EU-ARMENIA TWINNING PROJECT
Activity 2.2

Demographic Statistics

Yerevan, 23-26 November 2015

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Mandatory result

Mandatory result 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)

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Purpose and expected output of 2.2

Purpose

- Presentation on various ways of cooperating with data suppliers
- Discussion on strategy for how to cooperate with data suppliers
- Discussion on ways of introducing a centralized database system using a unique personal code
- To involve relevant stakeholders in the discussions

Expected output

Mission report on recommendations for strategy on how to cooperate with data suppliers and suggestions for a centralized database system

A lining up of work programme for the next activity (2.3 is scheduled to 8-12 February 2016 → Focus only on *vital* statistics)

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>> Conclusions - Vital statistics

Undercoverage estimates based on the 2011 Census results:

- For births: 1.21%

  - max in Gegharkunik: 2.27%

- For deaths: 2.88%

  - max in Armavir an Gegharkunik: 4.17 and 4.11%

Input to the Interagency Working Group on Civil registration and Vital Statistics

>> Conclusions - Vital statistics

Progress in documenting data processing

Changes to the electronic data collection request further analysis and testing:

- specifics of the data acquisition software

(some controls are built in, others have to been developed at NSS in order to ensure accuracy of information)

- Possible issues about the coding of causes of death

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Recommendations – Vital statistics

To improve analysis of data available on undercoverage

- more elaboration on census data (time, territorial and hh profile disaggregation)
- comparison between population estimates and census results for chosen cohorts

To complete documentation about data processing (checking and editing procedures) in view of possible improvements

To strenghten IT skills and capacities in demographic analysis of the staff working on vital statistics also in view of improving dissemination of information

Recommendations – Vital statistics

To continue collaboration with data providers, also in the Interagency WG in order to:

- improve the coverage of vital events registrations, targeting more problematic areas in the country

- reinforce the network of reference persons in ministries

- raise awareness about the relevance of statistics among civil register officials

- agree on the transmission of the Unique identification number in every vital event record and possibly the inclusion of new variables (e.g. country of birth)

- evaluate the quality of information about causes of death, still births and neo-natal mortality

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Road map and time plan - Vital

Next mission on **vital statistics**: 8–12 February 2016
- Review of data collection and discussion on how to handle electronic data (finalizing the document on data processing)
- Meeting with data suppliers (data quality, possible new information)
- Review of methodology (analysing data on undercoverage, suggesting improvements in data editing)

NSSRA is expected to (homework):
- Have specifics about the on-line acquisition system (from VXSoft)
- Prepare the document on data processing
- Further elaborate census data on undercoverage

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Conclusions - Migration statistics

- Estimation of the quality of main indicators have been discussed. Need more time to estimate.

- Good relations with State Migration Service. The agreement can be signed including cooperation, methodological consultation, description of providing data, data format, metadata issues.

- Good relations with Visa and Passport department of the Police of RA. According to the RA Government Decree on Defining the order of providing data to the National Statistical Service of the RA from the Information System of State Population Register the information about population movement have been provided to NSSRA. Data editing, imputation procedures is needed to be documented.

- The RA Government Decree could be updated including the provision of the additional required data.

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Recommendations - Migration statistics

- To analyze the possibility to use the mirror migration data for estimation the tendency of quarterly international migration data;

- To analyze the possibility in the Integrated Living Conditions Survey to ask questions about movements (except purposes of movement) for all hh members (from 0 age);

- To use the reweighting procedure in Integrated Living Conditions Survey for receiving the better quality of the results.

- Some partial imputation for the data about personal movements from the State Population Register should be done.

- Very important to receive the detailed data from the Border Management Information System. Meeting is needed.

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Road map and time plan – Migration

Next mission on **migration statistics**: May 2016

- reviewing the methodology of the survey, continuing the cooperation with data suppliers.

- NSSRA should prepare (homework):

  ▪ Detailed methodology documentation, specification for defining the internal migrants, emigrants, immigrants, population number by different breakdowns
    - Deadline: April 2016

  ▪ Organize different meetings with National Security Service of RA and Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Conclusions – General issues

- The e-Governance system could improve the quality of demographic statistics substantially

Recommendations – General issues

- To reflect on the best IT tools to be used for data processing and analysis

- To identify experts that can provide training to internal staff

- To have a (internal or external) training courses of Survey Sampling theory, Statistical data analysis;

- To develop a strategy to better use the Population Register data for statistics (e.g. for sampling frame, population estimates,…)

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