

مصلحة الإحصاء والتعداد  
Bureau of Statistics and Census-LIBYA

# Thematic Conference for the Arab States on Agile and Resilient National Statistical Systems in Times of Change, Amman, Jordan, 13 – 15 June 2023

**Bureau of Statistics and Census**  
**Tripoli – Libya**

Area 1.760m KM<sup>2</sup>

Population 7.1 m

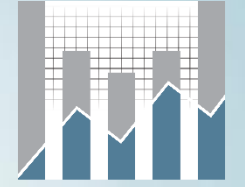
# State of Libya



# Statistical work and regulatory law

- The beginnings of statistical work in Libya goes back to 1953 through the establishment of the Bureau of Statistics and Census. The main reason for its establishment was to conduct the first ever general population and housing census in 1954 after the independence from Italy in 1951.
- Based on its role as a National Statistical Office, the Bureau of Statistics and Census is responsible for the functioning and leading the statistical system in the country. The Bureau of Statistics and Census, has its legal personality under the Statistical Law which was legislated in 1953 and was updated in 1963 and it is still in force to this day.
- The Bureau has concentrated on building capacity of staff in all fields of statistics, by participating in workshops, training and attendings meetings offered by regional and international organizations.
- The Bureau has used the technology of collecting data through electronic tablets in all its surveys after the year 2016 and aiming to using technologies and the latest methods in all its statistical work.





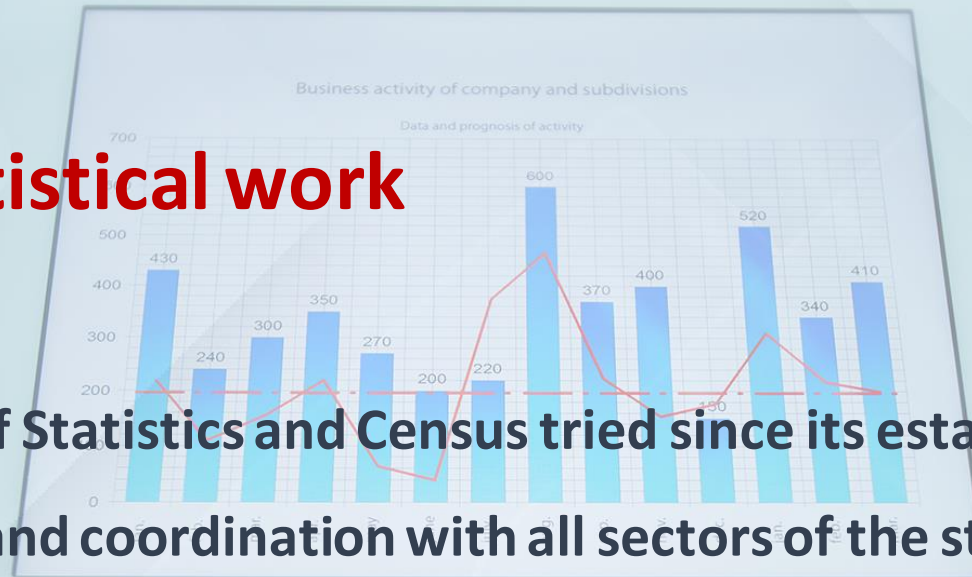
مصلحة الإحصاء والتعداد  
Bureau of Statistics and Census-LIBYA

## The main axes

- Building capacity of staff in all fields of statistics.
- Using technologies and the latest methods in statistical work.
- Raising Statistical Awareness.
- Continuing and maintaining the periodicity of conducting statistical works as much as possible.



## The reality of statistical work



- Although the Bureau of Statistics and Census tried since its establishment creating cooperation relations and coordination with all sectors of the statistical system, but a limited success is achieved.
- The integrated statistical work that can be called a national statistical system is subject to the mechanisms of creation, exchange and harmony between the components of the statistical system. This situation can not be considered to exist which created great challenges for the Bureau to carry out its work.



## Challenges



- The history of statistical work has faced great challenges, and these challenges have become more difficult since the revolution in 2011 until this day.
- The absence of a national statistical system would constitute a major challenge in stable situations, let alone in times of conflicts, political division and multiplicity of governments.

## The most important difficulties facing statistical work

- The lack of coordination between sectors due to the lack of mechanisms based on organized laws and the lack of compliance with the statistical law has always been the biggest challenge.
- The absence of official statistical awareness and the lack of reliance on data in drawing public policies has further marginalized the role and importance of statistics and the lack of funding.
- The political division and the abundance of political polarization led to an increase in the weakness and division of institutions in all sectors, especially institutions that are considered components of statistical work and the inability to communicate with them due to their different subordination to each government.



