

Successful EU Twinning Project has improved the statistical system of Israel

The Israeli Central Bureau of Statistics (ICBS) and its partner Statistics Denmark are marking the successful implementation of a European Union Twinning project with a closing ceremony on Wednesday, December 17 at 9:30 at the Bible Lands Museum in Jerusalem.

Representatives from the EU Delegation to Israel, the Embassy of Denmark and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs will address the participants.

The overall objective of the Twinning Project was to improve the quality and the international comparability of Israel's official statistics in key domains. This goal was achieved by addressing organizational infrastructures and by developing new statistics, with the expertise provided by Statistics Denmark, supported by the Central Bureau of Statistics of the Netherlands, Statistics Finland and the Austrian Environmental Agency.

For the first time, the National Statistical System (NSS) was addressed as such, and the partners in the government ministries, the Bank of Israel and other public organizations presented the wide range of statistics they produce. With the establishment of the NSS it is recognized that there is a need to co-ordinate the production of statistics and to ensure their quality and international comparability, by use of internationally agreed standards.

As an outcome of the Twinning project, new statistics were developed on welfare and environmental protection, national accounts, education, culture and sports. Throughout the 20 month implementation period, the project has benefitted from close co-operation with many primary users of these new statistics. The ICBS' new website will be launched in a user-friendly design in 2015.

The European Union funded the project with a budget of 850,000 Euros.

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