



**15TH NATIONAL
CONVENTION
ON STATISTICS**

03-05 OCTOBER 2022



Organized by the Philippine Statistical System Spearheaded by the Philippine
Statistics Authority

Virtual Statistical Capacity Building of Local Government Unit Planning Officers Amidst the COVID-19 Pandemic: Opportunities and Challenges

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Session: Statistical Capacity Development and Statistical Literacy

Sapphire A, Crowne Plaza Galleria Manila

3:30 – 5:00 p.m., October 3, 2022

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Introduction

- The Philippine Statistical Research and Training Institute (PSRTI) is the research and training arm of the Philippine Statistical System (PSS)
- Objectives of capacity building:
 - ❖ help upgrade the quality of statistics generated
 - ❖ equip with skills to do evidence-based decision making
- Before the pandemic, all PSRTI training courses were delivered face-to-face
- PSRTI adjusted quickly to new normal restrictions and conducted the training courses online via the Zoom platform.

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Target Participants and Partners

- Local government units (LGUs): planning officers and other personnel handling data
- PSRTI partnered with the Bureau of Local Government Department to collaborate with all the LGUs to provide complementary capacity building
- NEDA and PSA

Purpose of LGU Capacity Building

- To support the LGUs during the transition towards increased decentralization.
- To increase their skills in data management, data presentation, data visualization, data analytics, monitoring and evaluation of programs

Capacity Building Programs for LGUs

SDG Seminar 1: one-day face to face seminar

Date: 2018 to 2019

Topics:

- localization of the SDGs
- data ecosystem
- some basic concepts in statistics
- Survey on the SDG indicators that LGU collects



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**Table 1: Distribution of Participants by Region
for SDG Seminar 1, 2018 to 2019**

Region	No. of Participants
CAR - Cordillera Administrative Region	54
NCR - National Capital Region	59
Region I - <u>Ilocos</u>	159
Region II - Cagayan Valley	120
Region III - Central Luzon	153
Region IV-A - CALABARZON	138
Region IV-B - MIMAROPA	149
Region V - Bicol Region	64
Region VI - <u>Western Visayas</u>	134
Region VII - <u>Central Visayas</u>	140
Region VIII - <u>Eastern Visayas</u>	104
Region IX - Zamboanga Peninsula	84
Region X - Northern Mindanao	122
Region XI - Davao Region	82
Region XII - SOCCSKSARGEN	60
Region XIII - <u>Caraga</u>	77
ARMM - Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao	19
Total	1,718

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**Table 2: Participants' Evaluation to SDG Seminar 1
by Criteria, 2018 to 2019**

Criteria	Very Useful	Useful	Not Useful
Content	62.5%	37.5%	-
Relevance to Work	79.3%	20.7%	-

Criteria	Very Satisfactory	Satisfactory	Not Satisfactory
Presentation Techniques	46.1%	53.4%	-
Materials and Hand-outs	53.3%	45.6%	-

Criteria	Long	Just Right	Short
Duration	2.9%	88.6%	8.9%
Time Alloted to Questions/Discussion	4.2%	89.3%	6.6%



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Virtual Capacity Building Programs for LGUs

SDG Seminar 2: Effective Presentation and Analysis of SDG Indicators

Date Conducted: 2020 to 2021 (2.5 days, 8:30 am to 4:00 pm)

Topics:

- Methods of Presenting Data
- Mean, Median, Rates, Ratios, Proportions, Percentages, Percent Change
- Use of MS Excel in the construction of tables and charts
- Use of MS Excel in the computation of different statistics & indicators

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Virtual Capacity Building Programs for LGUs

SDG Seminar 2: Effective Presentation and Analysis of SDG Indicators

Training Methodologies:

- Started with How to Use the Zoom Platform
- Provided with lecture materials, list of SDG indicators and sample computations in the GOOGLE DRIVE
- Use of chatbox in answering questions
- Use of reaction features like thumbs up, clap react to give inputs to the trainer
- Use of breakout rooms for workshops and exercises
- Energizers
- Key take-away using Padlet

