

Scorecard on OIC-SWG activities:

Where do we stand on coordination, harmonization and standardization?

Data Resources and Statistics Department

Why SWG?

- 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??)

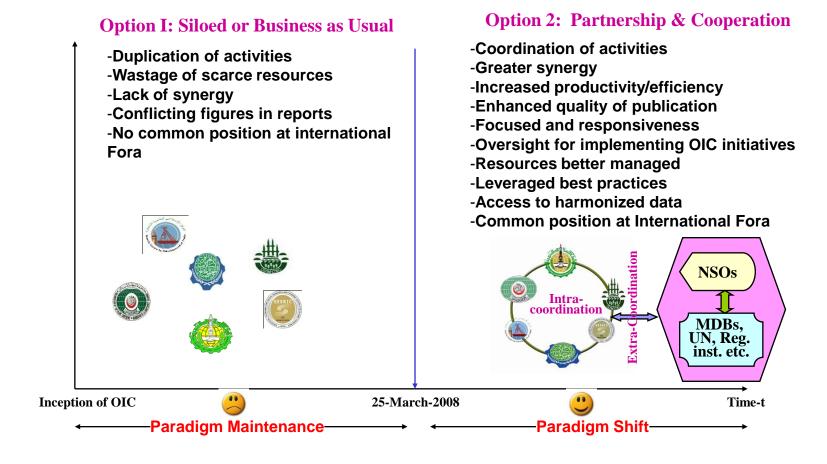
An Illustration: Exports of goods and services (Annual % change)

		2000	2001	2002	2 200	3 200	4 2005	2006
Saudi Arabia	SESRIC*	5.9	(-1.1)	-7.2	20.0	0		
	ICDT**	0.0	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?



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

Stylized Facts as of today:



7

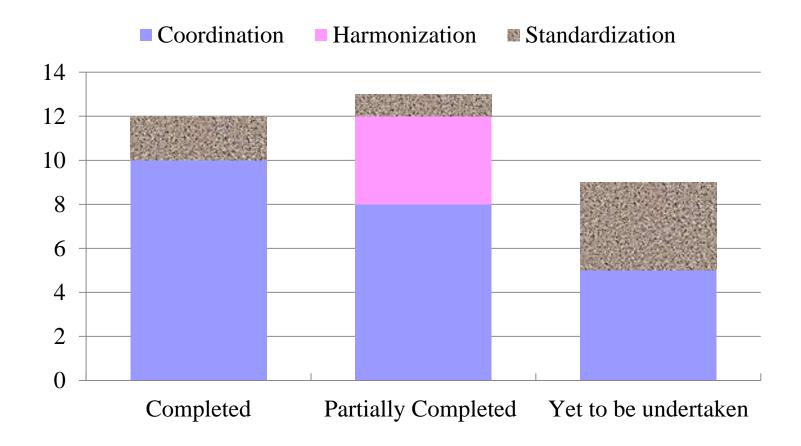
Distribution of activities by the 3 pillars of SWG

	Coordination	Harmonization	Standardization	Total
SWG-1	11	3	6	20
SWG-2	9	-	1	10
Both	3	1	-	4
Total	23 (68%)	4 (12%)	7 (21%)	34

Scorecard

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

Scorecard



Objectives of SWG-3

- Review progress of SWG activities
- Share experiences and good practices
- Identify initiatives that could possibly be jointly undertaken and
- Discuss preparation for OIC Statistical Commission and publications of SWG for the forthcoming OIC Summit.

