Improving coordination of statistical training programmes at national level

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Task Team on Addressing NSO Needs for Training

• The team decided to focus on two subjects –
  • National Statistics Offices (NSO) staff training and sustainability
  • National Statistical System (NSS) coordination and training related to maximizing synergies across the national statistical ecosystem
• How the international and regional organizations can contribute to both the NSO and NSS coordination
• UNSD sponsored consultants to write 2 reports
Report on Sustainable Training Programs – Dag and Elisa

• Examines staff statistical training programs in several country NSOs and how they are supported by regional training institutions
  • 15 countries
  • 7 regional institutions

• Much variation in
  • Prioritization of training
  • Assessment training needs
  • Systematic vs Ad hoc training
  • Scope of the curriculum, e.g., if training in soft skills are provided
  • Online/off-line
  • Resources – facilities, staff, instructors, budget
  • Time trainers and participants have for training
  • Organizational structure – in-house with internal instructors; independent training institute; regional
  • Support of regional organizations work to support NSOs
Key to Sustainable Training

• Strong support and commitment to funding for training
• Establishing an incentive structure for training
• Having a robust evaluation of impact of training on performance
• Using trained staff as instructors with additional subject matter training and pedagogical support
• Exploiting online training, especially during the pandemic
• Addressing challenges brought on by the data revolution and digitalization
Recommendations for GIST – Sustainable NSO Training

• A minimum standard curriculum for statistics
• Repository of training materials and tools available
• Guidance on establishing a training program that is sustainable
• Strengthening and clarifying the role of international and regional organizations in providing training
Report on NSS Coordination Training - Lars

• Addresses how NSS coordination could be strengthened through training. Lars gathered information by interviewing -
  • Official statistical agencies in 8 countries
  • Other statistics producers in 2 countries

• Much variation
  • Some countries have no legislation that deals with NSS coordination
  • Decentralized vs centralized statistical official data ecosystem
  • Regional spread of the NSS

• However, in all countries interviewed, NSOs produced well over 50% of statistics

• Training on NSS related issues/subjects/coordination was almost non-existent
Recommendations – NSS Coordination

- All countries should establish legislation dealing with how the NSS should be coordinated
  - Organisation structure
  - Sharing data, e.g., sampling frames
- More courses should be designed that deal with NSS coordination
  - Statistics law; Importance of NSS coordination and structure, quality management, metadata, dissemination practices, etc.
  - International organizations could develop standards for course content on issues of NSS coordination
- More joint training across the various statistics offices in-country
- Certification systems for Official Statistics could be established
- Mentoring top managers in NSS coordination