



Report from Home Coordinators' Short-term Mission

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Abbreviations

HBS	Household Budget Survey
HRD	Human Resources Development
INE	Instituto Nacional de Estatística, Mozambique
LDB	Live Database (World Bank)
LFA	Logical Framework Approach
NA	National Accounts
PARPA	Action Plan for the Reduction of Absolute poverty
PINE	President INE
QIBB	CWIQ, Core Welfare Indicators Questionnaire (World Bank)
QNA	Quarterly National Accounts
SEN	The National Statistical System in Mozambique
STAC	Statistics in Action Course
TA	Technical Assistance

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Scandinavian Assistance to Strengthen the Institutional Capacity of the National Statistical Institute (INE)" started on July 22, 2003, after a bridging program during the period 8 May 2002 - 21 July 2003. It comprises both budget support and TA to INE. It is a large programme with a time horizon corresponding to INE's 5-year plan 2003-2007.

At present there are two major concerns. One is related to the fulfilment of the objectives of the TA and the long-term goals of INE, and concerns the timing and availability of long-term advisers. All four present long-term advisers are planned to terminate their assignments during 2004. The home organisations are therefore in a process to identify successors as soon as possible.

The second concern relates to the fact that INE relies on several donors to keep up its production. If not coordinated, this might jeopardize the development plans. INE is to be regarded as, and acts as, one unified statistical organisation, not as a collection of various projects.

1 INTRODUCTION

There were several objectives of this mission. Firstly, all three home organisations were to take part in the first Steering Committee Meeting of this project phase. Secondly, they were to meet with INE representatives, donors, and long and short-term consultants to discuss the project situation and plans for 2003/2004. The long-term consultants included the Team Leader Mr Altvall, the IT consultant Mr Nielsen, and the NA consultant Mr Graversen. Coordination meetings with representatives from other assistance programmes were held as well. Finally, a seminar on the Logical Framework Approach (LFA) for representatives from the SEN system was included in the program. Thus, this report is based on a range of meetings and discussions both with INE and with other stakeholders.

The consultants would like to express their thanks to all officials and individuals met for the kind support and valuable information and material which they received during their stay in Mozambique, and which highly facilitated the work.

This report contains the views of the consultants, which do not necessarily correspond to the views of Danida or INE.

2 ACTIVITIES RELATED TO THE PROJECT

2.1 Steering Committee Meeting

In order to facilitate the coordination of the different TA activities in INE, the Steering Committee meeting was this time attended by representatives from other cooperation projects.

A draft conclusion report from the bridging support programme (BSP) and an inception report from the present project were the main reports presented. The accounts for the TA (as well as for the budget support) for the bridging period were not presented but will be treated at a later meeting (in October). Some of the items in the meeting were:

- Scanstat made a brief introduction of the programme, including the work of the home offices.
- A better documentation of the ongoing HIV/Aids work in INE was requested by NORAD. Both strategies and activities in this area are very much present in INE, but not spelled out in the project reports
- NORAD enquired into the status and strategies of making data sets available for other users within SEN. INE informed the meeting about an agreement with the Ministry of Education (MESCT) to disseminate data from INE in accordance with legal regulations for data protection.
- The status of the HBS: it was asked whether the results were available yet, and INE informed about the ongoing work with cleaning of data and a first report. A final report is planned for December.
- The status concerning gender statistics was outlined, and it was stated that representatives from all SEN bodies were to be trained in gender statistics in a regional workshop.
- Other projects where INE receives assistance were presented (see 2.4), and the need for future coordination of different support initiatives was discussed. The Scandinavian project is by the largest, and is to have an umbrella function.
- The future structure of the Steering committee meetings was also discussed, and donor representatives as well as other agents asked for a regular presence of all agents in the Steering Committee meetings. Scanstat representatives argued that even though such discussions are important in the Steering Committee meetings, much of the coordination still have to take place from day to day within the ordinary working structure in INE.

For the agenda and recommendations of the meeting, please see the formal minutes drafted by INE.

2.2 Planned Missions and Study Visits

2.2.1 DG's from Scandinavia to visit INE

It was agreed that Scanstat should propose possible dates for a tentative invitation from INE to the DG's of the Scandinavian statistical offices. A visit can earliest be conducted in April 2004.

2.2.2 Long-term advisers

According to plan, all the present long-term advisers will terminate their contracts during 2004.

- The recruitment of the vacant position as economic statistics adviser is ongoing. A proposition from Scanstat is scheduled for October.
- The NA adviser will terminate his assignment not later than 31 January 2004. The budget does not allow for another long-term adviser for two additional years. However, Scanstat and INE will discuss how to continue the ongoing work for further development of the NA, with different modes of support: tentatively a combination of several short term missions and follow-up via e-mail from Scanstat, starting with a mission to map the present system and the way forward.
- The contract for the present social statistical adviser will terminate 29 February 2004. A recruitment procedure is underway and efforts will be made to propose suitable candidates in October. It was stressed that demography was an important issue due to the forthcoming population census.
- The contract for the team leader will terminate 31 May 2004.
- The contract for the IT adviser will terminate 31 August 2004.

