



## Webinar

# GCC Data for Evidence-based Policymaking

14 June 2023 – 1pm-2:30pm CET

### Speakers

- Mr. Yusif Al Riyami, Director General for National Statistics, National Centre for Statistics and Information, Muscat
- Ms. Mona al Daas, Assistant Under-Secretary (formerly), Central Statistical Bureau of Kuwait, Kuwait
- Dr. Marwan Khawaja, Chief of the Demographic & Social Statistics Section, United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia, Beirut
- Dr. Nader Kabbani, Senior Fellow and Director of Research, Middle East Council on Global Affairs, Doha
- Dr. Georges Naufal, Associate Research Scientist, Public Policy Research Institute, Texas A&M University, Austin

## Moderator

• Dr. Christian Koch, Director of Research, Gulf Research Center

## Abstract

Gulf states hosted 30.1 million foreign citizens in 2020, or 11 percent of the world's total migrant stock. Over the past decade, Gulf States' economic and social reform masterplans stressed the urgency of socio-economic reforms, to lower the dependency of the region's citizens on public spending, to diminish dependency on hydrocarbon revenues, and reduce reliance on foreign labour. Labour force localization measures started attracting growing numbers of young citizens to increasingly innovation-savvy economies. To what extent do available data and statistics on labour and labour migration in Gulf states allow policymakers, as well as the public, to monitor and understand such rapid changes and their many aspects?

In the aftermath of the COVID-19 crisis, the Sustainable Development Goals Report 2022 reaffirmed the need for "[t] *imely, high-quality and disaggregated data* [to] help trigger more targeted responses, anticipate future needs, and hone the design of urgently needed actions", while Objective 1 of the UN Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration advocates for collecting and using accurate and disaggregated data as a basis for evidence-based policymaking. The webinar will review recent innovations and improvements in the collection, processing, and dissemination of statistical data on labour, migration, and labour migration in the six GCC states. I will assess progresses made in the use of statistical data for socio-economic and demographic policy making in the region. It will highlight challenges met by GCC National Statistical

Organisations and other statistics producers in the region and reflect on possible ways to overcome these challenges.

#### Questions

Recent innovations and improvements in the collection, processing, and dissemination of statistical data on labour, migration, and labour migration in GCC states? Progresses made in the use of statistical data for socio-economic and demographic policymaking. Persisting challenges and possible ways to overcome these challenges? Way(s) forward?

### Registration

https://grc-net.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\_zzpBL5IVT\_uALEV8qx-jAw

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