SESRIC Statistical *Newsletter* 2017

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In this issue

SESRIC Statistics and Information Department at a Glance

As the main socio-economic information bank on and for the member countries of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), the SESRIC gives special attention to contribute to the efforts of the OIC member countries in improving their national statistical systems (NSS) by bringing about synergies with stakeholders both from the OIC member countries and international agencies.

The Statistics and Information Department of SESRIC is mainly responsible for collecting, processing and disseminating socio-economic statistics and information on and for the utilisation of the OIC member countries. Successor to the Basic Social and Economic Indicators (BASEIND) Database, the OIC Statistics (OICStat) Database serves as the primary statistical source for SESRIC's research activities and statistical publications. It is available online in three official languages of the OIC to benefit all those interested in the OIC community and elsewhere.

The coverage and content of the database is regularly updated and enriched essentially on the basis of information collected from the national and international statistical sources. Currently, the time series data over 320 socio-economic indicators under 20 categories for the 57 OIC member countries, dating back to 1985, are being collected either from national or international statistical sources and disseminated through OICStat the Database. An interactive and dynamic motion chart module, called SESRIC Motion Charts (SMC) is integrated with OICStat Database. The SMC Module allows the users to dynamically explore the trends of several indicators over time, based on statistical data hosted in the OICStat Database.

SESRIC devotes a large portion of its resources to providing the necessary statistical data and background information that would make the member countries better informed of each other's potentials and needs and, thus, facilitates their elaboration of cooperation projects and integration schemes. In this connection, the Statistics and Information Department regularly sends questionnaires to the National Statistics Offices (NSOs) of the OIC member countries to identify the capacities and needs of the respective NSOs on various statistical areas.

Based on the responses of the member countries to these questionnaires, many short-term statistical training courses and workshops have been organized under the framework of Statistical Capacity Building Programme (StatCaB) since 2007. SESRIC has also extended the scope of its StatCaB Programme by including consultancy and study visit components.

Assuming the role of the Secretariat of the OIC Statistical Commission (OIC-StatCom), the Centre continues to organize the annual sessions of this Commission in collaboration with the Islamic Development Bank (IDB). At the OIC level, the OIC-StatCom is a very important forum to increase statistical cooperation and collaboration among the NSOs of the member countries. The Statistics and Information Department also carries out projects based on both South-South and trilateral cooperation approaches to improve the NSSs for the development of better national strategies and policies.

The department also publishes major publications periodically. Following the analytical approach of SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats) method, the profile of OIC member countries, as a group, in different fields and sectors are compared with the groups of developed and other developing countries as well as the world average. In this regard, the SWOT Outlook unleashes the significant potentials, dire needs and future challenges of member countries in order to prioritize effective cooperation areas and facilitate sound integration schemes. It also serves as a critical roadmap for better strategic planning and policy making at the OIC level for achieving higher levels of welfare and socio-economic development.

In addition to these, the Department is responsible for updating the information captured in Directory of NSOs and Roster of Statistics Experts (ROSE).

News from the OIC-StatCom

SESRIC to Hold Seventh Session of OIC-StatCom

SESRIC, in its capacity as the Secretariat of the OIC Statistical Commission (OIC-StatCom), will organise Seventh Session of the OIC Statistical Commission (OIC-StatCom) in the second quarter of 2018. The OIC-StatCom is a very important forum within the OIC framework for cooperation among the NSOs of the member countries. It is an instrumental platform similar to the UN Statistical Commission aiming at supporting the national statistical systems (NSS) in the member countries for development of better national strategies and policies. The

website address of the OIC-StatCom is http://www.oicstatcom.org/.

SESRIC Held a Side Event in the Margins of 48th Session of United Nations Statistical Commission

SESRIC organised the annual "*Meeting with the Delegates of National Statistical Offices of OIC Member Countries*" on **8 March 2017** as a side event of the 48th Session of the United Nations Statistical Commission (UNSC) in New York, USA. The meeting was attended by a total of 34 participants from Algeria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Cameroon, Egypt, Guyana, Indonesia, Iran, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Libya, Morocco, Oman, Palestine, Qatar, Senegal, and Tunisia together with AITRS, GCCStat, IDB, SESRIC, UNESCWA, and UNSD). During the meeting, the progress of OIC-StatCom activities in 2016 and current surveys conducted by SESRIC were discussed.

News from the Projects

OIC Accreditation & Certification Programme for Official Statisticians

The **OIC Accreditation and Certification Programme for Official Statisticians** (OIC-CPOS) includes various levels of certification according to the knowledge and experience of the currently employed statistical professionals in the NSOs and relevant government institutions.

The members of OIC-StatCom were requested to nominate the candidate members for the **Certification Advisory Board** (CAB) and the **Examination Committee** (ExCom) during the last half of 2014. Currently, the CAB has been formed from 20 members and members list can be accessed on *http://www.oicstatcom.org/cpos.php* . In order to devise the curricula, course materials and the exam contents of 47 statistical themes, 31 potential experts were approached who had been designated by the NSOs of Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Cameroon, Djibouti, Egypt, Gambia, Iran, Jordan, Kuwait, Malaysia, Mauritania, Niger, Palestine, Senegal and Yemen. 20 experts accepted to be an ExCom member to prepare course materials and the exam contents for 30 statistical themes.

The OIC-StatCom Secretariat has exerted efforts in bringing the OIC-CPOS project to a more developed level. In this respect, the recommended study materials and examination questions are in the final stage of completion.

