



EU Twinning Project
IS12/ENP-APFI/o8

Support to the Israeli Central Bureau of Statistics
in the development of National Accounts, Education Statistics, Survey
Methodology, ICBS Website and
Coordination of Israel National Statistical System

Component B
Education Statistics

Activity B.6
Culture and Sports Statistics

Implemented by:

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Jerusalem
15-18 September 2014



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List of Abbreviations

BC	Beneficiary Country (Israel)
ICBS	Central Bureau of Statistics (Israel)
MS	Member State
PILAT	Private company collecting data on publicly run culture institutions

1. General comments

The mission was the only mission in the Twinning project devoted to Culture and Sports Statistics. The mission was implemented according to the agreed set of Terms of Reference and Agenda which are included in this report as Annex B6.1 and B6.2, respectively.

The MS Expert would like to thank the staff of the Central Bureau of Statistics for their hospitality, fruitful discussions and all the information provided during the mission.

2. Assessment and results

During the mission, ICBS presented their current statistics on culture, including the economic aspect as part of the national accounts Satellite Accounts on Culture. Also the developing plans and ideas for the culture statistics of ICBS were presented which provided a good basis for the discussions and the concrete planning of future initiatives.

The MS Expert presented the actual statistics on culture in Statistics Denmark with a focus on the use of different classifications and nomenclatures. The idea is that information, or statistics, on culture may be derived through already existing registers based upon the well-defined categories of economic activities (ISIC or the EU equivalent, NACE) or occupations (ISCO).

Both the UNESCO manual on culture statistics and the ESSnet-Culture report from Eurostat were presented, highlighting the two systems' slightly different approaches as regards the split into domains and functions. The reasons to these differences were discussed, and mostly they were thought to be unproblematic. The ESSnet can be seen as a pre-study to a coming EU regulation on the EU member states' reporting obligations, and therefore the ESSnet may be more operational as compared to the more "theoretical" UNESCO system.

Still, both the UNESCO and the ESSnet systems should merely be seen as a possible way for the statistical producers to create an internal overview, and not necessarily something which the users of the statistics should be made aware of. That being said, Statistics Denmark's way of disseminating the culture statistics is to some extent related to the ESSnet methodology.

Users of the statistics from the Knesset, the National Library and the Ministry of Culture were taking part in the discussions during the first three days, thus providing valuable information on what could be useful additions to the already existing statistics on culture in Israel.

3. Conclusions

The area of culture statistics is very comprehensive, and a very large number of statistics are suggested in the manuals and could be produced if only the data were available.

One general observation is that the current way of disseminating statistics does not meet users' needs. Statistics Denmark's www.statbank.dk is an example of a fully-fledged dissemination tool, allowing the user to overview all data available including historical data, choose and pick variables from the statistics the user is interested in, download in any format. The users present during the mission highly expressed their interest in having the data available through such a dissemination tool.

The users' specific wishes to statistics were both on completely new statistics, for example on music and music schools, and on supplementing existing statistics with the part of the area in question (music, theatre etc.) which functions without government support.

Breakdowns by funding, region (geography), gender, age, type of instrument for the active participants, and by paying vs. non-paying passive participants were mentioned as among the most interesting.

Like in Denmark, it is rather limited what statistics can be produced on sports. An ICBS initiative on violence in sports could result in rather interesting and relevant statistics.

Comparability in international perspective

For reasons of comparability, the ICBS addressed a need of ensuring that the culture statistics meets international requirements. It is the MS Expert's assessment that the culture statistics area in ICBS shows a good understanding of the elements in the UNESCO FCS 2009 system.

As mentioned below the success to provide a proper start point for performing international comparisons depends on the ability to use international standards and classifications systems.

4. Recommendations

The ESSnet-Culture 2012 report from Eurostat builds on the UNESCO framework, and can be seen as a pre-study to a possible EU Regulation on the member states' reporting obligations. As such, it may provide additional inspiration to ICBS as compared to UNESCO's framework document when developing new statistics, but it is not in all cases an operationalized (implementable) document.

