

Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS)

Information Systems and Computer Directorate (ISD)

Background:

The Information Systems and Computer Directorate is responsible for all issues related to information technology, Hardware, Software and the data bases for all information collected by the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS) whether by censuses, surveys or administrative records.

A sophisticated network has been installed including the most recent Hardware and Software along with an advanced security system.

Despite the shortage in technical staff, we gained valuable experience and have been able to meet the needs of PCBS with quality and in a timely manner and also to provide technical assistance to other Palestinian National Institutions.

Objectives:

- Keep PCBS updated with the most recent computer technology.
- Perform data processing for all PCBS projects and surveys.
- Build statistical information systems.
- Disseminate the data by electronic techniques.
- Make the statistical data available to the public.

Tasks:

- Develop and implement a master plan to build a dynamic statistical data bank.
- Develop and implement policies and strategies (Data security, Dissemination, software ...etc).
- Develop online services to the internal and external users.
- Help and technical support to PCBS staff.

System Development Department (SYSD)

Background:

The Systems Development Department is responsible for planning, implementing, and maintaining information systems in support of the PCBS mission and goals. Systems Development plays a critical role automating all PCBS duties and works, in order to improve and modernize all PCBS products in terms of quality, quantity and timeliness.

In order to meet its goals the Department adopts a complete set of advanced software and databases, along with qualified staff, and during its short age the department succeeded in covering all PCBS needs. The department consists of two sections as follows:

1. Programming and Analysis section: which is responsible for designing, coding, updating and maintaining all existing & needed systems / applications
2. Data base section: which is responsible for building and administrating all data bases within PCBS.

Objectives:

- Serve all surveys needs (writing data entry, editing programs)
- Build, implement & maintain all PCBS applications
- Build, tune and administrate all existing databases.
- Put and implement all policies, standards and methodologies regarding systems development (software use, project life cycle, documentation, user services, ...)

Tasks:

- Build a statistical data bank using top technologies.
- Cover all PCBS users needs and requirements.
- Review and renew the current policies, standards and methodologies

Technical Support Department (TESD)

Background:

The establishment of a unit providing technical support services for PCBS' employees, in the area of computer and its application, was synchronized with the establishment of the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics itself. These services were used to be offered by an information systems section (currently referred to as Information Systems Directorate "ISD"). As the scope of computer utilization multiplied several times since then, these services implied the establishment of a special department with fully qualified cadre, namely the Technical Support & Network Administration Department, to meet the increasingly growing demand of technical support services via advanced network.

The TESP comprises three divisions, namely:

1. Network Administration Division
2. Software Packages and Applications Division
3. Hardware Upgrading and Maintenance Division

Seven employees render the different tasks assigned to the department, department director, four engineers and two technicians.

The achievements of the department so far involve the establishment of the computer center; installation of an up-to-date network systems (UNIX & NetWare Operating System & NT); installation of e-mail, Internet systems, Intranet and an Oracle database.

Objectives:

- Building up-to-date Network and Computer environment
- Improving technical support services
- Offering Advanced User services (Remote access ,intranet ,internet)
- Improving PCBS s taff Computer literacy (Guides & training)
- Meet the increasingly growing demand of technical support services

Tasks:

- System Troubleshooting and serving more than 250 users
- Network administration
- Data Protection
- User training
- Optimizing the technical support services
- Technical consultation for computer HW & SW bidders
- Developing PCBS computer system by using new computer technologies

Available from: <http://www.pcbs.gov.ps/DesktopDefault.aspx?tabID=3424&lang=en>
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