Statistical Capacity in the Gulf Countries

What could be done?

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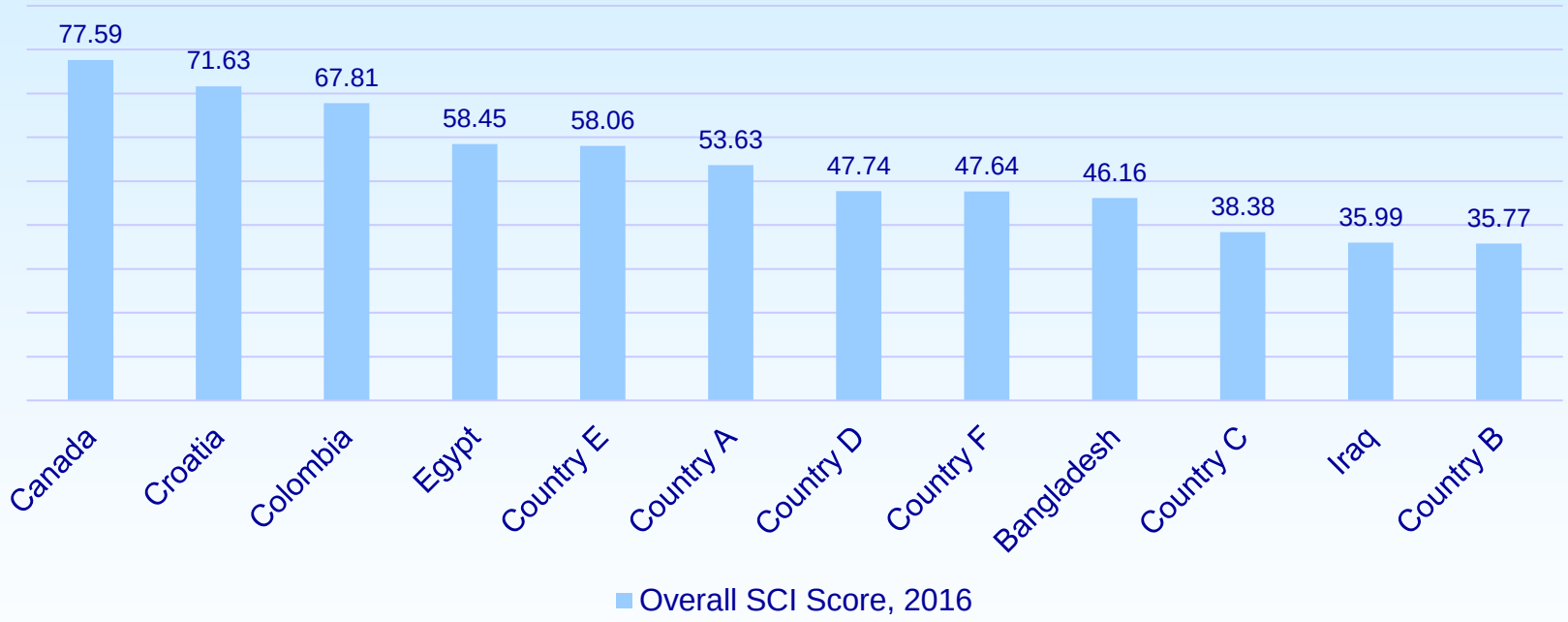
GCC Countries…

- Share common economic, social, cultural and religious characteristics and face similar challenges:
  - High income countries,
  - Relatively small population,
  - Heavily natural resource dependent economies,
- Have undertaken important political, administrative and fiscal reforms,
- Developed their National Vision documents that provide a roadmap for the country's development and economic objectives.

National Vision and requirements

- *Diversify the economy and improve its competitiveness that will help reduce oil dependency*
- Development and successful implementation of the Vision programs is an information intensive process.
- Requires a well-functioning national statistical system that could produce and disseminate relevant, reliable statistical data in a timely manner
- A robust national statistical system can greatly improve the quality of policymaking and reduce inefficiencies,

