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Training on “Data Science for Life & Health Insurance,” CREAD, December 23–25, 2018, in Collaboration With AWB®

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On behalf of the Actuarial Demography Team (ADT) of the Centre for Research in Applied Economics for Development (CREAD), Algiers, Algeria, Farid Flici hosted Arpita Das from the Actuaries Without Borders® (AWB®) section of the International Association of Actuaries (IAA, www.actuaries.org) to facilitate a three-day training

on data science for health and life insurance for actuaries in Algiers. The training was held in CREAD from December 23 to 25, 2018, and was attended by actuaries and statisticians from insurance companies (TALA, AXA, AMANA), public insurance regulators (Insurance Department at Finance Ministry), social security organizations (CNAS, CASNOS, CNR) and academia (CREAD, ENSSEA, UBMA).

The training covered different topics related to life and health insurance pricing and general overviews on big data, data science and machine learning in the insurance industry. In addition to recalling the actuarial bases of pricing insurance products, mini-workshops were included in the training, which allowed participants to directly work with models and data sets.

AWB® is a section of IAA that has the objective of promoting actuarial education all over the world by facilitating training and assistance for national associations.

Algeria does not yet have a national association, but many efforts have been made in order to strengthen the actuarial profession in both industry and academia. Many universities nowadays are providing graduate and postgraduate programs in actuarial sciences. The Actuarial Demography Team was created in January 2018 in CREAD in order to promote research activities related to life insurance, social security and retirement.

The ADT was founded by Farid Flici, a local actuary who graduated from the High National School of Statistics and Applied Economics (ENSSEA, Algiers). Farid has a Ph.D. in statistics, is a member of the Mortality Working Group of the IAA and is an expert on actuarial demography modeling at the National Committee for Population. He launched a series of workshops starting in January 2016 known as “Journées d’Actuariat Vie Algérie (JAVA).” Seven editions have been organized since then.

Arpita Das, FSA, FSAI, is senior actuary at Allianz Partners Health and Life, Ireland. She can be reached at Arpita.Das@allianz.com. ■



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