

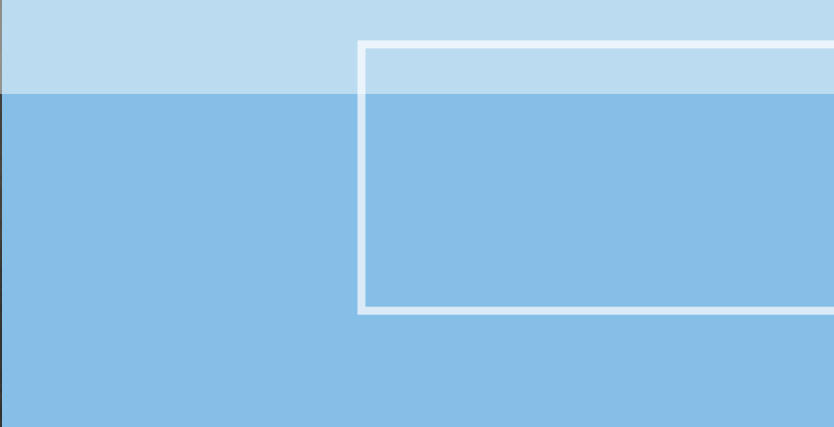
INTERNATIONAL
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NEWSLETTER

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**STATISTICS
DENMARK**



FACT-FINDING VISIT AT NATIONAL BUREAU OF STATISTICS OF MOLDOVA

On January 30th, the National Bureau of Statistics of Moldova welcomed two staff from Statistics Denmark's International Consulting division on a one-day visit. The purpose of the visit was to share information on each other's institutions, current work and future plans. Next to work plan and strategy, issues like both institutions' organizational arrangements, quality management, as well as various subject matter areas were discussed.

At the end of the visit, the two institutions agreed to identify areas with the possibility of collaboration. Such areas with a good potential for cooperation could for example be the use of administrative data sources, a statistical population register, further development of the business register as well as the creation of new statistics. A precondition for future collaboration is that funding sources can be mobilized.



LAUNCHING OF THE NEW TWINNING PROJECT IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

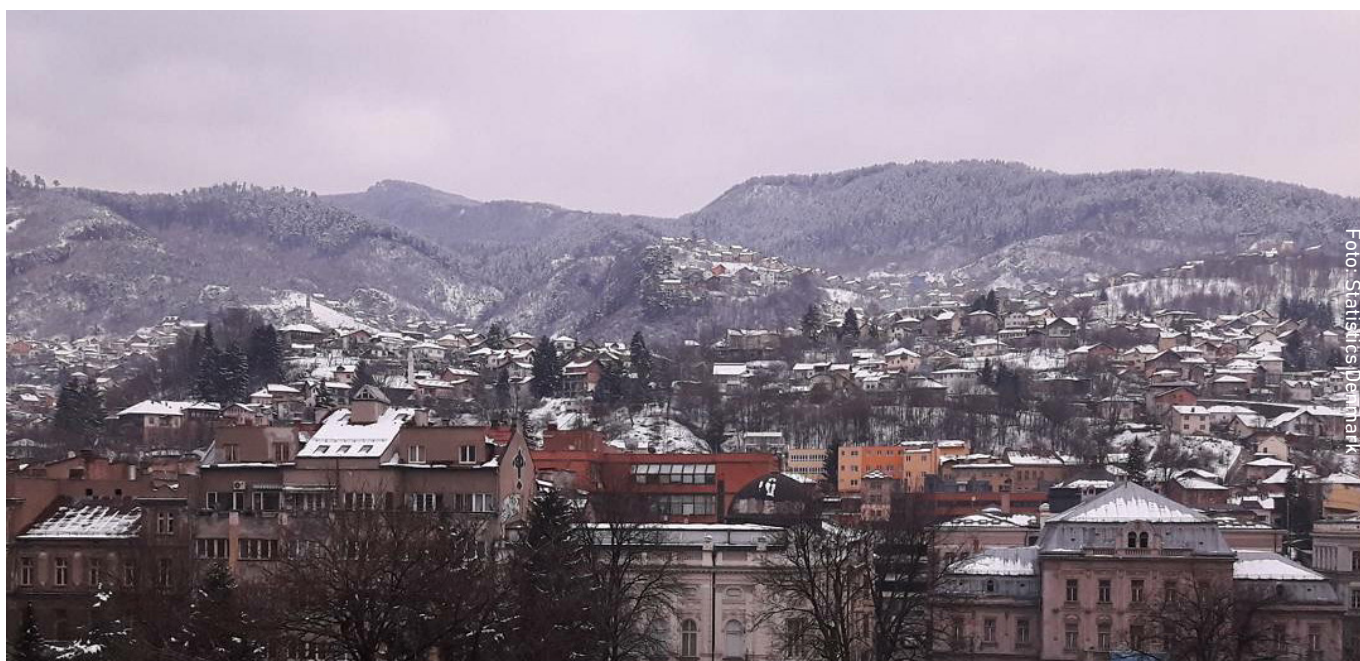


Foto: Statistics Denmark

“Statistics is not as boring as it sounds like” was the introduction phrase of the presentation made by Statistics Denmark at the Kick Off Event, which officially launched the new EU Twinning project on 16 February 2018 in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina. The participants were lead through a quiz on fun facts about Bosnia and Herzegovina as a way to show how fun statistics can actually be.

