

EU-ARMENIA TWINNING PROJECT

Activity 2.8

*Follow-up on achievements and
recommendations for the future*

Demographic Statistics

Yerevan, 6-9 June 2017





Mandatory result

Mandatory results MR2 and MR3 related to this activity

Vital statistics and migration statistics improved concerning data collection mechanisms (transition from paper sources to electronic), coverage, timeliness and quality

Benchmarked by

Methodology on vital statistics updated (October 2016)

Methodology on migration statistics updated (April 2017)

Improved vital statistics and migration statistics implemented and published (July 2017)



Purpose and expected output of 2.8

Purpose

- To discuss the status regarding the component at the beginning of the project
- To discuss the status of the project results
- To prepare recommendations regarding the sustainability of the achievements
- To prepare recommendations for future work of NSSRA after the project finishes
- To identify outstanding issues and needs for further support, if any



Purpose and expected output of 2.8

Expected output

Mission report covering the following:

- Status of project results
- Sustainability of the achievements
- Recommendations for the future (short and long term)
- Identification of needs for additional support
- Outstanding issues



Status at the beginning of the project – *Vital statistics*

- Data collection based on paper forms, sent by local civil register offices
- Work load for regional and central NSSRA offices: quantitative and qualitative checks, data entry
- Coding of causes of death based on text written by medical doctors, and carried out at NSSRA
- Quality declaration on vital statistics
- Evidence of under coverage of vital registrations
- On line system for registration of vital events under construction, to be tested and adjusted



Status of project results

Vital statistics (1)

- Very good collaboration with the NSSRA staff
- And between NSSRA and stakeholders (Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Health, and E-governance agency)
- The electronic data transmission is in place
- New databases and new IT procedures to treat data
- More information for further analysis (e.g. PIN and country of birth)
- Methodological documentation prepared for births and deaths, marriages and divorces forthcoming



Status of project results

Vital statistics (2)

- In depth consideration of the issue of undercoverage of registrations for births and deaths
- Improvements in data dissemination (yearly Demographic Handbook)
- Awareness raising initiatives for the civil register officials (desk calendar)
- Two short training sessions:
 1. on data validation and editing
 2. on demographic analysis



Sustainability of the achievements

Vital statistics

- Strict cooperation with stakeholders, users and data providers
- To bring to zero registrations under coverage
- To ensure that the new coding system for causes of death is accurate as requested
- Regular update of staff's skills to keep pace with technological and methodological innovation



Recommendations for the future (short and long term)

Vital statistics (1)

- To fix all technical issues about data transmission (including Internet capacity and stability at NSSRA).
- New variables made available
- Monitoring the new coding system for causes of death
- Focus on further improvement of the civil registration system, in terms of accuracy and completeness (awareness initiatives for civil register officials and targeting specific areas)
- Improving skills of the division's staff



Recommendations for the future (short and long term)

Vital statistics (2)

- To improve the availability of demographic indicators, especially in electronic format and with territorial disaggregation
- To continue monitoring registrations under coverage (2015 DHS and 2020 Census)
- To introduce standardized methods for data validation and data editing
- To keep the methodological documentation updated
- To monitor differences between the data published by NSSRA and those published by international organizations
- To explore the possibility of record linkages
- To evaluate the opportunity to prepare national population projections



Status at the beginning of the project – *Migration* statistics

- Until 2012 the information on migration was only received by the police on paper. From 2012 the information was received electronically, but the numbers were not always of good quality.
- The Integrated Living Condition Survey (ILCS) included questions on migration. However, it was a complex process to use the survey info and include it in the migration figures. A second source of information was the Border Management Electronic System. The information was anonymous but divided by citizenship, and because it was anonymous, the same information could be counted several times. Hence there was a need to improve and develop the questionnaire of the ILCS.
- Furthermore different data sources (surveys, administrative data sources) showed different situation. Users found it difficult to understand the significant differences in results. Further collaboration between NSSRA and administrative data sources was necessary for improvement of the quality of migration statistics in Armenia.
- The shift from paper based to electronic data sources also gave a need for NSSRA staff to get trained in management of electronic personal data.



Status of project results

Migration statistics (1)

- ILCS questionnaire and estimation of migration variables is improved, data collection in 2017 is going in usage the revised questionnaire
- Procedures for quality assessment of migration statistics from ILCS have been updated
- Methodology of migration statistics has been improved
- Technical specification (internal document) has been developed, that improve the process of production of statistics and collaboration between Demographics statistics and Census, IT and Households statistics divisions



Status of project results

Migration statistics (2)

- The NSSRA staff is very professional and can work with administrative data at the personal record level
- Collaboration with owners of administrative data is continued concerning obtaining administrative data on personal level as well for good quality migration statistics, corresponding the EU standards



Status of project results

Migration statistics (3)

- Program for automated processing of data received from Population Register has been updated
- A standard format of technical document on provision of programs to the divisions has been drafted by the IT department
- Work on the improvement of migration statistical data formats and adding them to publications is in progress



Sustainability of the achievements

Migration statistics

- Data from Population Register could be useful for improving the quality of demographic and migration statistics, also for other purposes: e.g. construction of sampling frames for surveys, for Population Census
- A strategy for better use of the Population Register for statistical purposes is recommended



Recommendations for the future (short and long term)

Migration statistics (1)

- Continuation of the improvement of the quality of migration statistics
- Further collaboration with owners of administrative data is essential for getting data on personal level
- To publish more metadata and explain to users the usage of various data sources
- Maximize efforts for implementing electronical system that will help to improve efficiency



Recommendations for the future (short and long term)

Migration statistics (2)

- More productive cooperation between statistical divisions and IT division is recommended:
 - To finalize the standardized request forms to streamline technical specifications
 - Specifications could be used to ensure transparency in production processes and good quality of final statistical information
 - Data confidentiality and security issues should be taken into account



Recommendations for the future (short and long term) *Migration statistics (3)*

- Training and study visits to some NSI's of European "register countries" would be useful
- To develop a methodology for measuring immigration and emigration flows, using possible administrative data sources, as well as the ILCS results
- Disseminate the updated migration statistics (publications, press releases, visualized statistical information) taking to account the users needs
- To use imputation procedures for missing values
- To use Population Register for different statistical purposes (Census, population frames, etc.)



Recommendations for the future (short and long term) *Migration statistics (4)*

- When starting preparation for the 2020 Population Census round, it is recommended:
 - to take into account the European legislation for the 2021 Censuses in EU
 - to have module (questions) on migration what will be essential to have high quality internationally compared migration statistics



Identification of needs for additional support

- To strengthen the skills of the NSSRA staff (e.g. through TAIEX and study visits to other NSIs) in terms of:
 - statistical skills (data editing, quality improvements, imputation, use of administrative data etc.)
 - analysis skills
 - IT skills and capacities for working with registers and administrative databases
- To continue raising awareness of the importance of high quality register data



Outstanding issues

- There are no outstanding issues within this component