

Stats Café on Enhancing Data and Statistical Literacy for Policy Action

Monday 4 October 2021 at 13.00-14.30 BKK time

Data and official statistics have become an integral part of policy research and evidence-based decision making, and even the daily life of citizens. The increasing number of actors with diverse interests producing data and statistics has resulted in a data-rich yet complex world. In such an environment, the ability to comprehend, interpret and critically evaluate existing data and statistics paves the way for their proper and effective use. This highlights the importance of enhancing data and statistical literacy among users, including policymakers, the research community, media, citizens, etc.

This Stats Café aims to:

- i. Raise awareness on the importance of data and statistical literacy to enhance effective use of data and official statistics for policy-making and the role of national statistical offices, as well as of national statistical training institutes in enhancing such literacy of various user groups;
- ii. Share experiences from countries in the Asia-Pacific region on implementing specific approaches and initiatives to enhance data and statistical literacy among specific user groups.

Agenda

- **Opening: Ms. Petra Nahmias**, Chief of the Population and Social Statistics Section, ESCAP

Part I: Importance of data and statistical literacy (Moderator: Ms. Afsaneh Yazdani, Statistician, ESCAP Statistics Division)

- **Literacy in statistics for the public discourse**, Dr. Walter J. Radermacher, Sapienza University Rome
- **Strategic Communication Framework & Statistical Literacy**, Mr. Taeke Anton Gjaltema, Head of the Statistical Modernisation and Management Unit, UNECE Statistical Division

Part II: Approaches and initiatives to enhance data and statistical literacy in the Asia-Pacific region (Moderator: Ms. Sharita Serrao, Statistician, ESCAP Statistics Division)

- **Enhancing Statistical Literacy by DCS in Sri Lanka: Strategies and Challenges**, Ms. B. G. Gayani K. Bambaranda, Statistician, Department of Census and Statistics, Sri Lanka
- **Enhancing statistical literacy among policymakers in the Philippines**, Dr. Josefina V. Almeda, Head of Agency/Executive Director III, Philippine Statistical Research and Training Institute
- **Statistical literacy among journalists: Lessons learned in Central Asia**, Ms. Altynai Mambetova, Co-founder, School of Data Kyrgyzstan
- **Driving statistical literacy via social media: Actions by Australian Bureau of Statistics**, Ms. Heather Lansdowne, Social Media Manager, Australian Bureau of Statistics
- Q/A and discussion
- **Conclusions and wrap-up**, Ms. Petra Nahmias, Chief of the Population and Social Statistics Section, ESCAP

Relevant publications

- United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, "[Strategic Communications Framework for Statistical Institutions](#)".
- United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, "[Recommendations for Promoting, Measuring and Communicating the Value of Official Statistics](#)"
- PARIS 21, "[Advancing data literacy in the post-pandemic world](#)"
- United Nations Statistics Division, "[Promoting Statistical Literacy overview](#)"
- OECD, "[Shaping the COVID-19 Recovery: Ideas from OECD's Generation Y and Z](#)"
- Everaers, P. (2021). [New Developments in Training in Statistics](#), *Statistical Journal of the IAOS*, 37 (2021), 721–728.
- Radermacher, W. J. (2020), [Official Statistics 4.0 - Verified Facts for People in the 21st Century](#), Springer International Publishing.
- Schüller, K. (2020). [Future Skills - A Framework for Data Literacy](#). *Working Paper No. 53*. Berlin: Hochschulforum Digitalisierung.
- Tishkovskaya S. & Lancaster G. A. (2012). [Statistical Education in the 21st Century: A Review of Challenges, Teaching Innovations and Strategies for Reform](#), *Journal of Statistics Education*, 20:2.
- Kovacs, P. (2013). [Issues and challenges of statistical literacy in higher education](#), *Proceedings 59th ISI World Statistics Congress*.