Towards a European Master in Official Statistics (EMOS)

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Workshop on Human Resources Management and Training
Budapest, 6th September 2012
Outline

- Statistical Literacy
- The Statistical Agency as Educator
- European Master in Official Statistics
- Perspectives
Statistical Literacy

**Statistical literacy** is a term used to describe an individual's or group's ability to understand statistics. (Wikipedia)

The **International Statistical Literacy Project** of the International Statistical Institute has as main objective to contribute to statistical literacy across the world, among young and adults, in all walks of life.

(http://www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/~iase/islp/home)
"In addition to producing reliable, relevant, coherent, timely and understandable statistical information, we should pay special attention to user support, statistical awareness and statistical literacy"

Helenius, R.; Mikkelä, H. (2011); Statistical literacy and awareness as strategic success factors of a national statistical office – the case of Statistics Finland; Statistical Journal of the IAOS, Special Issue on Statistical Literacy, Volume 27, Number 3-4 / 2011, p. 137
Main User Groups

- Policy makers
- Citizens
- Enterprises
- Scientific community
- Schools
- Universities

http://www.statsusernet.org.uk
Universities as user groups

- data user
- offer statistics in different fields
  Economics, Social Science, Medicine, Geography etc.
- Master in Statistics
The Statistical Agency as Educator

Staffs of Statistical Agency are often active as lecturer in different kind of courses
- Advanced training
- Contract teacher in advanced schools or universities

Sometimes NSI are partner in education programs
- Master of Official Statistics in Southampton
- La Grande École de la Statistique et du Traitement de L´Information (ENSAI)
Why are NSI active in university programs?

- to ensure that official statistics is part of the curriculums
- better qualified young researchers as newcomers
- better qualified young researcher for other (private) institutions with a strong link to official statistics
- Fruitful exchange between Universities and NSI
The European Master in Official Statistics
Steps towards a European Master in Official Statistics

Workshop on European Masters in Official Statistics in Southampton
Conference New Techniques and Technologies for Statistics 2011
EMOS - a Vision Infrastructure Project
EMOS - a Vision Infrastructure Project

"The main goal of this project is to establish a quality label for university 'European Official Statistics' programmes that meet agreed standards in education. University programmes that are benchmarked to these standards become members of the 'European Official Statistics' network."

EMOS - a Vision Infrastructure Project

Objectives:
- Establish a network of EMOS course providers
- Enhance the European culture and knowledge in official statistics
- Create a repository of young statisticians having a sound knowledge in statistics
- Improve cooperation between universities and NSI
- Create a platform for NSI staff members training in Universities and students in NSI
Feasibility study 'Towards a European Master in Official Statistics' 

- Duration of twelve month
- Call for Tender in Spring 2012
- Contract in Autumn 2012
Feasibility study 'Towards a European Master in Official Statistics'

- Provide an inventory of the Master programmes in statistics in the countries selected
- Analyse the existing and potential Master programmes in Official Statistics
- Assess the interest of the providers and their capacity to join the EMOS Network
- Assess the interest of the NSI
- Analyse the advantages/disadvantages, the cost-benefits and technicalities of having labelling mechanisms
- List and analyse potential funding facilities to get sufficient recourses for EMOS in the middle and long run
Roadmap to EMOS

- establish a Working Group as supervisory body for the foundation phase
- constitute a Task Force within of the EMOS Working Group
- develop the curriculum for EMOS
- develop the rules for labeling a EMOS study path
- International workshop in 2013
- 2014 first edition of EMOS
- 2016 first generation of graduates of a European Master in Official Statistics
Threats

- Interest of Universities and NSI
- Permanent funding
- Integration of EMOS, internal trainee inside the NSI and the ESTP
Thank you for your attention

http://www.cros-portal.eu/page/emos-initiative

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