



Statistical, Economic and Social Research  
and Training Centre for Islamic Countries

# FOREWORD



The Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) is an intergovernmental organization that aims to enhance solidarity and cooperation among its 57 Member States, spread across four continents and home to over 2 billion people. The OIC has established numerous institutions, including subsidiary organs, specialized institutions, standing committees, and affiliated bodies, to support its mandate and objectives.

SESRIC has been a subsidiary organ of the OIC since 1978. It has consistently demonstrated its professionalism and capacity in fulfilling its mandate in the areas of statistics, research, and training.

As the only OIC institution mandated to work in the domain of statistics, SESRIC serves as the main repository of statistics and information on and for the OIC member countries. The Centre collects

and disseminates high-quality statistics, which help to inform member countries about each other's potentials, capacities, and needs, thus facilitating cooperation in various fields and through different modalities.

SESRIC also serves as the Secretariat of the OIC Statistical Commission (OIC-StatCom), which is the only OIC cooperation forum in the field of statistics, similar to the UN Statistical Commission. This underscores the crucial role that SESRIC plays in enhancing statistical capacity development and cooperation.

In addition to its statistical mandate, SESRIC is the main socio-economic research organ of the OIC. The Centre prepares policy-oriented technical background reports, strategic roadmaps, and plans of action on a wide range of socio-economic issues on the OIC agenda. These reports and

strategic documents are submitted to and presented at various relevant OIC sectoral ministerial conferences, contributing to the OIC high-level policy debate and dialogue process.

SESRIC also plays a significant role in fostering training and technical cooperation, contributing to the enhancement of technical human resources capacities in the OIC member countries. The Centre initiates and implements capacity-building programmes and activities across diverse socio-economic sectors, targeting areas of immediate interest to the OIC member countries. These comprehensive programs facilitate the transfer and exchange of knowledge, expertise, and experiences among the relevant national institutions in the member countries. Additionally, SESRIC establishes strong partnerships and fosters collaboration with relevant OIC, national, and international institutions, reinforcing its mission to amplify both cooperation and capacity-building efforts.

SESRIC has successfully shifted its approach from scattered to strategically planned interventions and from activity-based to results-oriented interventions. The Centre pays special attention to strengthening its role in supporting and contributing to the development cooperation efforts of the OIC and its member countries by focusing on a results-based approach based on clear objectives and flexibility in the implementation of its programs and activities. The Centre targets the outcomes

where the right cooperation modality can generate the greatest impact.

In conclusion, SESRIC is a vital institution of the OIC that has accumulated solid experience and successful achievements over the past four and a half decades. It is one of the most active and versatile OIC institutions working in the domain of socio-economic development. The Centre's role in enhancing intra-OIC cooperation in statistics, research, and training and technical cooperation programs make it a critical player in achieving the noble objectives of the OIC. SESRIC's commitment to a results-based approach makes it a valuable partner in ensuring welfare, prosperity, progress, and sustainable development in the member countries and the Islamic Ummah at large.

**Zehra Zümrüt SELÇUK**  
Director General  
SESRIC



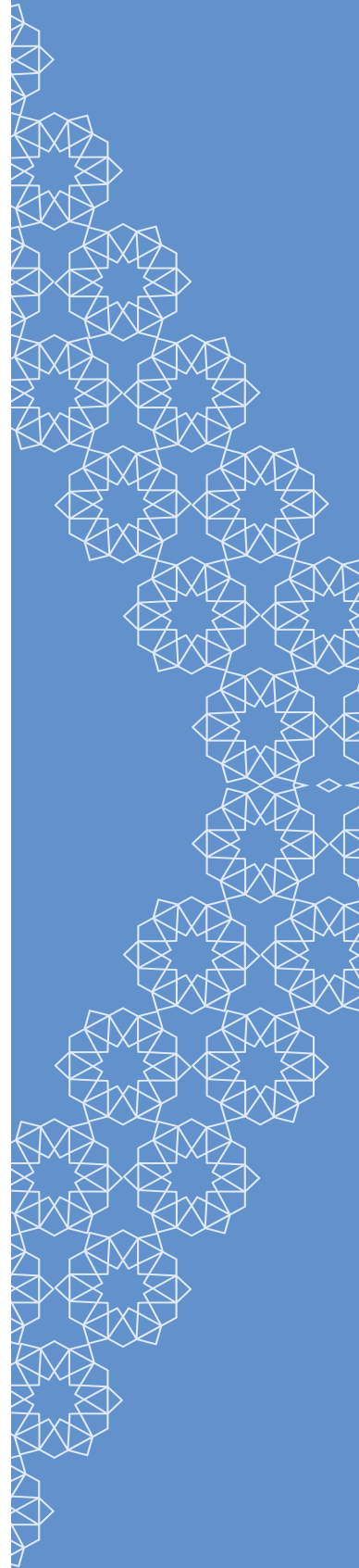
# Organisation of Islamic Cooperation

Following the criminal arson on Al-Aqsa Mosque in occupied Jerusalem, the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) was established in 1969 to galvanize the Ummah into a unified body and to actively represent the Muslims by advocating for all the causes close to the hearts of over 1.9 billion Muslims of the world. Today, the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) is the second largest inter-governmental organisation after the United Nations with a membership of 57 states spread over four continents. The Organisation acts as the collective voice of the Muslim world. It endeavors to safeguard and protect the interests of the Muslim world in the spirit of promoting international peace and harmony among various people of the world.

Over the past decades, the Organisation has utilized its consultative and cooperative relations with the UN and other inter-governmental organisations to protect the vital interests of the Muslims and to work for the settlement of conflicts and disputes involving Member States. In safeguarding the true values of Islam and the Muslims, the Organisation has taken various steps to remove misperceptions and has strongly advocated elimination of discrimination against Muslims in all forms and manifestations.

The mission and agenda of the organization has evolved over time. In the 21st century, the Member States of the OIC face many challenges. To address these challenges, the OIC in 2005 laid down a blue print called the Ten-Year Program of Action which was succeeded by the OIC-2025: Programme of Action. The Programme of Action is anchored in the provisions of the OIC Charter and focuses on 18 priority areas with 107 goals. The priority areas include issues of Peace and Security, Palestine and Al-Quds, Poverty Alleviation, Counter-terrorism, Investment and Finance, Food Security, Science and Technology, Climate Change and Sustainability, Moderation, Culture and Interfaith Harmony, Empowerment of Women, Joint Islamic Humanitarian Action, Human Rights and Good Governance, among others.

[www.oic-oci.org](http://www.oic-oci.org)





# Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Centre for Islamic Countries

The Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Centre for Islamic Countries (SESRIC), was founded as a subsidiary organ of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) in pursuance of Resolution No. 2/8-E adopted by the Eighth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (ICFM), held in Tripoli in May 1977. The Centre started its activities in Ankara on 1 June 1978.

The basic mandate drawn up for SESRIC is threefold:

- 1 To collate, process and disseminate socio-economic statistics and information on and for the utilisation of the member countries,
- 2 To study and evaluate the economic and social developments in the member countries to help generate proposals that will initiate and enhance co-operation among them, and
- 3 To organise training programmes in selected fields geared to the needs of the member countries as well as to the general objectives of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation.

In the area of statistics, SESRIC serves as the main socio-economic information bank on and for the OIC countries, and hosts the most comprehensive statistical database on OIC countries. The Centre collects and disseminates the statistical data and background information that would make the OIC countries better informed of each other's potentials and needs. In addition, SESRIC, in its capacity as the Secretariat of the OIC Statistical Commission, plays an important role in enhancing the statistical capacities of the official statistics producing institutions of the OIC countries. In this connection, the Centre carries out statistical projects based on both South-South and Triangular Cooperation approaches to improve the National

Statistical Systems of OIC countries for the development of better national strategies and policies.

In its capacity as the main socio-economic research organ of the OIC, SESRIC assumes the role of being a major knowledge-hub for the OIC Member States in supporting socio-economic development at country level, subregional and regional level. The Centre prepares reports and studies on a wide range of issues pertaining to the socio-economic development in the Member States, and generates policy recommendations to initiate and enhance cooperation amongst them. Moreover, by preparing or significantly contributing to the preparation of major strategic documents in various fields, the SESRIC plays a vital role in supporting policy design and implementation, addressing developmental challenges, and promoting partnership and cooperation among national development actors within the OIC region.

In the area of training and technical cooperation, SESRIC plays a significant role in enhancing the technical cooperation within the OIC community in areas which fall within its mandate. The Centre contributes to technical cooperation among the member countries through different modalities of training and technical capacity building such as human and institutional capacity-building, technical assistance, exchange of best practices, skill development and networking on a wide-range of socio-economic issues.





# Statistics and Information

SESRIC acts as the main socio-economic statistical and information bank on and for the member countries of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC). The Centre gives special attention to ensure the availability of the necessary needed statistical data and background information that would make the member countries better informed of each other's capacities, potentials and needs and, thus, facilitate their elaboration of cooperation projects and integration schemes in a wide-range of socio-economic fields. In this connection, the Centre keeps and continuously updates its databases on and for the use of the member countries. The rate of dissemination of these data, particularly in the electronic format, has also been greatly increased over time due to the successive improvements made on the technical capacities and design features of the Centre's website [www.sesric.org](http://www.sesric.org)

On the other hand, the Centre contributes to the efforts of the Member Countries towards enhancing the technical capacities of their National Statistical Systems (NSSs) through its flagship Statistical Capacity Building Programme (StatCaB) by organising statistical training courses, webinars, and workshops on various technical statistical aspects.

