



10th Session of OIC-StatCom
5-7 October 2021, Virtual Meeting

**Report of the OIC-StatCom Secretariat on the Implementation of
the Resolutions of the 9th Session of OIC-StatCom**

This Report summarizes the implementation of the resolutions of the 9th Session of OIC-StatCom (<https://www.oicstatcom.org/event-detail.php?id=2340>) by the Members and the Secretariat. The implementation by the Members is based on the findings from Part B of the Survey (<https://www.oicstatcom.org/strategic-vision.php>) circulated by the Secretariat on 22 March 2021.

**Resolution #1: Implementation of the Programme of Action for 2021-2025
and the Resolutions of the 9th Session of the OIC-StatCom**

Please refer to the Report titled “Report on the Implementation of the Programme of Action for 2021-2025” prepared by the Secretariat based on the findings from Part A of the Survey (<https://www.oicstatcom.org/strategic-vision.php>) circulated by the Secretariat on 22 March 2021.

**Resolution #2 and #3: Statistical Capacity Building Programme and Other
Statistical Activities**

The Secretariat updated the Statistical Capacity Building Programme (StatCaB) Biennial Survey for the Biennium 2022-2023 (<https://www.oicstatcom.org/statcab.php>) and sent it to the OIC-StatCom Members on 21 January 2021 for better identification of their statistical needs and capacities. As of August 2021, the Secretariat received responses from 34 NSOs¹ of the OIC countries.

Since the last session of OIC-StatCom in October 2020, 42 *statistical activities* were conducted by the Secretariat including 20 *statistical training courses*, 18 *webinars* and 4 *international meetings/workshops*. Around 2,000 participants from 51 OIC countries and 6 international organisations took part in the statistical activities provided by 17 OIC countries and 11 international organisations. The details of these activities can be accessed on: <https://www.oicstatcom.org/statcab.php> and <https://www.oicstatcom.org/activities-archive.php>

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the Secretariat continues to offer StatCaB activities through a video conferencing platform to the NSOs of OIC countries to contribute to their efforts in strengthening statistical capacities in these difficult times.

¹ 22 NSOs of OIC countries (*Albania, Bahrain, Brunei, Burkina Faso, Comoros, Cote d'Ivoire, Djibouti, Egypt, Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Iran, Lebanon, Libya, Mauritania, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Sudan, Tajikistan, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, and Uganda*) have not yet communicated their survey responses. To increase the response rate, the Secretariat sends regular reminders to these OIC countries.

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Resolution #4: Integration of the ‘Tobacco Questions for Surveys (TQS)’ into the National Surveys in OIC Countries

Since the last session of OIC-StatCom in October 2020, 1 OIC country (*Cameroon*) fully completed the project, which increase the number of countries with project completion status to 14. Besides, the Secretariat received commitment from Palestine for the implementation of National Smoking and Tobacco Consumption Survey in their country in 2021. In addition, SESRIC received commitment from Mali for the integration of TQS-Youth into their Modular Permanent Household Survey (EMOP). Moreover, Burkina Faso has shown interest to integrate TQS into one of their ongoing national surveys, while Niger has shown interest for the integration of TQS-Youth into their Harmonize Survey on Living Conditions of Households. The Secretariat continues following-up the TQS integration projects with Afghanistan, Burkina Faso, Kyrgyzstan, and Sudan; and TQS-Youth integration projects with Benin, Cote d’Ivoire, Malaysia, and Niger.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the TQS-Youth Orientation Workshop which was planned to be held at the end of 2020 had to be postponed. However, the Secretariat organised a Webinar on ‘Tobacco Questions for Surveys (TQS) and TQS-Youth’ on 9 December 2020 (<https://www.sesric.org/event-detail.php?id=2443>) in collaboration with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and CDC Foundation with the participation of 47 attendees from 19 OIC countries.

The Secretariat has also prepared a TQS report titled “Implementation of the Tobacco Questions for Surveys (TQS) in Selected OIC Member Countries: Evidence for Action” planned to be published in late 2021 after receiving the relevant clearances from CDC and CDC Foundation. This report presents the main highlights from the TQS integrated surveys of the 13 OIC countries (Azerbaijan, Chad, Cote d’Ivoire, Egypt, Gambia, Indonesia, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Tajikistan, and Togo) in which the project has been successfully completed during the period 2014 to 2019.

Resolution #6: Alternative Data Collection Methods during COVID-19 Pandemic

The Secretariat organised a Webinar on ‘Remote Data Collection Methods to Overcome the Challenges Faced by the NSOs during the COVID-19 Pandemic’ (<https://www.sesric.org/event-detail.php?id=2515>) on 6 July 2021. Organised with technical support of the NSOs of Indonesia, Malaysia, Palestine, Senegal, and Turkey, the Webinar was attended by 57 participants from 17 OIC countries. The webinar covered the experiences of the participating OIC countries concerning Computer Assisted Telephone Interviewing (CATI), Computer-Assisted Self-Interviewing (CASI), Computer Assisted Web Interviewing (CAWI), Short Message Services (SMS)/texts, Interactive Voice Response (IVR), online surveys, and app-based interviews, particularly during the COVID-19 pandemic.