Besides, the OIC-StatCom Secretariat has also launched the OIC-CPOS web presence (*http://www.oicstatcom.org/cpos.php*) during the Certification Advisory Board (CAB) Meeting held in Turkey on 7-8 September 2016. Moreover, in order to prioritising the Certification Examination themes during the initial phase in line with the recommendations of the OIC-CPOS CAB Meeting, the OIC-StatCom Secretariat will carry out a Tendency Survey.

The ExCom meeting is planned to be held in December 2017 while an overall CPOS meeting consisting of CAB and ExCom is planned to be held in 2018 with the aims to evaluate the progress of CPOS project and to discuss the way forward.

Integration of the "Tobacco Questions for Surveys" (TQS) into the National Surveys in OIC Member Countries

At the Fourth Session of the OIC-StatCom, Tobacco Questions for Surveys (TQS) was presented and OIC member countries agreed that on-going tobacco surveillance is an important part of a comprehensive tobacco control program. As a result, SESRIC facilitates the supervision of the integration schemes based on the terms agreed with the project partners; i.e., the Centre for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and CDC Foundation, since 2014.

Within the project framework, 15 OIC member countries were selected for a pilot study. From the targeted countries, 7 of them; namely, Azerbaijan, Cameroon, Egypt, Indonesia, Mauritania, Senegal, and Tajikistan, affirmed their commitment to integrate TQS into their ongoing national surveys and also ensured the regular implementation and collection of the TQS data. An agreement with the Ministry of Development Planning and Statistics of Qatar was also reached in which technical support will be given for the incorporation of TQS into their General Health Survey if need be.

Moreover, SESRIC also received commitments from Chad, Cote d'Ivoire, Gabon, Gambia, Niger, Mali, Palestine, Togo, and Sierra Leone for the integration of TQS into the relevant national surveys to be conducted. In order to increase the level of participation of OIC member countries in the TQS integration project, 2 additional member countries were also approached namely Palestine and Suriname.

In 2017, a Second Workshop on TQS with a focus on TQS data analysis, data dissemination, and the impact of TQS surveys on policy design and implementation was held on 16-17 August 2017 in Ankara, Turkey in collaboration with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and CDC Foundation. The said Workshop had the objective to share the knowledge and experiences encountered throughout the integration process of TQS into ongoing surveys and provide comprehensive information and technical support to the OIC member countries in the way forward.

The Workshop was attended by 38 delegates from the NSOs and Ministries of Health of Cameroon of 13 OIC member countries including Cameroon, Chad, Cote d'Ivoire, Gabon, Gambia, Indonesia, Mali, Palestine, Qatar, Sierra Leone, Suriname, Tajikistan and Turkey. The representatives of the CDC Foundation, the World Health Organization (WHO) Headquarters, WHO Eastern Mediterranean Regional Office (WHO-EMRO), WHO Turkey Office and Turkish Green Crescent (YESILAY) also participated in the Workshop.

At the outset, SESRIC highlighted the important of robust monitoring to tailor best policies in combating the tobacco epidemic. Thus, SESRIC engages with the OIC member countries to encourage the integration of TQS into the ongoing national surveys. This integration will serve as a mechanism to harmonize and standardize the monitoring of key tobacco control indicators regularly and promote sustainability and integration with other risk factors surveillance initiatives.

Developing Islamic Financial Industry Database (IBFStat) of OIC Member Countries

The IBFStat project aims at identifying the set of possible indicators to be hosted in the initial phase, develop a standardized methodology including the templates for data collection, and collaborate with national, regional and international stakeholders to collect, compile, perform quality assurance, and disseminate data on Islamic financial industry. Within the project framework, SESRIC circulated a survey (accessible under *http://www.sesric.org/activities-announcements-detail.php?id=397*) to gather a preliminary insight about existing data collection, compilation and dissemination concerning Islamic finance practices in OIC member countries.

The Consultative Meeting (CM) on Developing Islamic Finance Industry Database for OIC member countries was held on 24 September 2017 aimed at briefing the NSOs and Financial Regulatory and Supervisory Authorities of OIC member countries about the SESRIC Project on Developing Islamic Finance Industry Database and ultimately gather feedback from the representatives of the stakeholders.

The CM included an information session about the project on Developing Islamic Finance Industry Database, an experience sharing session on current practices of OIC member countries and international organisations on existing Islamic finance databases, and a break-out session on the strategic roadmap and conceptual framework for constructing OIC Islamic Finance Industry Database.

Peer Review for National Statistical Offices in the OIC Member Countries (OIC-Peer)

The OIC-Peer project aims to facilitate South-South learning in statistical development through a peer review mechanism to enhance the credibility of the NSSs, to strengthen the system's capacity to produce high-quality statistics and to reassure stakeholders about the quality of statistics produced by the NSOs and the trustworthiness of the system. In this regard, the Centre has approached EUROSTAT, PARIS21, and Turkish Statistical Institute (TurkStat) to collaborate on the project towards establishing a sound mechanism for peer-review, sector reviews, and a self-assessment based on snapshot tool as the possible modalities of the assessment process.

Furthermore, the Centre has circulated '*OIC-Peer Review Inclination Survey (OPRIS)*' (also accessible under *http://www.sesric.org/activities-announcements-detail.php?id=404*) to the NSOs of OIC member countries with the aim to learn the current situation on the implementation of Peer Reviews for NSOs in OIC member countries. Up to now, we received completed surveys from 23 countries including Afghanistan, Albania, Bahrain, Benin, Cameroon, Cote

d'Ivoire, Chad, Egypt, Gabon, Indonesia, Iran, Malaysia, Mozambique, Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan, Palestine, Tajikistan, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, UAE and Uganda. Reminders were sent to other OIC member countries in order to increase the responses.

