



**SESRIC STATISTICS  
NEWSLETTER**

**2018**

# SESRIC Statistics Newsletter 2018

## *In this issue*

<b>SESRIC Statistics and Information Department at a Glance .....</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>News from the OIC-StatCom .....</b>	<b>2</b>
<i>SESRIC to Hold Seventh Session of OIC-StatCom .....</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>SESRIC Held a Side Event in the Margins of 49<sup>th</sup> Session of United Nations Statistical Commission .....</i>	<i>2</i>
<b>News from the Projects .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<i>OIC Accreditation &amp; Certification Programme for Official Statisticians .....</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>Integration of the “Tobacco Questions for Surveys” (TQS) into the National Surveys in OIC Member Countries .....</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>Developing Islamic Financial Industry Database (IBFStat) of OIC Member Countries .....</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>Peer Review for National Statistical Offices in the OIC Member Countries (OIC-Peer) .....</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>Official Development Assistance (ODA) Statistics in OIC Member Countries .....</i>	<i>7</i>
<i>Follow-Up of the Post-2015 Development Agenda and Survey on the Priorities Assigned to SDGs .....</i>	<i>8</i>
<i>Global Network of Institutions for Statistical Training (GIST) .....</i>	<i>9</i>
<i>Developing a Statistical Outreach Toolkit for the NSOs of OIC Member Countries (SOT) .....</i>	<i>10</i>
<b>Synergies for Statistical Cooperation .....</b>	<b>10</b>
<i>SESRIC Signed MoU with Arab Institute for Training and Research in Statistics .....</i>	<i>10</i>
<i>SESRIC Signed MoU with Turkish Red Crescent .....</i>	<i>11</i>
<i>SESRIC Signed a New Amendment for Tobacco Questions for Surveys (TQS) Integration Project with the CDC Foundation .....</i>	<i>111</i>

<i>SESRIC Signed MoU with the Economic Cooperation Organization</i> .....	12
<i>SESRIC Signed MoA with the DGSEE of Gabonese Republic</i> .....	12
<i>SESRIC Signed MoU with the World Bank</i> .....	13
<b>Capacity Building Activities</b> .....	<b>13</b>
<i>A Summary of 2007 – February 2018 Activities</i> .....	13
<i>Workshops and Meetings in 2017</i> .....	17
<b>Online Databases and Applications</b> .....	<b>19</b>
<i>OIC Statistics (OICStat) Database</i> .....	19
<i>OIC Ranker</i> .....	19
<i>OIC Top Bottom Finder</i> .....	199
<i>OIC Countries in Figures (OIC-CIF)</i> .....	199
<i>Roster of Statistics Experts (ROSE)</i> .....	20
<i>SESRIC Motion Charts (SMC)</i> .....	20
<i>SESRIC Mobile Application</i> .....	21
<b>Statistical Publications</b> .....	<b>211</b>
<i>SWOT Outlook on OIC Member Countries - 2017</i> .....	211
<i>Infographics</i> .....	22
<i>Did You Know Module (DYK)</i> .....	22
<i>SESRIC Statistics Newsletter</i> .....	23

## 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. The OIC Statistics (OICStat) Database serves as the primary databank of OIC. 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 379 socio-economic indicators under 22 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 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. Besides, the Centre also hosts the OIC Countries in Figures (OIC-CIF) which presents the most recent available information and statistical data of OIC countries under nine headings, namely “Background”, “Geography and Climate”, “Society and Demographics”, “Government and Politics”, “Economy and Sectors”, “OIC Member Countries in Figures”, “International Partnerships”, “Logistics” and “Special Links”.

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 study visit and technical mission components.

Assuming the role of the Secretariat of the OIC Statistical Commission (OIC-StatCom), the Centre continues to organise the regular 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 such as SWOT Outlook and Statistical Yearbook. 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 all the information captured in Directory of Institutions (e.g., Directory of NSOs) and Roster of Experts (e.g., 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) on 2-3 May 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 49<sup>th</sup> 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 2018** as a side event of the 49<sup>th</sup> Session of the United Nations Statistical Commission (UNSC) in New York, USA. The meeting was attended by a total of 35 delegates from 19 OIC Countries including Algeria, Azerbaijan, Egypt, Gambia, Guyana, Indonesia, Jordan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Malaysia, Morocco, Oman, Pakistan, Palestine, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Tunisia, Turkey, together with United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (UNESCWA) and United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD). During the meeting, the progress of OIC-StatCom activities and current surveys conducted by SESRIC including Tendency

Survey on SDG Priorities of OIC Member Countries, Survey on the Project of Islamic Finance Industry Database for OIC Member Countries and Survey on Mapping the Architecture of Development Agencies of OIC Member Countries and future projects of the OIC-StatCom were discussed.

The delegates also shared their inputs and comments about the possible themes of the Seventh Session of OIC-StatCom that will be held on 2-3 May 2018 in Ankara, Turkey.

