



Forwarding Armenian Statistics Through Twinning

AM09/ENP-PCA/TP/04

MISSION REPORT

on

Quality management

A3.2 Metadata follow-up

Mission carried out by
Lars Thygesen, Statistics Denmark

Armenia, 17-19 January 2012

Version: *Final*

National Statistical Service Republic of Armenia		Statistics Denmark

Author's name, address, e-mail

Lars Thygesen
Statistics Denmark
Sejrøgade 11
DK2100 Copenhagen Ø
Tel. +45 3917 3941
lth@dst.dk

List of Abbreviations

MS Member State
NSSRA National Statistical Service of the Republic of Armenia
QWG Working Group on Quality

Table of contents

Table of contents	3
1. General comments.....	4
2. Actions and results	4
3. Conclusions and recommendations	4
3.1 Quality Declarations	4
3.2 Quality Indicators.....	5
4. Actions before next activity.....	5
Annex 1. Terms of Reference	6
Annex 2. Programme for the mission 17-19 January 2012	7
Annex 3. Persons met.....	8
Annex 4. Power Point presentation on Quality Indicators	9

1. General comments

This report was prepared as the result of a mission to the National Statistical Service of the Republic of Armenia. It was a supplement to the third activity within the Component A organised according to Side Letter 9, and it was devoted to quality reports and quality indicators and dissemination systems. The mission was organised in conjunction with a Steering Group meeting on 18 January, which is described in a separate report. One working day was allocated for the work on component A

The MS Expert would like to express warm thanks to all officials and individuals met for the kind support and valuable information, which was received during the stay in Armenia, and which highly facilitated the work.

The views and observations stated in this report are those of the MS Expert, and do not necessarily correspond to the views of Statistics Denmark.

2. Actions and results

During the mission the expert was involved in the following actions:

- Meeting with RTA and BC Component Leader: overview of actions done since previous activity and agreement on the work programme for the stay.
- Meeting with *Working Group on Quality (QWG)* concerning the evaluation of the quality declarations.
- Presentation on quality indicators to the BC Component Leader.
- Meeting with the BC Component Leader: summary, presentation of results and recommendations. Agreement on next steps.

3. Conclusions and recommendations

All activities foreseen in activity A3 regarding quality declarations had been carried out by NSSRA.

3.1 Quality Declarations

The work on Quality Declarations is managed by *QWG*, a working group chaired by the Head of Methodology Lilit Petrosyan. Progress was impressive, as 36 declarations (i.e. 27 per cent of the total of 131) had been produced in Armenian, most of them already posted on the web site in the agreed domain structure on a "Documentation page". Procedures for quality assurance of the declarations were very good, as several colleagues from other departments reviewed the texts. Reviewed English translations existed for 9 of the declarations.

The contents of three of the English declarations were reviewed and discussed during a meeting with *QWG*. The evaluation of the declarations is very favourable, content is clear and suitable.

There was a need in some declarations to focus more clearly on sources of error, especially the sampling error. It was noted that capacity on sampling issues in the organisation was at present insufficient, and it would be desirable to have an expert on sampling issues in the methodological unit in order to assist domain statisticians.

3.2 Quality Indicators

The Quality Indicators of the European Statistical System were discussed during a Power Point presentation, cf. annex 4 (see for instance also the annex 3 of the document http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/ver-1/quality/documents/EHQR_FINAL.pdf). In accordance with discussions under 3 above, it was agreed that more focus should be on Indicator A1 Sampling error. This could require strengthening or updating within the Methodology Division of NSSRA with respect to sample survey methodology. . Additional activities on sampling in the project were suggested:

1. A session on the subject during the study visit to Statistics Denmark in April
2. A possible additional mission to NSSRA by a sampling expert from one of the EU Twinning partner countries.

4. Actions before next activity

By Mid April 2012, NSSRA should finalise and review internally another 25 quality declarations in Armenian, and an additional 25-30 should be translated into in English. The ultimate goal is to have all Quality Declarations in both languages.

NSSRA should have a clear plan for the handling of sampling in the organisation.

Next missions: A small supplementary activity *on Metadata follow-up* is foreseen and should be carried out in Mid April 2012 by a short mission by one MS expert to Armenia in connection with the next Steering Committee Meeting. During this mission, progress on Quality Declarations and Concepts Database will be reviewed. The mission *A4.1 PX-Web installation and training* is scheduled for April 2012.

Annex 1. Terms of Reference

Activity A.3.2 Implementation of solutions, continued

1. Purpose of activity

The purpose of this activity is to follow up on the work on quality declarations that was initiated during the A.3 mission. Furthermore, some principal discussions on the measurement of the quality of the statistics in the form of quality indicators will be taken.

2. Expected output of the activity

The expected outputs of the activity are:

- Discussions and possible adjustments to the quality declarations of NSSRA;
- Suggestions as how to introduce quality indicators;
- General planning of the introduction of PC Axis.

3. Project Participants

Mr. Stepan Mnatsakanyan, President of NSSRA (*BC Component Leader*)

Ms. Anahit Safyan, Head of International Statistical Cooperation Division

Ms. Lilit Petrosyan, Head of Methodological Division

Mr. Lars Thygesen, Director of Sales and Marketing, Statistics Denmark (*MS Component Leader*)

Mr. Ringo Raupach, Head of Section, Statistical Cooperation, Destatis

Other NSSRA staff members taking part in the activity

NSSRA Working Group on Quality

Annex 3. Programme

4. Meeting Programme for MS Experts: 17-19 January 2012

Time	Place	Event	Purpose / detail
Tuesday, 17 Jan. Morning	Congress Hotel	Meeting with RTA	Update on the Twinning Project
Afternoon	NSSRA	Meeting with NSSRA Project Leader	Preparing the Steering Committee meeting
Wednesday, 18 Jan. Morning	NSSRA	Ad hoc meet- ings	Further preparations for the Steering Committee meeting
Afternoon	NSSRA	Steering Com- mittee Meeting	4 th meeting of the Steering Committee
Thursday, 19 Jan. Morning	NSSRA	Meeting with NSSRA Work- ing Group on Quality	Current status of the work on quality dec- larations – How much? What might be adjusted? How to progress? Translation?
Afternoon	NSSRA	Meeting with BC Project Leader	1 Quality indicators. How to measure the quality of the statistical products in NSSRA? 2 Introduction of PC Axis in NSSRA. When and how?