In addition, SESRIC assumes the role of the Secretariat of the OIC Statistical Commission (OIC-StatCom), which is the only OIC cooperation forum in the domain of statistics, similar to the United Nations Statistical Commission (UNSC), aiming at supporting the NSSs of the OIC Member Countries for the development of better national strategies and policies. In this respect, the Centre organises the annual sessions of OIC-StatCom in collaboration with the Islamic Development Bank (IsDB) Group. The website of the OIC-StatCom is regularly maintained and updated

[www.oicstatcom.org](http://www.oicstatcom.org)



## Databases, Directories and Rosters

**27**  
categories

**More than**  
**1,800**  
indicators

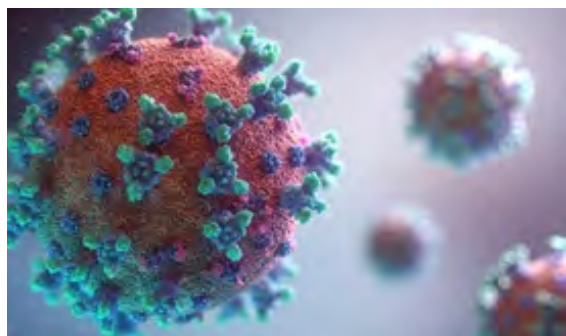
### OIC Statistics (OICStat) Database



The OIC Statistics (OICStat) Database is the first and only international statistics repository on the OIC Member Countries. The OICStat Database is periodically maintained to ensure the dissemination of most up-to-date data through the inclusion of new socio-economic indicators on the OIC Member Countries. Equipped with “user-friendly” features, the OICStat Database currently hosts more than 1,800 indicators under 27 categories with data dating back to 1970.

The OICStat Database can be accessed on:  
<https://www.sesric.org/oicstat.php>

## SESRIC COVID-19 Pandemic Database for OIC Member Countries



SESRIC COVID-19 Pandemic Database provides statistics and visualized data on the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic and vaccinations in the OIC member countries with the objective of raising public awareness and offering policy makers with a tool to guide their ongoing efforts in their fight against the pandemic.

The COVID-19 Pandemic Database of SESRIC hosts data concerning COVID-19 related cases, deaths, and people vaccinated and fully vaccinated against COVID-19 in the OIC Countries. The data are updated on a monthly basis and go back to 25 January 2020 for cases, 19 February 2020 for deaths, 23 December 2020 for people vaccinated, and 10 January 2021 for people fully vaccinated.

The SESRIC COVID-19 Pandemic Database for OIC Member Countries can be accessed on: [https://www.sesric.org/sesric\\_covid\\_19.php](https://www.sesric.org/sesric_covid_19.php)

## Directory of National Institutions in OIC Member Countries (OIC-DIR)



The Directory of National Institutions in OIC Member Countries (OIC-DIR) hosts information profiles of a wide-range of national institutions in the OIC member countries working in the domain of socio-economic development such as Central Banks, Chambers, Development Agencies, Government-Funded News Agencies, Investment Promotion Agencies, Line Ministries, National and Sub-National Statistics Offices, Research Institutes, Think Tanks under Government Institutions, Training Institutes, Trade Unions / Employers' Organisations, and Universities/Higher Education Institutes.

Keeping and updating such a pool of information on these institutions, the OIC-DIR aims to facilitate communication among the public institutions in OIC Member Countries and cooperation linkages among these institutions.

The OIC-DIR can be accessed on: <https://www.sesric.org/oicdir.php>



## Roster of Statistics Experts (ROSE)



The Roster of Statistics Experts (ROSE) hosts 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.

ROSE is 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 contributes significantly to useful exchange of information and experiences among the member countries through enabling the flow of communication between the professionals and the relevant stakeholders working in the domain of statistics.

Currently hosting profiles of more than 880 statistics experts, the ROSE is accessible on: <https://www.sesric.org/rose.php>

## Data Dissemination and Visualization Tools

### Statistical Yearbook on OIC Member Countries



SESRIC has been publishing the Statistical Yearbook on the OIC Member Countries since 1980. The content of the various editions of this important statistical publication of the Centre has been continuously updated and enriched over the years. Thanks to the online statistical database of the Centre, the OICStat, which allows for a user-friendly system of accessing online statistical data with download option in various formats, users can access to the most up-to-date data around the clock.

The Statistical Yearbook on OIC Member Countries can be accessed on: <https://www.sesric.org/publications-syb.php>

## OIC Statistical Outlook



Since January 2019, SESRIC has been issuing the OIC Statistical Outlook Reports as a thematic statistical publication to present the performance and progress of OIC Member Countries on specific socio-economic issues.

The OIC Statistical Outlook Reports can be accessed on:

<https://www.sesric.org/publications-oso.php>

### Towards the Achievement of Prioritised Sustainable Development Goals in OIC Countries

SSESRIC prepares and submits an annual progress report on the prioritised SDGs by the OIC member countries under the title “Towards the Achievement of Prioritised Sustainable Development Goals in OIC Countries” to the annual sessions of the COMCEC.

The Report covers eight prioritised SDGs (SDGs 1-5, 8-9, and 13) and other nine SDGs, namely SDG 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation), SDG 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy), SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities), SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities), SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production), SDG 14 (Life below Water), SDG 15 (Life on Land), SDG 16 (Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions), and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals).



The Annual Progress Report on Prioritised SDGs can be accessed on:

<https://www.sesric.org/publications-detail.php?id=559>

### Road to 2025: Gains, Challenges and Opportunities – Mid-Term Review of the OIC-2025 Programme of Action



In accordance with the request received from the OIC General Secretariat, SESRIC has updated the “Road to 2025: Gains, Challenges and Opportunities – Mid-Term Review of the OIC-2025 Programme of Action” based on responses to the Questionnaire for the Mid-Term Review of the OIC-2025 Programme of Action by the National Statistical Offices of 30 OIC Member States, recent available data extracted from the databases of the international organisations, and the information provided by the OIC institutions.

This Report takes stock of the progress and assesses the impact of the OIC’s programmes and activities towards the realization of the 107 goals under the 18 priority areas stipulated in the OIC-2025 Programme of Action document. This Report also suggests ways and means for accelerating the process in the remaining years until 2025.

## OIC Countries in Figures (OIC-CIF)



The OIC Countries in Figures (OIC-CIF) presents the most recent available information and statistical data on OIC countries under seven sections, namely Background, Geography and Climate, Society and Demographics, Economy and Sectors, Country in Figures, Logistics, and Special Links.

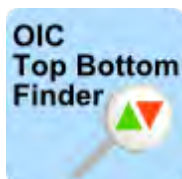
The profile of each country can also be downloaded as a report. The contents of the profile page can be customised based on the preferences of the user by selecting the section or indicators to be shown in the country profile report. The OIC-CIF is accessible on: <https://www.sesric.org/cif-home.php>

## OIC Countries in Figures (OIC-CIF)



The OIC Ranker ranks the OIC countries with respect to a selected indicator hosted in the OICStat database. The OIC Ranker is accessible on: <https://www.sesric.org/oic-ranker.php>

## OIC Top Bottom Finder (TBF)



The OIC Top-Bottom Finder (TBF) provides the full list of indicators hosted at the OICStat database in which an OIC country is positioned at the very “Top” or “Bottom”. The OIC TBF is accessible on: <https://www.sesric.org/oic-tbf.php>

## SESRIC Motion Charts (SMC)



The SESRIC Motion Charts (SMC) is an interactive and dynamic motion chart module and fully integrated with the OICStat Database. The SMC Module allows the users to dynamically explore the trends of several indicators hosted in the OICStat Database over time.

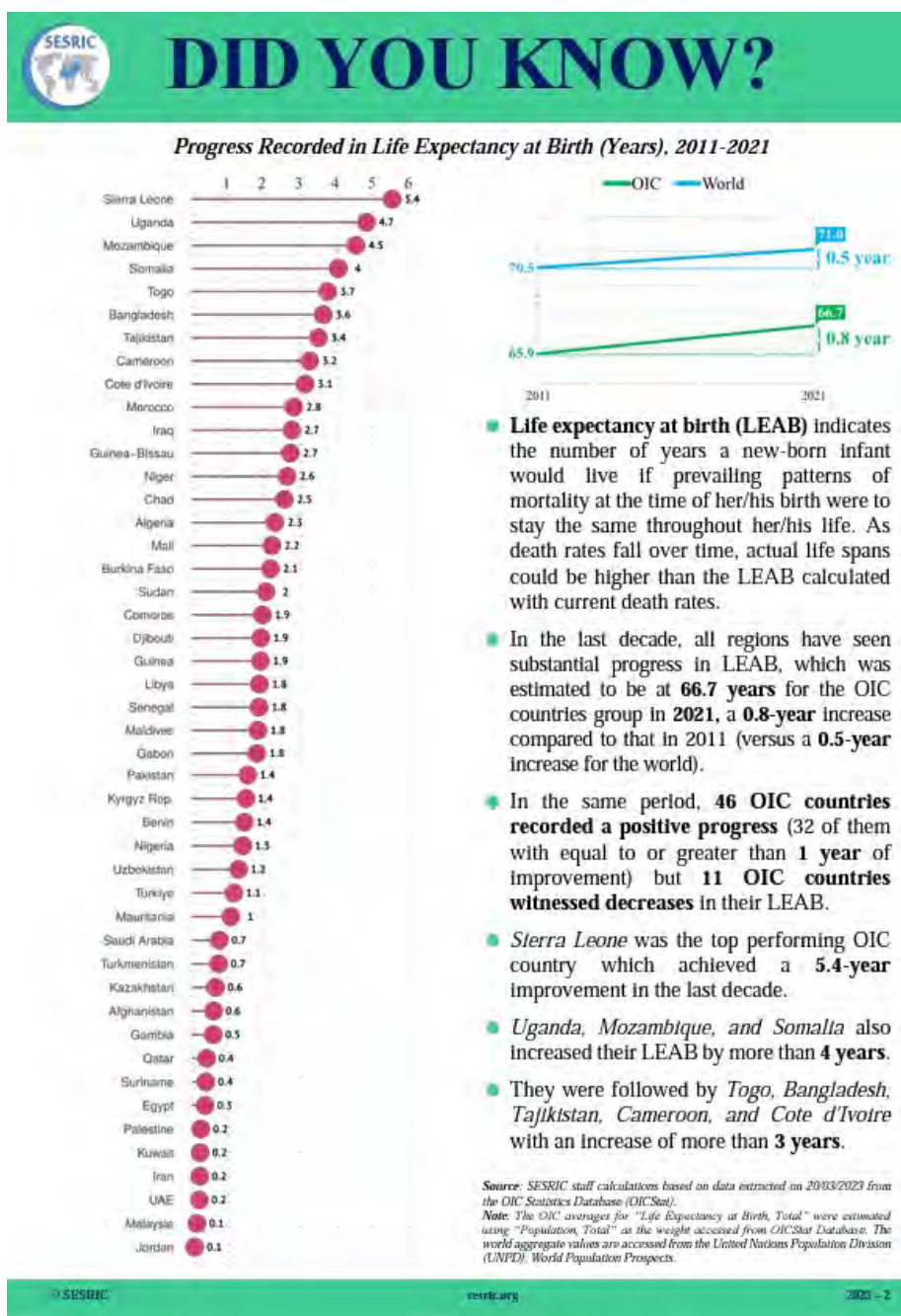
The charts generated by the SMC module are time series based bubble charts including two indicators that can be customised by the user to have either linear or logarithmic scale(s) with alternative bubble sizes based on the related indicators.