At the Side Event, the delegation of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia delivered a presentation on the Transformation Journey of the General Authority for Statistics (GASat) and the delegation of Malaysia informed the participants about the 62nd World Statistics Conference to be held on 18-23 August 2019 in Kuala Lumpur.



## 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, SESRIC is developing an **e-learning platform for statistics**

(accessible under <http://www.oicstatcom.org/cpos.php>) including all study materials received from all statistics related activities of SESRIC and other study manuals prepared by partner institutions.

### *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 has also received commitment from Chad, Cote d’Ivoire, Gabon, Gambia, Mali, Niger, Sierra Leone and Togo. Of the countries who affirmed their commitments to integrate TQS into their on-going surveys, 10 of them namely Azerbaijan, Egypt, Gambia, Indonesia, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Senegal, Sierra Leone and Togo, have fully completed the project. In order to increase the level of participation of OIC Member Countries in the TQS integration project, 2 additional member countries including Palestine and Suriname have also been approached.

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.

### *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.

Besides, a Consultative Meeting on 'Developing Islamic Finance Industry Database of OIC Member Countries' was held on 24 September 2017 in Bodrum, Turkey with an aim to briefing the Central Banks and Monetary Authorities, National Statistical Offices and other 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 Meeting was attended by 30 delegates from 15 national institutions of 10 OIC Member Countries, namely Bangladesh, Indonesia, Iran, Jordan, Kuwait, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Turkey and United Arab Emirates. Representatives of General Council for Islamic Banks and Financial Institutions (CIBAFI), Islamic Financial Services Board (IFSB), International Islamic Financial Market (IIFM), Islamic Research and Training Institute (IRTI) of Islamic Development Bank Group, United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD) and World Bank Global Islamic Finance Development Center also participated in the meeting.



During the brainstorming session on “Strategic Roadmap and Conceptual Framework for Constructing OIC Islamic Finance Industry Database”, the participants discussed the proposed strategic roadmap and conceptual framework for constructing OIC Islamic Finance Industry Database by SESRIC through a set of questions that was designed to foster deliberations.

Moreover, to bring the IBFStat project to a more developed level, the initial indicators are being collated under OIC Statistics Database (OICStat).

### *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 countries with the aim to learn the current situation on the implementation of Peer Reviews for NSOs in OIC countries. Up to now, we received completed surveys from 33 countries including Afghanistan, Albania, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Benin, Brunei, Cameroon, Chad, Cote d'Ivoire, Egypt, Gabon, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Libya, Malaysia, Mozambique, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Palestine, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Tajikistan, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, UAE, Uganda and Yemen. Reminders were sent to other OIC countries in order to increase the responses.

According to the survey results, there is a need to hold a workshop on OIC-Peer to better understand the peer review mechanism and to learn more about the benefits and challenges of the peer review for OIC countries. In this regard, the Centre organised a Workshop on ‘Peer Review Mechanisms for NSOs in OIC Member Countries’ in collaboration with the Statistical Office of the European Union (Eurostat) and the Partnership in Statistics for Development in the 21st Century (PARIS21) on 19-20 December 2017 in Ankara, Republic of Turkey .



38 participants from National Statistical Offices (NSOs) of 25 OIC countries including Afghanistan, Albania, Bangladesh, Cameroon, Chad, Cote d'Ivoire, Egypt, Gabon, Gambia, Iran, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Malaysia, Morocco, Mozambique, Niger, Palestine, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda and Uzbekistan and 4 international organisations, namely Eurostat, PARIS21, African Union Commission (AUC) and SESRIC, attended the workshop.

### *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 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 countries with respect to 17 SDGs, 169 goals, and 230 SDGs indicators in August 2016. Additionally, in line with the relevant Resolutions of the 31<sup>st</sup> and 32<sup>nd</sup> 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 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 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; while 23 of them are still incomplete. Reminders were sent to other OIC member countries in order to increase the responses. The results showed that more than half of the respondent countries prioritised the SDGs as high with a focus on health, hunger, poverty, education, and employment. Besides, the initial analysis also shows that “shortage of financial resources” is the most reiterated limiting factor for the achievement of all SDGs which is followed by “inadequate human resources capacity” (except for SDG 2 and 6), and “lack of political support” (except for SDG 3, 6, and 12). “lack of methodological knowledge” and “lack of technological / IT means” also emerge as notable challenges in front of the respondent countries vis-à-vis the achievement of the SDGs.

## *Global Network of Institutions for Statistical Training (GIST)*

The Global Network of Institutions for Statistical Training (GIST) was established by the UNSD on 5 January with the overall objective to facilitate collaboration among members of the network in the delivery of trainings on statistics in a more harmonised and standardised manner as well as to improve effectiveness of these trainings through maximizing their outreach. With the invitation of the UNSD, SESRIC as an international organisation has been invited to be a Founding Members (FM) of the GIST.

