



Regional Statistical Cooperation GCC-Stat Case Study



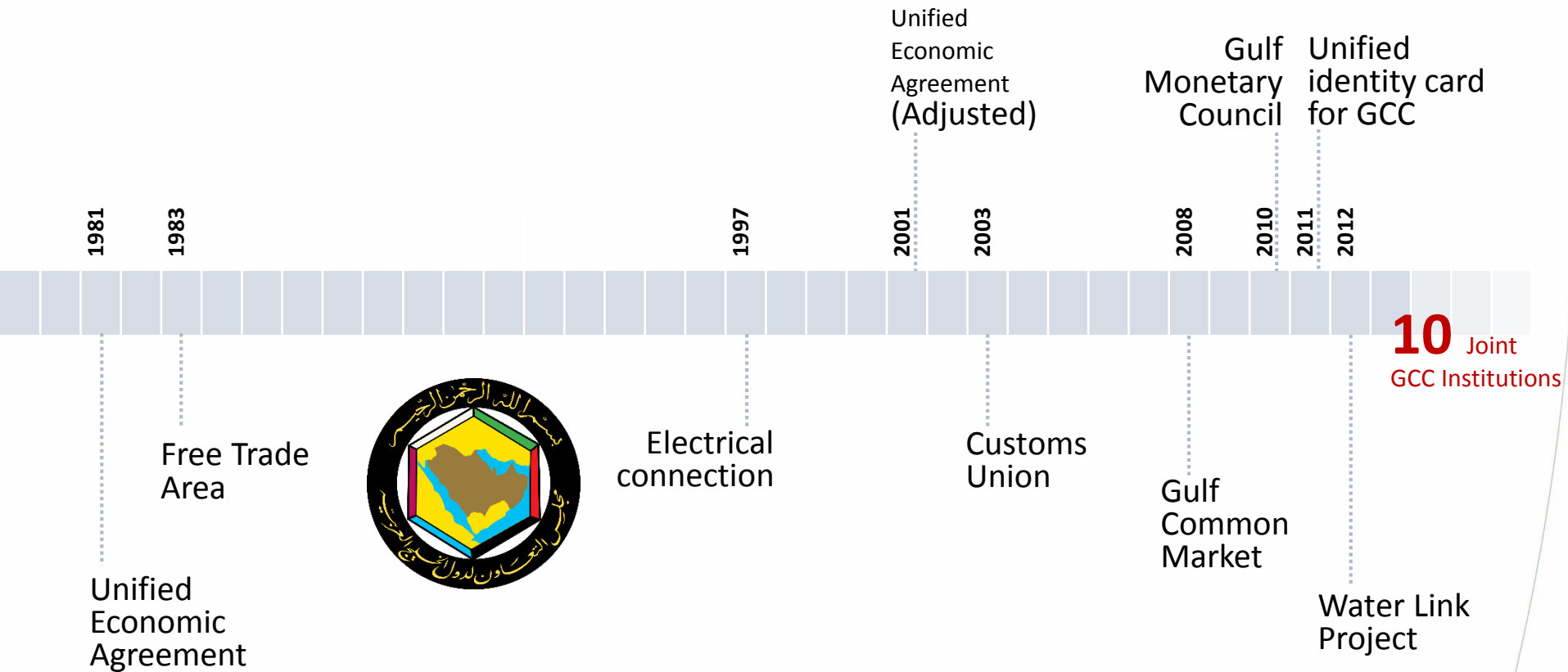
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Gulf Cooperation Council



Prior to 2013 ...



