



## Results of the EU Twinning Project in Jordan: “Strengthening the Capabilities of the Department of Statistics in Jordan”, 2013-2015

In April 2015, the 18 months Twinning project in Jordan on improving statistical data by introducing good practices closely aligned to European standards and principles of high quality was completed.

The cooperation between the implementing partners (see the box) and the Department of Statistics (DoS) in Jordan has been very positive and flexible with willingness to set up new working routines in order to secure progress in the Twinning project. The EU Member State experts and experts of DoS have been engaged and dedicated, and the focus on practical solutions as well as assigned tasks in between missions has led to a number of tangible results:

### National Accounts

National Accounts are developed to measure the economic activity in a country.

Statistics on the Jordanian economy have been improved leading to the most detailed description of the economy to date. This means that Jordan now has a much better picture on economic activities in the country.

The informal sector of Jordan; the so-called “non-observed economy” has also been estimated so Jordan now has more exhaustive information of the national economy.

### Sampling Methodologies

In order to gather the data needed to produce statistics, the DoS conducts surveys on many different topics. A sample of people or businesses is defined and they will reply to a questionnaire related to a certain topic. Once the data is collected it can be used to produce statistics.

Methodologies on sampling used to conduct surveys in a better and statistically representative way have been improved. In statistical terms we talk about methodologies for weighting, sampling errors, imputation and seasonal adjustment.

### Quality and Metadata

Statistics of high quality are important for users. High quality statistics means e.g. that the

statistics are produced independently of the political system; that statistics meet the needs of users and thus are relevant; that statistics portray reality in an accurate manner and that statistics are produced consistent over time and are comparable between countries.

European standards for principles of high quality statistics have been thoroughly discussed and tools have been implemented to ensure that attention to quality is paid during the entire process of producing statistic at DoS.

Descriptions on how statistics are produced are important for users to understand what the statistics seek to describe. Such descriptions are called “Quality Declarations” and have been developed during the project. They have been published on the website of DoS so users can easy access this important information.

### IT and Online Dissemination

Users of statistics need to have easy access to the statistics produced by DoS. Therefore, a new website has been developed and it was launched on 12 April 2015.

Another way of disseminating statistics is by providing users access to statistics through an online statistics “data bank”. A dissemination tool called PC-Axis has been implemented allowing users of DoS’ statistics to extract data from the DoS website in their own preferred format.

In total, 52 week-long activities have been implemented from November 2013 to April 2015 and 38 experts from the implementing institutions have participated in the project. Likewise, a large number of staff from DoS has been involved in the project.

The beneficiary of the Twinning project was the Department of Statistics in Jordan.

The project was implemented from November 2013 to April 2015 by Statistics Denmark as Lead Partner, ISTAT of Italy as Junior Partner as well as NI-CO and Central Statistical Bureau of Latvia.

For more information about the project:  
[www.dst.dk/jordan](http://www.dst.dk/jordan)



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