



May 5, 2014  
Volume 1, Issue 6

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## THE GROWTH OF STATISTICS CAPACITY-BUILDING IN AFRICA

Statistics capacity-building in Africa is embedded in the 2006 Reference Regional Strategic Framework (RRSF) in line with the 2004 Marrakech Action Plan for Statistics (MAPS). The RRSF, a coherent framework to build this capacity in line with MAPS, was designed to improve development outcome and governance by strengthening African national statistics systems (NSSs). One of its goals is to strengthen Statistical Training Centres (STCs). Also the Strategy for the Harmonization of Statistics in Africa emphasizes the capacity-building of official statisticians.

Because they are not required in large numbers, official statisticians are not taught at every university, an

approach that would be both unnecessary and a waste of resources. In Africa, official statisticians only are trained at STCs. That's why in the wave of African independence in the early 1960s, various training centres on the continent were established. One such training centre is the Eastern Africa Statistical Training Centre (EASTC).

#### *Establishment of EASTC*

At the third conference of African statisticians in October 1963, the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) agreed to assist in the establishment of an English-speaking STC. The EASTC was established and started training new official statisticians August 30, 1965 in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania as a joint project of the East African Common Services Organisation (EACSO), predecessor of the East African Community (EAC), and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

In April 1978, the Statistical Training Programme for Africa (STPA), under UNECA, requested the Tanzania government to run the STC. The Centre remains regional and has expanded to serve more states in Eastern and Southern Africa in addition to the partners of the former EAC.



*Students learn about official statistics at the Eastern Africa Statistical Training Centre in Dar es Salaam.*

In 1994, Tanzania and user countries signed a diplomatic protocol in which obligations and privileges of user countries were specified and the number of countries to be served increased to 13—Botswana, Ethiopia, Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Seychelles, Somalia, Sudan, Swaziland, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe. At this time, the centre's name was changed to the EASTC. Later, five other countries—Eritrea, Mauritius, Namibia, South Africa and South Sudan—joined EASTC.

The Centre's original purpose was to offer academic qualifications to government workers in national statistical offices who joined the civil service direct from secondary and high schools, but who had experience in statistical activities. As a result, EASTC focused on training at low and intermediate levels, i.e., certificate and diploma.

In the early 2000s, many African governments began to employ only graduates on permanent terms. As a result, most of the national statistical offices resorted to employing theoretical statisticians. Beginning

in 2012, EASTC started to offer a bachelor's degree (NTA 7&8) in official statistics. However, most of the workers in the national statistical systems already had acquired a bachelor degree in theoretical statistics. To assist in capacity-building for existing workers in national statistical offices, EASTC initiated the process of developing postgraduate programmes in official statistics.

## **WOMEN IN STATISTICS CONFERENCE IS THIS MONTH**

The first-ever Women in Statistics Conference will be held May 15-17 in Research Triangle Park, which is located near Raleigh, North Carolina in the United States.

The event, branded "Celebrating Women in Statistics: Know Your Power," will highlight the achievements and career interests of women in statistics. Senior, mid-level and junior stars representing industrial, academic and government statistical communities will unite at the conference to present their respective life's work, discuss the 'chutes and ladders' of their career trajectories, and share their perspectives on the role of women in today's field of statistics.

Participants will leave the conference with wider networks for mentoring and new ideas for collaborative proposals as well as increased visibility within their community. They also will take with them a list of action items to further increase the visibility of their contributions to the wider statistics community and the world. You can learn more about the Women in Statistics Conference and register for the event at <http://women-in-stats.org>.

## **COPSS COMMISSIONS NEW STATISTICS BOOK**

*Past, Present, and Future of Statistical Science*, commissioned by the Committee of Presidents of Statistical Societies (COPSS) to celebrate its 50th anniversary and the International Year of Statistics, was published in April by Taylor & Francis/CRC Press. Through the contributions of a distinguished group of 50 statisticians, the book showcases the breadth and vibrancy of statistics, describes current challenges and new opportunities, highlights the exciting future of statistical science, and provides guidance for future statisticians. Contributing authors are past COPSS award honorees. [Click here to read the open-access version of the book.](#)