As of 23 April 2018, the GIST Founding Members include African Development Bank (AfDB), International Monetary Fund (IMF), World Bank (WB), International Labour Organization (ILO), United Nations Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific (UNSIAP), Statistical Office of the European Communities (Eurostat), Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC), Eastern Africa Statistical Training Centre (EASTC), Ecole Nationale Supérieure de Statistique et d'Économie (ENSEA), Arab Institute for Training and Research in Statistics (AITRS), **Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Centre for Islamic Countries (SESRIC)**, United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR), Partnership in Statistics for Development in the 21st Century (PARIS21), UN Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), International Statistical Institution (ISI), United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD), Brazil (Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics), China (China International Statistical Training Center), India (National Statistical Systems

Training Academy), United States (US Census Bureau) and Republic of Korea (Statistical Training Institute). These Founding Members are key providers of training in official statistics at the global and regional levels.

In addition to the Founding Members, the GIST also includes a Stakeholder Advisory Group (SAG) which currently includes NSOs from 8 countries including Ghana, Hungary, Italy, Japan, Mexico, **Morocco**, Philippines and **State of Palestine**. As NSOs, SAG members are expected to represent the user-side of training, to provide comments and feedback on GIST's activities, and to assist in raising awareness of GIST work.

As a follow-up to SESRIC's membership to the GIST, the SESRIC delegation has attended the first meeting of GIST on 8 March 2018 as a side event meeting of the 49<sup>th</sup> Session of the UNSC in New York, USA.



## *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 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 Arab Institute for Training and Research in Statistics*



SESRIC signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Arab Institute for Training and Research in Statistics (AITRS) to initiate and facilitate collaboration and cooperation between two institutions in the area of statistics. The MoU was signed by H.E. Ambassador Musa KULAKLIKAYA, Director General of SESRIC, and Dr. Abdelaziz MAALMI, Director General of AITRS on 30 April 2018 in Amman, Jordan.

Through this MoU, SESRIC and AITRS will cooperate in sharing knowledge, ideas, action plans and lessons learned; planning joint activities in areas of common interest; pooling efforts and expertise; utilizing and leveraging their existing resources and facilities to mutual advantage and benefit; collaborating on the promotion, preparation and organization of workshops/conferences/training seminars; and collaborating on the organization and execution of research.

### *SESRIC Signed MoU with Turkish Red Crescent*



SESRIC and the Turkish Red Crescent Society announced the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to enhance the capacity of the humanitarian organisations and to alleviate poverty in the OIC countries through joint initiatives and development projects.

The signing of the MoU recognises the importance of joint efforts and close cooperation and partnership between the two organisations in the areas of common interests. The MoU, signed by H.E. Amb. Musa KULAKLIKAYA, Director General of SESRIC, and the President of Turkish Red Crescent, Dr. Kerem KINIK, on 5 February 2018, during a ceremony organised at the Turkish Red Crescent Headquarters in Ankara, flags up the opportunity for mutual cooperation as both parties work to develop and enhance the capacities of humanitarian organisations.

### *SESRIC Signed a New Amendment for Tobacco Questions for Surveys (TQS) Integration Project with the CDC Foundation*



On 12 September 2014, SESRIC entered into an agreement with the CDC Foundation to facilitate the integration of Tobacco Questions for Surveys (TQS) in ongoing surveys in the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) Member States.

The new Amendment for 2018, signed by Director General of SESRIC, H.E. Ambassador Musa KULAKLIKAYA and Chief Operating Officer of CDC Foundation, Ms. Monique S. PATRICK, signifies the continued collaboration between SESRIC and CDC Foundation to harmonize and standardize the monitoring of key tobacco control indicators regularly and promote sustainability and integration with other risk factors surveillance initiatives.

## *SESRIC Signed MoU with the Economic Cooperation Organization*



SESRIC and Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) aiming to boost cooperation between the two institutions on 16 January 2018 in Tehran in the fields of training, data collection and analysis, development and the dissemination of knowledge.

The MoU, signed by Director General of SESRIC, H.E. Amb. Musa KULAKLIKAYA and Secretary General of ECO, H.E. Ambassador Halil İbrahim AKÇA, signifies the joint aspirations of SESRIC and ECO to establish cooperation and carry out in-depth background research and policy-oriented studies backed by quantitative analysis in the socio-economic sectors prioritized for economic cooperation.

In accordance with the agreement, the two parties shall exchange documents, publications and data to contribute to the development of their institutions and draw on the strengths and experiences, exchanges of knowledge, ideas, networks and resources.

