



## International Year of Statistics News

November 18, 2013

### “Optimism” is Theme of the Future of the Statistical Sciences Workshop

Optimism about the future of our discipline and profession and a keen awareness of the challenges ahead were on full display at the [Future of the Statistical Sciences Workshop](#) in London last week.

More than 100 top researchers in statistics and scientists from other fields who collaborate with statisticians examined a broad range of science across which statistics is not only applied but also is providing important guidance to developing new science and making science better.

The result of this workshop will be a paper aimed at research funders around the world that will summarize the current and near-term future state of the statistical sciences. This paper will be made widely available when it is completed during the first quarter of 2014. We'll spread the word about its availability through this newsletter.

Also available very soon will be video of the workshop's discussions and presentations. We will send word about those links through this newsletter as well, as soon as possible.

For one participants' view of the workshop, see [this entry](#) in the Simply Statistics blog.

The [Statistics2013 Steering Committee](#) and the [Workshop Organizing Committee](#) thank everyone—including those statisticians who participated remotely—for making the Future of the Statistical Sciences Workshop a success!

### ***Wall Street Journal* Spotlights Statistics2013**

In a front-page article in its November 16 weekend edition, *The Wall Street Journal* heralded the International Year of Statistics. In an international look at the celebration titled “Odds Lot: Statisticians Party Like It's 2.013 x 10 Cubed” reporter Daniel Michaels writes:

“Statistics2013 began as a move to celebrate the 300th anniversary of Swiss mathematician Jacob Bernoulli's ‘Ars Conjectandi.’ His treatise on gambling, which was written in Latin, is considered the first scientific analysis of probability. Statistics evolved from probability and expanded to the study of genetics, epidemiology, business management and other fields.

“Today, statistics are everywhere, as entries to the Statistics2013 video contest enumerated. One winner, ‘A Day Without Statistics,’ starts by explaining the data analysis in quality control of

toothbrushes and toothpaste. It continues until sunset with Internet search engines and credit-card security measures. Another video, 'Why Statistics Matters?' offers a litany of answers, concluding: 'To make life better.'"

Later in the article, the reporter writes: "Statistics2013 aims to get kids started in the subject earlier so they'll feel more comfortable swimming in numbers. Branko Rumenović, a high-school-economics teacher in Ogulin, Croatia, says the first mention of statistics 'provokes wonder and fear' among his students. But the 17- and 18-year-olds come around after projects like a study of the national census they conducted this year."

[Click here to read the full article.](#) [Click here to see the front page of the issue featuring Statistics2013](#) (scroll to page bottom).

### **Missed the Unconference? No Worries!**

If you missed the [Unconference on the Future of Statistics](#), don't fret! [You can watch the event on YouTube.](#)

The Unconference was a huge success, said co-organizer Jeff Leek: "We think the Unconference went amazingly well. All six speakers gave really insightful talks, we had major participation on YouTube and Twitter (the only time I've ever seen more statisticians on Twitter was when Nate Silver spoke at JSM!), and we had a ton of viewers. So overall, it was everything we had hoped for."

Several innovative statistical thinkers discussed the future of statistics, especially those issues that affect junior statisticians the most: education, new methods, software development, collaborations with natural sciences/social sciences, and the relationship between statistics and industry.

Organized by the authors of the [Simply Statistics](#) blog, the Unconference was a virtual event held October 28.

### **Get Ready for Statistics2013 in 2014!**

The old adage says that all good things must come to an end. But that doesn't always have to be the case, especially for the successful, global International Year of Statistics movement that has brought together nearly 2,300 organizations (and growing!) from 128 countries (also still growing!).

Members of the Steering Committee—comprised of representatives of the six founding organizations of the International Year of Statistics—will soon announce a new name for the movement, and are working on a new website and plans for post-2013 activities

Among the website features that will continue on the new website will be the popular [Activities Calendar](#), which lists hundreds of statistics-related events and meetings from around the world.

If your organization already has confirmed activities for 2014, 2015 or beyond, please send us information about these events so we can post these to the new [Activities Calendar](#) or send us this

information as you finalize your events. Go to page 15 to learn how to submit information about your organization's event.

In the weeks ahead we will have more detail about the continuation of the Statistics2013 movement. So, please be sure to read upcoming issues of this newsletter to keep up to date on the plans for 2014.