## The most important difficulties facing statistical work

The armed conflict during the last ten years and the permanent state of emergency has become a possession of all financial resources, and the statistical work rarely obtains any funding from successive governments which is significantly weakened the statistical work and resulted in difficulties represented in:

- Difficulty moving in some areas due to the security situation
- Difficulty working in some areas due to the dependence of the regions on different governments
- Difficulty working on statistical projects that may pose a danger to researchers and respondents, such as those related to migration.
- The Corona pandemic and its effects, which coincided with the armed conflict.

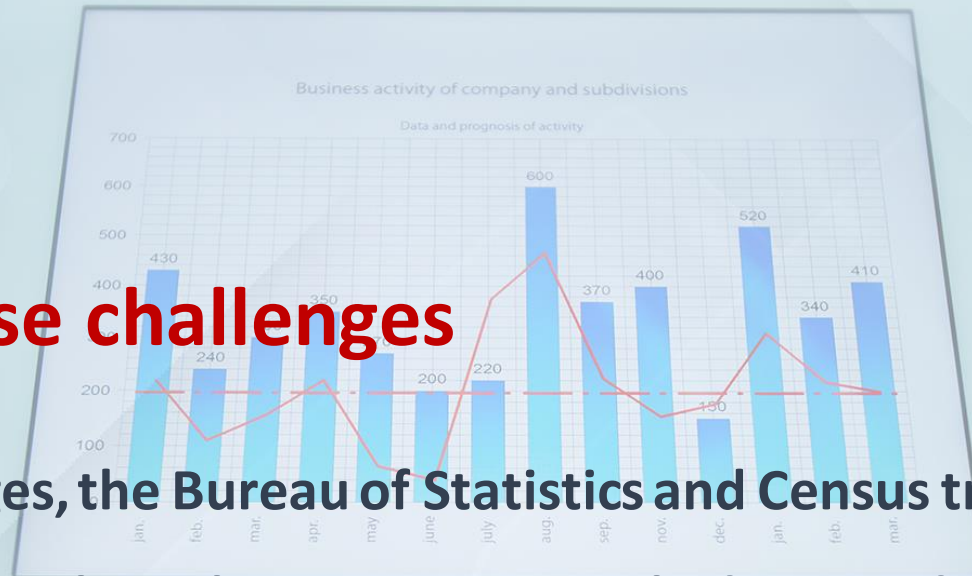




## In light of all these challenges

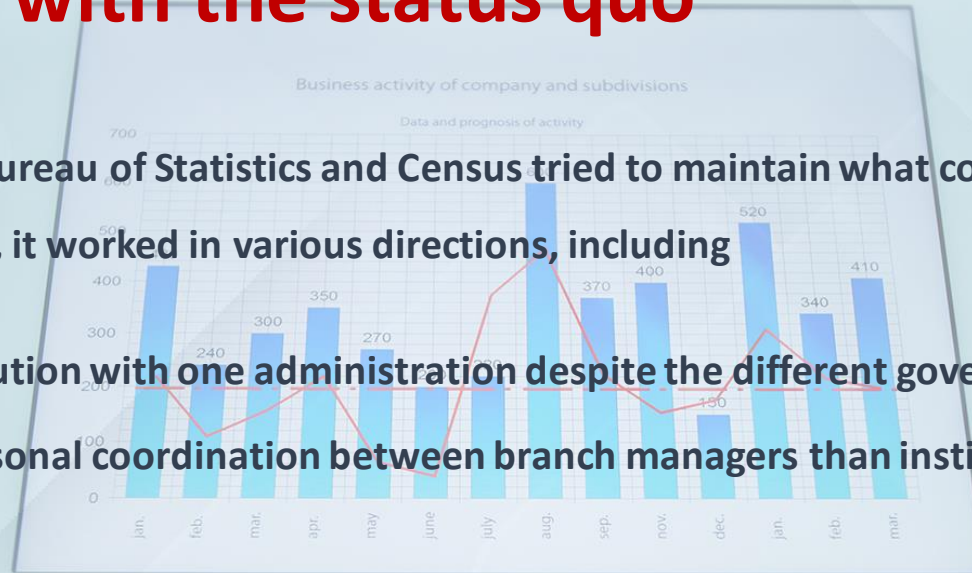
In light of these challenges, the Bureau of Statistics and Census tried to maintain what could be done to continue its work. In this context, it worked in two directions.

