

Thematic conferences

Managing a statistical organization in times of change

Background

- At 49th session, the Statistical Commission endorsed the outline of the *Handbook of Statistical Organization*
- UNSC established an advisory group for drafting the Handbook
- UNSC suggested a series of thematic conferences to support this development process
- Conferences will be organised to further understand and prioritise the emerging needs of statistical organisations to adapt and develop as stressed in the Cape Town Global Action Plan (CTGAP) for Sustainable Development

Purpose

- Monitoring of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and related regional and national development policies requires national statistical systems to grasp the potential of innovative technologies
 - in a rapidly changing data ecosystem
 - while reinforcing leadership, coordination, communication and dialogue through institutional and organizational reforms
 - in compliance with the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics
- Modernization, transformation and adaptation are crucial

Link to the Handbook

- The conferences are tied to the development of the handbook
 - Contribute to the drafting
 - Raise awareness
 - Promote guidelines and best practices
- Identify issues that are most relevant to countries / share experience to provide input into the Handbook process
- Purpose is to guide chief statisticians and senior managers in developing, adapting and maintaining statistical organisations that are fit for purpose
- Link goes in both directions

Structure

- Like the Handbook, the conferences are based on strategic development areas mentioned in the Cape Town Global Action Plan (CTGAP), grouped in four themes:
 - 1. Strengthen the institutional and organisational frameworks of national statistical systems (CTGAP 1)
 - 2. Support the transformation and modernisation of statistical production architecture and technology (CTGAP 2,3)
 - 3. Develop and promote policies, innovative strategies and integrated dissemination platforms to ensure proper communication and use of official statistics and data for sustainable development (CTGAP 4)
 - 4. Ensure the most effective means of mobilising resources, coordinating efforts and developing multi-stakeholders partnerships to support implementation of country-owned strategies and programmes for the development of official statistics (CTGAP 5,6)

Organization

- Identifying issues that are most relevant to countries / sharing experiences on these topics are key issues
- To facilitate this, the conferences will:
 - Consider regional and subregional priorities
 - Organized at regional / subregional level
 - Strongly support experience sharing and drawing conclusions, identifying key support areas
 - Organized as smaller meetings
- The handbook process will draw on summarizing commonalities and key points and strategies



Organization

- A tentative schedule envisions the following regional breakdown:
 - Africa – 2 conferences
 - Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia (EECCA) – 1 conference
 - Arab-speaking region (ESCWA and North Africa) – 1 conference
 - Asia – 2 or 3 conferences
 - Americas – 2 conferences
- Timing under discussion
- Planning and preparations currently discussed with UN Regional Commissions and the Development Banks

Planning

- We want this to be a process that focuses on and assists NSOs in member states
- Any feedback on content and organization is appreciated