GIST board meeting

19 May 2021

Participants:

Madina (UNITAR), Shailja (UN SIAP), Mamadou (IDEP), Vibeke, Yixing (UNSD).

Agenda:

- Follow up on work plan and input from members (skipped)
- Communication
    - Plan for the next newsletter
    - Other communication and outreach work
- Fundraising – how do we initiate, and which approach do we take? (skipped)
- Language group – how do we initiate?
- Stakeholder advisory group – adjust membership and next meeting? (skipped)
- AOB

Vibeke firstly briefly summarized the IAEG SDGs meeting and the presentation and discussion around the UN SDG:Learn statistics platform. This included conversations around whether the SDG selection should go below goal level so that people can search for trainings for concrete indicators and how to present materials as not all materials from custodian agencies are courses or microlearning. Once the IAEG-SDG comes back with their feedback, most likely postive, a smaller group from IAEG, GIST and the developer from UNITAR could be set up to discuss how to best make adjustments to fit the needs of IAEG and GIST.

Mamadou highlighted the importance of working with African countries to help them ensure having better processes for monitoring progress of the 2030 Agenda. He suggested that GIST could get involved and work with a few selected countries to identify gaps and support with practical and concrete activities. Vibeke said that this may be beyond the scope of GIST but said that GIST member agencies potentially could be involved. She also highlighted that a project UNSD has implemented, the UNSD-FCDO project on SDG monitoring, could provide initial guidance. Further, once the UN SDG:Learn statistics platform had more SDG materials, this could also be better utilized by countries.

1. ## Communication

Yixing introduced the outline of the next issue of the newsletter and asked for feedback or input from the board through email by the following Monday.

Vibeke mentioned that two e-learning materials are already available in French and asked for promotion for French-speaking countries. Vibeke will send out information on this

Vibeke also mentioned that together with UNITAR, they submitted a proposal for the high-level political forum (HLPF, NY, 6th July) and the proposal had been selected, but in a joint session with three others.

The call for proposals for the ISI conference is now open, and the call for proposals for the UN World Data Forum has also been launched. Vibeke suggested participating.

Madina provided a brief overview of the blog series on SDG: Learn. The first focused on COVID, and the second SDGs and proposed to focus on data stats for the next series. Topics are broad so that organizations can contribute data perspectives. UNITAR has proposed that the next series could be on data and statistics. Proposed blogs could include country examples, data literacy and IAEG, but a conclusion was not reached.

2. Language group

Madina will check with Elena whether UNITAR can add e-learning materials subtitles for other languages. She said the translation needs to be proofread first to ensure quality.

Shailja expressed concerns regarding the time and efforts that could be needed for translating into another language.

Vibeke suggested sending an email to all GIST members and asking for interest in joining an initial meeting about translation and will discuss how to facilitate the meeting for the group to focus on and decide from there.

Shailja suggested asking universities to be part of the workgroup. Vibeke and Yixing will draft an email and send it to the language group and collect feedback by the next board meeting.