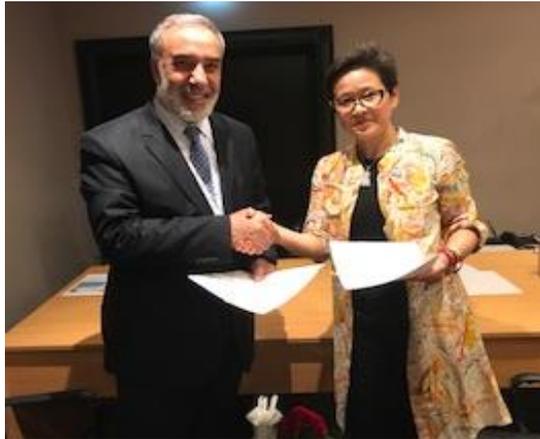
## *SESRIC Signed MoA with the DGSEE of Gabonese Republic*



SESRIC and the General Directorate of Statistics and Economic Studies (DGSEE) of Gabonese Republic signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) to facilitate collaboration and cooperation between both institutions within the framework of the project titled “Integration of the ‘Tobacco Questions for Surveys (TQS)’ into the National Surveys in Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) Member States”. The MoA was signed during the Workshop on ‘Tobacco Questions for Surveys (TQS): Data Analysis & Dissemination’ held on 16-17 August 2017 in Ankara, Turkey.

During the implementation period, DGSEE will integrate the TQS into its Demographic and Health Survey (EDSIII-Gabon), to harmonize and standardize the monitoring of key tobacco control indicators for evidence-based policy making and promote sustainability through frequent collection of the tobacco use data.

## *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.

## *Capacity Building Activities*

### *A Summary of 2007 – February 2018 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.

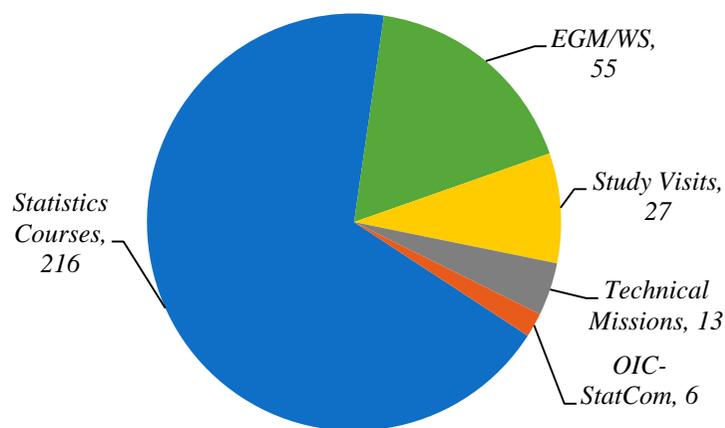
The StatCaB Programme was initiated in early 2007. It is the flagship capacity development programme of the SESRIC. Within its framework, the Centre collects information from the NSOs of OIC member countries through biennial questionnaires, assesses their needs and capacities, and matches these needs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

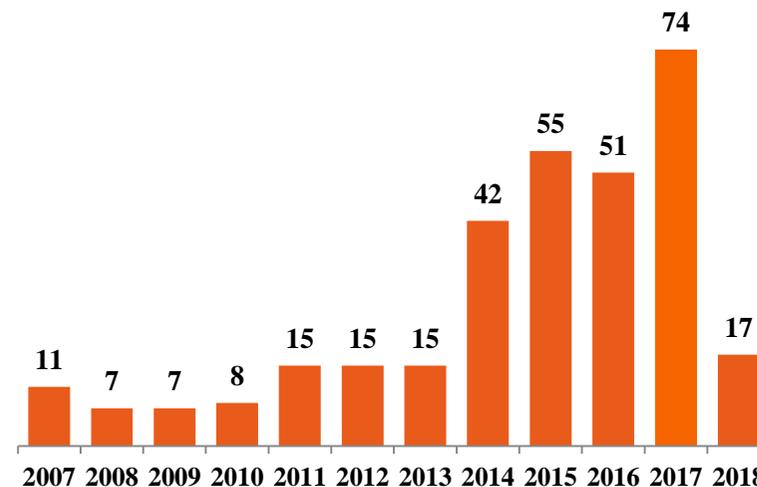
languages of the OIC) to the OIC member countries in August 2017. Up to now, we received surveys from 41 countries including Afghanistan, Albania, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Benin, Brunei, Cameroon, Chad, Comoros, Djibouti, Egypt, Gabon, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Libya, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mozambique, Niger, Oman, Pakistan, Palestine, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sudan, Suriname, Tajikistan, Togo, Turkey, Uganda, UAE and Yemen. Reminders were sent to other OIC member countries in order to increase the responses.

