Dr. Ahmad Hussein

Statistics Expert, Planning and Statistics Authority

Dr. Hussein is an official statistics expert at the Planning and Statistics Authority, State of Qatar. Currently he is leading a project on modernization of the official statistics in support of the Sustainable Development Agenda 2030, and to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the statistical system in collaboration with the United Nations system and advanced European countries. He is the main author of the National Strategy for the Development of Statistics 2008-2011 (NSDS) that has been prepared during his work with the Qatar Statistics Authority.

During his tenure as Director of the Statistics Division of the UN-ESCWA he formulated and supervised the implementation of the strategic frameworks of Official Statistics in the said organization. He led the implementation of many statistical projects funded by UNDP, ACFUND, ILO, IDRC Canada, and DIFID of UK. Over 35 years of experience in a number of countries mainly in the Arab region Mr. Hussein holds a Ph.D. in Demography and statistics from the University of Warsaw. He organized and participated in many international conferences, regional and national meetings and workshops. During his work with UN-ESCWA, he participated in developing many manuals and guidelines in official statistics at the regional and international level. He published a number of papers and provided advisory services to many Arab countries in various fields of official Statistics. Additionally, Mr. Hussein is a member of many International Statistical Associations and he is an elected member of the International Statistical Institute (ISI).

Presentation Title

Scope of Modernization of Official Statistics in the State of Qatar

Abstract

This presentation introduces the concept of official statistics modernization in the State of Qatar, which deals with the restructuring of the entire statistical process; starting from data collection, processing and dissemination, as well as providing them to users from all categories, particularly decision-makers. As for restructuring, specific frameworks for each modernization process need to be developed. Moreover, the presentation identifies the most important areas of modernization processes, foremost of which are the preparation of a strategy for the development of official statistics in all government agencies and the preparation of an

implementation plan with a number of projects over a five-year period. The presentation touches upon the adoption of the Generic Statistical Business Process Model (GSBPM) being developed by the UN Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE). It also reflects on building statistical registers based on administrative records available in government agencies, updating data collection processes, innovation, research and development, and continuous search for new sources of data such as big data, as well as building a comprehensive data quality framework supported by performance indicators.

Among the important topics addressed by the presentation are data science and how to use it in official statistics, and the need to attract data scientists to work in official statistics. The presentation also provides the drivers for the measurement of the digital economy and stresses the need to conduct the necessary surveys for the same and to benefit from global expertise in this field.