### **Statistics2013 Photo Contest Deadline Extended to December 1**

The submission deadline for the International Year of Statistics (Statistics2013) Photo Contest, which is sponsored by the [American Statistical Association/National Council of Teachers of Mathematics Joint Committee](#), has been extended to December 1.

The contest for secondary-school students (grades/years 7-12) around the world is organized by continents (excluding Antarctica) to ensure winners are selected in each region of the world. Winners will be announced on or about December 16. [Click here for complete contest criteria.](#)

Please help us spread the word about the Statistics2013 Photo Contest to secondary schools and teachers in your area or country. Send information about the contest to your country's national teacher organizations. Use your education contacts to inform schools and teachers in your local area or country so students get involved in contest. [You can download a promotional article here.](#)

You can learn more about the contest at the [Statistics2013 website](#). For more information, email Jeff Myers at [Jeffrey@amstat.org](mailto:Jeffrey@amstat.org).

### **Participation Pulls Closer to Next Milestone**

Nine! That's how many more sign-ups Statistics2013 needs to hit its next participant milestone: 2,300. As of today, there are 2,292 Statistics2013 participating organizations that hail from 128 different countries around the globe. You can view the current participant and country lists by going to the [Statistics2013 website](#).

There is still more than a month to go in Statistics2013 and, as we mentioned in an earlier article, we are going to continue the movement into 2014. As such, there are many more groups that can and should participate in the International Year of Statistics and its successor. So, please encourage other organizations, secondary schools, universities and businesses in your area to join this worldwide movement. It's easy for them to join. Simply tell representatives of these groups to go to [www.statistics2013.org](http://www.statistics2013.org) and click on the "Join Statistics2013" icon on the top right-hand side of the homepage to become an official International Year of Statistics participating organization.

### **Participating Organization: News & Events**

Following is the latest news about events hosted by Statistics2013 participating organizations:

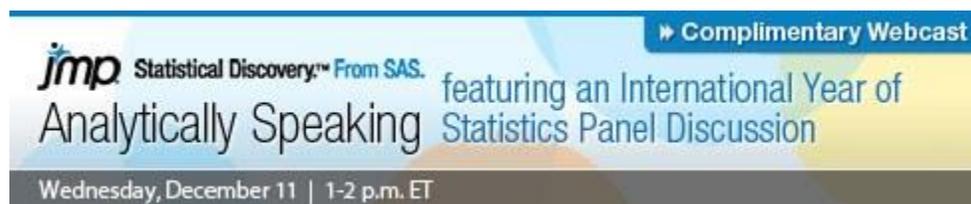
**Italy**—The [Italian National Institute of Statistics](#) (Istat), through the School of Statistics and Social and Economic Analysis (SAES), is actively working to promote statistical literacy, especially among younger

students. In our current knowledge-based society, it is essential to possess adequate statistical literacy in order to gain knowledge through data and fully exercise the right to citizenship. Therefore, Istat believes that the investment in statistical literacy, with particular attention to young people, is a precise duty and an investment with long-lasting positive effects.

Within the activities of SAES, through a partnership with Istat territorial offices, a significant synergy has been developed with the result of important innovations in the supply of learning materials for younger generations. In fact, an area of a website dedicated to the young generations—[Under21](#)—has been enriched with a number of educational packages for schools of all levels. Teachers can access learning tools that support students in their school courses aimed at the acquisition of knowledge, skills and competence in the use of statistical data. These learning tools are available for free download from the website and are designed to meet teachers' various needs for laboratory, self-training or group activities. The learning tools are interactive, with the precise goal to stimulate curiosity and creativity of people of all ages, even through modern dynamic visualization tools.

**Canada**—The University of Toronto (U of T), a Statistics2013 participating organization, and its Department of Statistical Sciences planned a series of six public lectures in honour of the celebration, inviting world leaders in statistical research to present their work to a wide audience. Professor James Stafford, chair of the U of T Department of Statistical Sciences, says public outreach is a major goal of the lecture series: "I wanted the audience to be people I didn't recognize," he says. "I didn't want it to be a seminar series." For Stafford, statistics is "by its very nature interdisciplinary," a science that has applications in many fields, including biology, computer science, political science, and even the study of medieval manuscripts. The increasing importance of statistics is not only due to its interdisciplinary nature, but also due to the increasing amounts of data available. In the last 30 years, computers, smartphones, tablets and the Internet have radically changed the way that information can be collected and analyzed. Fittingly, the final public lecture at U of T is titled "Smart Use of Smart Phones and other Mobile Devices to Improve Health." Professor Susan Murphy, a professor of statistics and psychiatry at the Institute for Social Research at the University of Michigan, will deliver the talk November 21. Her research focuses on methods of data analysis that inform the development of new interventions in HIV treatment, diabetes, depression, autism, alcoholism and obesity. The goal is to deliver analysis of that information and interventions, in real-time, by using smartphones to collect patient information.

