

STRENGTHENING THE TEACHING ON FORECASTING AND DATA ANALYSIS IN VIETNAM

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INTRODUCTION

Since 1987, Vietnam has been implementing reforms to move the country toward a market economy. Statistics is an integral part of the economics discipline. To meet the new demands for information from business managers and leaders, the discipline of statistics must evolve. In the past, statistics in Vietnam has concentrated on descriptive statistics. The teaching and application of inference statistics, especially data analysis and forecasting, has historically been a weak point. Improvements in these areas will raise the practice of statistics in Vietnam to the level of developed countries.

THE PROCESS OF IMPROVING THE TEACHING OF FORECASTING AND DATA ANALYSIS

The teaching of statistical analysis and forecasting in Vietnam is now being improved with a step by step approach as follows:

- Teaching notes for students, statisticians, and researchers and in various levels of statistics are being written using case studies in Vietnam.
- Practicing statistics and modeling in computer labs using software commonly found in Vietnam such as EXCEL, SPSS, STATA, EVIEWS.
- Training courses for statisticians and researchers are being updated with the latest practices in modeling with survey data.

Once the newer generation of statisticians and researchers are trained in these updated models for analysis and forecasting, they can begin using databases of household surveys from The Vietnam National Statistical Survey Programme 2001-2010. The databases contain data from the population census, the rural - agricultural census, and the Vietnam living standard surveys (conducted since 1994). Statistical analysis of this data has already resulted in publications that have affected socio-economic policies.

CONCLUSION

Teaching statistics in Vietnam should be improved to strengthen its capacity for forecasting, data analysis, and modeling survey data for statisticians and researchers.