SCI Score of GCC countries



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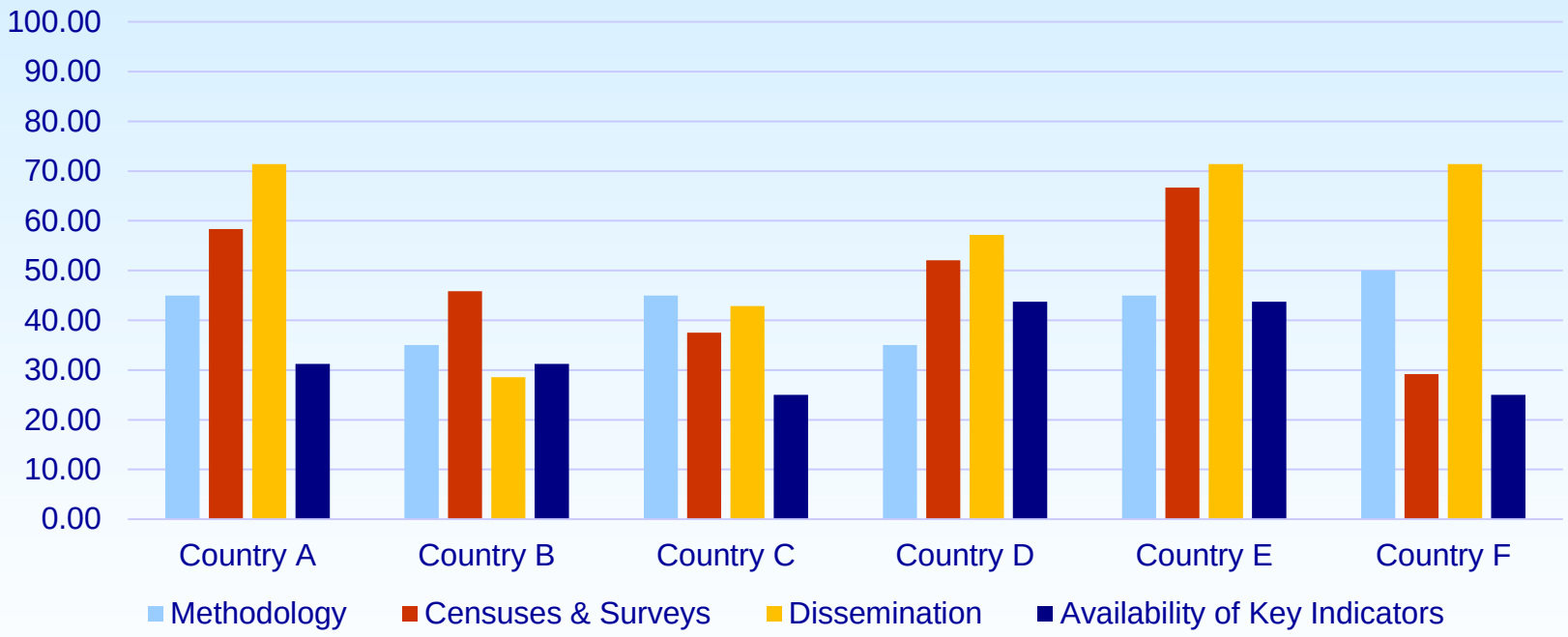
SCI Score Breakdown of GCC countries



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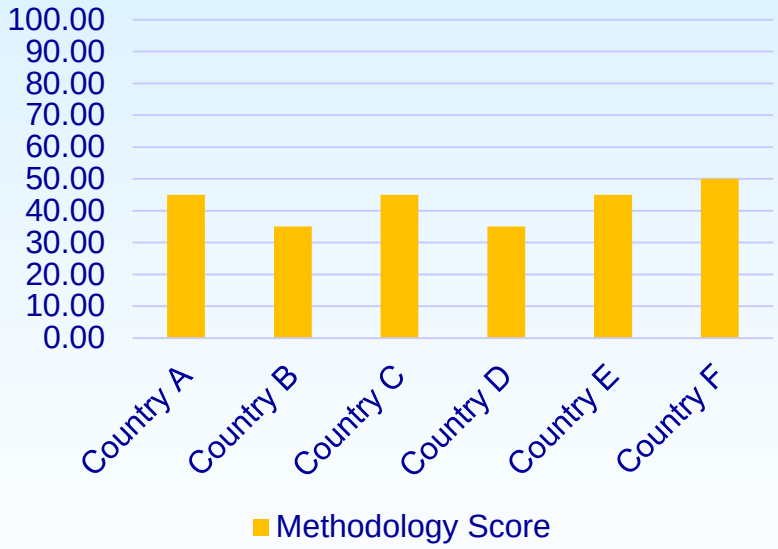
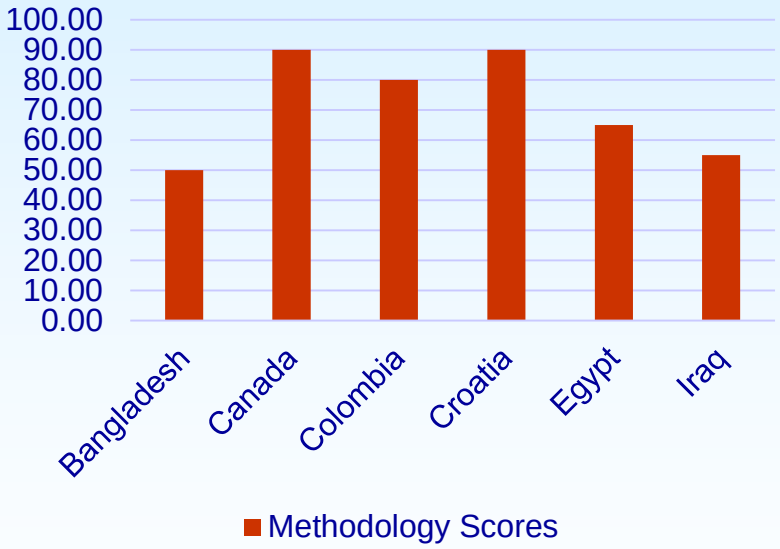
Methodology Score

