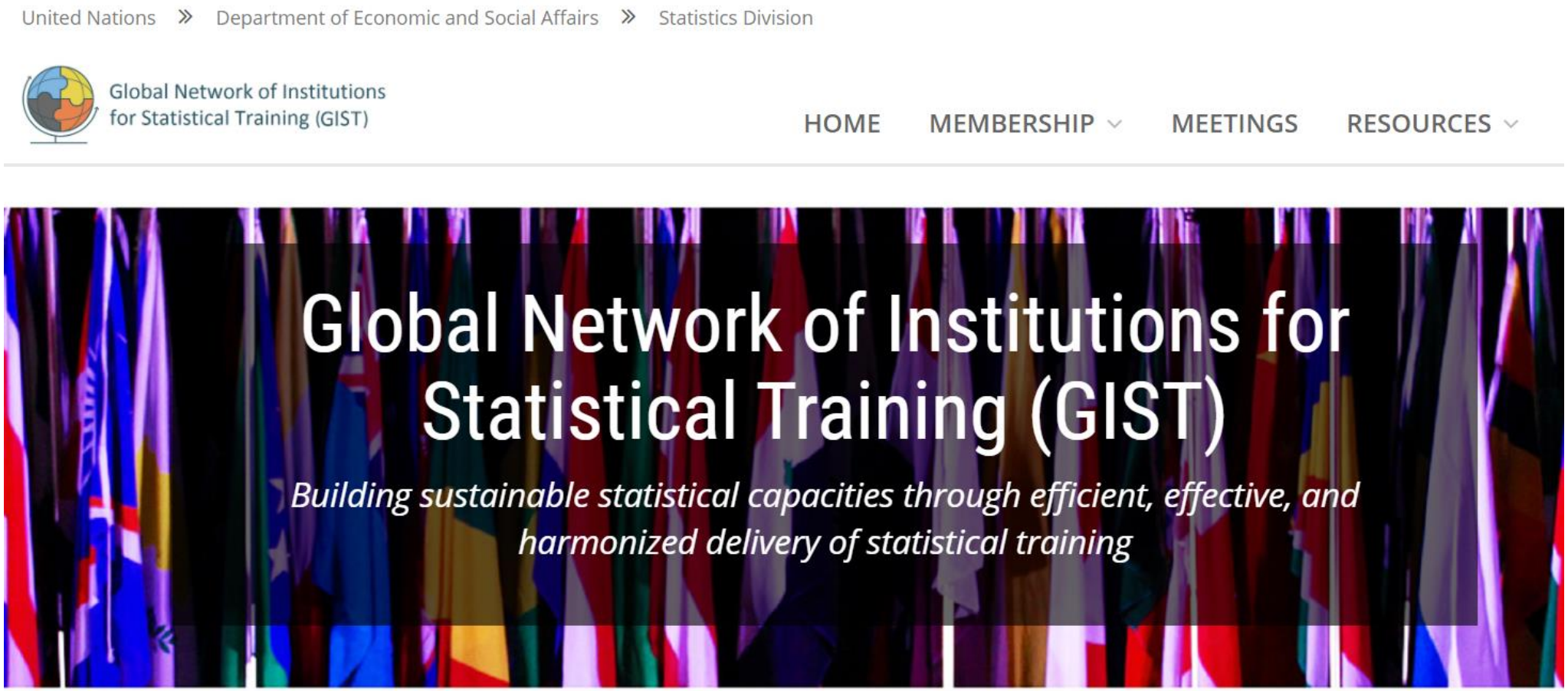
16 February 2023

Agenda

- Opening
- GIST Achievements in 2022
  - Q&A
- GIST community – how can NSOs promote statistical literacy?
  - Discussion Session
- Plans for 2023
  - Introduction by GIST board
  - Discussion Session – on key priority areas
- Closing

Overview of GIST

https://unstats.un.org/gist/



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UN Statistical Commission - GIST

GIST background document available here:

https://unstats.un.org/UNSDWebsite/statcom/session_54/documents/BG-3a-GIST-E.pdf

Item 3k covers capacity development – should GIST be highlighted as key contributor?
https://unstats.un.org/UNSDWebsite/statcom/session_54/documents/2023-14-CapacityDevelopment-E.pdf

Oral statements on GIST related to items 3a and 3k are very welcome.

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In-person GIST event on 3rd March!