The introduction of a general dissemination tool would highly facilitate the dissemination of statistics on Culture and Sports. Still, a mechanism to make the public (the users) aware of the increasing numbers of statistics on culture is needed – it is not enough just to put the data on the web. A separate booklet could serve this need, as could a series of press releases, each copy with a focus on its separate field.

General recommendations

NEW STATISTICS SHOULD TAKE RELEVANT CLASSIFICATIONS SYSTEMS INTO ACCOUNT

In the work towards new culture statistics, it is recommended that ICBS in each case seeks inspiration in the Eurostat ESSnet Culture report as this may provide a range of usable suggestions which may be rather easy to adopt. In that case ICBS can ensure a high degree of comparability regarding international statistics from UNESCO as well as Eurostat or other international organizations.

ONGOING DEVELOPMENT OF DATA GATHERING

In general the ICBS was recommended to consider possibilities for gathering data from any kind of stakeholders who may be in a situation of either collecting or receiving data. Data gathering should be taken into account when establishing new statistics as well as substitute existing dataproviders in an effort to reduce the use of resources. As an example the ICBS did mention, that data on museums and galleries may possibly be collected from PILAT. Furthermore it was also mentioned, that the Ministry of Culture would be interested to deliver data on libraries.

ESTABLISH CONTACT WITH USERS AND PROVIDERS OF CULTURE STATISTICS

It is in general recommended to keep contact and also establish contact to users of culture statistics as well as to data providers keeping in mind that those persons or institutions may have knowledge about what could be relevant, or possible, to develop and maintain, including the data collection. In best case the effect could be either a release of resources or an improvement of the existing data collection.

The ICBS colleagues were suggested to think and prioritize the documentation and use of metadata not least for the sake of future dynamic web-table dissemination.

Specific culture statistics areas recommended to develop

During the meetings in the ICBS four areas was discussed as potential subjects to develop.

- 1) Statistics on book releases
- 2) Music statistics
- 3) Violence in sports
- 4) Media statistics

The recommended priority, is stated in the roadmap.

Four areas of development were agreed upon during the mission:

1. Dissemination of already published statistics (mostly by the Ministry of Culture) only when a general, total-coverage dissemination tool for ICBS's electronic dissemination is established.
2. Develop existing statistics with supplementary variables and initiate new statistics based on data readily available either within ICBS or through its close partners
3. Define long-term development projects and approach the necessary and essential data providers and stakeholders in such statistics in order to agree on the content of new statistics and the planning of its development
4. Prepare for the foreseen 2017 time use survey in households with respect to formulation of specific culture-related questions to be included in survey, preferably to be based on the ICATUS classification/manual.

5. Road map and time plan

Within the Twinning project period (before December 2014)

- Complete the agreements with respect to the on-going talks between ACCUM and the National Library in order to get arrangements with respect to the future data exchange organized.
- Complete the plan for the development of the Israeli culture statistics, including a preliminary time horizon, and, if possibly, make the plan available for other stakeholders' comments. The plan should include
 - Possible new indicators
 - Short description of methodologies
 - Possible data suppliers, preferably at micro-level

After project period, 2015-2016

- Develop methodologies and publish new data on the following topics:
 - Sport: Violence in competition sports (5 specific ball games already identified)
 - Books and Press: Add translated titles to the existing book statistics (based on data from the National Library)
 - Music: Different breakdowns of the composers, their income (including supplementary income arising from work not related to music), geography, Hebrew vs non-Hebrew etc., based on ACCUM data
 - Cinema: data on festival from PILAT published
- Prioritize among the possible long-term development projects based on data availability studies and users' demand for the statistics in question, for example:
 - Library statistics (continuation of 2010 data deliverances to ICBS)
 - Broadcasting/media statistics
 - Cross-cutting split of subsidized vs. non-subsidized culture activities, e.g. examine the data availability at the local authorities, artist organisations
- Develop the culture-related questions to the planned 2017 time use survey
 - Involve relevant departments of ICBS
 - Involve external stakeholders, if necessary, including representatives from the Sports Agency within the Ministry of Culture