A Workshop on Peer Review is planned to be held in December 2017 with an aim to introduce the road map of peer reviews conducted by international institutions and the tools used in peer review process.

Official Development Assistance (ODA) Statistics in OIC Member Countries

The OECD Development Assistance Committee (DAC) is the leading international forum for bilateral providers of development co-operation. It updates the list of Official Development Assistance (ODA) recipients periodically. To facilitate and contribute to the efforts of the OIC member countries in appropriately measuring and reporting the ODA, SESRIC has contacted the OECD DAC and held meetings with the DAC officials in September 2016 in Paris and in Konya in November 2016 during the Sixth Session of OIC-StatCom, for paving the way forward in this regard.

The OECD DAC has welcomed the proposal of SESRIC in organising statistical capacity building activities to foster the collection, collation, processing, and dissemination of ODA statistics in OIC member countries. Through the collaboration of SESRIC and OECD DAC, a joint workshop was held in Ankara on DAC Statistics and ODA reporting on 12-13 July 2017.

The objective of the Workshop was to introduce the key concepts and methodologies on development finance statistics, identify existing obstacles and challenges of integrating development finance statistics into national statistical systems (NSSs) and data reporting, and exchange experiences and share good practices among participating countries.

The Workshop was attended by 46 delegates from the Ministries of Finance, Ministries of Foreign Affairs, National Development Assistance Agencies, NSOs and other relevant governmental institutions of 18 OIC member countries as well as representatives from international organisations including Islamic Development Bank (IDB) and UNDP Regional Centre for Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS).

Follow-Up of the Post-2015 Development Agenda and Survey on the Priorities Assigned to SDGs

In line with the Post-2015 Development Agenda, the Centre is closely following up the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) processes. In this respect, the Centre attended to the Inter- Agency and Expert Group on SDGs (IAEG-SDGs) meetings held in June 2015 in New York, in October 2015 in Bangkok, and in March 2016 in Mexico City.

Being aware of the increased demand for detailed and timely data to monitor progress on the goals and targets of the Post-2015 Development Agenda, the Centre has circulated a survey to identify the priorities of OIC member countries with respect to 17 SDGs, 169 goals, and 230 SDGs indicators in August 2016. Additionally, in line with the relevant Resolutions of the 31st and 32nd Session Committee Meeting of COMCEC, SESRIC was designated to be the focal point, in coordination with the OIC General Secretariat, at the OIC level for following up the SDGs indicator framework, to monitor the SDG progress in the OIC member countries via surveys, to conduct capacity needs assessment regarding SDG targets, and to report regularly the progress recorded to the upcoming sessions of COMCEC. Within this context, SESRIC circulated the "*Tendency Survey on SDG Priorities of OIC Member Countries*" (also accessible on *http://www.sesric.org/activities-announcements-detail.php?id=386* in three official languages

of the OIC) to the OIC member countries in August 2016. The survey has the objective to identify the priorities given by the OIC member countries to each SDG. Up to now, we received completed surveys from 10 countries including Chad, Jordan, Indonesia, Iraq, Libya, Malaysia, Saudi Arabia, Togo, Uganda and Yemen. Reminders were sent to other OIC member countries in order to increase the responses.

Developing a Statistical Outreach Toolkit for the NSOs of OIC Member Countries (SOT)

The SOT project aims at developing a generic guide in a Statistical Outreach Toolkit format to assist the NSOs of OIC member countries in structuring strategies concerning their outreach activities not only through traditional channels but also especially through emerging ones and engagement with a broad spectrum of stakeholders. It is also expected to facilitate the alignment of the member NSOs' future data communication and dissemination practices with possible emerging and alternative channels.

Within the project framework, a Workshop is planned to be held in the first quarter of 2018 with the aim to draw the outline and discuss the content of the SOT together with the potential contributors/experts from national/international agencies including UNECE, Paris21, Eurostat, TurkStat, Anadolu Agency, etc.

Synergies for Statistical Cooperation

SESRIC Signed MoU with the World Bank

SESRIC signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the World Bank to initiate and facilitate statistical collaboration and cooperation between the two institutions. The MoU was signed by H.E. Ambassador Musa KULAKLIKAYA, Director General of SESRIC, and Ms. Haishan FU, Director of Development Economics Data Group of World Bank on 19 July 2017 in the margins of the Special Event on the 'Data Revolution for the Sustainable Development Goals' at the 61st ISI World Statistics Congress in Marrakech, Morocco. The main objective of the MoU is to collaborate in carrying out activities conducive to help OIC member countries improve their statistical systems to collect, process and disseminate relevant, quality and timely data for evidence based policy making to achieve their national development goals and strive towards the Sustainable Development Goals.

SESRIC to Sign an MoU with the Economic Cooperation Organization

SESRIC will sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) to prepare **SESRIC-ECO Joint Economic Research Programme** focusing on different economic sectors in the ECO region with an aim to:

i. carry out in-depth background research and policy-oriented studies backed by quantitative analysis in economic sectors prioritized for economic cooperation;

ii. contribute to the policy dialogue and facilitate the development of strategies in different sectors of economy at the regional level; and

iii. prepare proposals, concepts, studies on regional projects for implementation of regional policies and strategies prepared.