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

## Did You Know?



The “Did You Know? (DYK)” reflects striking facts about OIC countries in a simple and brief way. It aims to highlight the current situation of OIC countries on a specific socio-economic variable in a one-page snapshot format. The DYK issues can be accessed on: <https://www.oicstatcom.org/didyounow.php>

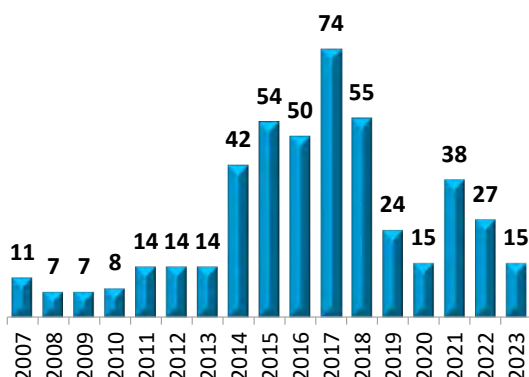


## SESRIC Statistical Capacity Building (StatCaB) Programme

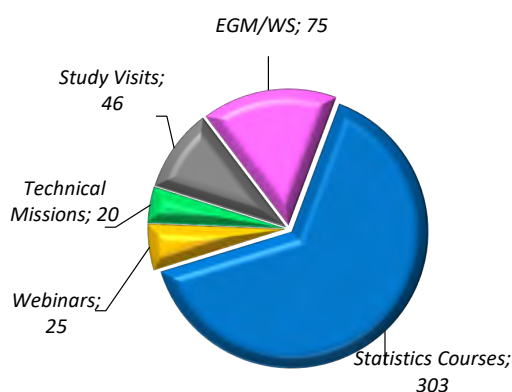


**469** statistical activities  
organised since 2007

**Number of Statistical Activities  
Conducted, by Year, 2007-July 2023**



**Number of Statistical Activities  
Conducted, by Type, 2007-July 2023**



SESRIC StatCaB Programme was initiated in early 2007. It is the flagship capacity development programme of SESRIC. It aims at matching statistical needs and capacities of the National Statistical Offices (NSOs) and other constituents of the NSSs of OIC Member Countries through organising various training activity modalities in order to close the statistical capacity gaps and thus contributing to the efforts of the NSOs and other stakeholders of the member countries towards improving the NSSs of their countries.

Within the framework of the StatCaB Programme, the Centre collects information from the NSOs of OIC Member Countries through the biennial StatCaB questionnaire, assesses and matches their technical needs and capacities, and organises statistical activities between the beneficiary and provider countries.

Between 2007 and July 2023, 469 statistical activities were conducted including 303 statistics courses, 46 study visits, 25 webinars, 20 technical missions, and 75 expert group meetings and workshops (EGM/WS).

For more information on the StatCaB Programme and SESRIC Webinar Series on Statistical Experience Sharing, please visit:

<https://www.oicstatcom.org/statcab.php>

<https://www.oicstatcom.org/webinar-series.php>





Statistics Course on 'Basic Statistics for Diplomats',  
20-22 March 2023



Webinar on 'Reporting Data on Islamic Financial  
Services Sector', 14 March 2023



Statistics Course on 'SDG 7 (Affordable and Clean  
Energy) Indicators', 14-15 March 2023



Statistics Course on 'SDG 1 (No Poverty)  
Indicators', 21-22 February 2023



Webinar on 'Transforming Administrative Registers  
for Statistical Data Production', 14 February 2023



Statistics Course on 'SDG 1 (No Poverty)  
Indicators', 17-18 January 2023



Statistics Course on 'Government Finance, Fiscal  
and Public Sector Statistics', 10-12 January 2023

## OIC Statistical Commission (OIC-StatCom)



The OIC Statistical Commission (OIC-StatCom) is a highly instrumental platform similar to the UN Statistical Commission aiming at supporting the NSSs and enhancing cooperation among the NSOs of OIC Member

Countries for the development and implementation of better national strategies and policies. In its capacity as the Secretariat of the OIC-StatCom since 2011, SESRIC continues to organise the annual sessions of OIC-StatCom in collaboration with the IsDB Group. During the annual Main Sessions of OIC-StatCom, the issues pertaining to the mainstream international statistical agenda are covered, with a focus mainly on SDGs and statistical capacity building.



11<sup>th</sup> Session of OIC Statistical Commission (OIC-StatCom),  
SESRIC HQs, Ankara – Türkiye, 18-19 October 2022



Follow-up Meeting of OIC-StatCom,  
New York - USA, 2 March 2023

Before the annual Main Session of OIC-StatCom, the OIC-StatCom Secretariat organises the Follow-Up Meetings of OIC-StatCom in the margins of UN Statistical Commission in March every year. The Follow-Up Meetings of OIC-StatCom decide on the formation of the Bureau Members, main agenda items, date and venue of the upcoming annual Main Session of the OIC-StatCom. The progress on the implementation of the resolutions of the preceding OIC-StatCom session is also reviewed and discussed during the Follow-Up Meetings.

In its capacity as the Secretariat of OIC-StatCom, SESRIC facilitated the development of the “Strategic Vision of

the OIC-StatCom for 2030” in close consultation with the OIC-StatCom members. The Strategic Vision of the OIC-StatCom for 2030 aims at facilitating and coordinating the cooperation and collaboration efforts of the OIC-StatCom members towards addressing the technical challenges facing them in improving their NSSs. Adopted by the 9th Session of OIC-StatCom in October 2020, the Strategic Vision of the OIC-StatCom for 2030 acts as a reference document for the OIC-StatCom in formulating its Programme of Action for 2021-2025 and 2026-2030.

The Programme of Action of the Strategic Vision of the OIC-StatCom for 2030 includes the list of key actions, implementation period and key performance indicators to achieve the strategic objectives under the five strategic areas of Strategic Vision of the OIC-StatCom for 2030. The Strategic Vision of the OIC-StatCom for 2030 and its Programme of Action for 2021-2025 are accessible at <https://www.oicstatcom.org/strategic-vision.php>

## Cooperation with International and Regional Organisations

### Integration of Tobacco Questions for Surveys (TQS) and TQS of Youth (TQS-Youth) in OIC Member Countries

Tobacco Questions for Surveys (TQS) is a component of the Global Tobacco Surveillance System (GTSS), which was developed by the World Health Organization (WHO), Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and other partners to assist countries in establishing tobacco control surveillance and monitoring programs.

As per the relevant resolutions of the OIC-StatCom, SESRIC facilitates the integration schemes based on the terms set forth by the CDC and CDC Foundation since 2014. A total of 15 OIC countries had been selected for the first phase. Among the targeted countries, 7 member countries had integrated TQS into their ongoing national surveys.

Following the initial phase, SESRIC received commitments from 9 more member countries. Among the countries approached, 15 member countries have completed the TQS integration project by sharing their TQS data collected through their relevant national surveys.

Following the successful implementation of the TQS, the project was expanded in 2019 to include the integration of Tobacco Questions for Surveys of Youth (TQS-Youth) into the ongoing survey in selected OIC countries. TQS-Youth, the subset of key questions from the Global Youth Tobacco Survey (GYTS) was developed with a view to incorporating the globally standardised tobacco questions for youth into ongoing national surveys. So far, 2 member countries have completed the TQS-Youth integration into their ongoing national surveys.

Besides, SESRIC developed the TQS and TQS-Youth website (<https://tqs.sesric.org/>) which serves as a data repository for output tables and reports from selected member countries that have completed the TQS and TQS-Youth integration projects. In addition, this website provides information about activities that have been or will be carried out within the framework of the TQS and TQS-Youth integration projects.



Technical Consultation on '2021 Smoking and Tobacco Consumption Survey Conducted by the PCBS', 31 March 2022

In addition, SESRIC published a TQS report on "Implementation of the Tobacco Questions for Surveys (TQS) in Selected OIC Member Countries: Evidence for Action" on 8 December 2021. 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. Available in 3 official languages of the OIC, the Report and its infographics can be accessed through <https://www.sesric.org/event-detail.php?id=2576>.

Furthermore, within the project framework of TQS and TQS-Youth integration, SESRIC organised a number of capacity development activities in collaboration with the CDC, CDC Foundation, and WHO, such as Webinar on 'TQS and TQS-Youth' organised in December 2020, and technical consultation for the benefit of Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS) in 2022.

In addition, SESRIC facilitated study visits for the benefit of the State Statistical Committee of the Republic of Azerbaijan, the Agency on Statistics under President of the Republic of Tajikistan and BPS-Statistics Indonesia, provided by the Turkish Statistical Institute (TurkStat).



Webinar on 'Tobacco Questions for Surveys (TQS) and TQS-Youth', 9 December 2020

## Committee for Coordination of Statistical Activities



SESRIC became a member of the Committee for the Coordination of Statistical Activities (CCSA) in 2006. CCSA is a global body of 45 international and supranational organisations, whose mandates include the provision of international official statistics in

the context of the Principles Governing International Statistical Activities, and which have a permanent embedded statistical service in their organisation and regular contacts with countries.

The Committee focuses its work on the following six main activities, including: (i) Efficient functioning of the statistical system, (ii) Common standards and platforms, (iii) Development of methodologies, (iv) Inter-institutional support, (v) Outreach, and (vi) Advocacy for statistics.