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**Table 3: Distribution of Participants by Region for SDG Seminar 2,
2020 to 2021**

Region	No. of Participants
CAR - Cordillera Administrative Region	178
NCR - National Capital Region	234
Region I - <u>Ilocos</u>	284
Region II - Cagayan Valley	306
Region III - Central Luzon	326
Region IV-A - CALABARZON	392
Region IV-B - MIMAROPA	247
Region V - Bicol Region	271
Region VI - Western <u>Visayas</u>	361
Region VII - Central <u>Visayas</u>	482
Region VIII - Eastern <u>Visayas</u>	164
Region IX - Zamboanga Peninsula	123
Region X - Northern Mindanao	292
Region XI - Davao Region	148
Region XII - SOCCSKSARGEN	165
Region XIII - <u>Caraga</u>	177
BARMM – <u>Bangsamoro</u> Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao	213
Total	4,363



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CAR - Cordillera Administrative Region	178
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Total	4,363

SDG Seminar 1 -1718 participants
(conducted face to face)

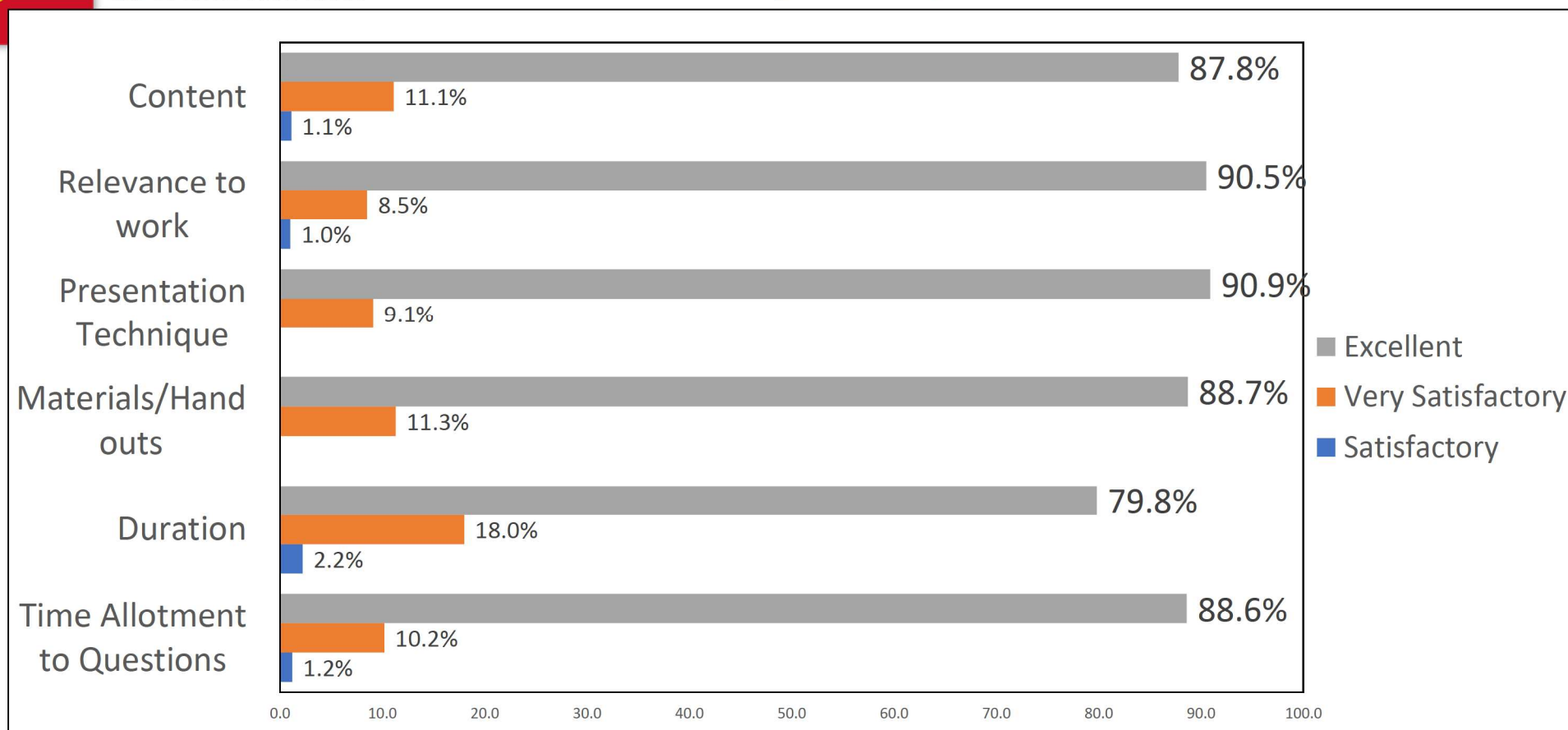
SDG Seminar 2 – 4363 participants
(conducted virtually)

