



# **IDB-STATCAP AND CHALLENGES SO FAR**

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## IDB-STATCAP Initiative

- Launched in September 2007
- **Aim:** assist member countries with weak statistical capacities to overcome vicious cycle of under-performance and under-funding of their national statistical systems.
- Guideline and Procedures approved in Dec. 2007
- Regional and international organizations can enter into co-financing arrangement with IDB
- Application Form is online ([www.isdb.org](http://www.isdb.org))

# Features of IDB-STATCAP

- Mainstream statistical capacity projects in regular operations of IDB
- Support and finance training courses, workshops, conference, hiring consultants, experts visit, and studies
- Provides scholarships for Statisticians to obtain M.Sc. degrees in statistics

## Challenges so far ...

- Countries are under-utilizing IDB-STATCAP, only few applications were received from MCs so far
- Requests from countries are outside the realm of NSDS and more often there is lack of transparency ( as needs are exaggerated)
- Candidates for IDB-STATCAP Scholarships are not from the mainstream statistical agencies
- Responses of NSOs (when contacted) are sometimes discouraging
- Regional statistical institutions have overlapping training courses for common member countries

# New Approach to STATCAP:

## 1. Country Statistical Diagnostic Studies

- a. Its about developing a strategy for identifying the most binding constraints on national statistical system
- b. Setting priorities that, once targeted on these constraints at any point in time, are likely to provide the biggest bang for the buck.
- c. The methodology is based on a decision tree

2. Only statistical capacity projects identified in NSDS or Statistical Master Plan of MCs will be financed by IDB STATCAP
3. Mainstream outcome of Country Statistical Diagnostic Studies in the operational activities of IDB (*a shift from adhoc approach*)
4. Partnership /synergy strategy with development partners:
  - DFID's £2 million fund for STATCAP for selected MENA MCs (Iraq, Yemen & Palestine) plus regional statistical trainings/workshop



**Thank you**