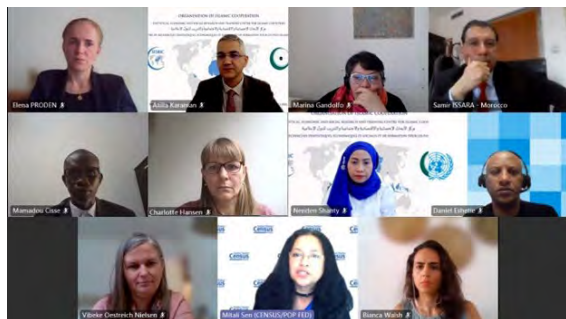


41<sup>st</sup> Session of CCSA, New York - USA, 27 February 2023

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



Global Network of Institutions  
for Statistical Training (GIST)



Annual Meeting of GIST, 16 February 2023

The Global Network of Institutions for Statistical Training (GIST) was established by 15 founding members, including SESRIC, in early 2018 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.

Since 2018, SESRIC attended several GIST meetings and provided inputs for GIST task team on 'Addressing NSOs Needs'.

## Subgroup on Gender Statistics Training (SGGST)



Annual Meeting of GIST, 16 February 2023

SESRIC became a member of the Subgroup on Gender Statistics Training (SGGST) of the Network for the Coordination of Statistical Training in Asia and the Pacific coordinated by the UN Women (Secretariat of the Subgroup) and Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific (SIAP) (Secretariat of the Network) on 15 November 2018.

The main objective of the Subgroup is to ensure data users and producers in Asia and the Pacific have the necessary skills to produce, disseminate and use gender statistics widely, including for SDG monitoring.

Since 2018, SESRIC has contributed to the work of the subgroup by attending several SGGST meetings and providing inputs for the repository of gender statistics training experts and training curriculum on gender statistics.

## International Task Force on Total Official Support for Sustainable Development (TOSSD)

The International Task Force on Total Official Support for Sustainable Development (TOSSD) was established in July 2017 and currently has 27 members and 7 observers. The participants are statistical and development policy experts from provider countries, recipient countries and multilateral organisations. The International TOSSD Task Force established the first version of the





20<sup>th</sup> Task Force Meeting, Hybrid - Dakar-Senegal,  
7-9 March 2023

TOSSD methodology in 2019, illustrated in the document “TOSSD Reporting Instructions”, and continues to work on its further development.

In March 2022, the United Nations Statistical Commission endorsed Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) indicator 17.3.1 with the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and the United Nations Conference on Trade and

Development (UNCTAD) as co-custodians of this indicator. With this, TOSSD became an official data source for the SDG global indicator framework.

Being its member as one of the three international organisations (with IADB and IsDB), SESRIC attends the regular meetings of the Task Force, which aim at developing the general statistical concepts, standards and methodologies of the TOSSD framework. SESRIC also supports the data collection process by providing relevant institutional data, and promoting the TOSSD framework among OIC countries.

## Joint Islamic Finance Task Team (IFTT)



Webinar on ‘Reporting Data on Islamic Financial Services Sector’, 14 March 2023

The Joint Islamic Finance Task Team (IFTT) has been established by the Task Force on Islamic finance under the Inter Secretariat Working Group on National Accounts (ISWGNA) and IMF Balance of Payments Committee (BOPCOM) in 2019 to carry out further research and develop methodology/guidance on the treatment of Islamic finance in national accounts and external sector statistics (ESS).

The IFFT deals with issues arising from the need for the further integration of Islamic

finance and related principles/concepts into macroeconomic and financial statistics, necessitating the development of additional methodological and practical guidance.

With a mandate in statistics and in pursuance of the Strategic Vision of the OIC Statistical Commission (OIC-StatCom) for 2030, SESRIC closely follows up the developments in the Islamic finance statistics arena and strengthens the synergy to improve the Islamic finance data quality and sound infrastructure for better data production and dissemination through collaboration with various stakeholders at national and international levels. Hence, it took part in the IFFT and the Task Force under ISWGNA by attending the relevant meetings and joining the work of the IFFT for the development of the related background documents and guidance materials. Recently, SESRIC organised a Webinar on ‘Reporting Data on Islamic Financial Services Sector’ on 14 March 2023, in collaboration with the IFFT task team members.



# Economic and Social Research

SESRIC is the main research organ of the OIC which regularly studies and evaluates economic and social developments in OIC Member States with a view to generating proposals that can initiate and enhance cooperation among them. A call for OIC economies to become more integrated, smart, sustainable and inclusive has been at the heart of socio-economic research activities of SESRIC.

SESRIC uses several operational modalities to conduct research work. The most common form of Centre's research output includes technical background reports and strategic programmes and frameworks covering a wide range of challenging socio-economic issues of concern to the OIC countries.

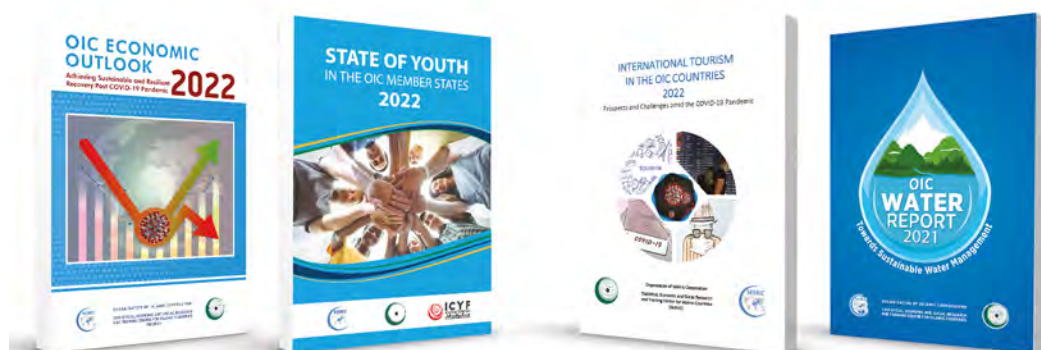
The research activities of SESRIC are geared towards knowledge production and sharing; guiding policy making and supporting the formulation of strategic programmes and frameworks; encouraging cooperation through identification and sharing of best practices amongst OIC countries and monitoring and evaluating the socio-economic performance and implementation status of various regional strategic programmes and frameworks.

Over the years, SESRIC has also paid special importance to cooperation with national, regional and international organisations as well as academia to initiate and conduct joint research projects.

Although the number, scope and depth of the research activities conducted by the Centre are constantly growing, it is adopting innovative tools, mechanisms and systems to provide better services to OIC countries in line with its mandate.



## Regular Technical Background Reports and Research Studies





The Centre prepares regular technical background reports and research studies on several socio-economic issues placed on the agenda of various OIC Ministerial Conferences and other high level forums. These reports are mainly prepared to facilitate the policy debate and dialogue process during the sectoral Ministerial Sessions attended by the Ministers and high level policy makers. They are instrumental in promoting exchange of innovative solutions and policies among Member States that are on similar development pathways by identifying and featuring success stories, best practices and opportunities for cooperation. At present, the Centre is regularly preparing technical background reports for 12 sectoral Ministerial Conferences, ranging from Agriculture development, Health, Education, and Tourism to Family, Women and Youth related issues.

## Strategic Plans and Programmes of Actions

The Centre prepares or significantly contributes to the preparation of various OIC strategic plans, cooperation frameworks, and programmes of actions in various subjects related to its mandate upon requests by various Ministerial Conferences and OIC bodies. These strategic documents provide excellent roadmaps for promoting intra-OIC cooperation and streamlining national and regional policies to spearhead the implementation of national, regional and international development agendas like OIC-2025 Programme of Action and the Sustainable Development Agenda 2030.



To this end, so far, SESRIC has lead the preparation or substantially contributed to the preparation of OIC programmes of action in the domain of Health (adopted in 2013); Women (2016); Labour (2017); Islamic Tourism (2018); Youth (2018); Elderly (2019) and Family (2019). Furthermore, the Centre is currently working with other relevant OIC institutions on two strategic plans focused mainly on social issues, including, welfare of children and wellbeing of people with disability and special needs.

SESRIC is also actively involved in monitoring and evaluating the implementation status of these strategies and programmes by conducting online questionnaires and surveys to collect primary data and information from the national focal points in the member countries. The findings of these surveys are very informative and instrumental in documenting the progress, understanding the opportunities and challenges and charting out a more efficient way forward.

## Ad-hoc and In-house Research

Upon requests by OIC General Secretariat, Member States, relevant OIC meetings and bodies and based on the independent evaluation of the research team, the Centre prepares reports in various fields of interest to the Member States. Although these reports are not prepared on a regular basis, they can be occasionally revised to keep them updated. Examples of such research include the Centre's studies on Socio-Economic Impacts of COVID-19 Pandemic, Halal Industry, Urban Development, Managing Natural Disasters in Afghanistan and Achieving Peace and Security in a World of Turmoil.



## Joint Research

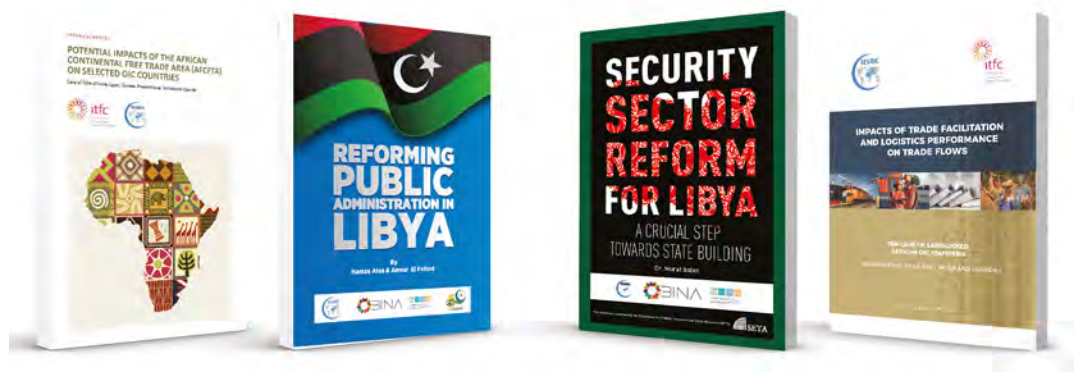
SESRIC collaborates and shares expertise with other OIC, national, regional and international organisations to conduct joint research on topics that are of mutual interest. Over the years, the Centre has jointly conducted reports with the Islamic Development Bank (IsDB), Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation (COMCEC), United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC), OIC Independent Permanent Human Rights Commission (IPHRC), International Islamic University Malaysia (IIUM) and the Developing-8 Organisation for Economic Cooperation (D-8).





