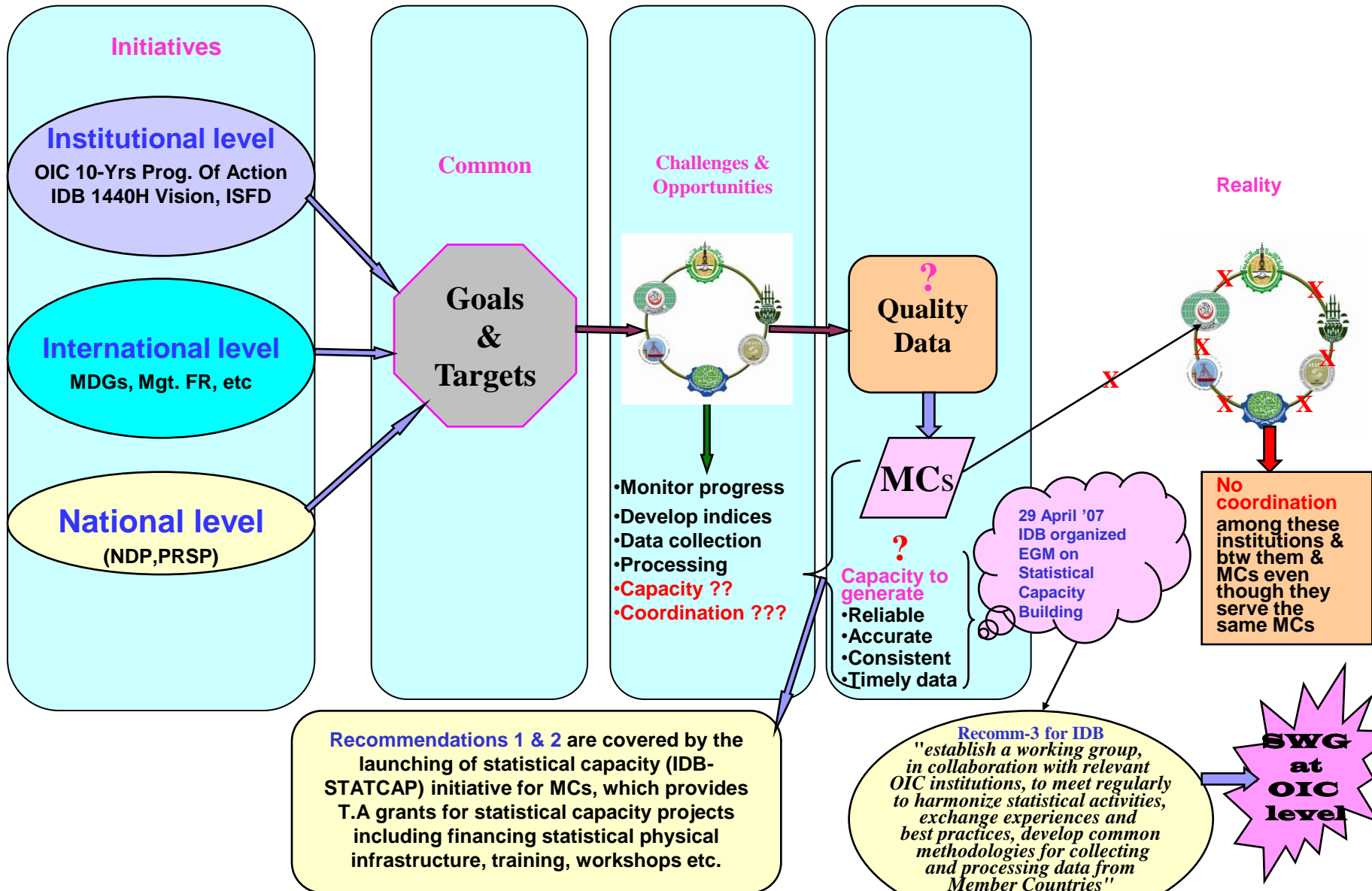# OIC Statistical Working Group
The journey of coordination, harmonization and standardization of activities

April 2011

The Challenges

Initiatives

Institutional level
OIC 10-Yrs Prog. Of Action
IDB 1440H Vision, ISFD

International level
MDGs, Mgt. FR, etc

National level
(NDP,PRSP)

Common

Goals & Targets

Challenges & Opportunities

Reality

Quality Data

?