GCC Countries



Comparison Countries



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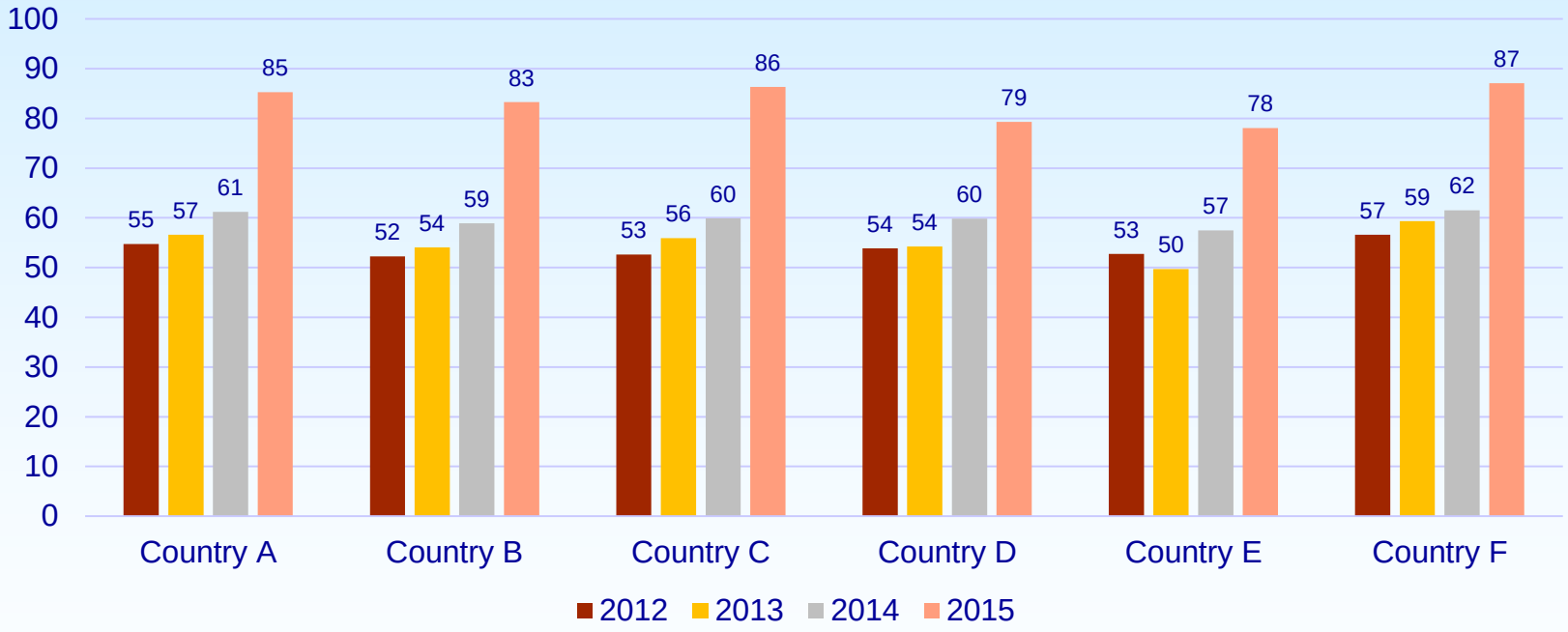
Share of missing data points, 2012-2015



