



*Press release*

*Date 23/10/2010*

## **SCAD Wraps up Events Marking the World Statistics Day**

Statistics Centre - Abu Dhabi (SCAD) yesterday concluded its celebration of the World Statistics Day, in which the centre joined several international statistical bodies in marking this occasion on 20/10/2010 as adopted by the United Nations, under the theme "Celebrating the many achievements of official statistics". In his address back in July 2010 on the designation of the World Statistics Day, the Secretary-General of the United Nations Ban Ki-moon remarked that the day is a historic occasion, urging the world leaders to ensure successful observance of the day in recognition of the role of statistics in the social and economic development of communities, and to devote more efforts and resources to strengthen national statistical capacity.

### **A Busy Program**

The programme of SCAD's observance of the world day included a series of public events that started last Tuesday and continued for three consecutive days, beginning with radio quiz contests through the "Sabah Al-Noor " program on Abu Dhabi Qur'an Radio station and "Studio 1" programme on the Abu Dhabi FM station for three days, with cash prizes for the winners. The programmes aimed to promote statistical awareness and culture among the public.

## **Display Stands and Giveaways at Shopping Centers**

SCAD also staged a series of public activities at a number of shopping centers across the Emirate of Abu Dhabi, which included competitions and distribution of booklets and flyers about statistics, including titles like "Statistics in Our Lives", "Wonders of Numbers", "Abu Dhabi Facts and Figures", "The World in Numbers "and" Why Should We Celebrate the World Statistics Day? ", in addition to a free drawing studio and face painting for children.

SCAD had called on all segments of the public to interact with the Centre on this occasion via SCAD's activities at the Marina Mall in Abu Dhabi city, Al Jimi Mall in Al Ain and the City Centre in the Western Region. These activities were intended to give the public the opportunity to take a close look at the significance of statistics in our lives.

## **Visit to Schools**

Officials from SCAD visited a number of public and private schools in Abu Dhabi, Al Ain and the Western Region to introduce information about the centre and highlight the significance of celebrating the World Statistics Day, with the distribution of brochures, drawing books, crayons and other gifts to pupils of the visited schools. SCAD's officials also gave simple lectures about the statistics presented a full set of the centre's publications for the schools libraries with. The visits were also useful in conducting a questionnaire that measured statistical awareness among the teaching and administrative staff of these schools for use in future studies of the center's.

SCAD also took part in the 1st Session of Ajman Statistical Forum, contributing a paper on the role of statistics in development. SCAD's brochures and publications were also distributed during the sideline activities accompanying the forum.

### **The Importance of statistics**

The events just concluded have underscored SCAD's efforts in building close ties of cooperation with government and semi-government agencies in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi, in the joint efforts to meet the present challenges and seize opportunities along the road to excellence and success, to serve the interests of the Emirate of Abu Dhabi under the judicious leadership of this cherished homeland.

In the observance of this occasion, SCAD's primary focus was to highlight the importance of statistical work, which is concerned with the collection, dissemination and analysis of economic, social, demographic and environmental data, and the presentation of results in the form of figures, indicators and charts, to users, such as decision makers, government agencies, researchers, the business sector and all segments of society, to ensure sound planning for future generations in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi.

In addition, Statistics Centre - Abu Dhabi, was keen to take advantage of this event in promoting awareness about the mission and objectives SCAD, which was established in accordance with Law No. (7) for the year 2008, in fulfillment of the vision of HH Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan, President of UAE, and HH Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi and Deputy Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces, through their Highnesses' sustained support for development and advancement of the national economy. The Centre operates under the supervision and full support of the Executive Council of the Emirate of Abu Dhabi.

## **A Great Opportunity**

The events organized by SCAD on the World Statistics Day offered the Centre an opportunity to meet with data users and producers to bolster coordination among the all the parties concerned, learn about their needs and acquainting them with the role of the Centre in standardizing statistical concepts and methodologies in accordance with the statistical principles of UN and other internationally adopted standards, to ensure the collection of reliable data, while protecting the confidentiality of individual information, limiting its use to statistical purposes only.