SESRIC exerts every possible effort to expand the coverage of its statistical activities in the OIC member countries. Between 2007 and April 2018, a total of **317 statistical activities** were conducted including **216 short-term statistics courses, 27 study visits, 13 technical missions, 55 expert group meetings and workshops (EGM/WS), and 6 OIC-StatCom sessions.**

**Number of Statistical Activities, by Type, 2007-April 2018**



**Number of Statistical Activities, by Year, 2007-April 2018**



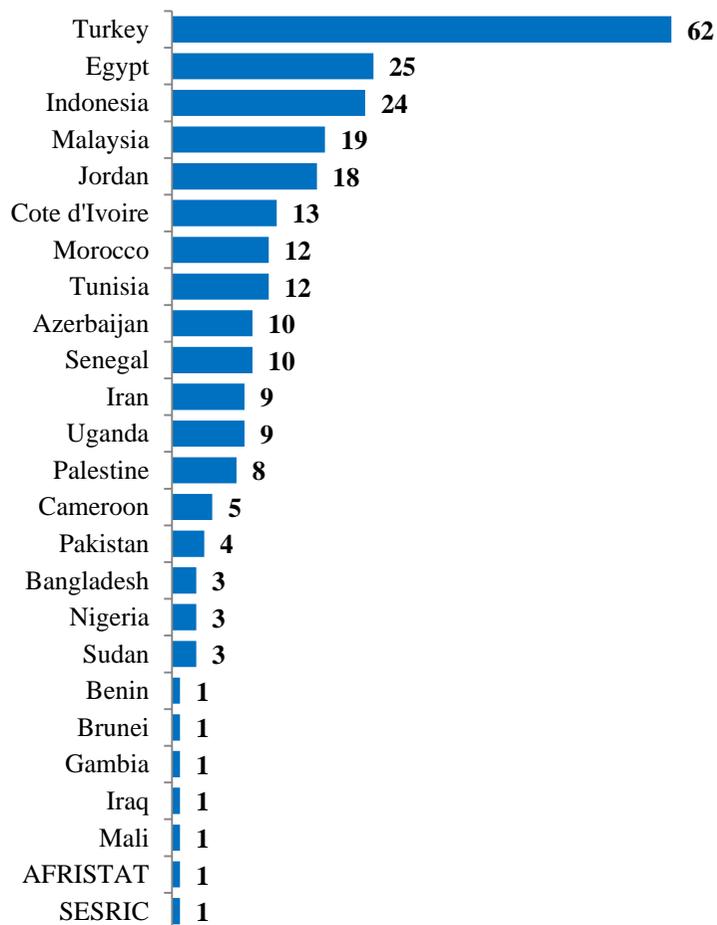
48 OIC member countries and 1 organisation benefitted from the **256 short-term statistics courses, technical missions, and study visits** between 2007 and April 2018. These activities facilitated by SESRIC could not have been realized without the generous support of 23 OIC member countries and 2 organisations since 2007.

The top ten countries contributed to StatCaB since 2007 are Turkey (62), Egypt (25), Indonesia (24), Malaysia (19), Jordan (18), Côte d'Ivoire (13), Morocco (12), Tunisia (12), Azerbaijan (10) and Senegal (10).

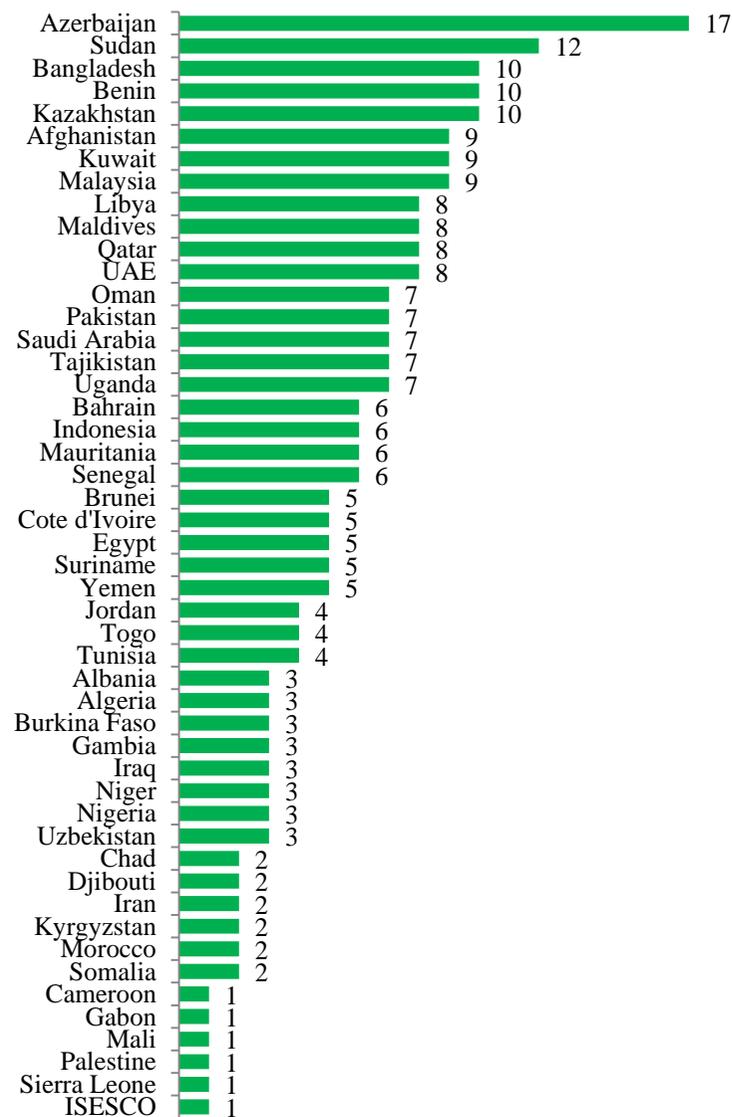
From the beneficiary perspective, Azerbaijan (17), Sudan (12), Bangladesh (10), Benin (10), Kazakhstan (10), Afghanistan (9), Kuwait (9), Malaysia (9), Libya (8) and Maldives (8) are the top ten countries benefitted from StatCaB since 2007.