**International**—Leading experts on statistics and data science will tell their stories about the value of statistics to science, industry, health, business and beyond during an insightful, free webcast on December 11 that will be hosted by Analytically Speaking. The event will mark the end of the International Year of Statistics.



The webcast will be moderated by Bob Stine, professor of statistics at The Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania, while the panelists will be:

- Marie Davidian, president of the American Statistical Association
- Kaiser Fung, author of the new book *Numbersense*
- Bradley Jones, principal research fellow, JMP division of SAS
- Denise Lievesley, head of the School of Social Science and Public Policy, King's College London
- Will Potts, vice president of statistical analysis, Risk Management Department, Capital One

During this webcast, panelists will talk about the fundamental role of statistics, positive strides in the field of statistics, importance of statistical literacy, image of statisticians, and evolving methods for teaching statistics. [Click here to register for this free web event.](#)

**Iran**—On October 23, Isfahan Mathematics House in collaboration with the University of Isfahan held an exhibition and ceremony for the National Day of Statistics and Planning in Iran. Among the main objectives of the exhibition, visitors learned about the issues and applications of statistics in different fields at universities, organizations and institutions in Isfahan. A number of agencies, organizations and private companies were invited including the Central Bank of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Iranian Statistical Society, Iranian Statistical Center, Mobarakeh Steel Company, Social Security Organization—Isfahan Branch, Isfahan Municipality, GIS Statistics and the Information Center of Isfahan. There were different programs including a lecture titled “Network Reliability Modeling” presented by Dr. M. Asadi, professor of Isfahan University, and a roundtable titled “Statistics and Its Applications, Challenges and Opportunities.” The professors who participated in the roundtable discussion expressed their views on various questions and offered suggestions.



*The exhibits area at the National Day of Statistics and Planning features an oversize Statistics2013 logo.*

**Iran**—During the National Day of Statistics and Planning on October 23 there were many ceremonies in different parts of country to celebrate this national day by statisticians, research centers and universities. Shahid Bahonar University of Kerman and the University of Rafsanjan hosted a joint celebration of the statistics day and the International Year of Statistics over two days. Mr. Afshin Ashofteh and Mr. Alireza Zahedian talked about statistical literacy and the importance of statistics in

Iran and other countries. Ashofteh presented two talks—one about statistical literacy in managerial concepts for managers and the other about basic concepts of statistical literacy for students of statistics. He started his talk for managers asking, “Why Statistics?”, and discussing the use of statistical concepts and statistical literacy in different fields of management, such as strategic planning, knowledge management, talent management, project management, risk management, information technology and e-citizens. During the event, several workshops were held that focused on official statistics, sampling, application of stochastic process in industries and R programming. Also, top statisticians from the Kerman province were honored in a ceremony at Kerman University.



*Attendees listen to a lecture at the National Day of Statistics and Planning event jointly hosted by Shahid Bahonar University of Kerman and the University of Rafsanjan.*

**Europe**—Kudos goes out to the European Central Bank for highlighting Statistics2013 [on the Statistics page of its website](#). The page displays the Statistics2013 logo and includes the following statement: “The ECB supports the 2013 International Year of Statistics initiative ([www.statistics2013.org](http://www.statistics2013.org)).” Thanks to Per Nymand-Andersen for making this key recognition of Statistics2013 happen.

**Sri Lanka**—To celebrate the International Year of Statistics, the Department of Statistics and Computer Science of the University of Peradeniya and the Department of Statistics and Computer Science at the University of Kelaniya jointly organized “Statistical Camp 2013.” The camp:

- Strengthened cooperation between two universities.
- Provided an opportunity for the students in the two universities to cooperate
- Strengthened their cooperation with fellow members
- Enabled the students to apply in different ways statistical theories and methods they studied
- Developed the students’ social and communication skills
- Obtained the views and experienced the teaching methods of instructors from the different universities
- Gave an opportunity to share their views with the other participants
- Students worked in a group of 12 students, staff members and instructors

- The students listened to the opinions of other members of their group
- The students shared the work with the other members of their group
- They completed their work in a given time period
- Expressed their ideas and opinions among the members over issues at the discussion



*Participants in Sri Lanka's Statistical Camp 2013 post for a group photo.*

**México**—From November 11 to November 14, the Mathematics Research Center of Guanajuato (CIMAT) conducted the “Estadística en el Cine” (Statistics in Film) mini-festival during which guests screened four Hollywood films in which statistical knowledge plays an important role. The films—Red Lights (2012), Moneyball (2011), Rain Man (1988) and Margin Call (2011)—were followed by presentations by CIMAT statisticians at the Euquerio Guerrero Auditorium on the campus of the University of Guanajuato.