## **YOUNG STATISTICIANS WRITING COMPETITION: WRITE WITH SIGNIFICANCE!**

**By Jennifer Rogers**

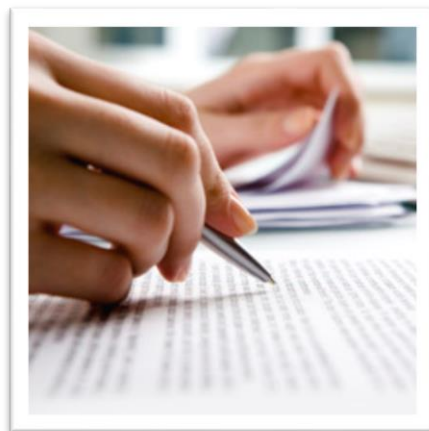
[Significance](#) and the [Young Statisticians Section](#) of the Royal Statistical Society (RSS) are again hosting a competition to promote good writing about statistics. This time, the rewards are even greater! All budding writers within the first 10 years of their statistical career are invited to submit articles which would be suitable for *Significance* magazine.

The winning article will, as before, be published in *Significance*. But this year, for the first time, the three finalists also will be invited to attend the [Royal Statistical Society Conference 2014](#) in Sheffield and present their work in a special session where we will announce the overall winner. It is an ideal chance for them to practice speaking before an enthusiastic and appreciative audience.

Articles should be between 1,800 and 3,000 words and can include tables, figures, images and photographs. The style should be clear and easy to read—avoid the formal layout of an academic report—and technical terms and mathematics should be used sparingly if at all and suitably explained. End references are optional, but should be limited to three or four at most.

Anyone is welcome to enter, regardless of membership or affiliation. The only stipulation is that you should be 'young' (in career terms, not necessarily in age)—that is, you must be a student or within the first 10 years of your career. The article could be on work you have done or it could explain the work of others. Only submissions in English will be considered.

Some hints: *Significance* is a magazine, not a peer-reviewed journal, so people who know little or nothing about statistics read it. Write for your readers: if you can interest them in the subject, your piece will have been a success. Try not to dumb down, but avoid being over-technical: If a schoolchild, a grandmother, and everyone in between can understand it, no matter what their background knowledge, and if they can go away knowing a little more about statistics than they did before, then you can consider yourself one of the best communicators of statistics around—and you should have a good chance of winning. And if your topic is of use to the world or to society, or is just offbeat or unexpected, that helps as well. We want to show how statistics is relevant to all kinds of decisions that matter.



Manuscripts must be original and not under consideration for publication elsewhere, though we welcome magazine articles based on work in theses or in papers that have been submitted to or accepted by academic journals, provided the two are sufficiently different. All articles will be assessed by a review committee. The judges will consist of representatives from both the RSS Young Statisticians Section and *Significance*.

Three finalists will win a one-day registration to the Royal Statistical Society Conference 2014, which is being held in Sheffield (Note: travel and accommodation costs will not be covered). The winning article will be published in *Significance* magazine. Runner-up articles will be published on the *Significance* website or in *Significance* at the editor's discretion. As an extra incentive, last year's winner, Damjan Vukcevic, also was featured on [BBC Radio 4's More or Less programme](#). The runners-up from 2013 were [John Stephenson](#), [Dane Korver](#) and [Altea Lorenzo-Arribas](#).

Email your submissions in a text or Word file or as a PDF to [Jennifer.Rogers@lshtm.ac.uk](mailto:Jennifer.Rogers@lshtm.ac.uk). The writing competition closing date is May 30.

## SHARE YOUR NEWS & EVENTS THROUGH THE WORLD OF STATISTICS

Tell your colleagues in the worldwide statistical community and the public about your organization's events through The World of Statistics 2014 Activities Calendar. [Using this brief webform](#), it's easy to submit information about your event so it is added to the activities calendar for all to see.

After your event is over, you can send us a story about it for this e-newsletter. We have developed [this easy-to-use webform](#) you can use to submit your event stories and other news about your organization's activities to promote and advance the statistical science profession. These event stories and news items will be featured in an upcoming issue of this e-newsletter.

Send us your calendar and news items now!

## THE WORLD OF STATISTICS 2014 ACTIVITIES CALENDAR FOR MAY

Following are The World of Statistics participating organization-sponsored events and activities around the world for the month of May. To see the complete list of activities for 2014, [click here](#).

