

## **Promoting statistics to youth through the International Statistical Literacy Project**

Sharleen Forbes\*

Victoria University of Wellington, Wellington, New Zealand

[sharleen.forbes@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:sharleen.forbes@vuw.ac.nz)

The International Statistical Literacy Project (ISLP) aims to promote statistical literacy across all the countries of the world, among the young and adults, in all walks of life. A repository of international resources and news in Statistical Literacy is available on the ISLP website together with international and outreach activities. The ISLP also has groups working around the world to develop strategies for raising statistical capability in particular groups. This presentation will focus on two particular current activities of the ISLP. The first, the ISLP International Poster Competition, is aimed specifically at young people, their schools and their teachers. In 2011, almost 5000 students from 30 different countries registered to take part in this competition with each country selecting national winners to send to the international finals. The final judging of 33 posters from 18 different countries was done at the World Statistics Conference (WSC58) in Dublin in 2011 where the prize winning posters were displayed. Similarly, in 2013, the international final has taken place here at WSC 59, and the winning posters are available for viewing. The competition appears to be a successful mechanism for increasing awareness of, and engagement with, statistics amongst young people. The second activity is also a competition, the Best Cooperative Project Award. Past winners include the Maths4Stats initiative from South Africa and Early Statistics from Cyprus which both focussed on statistics education in schools. One other winner used cooperation to increase the official statistics capability of new graduates and another used an European-African link to build institutional capability in Ethiopian universities. In 2013, the ISLP has over 90 country coordinators registered. They work together with the ISLP executive to increase statistical capability in the next generation of learners.

**Key words:** raising statistical capability, international statistics competitions,