Strengthening the Production and Use of Statistics in the OIC

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An increasing demand for data and growing international support

... But much work to be done
During the past 10 years, the demand for statistics at the national international, regional and global level has risen:

- Poverty Reduction Strategies
- MDGs
- Regional Integration
- The Effects of Globalisation
For identifying problems, designing policies, and tracking their effectiveness it is vital to have:

- Reliable timely information,
- That is regularly updated
- And widely available.
But there is still much work to be done

The social, economic and environmental information systems in the majority of developing countries cannot respond to these data needs.

The development of statistical systems is not necessarily a priority for governments nor for other stakeholders working in development.
A Vicious Circle

- Low quality statistics
- Not enough resources are allocated
- Politicians and Decision Makers do not use statistics often
- Lack of interest in statistics
Measuring the Statistical Capacity of the OIC

Since 2004, the World Bank has calculated an annual composite indicator of the statistical capacity of developing countries. It is based on an evaluation of countries against a set of criteria consistent with international recommendations. It has 3 component indicators:

1. **Methodology:** conformity with international statistical standards

2. **Source Data:** capacity to collect relevant timely data at appropriate intervals and whether administrative data are available and reliable.

3. **Periodicity and timeliness** of key macroeconomic and socio-demographic indicators and data availability based on international databases
World Bank Statistical Capacity Indicator
(on a scale of 0-100)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>All countries (*)</th>
<th>of which: OIC Countries</th>
<th>of which: LMICs &amp; IDA OIC Countries</th>
<th>of which: IDA OIC Countries</th>
<th>All IDA countries</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Overall</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Methodology</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Source Data</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Periodicity</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>68</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Development Data Group, World Bank

(*) This includes 111 non-high income IBRD/IDA countries with a population of a million or more in 2009.
The World Bank Statistical Capacity Indicator

These results suggest

➔ That OIC countries compare **similarly to their peers**
➔ But OIC countries perform relatively **poorly against the « methodology » criteria**.…. Why?

**Statistical methodology, measures a country’s ability to adhere to internationally recommended standards and methods. This aspect is captured by assessing guidelines and procedures used to compile macroeconomic statistics, and social data reporting and estimation practices.**
The Millennium Declaration in 2000 and the subsequent MDGs initiated a considerable amount of work among statisticians to measure the progress towards achieving the goals.

The subset of OIC countries we looked at are monitoring the MDGs more actively than their peers.
## Numbers of Developing countries by number of MDGS with at least 2 data points 1990 - 2008

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of Indicators with at least 2 data points</th>
<th>All Countries</th>
<th>OIC Countries</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No.</td>
<td>%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0 – 15</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 – 25</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26 – 35</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36 – 45</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>46 – 55</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>163</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The IMF’s General & Special Data Dissemination Standards

Established in 1997 by the International Monetary Fund, the SDDS & GDDS standards guide members in the dissemination to the public of their economic and financial data.

46 of the OIC’s 57 members take part (39 in the GDDS and 7 in the SDDS).

Source: http://dsbb.imf.org/Applications/web/dsbbhome/
Global Engagement for better Statistics

- Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness (2005)
- Accra Agenda for Action (2008)
- And very recently - November 2009 : The Dakar Declaration on the Development of Statistics
PARIS21

Introduction
What is PARIS21?

- **Partnership** in Statistics for Development in the 21st Century
- **Consortium** of users and producers of statistics from both developed and developing countries and multi-lateral organisations
- Created in **November 1999** by five major international organisations (UN, EU, OECD, IMF, WB)
- A major **Consortium Meeting** 16-18 November 2009
- A **new strategy for 2010-2015**
- A **steering committee** who meet twice a year
- Co-chaired by the head of the **OECD’s DAC** and by a **representative from a developing country**
- A secretariat housed at the **OECD**.
PARIS21’s Objectives

- Improving governance and government’s effectiveness to reduce poverty and achieve the **Millennium Development Goals**

- Promoting **a focus on results** and encouraging:
  - The **demand for, and use of**, statistics by decision makers
  - An increased **capacity to produce and analyse** statistics
  - A **better dialogue** between the producers and users of statistics

- Promoting an efficient use of **national and international resources** in a **national statistical system** that is focussed on the **user’s needs** and embedded within national development policies.
When PARIS21 works with a country, we can help:

- Develop a **National Strategy for the Development of Statistics (NSDS) process**;
- **Advocate** for Better Statistics;
- **Co-ordinate** Donor Activity in the Country;
- Advise on improving the **legal framework** for official statistics;
- Assist with the **archiving, documenting and dissemination of existing survey micro-data** through the Accelerated Data Programme (ADP);
- Improve the dialogue between the **users and producers** of statistics.
PARIS21’s Work ...

...In general and in OIC Member Countries
PARIS 21 Work in the OIC

PARIS 21 (usually) works with International Development Assistance (IDA) eligible countries and Lower Middle Income Countries (LMICs), and with some others as well.

Among the 57 OIC countries, 44 are IDA or LMIC. We are working with nearly all of them. Of these countries:

Currently Implementing a Strategy -- 25

Currently Designing a Strategy or Awaiting Adoption -- 10

Without a Strategy but Planning one -- 8

Without a Strategy and Not Planning -- 1
The NSDS process offers an opportunity to develop a true partnership for statistics, across different sectors from society.

NSSs need to work harder to ensure that the right statistics are collected for the issues that matter to their countries.

How can we improve the dialogue between users and producers? Though statisticians know statistics are important, it is not obvious that the rest of society does.

NSSs need to become better at fighting for scarce resources.

Statistics are a Public Service. We need better data. But let us also make sure it is used more. Let's find new and innovative ways to bring statistics to citizens.