



Kurdistan Regional Government  
Ministry Of Planning  
Kurdistan Region Statistic Office

# Official Statistic Dissemination Policy

November/2014

Kurdistan Region government

Ministry of planning

The Kurdistan Regional Statistics Office

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## **Introduction**

In the framework of Kurdistan Region' effort to develop the statistical services in providing the best services to meet the needs of user in general, the official statistics dissemination policy has been developed based on the last changes have been done in international statistics field in order to serve the Statistical system reform.

Dissemination policy focuses on consulting with partners and empowerment of users.

What is important is that the official statistics dissemination policy mainly relies on electronic publishing through KRSO's website as the main way for publishing the official statistics in Kurdistan Region that is in agreement with the rapid technical development that contributed significantly in providing information to all users at the same time accordance with official statistics basis.

Now we believe that dissemination policy can pave the way to improve the official statistics in Kurdistan Region for providing better service to users in planning, policy and decision making.

## **Kurdistan Region Statistics Office**

### **Official Statistics Dissemination Policy**

The statistics dissemination policy in Kurdistan Region includes instructional and guiding principles to disseminate official statistics. The KRSO will adhere to this policy through adopting suitable action plans to achieve the set goals of enhancing the role of official statistics and making data available for users in time; as well as, ensuring the ease of using such information.

#### **This policy aims at:**

1. Integration in disseminating statistics and meeting the needs of users between the Central Statistics Organization (CSO) and KRSO.
2. Strengthening the presence of KRSO in disseminating and publishing official statistics at Kurdistan Region level.
3. Strengthening the visibility of KRSO as an organization specialized in disseminating and publishing official statistics among the Region's institutions.
4. Empowerment of users and partners to use the official statistics in planning and policy-making.

#### **First: Users Categories**

Categories of users of statistics published by the KRSO include:

1. Partners.
2. International institutions and statistic bodies.
3. Governmental institutions.
4. Local authorities.
5. Academic and research institutions.
6. Specialized and general libraries.
7. Private sector.
8. The public in general.
- 9.

## Second: Dissemination of Official Statistics

### 1. General Principles

- Official statistics are public goods
  - a. Pursuant to the basic principles of official statistics published by the UN in 1994 and their updates in 2014, official statistics are deemed public goods.
  - b. Official statistics, such as press releases and statistical reports, shall be published on the KRSO's website for access of all users.
  - c. KRSO mainly depends on electronic publications on its website and on digital publication through data groups fitted for public use; whereas print publications shall be limited to special and certain publications.
  
- Statistics dissemination dates
  - a. The dates of disseminating and publishing official statistics to all users shall be fixed according to an annual statistical calendar to be published on KRSO's website.
  - b. Any amendments to the fixed publication dates in the calendar shall be made by the approval of the KRSO's head or his representative in accordance with agreed procedures.
  
- Archiving of statistical outputs
  - a. All statistical outputs, such as statistical publications and reports issued by KRSO shall be archived pursuant to the agreed procedures.
  - b. An identification number shall be given to each output according to a specific mechanism.
  - c. Archiving process involves the electronic copies of the outputs in the form of source files.
  - d. Dissemination Section at KRSO shall be responsible for monitoring the archiving process of all statistical outputs.

## 2. Data Protection

Statistical data shall be published and made available for users in conformity with the applicable statistics law.

## 3. Procedures of correcting mistakes\ amending statistical outputs

Any amendment to the published statistical outputs shall be reported on KRSO's website pursuant to agreed procedures.

## **Third: Statistical Products and Services**

### 1. Statistical products: Statistical products published by KRSO include:

- Printed statistical reports.
- Electronic statistical reports.
- Items published on the website of KRSO whether as databases, statistical tables or other files.
- Descriptive Statistics: such as cods, classifications and work methodologies.

### 2. Statistical/technical services: Statistical services include:

- People's requests for services.
- Technical consultations by other governmental institutions or the private sector.