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In order to monitor the implementation of Resolution #6 of the 9th Session of OIC-StatCom by its members, a question was asked in the aforementioned Survey whether the OIC-StatCom members have capacities in sharing their best practices on the new data quality concepts and/or new skills to harness modern technologies with regards to the main principles of data quality. 15 respondents said “Yes” and 6 respondents said “No”. 12 main topics ranging from implementation of Quality Assurance Framework to integration of administrative and alternative data sources for production of official statistics have been mentioned by the respondents which could provide their expertise related to the new data quality concepts and/or new skills to harness modern technologies with regards to the main principles of data quality.

Resolution #7: Facilitation of Knowledge Exchange with the International Organisations towards the Production of SDGs Indicators

In collaboration with the relevant UN agencies, the Secretariat organised two webinars focusing on the production of SDGs indicators since the last Session of OIC-StatCom in 2020. The Webinar on ‘Enhancing Food Security in OIC Countries: An Overview of the Food Balance Sheets’, organised with the technical support of FAO on 24 November 2020 (<https://www.oicstatcom.org/event-detail.php?id=2429>), focused on the new Food Balance Sheet Methodology including its links with the SDGs, particularly SDG 2 (Zero Hunger) indicators. This webinar was attended by 44 participants from 19 OIC countries.

The Webinar on ‘Measurement Methods for SDG 11 and the New Urban Agenda in the OIC Countries’ (<https://www.oicstatcom.org/event-detail.php?id=2479>) was organised in collaboration with UN-Habitat on 31 May 2021 and attended by 46 participants from 18 OIC countries. The Webinar covered SDG 11 and the New Urban Agenda Framework including the relevant methodologies to measure the selected indicators as well as integration of geospatial data into urban monitoring and urban observatories models.

Resolution #8: Population and Housing Censuses

The Secretariat, in collaboration with the United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD), organised a Workshop on ‘Use of Administrative Registers for Population and Housing Censuses’ on 29-30 June 2021 (<https://www.oicstatcom.org/event-detail.php?id=2521>) through a video conferencing platform with the participation of 126 attendees from the NSOs of 32 OIC countries and representatives of United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and US Census Bureau. The Workshop focused on key considerations and requirements for transitioning from traditional census to alternative census methodologies involving the use of administrative registers and building institutional capacity and infrastructure for maintaining statistical registers for successful implementation of population and housing censuses.

Besides, the above-mentioned workshop, the Secretariat also organised a Webinar on “Population Statistics and Censuses” on 22 February 2021 (<https://www.oicstatcom.org/event-detail.php?id=2458>) with the participation of 26 attendees from 20 OIC countries. NSOs of Turkey and Palestine shared their experiences in conducting Population and Housing Censuses

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in their countries especially for the use register-based census for Turkey in 2021, and the use of Geographic Information System (GIS) and new technologies for Palestine in 2017.

In order to monitor the implementation of this Resolution by the members, questions about whether the OIC-StatCom members receive any support from regional and/or international institutions for the implementation of population, housing, and agriculture census in their countries, kind of modality, and from which institution they received the support were asked in the aforementioned Survey. 18 respondents confirmed that they received support (either “technical” or “financial” support) and 3 respondents said “No”. The respondents received support from different UN and regional organisations, multilateral development banks, non-OIC member countries, and private companies for the conduct of their population and/or agriculture censuses.

Resolution #9: Monitoring and Reporting SDG 1 (No Poverty)

The Secretariat also organised an Online Training Course on ‘Living Conditions and Poverty Statistics’ on 8-9 December 2020 (<https://www.sesric.org/event-detail.php?id=2413>) for the benefit of the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS). The course covered the following topics:

- Socio Economic Survey: Source of Data for Calculating Poverty
- Measuring Poverty
- Poverty Profile and Poverty Census in Indonesia

In addition, the Secretariat organised an Online Training Course on ‘SDG 1 (No Poverty) Indicators’ (<https://www.sesric.org/event-detail.php?id=2518>) on 25-27 May 2021 and was attended by NSOs of 7 OIC countries. The following topics were covered during the course:

- Concept and definition of poverty;
- Effect of poverty on life aspects and other SDGs;
- Definitions and calculations of SDG 1 indicators; and
- Interactions between SDG 1 on other SDGs.

