Training needs and opportunities for the National Statistical Systems

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Training needs in the NSS in view of the new European Master in official Statistics – the Italian case

Maria Pia Sorvillo - Istat

EMOS for NSIs and Beyond

NSS

ONA (i.e. Ministry of Education)

EMOS - Graduates
EMOS - Continuous training

Other Data Users
And Data Producers

Other central authorities
(i.e. Custom Agency)

Regions and Local Governments

Other Organizations
(i.e National Railways)

NSI
The Italian NSS

The Italian NSS (SISTAN) is a wide and heterogeneous network

- more than 3,400 offices
- 80% in small municipalities
- Most of official statistics production comes from:
  - Central administrations and other national institutions
  - Chambers of commerce
  - Regions
  - Provinces
Main characteristics

• Broad set of tasks (Statistical, IT, Administrative, Control...)
• Under-qualification of managers (only 53% with a degree, often in Law)
• Most of managers have their professional background in administration
• Scattered training in statistics-specific topics
• Weak level of competencies in the field of (official) statistics

Weak reputation and inadequate impact on the policy making process
Technical Competencies

Staff of SISTAN offices with fully/rather appropriate level of technical competencies (%)

- Central Administrations
- Chambers of commerce
- Provinces
- Regions
- Municipalities (< 30,000)
- Municipalities (> 30,000)

Istat, 2011
Specific topics

Self-evaluation of the competencies of SISTAN offices’ managers (% reporting “advanced competencies”)

- European standards
- Statistical analysis
- Survey methodologies
- Definitions, classifications
- Data sources

Istat, 2011
Competencies in official statistics

Level of knowledge about official statistics’ regulations as reported by the SISTAN offices’ managers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level of knowledge</th>
<th>Italian legislation</th>
<th>European regulations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>None</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basic</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advanced</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NA</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Istat, 2011
Training needs

Potential users of training in statistics and socio-economic analysis (by type of organization)

- Other local institutions
- Regions and sub-regional institutions
- National organizations

Istat, 2013
Course categories

Potential demand of training by type of organization and course category (%)
The demand for specific courses

Courses with the highest potential demand (vs the average)

- Introduction to the use of administrative data
- Communicating results
- Open data
- Data confidentiality
- Geostatistics
- Data visualization
- Sources of statistical information - national
- Statistics for demographic analysis
- Basic Statistics
- Measuring and improving quality in data
- Advanced methods for administrative data
- Datawarehouse and Datamart
- Managing a survey: code of practice and...
- National and international statistical
Conclusions

Not only the NSI but also the NSS cold benefit from EMOS

• To strengthen their role as effective support of the policy making and evaluation process
• To reinforce their reputation inside the administration
• To be more credible in front of the public
• To improve the overall quality of official statistics
Conclusions

Towards a successful EMOS project:
• Building an effective curriculum (balance Official statistics needs / Universities’ needs)
• Visibility and clear understanding by potential students (guidance services, ...)
• Good reputation (internships, dissertations, graduates feedback, EMOS Board...)
• Making it relevant to the labour market (increasing awareness and building trust among employers)

....and don’t forget continuous training......
Thank you for your attention!

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