- **May 2, 2014** — [2014 Rutgers Statistics Symposium: Statistics and the Century of Data](#), Rutgers University Department of Statistics and Biostatistics, Piscataway, New Jersey, USA
- **May 11-14, 2014** — [PSI 2014 Conference](#), Shafi Consultancy, London, United Kingdom
- **May 12-13, 2014** — [LARIA Annual Conference 2014](#), Local Area Research + Intelligence Association (LARIA), Warwick/Coventry, United Kingdom
- **May 12-16, 2014** — **VIRTUAL EVENT:** [Virtual Working Days of Statistics Applied to Health](#), Asociación Española de Estadística para la Salud (Spanish Association for Health Statistics)
- **May 14, 2014** — **WEBINAR:** [International Data in the UK Data Service](#), UK Data Service, London, United Kingdom
- **May 14-16, 2014** — [2014 Atlantic Causal Inference Conference](#), Brown University School of Public Health, Providence, Rhode Island, USA
- **May 15-17, 2014** — [Celebrating Women in Statistics](#), ASA Committee on Women in Statistics and CAUCUS of Women in Statistics, Research Triangle Park, North Carolina, USA
- **May 16, 2014** — **VIRTUAL EVENT:** [Opinions and Lifestyle Survey User Conference](#), UK Data Service, London, United Kingdom
- **May 19-21, 2014** — [37th Annual Midwest Biopharmaceutical Statistics Workshop: Modern Perspectives: Model Selection and Validation](#), Ball State University, Muncie, Indiana, USA
- **May 19-23, 2014** — **VIRTUAL EVENT:** [2nd Biennial Electronic Conference on Teaching Statistics \(eCOTS\)](#), Consortium for the Advancement of Undergraduate Statistics Education (CAUSE)
- **May 22, 2014** — [How to Improve Your Forecast While Making Your Marketing More Efficient?](#), Coheris, Paris, France
- **May 22-24, 2014** — [NCRN Meeting Spring 2014](#), NSF-Census Research Network Coordination Office, Suitland, Maryland, USA

- **May 24, 2014** — [Statistical Society of Canada Student Conference](#); Statistical Society of Canada, Southern Ontario Chapter of the American Statistical Association, Buffalo-Niagara Chapter of the American Statistical Association; Toronto, Canada
- **May 25-28, 2014** — [Statistical Society of Canada Conference](#), Statistical Society of Canada, Toronto, Canada
- **May 26-28, 2014** — [8th International Conference on Partial Least Squares and Related Methods](#) (PLS'14); International Society for Business and Industrial Statistics (ISIBS), International Association for Statistical Computing (IASC), International Federation of Classification Societies (IFCS), Société Française de Statistique (SFdS), Società Italiana di Statistics (SIS); Paris, France
- **May 30, 2014** — [2014 Mid-Atlantic Genetic Epidemiology and Statistics Conference](#); Center for Genetics and Complex Traits, Perelman School of Medicine, University of Pennsylvania; Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA

[Click here to submit your organization's activities to The World of Statistics 2014 Activities Calendar.](#)

## PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATION NEWS & EVENTS

Following is the latest news and information from statistical organizations participating in The World of Statistics:

**Poland**—The Central Statistical Office will host a workshop titled the “Small Area Estimation Conference” (SAE 2014) September 3-5. The event will be staged at the Department of Statistics, Faculty of Informatics and Electronic Economy at Poznan University of Economics. SAE 2014 will be one of the most important events devoted to theoretical and methodological developments as well as practical applications of small-area estimation methods. Organizers believe the conference will provide a special opportunity and a platform for the exchange of ideas and experiences between representatives of the academic community, official statistics and research centers as well as other institutions involved in developing and applying small-area estimation methods. The conference is being organized by the Poznan University of Economics (lead organizer), the Central Statistical Office and the Statistical Office in Poznan (co-organizers). [More information is available on the event website.](#)