*A CIMAT poster promoting the Statistics in Film mini-festival.*

**United States**—On November 15, Florida State University’s (FSU) Department of Statistics held an event to mark Statistics2013: “FSU Celebration of the International Year of Statistics”. During this successful event, 12 graduate students presented “speed-oral sessions”—a speed talk plus a poster presentation—

and seven students presented posters. Prizes were awarded for the best poster and best speed talk + poster. Featured speakers were Dr. Regina Liu, chair of the Department of Statistics and Biostatistics, Rutgers University; Dr. Nilanjan Chatterjee, senior investigator and chief, Biostatistics Branch, Division of Cancer Epidemiology and Genetics, National Cancer Institute; and Dr. David Marker, senior statistician and associate director, Westat. [Click here to see the agenda.](#)



*Organizers, speakers and competition winners pose after FSU's Statistics2013 event. From left to right are Xufeng Niu, PhD, Chair of Statistics at FSU; Elizabeth Slate, PhD, event co-organizer; Robert P. Clickner, PhD, co-organizer; Felicia Griffin, graduate student award winner in the poster-only category; Glenna Gordon, graduate student award winner in the poster-only category; David Marker, PhD, invited speaker and judge of all student competitions; Elvis Martinez, graduate student award winner in the speed talk + poster category; Kaixian Yu, graduate student award winner in the speed talk + poster category; Michael Rosenthal, graduate student award winner in the speed talk + poster category; Regina Liu, PhD, invited speaker and judge of all student competitions; and Mingfei Qiu, graduate student award winner in the speed talk + poster category.*

**Norway**—Two scientists from the University of Tromsø—the Arctic University of Norway—gave a talk titled “The Play of Chance,” during which they took the audience through a number of important fields of science where statistics is a vital tool for solving complex problems—from finance and climate science to medicine and health issues. Finally, James Grime of the University of Cambridge took the audience on a fun and engaging journey through the history of codes and code-breaking, from the simple codes of the Spartan generals to the presumed unbreakable code of the Enigma machine, which was broken by Alan Turing and his crew during World War II.

**Ethiopia**—The Haramaya University Department of Statistics convened two days of training on the role of statistics for evidence-based planning and policy-making for Western Haraghe Zone Finance and Economic Development district offices staff and others from different sectors of the zone. The training was held October 12 and 13 at the university's Chiro campus. Introducing the session, Dr. Adem Kedir, assistant professor of statistics and agricultural economics, said the objectives of the training were to create awareness about the uses of statistics in planning and policymaking and making professional contributions to the development of the country and the region. Similar training was presented to

Eastern Hararghe Zone Finance and Economic Development district offices last academic year. The training was offered by three department staff. Mr. Kassahun Takele, statistics lecturer, presented the concepts of evidence based planning and policymaking; Mr. Tariku Tessema, statistics lecturer, presented the uses of statistics for monitoring and evaluation; and Dr. Adem Kedir presented on different statistical methods with particular examples in planning and policymaking based on the science and his practical experiences.



*Participants in the Haramaya University statistics training gather for a photo.*

**Finland**—The Finnish Statistical Society, Statistics Finland and the City of Helsinki Urban Facts recently conducted a seminar on statistical literacy as part of the country’s celebration of Statistics2013. The seminar featured presentations titled “What is Statistical Literacy and the Ability to Use Statistics” by Jussi Melkas and “Global Efforts to Promote Literacy” by Reija Helenius, International Statistical Literacy Project (ISLP) director.