MCs

?

•Monitor progress
•Develop indices
•Data collection
•Processing
•Capacity ??
•Coordination ???

Capacity to generate
•Reliable
•Accurate
•Consistent
•Timely data

29 April '07 IDB organized EGM on Statistical Capacity Building

No coordination among these institutions & btw them & MCs even though they serve the same MCs

X X X X X X X

Recommendations 1 & 2 are covered by the launching of statistical capacity (IDB-STATCAP) initiative for MCs, which provides T.A grants for statistical capacity projects including financing statistical physical infrastructure, training, workshops etc.

Recomm-3 for IDB
"establish a working group, in collaboration with relevant OIC institutions, to meet regularly to harmonize statistical activities, exchange experiences and best practices, develop common methodologies for collecting and processing data from Member Countries"

SWG at OIC level

"Together We Build a Better Future"

2

Why Statistical Working Group (SWG)?

1. Uncoordinated multiple databases (ICDT-Trade databases; SESRIC-BaseIND; IDB-COSDAT; ICCI-DataBank etc.)

2. Missed opportunities…niche areas neglected (oversight for OIC/IDB initiatives, developing indices, compiling statistics on Islamic variables-e.g zakat, awqaf, islamic finance; intra-investment, poverty, setting standards & harmonizing practices)

3. Outlived mandates (repositioning to remain relevant and responsive)

4. Overlapping activities (duplication of efforts)

5. Least cited publications/reports (visibility marginal)

6. Fragmented statistical activities (arbitrary and supply-driven)

7. Financial resources meager and no regular stream of income

8. Manpower extremely low (lack of competent and professional statisticians with mixed skills)

9. Lack of focus

10. Published reports fraught with inconsistency (conflicting figures abound) and abuse of statistical techniques ubiquitous (e.g. aggregation method??)

An Illustration: Exports of goods and services (Annual % change)

		2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Saudi Arabia	SESRIC*	5.9	-1.1	-7.2	20.0	..	..	..
	ICDT**	0.0	0.0	0.0	..	..	..	..
	IDB***	46.7	-11.3	6.4	27.7	33.2	42.6	27.4
Bangladesh	SESRIC*	14.4	14.9	-2.3	6.9	12.5	15.6	15.7
	ICDT**	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	..	..
	IDB***	9.2	9.7	-6.1	8.6	19.0	13.6	10.5

Sources: * SESRIC's BaseIND (accessed 24 March 2008); **ICDT's Trade Databases (Economic Indicators), accessed 24 March 2008;

***IDB Statistical Monograph No. 28, from IDB Live Database (= World Bank's World Development Indicators Database)

Which of these figures are correct, SESRIC's, ICDT's or IDB's? …. a $1 Million question!!!
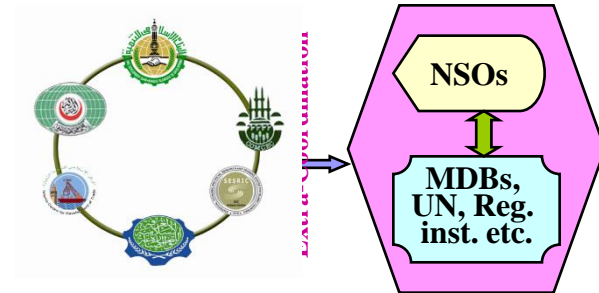
What options are available for OIC Institutions?

Option I: Siloed or Business as Usual

-Duplication of activities
-Wastage of scarce resources
-Lack of synergy
-Conflicting figures in reports
-No common position at international Fora

Option 2: Partnership & Cooperation

-Coordination of activities
-Greater synergy
-Increased productivity/efficiency
-Enhanced quality of publication
-Focused and responsiveness
-Oversight for implementing OIC initiatives
-Resources better managed
-Leveraged best practices
-Access to harmonized data
-Common position at International Fora

NSOs

MDBs, UN, Reg. inst. etc.

