

GIST board meeting

28 March 2023

Participants:

Elena Proden (UNITAR), Mitali Sen (USCB), Dag Roll-Hansen (SN), Shailja Sharma (UN SIAP), Sophie Didlecadet (FAO), Pedro Campos (ISLP), Bianca Walsh (IBGE) and Vibeke O Nielsen (UNSD).

Agenda:

1. Debrief from UN Statistical Commission
2. Planning for UN World Data Forum sessions
3. Development of 2023 workplan?
4. SAG meeting, to properly onboard new SAG members and discuss the involvement of SAG in task teams etc
5. Language group – initiation and approach to take for it
6. Outreach and fundraising – what are priorities here

1. Debrief from UN Statistical Commission

- GIST Annual meeting: The board was happy with the meeting. It agreed that the language/translation work has strong demand and should be followed up on.
- GIST open side-event: The event was well attended; all seats were taken and there was a lively discussion. People came up later and provided positive feedback. Participation from all over the globe, different levels. A few potential new contributors to GIST were identified. GIST board to reach out to them, in particular Abdulla from ECLAC/Caricom who has led work on a self-evaluation related to statistical literacy.
- UNSC agenda item 3k: The GIST board asked if there were any statements made related to GIST involvement in the planned overall capacity development work and UNSD informed that Japan had requested GIST involvement. The board asked UNSD to follow up on this to understand what is planned and how GIST potentially can be engaged.

2. Planning for UN World Data Forum and IAOS sessions

- IAOS in Zambia 3-7 April 2023: GIST will have a session on statistical training. Dag is coordinating the work with input from Vibeke and Mitali.
- UN WDF in China 24-27 April 2023. GIST is involved in two sessions: The panel discussion organized by Mitali is hybrid and all is in place. The learning session organized by Vibeke and Elena is in person, agenda is still being adjusted based on who will be there in person.
- ISI World Statistics Congress in Canada 16-20 July: GIST has one joint session with ISLP. Program should be in place for this one.

It was agreed that those who attend in person bring promotional materials to the events.

3. Development of 2023 workplan?

The board agreed that it would be useful for GIST members to have a workplan also for 2023 as it gives clarity on who is responsible for what. It also helps to have a common vision on what we are doing.

Elena offered to put together a first draft which also would include work related to language/translation and outreach. Leads/co-leads to contribute input per task team.

4. SAG meeting, to properly onboard new SAG members and discuss the involvement of SAG in task teams etc

The board agreed to hold a SAG meeting on the 19th April. Vibeke would send invites to SAG members and initiate preparation work so that materials for the SAG to review could be sent out in good time before to allow time for review by members. It was also agreed that each task team would send questions and brief summary of work. Information could be based on text to annual meeting. The language/translation work should also be included in the discussion, for instance what kind of materials the SAG members see as priority for translation.

5. Language group – initiation and approach to take for it

The board suggested to start the discussion with a small core group and suggested to ask Morocco and Mexico specifically if they can co-lead the work jointly with the board. Some of the objectives initially for the discussion would be:

- Find out who has resources to translate – and what kind of resources (funds or personnel?)
- Discuss how translation of non-GIST materials can happen (i.e. collaboration between source owner and source translator, quality assessment of translation, use of technology-based solutions for translation, how to translate e-learning tools etc)

Vibeke reach out to all of GIST when sending minutes – to identify core group

Other brainstorming included:

- UN SIAP has experiences in translation of materials and can share
- Experience from IASE – statistical research journal – papers in French, Spanish and other language. Too difficult for editors to handle. Contact those who are fluent to contribute. Pedro can offer himself for review fex – can maybe benefit from IASE group?

6. Outreach and fundraising – what are priorities here

Some of the suggestions for follow up regarding outreach:

- Have a booth at various conferences?
- Check in to hold Yammer events
- Across task teams – how do we highlight GIST – do more knowledge sharing sessions – have 1-2 slides which could be regularly used.
- Video on UN SDG:learn – use WDF as learning for ourselves
- In-person meeting – plan tentatively 2024