

Research on the Modes of Statistical Education and Training in China

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Abstract: Since China is a country with large population, there are thousands of personnel working on statistics. In this paper, according to different subjects of the statistical education and training, the basic educational modes covering all kinds of trainers are divided into four categories: the official statistical system with thousands of staff; millions of statistical practitioners engaging in statistics at the surveyed entities; students at different educational levels, officials at various administrative levels and the general public in the society having access to statistical knowledge; official statisticians in developing countries participating in international statistical training. Furthermore, in order to specify each category, the organizational structure and innovative methods are extended and elaborated. First, official statistical system adopts the mode of “N+X”, which is helpful to improve the statistical capacity of the statisticians. The specific steps to realize “N+X” mode are also introduced. Second, two forms of training are designed for millions of statistical practitioners at the legal entities who regularly submit statistical data and table to the offices. Based on the Statistics Law, NBS issued the Methods on Affirmation of Statistical Competence in 2005, and 2.1 million people have obtained the Statistical Competence Certificate since then. However, obtaining the Certificate is not once for all, the obtainers are also required to attend further education, at least 48 class hours for every two years. The contents of the on-going training are closely related with the statistical work, which will be helpful to the improvement of working efficiency and data quality. Third, the popularization of statistical knowledge to the public covers the biggest scale and involves the most staff. Currently, three aspects are the focus for this training mode: adding the basic statistical knowledge to the textbooks of primary and secondary school, holding Statistical Module Contest among college students and popularizing statistical knowledge to government leaders at various levels. Fourth, since 2009, NBS China began to carry out international statistical trainings and two modes were adopted: cooperating with United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD) to train statisticians of developing countries under the Trust Fund Program and independently carrying out international statistical workshops by establishing China International Statistical Training Center (CISTC). Till now, 22 international workshops and seminars have been carried out, covering various topics such as National Economic Account, industrial statistics, population statistics, etc., and 423 international participants have been trained.

Key Words: official statistical system, statistical practitioner, popularization of statistical knowledge, international statistical training