Inception of OIC   25-March-2008   Time-t

Paradigm Maintenance   **Paradigm Shift**

"Together We Build a Better Future"
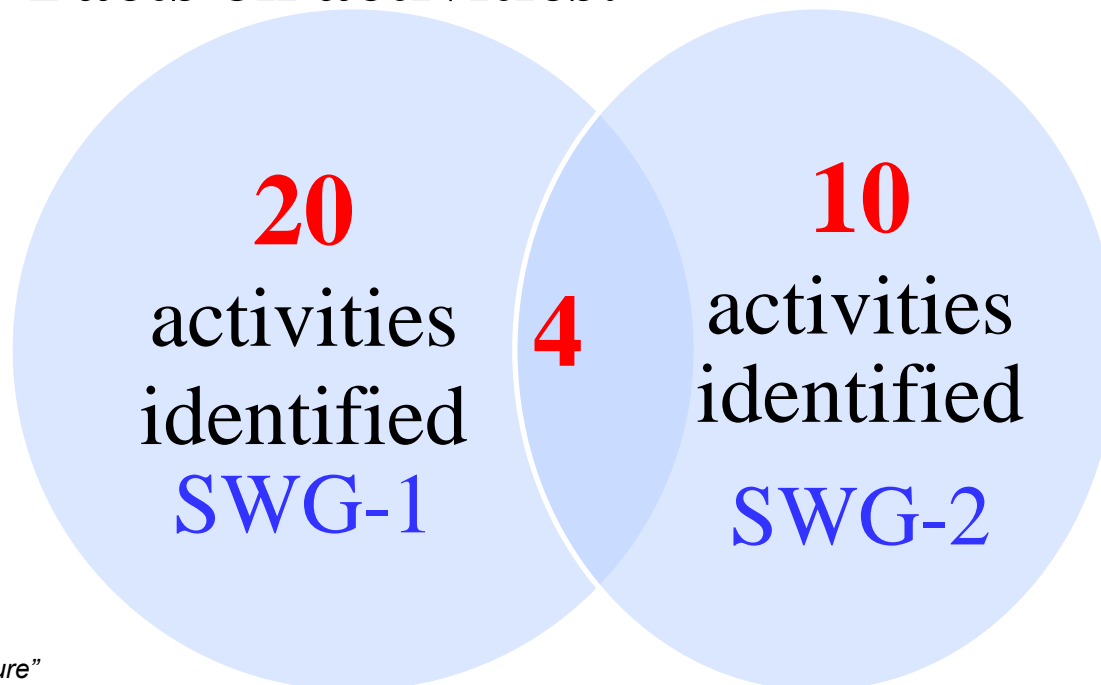
3 guiding pillars of SWG:

☞ Coordinate statistical activities *to save cost and avoid duplication of efforts*

☞ Harmonize sources of data *to avoid sending conflicting messages to the public and policy makers*

☞ Standardize methods of calculating aggregation *to avoid reporting conflicting figures in our respective statistical publications.*

The journey so far:

- 1st Meeting of SWG organized by IDB on 25 March 2008

- 2nd Meeting hosted by SESRIC in Ankara on 15-16 June 2009

- 3rd Meeting hosted by IDB on 26 Dec. 2010

Stylized Facts on activities:

20 activities identified SWG-1   **4**   **10** activities identified SWG-2

Scorecard

	Completed	Partially completed	Yet to be undertaken	Total
SWG-1	7 (35%)	6 (30%)	7 (35%)	20
SWG-2	5 (50%)	3 (30%)	2 (20%)	10
Both	-	4 (100%)	-	4
Total	12 (35%)	13 (38%)	9 (27%)	34

"Together We Build a Better Future"

SWG-3

☞ Institutional Progress Report on OIC-SWG Activities and New Statistical Initiatives

☞ NSOs presentations

☞ Discuss preparation for OIC Statistical Commission and publications of SWG for the forthcoming OIC Summit.

Thank you