Register for the event here: https://forms.gle/vzVjNBAcyhr1cePk8

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GIST Achievements in 2022

16 February 2023

Overall

- Increased membership

- Assessment of training needs
- Collaboration with IAEG-SDGs and increase of courses on UN SDG:Learn
- Guidance on effective and remote learning and certification programs
- Guidance on statistical literacy initiatives
- Communication and outreach, among others through newsletter

Addressing specific NSO needs

- Continued work on **Sustainable statistical training programs at national level**
  - Development of needs/gap assessment of training needs at
    - Individual staff
    - Managers
    - Staff in agencies that are part of the NSS
  - Guidance document on
    - How to prioritize training needs identified
    - Overview of options for how to fill training gaps

- Piloting work
  - Ethiopia and Ghana
  - Others?

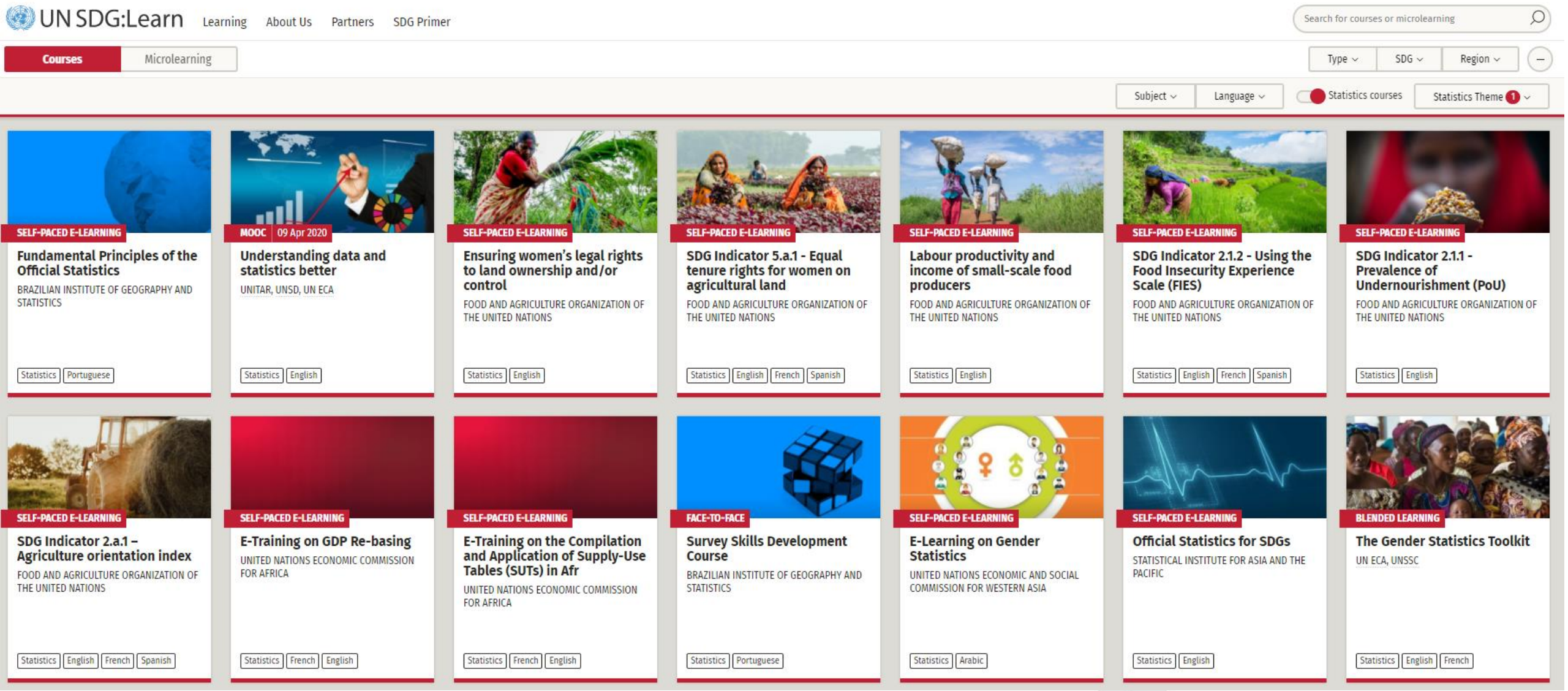
Online gateway and e-learning community of practice

- UN SDG:learn statistics: www.unsdglearn.org/statistics.
  - Over 140 courses and microlearnings available
  - Collaboration with IAEG-SDGs
  - New features/adjustments to interface

- Is **exchanging experiences** on
  - Assessment and potential template for certification of courses
  - Approaches and recommendations on effective online training

UN SDG:learn

www.unsdglearn.org/statistics



Statistical literacy

- **Inventory of initiatives in statistical literacy relevant to official statistics:** https://unstats.un.org/gist/statistical-literacy/.
  - Engaging with International Statistical Literacy Program
  - Template for adding materials

- Concept note for a guidance document for NSOs on statistical literacy

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Continued communication and outreach

- **Newsletter** available
- GIST related **webinars and sessions** including a side-event at the HLPF

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Questions?