Also in 2017, the first-ever statistical activities in the forms of short-term courses facilitated by SESRIC were benefitted to 3 OIC member countries including *Gabon, Iran, Palestine* and 1 international organisation, namely *ISESCO* based in Chad.

**Number of STATCAB Programs Conducted, by Provider, 2007-April 2018**

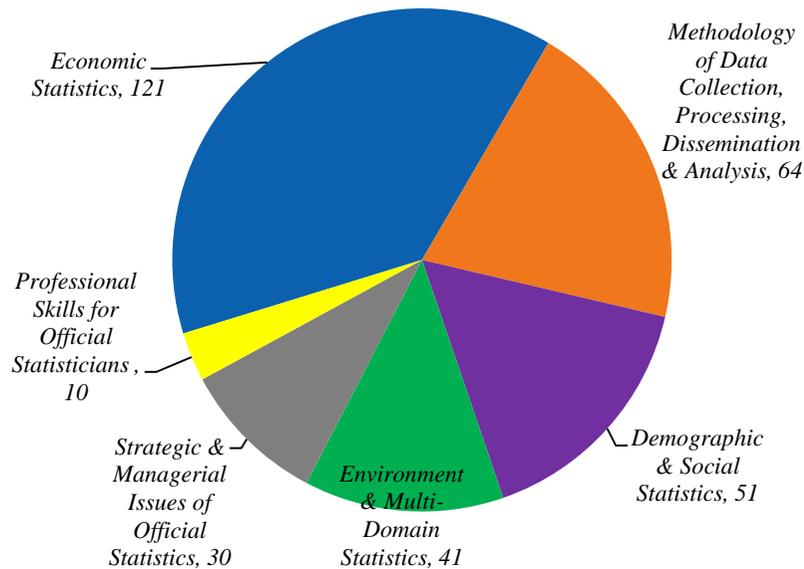


**Number of STATCAB Programs Conducted, by Beneficiary, 2007-April 2018**



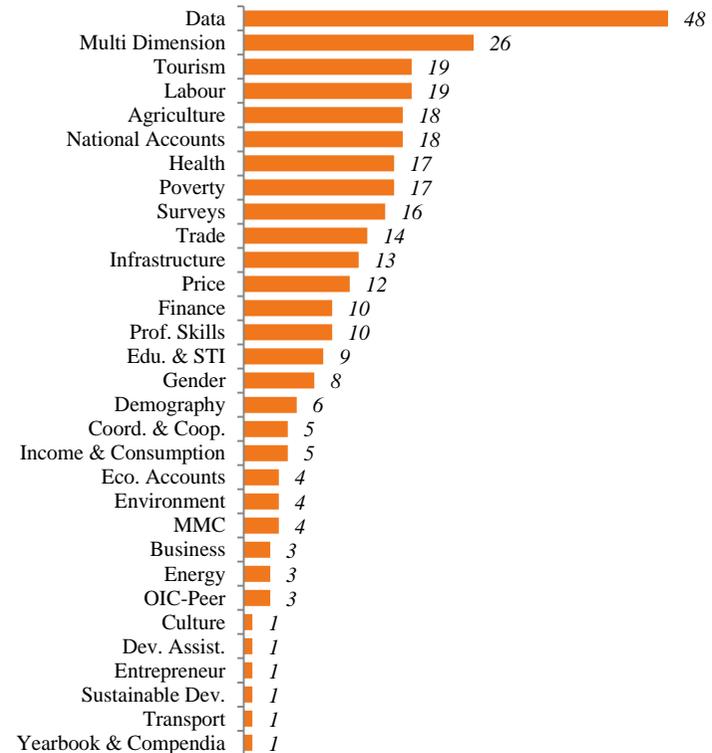
Analyzing the breakdown of the 317 statistical activities conducted between 2007 and April 2018, 121 (38%) of activities are related to economic statistics while 64 (20%) of programs are on methodology of data collection, processing, dissemination and analysis. Demographic and social statistics is the third domain with 51 activities accounting for 16% of all activities. Environment and multi-domain statistics is another domain where more than 41 (13%) activities had been conducted. Related to the managerial sides of official statistics, in total 40 activities were realized of which 30 (9%) of them were on strategic and managerial issues of official statistics and 10 (3%) aimed towards improving professional skills for official statisticians.

