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**Coordination of statistical capacity-building activities:
Statistical training**

**Response to request for information for preparation of
document E/ESCAP/CST(2)/8 - Response by Republic
of Korea¹**

Organization of Statistical Training Institute (STI)

- Statistical Training Institute (STI) was established in September, 1991 to nurture statistical knowledge for employees. Statistical Training Institute (STI) belongs to KOSTAT for professional and intensive training.
- STI is comprised of Training Planning Division and Training Management Division as of the end of August 2010. There are 33 employees in STI, including Director General (1), Director (2), Deputy Director (8) and other staff (22).
- Training budget for 2010 is about 10 billion Korean Won (about \$8.3 million) including personnel expenses, administrative expenses, and costs for training and facility operation. There is about 20% of training budget for the direct training expenditure such as lecturer's fee, expense for teaching materials and etc.

Training Activities

- STI has been providing many training programs for domestic participants for five years to strengthen and familiarize professional knowledge in the field of statistics.
- The substantive areas of training cover every field of national statistics, including population, society, economics, environment and welfare. In each area, training courses emphasize theory and practical application of

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the production of national statistics and method of analysis using statistical package.

- The number of training course in 2010 is 110, and target trainees are mostly the employees of government statistical offices. Those courses are open to general civilians, and total number of participants of the courses in a year is expected to be 16,000.
- Training is mainly off-line trainees gather in a given place such as STI, but online training using Internet is increasing with the development of IT areas and changes of training environment since 2007.

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
▪ Number of courses	53	60	68	77	103	110
▪ Number of participants (online)	6,455 (378)	7,386 (2,739)	9,092 (4,070)	11,161 (7,408)	14,156 (7,436)	16,000 (8,000)

- Off-line courses provide Action Learning where both theoretical and practical training are applied, group discussion, and Blend Learning where both on-line and off-line training are applied.
- STI cooperates with UNSIAP(UN Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific) and KOICA (Korea International Cooperation Agency) to perform international training programs, and making efforts to make relationships with many statistical offices in other countries in order to upgrade the Institute to a world-class training facility.
- So far 369 trainees participated in 23 programs where STI cooperated with UNSIAP and KOICA since 2005.
- Substantive areas of training are diverse according to training purpose. Generally practical and theoretical programs are combined for effectiveness.

1) Survey planning, sample design, producing and analyzing basic statistics (i.e. population, employment, industry, price, or national account), analysis using SPSS and statistical information system are included in the practical programs, and information on statistical systems in other countries and current issues are shared by reports from each country.

2) In the program of management for public administrative data, trainees can experience operating real survey systems and DB of KOSTAT and learn data processing techniques through the newest IT knowledge. This is one of the efforts to make the training program more effective and useful.

Training Strategy

- Under the decentralized statistical system in Korea, STI develops and provides regular training courses responding the needs of employees, as well as non-regular special courses for the needs of participating division to strengthen professional capacities.
- STI conducts survey every year to understand the changes of training environment and use the results in program design.

- A strategy that the statistical training institute in the KOSTAT has adopted is to expand the e-learning courses and visiting courses offered at the places where the trainees are. This is to reduce the burden on the trainees side due to the differences in the time and places.
 - The visiting courses are designed so that the contents of the courses and the level of difficulties are adjusted to meet the needs of the participating trainees. The instructors move to the training place instead of the trainees so that the overall cost is less and the training is more effective.
 - The e-learning courses are available at an arbitrary place and at an arbitrary time so that the courses do not need to interfere with the routine work of the trainees.
- In case of the international statistical training participants, countries and programs are decided by pre-demands surveys conducted by UNSIAP and KOICA.
 - STI proposed 2011 international training program including 5 courses for the undeveloped countries to KOICA:
 - 1) 2011 Population Statistics & Housing Census
 - 2) Statistical Practice for Developing Countries
 - 3) Agricultural & Fishery Statistics
 - 4) Statistical Data Construction & Management
 - 5) Statistical Analysis using Statistical Package (SPSS)
- In designing a training course to heighten affect of training, STI attempts to find out who will be the trainees, what subject they will need, and to categorize the course into different levels such as basic level, middle, and advanced level.