*The Finland seminar speakers were (from left) Riikka Muje, ISLP poster competition winner, Minna Torppa, Jussi Melkas and Reija Helenius.*

**United States**—More than a dozen U.S. federal statistical agencies hosted a symposium November 13 and 14 in Washington that highlighted the variety of federal statistics and the numerous statistical careers available in the public sector. The [Symposium of the U.S. Statistical Agencies](#), part of the celebration of the [International Year of Statistics](#), was held at the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). During the two-day symposium, attendees learned about federal statistical agencies, the range of statistics each produces and how to pursue a career as a government statistician. The symposium was divided into five sessions targeted to different audiences and users of federal statistics and data products. Those sessions were Statistics for Economists, Statistics in Health, Career Choices in Statistics, Statistics for Journalists and Statistics in the New Media Era. Representatives of various federal statistical agencies presented including the BLS, Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Census Bureau, National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics, National Cancer Institute, National Center for Health Statistics, Food and Drug Administration, Bureau of Justice Statistics, Internal Revenue Service Statistics of Income, National Agricultural Statistics Service, Center for Behavioral Health Statistics and Quality, Economic Research Service, National Center for Education Statistics, and Energy Information Administration. Kudos to Wendy Martinez of BLS and all organizers from the various federal government statistical agencies for making the event an unqualified success!



*An audience of early-career statisticians soaks in career advice dispensed by seasoned government statisticians during the Career Choices in Statistics session at the Symposium of the U.S. Statistical Agencies last week.*

**Poland**—The conference “Statistics-Knowledge-Development” was the highlight celebration of the International Year of Statistics in Poland. It took place October 17 and 18 in Lodz. Organizers were the Central Statistical Office of Poland (CSO), the Lodz Statistical Office, Polish Statistical Association, and Institute of Statistics and Demography at the University of Lodz.

The event was held under the honorary patronage of Hanna Zdanowska, Lodz mayor; Professor Barbara Kudrycka, Science and Higher Education minister; Professor Michał Kleiber, president of the Polish Academy of Sciences; and Professor Marek Belka, president of the Polish National Bank. The Polish Television Branch in Lodz and Radio Lodz covered the event.

Conference topics focused on the role of statistics in the modern world and the challenges facing official statistics. Forty-four papers and posters were presented in the following thematic sessions:

- Statistics in the face of global challenges
- Statistics is friendly to all users
- Quality aspects in statistics
- Statistics in socio-economic practical aspects
- Methodology of statistical research in theory and practice:
  - a poster session
  - mathematical aspects of survey methodology
  - sample surveys versus alternative sources of information

The conference was attended by 150 people, including Professor Janusz Witkowski, CSO president; several other CSO senior representatives; directors of regional statistical offices; directors of CSO subordinate units; academic representatives of regional authorities; honorary patrons; and guests.

The conference was accompanied by an exhibition organized by the Statistical Office in Lodz and the Marshal Jozef Pilsudski Provincial Public Library. The exhibition was divided into two parts:

- Historical statistics of the Lodz area
- Educational—statistical education of children and youth

[Detailed information about the conference and conference materials \(in Polish\) are available here.](#)



*A crowd looks on during the conference “Statistics-Knowledge-Development’ in Poland.*

**Egypt**—As part of its International Year of Statistics 2013 celebrations, the [Institute of Statistical Studies and Research](#) is pleased to announce the 48th “Statistics, Computer Science and Operations Research” (SCSOR48) International Conference will be held December 23 to 26 at Cairo University in Cairo. [Conference discussion topics and details can be found by clicking here.](#)

## National Statistical Organization: News & Events

Following is the latest news about upcoming and recently concluded events hosted by national statistical organizations (NSOs) participating in Statistics2013:

**Italy**—The [Italian National Institute of Statistics](#) (Istat) conducted the [Third Italian Day of Statistics](#) in Rome October 21 in collaboration with the Italian Institute of Statistics (SIS). The event, aimed at promoting statistical literacy throughout the country, was accompanied by 28 initiatives organized by Istat regional offices in partnership with other agencies of the national statistical system. Approximately 120 students from upper secondary to university levels participated. The morning program featured the presentation of awards to young student winners of the national competition “Statistical Olympiad” and the international competition the “International Statistical Literacy Project Poster Competition,” the presentation of the new training module “Say It with a Graph,” and the launch of three new contests on official statistics targeted to different audiences. A video message from Professor Vijay Nair, president of the International Statistical Institute was screened in the morning. Nair presented various celebrations of the International Year of Statistics initiative carried out around the world. In the afternoon, two roundtable discussions were held on the themes of teaching statistics in schools and using data visualisation strategies as new opportunities to interpret data and broaden the audience of statistical information users. An additional initiative—[Statistical Graffiti](#)—was featured at the Rome event. Students were called to represent and revisit statistics and its importance through graphic-visual activities within a dedicated space.



