

NEWSLETTER

EU Twinning Project on Statistics (phase II) in Armenia

5th project quarter

A quarterly newsletter published by the RTA Office of the EU-financed Twinning Project
"Strengthening of the National Statistical System of Armenia – Phase II"

This is the fifth Newsletter from the EU Twinning Project, *Strengthening of the National Statistical System of Armenia – Phase II*.

In the 5th project quarter the following activities have been implemented:

Dissemination and Quality of Statistics:

3 missions in Armenia were implemented covering mainly issues considered as extra achievements on this topic. Since the major part of the benchmarks in this component has already been reached, the missions went beyond the boundaries of the Twinning contract. The main areas covered by the 3 missions were quality assurance, website improvement and upgrade of PC-Axis, tailor-made statistics, NSI trust surveys, and use of social media. NSSRA staff welcomed all recommendations and has initiated developments to be followed up on by MS Experts on upcoming missions.

Demographic Statistics (Vital):

The methodology on vital statistics is now updated, the digital system is in place, and documentation of the whole processes on birth and death statistics has been finalised. MS Experts carried out practical training of the Armenian staff on editing of data and data analysis.

Labour Market Statistics:

The study visit to Statistics Denmark served as a necessary step to proceed with the already initiated work related to labour market statistics. The study visit covered various topics such as: Labour Cost Index, Labour Force Survey, Pilot study of national Structure of Earnings Survey, and working with stakeholders. NSSRA presented plans for the upcoming pilot study on structure of earnings in Armenia and were advised by MS experts on how to proceed.

On the following mission in Armenia, the MS Experts focused on introducing Labour Cost Survey and Labour Cost Index, and discussed with NSSRA on how to have it implemented in Armenia. The discussions will be continued during the upcoming mission.

Innovation Statistics:

MS Experts concluded that the pilot data collection has given very good results, with a high response rate. NSSRA received also positive feedback from local stakeholders to the pilot data collection. Main focus on the mission were defining editing rules for the collected data, suggesting output tables, and to prepare the plan for the upcoming regular survey. MS Experts started in cooperation with NSSRA staff to draft a methodological handbook to document the production process of innovation statistics. The work will be further elaborated during upcoming missions.



Working situations during 5th quarter of the project.

Water Accounts:

Study visit to Istat of Italy has been completed with topics of discussions aimed at physical water flow accounts, input and output tables, monetary component of water accounts, methodologies and other aspects of compiling these data. Experts from the Italian Ministry of Environment and River Basin District Authority were invited to expand the topic of environmental and river basin management and discuss some major region-specific aspects. As an extra topic based on the Armenian delegation's request the work with air accounts in Italy was introduced.

As the project progresses, relevant documentation and presentations are uploaded at the project website in English and Armenian. The project also has a Facebook page which is updated regularly - links to the website and Facebook can be found below.

In the sixth project quarter, 3 activities will take place in Armenia. There will also be a study visit to Statistics Lithuania on Demographic Statistics.

For more information:

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Main topics of the Twinning Project

1. Dissemination and Quality of Statistics

Dissemination system improved; dissemination strategy developed; user satisfaction survey questionnaire updated, tested and published; recommendations made on quality management assurance

2. Demographic Statistics

Vital statistics and migration statistics improved; strategy for electronic data collection mechanisms developed (transition from paper sources to administrative registers)

3. Labour Market Statistics

Labour cost index calculated and published; structural statistics on wages calculated and published

4. Poverty Statistics

Social exclusion will be introduced and calculated (in cooperation with UNICEF)

5. Innovation Statistics

Innovation statistics introduced; methodology on innovation statistics developed; plan for regular production and publication developed

6. Water Accounts

Methodology for water accounts developed in cooperation with central stakeholders; water accounts compiled



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