



Mission to Jerusalem 8-11 September –conclusions and recommendations

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Activities during the mission

User Focus Groups about metadata and research
access

- Successful
- Many actors
- Good atmosphere of cooperation
- Data providers' seminar



User oriented Metadata

- Users said:
 - We don't use metadata very much
 - Often we can find metadata in a publication (but then it is very difficult to find it again if needed)
- ICBS said: We need a coherent system based on the "diamond" model
 - Purpose: each piece of metadata only once, reuse
 - Coherence

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Metadata Recommendations:

1. Don't build it yourself
 - It will lead to considerable developments costs, delays and eternal maintenance
2. It should rely on accepted international statistical standards: SDMX, DDI, GSBPM, SIMS
 - This will allow you to communicate with others and switch systems
3. Use a standard commercial system
4. We recommend Colectica because:
 - Used by some good NSIs
 - New Zealand, Canada, Denmark
 - Allows for help & sharing of knowledge
 - Elements from NSIs are progressively integrated
 - Competent company with high quality people
 - Very good experience from SD
5. Management should decide on this by 1 November

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User oriented Statistical Database

- Users said:
 - It is difficult to locate the statistics we are looking for
 - Sometimes it is in a publication, sometimes in an Excel table, sometimes in a table builder
 - Often we cannot have the time series we want, have to put it together by copy-paste from several publications
 - The break-down is often insufficient or doesn't fit the purpose
 - Often we have to call our good friends at the ICBS to get the statistics
 - Difficult to get statistics across domains
 - We love a system like OECD.Stat, often go there for Israeli statistics
- ICBS said:
 - We have a table builder with some data
 - We want to have a database where all statistics can be accessed in a flexible way

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Statistical Database Recommendations

1. Make a plan for building a fully-fledged all-inclusive dissemination database to be implemented by end-2015
 - List all multi-dimensional cubes by topic
 - Prioritize taking most important subjects first
2. We wouldn't recommend to rely on home-grown solution
3. Use a standard tool that has proven successful elsewhere
 - For much the same reasons as for metadata:
 - Maintenance
 - It will be further developed according to new trends, e.g. mobile devices
 - You can be sure it works
 - Millions of users elsewhere love it – are Israeli users different?
 - You can be a member of an international community of professionals
3. We recommend to reconsider PC-AXIS because
 - A huge community of 50 agencies
 - PX-Web has proven to be easy to implement and fill
 - It cooperates with Colectica (if that is what you go for)

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Long term strategy

- Integrated documented which is in the process of being discussed internally in ICBS with the view to generate input from units and buy-in from staff members
- Document prepared for integrated long-term (multi-annual) and short term (annual) planning
- Deadline: 1 November

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Recommendations #3: Organisation

- Organisation needs to be clear
 - Key players don't seem to take part in strategy work

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