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GIST community discussion

– how can NSOs promote statistical literacy?

Does your institution have any Statistical Literacy program targeted at policy makers, media, data users, etc? Please describe. (Morocco)

- Program targeted at policy makers: Each year, we organize a meeting with the two chambers of the Moroccan parliament (deputies and councilors).
- Program targeted at media: We participated in the "Communication for Statistics" (C4S) project that was developed under the MEDSTAT IV program - Visibility and Relations with Statistics Users Sector. We launched a program in 2018-2019 to train and raise awareness among journalists and statistician
- Multiple platforms: Time use, gender and covid-19 impact on households, gender equality, labor market and me

Does your institution have any Statistical Literacy program targeted at policy makers, media, data users, etc? Please describe.

- Palestine: PCBS launched the Statistical School Competition since 2017 targeting pupils at schools (private, public and UNRWA).
- Japan: There have been several online statistical training courses offered by the government to a wide range of data users on a major MOOC platform which has more than a million users. https://gacco.org/stat-japan2/ (in Japanese language)
- Italy: In general Istat has developed a specific website session to become familiar with official statistics and Istat data and to "tell" statistical information in a simple way, using a friendly language. https://www.istat.it/en/data-at-hand https://www.istat.it/en/information-and-services/students-and-teachers

Does your institution have any Statistical Literacy program targeted at policy makers, media, data users, etc? Please describe.

- Mexico: Yes, INEGI is developing a statistical literacy program aimed at different users, with the target of build skills to analyze, understand and communicate statistical and geographic data for evidence-base decision making.
- Ghana: We are currently running a project called Data for Accountability Project which has presented a platform to engage Members of Parliamentary sub-committees. As of today, we have programmes with three parliamentary sub-committees.
- Ghana: Through a UNDP sponsored programme we have collaborated with an academic instiution to develop a curriculum for training media persons. Related to that, we have instutitonalised a pre-release training for all major and technical releases.

If not, is there interest in establishing such a program? Do you think it is the role of the NSO to have such a program?

- It is in the interest of NSOs to organize such programmes or at least events. This is a way to demonstrate transparency and to increase the use of statistics. It can also be part of the building the brand of official statistics.
- Yes, NSOs should constantly run statistical literacy programmes.
- Yes, it is the role of the NSO to have such a program. It will allow wide use of statistical data by the population and will contribute to improving the notoriety of the NSO.

How can GIST help in this area?

- Provide standard materials for designing such programs
- Provide expert assistance in the development of statistical literacy programs
- Share experiences and programs of different countries.
- We believe that it is helpful for members to exchange the best practices.
- GIST can support the development of training materials focused on statistical literacy, aimed to different profiles of user, like policy makers, media, students and data users.
- Rolling out the GIST training programme.
- GIST can help a lot by facilitating the exchange of experiences and good practices, and also by providing a platform where literacy tools and materials are made available.

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Proposed plans for 2023

Addressing specific NSO needs

- Continue the work on the gaps/needs assessment tool and related guidance
- Explore possibilities of piloting/testing the tool
- Discuss feasibility of other areas of work, taking into account guidance by the SAG

Online gateway and e-learning community of practice

- Outreach activities to increase awareness and facilitate sharing of experiences
  - Series of webinars to share good practices around certification and good practices for online courses.
  - Additional webinars to be organized based on needs and interest
- UN:SDG Learn Statistics hub
  - Add more courses to the platform
  - Collaboration with IAEG-SDG on a curated list of courses on SDG indicators

Statistical literacy

- Collect more practices from counties for statistical literacy inventory
- Continue work on the guidance note for NSOs either with joint forces or by hiring a consultant if funds became available, involve Academia
- Continue work on the evaluation approach for statistical literacy initiatives
- Organize webinars to showcase statistical literacy work of GIST and countries

From SAG: Any other areas that you would like GIST to focus on in 2023?

