BigData UN Global Working Group

GWG Task Team on Training, Skills and Capacity Building
Progress report 2017

This report presents the results of the task team over the period 2016/2017.

> Please note that Task Team does not have coordinator due to retirement of Marge from ESCAP and movement of Sufyan to GCC-Stat. Nevertheless, both ESCAP and GCC-Stat are part of the task team.

During the period, the Task Team on Training, Skills and Capacity Building worked on the development of the Capacity Building Strategy in Big Data for Official Statistics; and the organization of training workshops preceding 4th Conference on Big Data for Official Statistics.

Capacity Building

The primary plan on capacity building was support participation of developing countries in Big Data courses at European Statistical Training Programme in 2017[1]. Unfortunately, the plan did not work out mostly due to unavailability of seats for participants outside Europe on the ESTP big data courses.

However, we did manage to organize four 2-day training workshops on 6-7 November 2017 preceding Big Data Conference. The topics are as follows:

1. The use of Mobile Phone Data for Tourism statistics
2. Social media data for opinion or sentiment indicators
3. Satellite data for crop statistics
4. Scanner data for price statistics

These courses are conducted mainly by national experts based on guidelines developed within the respective task teams. These training workshops could be developed into regular training courses as part of the GWG training curriculum.

Work Plan 2017

This work programme was discussed shortly after 3rd Big Data Conference in Dublin. The main activity is to conduct big data survey to take stock of existing related training courses on big data; this survey still needs to be executed. Other activity is to

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[1] http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/documents/747709/6103606/ESTP-core-programme-2017.pdf

work closely with other task teams to transform guidelines on specific topics into training courses (or made it available as background documents).

2017 work plan for the GWG on Big Data for Official Statistics			
Activities and deliverables	Handbook and other documents	Capacity building activities	Other activities
Task Team on Training, Skills and Capacity-building	Will develop a training inventory that will be incorporated on the website of the GWG.	Will have a meeting with the other GWG task teams in order to incorporate their training needs. Will organize two regional (clustered) workshops on sharing skills and experiences in capacity building between NSOs.	Will make a global survey on big data for the NSOs. The aim is that at least 75% of the NSOs participate in the survey. This will make it possible to update the big data inventory and to assess the readiness of NSOs.

Future work plan

- Conducting training workshop on the use of Satellite Data for Official Statistics in Bangkok (2018)
- Compiling various compilation guidelines from other TTs and making them available on online platform (such as wiki); and in addition, transforming them into training courses (i.e., e-learning)
- Conducting follow up survey related to skills, training and capacity building

Annex.

Task Team objectives:

a. Develop methods and tools (including coordination and facilitation) for
   i. a baseline need identification of Big Data skills in NSSs; and
   ii. an assessment of institutional readiness of NSSs in using Big Data
b. Provide guidance on the development of a programme of training that addresses the gaps identified in the skills needs analysis
c. Facilitate establishing global network of institutions for training and capacity building on Big Data
d. Coordinate training plans in line with Global Survey on Big Data for Official Statistics and other outcomes from tasks teams formulated within GWG.

Task Team Members:
Countries: Colombia and Philippines
International Institutions: ITU, UNECE, UNSD, UN SIAP, GCC-Stat and World Bank
Academia: QUT, Australia