
Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific

Governing Council

Nineteenth session

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 13 and 14 December 2023

Item 2 of the provisional agenda¹

Matters arising from the eighteenth session of the Governing Council

Matters arising from the eighteenth session of the Governing Council²

Note by the secretariat

The present document provides a summary of actions that have been or are being taken by the Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific to implement recommendations made by the Governing Council at its eighteenth session and thereafter.

<u>Matter arising</u>	<u>Action taken/current status</u>
1. The Governing Council of the Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific took note of the actions taken by the Institute to implement the recommendations made during the seventeenth session and thereafter. The Council noted with appreciation the implementation of online training activities and the 2022 training needs survey. It recommends that, subject to available resources, the survey be conducted on a regular basis, and it encourages countries and regional organizations to complete the survey.	1. Noted. The Institute conducted the training needs survey in May 2023, and received 30 responses. The results of the survey will be covered in the Report of the Director in Agenda 3 of the Governing Council.
2. The Council reviewed the performance of the Institute regarding e-learning courses and in-person training. It expresses its appreciation to the Institute for its work in developing training materials and promoting e-learning courses with collaborating agencies within the region.	2. Noted

¹ E/ESCAP/SIAP/GC/2023/L.1d

² Issued without formal editing.

<u>Matter arising</u>	<u>Action taken/current status</u>
<p>3. The Council discussed training approaches and provided guidance and recommendations. In that regard, the Governing Council:</p> <p>(a) Recognized that the training needs of countries differed depending on whether the country had a training institute for official statistics and requested that the Institute take that into consideration when designing training activities;</p> <p>(b) Acknowledges the advantages and disadvantages of e-learning, face-to-face training and hybrid training, and recommends that multiple training modalities be considered, depending on topic and resource availability. It notes that face-to-face training is more appropriate for leadership, communication and quality of statistics. It also recommends that several criteria, such as degree of interaction, level of training and topic of training, be considered when determining the appropriate training modality;</p> <p>(c) Noted the importance of having online courses available in languages other than English;</p> <p>(d) Noted the resources already available and, recognizing the challenges national statistical offices faced when disseminating data to members of the public, decision makers, the media and other users, suggests conducting further training on communication, development of user-friendly output and statistical literacy;</p> <p>(e) Considering the high turnover of staff at national statistical offices and the need to build the capacity of staff to be trainers, suggests that training-of-trainers courses include details on how to be a trainer for e-learning and how to develop interactive e-learning content.</p>	<p>3.</p> <p>(a) The Institute conducted the training needs survey and designed training courses based on the needs of countries. For example, the Institute held Statistical Literacy courses for Pacific countries.</p> <p>(b) The Institute conducted leadership and quality of statistics courses in person, as these courses were advanced level and detailed instructions were necessary. The Institute also conducted several other courses in person, such as the sampling methods course and the consumer price course as for these courses, hands-on sessions and careful instructions were needed. The Institute also undertook one course on financial protection in health (with WHO) that was delivered in a blended modality and featured 10 hours of virtual practical sessions using the R statistical software followed by 4 days of face-to-face training.</p> <p>(c) In 2023 the Institute conducted two e-learning courses on disaster statistics and climate change statistics in Russian language, and an e-learning course on disaster statistics in Thai language. The Institute also posted several self-paced e-learning courses in Arabic, French, Indonesian, Russian, Spanish and Thai languages in its Learning Management System.</p> <p>(d) The Institute conducted two face-to-face courses on statistical literacy for Pacific countries. The Institute also conducted an e-learning course on user engagement.</p> <p>(e) As a member of the Global Network of Institutions for Statistical Training (GIST), the Institute conducted a series of webinars on Selected Topics on Management Aspects of Capacity Building (1 Approaches and recommendations to effective online</p>

<u>Matter arising</u>	<u>Action taken/current status</u>
	trainings, 2 - Good practices in certification of trainings). These webinars were based on two papers written by two SIAP lecturers.
(f) Recognizes the need to evaluate training courses in the long term in order to assess their effectiveness and impact;	(f) The institute undertook a desk review of the long-term impact of courses on environmental economic accounting. Participants from nine members states successfully completed training course on environmental economic accounting and afterwards, the member states of the successful participants compiled accounts on which the participants were trained.
(g) Emphasizes the need for practical examples in courses and the sharing of good practices among national statistical offices through improved South-South cooperation to ensure that training is relevant and applicable.	(g) Practical examples and exercise with realistic data are part of the learning activities in all training courses of the Institute. Examples include training sessions on calculating SDG indicators using national data and producing dissemination products. In all in person training courses as well as many e-learning courses organized by the Institute, participants and experts from countries share their good experiences in the compilation of statistics, accounts and indicators.
4. The Council reviews the progress achieved by the Institute as well as its administrative and financial status. The Council acknowledges the significant achievements of the Institute, especially regarding the organization of web-based training courses, which in 2022 reached more participants than at any point since the Institute started offering such courses.	4. Noted.
5. The Council acknowledges the contributions of the members and associate members of ESCAP and statistical development partners in the Institute's achievement of the work programme in 2022. The Council also acknowledges countries that were willing to provide in-kind contributions and host regional, subregional and national courses in their training campuses. The Council encourages the Institute to continue to collaborate with other international and regional statistical institutions such as the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Statistics Division and the Pacific Community.	5. In 2023, the Institute has conducted country courses in Tonga, Mongolia and Bhutan. Republic of Korea and Malaysia hosted regional courses. The Institute collaborated with the Secretariat of the Pacific Countries (SPC) for conducting subregional courses for the Pacific. The Institute partnered with UNWomen (CENTRE and Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific) and KOSTAT to conduct one regional course on gender statistics that targeted ASEAN and fostered collaboration with the ASEAN Secretariat.

<u>Matter arising</u>	<u>Action taken/current status</u>
6. The Council reviews and endorses the work programme and financial plan of the Institute for 2023. It also notes the suggestions made by ESCAP members for national, subregional and regional training courses.	6. Noted.
7. The Council entrusts the Chair, the Vice-Chair and the Institute, in its capacity as secretariat, to agree on the dates and venue of the nineteenth session of the Governing Council, to be held in 2023.	7. The Chair (Malaysia) proposed to host the Governing Council. The Chair, the Vice-Chair and the Institute discussed and decided the dates and venue of the nineteenth Governing Council.