



6th EMOS Workshop: Taking EMOS to the next level 6 March 2018, Ljubljana, Slovenia

Summary

The 6th EMOS workshop entitled *Taking EMOS to the next level* took place in Ljubljana, Slovenia, on 6 March 2018 with 70 participants from universities running EMOS labelled Master programmes, universities interested in applying for the EMOS label, National Statistical Institutes, National Central Banks and other national statistical authorities from the EU Member States, EFTA and candidate countries.

Participants learned that the 2017 evaluation of the EMOS project, acknowledged by the ESS Committee, showed that the project is on good track requiring no major adjustments. In line with the evaluation made, a lot of emphasis will be kept on internships, a flagship of EMOS that links theory and practice in the context of official statistics. The 3rd Call for applications to broaden the EMOS network will be based on the same learning outcomes as in 2015, but there is a stronger emphasis on skills to cope with multi-source statistics, being familiar with various data sources and integration of these sources, as well as quality dimensions. A poster session offered the opportunity to share experiences of already EMOS labelled programmes among participants.

EMOS also brings together producers and universities to address statistical challenges through research in Horizon 2020 and the forthcoming Framework Programme 9 (FP9). Past projects in economics and social sciences often produced data for own research purposes. These data might be relevant for European policy making and such one-off data production might be an additional source of data fragmentation, quality issues, overlap and lack of continuity. The EMOS network could see its role in addressing this gap, for instance by co-operating in such projects and ensuring that data production respects official statistics methodologies and quality requirements. National contact points for Horizon 2020 can help achieve these goals.

Lack of teaching materials in official statistics was acknowledged. Currently available materials (e.g. regulations, handbooks, manuals) are only complementary to essential teaching materials (e.g. slides, exercises, practical examples, videos). Several proposals to solve this issue were put forward (e.g. an e-library, textbooks on European statistics, a MOOC in official statistics, "dirty" datasets).

The workshop also addressed the expectations and future directions for EMOS. EMOS needs to address the new trends and data sources to stay relevant, enhance the European dimension and gain recognition among producers of official statistics to attract new students and satisfy producers' expectations. Producers confirmed that they need the expertise of highly qualified EMOS graduates.

More information on the programme is available [here](#).