

TWINNING CONTRACT

Development of New Statistical Methodologies and Indicators in Selected Areas of Statistics in line with EU Statistical Standards

Ukraine



MISSION REPORT

on

Study visit in the framework of the

Activities 3.1.3 and 3.2.3

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October 15-16 2012

Version: Final

		 STATISTICS DENMARK

Kyiv – 2012

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List of Abbreviations

ToR	Terms of Reference
SSSU	State Statistics Service of Ukraine
SL	Statistics Lithuania

1. General Comments

The study visit took place at Statistics Sweden in Orebro on October 15 and in Stockholm on October 16, 2012.

The study visit to Statistics Sweden was aimed at study of experience and methodological principles of statistical observation of direct investment with regard to standards of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development in statistical practice of direct investment observation and familiarisation with organisation, maintenance and use of the Statistical Business Register for the purpose of conducting surveys.

Working meetings took place in compliance with the visit programme developed by Statistics Sweden. During the study visit, Statistics Sweden was represented by Evalena Andersson, Peter Thorén, Staffan Blomquist, Annika Lindblom, Tiina Orusild, Linda Wiese, Can Tongur, Georg Andersson and Rayan Loesch. Experts of Statistics Sweden prepared presentations on every specified issue of the visit..

2. Assessment and Results

The study visit was dedicated to discussions of:

1. The Statistical Register in Sweden.

The Statistical Register in Sweden has been in effect since 1963, being now regulated by the Swedish national law and the EU legal framework.

The Statistical Register is based on administrative registers of: legal entities, population, taxpayers, real estate, etc. and data of national statistical observations. It consists of the basic statistical register and, besides, contains indicators as required by Eurostat. The Swedish Statistical Register consists of the business register (99% of units) and local units register (1% of units).

Activeness and information in the Statistical Register units are updated based on statistical observations data and administrative sources (taxpayer register, employer register, register of filed tax returns, data on change in the number of employees, individual business entity taxpayer register). Statistics Sweden also buys data from private companies that maintain company legal address registers, local unit registration and company group registers. The Statistical Register is updated: every 2 weeks, every month, every quarter and every year.

The Statistical Register contains an identification component (identification number, name; address (index, postal code, settlement code), telephone, fax, e-mail), classification (economic activity code, institutional sector code, legal form of ownership), demographic (birth date, liquidation date, activity suspension date, resumption date, etc.) and statistical (number of employees, turnover, fixed assets value) information on every statistical unit.

The Statistical Register data serve to generate and freeze a list of companies as of the end of the year which serves a basis for generation of frame populations for statistical observations. Frame population and samples are compiled with the help of a frame population and samples coordination system (SAMU). It is a software product helping to generate frame population and samples for statistical observations and to coordinate response burden.

2. Organisation and conduct of statistical observation of capital investment on a sampling basis.

Swedish statistical observation on capital investment statistics is governed by national legislative and regulatory acts and EU regulations. The survey takes place every quarter and covers non-financial corporations. The Swedish statistical practice gives no legal definition for a company size. Every statistical observation makes use of its own criteria to split up reporting units by size.

Statistical observation on capital investment is held three times a year: in May (Q1), October (QII and QIII) and in February (QIV and the year). In addition, every questionnaire makes revision of the previous quarters' data and specifies respondents' expectation for the future periods. Survey questionnaires are different for companies involved in different economic activities.

Observation on capital investment is conducted on a sampling basis. Statistics Sweden uses combined (cut-off and probability) sampling differentiated by companies' economic activity. For instance, industrial company units with the number of employees 200 persons are surveyed on a total basis, companies employing from 20 to 199 persons are surveyed by probability sampling and those having from 10 to 19 employees are observed by means of simulation. For business and construction, surveys cover companies employing from 10 persons, for energy – from 5 persons. Totally enumerated are companies with the fixed assets value over 500 mln SEK and those with the fixed assets value from 10 mln SEK are sampled.

The frame population generated for observation is revised during the year for companies to report on the total basis by their criteria whereas sample frame remains unchanged for the entire year. Currently Statistics Sweden is working on updating the sample frame during the reporting year, since, according to the estimations done, this frame will lose its topicality and representativity before the end of this year.

With regard to specifics of capital investment observation, an electronic information processing system for this observation exists as an independent system. The developers were IBM and Statistics Sweden. This system is integrated with the Statistical Register and SAMU. Besides, the system accumulates information on capital investment made for a number of years and other statistical indicators and variables to enable a quality generation of a sample frame and its updating.

3. Methodological and organisational principles for statistical observation on direct investment.

Direct investment observation takes place on a monthly and a yearly basis. Statistics is published every quarter and every year. Besides, Statistics Sweden carries out a quarterly observation on company trade loans, which helps to get information on loans between a Swedish and a foreign company groups.

Statistics Sweden uses the 'foreign direct investment' term that corresponds to the OECD Benchmark Definition for Foreign Direct Investment (rev. 4).

A foreign direct investment survey takes place on a sampling basis for small-sized companies. A cut-off sample is used for the monthly survey and a probability sample – for the annual one. A legal entity is seen as an observation unit. A sample covers a company group including a legal entity subject to surveying. The sample frame is generated based on amount of capitals.

A frame population is generated based on the Swedish Statistics Register, the National Register of Companies and Organisations, the Commercial Register of Listed Foreign Owners, financial statistics, etc.

The annual frequency is used for surveying amounts (stocks) of capitals, income, credits and loans; while a month is a surveying frequency for current transactions (flows) between a direct investor and a company with direct investment. The annual questionnaire also has questions about owners, owners' countries of origin, the respondent entering a company group and a country of origin of a parent company. This information gives an opportunity to use a directional principle while generating direct investment data. Capital stocks are enumerated by market value, re-invested earnings and foreign (individuals') real estate value.

Generation of the observation results is supported by exchanging information with the Central Bank on transactions between Swedish companies and their EU partners and vice versa.

Annual foreign direct investment (stocks) survey outcomes are published in December after the end of the reporting year and are submitted to the International Monetary Fund, the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development and Eurostat.

3. Conclusions and Results

Statistics Sweden has presented information on its participation in Eurostat project on generating the EuroGroups Register. This project has been implemented during 2008-2012. The project is aimed at determining economic effect of globalisation in member states, harmonisation of statistics among statistical co-producers and providing statistics to main users of Eurostat, European Central Bank, national statistical offices and national central banks on statistics of affiliates and foreign direct investments, and indentifying a number of multinational companies in EU. The EuroGroups Register is planned to be implemented in 2013. This activity is targeted at meeting statistical needs of member states with lists of company groups working in more than one country.

The study visit was aimed at deepening the participants' knowledge as to the methodological principles of statistical observation on capital investments on a sample basis, methodological and organisational principles of statistical observation on foreign direct investments with regard to the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development standards and development of foreign direct investments observation in the statistical practice.

The knowledge obtained in the course of the study visit to Statistics Sweden will be used for improvement of direct investments observation in terms of establishing a degree and types of relations between businesses and foreign investors, as well as in the development of a methodological support for sample survey in capital investments statistics.