Regionally

- The statistical committees and task forces met at most once a year
- Initiatives for developing statistical work were raised by member countries themselves in relation to specific statistical topics
- Member countries had the responsibility of implementation

Nationally

Strengths

- Statistical legislation in all countries
- Statistical development strategies in place in many countries
- Considerable investment in information technology (IT) infrastructure
- Unification of some methodologies, classifications, terminology, statistical surveys, and censuses

Challenges

- Some deficiencies in the activation and application of statistical laws
- Lack of human resources in NSOs
- Inadequate financial resources for statistical projects
- Limited coordination with statistical data producers
- Weak methodological knowledge
- Limited relations with users of statistical data and information
- Unsatisfactory dissemination methods and practices

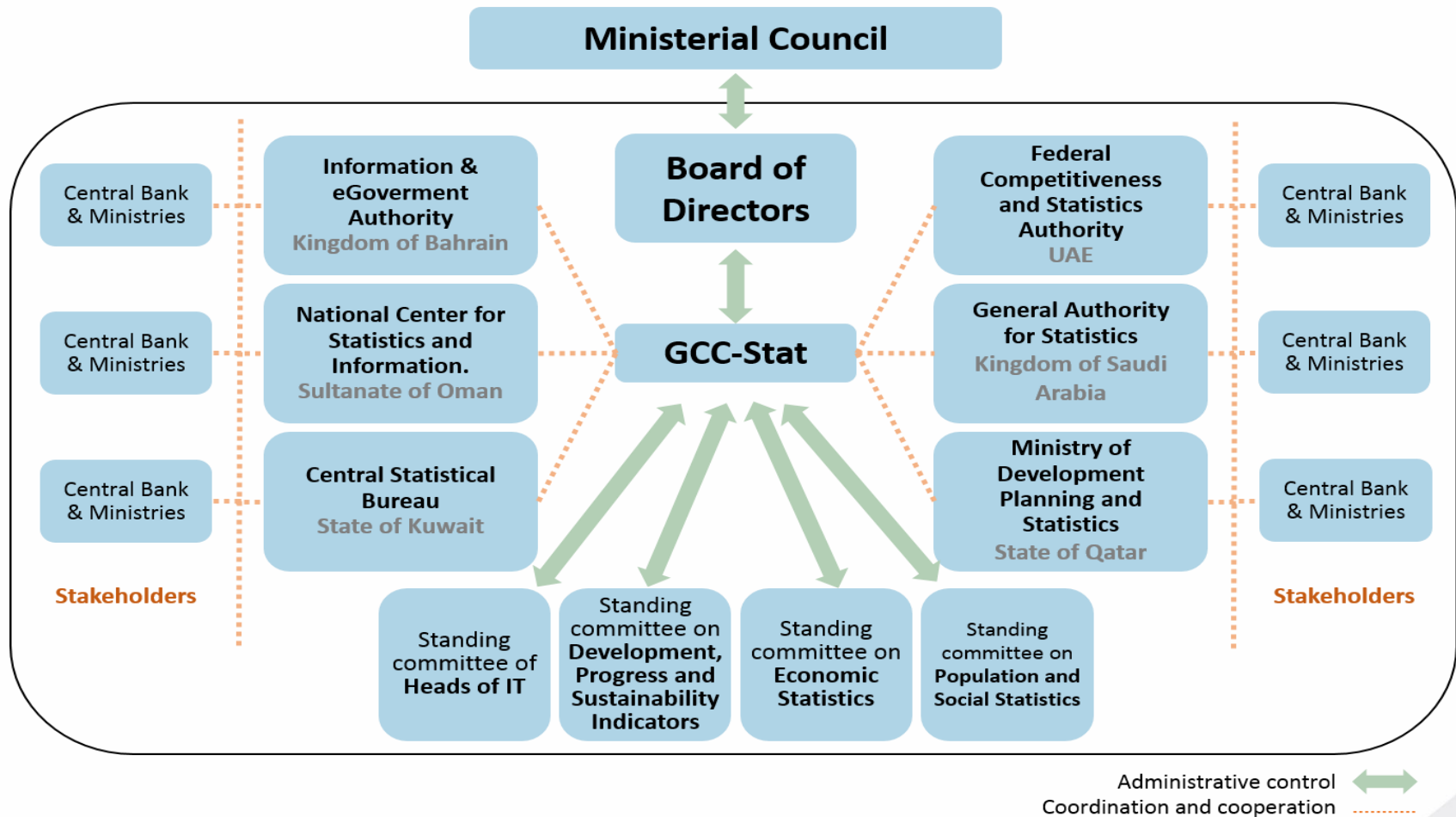


- Establishment was approved by the GCC Ministerial Council in **September 2011**
- Charter was officially endorsed in **December 2012** by the GCC Supreme Council, which is comprised of Heads of States.
- Centre became operational in **June 2013**
- GCC-Stat is currently governed by a **Board** (until the end of **2016**)
- From **2017**, it will be reporting to H.E. the **Secretary General of the GCC** and will be supervised by a ministerial committee

Ministerial Committee
H.E. the Secretary General

Strategic and Technical Oversight
Operational Management

Regional and National Statistical Systems



9 Strategic Objectives

- Build and strengthen the statistical and institutional capacity of the countries of the Gulf Cooperation Council, to meet the statistical requirements at the GCC level, in particular and international level, in general.
- Promote and improve the quality and quantity of statistical products on a sustainable basis.
- Projecting the GCC region as a unified economic and social agglomeration.
- Developing, expanding and marketing statistical dissemination.
- Establishing joint work programs between the National Statistics Centers and GCC-Stat.
- Unifying the National Statistics Strategies in GCC countries with the joint statistics programs in accordance with best international practices.
- Build the culture of statistics and raise the awareness about statistics, and strengthen actual and correct use of data and information in decision-making and policy formulation in GCC countries.
- Ensure that the GCC region has an effective presence in international statistical development.
- Ensure long-term organizational sustainability of GCC-Stat.

5 Strategic Pillars

- Assembly, analysis and dissemination of data and metadata
