

### OFFICIAL STATISTICS IN FOCUS

#### Improving statistical data by introducing good practices closely aligned to European standards and principles of high quality

> This is the second newsletter on the progress in the implementation of the EU funded Twinning Project 'Strengthening the Capabilities of the Department of Statistics in Jordan'

During the previous three months seven activities were implemented.

Discussions between DoS staff and MS experts have been many and fruitful on topics ranging from best practices for fixed price calculations, measurement of the informal sector of the economy, compilation of supply and use tables, seasonal adjusted data, quality assurance and documentation of statistics through quality declarations and finally the structure of the databases used in the Department of Statistics (DoS).

One of the main objectives of the Twinning project is the improvement of the quality assurance of the statistics published by DoS.

During activity 3.2 in the Quality and Metadata component, MS experts Director Lars Thygesen and Head of Division Søren Schiønning both from Statistics Denmark conducted a series of workshops on the *European Statistics Code of Practice* and the implications of its application in the DoS. The workshops had participants from DoS management including the top management as well as external key users of DoS' statistics.



MS Experts Director Lars Thygesen and Head of Division Søren Schiønning, both from Statistics Denmark, lead the discussions of the DoS' compliance with the European Statistics Code of Practice during a workshop with key users of DoS' statistics.

The *European Statistics Code of Practice (CoP)*, which is based on United Nations *Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics*, provides the cornerstone of official statistics in Europe. The CoP is based on 15 Principles setting quality standards for the institutional environment, the statistical production processes and the output of statistics.

Quality work in DoS is organized and taken care of by the Quality Division. Currently, based on the CoP and MS experts' recommendations, the Quality Division is working on preparing checklists, quality declarations as well as a course on quality management. All of which is to be applied by all staff taking part of the compilation of statistics in DoS.

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Project information is available at  
[www.dst.dk/jordan](http://www.dst.dk/jordan)

#### MAIN OBJECTIVES OF THE TWINNING PROJECT

##### RESULTS BY COMPONENTS

###### National Accounts

The National Accounts System in Jordan will be updated to SNA2008 and will cover the informal sector

###### Sampling Methodologies

The capacity of DoS staff to understand and apply modern sampling techniques is improved

###### Quality and Metadata

Statistics published by DoS are quality assured and documentation is improved

###### IT and Online Dissemination

New database structure defined and online dissemination improved

