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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



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# Overview of GIST

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

United Nations » Department of Economic and Social Affairs » Statistics Division



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HOME

MEMBERSHIP ▾

MEETINGS

RESOURCES ▾

## Global Network of Institutions for Statistical Training (GIST)

*Building sustainable statistical capacities through efficient, effective, and  
harmonized delivery of statistical training*



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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](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](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.

# 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



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# 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?



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# Online gateway and e-learning community of practice

- UN SDG:learn statistics: [www.unsdglearn.org/statistics](http://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



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# UN SDG:learn

[www.unsdglearn.org/statistics](http://www.unsdglearn.org/statistics)

Courses

Microlearning

Type

SDG

Region

Subject

Language

Statistics courses

Statistics Theme 1



**SELF-PACED E-LEARNING**

### Fundamental Principles of the Official Statistics

BRAZILIAN INSTITUTE OF GEOGRAPHY AND STATISTICS

Statistics Portuguese



**MOOC** 09 Apr 2020

### Understanding data and statistics better

UNITAR, UNSD, UN ECA

Statistics English



**SELF-PACED E-LEARNING**

### Ensuring women's legal rights to land ownership and/or control

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Statistics English



**SELF-PACED E-LEARNING**

### SDG Indicator 5.a.1 - Equal tenure rights for women on agricultural land

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Statistics English French Spanish



**SELF-PACED E-LEARNING**

### Labour productivity and income of small-scale food producers

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Statistics English




**SELF-PACED E-LEARNING**

### SDG Indicator 2.1.2 - Using the Food Insecurity Experience Scale (FIES)

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Statistics English French Spanish




**SELF-PACED E-LEARNING**

### SDG Indicator 2.1.1 - Prevalence of Undernourishment (PoU)

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Statistics English



**SELF-PACED E-LEARNING**

### SDG Indicator 2.a.1 - Agriculture orientation index

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Statistics English French Spanish



**SELF-PACED E-LEARNING**

### E-Training on GDP Re-basing

UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA

Statistics French English



**SELF-PACED E-LEARNING**

### E-Training on the Compilation and Application of Supply-Use Tables (SUTs) in Afr

UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA

Statistics French English




**FACE-TO-FACE**

### Survey Skills Development Course

BRAZILIAN INSTITUTE OF GEOGRAPHY AND STATISTICS

Statistics Portuguese



**SELF-PACED E-LEARNING**

### E-Learning on Gender Statistics

UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR WESTERN ASIA

Statistics Arabic




**SELF-PACED E-LEARNING**

### Official Statistics for SDGs

STATISTICAL INSTITUTE FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

Statistics English



**BLENDED LEARNING**

### The Gender Statistics Toolkit

UN ECA, UNSSC

Statistics English French

# 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

## Statistical Literacy Initiatives Inventory

### Search

E-learning course "Understanding data and statistics better – for more effective SDG decision making" (Organized by: UNITAR)

**Purpose of the initiative:**

The e-course was developed by UNITAR, UNSD and UNECA with the aim to offer a double opportunity: i) to help improve the understanding of how better data can help design more effective public policies and ii) to brush up on your core data skills. The course covers aspects related to the interpretation, analysis, and presentation of data of direct relevance to the SDGs and more broadly national and sectoral policies aimed at ensuring sustainable and inclusive development. It introduces these topics using concrete examples of data use and public policy context from around the world. The course reviews both traditional and non-traditional data sources and discusses their uses, as well as the opportunities and challenges presented by the latter. The course contains 5 modules structured around key competences: awareness about data use and basic data skills, data assessment and interpretation, effective communication with data,

# Continued communication and outreach

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



# 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



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# 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>



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# 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.



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# **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.



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# 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



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# 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



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# 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



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# 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?



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# 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**