*Students participate in “Statistical Graffiti” at Istat’s Day of Statistics event in Rome.*

**Philippines**—A first-year chemical engineering student from Mindanao State University in Marawi City will represent the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM) at the National Statistical Quiz to be held December 5 in Manila. Traodio Acuemo II, a 17-year old, is ARMM’s official contender to the quiz after emerging as champion in the November 14 regional-level contest in Cotabato City. The regional and national statistical quizzes are activities of the National Statistical Office (NSO). The quizzes encourage college students to become statisticians. Acuemo defeated seven regional finalists from

different ARMM provinces. The ARMM covers Maguindanao and Lanao del Sur, which are both on mainland Mindanao, the island provinces of Basilan, Sulu and Tawi-Tawi, and the cities of Lamitan and Marawi. The top five place-winners in the national finals will receive trophies and cash prizes.

**Ghana**—The Ghana Statistical Service has announced that the celebration of the 2013 African Statistics Day will be held November 20. The theme for the celebration—“Quality Data to Support African Progress”—is aimed at drawing attention to the importance of quality statistics for evidence-based decision-making in economic management, poverty reduction and other aspects of socio-economic development. David Yenukwa Kombat, Ghana’s chief statistician, said the main goal of the celebration is to promote awareness among political decision-makers, the private sector, civil society and the public. Heightened awareness, he said, would allow the public to know the fundamental role of statistics in the formulation of economic and social development policies in the country. The Ghana Statistical Service also will use the occasion to disseminate monographs that had been prepared from 2010 Population and Housing Census data.

**France**—Public statistics offices produce figures and studies that are essential for understanding economic and social life in France. They help clarify democratic debate by providing reliable indicators, vital for decision-making. With the growing complexity of society and changes in the economic and financial world, the measurement tools statisticians use are evolving. There are questions that can legitimately be asked: How can public statisticians adapt their work to take into account economic and social upheavals the moment they occur? How can we meet the new needs of users? What is the role of public statistics offices at a time when there is such an abundance of figures and Big Data is growing?

To discuss these issues, the Conseil National de l’Information Statistique (National Council for Statistical Information—CNIS) and the National Institute of Statistics and Economic Studies (INSEE) are meeting with users of public statistics: elected representatives, company directors, the media, associations, trade unions, administrations, researchers, students and citizens. Through the programme “Public Statistics and Democracy: What’s the Point of Figures?”, CNIS and INSEE hope to raise awareness of the relevance of the work of public statistics offices to promote a better understanding and wider use of their data in public debate and to exchange with users for a better picture of their expectations.

The four events organised by CNIS and INSEE are:

- At the “Journées de l’économie” (JECO) November 14 and 15 in Lyon experts from INSEE participated in “Cafés économiques de Bercy” to present to the public the economy of the Rhône-Alpes region.
- A seminar, “Statistics and the media”, organised in conjunction with the École Supérieure de Journalisme in Lille, will be held December 12 to raise media awareness of working with statistical data at a time when “data journalism” is growing fast.
- The highlight of these activities is a conference-debate “What’s the point of figures?” co-organised with the Conseil économique, social et environnemental (Economic, Social and Environmental Council) in Paris January 30. To mark this event, INSEE will publish a document in the Insee Références collection tracing “Thirty Years of Economic and Social Life”.

- In partnership with the association “Les Petits Débrouillards”, which has been awarded investment for future projects, INSEE is developing activities to encourage young people to be aware of the potential of statistics, which will be presented at the January 30 conference.

Public statistics are produced and disseminated by INSEE, ministerial statistical offices, and public operators such as Cereq, Ined and Acoiss. CNIS works to ensure agreement between the producers and users of public statistics: employers’ bodies and syndicates, institutions representing national and regional elected representatives, associations, administrations and researchers. The CNIS highlights its statistical needs for debate and action.

**United Arab Emirates**—In collaboration with the Abu Dhabi Education Council, Statistics Centre–Abu Dhabi (SCAD) hosted a lecture for students of the Al Reem Girls' School focused on participation in the Statistics2013 Photo Contest. The lecture was attended by 30 students and supervisors. It focused on three core themes: background about statistics, Statistics2013, and the Photo Contest. The lecture emphasized the importance of statistics for individuals, organizations and decision-makers and shed light on the reasons behind naming 2013 as the International Year of Statistics and showcased events to celebrate the occasion throughout the year. Presenters also discussed in detail how to participate in the photo contest. The students were given some ideas for photos that depict the role of statistics in improving the well-being of society. The event was marked by a lot of interest and interaction, embodied in the discussions and inquiries from students and supervisors concerning statistics in general and the photo contest particularly.