**Romania**—The international workshop, “New Challenges for Statistical Software—The Use of R in Official Statistics,” held March 27, was the second in a series of events dedicated to the use of R Project in Romania. The event was initiated by the “R-omanian” R team, which recently celebrated the first anniversary of its formation as an R User Group. One year ago on April 4, the first workshop dedicated to the use of R in the country—“State-of-the-Art Statistical Software Commonly Used in Applied Economics Workshop”—was held. The most recent event was a resounding success with participants from academia, official statistics and business from the United Kingdom, Austria, the Netherlands, Hungary, Serbia and Romania. The workshop’s quality of presented works and the high-level research activity of the authors exhibit that Romania is on the map of R users. The workshop was an opportunity to develop new ideas and cooperation in the field of official statistics and academia. The event spotlighted the role of the Romanian National Institute of Statistics in developing official statistics. Workshop presentations are available [on the “R-omanian” R team website](#). Organizers were pleased to have as guests several

pioneers of R from other national statistical offices. The R-omanian R team and the workshop organizers—the National Institute of Statistics, National Centre for Training in Statistics, Bucharest University of Economic Studies, Ecological University of Bucharest, and Nicolae Titulescu University of Bucharest—thank all participants for sharing their experience and knowledge.



*“R-omanian” R team workshop participants pose for a group photo.*

**United Kingdom**—A workshop on “Computational Methods for Massive/Complex Data” will be held at Imperial College London June 19 and 20. The objective of the two-day workshop is to bring together experts on state-of-the-art data analysis (data mining/machine learning/[bio]statistics) of large-scale data sets, computer scientists who are already focusing on powerful strategies that exploit the nature of the analysis algorithms, and numerical analysts who are creating efficient techniques for detailed results that necessitate handling large quantities of data.

Workshop organizers are Leonardo Bottolo, Imperial College London; Giovanni Montana, King's College London; and David van Dyk, Imperial College London.

Event topics are intended to be broad and cover:

- Distributed and parallel computing
- Heterogeneous computing
- Programmable hardware
- “Inner-loop” efficient computational libraries for (statistical) software environments
- Application to Bayesian computation and machine learning

[For more information, including invited speakers and registration, click here.](#)

**México**—The Center for Research in Mathematics (CIMAT) in collaboration with the Mexican Statistical Association (AME), Applied Mathematics and Systems Research Institute of the National Autonomous University of Mexico (IIMAS-UNAM), National Institute of Statistics and Geography of Mexico (INEGI), and Statistics Department of the Mexico Autonomous Institute of Technology (ITAM) has launched a video website, [ojoestadistico.cimat.mx](http://ojoestadistico.cimat.mx), in support of [The World of Statistics](#). The goal of “Ojo



Estadístico” (statistical eye) is to disseminate the importance of statistics in all areas of society. As part of the celebrations of the International Year of Statistics, participants of “Ojo Estadístico” produced many of the documentary films featured on the website. Early video productions also were included in what has become a valuable legacy of informational content.

**Bangladesh**—The Institute of Statistical Research and Training (ISRT) at the University of Dhaka is one of the foremost institutions for training and research in applied statistics in the country. It was founded by the late Professor Dr. Qazi Motahar Husain, a leading proponent of the statistical sciences in Bangladesh. The Institute is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year.



*The Institute of Statistical Research and Training (ISRT) at the University of Dhaka, Bangladesh*

To mark this special occasion, ISRT is organizing the International Conference on Applied Statistics (ICAS) to be held in Dhaka December 27-29. The conference’s theme is “Applied Statistics: Meeting the Challenges of the 21st Century.” Its main objectives are to highlight the emerging areas of statistical applications, promote the interaction of statistics with other disciplines and create public awareness about the role of statistics for development.

Researchers, academicians and representatives from business, industry, governmental and non-government organizations are invited to participate. Papers are invited in all areas of statistics that demonstrate interesting applications in other disciplines. The conference will consist of contributed-paper sessions as well as several plenary and invited-speaker sessions featuring eminent statisticians from around the world, including James Rosenberger, who is the vice president of the American Statistical Association and professor of statistics at Penn State University. Rosenberger will address the conference as a keynote speaker. A number of preconference workshops on various areas of statistics for local researchers and graduate students will be offered.

To make this a culturally rewarding experience, there will be a city tour and cultural program for international participants. We invite you to visit Bangladesh, home to the Royal Bengal Tiger, and join ISRT in celebrating its golden jubilee.

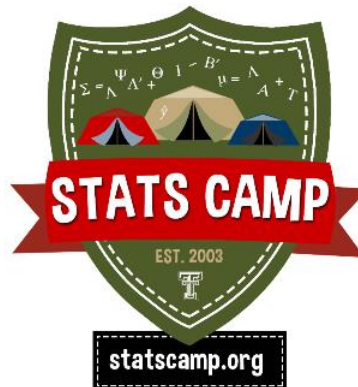


**United States**—Registration for the 12th Annual Stats Camp is now open. The award-winning summer statistics institute will be held over two sessions—June 2-6 and June 9-13 in Lawrence, Kansas. This will be the last year the event will be held in Lawrence. Early-bird registration will end May 9; [click here for more information and to register today](#).