- Programs for trainers: It is important to have within each NSO qualified trainers in both the technical and pedagogical aspects. I believe that the GIST will be able to play a very important role in this field.
- Training engineering: I propose that the GIST continues to develop more activities to strengthen the skills of NSOs in training engineering from the analysis of training needs, design of training plans, follow-up, monitoring, and evaluation of training actions.
- 3- Specific training programs
  - Example training for the participants of the population census
  - Exchange and share specific training modules for the participants of the population census (Videos, MOOCS, ...etc)
  - Provide support for the design and creation of its training modules
- Yes, we would like to have such partnership with you in order to upload some training materials on the web such as: Data stewardship, data analysis, administrative records, and the use of data science tools in official statistics.
- GIST can contribute to the development of materials to define strategies to identify training needs in national statistical offices.

Areas where we need more input:

- Language/translation: How do we increase the number of languages for GIST products?
- Communications/fundraising: How do we do a better job of outreach?
- Sustainable training: Are we on the right path for sustainable training approaches?

Communication and outreach

- Develop 2 **newsletters**
- GIST related **webinars and sessions** at UNSC, UN WDF, IAOS and ISI
- **Blog series** on UN SDG:learn
- Engagement on **social media**

- **Other?**

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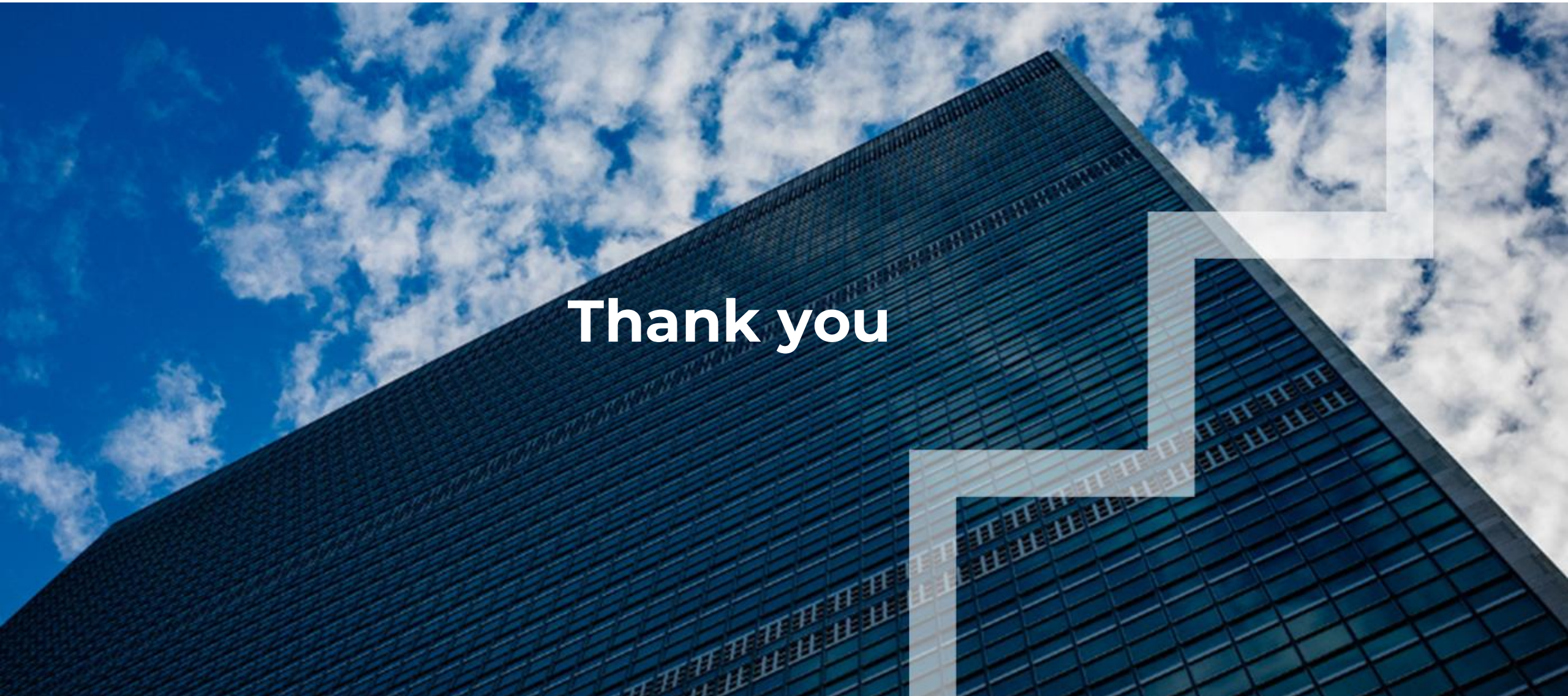

Thank you