Capacity Building Activities

A Summary of 2007 – September 2017 Activities

Accurate, timely, reliable and consistent statistical data is of an utmost importance for policy making and strategy development in any country. The OIC member countries have varying levels of capacities for producing statistical data in accordance with the relevant internationally-accepted statistical standards. Thus, the OIC Statistical Capacity Building (StatCaB) Programme for NSOs tries to identify statistical needs and capacities of the NSOs of OIC member countries in order to enhance the National Statistical Systems in member countries.

The StatCaB Programme was initiated in early 2007. It is the flagship capacity development programme of the SESRIC. Within its framework, the Centre collects information from the NSOs of OIC member countries through biennial questionnaires, assesses their needs and capacities, and matches these needs and capacities through organizing statistical capacity development activities.

The Centre, in its capacity as the Secretariat of the OIC Statistical Commission (OIC-StatCom) also reports the implemented activities to the regular sessions of the OIC-StatCom regularly. For the term 2018-2019, SESRIC circulated the StatCaB questionnaire (also accessible on *http://www.oicstatcom.org/statcab.php* in three official languages of the OIC) to the OIC member countries in August 2017.

SESRIC exerts every possible effort to expand the coverage of its statistical activities in the OIC member countries. Between 2007 and early 2017, a total of ***274 statistical activities*** were conducted. Of those 274 activities, 218 of them were conducted as short-term courses, technical missions, and study visits, 50 of them were conducted as expert group meetings and workshops (EGM/WS), 6 of them were conducted as OIC-StatCom sessions.

Number of Statistical Activities, by Type, 2007- 2017 (as of 25 September)

- EGM/WS, 50
- Study Visits, 16
- Technical Missions, 11
- OIC-StatCom, 6
- Short-Term Courses, 191
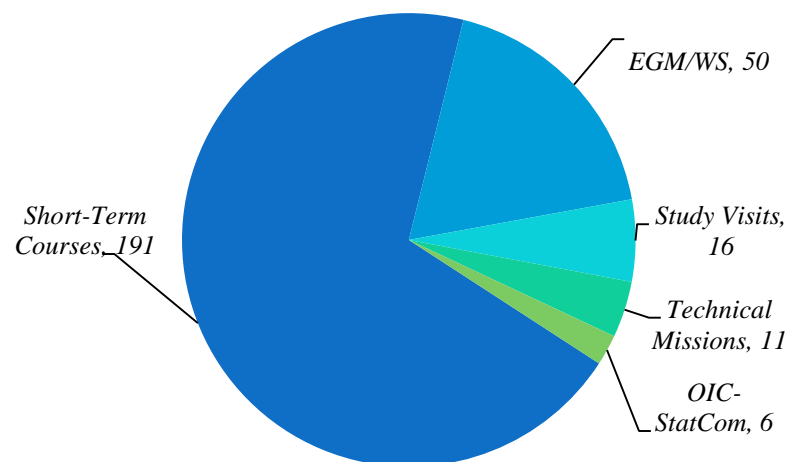
Number of Statistical Activities, by Year, 2007-2017 *(as of 25 September)*
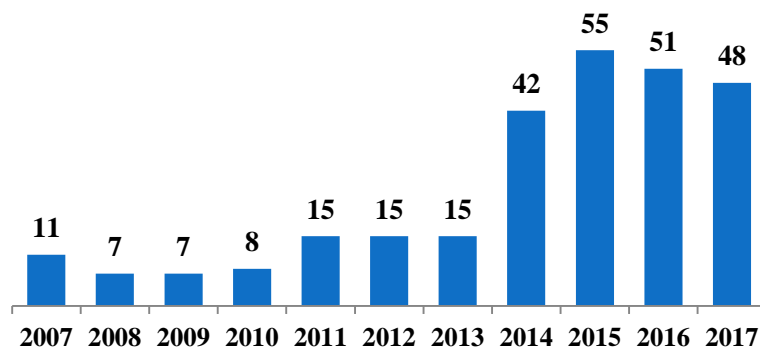
48 OIC member countries and 1 organisation benefitted from the *218 short-term courses, technical missions, and study visits* between 2007 and September 2017. These activities facilitated by SESRIC could not have been realized without the generous support of 21 OIC member countries and 2 organisations since 2007.
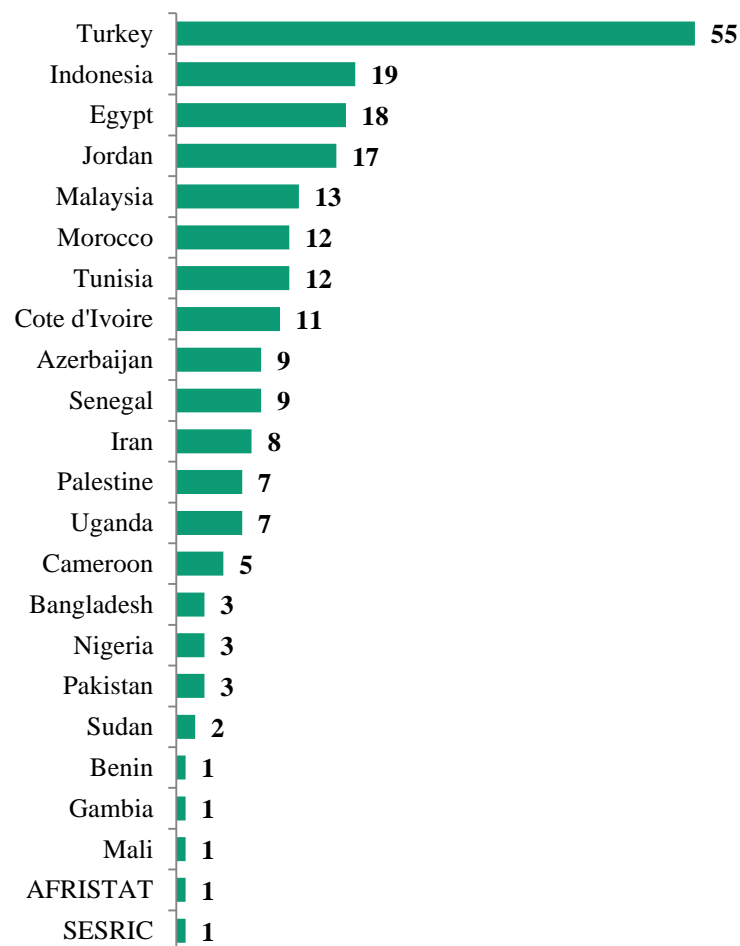
The top ten countries contributed to StatCaB since 2007 are Turkey (55), Indonesia (19), Egypt (18), Jordan (17), Malaysia (13), Morocco (12), Tunisia (12), Cote d'Ivoire (11), Azerbaijan (9) and Senegal (9).