**Number of Statistical Activities Conducted, by Statistical Domains, 2007-April 2018**



The breakdown of the 317 statistical activities conducted between 2007 and April 2018 by theme shows that the top of list hosts 48 data related activities (15%), 26 multi-dimensional statistical activities (8%), 19 labour statistics (6%), 19 tourism statistics (6%), 18 agriculture statistics (6%), 18 national accounts (6%), 17 health statistics (5%), 17 poverty statistics (5%), 16 activities related to surveys (5%), 14 trade statistics (4%) and 13 activities related to statistics on infrastructure (4%).

**Number of Statistical Activities Conducted, by Theme, 2007-April 2018**



## 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.



### *Regional Meeting of Labour Statisticians in Preparation for the 20th International Conference on Labour Statisticians (ICLS)*

The 'Regional Meeting of Labour Statisticians in Preparation for the 20th International Conference on Labour Statisticians (ICLS)' was 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 was 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; and gather feedback and promote discussion among participants to generate new ideas and further refinements to the proposals.



### *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) organised 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. 25 participants from National Statistical Offices (NSOs) and Ministries of Agriculture of 10 OIC member countries including Benin, Cameroon, Cote d'Ivoire, Egypt, Gabon, Iraq, Mali, Niger, Senegal and Sudan and 5 international organisations including FAO Statistics Division, FAO Sub-regional Office for Central Asia (FAO-SEC), Statistical Centre for the Cooperation Council for the Arab Countries of the Gulf (GCC-STAT), Islamic Organisation for Food Security (IOFS) and SESRIC attended the Workshop. The Workshop is a continuation of the Workshop on Monitoring Food Security in the Context of 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda that was held on 22-23 February 2017 in Ankara, Turkey.



## Online Databases and Applications

### *OIC Statistics (OICStat) Database*



The OIC Statistics (OICStat) Database (<http://www.sesric.org/oicstat.php>) is the first and only international official statistics repository on the Member Countries of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC). It is periodically maintained to ensure the dissemination of most up-to-date data through the inclusion of categories and indicators on the OIC Member Countries.

The recent updates of OICStat Database include: new categories, namely Gender and Family, Indices, Islamic Banking and Finance, Science, Technology and Innovation, and Youth; and new indicators under Agriculture, Demography, Education, Energy, Gender and Family, Health, Indices, National Accounts, Tobacco Control and Water categories.

Designed with more “user-friendly” features, OICStat currently hosts 379 indicators under 22 categories dating back to 1985.

OICStat is made available online in three official languages of the OIC (Arabic, English, and French).

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 nine sections, namely “Background”, “Geography and Climate”, “Society and Demographics”, “Government and Politics”, “Economy and Sectors”, “OIC

Member Countries in Figures”, “International Partnerships”, “Logistics” and “Special Links”.

The profile of each country will be downloadable as a report. 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 country profile report. 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 679 statistics experts, the Roster of Statistics Experts (ROSE) can be accessed on: <http://www.sesric.org/rose.php>

### *SESRIC Motion Charts (SMC)*



The SESRIC Motion Charts (SMC), the interactive and dynamic motion chart module available on the SESRIC web site, is fully integrated with 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 charts generated by the SMC Module are rendered within the user's browser using the Adobe Flash technology. The produced charts are time series based bubble charts including two indicators that can be customised by the user to have either linear or logarithmic scale(s) with alternative bubble sizes based on the related indicators.

The SMC application module can be accessed on <http://www.sesric.org/smc.php>

## SESRIC Mobile Application

Launched during the 48th Anniversary of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) that was celebrated on 25 September 2017 in Ankara, Turkey; SESRIC Mobile Application gives quick and easy access to OIC Statistical (OICStat) Database, OIC Countries in Figures (OIC-CIF), OIC Ranker and OIC Top-Bottom Finder. Currently made available for electronic devices equipped with Android operating system version 4.1 and better, the SESRIC Mobile Application is the one-stop shop for the data related modules and services of SESRIC for mobile platforms and will be developed further to cover the iOS platform enabled electronic devices soon.