Goal of Training

- STI has many training courses designed for the employees of the central government and the local governments working in the area of statistics. These courses have been designed to improve the statistics capabilities of the trainees.
 - These courses will help the trainees to be capable of generating statistics in standardized methods and to be capable of analyzing the statistical data more accurately and precisely.
 - The improved capabilities will help enhance the quality of the government statistics and the generated statistics will turn out to be the basis for reliable and trustable government policies.
- The Statistics Korea has been using a distributed system for the national statistics and it is very important to provide necessary training course of higher qualities to the government employees working in the statistics fields and to maintain cooperative relations among the departments or the institutes involved.

- Improvements of the expertise of the employees working in the statistics area will help improve the qualities of the national statistics generated, which of course is one of the missions of the Office of the Statistics Korea.

Conclusion

- Even though the training needs in the statistics area have been increasing continuously, the priority of the budget allocation for the statistical training are still very low.
- Thus, it is very important to continuously promote and to achieve consensus on the necessity of the statistics training courses and the importance of statistics in the policy makings.
- To proceed with a successful regional cooperation, it is essential to share the necessary knowledge and technologies. Bilateral agreements must be made and mutual efforts must also be exerted between any of the two parties in the region.
- Web sites can be designed to display the training systems of each member nation, training courses being offered, the methods used for each of the courses, the training environments, and the visions for the future. The web sites will provide opportunities to benchmark the training courses of each participating nation in terms of their merits and the advanced technologies.

Training Programs of UNSIAP since 2005 (7 courses, 129 participants)

No.	Title of Course	Training Dates	Participant country/number
1	Workshop on Statistics Quality Management and Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics	2009. 9.21. ~ .25. (5 days)	21/ 22
2	Training Courses on “Seventh Research-based Regional Course”	2008. 6.30 ~ 8. 8 (6 weeks)	14/ 14
3	Seminar for “Disabled and Health Statistics”	2008. 9.22 ~ 9.26 (5 days)	21/ 22
4	Training Courses on “Sixth Research-based Regional Course “	2007. 7. 9 ~ 8.16 (6 weeks)	16/ 16
5	Training Courses on “Fifth Research-based Regional Course “	2006. 7. 3 ~ 8.11 (6 weeks)	18/ 18
6	Training Courses on “Fourth Research-based Regional Course “	2005. 7.25 ~ 9. 2 (6 weeks)	14/ 14
7	Training Courses on Statistics Quality Management	2005. 6.27 ~ 7. 1 (5 days)	21/ 23
Total			7 courses 129 participants

Training Programs of KOICA since 2005 (16 courses, 240 participants)

No.	Title of Course	Training Dates	Participant country/number
1	Statistical Capacity Building Course for Basic Official Statistics of Iraq KRG	2010.08.21 ~ 09.05 (16 days)	1/ 21
2	Public Sector Data Management of Iraq KRG	2010.06.19 ~ 07.04 (16 days)	1/ 20
3	Statistical training program for working-level officials of developing countries	2010.03.02 ~ 03.20 (19 days)	9/ 16
4	Statistical Capacity Building Course for Mongolian regional statistical officials	2009.07.09 ~ 07.24. (16 days)	1/ 10
5	Statistical training program for working-level officials of developing countries	2009.05.21 ~ 06.05. (16 days)	10/ 14
6	Statistical methods training program for Bangladesh statistical officials	2008.12.28~2009.01.24. (4 wks)	1/ 7
7	Statistical training program for working-level officials of developing countries	2008.05.13 ~ 05.29 (17 days)	8/ 13
8	Course in drawing up national basic statistics of Iraq's central government	2008.07.22 ~ 08.05 (15 days)	1/ 16
9	Course in building up Iraq's national government DB in Erbil	2008.09.17 ~ 09.29 (13 days)	1/ 17
10	Course in preparing national basic statistics of Iraq's government in Erbil	2008.10.12 ~ 10.27 (16 days)	1/ 16
11	Statistical methods training program for developing countries	2007.10.11 ~ 10.26 (16 days)	8/ 12
12	Course in Statistical methods of Iraq's central government	2007.09.04 ~ 09.19 (16 days)	1/ 17
13	Statistical methods training program of Iraq KRG	2006.08.30 ~ 09.16 (18 days)	1/ 14
14	Course in Statistical methods of Iraq's central government	2006.05.11 ~ 05.26 (16 days)	1/ 13
15	Statistical methods training program for developing countries	2005.08.07 ~ 08.20 (14 days)	15/ 19
16	Statistical methods training program of Iraq KRG	2005.07.10 ~ 07.23 (14 days)	1/ 15
Total			16 courses 240 participants