From the beneficiary perspective, Azerbaijan (14), Bangladesh (10), Afghanistan (9), Kazakhstan (9), Sudan (9), Benin (8), Qatar (8), Malaysia (7), Uganda (7) and UAE (7) are the top ten countries benefited from StatCaB since 2007.
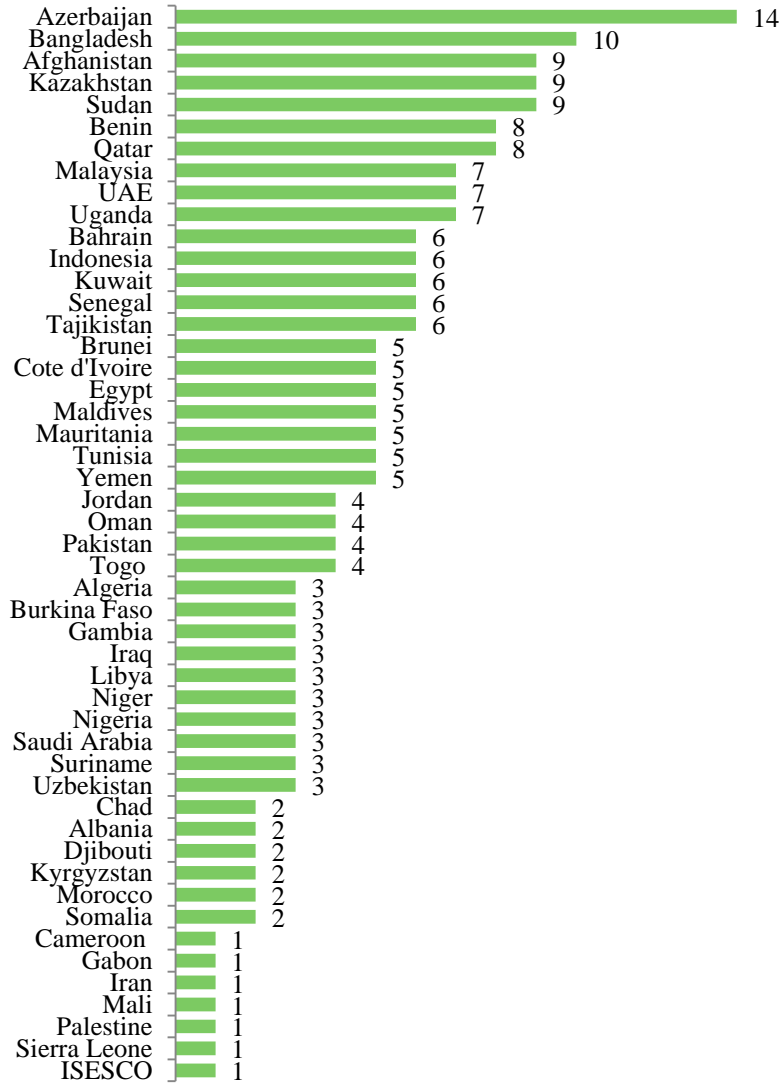
Also in 2017, the first-ever statistical activities in the forms of short-term courses facilitated by SESRIC were benefitted to 2

OIC member countries including *Gabon* and *Iran*, and 1 international organisation, namely *ISESCO* based in Chad.

Number of STATCAB Programs Conducted, by Provider, 2007-2017 *(as of 25 September)*
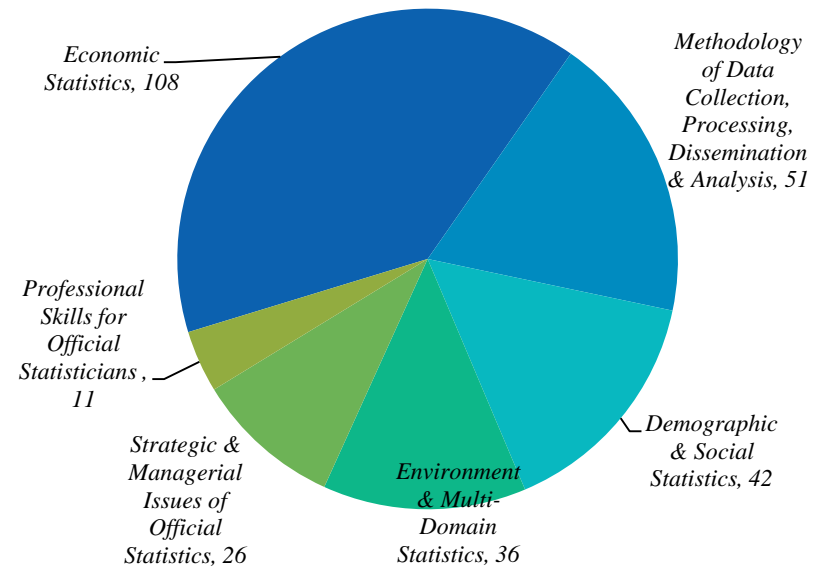
**Number of STATCAB Programs Conducted,
by Beneficiary, 2007-2017**
(as of 25 September)