## Commissioned Studies

Depending on the availability of technical resources, the Centre occasionally provides paid consultancy services to other OIC institutions and regional and international organisations. Within this framework, the Centre has conducted research studies and sectoral policy analysis for the Islamic Development Bank (IsDB), International Islamic Trade Finance Corporation (ITFC), Turkic Council and Libyan Program for Reintegration and Development.



## OIC Outlook Reports

In an attempt to enhance the efforts of the Centre to provide the necessary and up-to-date information and knowledge that would make the OIC member countries better informed of each other's capacities and needs as well as challenges and potentials towards higher economic integration, the Centre prepares short outlook reports on various socio-economic development issues concerning the OIC member countries. Using the Centre's main database OICStat, these reports present statistical information and analytical investigations as well as some policy implications on the topics in question.



## Journal of Economic Development and Cooperation (JECD)

JECD is an academic journal published quarterly by the Centre since 1979. It is a journal of applied research in development economics and aims primarily at enhancing cooperation among the member countries of the OIC. JECD publishes original pending economic and technical cooperation among the developing countries. The Journal is indexed/abstracted in SCOPUS, JEL/Econlit, i-Journals, i-Focus and i-Future. Please visit our website (<https://www.sesric.org>) to see and download our publications in English, Arabic or French.

## Knowledge Sharing Events

**International Meetings and Conferences:** The Centre regularly contributes to the regional and global policy discourse by actively participating in various national, regional and international conferences, workshops and expert group meetings. The Centre also collaborate with the relevant OIC institutions and international organisations to jointly organise international events to discuss the current challenges and opportunities faced by the OIC member countries by bringing together academicians, practitioners, experts and policymakers from Member States and elsewhere.

**Technical Review Meetings:** Technical Review Meetings to discuss and evaluate the quality and relevance of its research work. These Meetings are aimed to provide a platform for the participants to learn about the methodology, structure, scope and outcomes of the Centre's research reports and share their comments and feedback.



# Training and Technical Cooperation

In the area of Training and Technical Cooperation, SESRIC plays a significant role in enhancing south-south cooperation within the OIC community by initiating and implementing various capacity building training activities on a wide range of socio-economic fields of interest to the OIC member countries. In this regard, SESRIC has currently 19 sector-specific capacity building programmes realised through different implementation modalities, including training courses, training workshops, training webinars and study visits. Through these programmes, the Centre provides training opportunities to an increasing number of staff in various national institutions of the OIC member countries with a view to contributing to the efforts of these countries towards enhancing the institutional and human resources capacities of their institutions.

Moreover, in its capacity as the Executing Organ of the Vocational Education and Training Programme for the Member States of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC-VET), SESRIC organises capacity building activities in the area of technical and vocational education and training (TVET) for the benefit of the national TVET Institutions of the OIC member countries. The Centre also monitors and evaluates the implementation of the OIC-TVET Strategic Roadmap 2020-2025, which provides the strategic framework for cooperation among the national TVET Institutions to improve the quality and performance of TVET systems in the OIC member countries.

Besides, SESRIC implements various technical cooperation projects and activities to facilitate technical assistance, exchange of knowledge and best practices, skills development, and networking among the OIC member countries. To this end, the Training and Technical Cooperation Department undertakes solid and close cooperation with the relevant national, international and regional institutions, the General Secretariat of the OIC and relevant OIC organs to implement technical cooperation projects and activities developed for the benefit of the OIC member countries.



## SESRIC Capacity Building Programmes

SESRIC Capacity Building Programmes is a flagship initiative of SESRIC that aims to enhance the human resources capacities of the national institutions of OIC member countries in various socio-economic fields and areas through matching the needs and capacities of these institutions. Currently, SESRIC has 23 sector-specific capacity building programmes, which serve to the implementation of the OIC-2025 Programme of Action in general and

capacity building needs of the OIC member countries in particular. In this regard, the Centre regularly circulates questionnaires of these programmes, then analyses the needs and capacities



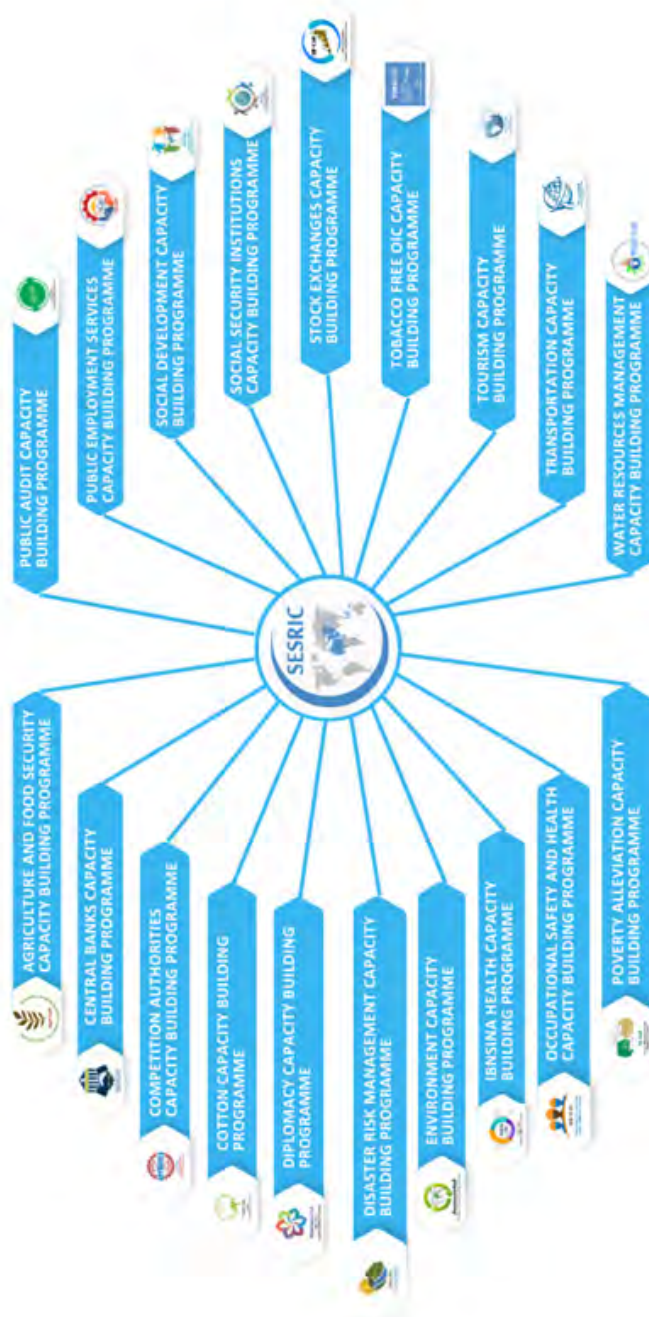


based on the responses received from the relevant national institutions in the member countries. Accordingly, SESRIC provides training opportunities by facilitating transfer and exchange of know-how, knowledge and experience between the beneficiary and provider countries.

The list of the SESRIC Capacity Building Programmes is as follows:

## CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAMMES

SESRIC currently organizes capacity-building training activities under its  
19 sector-specific capacity-building programmes:



[www.sesric.org](http://www.sesric.org)

For more details regarding SESRIC Capacity Building Programmes, please visit <https://www.sesric.org/tcd-cab.php>



## Some SESRIC Capacity Building Programmes' implemented activities:

**The Commemoration Programme for Dhaka, the OIC City of Tourism 2019 and the International Seminar on “Development of Muslim Friendly Tourism in the Dhaka City”**



SESRIC, within the framework of its Tourism Capacity Building Programme (Tourism-CaB), conducted a one-day commemoration programme for Dhaka, the OIC City of Tourism 2019 on 15 October 2019, in Dhaka, Bangladesh. The event comprised of the International Seminar on “Development of Muslim Friendly Tourism in the Dhaka City” and the “Award Ceremony for the best Tour Operators in Dhaka”.

### **Training Course on “Local Economic Development”**

SESRIC, within the framework of its Poverty Alleviation Capacity Building Programme (PA-CaB) and in collaboration with the OIC Representative Office to the State of Palestine, Ministry of Local Government and the Municipal Lending Fund in the State of Palestine, organised a training course on “Local Economic Development” on 20-21 November 2019, in Ramallah, State of Palestine. The training course was provided by two competent



experts from Jordan and Türkiye for the benefit of 37 trainees from different municipalities, municipal councils, and the Ministry of Local Government of Palestine.

## Training Course on “Conflict Resolution and Mediation for OIC Junior Diplomats”



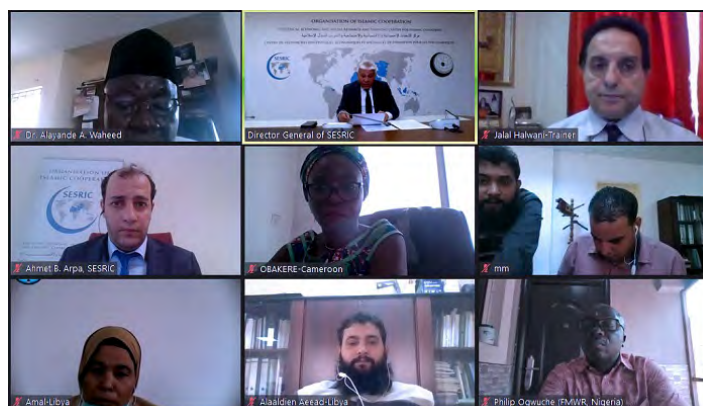
SESRIC, within the framework of its Diplomacy Capacity Building Programme (Diplomacy-CaB), organised a training course on “Conflict Resolution and Mediation for OIC Junior Diplomats” on 26-28 November 2019, in Istanbul, Türkiye. The training course was organised in partnership with the Diplomacy Academy of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Türkiye with the participation of 34 diplomats from 28 OIC member countries.

