

GIST board meeting

12 January 2023

Participants:

Mitali Sen (USCB), Bianca Walsh (IBGE), Dag Roll-Hansen (Statistics Norway), Sophie Didlecadet (FAO), Elena Proden (UNITAR), Mamadou Cisse (IDEP), Seiji Takata (UN SIAP) and Vibeke O Nielsen (UNSD).

Absent: Shailja Sharma (UN SIAP)

Agenda:

1. Planning towards UN Statistical Commission (background document, side-events and 2023 plan)
2. AOB

1. Planning towards UN Statistical Commission

Background document

There will, as in previous years, be a GIST background document to agenda item 3a. Vibeke will put together an initial draft and share with the board for contributions and review. The report is due to be uploaded by 25th January.

The background document covers achievements of GIST in the past year and gives indications of the work ahead. To have an indication of what 2023 brings for the task teams of GIST, all task teams are encouraged to hold meetings before the background document submission deadline if feasible.

Side-events

Two side events are planned for GIST as in previous years:

- 16th February: Virtual event: **Annual meeting** (closed to GIST members)

Details on what to cover/prioritize were not discussed, but it was agreed to follow up per email exchange to agree on the agenda

- 27th February: In-person/hybrid event: **Advocacy event** (open) (during UNSC week)

The board discussed this for a while. Proposals included the following:

- Focus on sustainable statistical training
 - Advise NSOs on taking lead on demanding trainings based on their needs
 - Ask NSO to present success stories on use of e-learning
 - Give a tour of UNSDG Learn on training materials available as global good
 - Present on GIST work
- Focus on statistical literacy – asking NSOs to address and deliberate on what roles they play on increasing stats literacy in their country
- Census training as umbrella of the event
 - Can cover statistical literacy and need for structured training approaches

The board did not conclude on which alternative to go for as it was agreed to review other conferences proposals first not to duplicate session with sessions at other events. Vibeke to share an overview of proposals submitted and sent to those for input (added as annex 1 to these minutes).

2023 plan

The GIST background document usually has an outlook on plans for 2023, so the board discussed overall direction and priorities. The direction will further be decided at the annual meeting with all members present.

- Task teams

It was agreed to keep all task teams that are currently active as they have ongoing activities which still require interactions in 2023.

- Language group

The board did not initiate the discussion on translation of materials into more languages in 2022, depending on priorities of annual meeting, a separate language group could be set up

- Communication and outreach

GIST has been relatively active on the communications work also in 2022. This includes one newsletter. GIST board agreed to help share the newsletter more widely.

The GIST board has also prepared proposals for several conferences that take place in 2023, the list, covering topic and speakers is added as annex 1 to these minutes.

It was proposed to also explore if GIST could have an event related to the Global Network of Data Officers and Statisticians group on Yammer. Vibeke agreed to check with the organizers, but saw that it might be challenging due to closeness to UNSC

- Fundraising

Was not discussed

- GIST board

Mitali's 2 years a GIST chair are up at this annual meeting. Elena Proden, UNITAR, was asked to be the new chair and has agreed to this. With this, there will be a need to find someone who can lead/co-lead the statistical literacy task team with Bianca. It was agreed to give some thinking time for this. Mitali is also interested in having a role as lead/co-lead and would prefer to engage with the task team on NSO demands. It was also here agreed to discuss further on the matter.

- Stakeholder advisory Group (SAG)

There have been no dedicated meetings of the GIST SAG in 2022. It was agreed to bring in new countries as substitutes for those that have been not active. This should ideally happen before the Annual meeting. Potential new countries include Malawi and Nepal since they have been active in the sustainable training work.

2. AOB

No points were made.

Annex 1: Accepted proposals for sessions at international conferences in 2023

UN Statistical Commission, New York, March

TBD

IAOS, Zambia, 2-4 April

How can we help ensure statistical training in Africa is sustainable?

Moderator: Mr. Dag Roll-Hansen or Mr. Lasse Sandberg, [Statistics Norway](#)

- Speakers:
 - Working together to provide better tools and guidance for sustainable training programs within National Statistical Systems (Vibeke O Nielsen, [UN Statistics Division](#) and GIST Secretariat)
 - The Moroccan approach to statistical training (Mr. Samir Issara (TBC), [Haut-Commissariat au Plan](#))
 - Lowering costs and increasing the use of trainings to reach a wider audience (Ms. Shailja Sharma, [UN SIAP](#))
 - Providing a core set of trainings in Ghana Statistical System (Mr. Samuel Annim, Chief Statistician (TBC), [Ghana Statistical Service](#))
- Discussant: Mamadou Cisse, [IDEP](#)

UN WDF, China 24-27 April

Sector-Specific Approaches to Addressing the International Development Data Skills Gap

(Mitali submitted and has latest version)

Learning and teaching official statistics with the help of UNSDG:Learn / Increase data usage! Exchange and combine data towards a comprehensive basis for decision making in our demo data collaborative. Learn how to implement a data collaborative with open source tools and other data owners, whilst keeping private data private. / Combining and understanding the world's beneficial ownership data using Open Ownership tools

(Elena submitted and has latest version)

ISI, Ottawa July

GIST: Partnering for statistically literate societies

Mrs Reija Helenius (Chair)

Bianca Walsh (Presenter/Speaker)

Delia North (Presenter/Speaker)

Pedro Campos (Presenter/Speaker)

Vibeke Nielsen (Presenter/Speaker)

Elena Proden (Discussant)