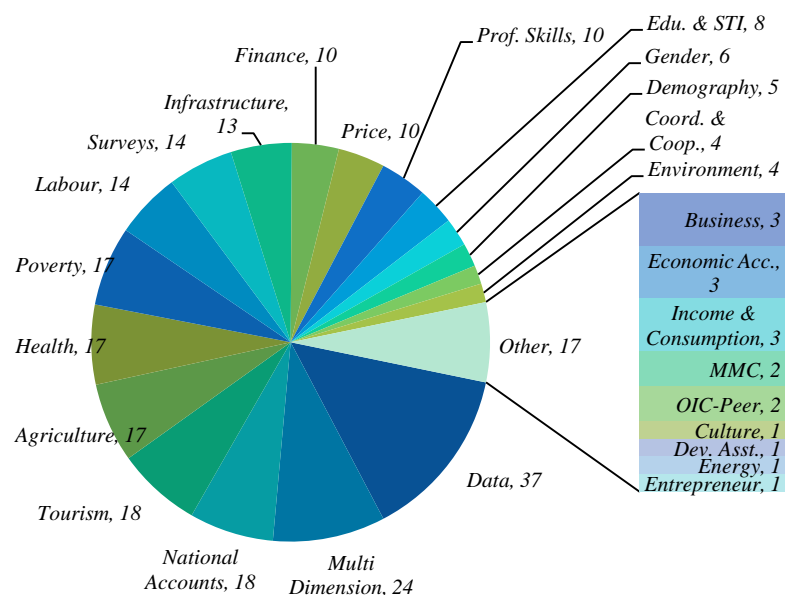| Beneficiary	Programs
Azerbaijan	14
Bangladesh	10
Afghanistan	9
Kazakhstan	9
Sudan	9
Benin	8
Qatar	8
Malaysia	7
UAE	7
Uganda	7
Bahrain	6
Indonesia	6
Kuwait	6
Senegal	6
Tajikistan	6
Brunei	5
Cote d'Ivoire	5
Egypt	5
Maldives	5
Mauritania	5
Tunisia	5
Yemen	5
Jordan	4
Oman	4
Pakistan	4
Togo	4
Algeria	3
Burkina Faso	3
Gambia	3
Iraq	3
Libya	3
Niger	3
Nigeria	3
Saudi Arabia	3
Suriname	3
Uzbekistan	3
Chad	2
Albania	2
Djibouti	2
Kyrgyzstan	2
Morocco	2
Somalia	2
Cameroon	1
Gabon	1
Iran	1
Mali	1
Palestine	1
Sierra Leone	1
ISESCO	1

Analyzing the breakdown of the 274 statistical activities conducted between 2007 and September 2017, 108 (39%) of activities are related to economic statistics while 51 (19%) of programs are on methodology of data collection, processing, dissemination and analysis. Demographic and social statisticsis is the third domain with 42 activities accounting for 15% of all activities. Environment and multi-domain statistics is another domain where more than 30 (13%) activities had been conducted. Related to the managerial sides of official statistics, in total 30 activies were realized of which 26 (10%) of them were on strategic and managerial issues of official statistics and 11 (4%) aimed towards improving professional skills for official statisticians.

**Number of Statistical Activities Conducted,
by Statistical Domains, 2007-2017**
(as of 25 September)

Pie chart showing:
- Economic Statistics, 108
- Methodology of Data Collection, Processing, Dissemination & Analysis, 51
- Demographic & Social Statistics, 42
- Environment & Multi-Domain Statistics, 36
- Strategic & Managerial Issues of Official Statistics, 26
- Professional Skills for Official Statisticians, 11

The breakdown of the 274 statistical activities conducted between 2007 and September 2017 by theme shows that the top of list hosts 37 data related activities (14%), 24 multi-dimensional statistical activities (9%), 18 national accounts (7%), 18 tourism statistics (7%), 17 agriculture statistics (6%), 17 health statistics (6%), 17 poverty statistics (16%), 14 labour statistics (5%), 14 activities related to surveys (5%) and 13 activities related to statistics on infrastructure (5%).

Number of Statistical Activities Conducted, by Theme, 2007-2017
(*as of 25 September*)

Edu. & STI, 8
Prof. Skills, 10
Finance, 10
Gender, 6
Demography, 5
Infrastructure, 13
Coord. & Coop., 4
Surveys, 14
Price, 10
Environment, 4
Labour, 14
Business, 3
Poverty, 17
Economic Acc., 3
Health, 17
Income & Consumption, 3
Other, 17
MMC, 2
Agriculture, 17
OIC-Peer, 2
Culture, 1
Dev. Asst., 1
Tourism, 18
Energy, 1
Data, 37
Entrepreneur, 1
National Accounts, 18
Multi Dimension, 24

Workshops and Meetings in 2017

Workshop on Monitoring Food Security in the Context of 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda

SESRIC in collaboration with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) organised the Workshop on Monitoring Food Security in the Context of 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda on 22-23 February 2017 in Ankara, Republic of Turkey. 40 participants from NSOs of 19 OIC member countries and 7 international organisations attended the Workshop.