In order to monitor the implementation of this Resolution by the members, questions concerning whether the OIC-StatCom members have aligned their relevant processes related to SDG #1 with the recent methodologies and approaches and whether their institutions could share their best practices on monitoring the impacts of COVID-19 pandemic particularly on SDG #1 targets were inquired in the aforementioned Survey. 13 respondents confirmed that their statistical processes have been aligned with the recent methodologies and approaches, including multidimensional poverty measurement methods, developed by relevant regional and international organisations. 6 respondents said “Partially”, while 1 respondent said “No”. 8 respondents confirmed their readiness to share their best practices on monitoring the impacts of COVID-19 pandemic particularly on SDG #1 targets, while 11 respondents said “No”. The topics that the OIC-StatCom members could provide related to monitoring the impacts of COVID-19 pandemic particularly on SDG #1 targets include ‘Household Income and



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Expenditure Survey Proposed by ESCWA’ and ‘Best Practices Adopted during COVID-19 including the Country Experience’.

Resolution #10: Utilising Non-Traditional Data Sources in Official Statistics

The Secretariat organised a Webinar on ‘Big Data Applications and Utilising Non-Traditional Data Sources and Methods for Official Statistics’ (<https://www.sesric.org/event-detail.php?id=2514>) in collaboration with the NSOs of Indonesia, Jordan, Malaysia, Oman, Saudi Arabia, Turkey, and the Statistics Division of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (UNESCWA) on 10 June 2021 with the participation of 60 attendees from the NSOs of 17 OIC countries and 2 international organisations. The objective of the webinar was to share experiences in the development and/or use of big data applications and utilising non-traditional data sources and methods for official statistics.

In order to monitor the implementation of this Resolution by the members, questions about whether the OIC-StatCom members have utilised any non-traditional data sources and methods such as Big Data, Artificial Intelligence, data science, geospatial data, etc. to produce official statistics, the opportunities and challenges of utilising non-traditional data sources, and whether their institutions have a capacity in sharing best practices on incorporating non-traditional data sources and/or methods into official statistics were posed in the aforementioned Survey.

14 respondents confirmed that their statistical processes have utilised non-traditional data source(s). The types of non-traditional source(s) and/or methods that are being utilised by the OIC-StatCom members include Artificial Intelligence and machine learning approaches, Big Data clusters, Earth observation and geospatial data, Geographic Information Systems, Mobile phone data, Telephonic survey, and Web crawling and scraping.

The respondents indicated the below opportunities and challenges of utilising non-traditional data sources.

Opportunities	Challenges
Data collection costs and time are saved.	Adaptation of the legal framework (revision of the statistical law) and access to statistical information sources
Accuracy in calculations increase, possible errors accruing from human factor are eliminated.	Financial challenges
Involve free price registrars in other statistical surveys.	Untimely cut-off of electricity
Physical contact is minimized during primary data collection.	Connection problem (low speed)
Telephonic survey is very useful during COVID-19.	Lack of technical resources



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Opportunities	Challenges
Utilization of geospatial data and Geographic Information System approach to produce data on SDG indicator 9.c.1 “Proportion of population covered by a mobile network”.	Geocodes for addresses could not be properly transferred due to incomplete addresses
Reduce the statistical burden on respondents and increase the data acquisition timeliness	In telephonic survey, non-response risk is high
Increase in the accuracy of the collected statistics and an increase in the inclusiveness and coverage	Structure of websites change frequently, storage limitation, legalisation, workload of data verification process to ensure that data extracted from large-scale unstructured text data by using NPL are accurate and of quality
Enable to collect daily product data and online job vacancy data	Challenges of using web scraped data: (i) Unstructured data need to be converted into structured data models; (ii) Many empty and irrelevant fields in the data need to be corrected by applying pre-processing techniques; and (iii) Increased maintenance costs due to frequent changes in structure of websites requiring changes in codes of web scraping spiders
Enable to collect all product and job advertisements data from different web pages	Lack of sufficient detailed data and the lack of specific methodologies on how to integrate this data into the statistical work.
	Challenges related to the political situation
	Epidemics and the security situation

12 respondents answered positively for the question concerning whether they have capacities in sharing best practices on incorporating non-traditional data sources and/or methods into official statistics. The topics that the OIC-StatCom members could provide their expertise include ‘Earth Observation Data for Agricultural Statistics’, ‘Implementing Censuses using GIS’, ‘Integrating Geospatial Data with Secondary Data for Information’, ‘Interactive Digital Map Production’, ‘Price Intelligence: Data Gathering Utilizing Web Crawling’, ‘Telephonic Survey Implementation’, and ‘Using Big Data’.

Resolution #11: Third World Statistics Day Celebrations

In order to monitor the implementation of this Resolution by the members, a question concerning whether the OIC-StatCom members actively participated in the Third World Statistics Day celebrations was asked in the aforementioned Survey. 17 respondents said “Yes”. A respondent further informed that their institution organised a World Statistics Day workshop on 20 October 2020 attended by 50 in-person participants and more than 100 participants by video conference with papers on Technological innovations for statistics, Misuse of statistical data: Challenges for African NSOs, and Methodology for online data collection as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.