



Seventh Meeting of the Network for
the Coordination of Statistical Training in Asia and
the Pacific



**Report on Challenges of COVID-19 to training
and how to overcome them**

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The COVID-19 pandemic is the biggest challenge the world's training systems have ever faced so that it has pushed face-to-face training into virtual training inevitably. This sudden transition has had many challenges, especially for the courses which needed doing exercises by trainees.



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This report presents our experiences on holding training courses and the challenges we faced during the outbreak of the COVID-19.



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➤ **Challenges**

- 1. Lack of proper infrastructure for virtual training courses in the Statistical Centre of Iran as well as for trainees (including high-speed internet), especially, during the peak of workload**
- 2. Lack of necessary knowledge of using training software, training platform, etc by some trainers and trainees.**
- 3. High costs of virtual meeting /webinars services**



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➤ **Challenges**

- 4. High expenditure and time spent by trainers on developing materials for virtual training courses**
- 5. Lack of a proper procedure to monitor the real attendance of participants in training courses**
- 6. Not having high-speed internet by staff when they participate in virtual training courses from home.**
- 7. Lack of access to some platforms in Iran due to sanctions**



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➤ **Advantages:**

- 1. Decreasing the outbreak of COVID-19 among the staff;**
- 2. Helping the decrease in urban traffics;**
- 3. Decreasing the training costs made by the organizations and trainees;**
- 4. Creating an equal opportunity for participation of more trainees;**
- 5. Improving the administration of training courses by sharing training materials on the platform(no need for video projectors, TV, video player, etc.).**



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➤ **Best practices**

1. Regular training of enumerators/ census trainers via the use of virtual training so that no surveys have stopped (for example training of census-takers/ trainers including IT, map, census technical deputies, census senior experts, etc.) in the Pilot Population and Housing Census for ten days which was conducted from 23 October-11 November 2021);



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➤ **Best practices**

- 2. Regular on-the-job training of the SCI's staff in collaboration with the Statistical Research and Training Centre (SRTC) without any stop;**
- 3. Holding 32 training webinars for conducting statistical and economic surveys for 31 provinces up to now, in which provincial experts and enumerators participated;**
- 4. Holding regular virtual training courses by SRTC based on planned training programs for the staff of SCI and other government agencies as well as external interested people (including university students).**



Thank you very much for your attention