- 1- Dealing with the situation
- 2- Strategic planning to eliminate these challenges



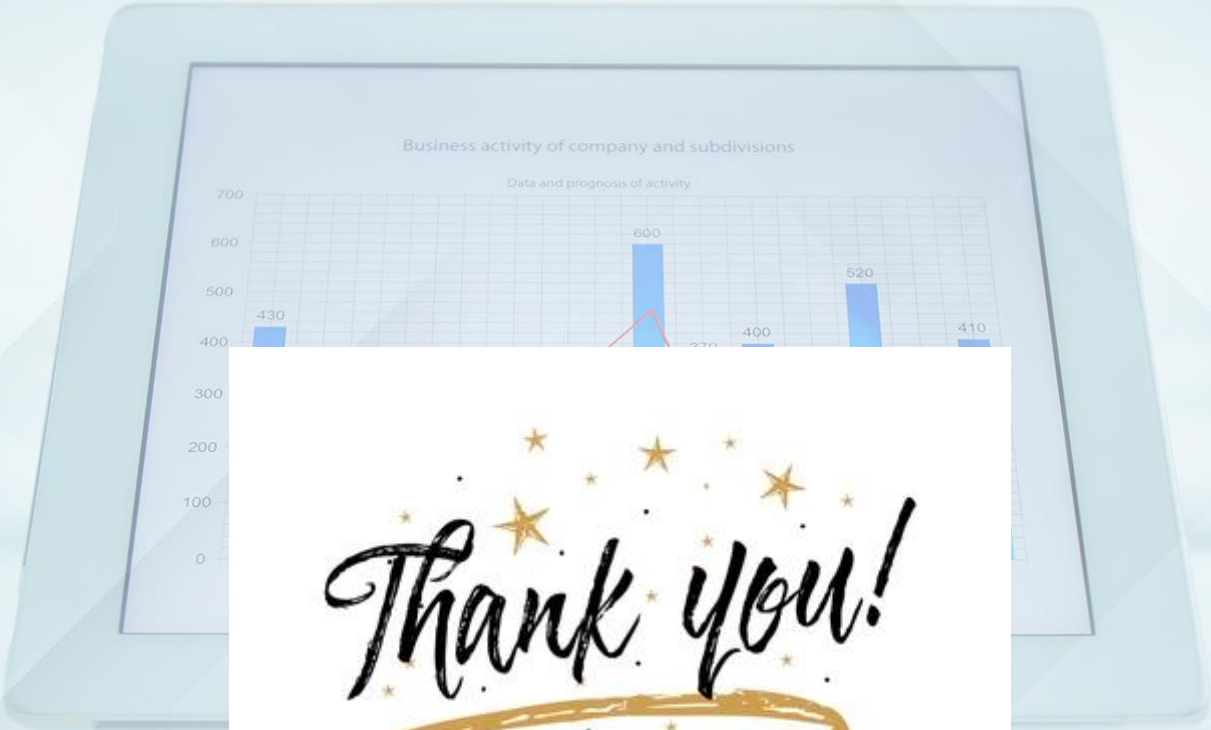
# Solutions to deal with the status quo

- In light of these challenges, the Bureau of Statistics and Census tried to maintain what could be done to continue its work. In this context, it worked in various directions, including
- Preserving the unity of the institution with one administration despite the different governments that follow it in the three regions, and it was more like personal coordination between branch managers than institutional coordination
- The Bureau of Statistics has always distanced itself from political attractions and has always been committed to examining every step it takes so as not to be counted on one party over the other.
- Building partnerships with international organizations in conducting statistical studies and surveys, especially those related to humanitarian needs.
- The Bureau of Statistics and Census tried to overcome the effects of the Corona pandemic and adhere to the precautionary requirements by conducting interviews over the phone



# Solutions

CHALLENGE	SOLUTION
Armed conflict in some areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Wait until the field is clear</li><li>• Use researchers from these areas.</li></ul>
Political Division	USE THE OFFICES IN Benghazi and Sebha
Lack of Funding	Look fir funding from Local, Regional and International Organzations.
Local Management	Use Previous administrative designations
Capacity Building	Work with local, regional and international organizations.
Divided Institutions	Use offices of the Bureau in Benghazi and Sebha
COVID - 19	Data Collection using phone
Coordination with Sectors of the Statistical System	???



Thank you!

A decorative graphic featuring several gold stars of varying sizes scattered around the text. Below the text is a thick, gold, hand-drawn style swirl that loops under the words.

shutterstock.com · 567687052