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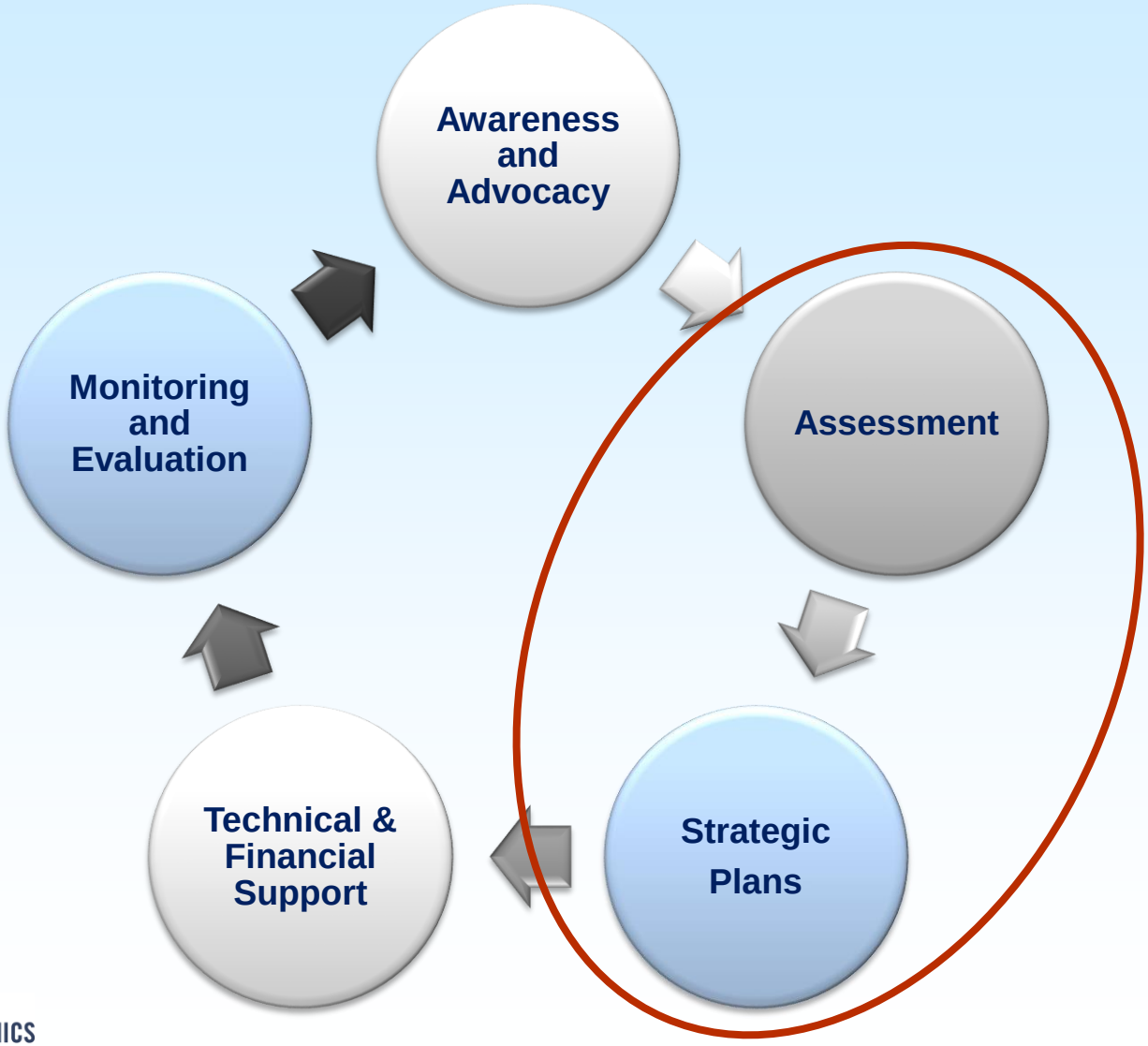
System-wide Capacity Building Process



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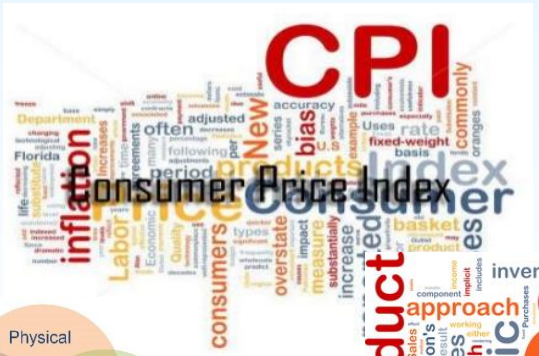
Working at two levels

Supporting improvements to the overall system (horizontal)

Closing gaps in specific statistical areas (vertical)



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What might need improving?

