

From Group Training to Individual Advanced Education (Developing Human Resources in Slovak Statistics)

Tibor Papp and Igor Prívvara, Institute of Informatics and Statistics

Peter Smutný, Statistical Office of the Slovak Republic

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Main objectives of the presentation are:

- to summarize medium-term strategy of education in the SO SR,
- to outline our vision of human resource development at the SO SR in the near future.

Summary of the medium-term strategy is structured into three areas – approach, form and content of education

- the traditional group approach is preferred, but requests for individual approach and for training supervised by a tutor are becoming more frequent,
- the prevailing form of education and training is face-to-face. Nevertheless, we have the first positive experience with blended learning in courses for ECDL certificates,
- the content is clustered into four main subject areas - managerial skills, statistical knowledge, ICT and informatics skills, language abilities.

Our main achievement:

- development and successful implementation of the “Schola Statistica” Programme,
- almost all employees of the SO SR obtained an ECDL certificate,
- 2005-2007 INFOSTAT managed a large ESF project in statistical education.

INFOSTAT (Institute of Statistics and Informatics) is the research institute of the SO SR. After decades of practice, in 2008 the educational program “Practical Statistics and Statistical Informatics” has been accredited by the Ministry of Education of the SR. It consists of approximately 20 modules divided into 3 thematic clusters:

- modern statistical methods and their practical application in statistics,
- mastering principles and functions of the Automated Statistical Information System (AŠIS),
- effective use of personal computers (ECDL).

Our vision for the future is to extend the human resource development by an advanced programme – “Academica Statistica” with the following intentions:

- shift from group to individual approach in education, complemented by tutorial supervision and supported by newly developed eLearning tools,
- a gradual replacement of the face-to-face form by eLearning and blended learning will take place,
- the content will be at a more advanced level and will be structured around the three thematic clusters mentioned above,
- on international level we expect to create a database of eLearning courses and lecturers in statistics,
- open a discourse on standards for basic statistical education – European Report Card in Statistical Education.