Disseminating the Statistical Education in Brazil through workshops for elementary and high school teachers

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In recent years, the Ministry of Education in Brazil has been improving its education programs in the sense that students should know how to use different sources of information and technology to build knowledge. The guidelines of National Exam of High School (Exame Nacional do Ensino Médio – ENEM) say the students should develop their ability to select, organize, analyze and interpret data. As a consequence of that, some basic statistical concepts were explicitly included in Mathematics programs and didactic books. Despite of this, most of mathematics teachers are not prepared or do not feel confident to deal with Statistics in the classroom. Motivated by this problem, Prof Lisbeth Cordani (IME USP) created workshop with interactive activities concerning probability, sampling, variability and exploratory data analysis with the aim to help teachers to work with statistics with their students in an enjoyable way. This workshop was first presented in 2002 with support from Brazilian Statistical Association (ABE) and, since then, the ABE supports workshops around Brazil. In this conference, we present part of this work, the teacher´s opinion, difficulties and discuss new perspectives.

Keywords: statistical education, workshop, interactive activities.