- Institutional and organizational architecture of the system to make it more effective,
- Coordination role of the statistical office,
- User and respondent relations,
- Data sharing frameworks and arrangements
- Application of internationally accepted concepts and methods
- HR policy and staff skills
- IT infrastructure
- New or existing data production processes (data capture, data validation, dissemination)

Next Steps

- Identify outputs (indicators, products and services) linked to key development priorities
- Identify opportunities to improve efficiency and effectiveness of production, dissemination, and use of data
- Link these activities to internationally accepted standards, methods, practices, and tools.

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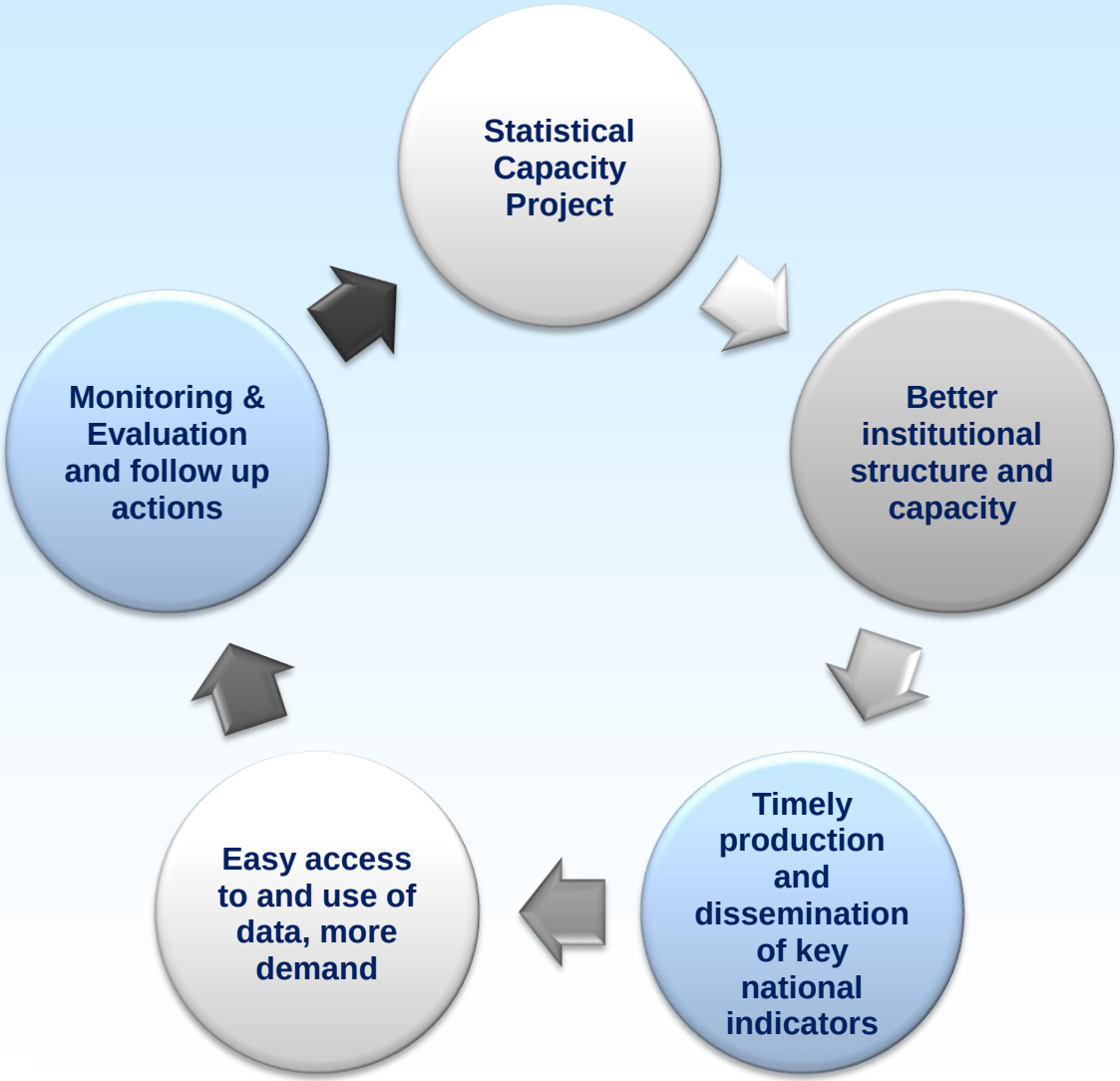
How to improve?

- Technical assistance and advice
- Workshops, seminars, visiting experts
- Small and large scale training
- Twinning arrangements

WBG can provide support for both horizontal and vertical improvements of the statistical systems.

Result: A virtuous cycle for the Statistical System



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THANK YOU