Annex 3. Persons met

Mr. Stepan Mnatsakanyan, President of NSSRA (*BC Component Leader*)

Ms. Anahit Safyan, Head of International Statistical Cooperation Division

Ms. Lilit Petrosyan, Head of Methodological Division

Ashot Ananyan, Head of Industry Statistics Division

Arsen Avagyan, Head of Agricultural Statistics Division

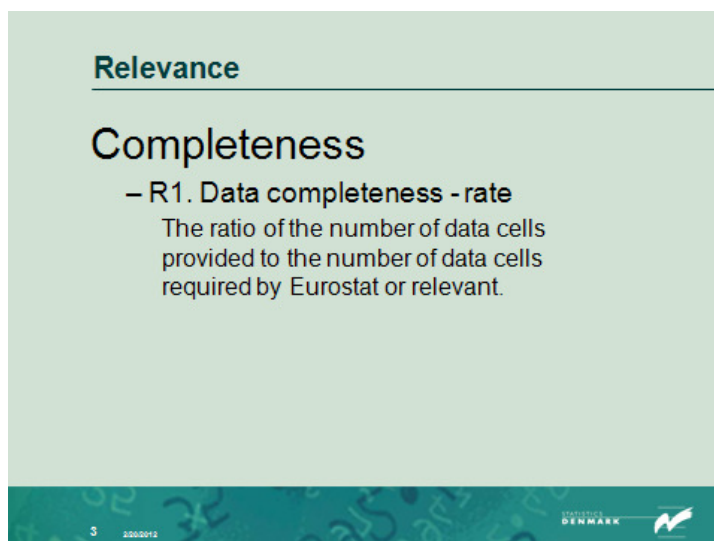
Mrs. Anahit Harutyunyan, Head of Trade and Other Services Division

Mrs. Narine Museghyan, Head Of Statistical Information Dissemination and Marketing Division

Mr. Gurgen Martirosyan, Head of Price Statistics and International Comparisons Division

Mrs. Anzhela Dashyan, Main Specialist of Methodological Division

Annex 4. Power Point presentation on Quality Indicators



Accuracy

Sampling error

– A1. Sampling error - indicators

The sampling error can be expressed:

- a) in relative terms: the relative standard error or, synonymously, the coefficient of variation (CV)
- b) in terms of confidence intervals, i.e. an interval that includes with a given level of confidence the true value of a parameter

4

2000012

STATISTICS
DENMARK



Accuracy (cont.)

Non-sampling error

– A2. Over-coverage - rate

The rate of over-coverage is the proportion of units accessible via the frame that do not belong to the target population (are out-of-scope).

– A3. Unit non-response - rate

The ratio of the number of units with no information or not usable information (non-response, etc.) to the total number of in-scope (eligible) units.

5

2000012

STATISTICS
DENMARK



Accuracy (cont.)

A4. Item non-response – rate

A5. Imputation - rate

(A6. Common units – proportion)

Revision practice

A7. Data revision - average size

6

2000012

STATISTICS
DENMARK



Timeliness and Punctuality

- Timeliness
 - T1. Time lag - first results
 - T2. Time lag - final results
 - T3. Punctuality - delivery and publication

Punctuality is the time lag between the delivery/release date of data and the target date for delivery/release as agreed for delivery or announced in an official release calendar

7

2020012

STATISTICS
DENMARK



Accessibility and Clarity

Other

- AC1. Metadata - consultations
Number of metadata consultations (ESMS) within a statistical domain for a given time period. By "number of consultations" it is meant the number of times a metadata file is viewed.

On-line database

- AC2. Data tables – consultations

8

2020012

STATISTICS
DENMARK



Accessibility and Clarity (cont.)

Documentation on methodology

- AC3. Metadata completeness - rate
The ratio of the number of metadata elements provided to the total number of metadata elements applicable.

9

2020012

STATISTICS
DENMARK



Coherence and Comparability

- Comparability over time
 - CC1. Length of comparable time series
Number of reference periods in time series from last break.
- Comparability – geographical (over countries, regions, etc.)
 - CC2. Asymmetry for mirror flows statistics - coefficient

10

2000012

STATISTICS
DENMARK



Assessment of User Needs and Perceptions

- US1. User satisfaction index.
The degree of satisfaction with services and products for different segments of users.
- US2. Length of time since most recent user satisfaction survey.

11

2000012

STATISTICS
DENMARK



Performance Cost and Respondent Burden

- PCR1. Annual operational cost, with breakdown by major cost components.
Direct costs of staff involved in data collection (questionnaires, distribution, capture), reducing non-response, processing, and compilation of estimates.
- PCR2. Annual respondent burden in hours and/or financial terms
Respondent burden in hours is defined as number of respondents/questionnaires * average time per respondent, summed over all repetitions of statistical process within a year. Respondent burden in financial terms is defined as respondent burden in hours * average hourly cost to respondents

12

2000012

STATISTICS
DENMARK