Courses for each session are as follows:

*June 2–6:*

1. [Structural Equation Modeling: Foundations and Extended Applications](#) (Todd D. Little & Noel A. Card, instructors)—Topics include confirmatory factor analysis, multiple-group comparisons, factorial invariance as well as extended applications such as hierarchical models, multi-level SEM, and multi-trait-multi-method analyses. Opportunities for personal consulting and hands-on practice are provided.
2. [Applied Latent Class Analysis and Finite Mixture Modeling](#) (Katherine Masyn, instructor)—An introduction to “person-centered” data analysis. Topics include latent class analysis, latent class cluster analysis, modeling predictors and outcomes of latent class membership, and select longitudinal extensions such as latent transition analysis. Hands-on practice with Mplus will be provided.



3. [Multilevel Modeling: Foundations and Applications](#) (James P. Selig, instructor)—The theory and practice of methods for analyzing hierarchically organized data. Topics include random effects, centering, multiparameter tests, plotting cross-level interactions, and other applications of multilevel modeling, including multilevel SEM.
4. [Item Response Theory](#) (William P. Skorupski, instructor)—Theoretical and practical advantages of scaling assessment data using IRT. Introduction to various IRT models and their applications, including software training and opportunities for students to analyze their own data.

*June 9–13:*

5. [Longitudinal Structural Equation Modeling](#) (Todd D. Little, instructor)—Topics will include design and measurement issues in longitudinal research, traditional panel designs, latent growth curve analysis as

well as a brief survey of advance growth mixture modeling, multi-level SEM with longitudinal data and dynamic intra-individual modeling.

6. [Foundations of Meta-Analysis](#) ([Noel A. Card](#), instructor)—This course teaches the skills necessary to conduct and write publishable meta-analytic reviews, including methods of searching the empirical literature, coding effect sizes, and analyzing effect sizes across multiple studies.

7. [Social Network Analysis with Siena](#) (Leslie Echols, instructor)—Introduction to social network analysis for exponential random graph models (ERGM; cross-sectional networks) and longitudinal networks using R and RSiena. With a focus on actor-oriented and tie-oriented characteristics of and changes within complete social networks, the course will survey a variety of approaches to analyzing network data at single or multiple points in time.

8. [Mediation and Moderation Modern Methods and Approaches](#) ([Alexander Schoemann](#), instructor)—Classic and contemporary approaches to estimating moderation and mediation effects. Topics include path analysis, indirect and direct effects, testing intervening variable effects, probing and plotting interactions, and combining moderation and mediation.

9. [Structural Equation Modeling and Data Analysis with Mplus](#) ([Rens van de Schoot](#), instructor)—Course includes an introduction to SEM using Mplus; advanced models (e.g., growth curve models and Latent Class modeling) and Bayesian statistics. Morning lectures are followed by afternoon computer lab activities with Mplus.

*Minority Fellowships Available*

[The Society of Multivariate Experimental Psychology](#) is offering a trial scholarship for minority scholars to attend the summer institute. For the purposes of the SMEP minority fellowships, “minority” is defined as Latino/a, African American or Native American. Prospective students should submit an application for a fellowship that includes copies of transcripts, a declaration of minority status, a statement of financial need, and a short personal statement that must address what you wish to accomplish from taking a summer institute course, including both short-term and long-term goals. Applications will be reviewed by the faculty who teach the summer institute courses. They will rank-order the candidates based on merit and need. Funds are limited, so not all applicants will receive support. [Click here to access the application.](#)

**United States**—The deadline for submitting papers, abstracts and posters for the Flint International Conference on Statistics (FISC) has been extended to May 15. This conference will be held June 24-28 at Kettering University in Flint, Michigan. The FISC, themed “Flint: One City—100 Years Under Variability,” will celebrate the successful International Year of Statistics and the 175th anniversary of the American Statistical Association (ASA). The main focus will be on statistical methods and studies of historical data.

Participants may use any data on Flint—data consisting of up to 100 years of demographic, health, labor, census and crime records are available to FISC participants. Sessions will include presentations of statistical achievements and perspectives followed by several talks on current results.