*Students from Al Reem Girls' School following their immersion in Statistics2013 by SCAD.*

### **Nominate a Statistician of the Week**

Do you know an outstanding statistician deserving of recognition for his or her work? If so, nominate the person for the Statistics2013 Statistician Job of the Week. To do so, simply send us a 250-to-300-word article about your colleague along with a photograph. In the article, explain the person’s job and his or

her contributions to the mission of their organization. We'll feature the profile on the Statistics2013 website homepage for a week. Send your nominating submission to Jeff Myers at [Jeffrey@amstat.org](mailto:Jeffrey@amstat.org).

### **RSS, ASA Launch Stats2013AtSchool Quiz on Statistics2013 Website**

The [Statistics2013 website](#) has a new feature—called the Stats2013AtSchool Quiz—thanks to the [Royal Statistical Society](#) and the [American Statistical Association](#). Developed by the [Royal Statistical Society Centre for Statistical Education](#) in cooperation with Plymouth University, [Stats2013AtSchool](#) is a world statistics quiz for learners across the world.

The Stats2013AtSchool Quiz launched in September and currently:

- More than 60 countries have taken part
- more 70 participants (under 19 years of age) have scored full marks
- New Zealand is top of the leaderboard for this month, with 49 participants achieving full marks to date

RSS and ASA encourage your organization to promote this fun activity to teachers and school-aged learners in your country. We hope to build an international community of champions who will help develop [Stats2013AtSchool](#) by contributing additional questions and resources.

If you are interested in being a champion please register at [Stats2013AtSchool](#). To give the quiz a try, go to [www.statistics2013.org](http://www.statistics2013.org) and click on the Stats2013AtSchool quiz located at the bottom of the homepage.

### **Attention All Participating Organizations**

If you want to share news about your organization's activities to celebrate Statistics2013, we invite you to provide a blog entry or article that we will highlight on the Statistics2013 website. Many Statistics2013 organizations have done so already and your group could be the latest to be featured in the [Statistics2013 Blog](#) on the homepage or on the [Around the World in Statistics](#) page. To submit your article or blog, follow these guidelines:

1. *Statistics2013 Blog*—A blog entry up to 500 words. Since the Statistics2013 website is oriented to the public, all blog entries must be written in layman's language (no statistical terminology) and tie into the International Year of Statistics in some fashion (be creative!). Submit all blog entries via email and include as attachments to the email any images and graphics, including the author's headshot photo, to be used in the blog entry.
2. *Around the World in Statistics Article*—A 250-to-500-word article about how statistics makes life better for the people of your country or about an initiative your organization is undertaking to promote statistical awareness among your constituency or audiences.

Submit your blog or article to Jeff Myers at [Jeffrey@amstat.org](mailto:Jeffrey@amstat.org).

## Calling All National Statistical Organizations

Statistics2013 is seeking informative, educational and insightful statistics about your country to feature in the “Statistic of the Day” area of the [Statistics2013 website homepage](#). These can be a series of four or five brief statistical facts about your country’s population, economy and education systems; the health of its citizens; and similar social, economic, government and other relevant topics. Send your submissions along with a link to your organization’s website to Jeff Myers at [Jeffrey@amstat.org](mailto:Jeffrey@amstat.org).

## Event Submission Forms on Website

Two web-based forms make it easy for you to submit your organization’s Statistics2013 events as well as a summary and photos after the event is over.

The first form—called the “Event Submission Form for the Statistics2013 Activities Calendar”—provides you a quick and simple way to submit information about your organization’s planned Statistics2013 events. All you have to do is input into the form the requested information and press the “Submit” button. We’ll then take your information and post it to the Statistics2013 Activities Calendar. [You can access this form here](#).

The second form—titled “Statistics2013 Post-Event Information & Photo Submission Form”—enables you to let us know about the success of your completed event and to submit up to two photos. On this form, you are prompted for information about your event and you also can input a brief summary (up to 1,750 characters). After you submit information about your organization’s event, we’ll run your photos and stories in this newsletter so others can see the creative and fun ways that your organization is promoting the International Year of Statistics. [Click here to access this form](#).

