

## Director's Message - November 2019

The end of 2019 is in sight and that means a busy agenda for the ISI and its Associations. In my message this month I would like to inform you about a number of forthcoming activities following from the [ISI Strategy 2017-2021](#).

### Capacity Building

An important event in ISI's capacity building efforts is the [High Level Meeting on Data Governance](#) for Directors General of African NSOs and Directors of Statistics Divisions of Central Banks on 22 November 2019.

This meeting is jointly organised by the ISI and the Irving Fisher Committee on Central Banks Statistics (IFC), and is a good example of the benefits resulting from the ISI - IFC partnership. The meeting follows the African Union gathering of the Committee of Director Generals of National Statistics Offices (CoDG's) in Tunis on 18-21 November. ISI will be an active participant in this event.



### Public Voice of Statistics and Statisticians

Another strategic goal for the ISI is to strengthen and extend the public voice of statistics and statisticians. The ISI Council has therefore approved a new committee to implement this goal. Detailed information about the work of the Committee on the Public Voice in Statistics and its composition can be found [here](#). This Committee will definitely not remain silent!

### Renew your Membership for 2020!

In a few weeks, the membership renewal for 2020 will start and we hope that the majority of our members will renew their membership and thus support the ISI family in its various initiatives and activities. Please be aware that payment of the dues is a prerequisite for being entitled to reduced registration fees for the WSCs or any other conferences, and to receiving other benefits associated with your membership. With the help of membership contributions the ISI will be able to continue fulfilling its role in the international statistical community. Keep an eye on your mailbox – the e-mail with information on how to renew your membership will be arriving soon.

### Donate!

At the end of this year we will be opening new donation opportunities for ISI and several of its Associations including the ISI Fund for the Women's Statistical Literacy (WSL) Project. The aim of this project is to increase statistical literacy of women in developing countries, through hands-on courses devoted to increasing statistical skills in data management and visualization, using basic statistical tools and open source software. Other opportunities include contributing to the general ISI funds or those of Bernoulli Society, IASC, IASS and TIES. Donations will be possible at the stage of membership renewal, however details about the available options are already available on our [donation page](#).

### Participate!

ISI has joined forces with IAOS in organising the ISI Regional Statistics Conference jointly with the IAOS Conference and Statistics Zambia in Livingstone, Zambia, on 19-21 May 2020.

The Conference theme is "Better Lives 2030: Mobilising the power of data for Africa and the world". The [Call for Session and Paper proposals](#) is out and the deadline for submitting proposals is 31 December 2019.

Meanwhile, we work with enthusiasm on the preparations for the 63<sup>rd</sup> ISI World Statistics Congress to take place in July 2021 in The Netherlands. The [sponsorship opportunities](#) have been announced and the [National Organizing Committee \(NOC\)](#) is putting ideas into action. The strategic partnership with Statistics Netherlands is a fact and there are more partnerships coming up. Nalini Ravishanker has been appointed to chair the [Scientific Programme Committee \(SPC\)](#), and Mark Podolskij and Kees Zeelenberg are Vice-Chairs. The SPC is preparing the call for proposals to be released at the start of 2020.

Stay connected with the ISI and follow the WSC 2021 developments on [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#)!

Ada van Krimpen  
ISI Director