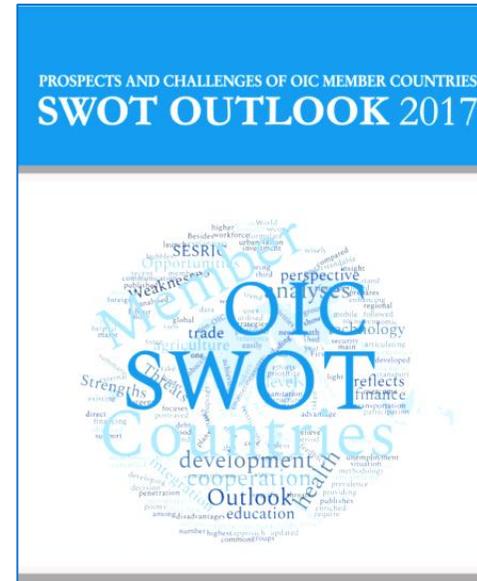
Sesric Mobile	
 <p>Organization of Islamic Cooperation STATISTICAL, ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL RESEARCH AND TRAINING CENTRE FOR ISLAMIC COUNTRIES "Cooperation for Development"</p>	 <p><b>OIC Stat</b> The OIC Statistics (OICStat) Database is the first and only international official statistics repository on the Member Countries of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC).</p>
 <p><b>OICIF</b></p>	<p><b>CIF</b> OIC-Countries In Figures (OIC-CIF) presents the most recent available information with facts and figures from the 57 Member States of the OIC.</p>
 <p><b>OIC Ranker</b></p>	<p><b>OIC Ranker</b> This special software was developed to rank the OIC Member Countries by a selected OICSTAT indicator.</p>
 <p><b>ROSE</b> ROSTER OF STATISTICS EXPERTS</p>	<p><b>ROSE</b> 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.</p>

CIF Results	
	
<b>BACKGROUND</b>	
<b>GEOGRAPHY and CLIMATE</b>	
Location and Geographic Coordinates	: Western Asia
Total Area (sq km)	: 783,562 km <sup>2</sup>
Total Land Area (sq km)	: 769,632 km <sup>2</sup>
Total Water Area (sq km)	: 13,930 km <sup>2</sup>
Land Boundaries (km)	: 2,816 km
Border Countries	: 8 border countries: Armenia (311 km) Azerbaijan (17 km) Bulgaria (223 km) Georgia (273 km) Greece (192 km) Iran (534 km) Iraq (367 km) Syria (899 km)
Coastline (km)	: 7,200 km
Climate and Weather	: Being in the temperate zone and

## Statistical Publications

### SWOT Outlook on OIC Member Countries - 2017



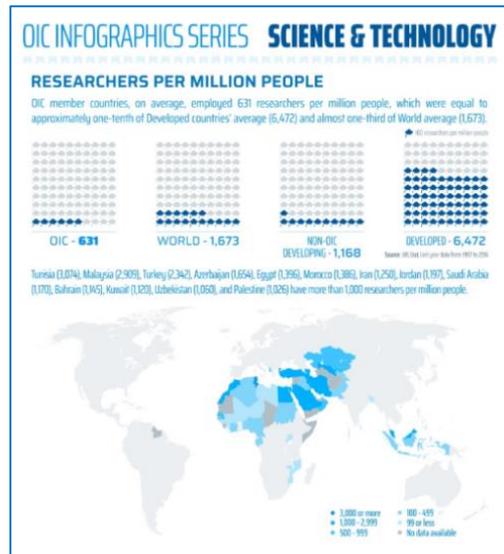
Before the launch of SWOT Outlook, OIC member countries were articulating a need for a publication that would act as one of the reference points towards enhancing the level of their cooperation and integration as well as the level of their competitiveness, as a group, at both the

regional and global levels. To support these cooperation and integration efforts of the member countries, SESRIC prepares and publishes the SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats) Outlook.

The SWOT Outlook on OIC member countries 2017 edition can be accessed through:

<http://www.sesric.org/publications-books.php>

## 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>

## Did You Know Module (DYK)



The Centre's website hosts the "Did You Know?" module to reflect striking facts about OIC member countries in a simple and user friendly way. It aims to highlight the current situation of OIC member countries on a specific socio-economic variable in a one-page snapshot format. The content of module is regularly updated and enriched with different indicators.

The SESRIC DYK can be accessed through:  
<http://www.sesric.org/sesricdidyouknow.php>

## *SESRIC Statistics Newsletter*



The annual SESRIC Statistics Newsletter has been prepared by the Statistics and Information Department since 2010. The Newsletter covers the most remarkable SESRIC activities in the area of statistics. These encompass foremost activities associated with the OIC Statistical Commission, selected capacity building programmes, and projects undertaken.

The SESRIC Statistics Newsletter can be accessed through:

<http://www.sesric.org/publications-newsletter-oicstat.php>





# SESRIC STATISTICS NEWSLETTER

## 2018



Kudüs Caddesi No: 9 Diplomatik Site  
06450 Oran-Ankara, Turkey  
<http://goo.gl/maps/WZK8g>



+90-312-4686172



+90-312-4685726



[statistics@sesric.org](mailto:statistics@sesric.org)



<http://www.sesric.org> | |  
<http://www.oicstatcom.org>



<https://twitter.com/sesric> | |  
<https://twitter.com/oicstatcom>