## Check out Website for Activities & Ideas

On an almost daily basis, we are adding new items to the [Activities Calendar](#) on the [Statistics2013](#) website. This list is an excellent place for finding activities in which you and your organization can participate to celebrate Statistics2013. It also is a great place to see what other organizations around the world are doing to mark the celebration and use those ideas as the starting point for your group to brainstorm ideas of its own. Check out the Activities Calendar today and start planning your organization’s event!

The [Statistics2013 website](#) is filled with information and resources—particularly the [posters](#) and the [downloadable flyer](#)—to educate the public about how statistics improves their lives, the work of statisticians as well as careers in the statistical sciences. We invite and encourage all International Year of Statistics participating organizations to make use of these resources, including these helpful resource areas:

- *What is Statistics?*—An explanation in layman’s language
- *Statistics2013 Video*—The informative two-and-a-half-minute video: [Why Statistics is Important to You](#)

- *Statistics as a Career*—Information about the work of statisticians and careers in statistics
- *Teacher Resources*—Primary and secondary school resources, a downloadable flyer and posters

There also is a section dedicated to participating organizations, titled “Statistics2013 Global Supporters”, where you can access the roster of participating organizations, a comprehensive list of Statistics2013 activities, and the official Statistics2013 logos in various languages.

### Use the Statistics2013 Video

We encourage your organization and its members to use and share the International Year of Statistics video. Created by [SAS Institute](#), the video relates the many and varied ways that statistics impacts our lives. The video is accessible at [www.statistics2013.org](http://www.statistics2013.org).

You can:

- view the video
- post the video to your organization’s website
- e-mail the link to your members/employees
- share it with your organization’s stakeholders
- promote it to the public, media and other external audiences in your area or country
- show it at your meetings and other events

The video narration is in English. However, thanks to SAS and many Statistics2013 participants who are providing translations, subtitles are being added in other languages. Currently available languages are:

- |                    |                         |
|--------------------|-------------------------|
| • Catalan          | • Indonesian            |
| • Czech            | • Italian               |
| • Dutch            | • Portuguese (Portugal) |
| • Euskara (Basque) | • Russian               |
| • English          | • Spanish (Mexico)      |
| • French           | • Swedish               |
| • German           | • Turkish               |

To access these subtitles, follow these easy instructions:

- Press “Play” on the video
- Click the “CC” button to see the list of subtitle options
- Click on the desired language (the subtitles will appear onscreen)

We will be adding other subtitled languages soon, so check the video frequently to see if your language is available. If you want the video subtitled in your country’s language, please e-mail [Jeffrey@amstat.org](mailto:Jeffrey@amstat.org) to request a copy of the script that you can translate.

## Get the Official Statistics2013 Logo

With the move to the new public website, the link to the Statistics2013 logo and the various language-specific versions has changed. That new direct link is:

<http://www.statistics2013.org/iyos/logos.cfm>

Be sure to save the link in your web favorites.

You also can access the logos page by going to the “[Statistics2013 Global Supporters](#)” area of [www.statistics2013.org](http://www.statistics2013.org) and then clicking on “[Resources](#)” in the pull-down menu. The link to the logos is listed first on the page.

## Language-Specific Logos Available

The Statistics2013 logo is available in [37 languages](#) and we are ready create new ones for you. To have a version of the logo created in your language, please e-mail the following to [Jeffrey@amstat.org](mailto:Jeffrey@amstat.org):

- The interpretation of the phrase “International Year of Statistics” in the appropriate font in this format: International Year of Statistics=“The interpreted phrase”
- The interpretation of the phrase “Participating Organization” in the appropriate font in this format: Participating Organization=“The interpreted phrase”
- A high-resolution PDF document or a tif file of the interpretations of the phrases “International Year of Statistics” and “Participating Organization”. (This file will be used to compare against the font to ensure it was transmitted properly. If it doesn't compare accurately, we will use the image of the interpretations from the PDF or tif in the logo instead. This step will ensure accuracy of your logo.)

Once your language-specific logo is created, it will be posted to the Statistics2013 website [here](#) and we will send you an email to let you know the logo is available for download.

## Follow Us on Twitter, Facebook

Get the latest International Year of Statistics news and updates by following us on Twitter at [@Statistics2013](#). Also, when you use Twitter to spread the word about Statistics2013, be sure to use the hashtag “#STATS2013”. You also can become a “friend” of Statistics2013 on our [Facebook](#) page.