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Presentation Title

SESRIC Statistical Capacity Building (StatCaB) Programme for National Statistical Offices (NSOs) of OIC Countries

Abstract

The accurate, timely, reliable and consistent statistical data is of utmost importance for policy making and strategy development in any country. However, the member countries of Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) have varying levels of capacities for producing statistical data in accordance with the relevant internationally-accepted statistical standards. Against this background, the Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Centre for Islamic

Countries (SESRIC) carries out an important role in strengthening and improving the National Statistical Systems (NSSs) in the OIC countries with a view to producing better national statistics and thus helping policy-makers introducing better national policies and strategies. In this context, the Centre contributes significantly to enhancing the technical capacities of the National Statistical Offices (NSOs) of the member countries. For this objective, the Centre carries out a flagship statistical skills development initiative titled “OIC Statistical Capacity Building Programme (StatCaB)”. The OIC StatCaB Programme tries to identify statistical needs and capacities of the NSOs and facilitates the exchange of experts among OIC countries by realizing different types of activities in order to strengthen their NSSs.

The OIC StatCaB Programme was initiated in early 2007. In a shorter period of time, it has become the leading capacity development programme of the SESRIC which acted as an exemplary model for the establishment of other capacity building programmes. To trigger the statistical cooperation linkages and thus contribute to the efforts of OIC countries in improving their statistical systems, the Centre collects information from the NSOs of OIC countries by conducting biennial questionnaires. The findings from these questionnaires enable the Centre to assess the needs and capacities of NSOs of OIC countries. Based on these corresponding needs and capacities, a matching is done among OIC countries to organize short term statistical courses, study visits, and technical missions.

Since the inception of the first StatCaB activity in 2007, the Centre has organized over 320 statistical capacity building programmes with the participation of experts and high-level officials from the NSOs and other constituents of the NSSs of OIC countries. In total around 6000 experts and statisticians almost from all NSOs of OIC countries but also from their line ministries and governmental bodies benefited from these activities.

As a way forward, over a period of five years, the OIC StatCaB Programme aims at reaching some 600 activities and focusing on activities in relation to measuring 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.