

INTERNATIONAL
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NEWSLETTER

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**STATISTICS
DENMARK**

STRENGTHENING THE CAPACITY OF THE GEORGIA STATISTICAL SYSTEM

In December 2018, Statistics Denmark was awarded the contract for the EU Twinning Project Strengthening the Capacity of the Georgia Statistical System - GE 16 ENI ST 06 18. The project will be implemented between April 2019 and March 2021. Four main components will address Foreign Trade Statistics, National Accounts, Business Statistics and Social Statistics. Statistics Denmark will implement the project together with experts from the Czech Statistical Office, Hungarian Central Statistical Office, Statistics Finland and Statistics Lithuania. The Hungarian NSI is a new partner to our Twinning Projects. The project's activities on National Accounts will continue the work related to SNA 2008

initiated by the Geostat and the IMF but will also focus on Supply and Use Tables and Input / Output tables. In business statistics, Geostat and we will continue working on improving the Statistical Business Register – the register was thoroughly modernized in Geostat's project with Statistics Sweden running from May 2015 to June 2018.

Mr. Steen Bielefeldt Pedersen will be our Resident Twinning Adviser (RTA) in Tbilisi. Mr. Bielefeldt comes from a position as Head of Division for Personal Finances and Welfare. At Geostat, the Executive Director Mr. Gogita Todradze will act as the Beneficiary Project leader.



THREE NEW BILATERAL PROJECTS ON TWO CONTINENTS



Statistics Denmark is very excited to start three new bilateral cooperation projects with the National Statistical Institutes (NSI) of Ghana, Morocco and Vietnam.

The projects will be implemented in the framework of the Danish Foreign Ministry's Strategic Sector Cooperation Programme. The set-up is very similar to a Twinning project: a close cooperation between the two countries' NSIs on equal footing with the starting point in the partner's needs. Next to the NSIs, the third partner will be the Danish Embassy in the respective country. A sector counsellor attached to the project will be stationed in the Embassy for the duration of the cooperation.

The final content of the three projects will be developed together between the partner in each country, the respective Embassy and Statistics Denmark during the coming months. Based on preliminary discussions, some of the main focus areas will be the improvement of register-based statistics, quality management and dissemination.

Strategic Sector Cooperation programmes have existed since 2015. In 2019, there will be 40 projects in 17 countries. For more information about Strategic Sector Cooperation please visit <http://um.dk/en/danida-en/Sustainable%20Growth/strategic-sector-cooperation-new>

STATISTICS DENMARK ON NEW TERRAIN IN GHANA

In December 2018, the Danish Embassy in Accra asked Statistics Denmark to provide input on a project with the Ghana Revenue Authority. The project has been running since 2015 and includes a component that focusses on revenue generation for the Ghanaian government through improved customs procedures. Statistics Denmark produces Foreign Trade statistics

of Denmark and has a close cooperation with the Danish Tax Authority. On recommendation of the Danish Tax Authority, the Embassy asked Statistics Denmark for expertise in databases and database management. Danish experts thus provided feedback on the price database needed for valuation of imported goods prior to arrival in the ports.



INCREASING THE USE OF ADMINISTRATIVE DATA IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA



Like other national statistical institutions around the world, the statistical institutions and the Central Bank in Bosnia and Herzegovina are interested in moving away from expensive surveys to using more administrative data in the production of statistics.

Since Statistics Denmark has many years of experience in using administrative data, it was obvious to organize a study visit to Statistics Denmark where the statistical institutions and the Central Bank could gain knowledge and inspiration. The study visit took place in December 2018. It was organized under the EU-financed Twinning project "Support to the reform of the statistics system in Bosnia and Herzegovina". Statistics Denmark is leading the implementation of it.

The participants were introduced to the Danish register model, which is the foundation of the current Danish system. It is also the reason why Denmark conducted the world's first population and housing census based on administrative data in 1981. Many other topics were discussed during the three days' visit: the need for

appropriate legislation, good cooperation with public data owners incl. formalization of agreements, public trust, data protection issues and security systems, as well as the establishment of the needed IT infrastructure. There were also fruitful discussions on the pros and cons of such a system and what institutions need to be aware of.

The institutions concluded that increasing the use of administrative data should be a strategic goal for official statistics of Bosnia and Herzegovina, and that the potential should be further explored. Much closer cooperation with public data owners is necessary for establishing better data standardization and an administrative data structure.

During 2019, the Twinning project will provide support in the preparation of an Action Plan with the purpose of identifying the steps needed for increasing the use of administrative data in Bosnia and Herzegovina. For more information about the project, please visit the project website: www.dst.dk/bosnia2018-20 and Facebook: EUtwinningStatisticsBiH

CONTACT

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

SUBSCRIPTION

www.dst.dk/consulting/newsletter