

GIST board meeting

21 October 2024

Participants:

Present: Elena (chair, UNITAR), Mitali (USCB), Dag (SSB), Bianca (IBGE), Pedro (Statistics Finland), Vibeke and Charlotte (secretariat, UNSD)

Agenda:

- Update on work in task teams
- Update on STAT work
- Planning for newsletter
- Planning for UNSC
- AOB

Update on work in task teams

Task team 1:

The activity of mapping learning needs with e-learning has slowly started. ODW has mapped the learning needs from GSS' surveys with e-learning on UN:SDGLearn. The missions to Seychelles, Morocco and Kenya will also provide useful data for this exercise. TT 1 needs to follow up on the work with ODW. Aim of the work: To identify gaps on UN:SDGLearn.

STAT: Seychelles, Morocco, and Kenya are implementing STAT in 2024 with missions in November and December (see item below). UN-SIAP will support India in 2025. UNITAR is working on finding funding for Maldives (the project is bigger than STAT e.g. it also includes attention on the new national statistical training institute and accreditation).

Translation group:

The translation group has held one meeting which focused on taking stock. Work on actual translations, particularly related to STAT, is progressing, however.

Learning culture group:

Three meetings have been held so far (July: Kick-starting the group; Sep: on e-learning, R in Ireland and Ghana, training institute in India; Oct: learning statements in STAT, carrot vs sticks, the role of leadership). Frequent meetings, in the beginning, help formalize the group and decide on focus.

Idea for concrete deliverables:

- Visuals on the different ways of learning to teach people the options.
- The upcoming STAT missions can provide training materials on the learning organization/culture.

Dag to follow up with Senegal and the Philippines to get them to present their learning approach.

Task team 3:

The last TT3 meeting was held on 12 July.

- GROW webinar on Data visualization and its interfaces with statistical literacy was held on 14 Oct. 205 registered for the event from a variety of countries and institutions. About 80 participated. The webinar was a success. The two presentations complimented each other: <https://unstats.un.org/gist/meetings/webinars/grow-webinar-Oct2024/>
- Themes for the next two GROW webinars:
 - o Jan/Feb: Citizen-generated data – possible presenters: WB who works on linking CGD and literacy + example from Kenya/Open Institute
 - o Spring: Data journalism – possible presenters: what would journalists need from “us” + example from Mozambique
- Pedro and Bianca have revitalized the statistical literacy guidance document. It was agreed that it would now be shared with the task team, copying the board, for input and could be a key topic of the next task team meeting.
- Statistical literacy: TT3 has worked on getting examples from Africa. The first example is now in the inventory. TT will continue to get more examples from Africa. UN-SIAP should be contacted on examples from Asia.
- The UN Census Bureau has put together a Training of Trainers (ToT) on statistical literacy with different modules (min 3 days, max 5 days). Once final, it should be available in UN:SDGLearn

Update on STAT work

STAT awareness raising:

- UNESCAP StatsCafé on STAT was held on 30 September. STAT was presented and Ghana, India and Maldives presented on their country experience. Approx 70 participants.
- UNECA StatsTalk webinar on STAT was held on 8 October. STAT was presented and Ghana, Morocco and Seychelles presented on their country experience. Approx 70 participants. South Africa and Cote d’Ivoire have expressed interest in STAT after the webinar.

STAT is implemented in 2024 in:

- Seychelles – mission 4-8 November by UNSD and UNECA
- Morocco – mission 26-29 November by UNSD and UNITAR
- Kenya – mission December by UNSD, UNECA and Ghana Statistical Service

UN-SIAP is supporting India to implement STAT in 2024/25 with a mission on 13-17 January 2025

Planning for newsletter

The next newsletter will be made for January 2025.

Planning for UNSC

This topic should be discussed at the next board meeting.

AOB

Elena’s two-year mandate as GIST Chair runs out at the end of the year.

Vibeke's contract with UNSD ends 31 December 2024. She will likely be on a temporary contract from mid-January to mid-May, but UNSD will start a process to assign someone to replace her. The person will ideally join the next board meeting.

The first chair, Helen MacGillivray from ISI, chaired for 3 years. Given the change to the secretariat, it may be an option to also have Elena stay for a third year. The board can discuss this in the next meeting.

Next board meeting: Second half of November 2024.