During the Workshop, the participants were informed both about the Prevalence of Undernourishment (POU) and the FIES methodologies, as well as the steps to implement them and the relevance of the information they provide for food security policy. The participants listened to the country experiences on conducting nationwide household surveys and governing food security data, and the challenges they face vis-à-vis during the relevant household surveys. The Workshop also included a data analysis session in which the participants found the opportunity to carry out analysis on FIES data.

OPHI Summer School on Multidimensional Poverty Measurement and Analysis

SESRIC in partnership with Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (OPHI) organised the OPHI Summer School on 'Multidimensional Poverty Measurement & Analysis' in Marrakesh, Kingdom of Morocco on 3 – 15 July 2017. The purpose of this intensive summer school was to provide a thorough technical and practical introduction to multidimensional poverty measurement with a strong emphasis on the Alkire-Foster method. The OPHI Summer School on 'Multidimensional Poverty Measurement & Analysis' covered the topics of unidimensional poverty measures; methodologies to analyse multidimensional poverty; the Alkire Foster methodology of multidimensional poverty measurement; measurement design; estimation of multidimensional poverty and interpretation of the results; subgroup decomposition and mapping; multidimensional poverty changes over time; econometric analysis of multidimensional poverty and impact evaluation; and institutions, policies, and communication.

SESRIC to Hold a Regional Meeting of Labour Statisticians in Preparation for 20th International Conference on Labour Statisticians (ICLS)

The 'Regional Meeting of Labour Statisticians in Preparation for the 20th International Conference on Labour Statisticians (ICLS)' will be organised by the International Labour Organization (ILO) in collaboration with SESRIC and GCC-STAT on 9 - 11 October 2017 in Muscat, Sultanate of Oman.

The main purpose of this preparatory regional meeting is to bring the consultation and technical discussions to countries in the region, to ensure that the revised draft standard to be prepared by the ILO adequately reflects the labour markets and labour force data priorities of the region.

Specifically, the meeting will inform participants about the review process in preparation for the 20th ICLS; present the current proposals for new international standards for statistics on work relationships; share information about national experience with statistics on work relationships; identify potential opportunities for testing of the proposals; and gather feedback and promote discussion among participants to generate new ideas and further refinements to the proposals.

SESRIC to Hold a Second Workshop on Monitoring Food Security in the Context of 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda

SESRIC in collaboration with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) will organise the Second Workshop on Monitoring Food Security in the Context of 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda on 14-15 November 2017 in Ankara, Republic of Turkey. The Workshop will be attended by participants from the NSOs of 23 OIC member countries including Algeria, Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chad, Comoros, Cote d'Ivoire, Djibouti, Egypt, Gabon, Guinea, Iraq, Lebanon, Libya, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Niger, Senegal, Sudan, Togo, Tunisia, and Yemen and international organisations.

The objective of the Workshop is to develop capacities of officials of the selected NSOs of OIC member countries to advocate with national government leaders for the inclusion of the Food Insecurity Experience Scale (FIES) and food consumption modules in national surveys for monitoring SDG target 2.1. During the Workshop, the participants will be informed both about the Prevalence of Undernourishment (POU) and the FIES methodologies, as well as the steps to implement them and the relevance of the information they provide for food security policy.

Online Databases and Applications

OIC Statistics (OICStat) Database

Planned to be officially launched at OIC Day event on 25 September 2017, the OIC Statistics (OICStat) Database is the first and only international official statistics repository on OIC member countries.

Enriched with the experience drawn from its predecessor BASEIND Database, OICStat is periodically maintained to ensure the dissemination of most up-to-date data and inclusion of new data categories on the OIC member countries. Equipped with more "user-friendly" features, the Database currently hosts 320 indicators under 20 categories dating back to 1985.

To ensure data completeness and methodological comparability among the OIC member countries and the to-be-introduced aggregate groups, the OIC-Stat currently presents data on OIC member countries extracted from databases of officially recognized international organisations including FAO, ILO, IMF, ITU, OPEC, OECD, UNESCO UIS, UNPD, UNSD, World Bank, WHO and UNWTO.

OICStat Database can be accessed on: *http://www.sesric.org/oicstat.php*

OIC Ranker

Working on top of OICStat, this online module ranks the OIC member countries with respect to a selected indicator hosted in the database. OIC Ranker is accessible on *http://www.sesric.org/oic-ranker.php*

OIC Top Bottom Finder

Working on top of OICStat, this online module extracts the full list of indicators in which an OIC Member Country is positioned at the very "Top" or "Bottom". OIC Top Bottom Finder is accessible on: *http://www.sesric.org/oic-tbf.php*

OIC Countries in Figures (OIC-CIF)

This module presents the most recent available information and statistical data of OIC member countries under eight headings as follows: "Background", "Geography and Climate", "Society and Demographics", "Government and Politics", "Economy and Sectors", "Countries in Figures", "International Partnerships" and "Special Links".

The profile of each country will be downloadable as a PDF document. The framework of the displayed page can be tailored based on the preferences of the user by selecting the section or indicators to be shown in the PDF document. While the current version of member countries in Figures is accessible on *http://www.sesric.org/oic-member-countries.php*

Roster of Statistics Experts (ROSE)

The Roster of Statistics Experts (ROSE) serves for hosting the profiles of professionals that work in the official statistics sector or in other sectors that deliver services contributing to the efforts of the agencies with an embedded statistical role.

