

GIST board meeting

15 November 2023

Participants:

Elena Proden (UNITAR), Dag Roll-Hansen (Statistics Norway), Seiji Takata (UN SIAP), Bianca Walsh (IBGE), Alla Rybina and Vibeke O Nielsen (UNSD).

Agenda:

1. GIST task team and language group updates
2. UN Statistical Commission
3. Plan for next GIST SAG meeting
4. GIST comms and newsletter
5. AOB

1. GIST task team and language group updates

TT1: Elena, on GIST mission in Colombia with Charlotte, provided a brief summary from first day in Colombia. DANE, the statistics office in Colombia on day one mainly shared their learnings and experiences and provided feedback on how questionnaire worked. Among others, they had developed a dashboard to analyze results, using PowerBI.

Vibeke informed that a second consultant, Helena Billington, would be coming onboard shortly. Helena will support the global work with global tools for STAT as well as for analysis of results. She also informed about the upcoming mission to Ghana in the week of 27-30 November, also to work on the STAT tool and statistical training programs. One thing that had come up there as an interesting additional point was the need for a training strategy beyond the more technical plan.

It was also discussed that a plan for 2024 needs to be discussed in the next task team.

TT2: Seiji reported from the two webinars held in September on effective online training and certification of courses respectively. Participation was relatively good.

TT3: Bianca informed about planned series of webinars with 2 month intervals covering different topics related to statistical literacy. The plan is to organize the first one on November 27th. There is a need for support from the GIST secretariat to set up the Teams invite and send out the invite, ideally using a larger email list. It was also agreed to develop a google form for registration for the webinar.

Vibeke would also explore the possibility of putting a recording of the webinars on the GIST homepage.

The statistical literacy guidance document has not further advanced, it would be useful to have a consultant supporting this. Could potentially be part of the fundraising work. Currently fundraising is done for selected regions and a guidance would need to be specific for them but could then be adapted to global level.

Language group – No further development since last meeting. Vibeke to follow up.

Overall:

- In its next meeting, the board should discuss if we should propose to the annual meeting to keep task teams as they are or make adjustments.
- Fundraising: Elena is currently leading work on reaching out to regional development banks to see if they would be interested in supporting GIST/collaborating.

2. UN Statistical Commission

The UN Statistical Commission takes place 27 February – 1 March 2024.

Vibeke will in December send out a draft GIST background document, asking leads and co-leads to add information for their areas of work. The submission of the document is due mid-January.

For side-events, Vibeke asked the board for input on the GIST annual meeting and the open GIST side event. A first question was which of the two events should be prioritized for in-person/hybrid and which could be virtual only. A second question was what to cover in the GIST open event. The board agreed that first priority for in-person availability would be the open event and that STAT should be prioritized for the open event. The annual meeting would therefore, as last year, be remote only, but those at the Statistical Commission could of course informally meet after the open event.

3. Plan for next GIST SAG meeting

It was agreed that a SAG meeting is needed, tentatively to be held mid/late January. Planning will be done in the next board meeting in December.

4. GIST comms and newsletter

Alla, UNSDs intern is coordinating the work on the GIST newsletter for December, but most of the content needs to be developed by GIST members. It was agreed that a list of contributions and deadlines would be sent out to the board.

5 AOB

Next meeting will be held in December 2023 – key points: SAG meeting and Statistical Commission preparations.