Papers should be submitted to Dr. Boyan Dimitrov ([bdimitro@kettering.edu](mailto:bdimitro@kettering.edu)) [in the format specified on the event website](#).

Submissions will be reviewed by the scientific program committee. At least one author of each presented paper must attend the conference. Selected original, unpublished papers will appear in a special issue of the journal [Economic Quality Control](#) published by De Gruyter.

### Conference Topics

- Big data
- Computational statistics
- Crime statistics
- Data mining
- Financial services & statistics
- General methods
- Health service statistics and pharmaceutical development

### Confirmed Speakers/Sessions

- Elart von Collani: Statistics as a general tool for all sciences
- Francesca Greselin: Measuring inequality at the time of the Great Divergence
- Ernest Fokoue: Harnessing the power of statistical methods in an era of Big Data Predictive Analytics
- Vladimir Kaishev: Probability and statistics in actuarial applications
- Vidyadhar Mandrekar: Spatial statistics
- Leda Minkova: Stochastic models and statistical applications
- Krzysztof Podgorski: Non-Gaussian stochastic models: theory & applications
- Kristina Sendova: Risk measures, probability measures & mortality
- Ricardas Zitikis: Measuring risks: models, dependence, and estimation

[Click here for more information about the Flint International Conference on Statistics and to register.](#)

**Malaysia**—The newly formed International Statistical Institute (ISI) South East Asia (SEA) Regional Network invites you to Kuala Lumpur for the [ISI Regional Statistics Conference 2014 \(ISI-RSC 2014\)](#) November 16-19. The conference, themed “Statistical Science for a Better Tomorrow,” will bring together statisticians and practitioners from industry, academia and government and students, researchers and policymakers to share insights on the application of statistical science for discovery, innovation and policy to create a better tomorrow.



**International Statistical Institute**  
**Regional Statistics Conference 2014**  
*Statistical Science for a Better Tomorrow*  
KUALA LUMPUR, MALAYSIA | 16 - 19 NOVEMBER 2014

## NATIONAL STATISTICAL ORGANIZATION: NEWS & EVENTS

Following is the latest news and information from national statistical organizations participating in The World of Statistics:

**United Arab Emirates**—A high-level delegation from Statistics Center—Abu Dhabi (SCAD) recently visited their counterparts in South Korea to finalize an agreement for mutual cooperation and data exchange between the two national statistical organizations. The meeting resulted in the activation of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) that SCAD signed with Statistics Korea (KOSTAT) in September 2012. The MoU addresses the provision and management of mutual support and the development of various forms of cooperation in the field of official statistics.

The SCAD delegation was headed by His Excellency Butti Ahmed Mohammed Bin Butti Al Qubaisi, SCAD director general; and Ms. Badria Obaid, executive director of Data Sector; Mr. Abu Bakr Al Gifri, technical advisor; Mrs. Rabaa Bani Yas, manager of the Statistical Training Institute; Mr. Mashal Alhammadi; acting manager of industry and business statistics; and Mr. Mohammad Al Darmaki, manager of general services. The delegation was received by Mr. Park Hyunsoo, commissioner of Kostat—the Korean national statistical agency.

Separately, SCAD recently published a quick reference guide using statistical figures to highlight social and economic development in Abu Dhabi over the past few years. [The reference tool, titled “Explore Abu Dhabi Through Statistics,” is available on SCAD’s website.](#)

**Oman**—The Ministry of Development Planning and Statistics last month launched the Statistical Center of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC). The ceremony was held April 10 under the patronage of His Excellency (HE) Yousuf bin Alawi bin Abdullah, Oman’s minister of foreign affairs, with the participation of HE Dr. Abdul Latif Al Zayani, secretary general of the GCC, and HE Ambassador Abdullah Mohammed Al Khater, Qatar’s ambassador to Oman, and several senior officials and members of the diplomatic corps from GCC countries.

The establishment of the GCC Statistical Center was approved by the Ministerial Council of the Cooperation Council for the Arab Gulf States in September 2011. Its constitution was approved in December 2012 by the Supreme Council of the GCC, consisting of the heads of member states. Countries represented in the GCC are Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, and the United Arab Emirates.