By establishing a pool of relevant expertise, the ROSE is expected to be instrumental in identifying the available professionals in relevant domains of official statistics as per the taxonomy of Classification of Statistical Activities for the current and future statistical activities of the Centre.

In addition, the ROSE will contribute significantly to useful exchange of information and experiences within the Islamic World through enabling the flow of communication between the professionals and the relevant stakeholders.

Currently hosting profiles of 608 statistics experts, the Roster of Statistics Experts (ROSE) can be accessed on: http://www.sesric.org/rose.php

SESRIC Motion Charts (SMC)

SESRIC Motion Charts (SMC) Module is an interactive and dynamic online application that generates data visualisations from multiple indicators available in the OICStat Database. The SMC Module allows the users to dynamically explore the trends of several indicators over time, based on statistical data hosted in the OICStat Database. The SMC Module uses the Adobe Flash technology to generate charts within the user's browser. The charts generated by the SMC Module are time series based bubble charts including two indicators from the OICStat Database. The users also have the option to display the charts either on linear or logarithmic scale(s). In addition, the users can also alter the default indicator specifying the bubble size (currently total population of the chosen countries for the given time period) with another indicator hosted in the OICStat Database. The SMC application module can be accessed on http://www.sesric.org/smc.php
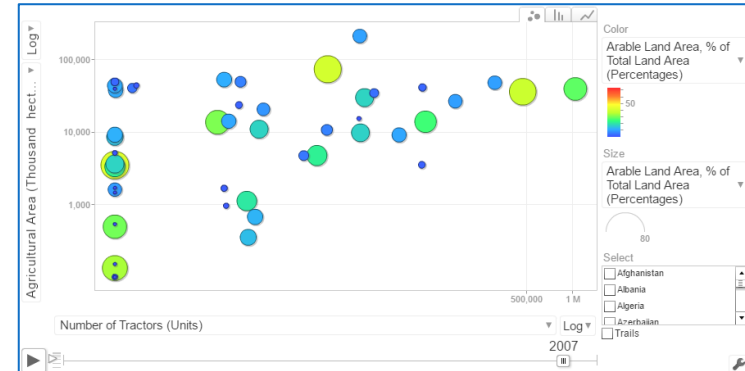
SESRIC Mobile Application

The Centre is currently developing SESRIC Mobile Application consisting the OICStat, OIC-CIF, OIC Ranker, and ROSE Database.

Statistical Publications

SWOT Outlook on OIC Member Countries-2017
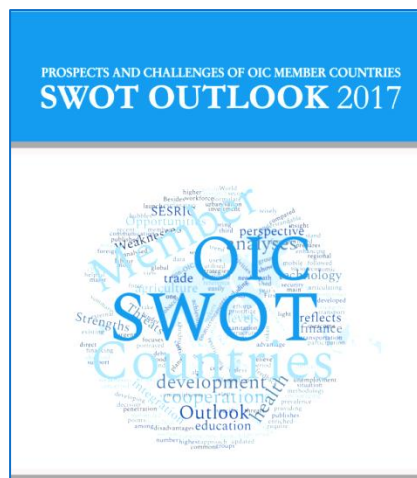
First published in 2011 and followed by its second issue in 2012, the SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats) Outlook on OIC member countries has been enriched with new indicators for its third issue in 2017 based on the encouraging feedback of the readers. Before the launch of this new series in 2011, OIC member countries were articulating a need for a publication that would act as one of the reference points towards enhancing the level of their cooperation and integration as well as the level of their competitiveness, as a group, at both the regional and global levels. To support these cooperation and integration efforts of the member countries, SESRIC prepares and publishes the SWOT Outlook. This new series by SESRIC uses a novel approach based on the SWOT methodology to present profiles of the group of OIC member countries from the perspective of strengths and weaknesses they have, and opportunities and threats they may face in various areas. Besides, the OIC member countries as a group are compared with the World and groups of non-OIC developing and developed countries to show where they stand and may move towards in various areas of concern.

Infographics

Information graphics or infographics are graphic visual representations of information, data or knowledge intended to present information quickly and clearly.
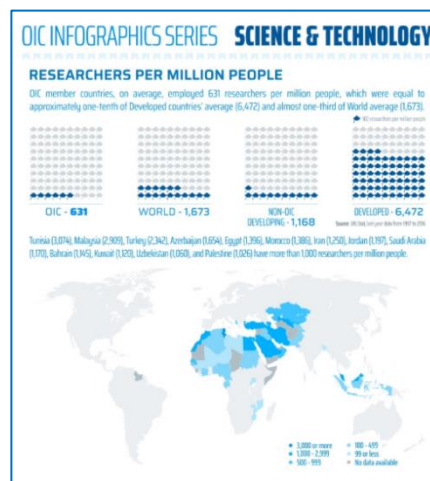
They can improve cognition by utilizing graphics to enhance the human visual system's ability to see patterns and trends. First examples of infographics dates back to the early 17th century. The recent technological developments made easy-to-use and free tools flourish in number and have made the creation of infographics available to a large segment of the population.

Within this background, to enable the easy understanding by users of the statistical data available on OIC countries, SESRIC has recently initiated its OIC Infographic Series. By focusing on issues of common interest, the OIC Infographic Series not only presents the statistical data in a visual way but also increases the awareness of the users on socio-economic matters. OIC Infographics Series can be accessed through: *http://www.sesric.org*

Statistical

Newsletter

2017

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