The home offices will increase their activities to find suitable candidates for the forthcoming vacant positions.

2.2.3 Short Term Missions

The list of short term missions was discussed and reviewed. Most remaining missions for 2003 have been finalised as to dates and consultants. Some high priority missions that are to be defined and conducted as soon as possible are:

- two missions on national accounts
- two IT missions
- one mission on user dialogues
- one mission on a human resource development plan (later to be supplemented by one technical solutions)
- one mission to review poverty analysis methods .

2.2.4 Study visits to Scandinavia

The project document foresees some long study visits (2-3 months) to Scandinavia. Suitable subjects for these study visits will be discussed later, as well as the design of the visits in terms of tasks to be performed, the need for methodology studies etc.

2.3 Scanstat Activity Areas

2.3.1 Social Statistics

The work to analyse the data quality and the results from the Household Budget Survey and to produce the final report is ongoing. It is envisaged for December. A short-term mission to perform a strategic review of poverty monitoring methods, including training, is planned. It has to be made in close cooperation with the PARPA-team in the Ministry of Finance.

The mission had a meeting with short-term consultants Mr Triebkorn and Mr Otto on the HBS and their review of the data so far. According to the consultants, the data quality is quite good at the national level, while at the provincial level the picture is more diverse. At present, the analysing capacity needs to be increased in INE, and the missions planned for later in 2003 are very important.

Annual but less extensive household budget surveys have been suggested, and the two consultants support this proposal. A trust fund for PRSP has been established which might serve as a possible funding source for annual HBS surveys.

One user group for the HBS data has been established, with weekly meetings. This group also includes the poverty monitoring team of the Ministry of Finance. According to the consultants, INE now has a rather close cooperation with this team. A Joint report is planned, and data set coordination is agreed.

The consultants also suggested a joint training centre for the new QUIBB be set up, together with INE Angola, since the latter now plan their first survey of this kind. They conclude that much work has been done on the HBS, but to support INE additionally within SEN and in the coordinating efforts taking place in this area, it is important that the long-term consultant in social statistics takes part in this work when he returns in October. The planned training and review of poverty monitoring methods in INE should also be important in this process.

2.3.2 National Accounts

During the bridging period the long-term adviser has concentrated on the planning of quarterly national accounts, QNA. It has among other things resulted in a number of reports:

- Draft, Initial project for compiling QNA in Mozambique (13 December 2002)
- Outline of organisation of computer directories
- Draft policy for revision of QNA (incl. publishing periods in relation to annual NA)
- Work Programme for QNA. Principal monthly production process
- Outline of reporting guidelines for source data from producers to QNA
- Classification. Report on how to achieve consistence with annual NA (aggregation of branches etc)

The work load in NA directorate has unfortunately not made it possible to engage enough staff in this process and any decisions for the future have not yet been taken.

A short-term mission by Mr A Lazo (July 2003) on the existing system for the annual NA mapped the preconditions for the production of annual and quarterly accounts and found them slightly different than expected.

As a result, it has been proposed to make a comprehensive assessment of the whole situation (including software system, staffing and data availability) and a plan for the future NA production (level of ambition, planning structure, time tables etc.). It is advised that the future production be based

on the present system, but that this be modified to accord both with the expected resources in INE and the goals in the five-year plan (2003-07). A first mission with this purpose should be conducted as soon as possible (preferably in November) by two high level experts (maybe with different backgrounds). The experts should work closely with the strategic NA staff in INE and with the long-term advisers.

2.3.3 Economic Statistics

In this area, the long-term consultant left in July, due to pregnancy. In September a short-term mission was conducted on methods development with good results, and a follow-up mission will take place later in 2003.

2.3.4 IT

The preparation of the IT Strategy in DICRE is well underway and a draft version has been prepared. It will be circulated to the relevant parties for comments before PINE can make the final approval.

The implementation of the IT Strategy will be of significant importance for the development of activities in INE.

After the approval, it is indispensable that the intentions of the strategy be supported. This means that staff must understand the strategy and be aware that it has to be considered in future development activities. This is essential considering the large number of support projects in all areas initiated by different donors.

A crucial topic is the storage of statistical information in databases. To avoid troublesome and costly maintenance of several software systems, a well-defined structure is necessary. Different solutions are being reviewed.

Areas with other ongoing IT-related activities:

- Confidentiality
- Security and disaster planning
- Internet/Intranet:
- Network administration
- HRD
- Systems design, documentation standard
- Website (Internet database)
- Infrastructure in general

It is proposed to conduct a study visit to one or two statistical offices in other countries.

2.3.5 Local Project Management

The new budget system in the new project is being implemented. One problem to be solved concerns how to deal with local costs.

A project assistant should be hired as soon as possible.

