

NEWSLETTER

EU Twinning Project on Statistics (phase II) In Armenia

N° 3

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

In the 3rd project quarter the following activities have been implemented:

Poverty Statistics – Study visit to Italy:

The four days study visit covered the following topics: poverty measures in Italy, indicators from the household budget survey and absolute poverty measure, poverty and social exclusion in Italy using European indicators, methodological issues, social exclusion and material deprivation as a new challenge for Europe. During the study visit output tables based on data from the social exclusion survey in Armenia were introduced.

Dissemination of Statistics:

Cooperation with data producers: a draft agreement on data sharing with the Ministry of Nature Protection is currently being tested. The agreement is intended to serve as a general model for sharing of data between NSSRA and other public authorities. Cooperation with data users: two user group meetings were organized with the aim to develop a standardized meeting format to further increase the positive dialogue between NSSRA and the different user groups.

Demographic Statistics (Vital):

Focus on data quality and availability. Current methodologies were reviewed by EU experts and methods for correction and imputation of missing data were discussed. Meetings were held with the Ministry of Health and with the regional office of the NSSRA, Armavir region. It was recommended to launch a campaign to raise awareness on the importance of high quality registrations in the administrative systems that will serve as the main source of information to NSSRA.

Demographic Statistics (Migration):

Recommendations have been made on upgrading the methodology on Migration Statistics to EU standards. A central part of the discussions has been regarding the possible use of administrative sources for production of indicators, which requires improved internal and external cooperation.



Working situations during 3rd quarter of the project.

Innovation Statistics:

A questionnaire for a pilot survey on private sector innovation has been developed and the pilot survey is currently being conducted on 1,700 small and medium-large private enterprises in Armenia. The result of the pilot survey will be analyzed during an upcoming mission later this year, and will serve as the basis for the development of a regular innovation survey. The survey will be aligned to EU standards and methodologies.

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

In the fourth project quarter, 2 project related activities will take place in Armenia. There will also be a study visit to Statistics Finland on Innovation Statistics, and a study visit to Statistics Denmark on Dissemination and Quality of 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 account compiled