After project period, 2017 and beyond

- Implement the time use survey
- Continue cooperation with stakeholders (users as well as data suppliers) in order to further develop the area of Culture and Sports statistics

Annex B6.1 Terms of Reference

EU Twinning Project IS12/ENP-APFI/o8

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Component B Education Statistics

Activity B.6: 15-18 September 2014

Culture and Sports Statistics

Mandatory results and benchmarks

Mandatory result	Benchmark
MR12. Plan identifying indicators on culture and sports	Culture and sports indicators identified by 6 th project quarter

Subjects / purpose of activity B.6

From the Twinning contract: UNESCO and other international guidelines on culture and sports (definitions, data sources etc.).

Other questions that could be addressed:

- What can be the uses and the demand for such statistics?
- Which development area should be given priority?
- What are the leading indicators on culture statistics being used in EU countries?
- What meaningful ways of data presentation can be adopted for these purposes?
- How can we upgrade the status of culture statistics so as to make its importance acknowledged by decisionmakers/stakeholders?

Expected output from activity B.6

Mission report on Recommendations on how to implement UNESCO and other international guidelines on culture and sports and how to prioritize among the many statistics on culture and sports that could be produced

Annex B6.2 Agenda (meeting programme)

Date	Place	Time	Event
Mon 15/9	CBS	09:00	Introduction to the activity and acquaintance
		09:30	ICBS: UNESCO Framework for Cultural Statistics
		10:30	Coffee break
		11:00	ICBS: Current status of Culture and Sports Statistics in Israel ICBS: On-going projects regarding the development of the Israeli statistics
		12:00	Lunch
		13:00	Statistics Denmark: The European Union's approach to UNESCO's recommendations (practical implementation, definitions etc.)
		14:00	Statistics Denmark: Culture and Sports Statistics in Denmark
		15:00	Discussion: further thoughts on the overview
		15:30	End of day 1
Tue 16/9	CBS	09:00	Summary from day 1
		09:15	ICBS: Statistics on the national expenditure on Culture, Recreation and Sports (Nava Brenner)
		10:30	Coffee break
		11:00	The users' perspective – what additional or improved statistics or dissemination methods would be useful for the users (National Library and/or the Ministry of Culture and Sport)
		12:00	Lunch
		13:00	Discussion: the current gaps in the statistical production, and first attempt at prioritizing between the possible developing projects (in the light of the data availability, resources needed, short and long term objectives)
		15:30	End of day 2
Wed 17/9	CBS	09:00	Summary from day 2
		09:15	Drafting the plan: what specific indicators, and methodologies, should be developed?
		10:30	Coffee break
		11:00	Drafting the plan, <i>cont.</i>
		12:00	Lunch
		13:00	Drafting the plan, <i>cont.</i>
		15:30	End of day 3
Thu 18/9	CBS	11:00	Statistics Denmark: presentation of recommendations and discussion
		12:00	Lunch
		13:00	Report writing and preparation for debriefing
		14:30	Debriefing
		15:30	End of activity

Annex B6.3 Persons met

Eti Weissblei	Knesset Research and Information Center
Yuval Vurgan	Knesset Research and Information Center
Raaya Simran	Ministry of Culture and Sport, Minhal Tarbut
Yoav Ram	Ministry of Culture and Sport, Sector Director
David Malka	Ministry of Culture and Sport, Deputy Director of the Sport Authority
Nahum Zitter	National Library

ICBS:

Haim Portnoy	Education Statistics Sector, Director
Revital Cohen	Education Statistics Sector
Lilach Biton	Education Statistics Sector
Jacob Keynan	Education Statistics Sector
Yosef Gidanian	Department of Education and Teaching Forces, Director
Pnina Malul	Social Services Accounts Sector
Nava Brenner	Director of Social Services Accounts Sector
Inbar Sabag Shpaizman	Chief Scientist Department