



STATISTICS LITHUANIA

*International Co-operation
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Technical assistance in 2012

In pursuance of the objective established in the Strategy for 2008-2012 - to develop international cooperation not only by adopting the best practice of other countries but also by sharing its own best practice - Statistics Lithuania provided technical assistance to foreign statistical offices. The specialists of Statistics Lithuania, as short-term experts, were actively participating in technical assistance projects carried out by other countries' statistical offices and various foreign companies.



In 2010-2012, within the framework of the IPA 2007 programme, the specialists of the State Statistical Office of the Republic of Macedonia were given advice on the dissemination of statistical information and metadata.

In 2011-2012, the specialists of Statistics Lithuania took part in the implementation of the IPA 2009 multilateral programme for candidate and potential candidate countries. Serbian specialists were given advice on harmonised indices of consumer prices (HICPs). Lithuanian experts participated in a seminar in Croatia.

In 2011-2012, the experts of Statistics Lithuania took part in the implementation of a twinning project carried out by Statistics Denmark in the statistical office of Armenia. Advice was provided on price and information society statistics.

In 2011-2013, further expert assistance was provided within the framework of other twinning projects of Statistics Denmark in the statistical offices of Ukraine and Bosnia and Herzegovina. Assistance was provided in business and social statistics; advice was given on the reduction in the administrative burden for respondents. In 2012, within the framework of the EU/FAO programme, the specialists of the statistical offices of Moldova and Armenia visited Statistics Lithuania to consult about agricultural statistics.

In 2012, within the framework of the IPA 2009 programme for the statistical offices of Croatia and Macedonia, the specialists of those statistical offices visited Statistics Lithuania to consult about HICPs.

In 2012, an expert from Statistics Lithuania, together with a group comprising representatives of other countries' statistical offices and Eurostat, carried out an assessment of the statistical systems of Moldova and Belarus.

Specialists of Statistics Lithuania hosted Technical assistance consultations in Vilnius:

- ✓ Consultations on SBS recalculations and Industry statistics for specialists from the Ukrainian statistical office;
- ✓ Consultations on HICP for specialists from Macedonian and Croatian statistical offices;
- ✓ Consultations on Agriculture statistics for specialists from Armenian and Moldovan statistical offices.

Statistics Lithuania, a member of the few ESSnet groups, welcomed some ESSnet meetings in Vilnius:

- ✓ ESSnet coordination meeting on micro data linking and data warehousing in statistical production;
- ✓ ESSnet WP3 Co-ordination Meeting on Admin Data;
- ✓ ESSnet WP2 and WP3 meeting on micro data linking and data warehousing in statistical production.

In the framework of the Baltic States statistical cooperation, 3 meetings were hosted in Vilnius:

- ✓ Baltic Steering committee meeting;
- ✓ Baltic meeting on Recalculations after Census 2011;
- ✓ Baltic meeting on Price statistics.



Excessive Deficit Procedure (EDP) dialogue visit to Lithuania. On 8 and 9 February 2012, Statistics Lithuania was visited by the Excessive Deficit Procedure (EDP) mission, whose purpose is to assess the

quality of statistical data on general government deficit and debt submitted by Lithuania to Eurostat.

It was a planned dialogue visit, in the course of which a pilot description of the EDP sources and methods and the excessive

deficit certificate with a filled-in questionnaire submitted by Lithuania in October 2011 were discussed.

Apart from Eurostat, the mission comprised representatives from the European Central Bank and the Commission Directorate General for Economic and Financial Affairs (DG ECFIN).

During the meeting, comments and preventive and corrective recommendations were given in order to avoid possible errors when providing statistical information. The results of the visit are published in a special report on Eurostat's website.

Such EDP dialogue visits to the EU member states are regular; from 2011, undertaken on an annual basis.

First meeting of the Seasonal Adjustment User Group

On 8 February 2012, the first meeting of the Seasonal Adjustment User Group (SAUG) took place at Statistics Lithuania.



The Group consists of the representatives of National Statistical Institutes, Eurostat, the ECB and national central banks.

During the meeting, the mandate, tasks and

objectives of the Group were discussed; a new version of software for the estimation of seasonal component JDemetra+, and the software development work carried out and planned were presented.

Seasonal adjustment quality statistics were also discussed, and new direct and indirect method tests were presented. The Group members were informed about the e-training in the elimination of seasonal effect for beginners planned. A working plan for the nearest future was adopted.

The next SAUG meeting is planned in October in Luxembourg. Comprehensive information on the SAUG activity is available on the Collaboration between Researchers and Official Statisticians (CROS) portal.

Study visits of the specialists from the State Statistics Committee of Ukraine

On May 23-26 and 29-31 in Vilnius study visits of the specialists from the State Statistics Committee of Ukraine on the methodological issues pertaining to the organisation of statistics and transition to NACE Rev. 2, as well as to the production of industrial statistics, took place at Statistics Lithuania.

During the visits, the methodology and organisation of statistics in Lithuania, the backcasting of time series, the links of structural statistics with the system of national accounts, the compilation of an enterprise register, the

application of the PRODCOM product list in a commodity production survey, the problematic issues relating to the transition from NACE Rev. 1.1 to NACE Rev. 2 were discussed.



Study visit of the specialists from the State Statistical Office of the Republic of Macedonia on the Harmonised Index of Consumer Prices



On May 28-30 the good practice of the organization of price statistics at Statistics Lithuania was shared with colleagues from Macedonia. Certain technical issues related to the compilation of the CPI/HICP (sampling

techniques, weights, treatment of missing products and replacements, treatment of seasonal products, adjustment for quality differences, etc.), the calculation of specific price sub-indices, the compilation of the HICP at constant tax rates, national reference metadata in the Euro SDMX, Metadata Structure (ESMS), the accessibility of documentation on the CPI/HICP, quality management, dissemination policy on the CPI/HICP were discussed.

Study visit of the CBS of the Republic of Croatia to Statistics Lithuania

Experts from the Central Bureau of Statistics of the Republic of Croatia paid a study visit to Statistics Lithuania on 15-17 October 2012.

The visit focused on the harmonised index of consumer prices (HICP). In particular, presentations concerned the Lithuanian practice and experience in implementing EU regulations, production, dissemination and documentation of the HICP. Specific technical HICP issues, such as the organization of the price data collection process and the compilation of the HICP (e.g. treatment of seasonal products, quality adjustment methods), compilation of the HICP-CT were also discussed.

Moreover, the work carried out in the field of the implementation of the house price index (HPI) and owner-occupied housing price index (OOHPI) was presented.



The Lithuanian and Kazakhstan statistical offices will cooperate



On 5 June 2012, Statistics Lithuania and the Agency on Statistics of the Republic of Kazakhstan signed the Memorandum of Mutual Understanding on Cooperation in the Field of Statistics.

The countries have declared their intentions of continuing and developing their cooperation in the field of statistics. It is planned to exchange the methodological material on statistical

observation, censuses and surveys, official statistical information, including publications and issues related to the changes in social and economic situation at the state and regional levels.

The employees of both statistical offices plan to share the most recent experience gained in improving national legislation regulating statistics, introducing information technologies, developing new directions in the field of statistics, as well as experience in the field of the national accounts system. Opportunities to carry out joint statistical surveys, implement joint technical projects on accounting and statistical issues, organise joint sittings, seminars and conferences will be considered.



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