Seventeenth meeting of the Executive Committee of the
Statistical Conference of the Americas of the
Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean

Santiago, 3–4 October 2018

PROPOSAL FOR REORGANIZATION OF THE KNOWLEDGE TRANSMISSION NETWORK AND DISSEMINATION OF OUTPUTS OF THE WORKING GROUPS

A. REORGANIZATION OF THE KNOWLEDGE TRANSFER NETWORK

The Knowledge Transfer Network (KTN) was created at the fourth meeting of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), held in Santiago on 25–27 July 2007. That meeting endorsed the proposal by the Working Group on Human Resource Education and Training to create a network for training in official statistics in Latin America and the Caribbean. The Network was originally conceived as a regional public good whose mission was to boost the capacity of countries to generate, analyse and disseminate official statistics by encouraging the transfer of the best knowledge available.[1]

Since its inception, the Knowledge Transfer Network has been coordinated by the National Institute of Statistics of Spain (INE), the National Institute of Statistics and Geography (INEGI) of Mexico and, after the seventh meeting of the Statistical Conference of the Americas held in 2013, the National Administrative Department of Statistics (DANE) of Colombia.

The tasks performed by the Network have evolved over time. At the beginning, it focused on identifying statistical training needs and disseminating information on the training offered. More recently, it has concentrated on promoting knowledge transfer activities among Network members through a series of virtual talks, known as *Conectados RTC*.

At the end of 2017, owing to a lack of staff to sustain the Network's activities, DANE and ECLAC agreed to propose its reorganization and thus ensure the continuity of its activities, as well as creating closer links with the activities of the working groups of the Statistical Conference of the Americas.

Under its new structure, the Knowledge Transfer Network will be coordinated by ECLAC, in its capacity as technical secretariat of the Statistical Conference of the Americas, with the support of a steering committee. The steering committee will comprise the coordinating bodies of the working groups of the Conference —with a view to strengthening the ties between the Network and the activities carried out by the working groups— and DANE will provide special support during the transition phase. Statistical training and cooperation agencies in the region that wish to be involved in the Committee will also take part. Follow-up and planning of needs and activities will be conducted through virtual meetings on a six-monthly basis.

The Network's activities in the 2018–2019 biennium aim to continue developing existing outputs and to cover information gaps on the events, documents and other types of outputs developed by the working groups. The expectation is that the Groups will disseminate the outcome of their work through the Knowledge Transfer Network, as requested at several meetings of the Conference and of the Executive Committee, and in accordance with the *Operational guidelines for the working groups*.[2]

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[1] See Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), *Report on activities related to the Knowledge Transfer Network* (LC/L.2934(CE.8/4)), Santiago, 2008.

[2] "The working groups will be responsible for updating their page on the website of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC and the Knowledge Transfer Network in order to broadcast their activities and the outcomes of their work, and for coordinating the organizing and running of online training courses with the Network" (Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), *Operational guidelines for the working groups* (LC/L.4156), Santiago, 2016).

Thus, KTN will concentrate its activities in the current biennium on:

- Disseminating the outputs of the working groups in the current biennium, and in previous bienniums, to the extent that they are useful inputs for the statistical activities of the region's countries.
- Disseminating information on the events organized by the working groups and by international cooperation agencies, to facilitate scheduling and follow-up.
- Facilitating follow-up of the planned activities and outputs for the current biennium.
- Continuing with expert discussions on relevant topics (the *Conectados RTC* virtual talks).

To meet these goals, a new Knowledge Transfer Network website was created, managed by ECLAC, to receive and disseminate the different outputs of the working groups and the region's statistical community, and through which the virtual talks *Conectados RTC* will be organized. In turn, the steering committee will support the platform management by providing information on upcoming events —for dissemination purposes— and completed outputs —to be uploaded to the platform— proposing topics and presentations for the virtual talks and supporting the general development of the web platform.

The Network's programme of activities for this biennium excludes two goals that have been present in previous versions of its programme of work. The first relates to reestablishing links with statistical training activities in the region and fostering greater coordination between the demand and supply of training courses, which was one of the original reasons for creating the Network over 10 years ago. The second, aligned with the programme of work of KTN adopted at the ninth meeting of the Statistical Conference of the Americas, relates to promoting the development of knowledge management activities aimed at helping countries disseminate their outputs, methodologies and outcomes using the appropriate communication resources for different target audiences. It is expected that the implementation of the new Network structure and ongoing interaction with the steering committee will orient the Network's future development towards these goals, as well as others that may strengthen the capacities of the region's national statistics offices.

B. DISSEMINATION AND FOLLOW-UP OF WORKING GROUP OUTPUTS

The main purpose of the new website of the Knowledge Transfer Network is to disseminate information on the activities and outputs of the working groups. The website has been structured as follows:

- Events: meetings and interactive activities, such as conventions, conferences, workshops and courses.
- Documents: reports, analytical studies and dissemination of findings, working materials, inputs and methodologies.
- Methodological tools: databases, sets of indicators, questionnaires and forms.
- Media resources: multimedia content such as videos, infographics, bulletins, and so forth.
- *Conectados RTC*: virtual talks delivered by experts.

The website —which will be available in English and Spanish— will have a search function for events, documents and other materials through filters by working group, biennium, topic (according to the standard classification) and responsible agency, among others. To the extent possible, each working group will be responsible for providing its outputs in both languages. In addition, the Knowledge Transfer Network website will support follow-up of the current biennium's activities, with information on the progress reported by the working groups.