154% increase



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Figure 1: SDG Seminar 2 Participants' Evaluation
by Criteria, 2020 to 2021



Virtual Capacity Building Programs for LGUs

SDG Seminar 2: Effective Presentation and Analysis of SDG Indicators

Some Recommendations and Comments of Participants:

- Relief from work during training
- Training to be conducted outside working days
- Trainers were very knowledgeable and handled the training very well
- Lectures were discussed well and interactive
- Hands-on workshop and generation of graphs were most useful and enjoyable

Virtual Capacity Building Programs for LGUs

SDG Seminar 3: Statistical Data Management and Analysis for Evidence-Based Decision Making (4 days)

Date of Conduct: February 1, 2022 to November 2022 (8:30 am to 4:00 pm)

Topics:

- Data Management Techniques using MS Excel
- Coding of Questionnaire in MS Excel
- Descriptive Statistics Computation and Analysis

Approaches: Video recording of lectures, live discussion, use of LMS



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Table 3: Distribution of Training Participants for SDG Seminar 3 for 10 Regions, February 1 to July 31, 2022

Region	City/Municipal Government Office	Provincial Government Office	Total LGU Participants
II - Cagayan Valley	154	15	169
III - Central Luzon	151	10	161
IV-A - CALABARZON	195	49	244
VIII - Eastern Visayas	128	7	135
IX - Zamboanga Peninsula	40	0	40
X - Northern Mindanao	138	3	141
XI - Davao Region	57	5	62
XIII - Caraga	39	10	49
CAR - Cordillera Administrative Region	75	10	85
BARMM - Bangsamoro Administrative Region in Muslim Mindanao	60	0	60

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FAVORABLE OPPORTUNITIES

- Exploration of Technology (Email, OTRS, Virtual Platform, LMS)
- Experimentation/Implementation of Training Strategies and Innovations (training team, Video recording, Zoom features, energizers, padlet)
- Enhancement of Facilitation Skills



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Challenges

- Weak Internet Connectivity and Lack of Technical Requirement (laptop, microphone, camera)
- Lack of Technical (Virtual) Capacity
- Limited Communication (Body language, facial expression, socialization)
- Unhealthy Training Environment

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Conclusion

- The pandemic created a paradigm shift from face-to-face to virtual capacity building which motivated the PSRTI to strategize and create innovations to achieve maximum engagement among the participants and optimum learning experience.
- Virtual capacity building of the LGUs is less costly than face-to-face sessions.
- It allows participants to do their tasks and functions since no travel is needed.
- Thus, virtual capacity building take less toll on the physical and mental wellbeing of the participants and of the training team.

Conclusion

- The silver lining of virtual capacity building was the wide outreach and the number of people that could be accommodated into the training program at no extra cost and expenditure on logistics.
- Online platform can bring learners from the different regions in the country and outside the country together, irrespective of geographical boundaries, a prospect which would otherwise be lost owing to ‘availability’ and ‘time’ constraints.
- By moving online, there is now greater participation from the grassroots organizations in these training courses.



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Thank you!



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