### 3. Statistical topics

- The statistics published by KRSO shall be classified according to standard statistical topics to enable users to access data easily.

### 4. Indications of services and products quality

- The statistical reports made by KRSO include information over the quality of the statistical data.

### 5. Branding

- The statistical outputs of KRSO shall be distinguished by a special brand.

### 6. Copyright

- All statistical outputs shall include a Disclaimer for users to refer to the data source and quotation method.
- Statistical tables published on KRSO's website shall include standard descriptive statistics.

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## Forth: Statistical Products and Services Pricing

1. General principles
  - a. Free statistical outputs:
    - a. All electronic statistical reports available on the official website.
    - b. All statistical tables published on the website.
    - c. Press Releases.
    - d. Work methodologies including questionnaires and classifications used according to the basic principles of official statistics.
    - e. People’s requests for services that take the technician less than three hours to prepare them.
    - f. The raw data eligible for public use of government institutions, non-profit academic and research institutions, and university students.
    - g. Hard copies of statistical reports for gifting.
  - b. Non-free statistical outputs:
    - a. Public’s requests of services that take more than three work hours from the technician to prepare them (an exception shall be made in case the requesting body is governmental or partner institution).
    - b. Raw data eligible for public use of the private sector or in case the purpose of the use is profitable.

Products\ services	Free	Non-free	notes
<b>Press Releases</b>	X		
<b>Data and reports available on the website</b>	X		
<b>Data eligible for public use (PUF)</b>	X	X	Based on the requesting party
<b>Public services requests</b>	X	X	Free, if the preparation takes less than three hours and depending on the requesting party
<b>Printed statistical reports (hard cover)</b>	X		Dedication parties have the priority



2. Gifting parties
  - a. Gifting parties include lists of institutions or individuals to whom KRSO gives the statistical outputs at no cost. These lists shall be approved by KRSO's head or his representative.
3. Discount and exemption
  - a. Discount and exemption for statistical services and products shall be subject to the approval of the head or his representative.

### **Fifth: Communication with Users**

1. Discussion between producers and users
  - a. One of the principles of dissemination policy is holding discussions with users and partners through bilateral meetings or workshops that involve the relevant parties or communicating with them through customized mailing lists according to the subject matter.
  - b. An action plan of implementing a statistical survey includes activities for users and covers all stages of the survey namely preparation, implementation and dissemination stages.
  - c. The initial file for implementing any survey includes a specific action plan for discussion with users.
2. Users' satisfaction survey
  - a. KRSO will regularly conduct a survey on users' opinions about the quality of the products and services of KRSO including statistical reports, website, public services and workshops organized by KRSO.
  - b. Depending on the results of the survey, KRSO shall modify action plans and communication strategy with users and partners in order to raise the quality of products and services.

### 3. Public services

- a. Dissemination Section in the KRSO shall be responsible for receiving, following up and documenting all incoming data requests pursuant to special procedures related to public service requests.
- b. Data requests shall be processed **within five days** from the date of receipt, and the concerned person or party shall be notified if there is a need for a longer period.
- c. All data requests shall be documented in public services database with details that allow the extraction of statistical reports help in improving the quality of services.
- d. An annual study shall be conducted over the nature of data requests which are not met by KRSO and recommendations about providing alternatives from other resources.

### **Sixth: Promoting KRSO's Products and Services**

- a. The products and services of KRSO shall be promoted through a special guide "KRSO Services Guide" or a brochure about KRSO's activities to be annually updated.
- b. The works and activities of KRSO shall be promoted in Kurdistan Region by different means.
- c. KRSO shall make use of the workshops and meetings it arranges for promotional purpose.
- d. The works and activities of KRSO shall be promoted and statistics shall be disseminated through social media.

This policy has been adopted on 1 June 2014.

**Serwan Mohamed Muhyaddin**

**President of KRSO – Iraq**