## Training Course on “Myth of GM Technology to Combat Pest Losses of Cotton”



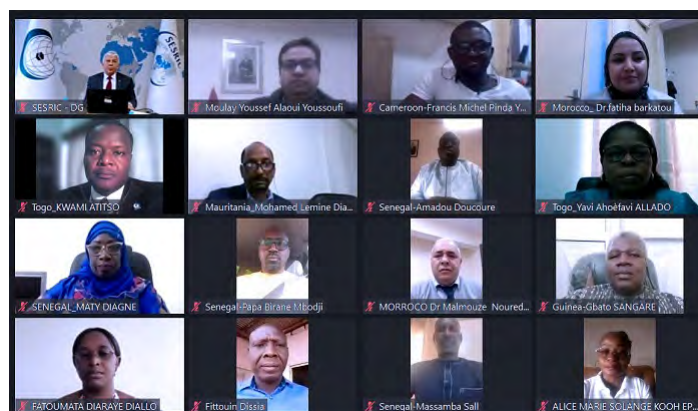
SESRIC, within the framework of its Cotton Capacity Building Programme (Cotton-CaB), organised a training course on “Myth of GM Technology to Combat Pest Losses of Cotton in Uganda” on 17-19 December 2019, in Kampala, Uganda. The training course was provided by a competent expert from the Center of Excellence in Molecular Biology in Pakistan for the benefit of experts from the Cotton Development Organisation of Uganda.

## Training Workshop on “Water Governance and Integrated Water Management” for Lake Chad Basin Countries



SESRIC, within the framework of its Water Resources Management Capacity Building Programme (Water-CaB) and in collaboration with the Lake Chad Basin Commission (LCBC), organised a training workshop on “Water Governance and Integrated Water Management” on 19-22 October 2020. The training workshop was provided by competent experts from the North Lebanon Water Establishment of the Ministry of Energy and Water of Lebanon and Lebanese University for the benefit of the experts from the national water resource institutions of the Lake Chad Basin countries.

## Training Course on “Maternal, Newborn and Child Health Care in Sub-Saharan Africa”



SESRIC, within the framework of its IbnSina Health Capacity Building Programme (IbnSina-CaB) and in line with the relevant resolutions of the 6th and 7th Sessions of the Islamic Conference of Health Ministers (ICHM), organised a Training Course on “Maternal, Newborn and Child Health Care in Sub-Saharan Africa” on 06-08 December 2021. The training course was provided by competent experts from the Ministry of Health and Social Protection of the Kingdom of Morocco for the benefit of experts and executives from the Ministries of Health of the 11 OIC member countries in Sub-Saharan Africa.

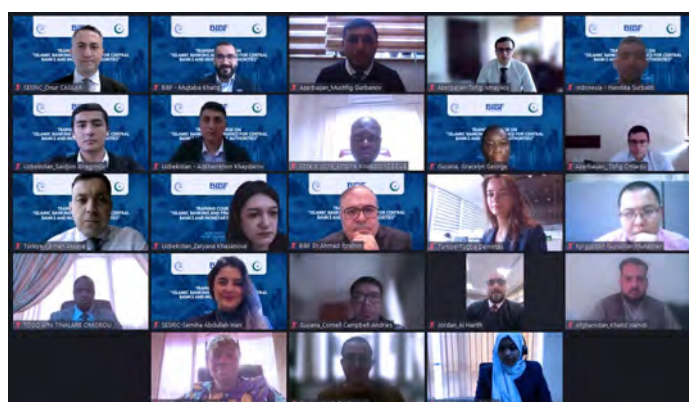


## Training Workshop on “Protecting and Advancing Children’s Rights Including the Ones with Disabilities”



SESRIC, within the framework of its Social Development Capacity Building Programme (SD-CaB) and in line with the relevant resolutions of the First Ministerial Conference on Social Development in the OIC Member States, organized a Training Workshop on “Protecting and Advancing Children’s Rights Including the Ones with Disabilities” on 22-24 February 2022 in collaboration with the General Directorate of Child Services of the Ministry of Family and Social Services of the Republic of Türkiye. The training workshop was provided by competent experts from the General Directorate of Child Services of the Ministry of Family and Social Services of the Republic of Türkiye for the benefit of experts and executives from the Ministries and relevant national institutions in charge of child services in 21 OIC Member Countries.

## Training Course on “Islamic Banking and Finance for Central Banks and Monetary Authorities”



SESRIC, within the framework of its Central Banks Capacity Building Programme (CB-CaB), and in collaboration with the Bahrain Institute of Banking and Finance (BIBF), organised a Training Course on “Islamic Banking and Finance for Central Banks and Monetary Authorities” on 06-08 March 2023. The training course was provided by competent experts from BIBF for the benefit of 114 experts and executives from Central Banks and Monetary Authorities in 29 OIC Member Countries.



## Technical Cooperation

### Reverse Linkages

Reverse Linkage is a technical cooperation mechanism introduced by the Islamic Development Bank Group (IsDB) to facilitate the transfer of knowledge and expertise, as well as sharing of best practices among partnering national institutions of the OIC member countries. In an effort to develop the capacities of the OIC member countries and devise solutions for their autonomous development, Reverse Linkage is considered as a valuable peer-to-peer South-South cooperation modality with win-win arrangements for all partnering institutions.

Within the framework of this modality, SESRIC, in collaboration with IsDB and relevant national institutions, has engaged in the following Reverse Linkage projects:

- Reverse Linkage for Uganda: Capacity Development of Vocational Training Centre at the Islamic University in Uganda
- Reverse Linkage for The Gambia: Capacity Development of the School of Medicine and Allied Health Sciences of the University of The Gambia
- Reverse Linkage for Bangladesh: Cotton Varieties Development
- Reverse Linkage for Pakistan: Earthquake Seismological Research
- Reverse Linkage for Sudan: Capacity Development of the Africa City of Technology

Within the framework of these Reverse Linkage projects, some of the activities organised by SESRIC, in collaboration with IsDB and other partners, are as follows:

### Reverse Linkage Project between Bangladesh and Türkiye on “Cotton Varieties Development”

The main aim of the project is to enhance the local cotton production in Bangladesh, particularly in less productive agricultural land, through improving the research capacity of the Cotton Development Board (CDB) of Bangladesh in cotton varieties development and ameliorating its production practices. The project partners are SESRIC, IsDB, Nazilli Cotton Research Institute (CRI) of Türkiye, Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency (TIKA), Presidency for Turks Abroad and Related Communities (YTB) of Türkiye, and Turkish Airlines.



Within the framework of the Reverse Linkage Project between Bangladesh and Türkiye on “Enhancing Capacity in Cotton Varieties Development”, SESRIC, in collaboration with the Islamic Development Bank (IsDB), and Nazilli Cotton Research Institute (CRI) under the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry of the Republic of Türkiye, organized a Training Course on “Biotechnological Tools and Techniques for Cotton - Sample Collection Activities” on 17-28 January 2022 in Dhaka, Bangladesh.

The main objective of the training course was to contribute to the efforts of the Cotton Development Board (CDB) of Bangladesh to increase local cotton production, particularly in less productive agricultural land. The course focused on the relevant technical subjects such as; generations of molecular markers used in breeding, tissue culture methods used in breeding, speed breeding in cotton and embryo rescue techniques and their applications.

### **Reverse Linkage Project between Pakistan and Türkiye on “Earthquake Seismological Research”**

The main objective of this project is to make significant improvements in Pakistan Meteorological Department’s (PMD) capacity in terms of infrastructure, systems and human resources. It aims to introduce three new areas of knowledge, namely the global positioning system (GPS), site classification and establishing geographic information systems (GIS) database. It also aims to strengthen the PMD’s seismological research knowledge to produce timely information on earthquakes, undertake accurate assessment of earthquake risks and better inform other institutions about those risks. The project’s partners include SESRIC, Islamic Development Bank Group (IsDB), and Turkish Coordination and Cooperation Agency (TIKA).



Within the framework of the Reverse Linkage Project between Pakistan and Türkiye on “Earthquake Seismological Research”, SESRIC, in collaboration with the Islamic Development Bank (IsDB), Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency (TIKA), TÜBİTAK Marmara Research

Center (MRC) of Türkiye, and Pakistan Meteorological Department (PMD), organised three training courses in parallel, namely; Training Course on “Global Positioning System (GPS): Data Collection and Processing”, Training Course on “Seismology: Earthquake Data Processing and Analysis”, and Training Course on “Site Classification: Data Collection and Processing”. The training courses were conducted on 29 August - 06 September 2022 at Pakistan Meteorological Department’s Headquarters in Islamabad, Pakistan.

The training courses were provided by competent trainers from the MRC of Türkiye for the benefit of PMD trainees. The training courses aimed at assessing the overall progress on the tasks given during the first set of trainings conducted in March 2022 at MRC’s Headquarters in Gebze-Kocaeli, Türkiye. The training courses also provided necessary enrichment and technical support, including collecting samples and analyzing data to ensure that the systems are running efficiently and effectively. The training courses will contribute to the efforts of the Pakistan Meteorological Department (PMD) towards enhancing Pakistan’s capacity in detecting and monitoring earthquakes and assessing their risks.

For more details regarding Reverse Linkage Projects, please visit <https://www.sesric.org/reverse-linkage.php>

## **SESRIC Projects Funded by the COMCEC**

Within the framework of the COMCEC Project Funding (CPF), that was introduced by the COMCEC Coordination Office (CCO) in 2013 as a financing mechanism that finances projects submitted by the Member Countries and relevant OIC Institutions, SESRIC implemented several projects with the main aim of realising the strategic objectives and outcomes of the COMCEC Strategy as well as the relevant policy recommendations adopted by COMCEC Ministerial Sessions.

SESRIC Projects that were funded by the COMCEC fall under various cooperation areas and were designed in accordance with sectoral themes determined by the CCO. The activities under these projects were geared towards increasing the human resources capacities of the relevant national institutions of the participating OIC member countries.

### **Workshop on “Best Practices on Promoting Financial Literacy and Islamic Finance in the OIC Member Countries”**





Within the framework of the SESRIC project titled “Strengthening Financial Literacy and Promoting Islamic Finance in the OIC Member Countries”, which is funded by the Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation of the Organisation of the Islamic Cooperation (COMCEC) under the 9th Call for Project Proposals of COMCEC Project Funding, the Centre, in collaboration with the Central Bank of the Republic of Türkiye, organised a Workshop on “Best Practices on Promoting Financial Literacy and Islamic Finance in the OIC Member Countries” on 25-26 September 2022 on the sidelines of the OIC-COMCEC Central Banks Forum in Istanbul, Türkiye.