2.4 Other Technical Assistance Projects

2.4.1 Italian/Spanish/Portuguese Assistance

A new Italian funded support project in INE was being finalised simultaneously with this mission. The project will be implemented by a consortium consisting of the statistical institutes of Italy, Spain and Portugal. The former CESD Roma will administer the project on behalf of this consortium. A fruitful coordination meeting was held with Italian/Spanish/Portuguese representatives, in order to avoid future overlapping activities.

The support, which is estimated to start within a few months and last for two years, has four main areas:

- Labour statistics (primarily together with the Ministry of Labour)
- Provincial statistical offices (district level statistics: dissemination and data collection)
- Informal sector - a survey module to LFS?
- Non-profit Institutions - data to NA

It is proposed to place one long-term adviser in Maputo during the project period. Training activities in the provinces will be an important part of the project.

2.4.2 UNICEF

UNICEF provides small scale assistance in various IT related areas, which urgently needs a close coordination with the Scandinavian project:

- Dissemination database
- SDEM database (social and demographic indicators)
- Data warehouse (national database structure)

2.4.3 World Bank

- Live Data Base, LDB

2.5 Home Offices

The economic figures for the consortium during the bridging period will be available on 10 October. The invoicing of the bridging period will be made immediately thereafter.

Annual estimates for the expenditures during the rest of the present contract period for the consortium will be submitted to Danida before 10 October.

It is planned to have a meeting for project home coordinators and administrators in Stockholm on 16 October.

APPENDIX 1. List of persons met

INE

- Dr João Dias Loureiro, Presidente do INE
- Mr Gaspar, Vice President INE
- Mr Valeriano, Vice President INE
- Ms Destina Uinge, Program director of the Scandinavian program
- the two administrators NAMES?
- Ms Alda Rocha, International coordination
- Mr Chauque
- Ms Anastasia, IT
- Mr Saíde Dade, Director National Accounts
- Ms Fatima Zalarias, Social Statistics
- Mr Cassiano Soda, Social Statistics
- Ms Zuraida Khan, Social Statistics
- Representatives from DHS - field work

Donors

- Ms Lis Rosenholm, DANIDA
- Mr Anton Johnston, SIDA
- Mr Lars Ekman, NORAD

'Italian Project'

- Mr Salvatore Favazza, Istat
- Ms Claudia Cingolani, Istat
- Ms Carmen Hernando de Domingo, CESD Madrid
- Ms Sonya Costa, INE Portugal (proposed long term adviser for 'Italian' project)
- Mr Antoine Capriello, Istat

Scanstat Consortium:

- Mr Hans Erik Altvall, Team Leader
- Mr Mogens Grosen Nielsen, long term consultant, IT
- Mr Timmi Graversen, long term consultant, NA
- Mr Jim Otto, short term consultant, Household Budget Survey
- Mr Erwin Triebkorn, short term consultant, Household Budget Survey
- Mr Chris Hill, short term consultant, STAC

APPENDIX 2. Programme for the Mission

- 27 September* Arrival (Gewalli)
- 28 September* Arrival (Denell, vBahr, Gulløy)
- 29 September* 08.00-09.00 Preparation of LFA workshop (Destina, Chauque, Denell, v Bahr)
09.30-12.00 Meeting with donors (Rosenholm, Ekman, Johnston, Denell, Gewalli, Gulløy, Altvall, Graversen, Nielsen)
14.00-16.00 Meeting with short term experts (Otto, Triebkorn, Denell, Gewalli, Gulløy, Altvall, vBahr)
16.00-18.00 Meeting with Danida (Rosenholm, Altvall, Gewalli, Destina)
- 30 September* 08.00-09.30 Preparation of LFA Workshop (Denell, vBahr)
10.00-15.00 Steering Committee Meeting (see the report from the meeting)
16.00-19.00 Consortium Meeting (Altvall, Graversen, Nielsen, Denell, Gewalli, Gulløy)
19.00-20.30 Meeting with Italian cooperation project (Favazza, Cingolani, Capriello, Costa, Gewalli, Gulløy)
- 1 October* 09.00-11.00 Meeting with INE (Loureiro, Destina, Altvall, Denell, Gewalli, Gulløy)
11.00-12.30 Meeting with Social Statistics and representatives from DHS (Fatima, Soda, Khan, Gulløy)
11.00-12.00 Meeting with NA (Saide, Gewalli, Graversen)
12.00-13.00 Meeting with IT (Anastasia, Gewalli, Nielsen)
14..30-15.30 Meeting with INE Programme Director, accountant (Destina, Altvall, Denell, vBahr, Gewalli, Gulløy)
- 2 October* 09.00-13.00 Half Day Workshop on LFA (Denell, vBahr)
09.00-12.00 Consortium Discussions (Gewalli, Altvall, Gulløy)
Departure (Gulløy)
- 3 October* 11.00-12.00 Meeting with NA (Saide, Altvall, Gewalli, Graversen)
Consortium discussions
- 4 October* Departure (Denell, vBahr, Gewalli)