- Development, harmonization and coordination of statistical work, use of the latest standards
- Capacity Development
- Cross-cutting institutional issues
- Support programs (internal to GCC-Stat)

Internally

- Oil prices and their impact on the budgets of the GCC countries
- Difficulty of obtaining experts and specialists in methodologies and some statistical areas
- Difficulty of retaining experienced staff of NSCs
- Insufficient application of recommended and agreed concepts, classifications and quality controls by data producers
- Insufficient alignment of the available statistical products with the growing demand from data users

Externally

- Technical development with appearance of Big Data, social media, ...
- Increased demand for statistics by decision makers with new set of non-traditional statistical areas coming to the surface such as welfare, happiness, transparency, and sustainable development, ...
- Community awareness of availability of data and freedom of obtaining it
- Multiplicity of data and statistics producers from outside NSCs
- The need to measure confidence, trends and tendencies, opinions and level of satisfaction in the statistical work and all related fields

- Framework for structured regional cooperation
- Consistent Capacity development opportunities around the region
- Adoption of national plans based on the regional strategic plan and road map
- Rapid development of information and communication technologies
- Increased cooperation with academic, educational and training institutes working in the field of statistics and IT



- Conducted thorough assessment of all statistical operations in member countries in 2014
- Implementing 2015-2020 roadmaps for agreed Priority Projects across the GCC, with focus on harmonisation according to international standards
- Supporting member countries through technical assistance, training, technical guidelines
- Disseminating range of statistical publications, bringing together statistics from across the GCC

GCC-Stat will Reduce the Burden on **NSCs** through ..

- Implementing automated data exchange systems
- Implementing a number of harmonised surveys
- Adoption of international standards (e.g. SNA 2008), systems and classifications
- Working with regional and international organizations involved in statistics in the GCC region, to harmonize data assembly efforts from countries as well as coordinate capacity development activities and relevant events
- Expanding the use of electronic media in meetings and training sessions as much as possible
- Training certification by appropriate academic institutions

NSCs will continue alignment of regional work plan in their national plans to ensure the actual implementation of agreed work programs and road maps at the GCC level

Thank You ...

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