The workshop consisted of comprehensive presentations delivered by competent high-level experts and guest speakers from Central Banks and Monetary Authorities in the OIC Member Countries, as well as prominent academicians working in the relevant fields. The sessions covered ways and means of promoting financial literacy and integrating financial technology (FINTECH) into Islamic finance towards achieving more inclusive financial systems. The workshop also provided an opportunity to share the best practices and the efforts exerted in this domain in the OIC region.

### Training Course on “Regulatory Framework for Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) in Transport Sector”



Within the framework of the SESRIC project titled “Improving the Regulatory Framework for PPPs in Transport Sector in the OIC Member Countries”, which is funded by the Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation of the Organization of the Islamic Cooperation (COMCEC) under the 9th Call for Project Proposals of COMCEC Project Funding, the Centre organised a Training Course on “Regulatory Framework for Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) in Transport Sector” on 13-14 September 2022.



The training course was attended by 75 senior-level officials from public PPP authorities as well as the relevant Ministries responsible for executing national PPP strategies and policies in the transport area in 21 OIC Member Countries.

### Workshop on “The Role of Digital Solutions for Effective Delivery of Public Employment Services in the OIC Countries”

Within the framework of the SESRIC project titled “Fostering Information Technology (IT) Solutions to Improve the Effectiveness of Public Employment Services (PES) in the OIC Member Countries”, which is funded by the Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation of the Organization of the Islamic Cooperation (COMCEC) under the 9th Call for Project Proposals of COMCEC Project Funding, the Centre, in collaboration with the project partners namely, Malaysian Social Security Organisation (SOCSO), Ministry of Manpower of the Republic of Indonesia and Turkish Employment Agency (İŞKUR), organised a Workshop on “The Role of Digital Solutions for Effective Delivery of Public Employment Services in the OIC Countries” on 14-15 September 2022.

The workshop brought together 97 experts and senior officials from the national public employment services (PES) institutions/ authorities and relevant national institutions in 22 OIC Member Countries. The workshop included country experiences and best practices of the PES institutions/ authorities, as well as keynote presentations from the International Labour Organization (ILO) and the World Association of Public Employment Services (WAPES).

For more details regarding SESRIC Projects Funded by the COMCEC, please visit: <https://www.sesric.org/tcd-activities-projects-funded.php>



## Networks

In an attempt to bring together national institutions from the OIC member countries working in various socio-economic domains, SESRIC implements a networking cooperation modality with the main aim of establishing closer cooperation for sharing and exchanging knowledge, experience and conducting joint initiatives, projects and programmes. Every year, the Centre analyses the needs for such networks and holds networking meetings in close cooperation with the National Focal Points of the relevant national institutions. Currently, SESRIC hosts two main networks:

### OIC Occupational Safety and Health Network (OIC-OSHNET)

OIC Occupational Safety and Health Network (OIC-OSHNET) aims to establish an international network for systematic sharing of information and experience in the domain of OSH among the national OSH institutions of the OIC member countries to improve the quality of the OSH services and standards of these institutions.

The Network was launched with a kick-off meeting, jointly organised by SESRIC and the Directorate General of Occupational Safety and Health (DGOSH) of the Republic of Türkiye on 16-17 May 2011 in Ankara, Türkiye, with the participation of representatives of national OSH institutions of 15 OIC member countries. The establishment of OIC-OSHNET was welcomed by the First Session of Islamic Conference of Labour Ministers held during the 19th World Congress on “Safety and Health at Work” on 10 September 2011, in Istanbul, Republic of Türkiye.



Preparatory Senior Experts Meeting for the 4<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the OIC-OSHNET, 11-13 April 2018 in Ankara, Türkiye. The Meeting brought together senior experts from the OSH authorities of 16 OIC member countries.

The 4<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the OIC Occupational Safety and Health Network (OIC-OSHNET) jointly organised by SESRIC, in its capacity as the OIC Technical Coordinator of OIC-OSHNET, and the

Directorate General of Occupational Safety and Health (DGOSH) of the Ministry of Labour and Social Security of the Republic of Türkiye, in its capacity as the Secretariat of the OIC-OSHNET, on 07-08 October 2020. 52 high-level representatives and National Focal Points (NFPs) from 37 OIC member countries attended the online Meeting in which two main documents of the Network were discussed and adopted: The Rules of Procedures and the Work Plan for the two-year 2021-2022.

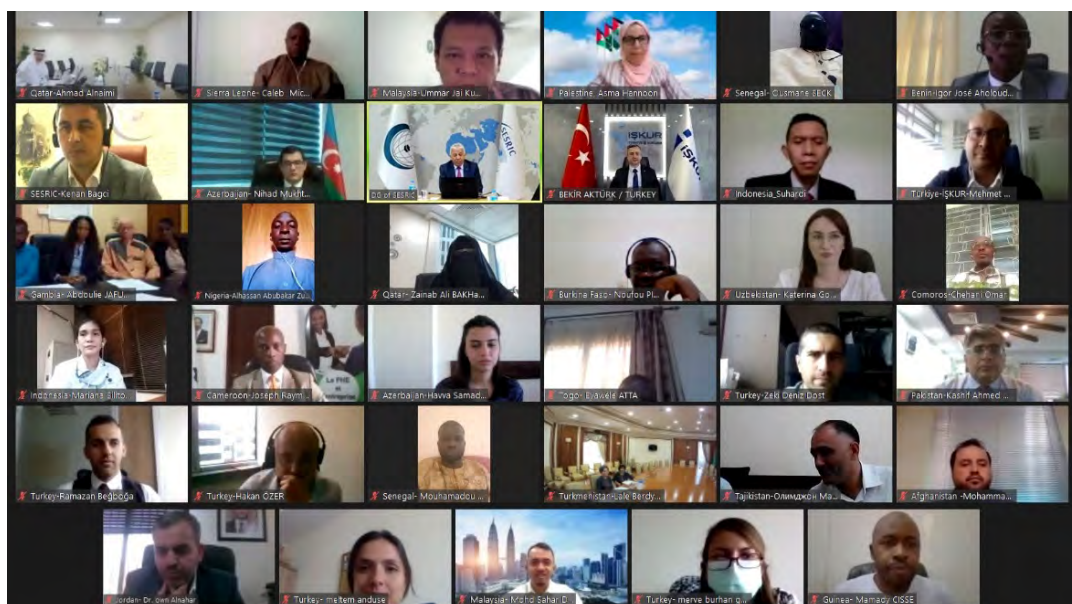


## OIC Public Employment Services Network (OIC-PESNET)

The OIC-Public Employment Services Network (OIC-PESNET) was established with a view to enhancing the technical cooperation among public employment services institutions in the OIC member countries through facilitating sharing and exchanging of experiences and best practices in this important domain and, thus, contributing to their efforts towards enhancing employability and reducing unemployment in their countries. The OIC-PESNET is an initiative of SESRIC based on the proposal of the Republic of Türkiye to establish a Forum for public employment institutions among the OIC member countries. It is a platform for systematic sharing of information and experience among public employment authorities to enhance the quality and effectiveness of the public employment services in the OIC member countries. SESRIC assumes the role of the Secretariat of the OIC-PESNET.

The 3rd Meeting of the OIC-PESNET was jointly organised by SESRIC and Turkish Employment Agency (İŞKUR) on 02-03 June 2021 with the main aim of reactivating the work of this important Network, which was established in 2014. The Meeting brought together 70 senior-level representatives from the national public employment services institutions/ agencies of 36 OIC member countries. The participants discussed and adopted two important documents of the Network; namely the “Rules of Procedure” and the “OIC-PESNET Work Plan 2021-2022”. These two documents aim at ensuring more functional and effective bilateral and multilateral cooperation in public employment services within the framework of the OIC-PESNET.





For more details regarding SESRIC Networks, please visit:

<https://www.sesric.org/tcd-networks.php>

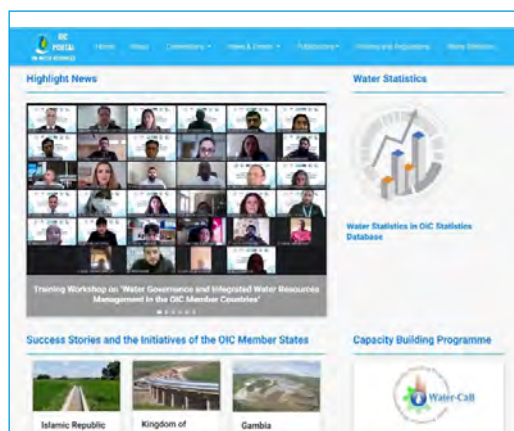
## Thematic Websites and Portals

SESRIC develops and maintains thematic web portals in line with the decisions taken at OIC Fora with a view to strengthening communication, cooperation, and knowledge sharing among the relevant national institutions in these fields. The portals act as the main information-sharing platform in the particular areas, facilitate coordination of activities and also serve as a library for publications and reports related to these areas. Currently, SESRIC website hosts the following portals:

**OIC Health Portal**  
[www.oichealth.org](http://www.oichealth.org)



**OIC Portal on Water Resources**  
[oicwater.sesric.org](http://oicwater.sesric.org)





## Tobacco Free OIC Portal tfo.sesric.org



## OIC-OSHNET oshnet.sesric.org



## OIC VET Programme <http://www.oicvet.org>



## Memoranda of Understanding MoUs and Agreements (SESRIC's Cooperation with National and International Institutions)

Over the years, SESRIC has signed a significant number of Memoranda of Understanding and Agreements with various relevant national, regional, OIC, and international institutions. These agreements frame bilateral and multilateral arrangements for cooperation with a view to enhancing the Centre's technical cooperation with these institutions for the benefit of the OIC member countries.

## MoU between SESRIC and the Malaysian Agricultural Research and Development Institute (MARDI)



SESRIC and the Malaysian Agricultural Research and Development Institute (MARDI) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to facilitate and strengthen cooperation in the areas of common interests. The MoU was signed by H.E. Mr. Nebil DABUR, Director General of SESRIC, and H.E. Dato' Dr. Mohamad Zabawi ABDUL GHANI, Director General of MARDI, on 14 September 2022.

### **MoU between SESRIC and the Indonesian Agency for Agricultural Instrument Standardization (IAAIS)**



SESRIC and the Indonesian Agency for Agricultural Instrument Standardization (IAAIS) formalized their collaboration by signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on 15 March 2023. The MoU aims to facilitate and enhance technical cooperation between the two institutions in areas of mutual interest.