Statistics Centre - Abu Dhabi is currently implementing a major statistical project, comprising three field surveys, namely, the Economic Surveys, the Foreign Investment Survey and the Employment and Wages Survey. The project aims to build a state-of-the-art database to aid decision-makers, the business sector and researchers in the formulation of development strategies in all areas.

Through its a public activities SCAD seeks to enhance statistical awareness and educate the public about the importance of cooperating with interviewers by providing them with the data and information required in the questionnaires of the surveys. SCAD aims to consolidate its partnership with the public and secure their support in all statistical projects to ensure the production of updated, accurate and reliable data.

## **SCAD's Website Upgraded**

In gearing up for this occasion SCAD had also upgraded its website ([www.scad.ae](http://www.scad.ae)) to educate its visitors about the importance of statistical work in our lives, and foster a stronger partnership with data providers so that all can work as a true team that seeks to serve the society with more balanced development, while aiming to preserve a sustainable environment, benefiting from a solid statistical system that adheres to the basic values of "service, integrity and professionalism".

## **20/10/2011**

SCAD seized this event to promise its strategic partners, who include Government entities, private enterprises, decision makers, businesses, researchers and all segments of society, that by October 20, 2011, Allah willing, the centre and its partners will have jointly achieved the aspired goal of building a statistical system for the Emirate of Abu Dhabi that meets the highest professional standards and pursues the best international statistical practices, in line with the development needs and the ambitious economic vision of the Emirate of Abu Dhabi."

## **A Call by the United Nations**

In its Resolution No. 264/64, the UN General Assembly designated October 20, 2010 as the World Statistics Day, after a call by the Statistical Commission of the United Nations UNSD for the adoption of this annual global event, in recognition of the absolute importance of statistical capacity as an indispensable basis in formulating strategies and supporting development goals at the national, regional and international levels.

The UN called upon member states, affiliated agencies, other international and regional organizations and the international community at large to support the serious efforts made by several nations over the past years to strengthen their statistical capacity and to dedicate necessary time and resources to support these efforts in areas such as population censuses and other aspects of statistical work.

### **Investing the Event**

The primary focus in the annual observance of the day will be to highlight the importance of statistical work, which is concerned with the collection, dissemination and analysis of economic, social, demographic and environmental data, and the presentation of results in the form of figures, indicators and charts, to users, such as decision makers, government agencies, researchers, the business sector and all segments of society, to ensure sound planning for future generations in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi.

**End**



## **About Statistical Center-Abu Dhabi (SCAD)**

Statistics center-Abu Dhabi (SCAD) was established in 2008 in accordance with Law No. (7), to develop and organize statistical work in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi in particular and the United Arab Emirates in general. SCAD's purpose is to produce statistical information that is consistent with the emirate's orientation towards sustainable development and strategic plans under the supervision and with full support of the Executive Council of the Emirate of Abu Dhabi.

Being the official statistical data collection agency in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi, the center assumes the functions of preparing the statistical plans and programs that serve the emirate's wider development programs, conducting statistical surveys across the emirate. SCAD is also responsible for the collection, classification, storage, analysis and dissemination of official statistics and the release of the results of social, demographic, economic, environmental and cultural surveys.

The activities of the Center will encompass all areas relating to social conditions in accordance with relevant international standards and ethics, such as independence, professionalism, impartiality, objectivity, confidentiality, cost effectiveness and quality of statistics.

**For more information, please contact:**

**Lubna Saeed AL Maskari**  
Head of Communication Section  
P.O. Box: 6036, Abu Dhabi, U.A.E  
Tel: +971 2 5588300 – 310  
Mobi: 00971- 50 444 8611  
Fax: +971 2 5585065  
[lsalmskari@scad.ae](mailto:lsalmskari@scad.ae)