The center, based in Muscat, services GCC member states, regional bodies, international researchers and those interested in obtaining high-quality data. This mission confirms the vision of the statistical center to be an independent source and effective vehicle for the statistical systems in GCC countries. The launch event broadcast this message to researchers and those interested in statistical knowledge.

As part of the launch event, an international symposium focused on how the new center will meet the increasing demand for statistics in GCC countries. Participants included representatives from the Oman Ministry of Development Planning and Statistics along with producers and users of statistics in GCC countries and several international organizations and regional bodies. They discussed the outlook for

the GCC statistical system, innovations in the field of official statistics, and how to meet the new requirements in the census.

The Ministry also participated in an exhibition held as part of the ceremony. The GCC exhibit shared reports and bulletins issued by member states. Qatar exhibited various resources, including an atlas of the country, a booklet of the nation in numbers, reports on marriage and divorce, a cultural statistics report, and other miscellaneous reports.



*Representatives of member states gather for the launch of the GCC Statistical Center in Muscat, Oman.*

## JOIN THE WORLD OF STATISTICS

If your organization or an organization you know of isn't yet a part of The World of Statistics, encourage them to join. Joining is easy—just ask a representative of the group go to [www.worldofstatistics.org](http://www.worldofstatistics.org) and click on the “Join” icon on the top right-hand side of the homepage to become an official participating organization in The World of Statistics. Participation is valuable but is absolutely free!

The World of Statistics movement has grown to a total of 2,375 organizations from 129 countries. You can view the current participant and country lists by going to [The World of Statistics website](http://The World of Statistics website).

## THE WORLD OF STATISTICS NEEDS YOUR HELP

Now that the [new website for The World of Statistics](http://new website for The World of Statistics) is up and running, we need your help.

You can help move The World of Statistics website up in the list of Internet search results by linking to the new website address—[www.worldofstatistics.org](http://www.worldofstatistics.org)—from your organization's website and replacing the old Statistics2013 logo with the new logo for The World of Statistics and linking it to the new website. [You can download the new logo here](#).

[See how the United States National Center for Education Statistics is displaying The World of Statistics logo on its website \(go to bottom of the homepage\)](#). Kudos to Andrew White, NCES Senior Research

Statistician Statistical Standards and Data Confidentiality, for sharing the link with us and, more importantly, for posting the logo.

Some other things your organization can do to help the cause include:

1. Update existing links to [www.statistics2013.org](http://www.statistics2013.org) on your website so that these point to [www.worldofstatistics.org](http://www.worldofstatistics.org)
2. Change all references to Statistics2013 on your website to The World of Statistics and link to the new website ([www.worldofstatistics.org](http://www.worldofstatistics.org))
3. Change your Facebook page information, links and logos so that these reference The World of Statistics. Also, share information about and publicize The World of Statistics on your organization's social media accounts, including Facebook and Twitter
4. Post a version of The World of Statistics logo in your language on your organization's website. [We currently have nine language versions available for download.](#) To request a language-customized logo, email the following information in a PDF document to Jeff Myers at [jeffrey@amstat.org](mailto:jeffrey@amstat.org):
  - a. The interpretation in your language of: "The World of Statistics"
  - b. The interpretation in your language of: "Participating Organization"
5. If you have a linked Statistics2013 banner on your organization's website, please remove it and replace it with a new banner for The World of Statistics and link the new banner to [www.worldofstatistics.org](http://www.worldofstatistics.org). [You can download these new banners here.](#)
6. The World of Statistics Twitter account is @astatworld. Start following us today. Be sure to retweet our tweets and also mention The World of Statistics—hashtag #TWOS—in your tweets.
7. If your website has content about Statistics2013, please delete it and replace it with [copy about The World of Statistics](#).
8. As you did with Statistics2013, include mentions of The World of Statistics in all your organization's online communications.

Working together, we'll move up The World of Statistics in all search engine results.

## **FOLLOW US ON TWITTER & FACEBOOK**

Get the latest news and updates about The World of Statistics by following us on Twitter at @astatworld. Also, when you use Twitter to spread the word about The World of Statistics, be sure to use the hashtag "#TWOS". You also can follow developments in The World of Statistics [on our Facebook page](#). Become our friend today!

## **NEW GUIDE TO CONTRIBUTING TO THE WORLD OF STATISTICS IS AVAILABLE**

[Click here to access the "Guide to Contributing to The World of Statistics and Downloading Logos and Other Resources."](#)