The MoU was signed by H.E. Mr. Nebil DABUR, Director General of SESRIC, and H.E. Prof. Dr. Fadryr DJUFERY, Director General of IAAIS, marking a significant step towards joint efforts in fostering a sustainable and competitive agricultural sector and enhancing food security levels in the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) member countries.

### **OIC-VET Programme**



The Vocational Education and Training Programme for the Member States of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC-VET) is an initiative of SESRIC. The Centre developed and designed this Programme with a view to supporting and contributing to the efforts of the OIC member countries towards addressing the current challenges and limitations faced in the area of TVET. In addition, the programme also aims to enhance the quality of TVET systems in the OIC member countries, which in turn contribute to the development and competitiveness of their economies.

The OIC-VET Programme was launched and adopted by the member countries at the COMCEC Economic Summit held in Istanbul, Türkiye, on 9 November 2009. SESRIC was entrusted with the role of Executing OIC Organ of the Programme.

## OIC-TVET Strategic Roadmap 2020-2025



SESRIC and the Islamic World Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ICESCO) coordinated the preparation of the “OIC-TVET Strategic Roadmap 2020-2025” in collaboration with the National Focal Points of OIC-VET Programme through four thematic working group meetings and two consecutive workshops held during the period 2017-2018. The Strategic Roadmap aims at developing tangible projects and activities to be executed in close cooperation with the national TVET institutions as well as the relevant international and OIC institutions. Various implementation modalities were set in the Roadmap under the following four main cooperation areas:

- Legislative Framework, Governance and Promotion
- TVET Teacher Education
- Occupational Standards and Qualification & Quality Assurance System
- Certification and Modular Training Programs

The objectives set in the Roadmap are geared towards improving the competencies and skills of TVET learners and teachers according to labour markets’ needs and priorities through intra-OIC partnerships at the institutional level in line with the OIC-2025 Programme of Action and the Sustainable Development Goals of the 2030 Agenda.

The 35<sup>th</sup> Ministerial Session of the COMCEC, which was held on 25-28 November 2019 in Istanbul, Türkiye, welcomed the OIC-TVET Strategic Roadmap 2020-2025 and requested SESRIC to monitor the implementation of the Roadmap within the framework of its Vocational Education and Training Programme (OIC-VET) and submit the progress report to the COMCEC Sessions and the Follow-up Committee Meetings.

For more details regarding the OIC-TVET Strategic Roadmap 2020-2025, please visit <https://www.sesric.org/files/article/693.pdf>

### Monitoring and Advisory Committee (MAC)

Since the inception of the OIC-VET Programme, SESRIC, in its capacity as the Executing Organ of the Programme, organised six meetings of the Monitoring and Advisory Committee (MAC). The last meeting was held on 19-20 December 2019 in Istanbul, Türkiye, where the National Focal Points of the OIC-VET Programme as well as representatives of the relevant OIC institutions, attended the meeting. The sixth meeting discussed and agreed on the modalities of the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the OIC-TVET Strategic Roadmap 2020-2025, as well as the mechanism of its implementation for the upcoming five years.

The Monitoring and Advisory Committee (MAC) is responsible for drafting and adopting the rules and regulations and monitoring the overall implementation of the OIC-VET Programme. The committee is comprised of representatives from National Focal Points of the OIC member countries and relevant OIC institutions, namely, IsDB, Islamic Chamber of Commerce, Industry



and Agriculture (ICCIA), Islamic University of Technology (IUT), Islamic Cooperation Youth Forum (ICYF) and the Islamic World Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ICESCO).



## OIC-VET Programme's Activities

Since the inception of the OIC-VET Programme, more than 40 activities have been implemented covering various topics through workshops, training of trainers (ToT) courses, study visits, and seminars for the benefit of TVET Authorities of the OIC member countries. The conducted activities facilitated the enhancement of knowledge and competencies of TVET instructors in addition to youth and women empowerment.

Examples of the activities carried out within the framework of the OIC-VET Programme:

### Training of Trainers (ToT) on “Sewing, Woodcraft and Jewellery Design”



SESRIC, within the framework of the OIC-VET Programme, organised a Training of Trainers (ToT) Course on “Sewing, Woodcraft and Jewellery Design” on 11-15 November 2019 in Ankara, Türkiye. The ToT course was provided by the competent trainers from the Ministry of National Education of the Republic of Türkiye for the benefit of participants from Afghanistan, Jordan, Oman, Palestine, Senegal and Uzbekistan.

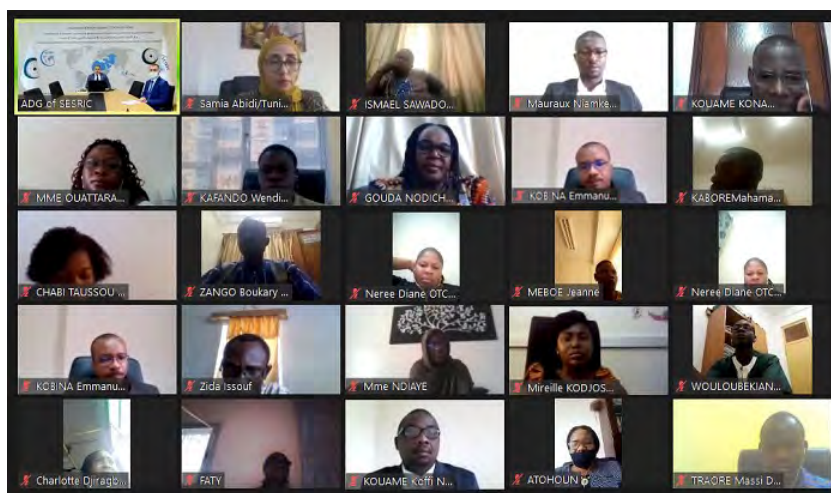


## Workshop on “Emerging Challenges in TVET Sector and Capacity Development Trends in OIC Member States”



SESRIC, within the framework of the OIC-VET Programme, organised a workshop on “Emerging Challenges in TVET Sector and Capacity Development Trends in the OIC Member States” on 11-14 January 2021. The workshop brought together 73 TVET professionals from 26 OIC member countries to discuss efficient ways and means in tackling the emerging challenges and capacity development issues facing TVET Institutions.

## Training Course on “Advancement and Empowerment of Women’s Entrepreneurial Skills”



SESRIC, within the framework of the OIC-VET Programme, organised a training course on “Advancement and Empowerment of Women’s Entrepreneurial Skills” on 08-11 March 2021. The training course was provided by a competent expert from the National Agency for Employment and Independent Work (ANETI) of Tunisia for the benefit of experts and executives from the relevant Ministries of Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d’Ivoire, and Senegal.

## Online Training Course on “Promoting Good Governance of TVET for Efficient System Management”



SESRIC, within the framework of the OIC-VET Programme, and in line with the OIC-TVET Strategic Roadmap 2020-2025, organised a Training Course on “Promoting Good Governance of TVET for Efficient System Management” on 10-12 May 2022, in collaboration with the Ministry of Education, Culture, Research and Technology of the Republic of Indonesia. The training course was provided by competent experts from the Ministry of Education, Culture, Research and Technology of the Republic of Indonesia for the benefit of experts and executives from the Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) Authorities and relevant national institutions of 22 OIC Member Countries.

## Training Workshop on “Promoting Youth Innovation and Entrepreneurship in OIC Africa French-Speaking Member Countries”



SESRIC, within the framework of the Vocational Education and Training Programme for the Member States of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC-VET) and in line with the OIC-TVET Strategic Roadmap 2020-2025, SESRIC organised a Training Workshop on “Promoting

Youth Innovation and Entrepreneurship in OIC Africa French-Speaking Member Countries” on 14-16 March 2023. The training workshop was provided by competent experts from the National Agency for Employment and Independent Work (ANETI) of the Republic of Tunisia for the benefit of 80 experts and executives from the Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) Authorities and relevant national institutions of 12 OIC African French-Speaking Member Countries.

## OIC-VET Programme Identified as a Good Practice for Sustainable Development

Good Practices in  
**South-South and Triangular Cooperation**  
for Sustainable Development - Volume 3



The United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation referred to the OIC-VET Programme as one of the solutions towards the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG 4) on Quality Education in its publication titled the “Good Practices in South-South and Triangular Cooperation for Sustainable Development-Volume 3”.

The published report focused on the challenges that face the TVET systems particularly in the OIC region, and the establishment of the OIC-VET Programme as a solution that supplements the international efforts towards the achievement of the SDGs, primarily goal 4 “Quality Education”.

The OIC-VET Programme was highlighted considering its essential role in scaling up South-South and Triangular Cooperation (SSC and TrC), and knowledge exchange through innovative and holistic approaches among the relevant national TVET authorities of the member countries. Special emphasis was given to the Roadmap of the programme and the activities listed under the Implementation Work Plan, which embrace the fundamentals of SSC such as mutual understanding, exchange of expertise and experiences, peer-to-peer learning and capacity development.

For more details regarding the OIC-VET Programme activities, please visit <https://www.oicvet.org/>

## SESRIC Internship Programme

SESRIC offers internships to highly motivated and successful young people interested to learn more about the economic and social issues, which affect OIC member countries and Muslim communities around the World. The programme provides opportunities for university students from the OIC member countries studying in Turkish Universities to obtain hands-on experience at SESRIC Headquarters in Ankara, as well as to improve their skills and knowledge of working in an international environment.

The programme is open to students who either are nationals of the OIC member countries or belong to a Muslim Community. Candidates must have completed an undergraduate degree and be enrolled in a full-time graduate study program pursuing a Master’s or a PhD degree.





## SESRIC and UNOSSC Launched the Joint Report on “South-South in Action: Transforming Potentials into Shared Prosperity”



SESRIC and the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC) launched the joint report on “South-South in Action: Transforming Potentials into Shared Prosperity” during a side event of the United Nations Day for South-South Cooperation, on 15 September 2020.

This joint publication celebrates SESRIC’s accumulated experience over the last four decades and provides new insights into the field of South-South Cooperation. The report presents selected programmes and best practices initiated by SESRIC in line with its triadic mandate in the domain of statistics, research and training to support and enhance socio-economic development in OIC member countries.