About 70 stakeholders and media participated in the event which focused on Bosnia and Herzegovina's continuing path towards the EU and the need for high quality statistics in this process. The EU ambassador Las-Gunnar Wigemark stated that “reliable statistics are essential in the EU accession and should never be politicised”.

The four beneficiary institutions, which made statements on what they expect from the Twinning project, are:

- Agency for Statistics of Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Institute for Statistics of Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Institute for Statistics of Republika Srpska
- Central Bank of Bosnia and Herzegovina

The aim of the project is to strengthen the statistical system in Bosnia and Herzegovina and to increase the number of statistics, which is harmonised with EU standards. The project focuses on economic and business statistics and the increased use of administrative data.

Statistics Denmark is implementing the Twinning project in cooperation with the national statistical institutions of Croatia, Finland and France from January 2018 to January 2020. This is the third Twinning project which Statistics Denmark is implementing in Bosnia and Herzegovina. You can also follow the project on Facebook @EUtwinningStatisticsBiH

NEWS ON THE TWINNING PROJECT IN ISRAEL

Closing Event

After two years of operation, the Twinning project in Israel is getting closer to the end. The project will end on the 31 August 2018. Due to a combination of Israeli and European holidays the closing event will be conducted already at the end of May 2018. The closing event will of course mark the end of the Twinning project but more importantly the event will celebrate the establishment of a National Statistical System in Israel.

Quality Management of Official Statistics in Israel

In the project's component on Quality Management of Official Statistics – creation of an Official National Statistics System (NSS) in Israel has been one of the benchmarks. Currently, the ICBS is in the process of implementing a number of international best practices for quality management. During the last months of the project and in the years ahead the aim is that these tools and practices will be thought and implemented in Other National Authorities (ONA's) producing official statistics in Israel.

Research Services at the Israeli Central Bureau of Statistics (ICBS)

The Twinning project between Statistics Denmark and the ICBS of Israel has a component on enhancing the micro data services to researchers. In Israel there is a long tradition for providing researchers with micro data. The aim of this component is to streamline all the processes involved in providing de-identified microdata.

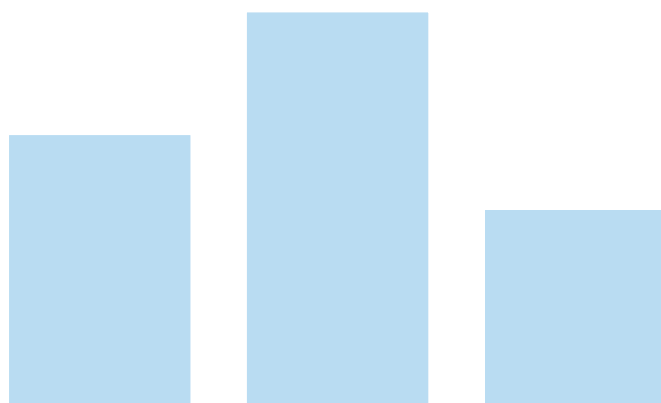
As part of the streamlining the ICBS created a dedicated research service unit and as a first step appointed a manager to head the unit. In parallel, an amendment to the Israeli law on statistics is being drafted in order to improve and clarify the legal framework that allows access to de-identified micro data for research purposes. Later this year experts from the Central Bureau of Statistics in the Netherlands will provide training in confidentiality and output control methods. During a visit to the Netherlands in the spring of 2018 the ICBS



will discuss various IT solutions for storing data and providing secure remote access.

Although ICBS has a long tradition for working closely with researchers the long term ambition is to move from providing datasets on an ad-hoc basis to having a standardized solution with data, metadata and quality information readily available to meet demands.

In February 2018, ICBS and experts from Statistics Denmark discussed how a common data catalogue can be developed. The catalogue should introduce common naming standards and document the contents of the research files in a standardize way – preferably drawing on Single Integrated Metadata Standard (SIMS) and the High Quality Documentation framework used in Denmark.



WORKSHOP ON NEW APPROACHES TO STATISTICAL CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

Together, Statistics Norway and Statistics Denmark presented some practical examples of how to operationalize capacity building at a workshop on New Approaches to Statistical Capacity Development. The workshop took place 11-12 December 2017 and was arranged by Paris21 and UNDP.

For two days, the workshop gathered a large number of stakeholders from all over the world that are involved in capacity development (CD). Among the participants were countries primarily receiving capacity development, as well as a wide selection of providers ranging from NSO's to private consulting companies and international organizations. According to the organizers, the aim of the workshop was to advance the development of new and practical approaches that deliver capacity for national statistical systems. Next to some plenary sessions, the actual work and

discussions took place in three subgroups. The groups focused on the conceptual framework of CD, how to operationalize CD and how to measure achievements and results.

Statistics Norway and Statistics Denmark have both been engaged in the subgroup that focusses on operationalization. The joint input outlined seven principles as the basis of the CD work of both institutions. Next to being demand-driven and broad based, the engagements are mostly long-term with a focus on working together, ensuring management ownership and good communication while at the same time staying flexible to achieve clearly defined results.

For more information on the presentation as well as the workshop in general: <http://www.paris21.org/news-centre/events/workshop-cd40>



CONTACT

Statistics Denmark
Sejrøgade 11
DK-2100 Copenhagen
www.dst.dk/consulting
vhf@dst.dk

SUBSCRIPTION

www.dst.dk/consulting/newsletter