

<i>Principle</i>	<i>Strengths of the SSCU performance ensuring the adherence to the principle</i>	<i>Weaknesses of the SSCU performance in ensuring the adherence to the principle</i>	<i>Activities to improve the SSCU performance to ensure the adherence to the principle</i>
<p><b><i>Principle 1: “Professional Independence”</i></b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- adherence to the requirements on prohibition for the any bodies and persons to interfere into the state statistical activity namely on the statistical information content, data sources selection, statistical methodology, forms and schedule for statistical surveys data dissemination etc.;</li> <li>- coordination of the SSCU activity by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine through the Deputy Prime Minister;</li> <li>- existence of the Methodical Commission of the State Statistics Committee comprising the representatives of scientific community;</li> <li>- territorial state statistical bodies are “separated” from the local executive authorities</li> </ul>	<p>- consequences of:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1)the lack of legal regulation on the following issues: the statistical information confidentiality protection ensured by the SSCU and requirements to the specific state authorities to provide relevant statistical information</li> <li>2)legal uncertainty of the relevant bodies authority to collect, process and use the administrative data as well as legal uncertainty of the procedure of this activity;</li> </ol> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- lack of legal determination of the institutional independence status of the State Statistics Committee from the state executive and other authorities;</li> <li>- lack of the mechanism of the SSCU senior management appointment that would ensure the political independence;</li> <li>- execution of the specific orders that are not within the competence of the state statistical bodies;</li> <li>- there is a significant number of requests from the state authorities of all levels the answers to which can be found in released official statistical publications, etc.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- to introduce amendments to the Law of Ukraine 'On the State Statistics' to ensure the maximum independence of the Committee by applying the special status at the status of Antimonopoly Committee of Ukraine and State Property Fund of Ukraine;</li> <li>- legally avoid the State Statistics Committee being in subordination to any ministry or other authority;</li> <li>- appointment of the State Statistics Committee Chair for the specific term (at least 5 years) with the guarantee of not recalling this appointment without good reason;</li> <li>- to use logos in the SSCU releases;</li> <li>- increase SSCU staff motivation.</li> </ul>

<p><b>Principle 2:</b> <b>“Mandate for Data Collection”</b></p>	<p>SSCU has a clear legal mandate to collect detailed information from the enterprises (legal persons)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- legal uncertainty of the relevant bodies authority to collect, process and use the administrative data as well as legal uncertainty of the procedure of this activity;</li> <li>- low penalties for failure to submit data by state statistical observations respondents as well as for submitting poor quality and untimely data;</li> <li>- lack of control mechanism to ensure the availability of the mandatory provision of information to the state statistical bodies in the laws of other ministries and agencies.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- transition to the two-tier system of collection, processing and dissemination of statistical information;</li> <li>- increase the number of employees in the central office of the State Statistics Committee by redistributing the number of employees of the state statistics territorial bodies in favor of the central office of the State Statistics Committee;</li> <li>- to introduce amendments to some legislative acts (for example: The Law of Ukraine "On state registration of taxpayers" on obtaining the tax data by state statistical bodies);</li> <li>- to develop the procedure for recording of the information on serious errors detected in the released data.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Principle 3</b> <b>"Adequacy of resources"</b></p>	<p>Financial support of the fulfillment of the activities foreseen by the Plan of the state statistical observations.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- the need to revise the organizational structure of the state statistical bodies;</li> <li>- lack of staffing at the central level;</li> <li>- low wage level and social security/ support for the employees of the SSCU.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Introduction of the two-tier system of collecting, processing and dissemination of the statistical information with the redistribution of the number of employees in favor of the central office of the State Statistics Committee of Ukraine with conjoined optimizing of the organizational structure.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Principle 4</b> <b>“Quality Commitment”</b></p>	<p>Development of the methodological provisions for the preparation of the standard reports on the quality of the state sample population (households) surveys results.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-absence of the department for quality in organizational structure of the State Statistics Committee of Ukraine;</li> <li>-absence of special training program on quality;</li> <li>-lack of quality reports. Preparation of quality reports for a relatively small number of the state statistical</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-to establish the department in charge of quality control or position “the specialist on quality” in the staff schedule of the relative department in the organizational structure of the State Statistics Committee of Ukraine.</li> </ul>

<p><b>Principle 5</b> <b>“Statistical Confidentiality”</b></p>	<p>There was singled out quite contradictory statement as for strengths and weaknesses based on the results of filling additional questions of the principle 5. On the one hand, national legislation defines the concept of the confidentiality but on the other hand the strict mechanisms of adherence to it are not established.</p>	<p>observations.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- To introduce amendments to the Law of Ukraine “On the State Statistics” to clearly define the principle, especially on dissemination of the information (similar to the statistic legislation of other countries);</li> <li>-Development of regulations to protect the confidentiality of the information;</li> <li>- Monitoring the information that is protected by organizational and / or technical measures;</li> <li>- Identify possible threats to the integrity of the confidential information and create an adequate system of protection.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Principle 6:</b> <b>Impartiality and Objectivity</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- adherence to the requirements on prohibition for the any bodies and persons to interfere into the state statistical activity namely on the statistical information content, data sources selection, statistical methodology, forms and schedule for statistical surveys data dissemination etc.;</li> <li>- Information on statistical methods is publicly available;</li> <li>- All users have equal access to statistical releases at the same time</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- lack of publicity of the SSCU performing;</li> <li>- there is no procedures for recording the information on serious errors detected in the released data;</li> <li>- lack of work with users on interpretation and clarity of the statistical methods and data sources</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- to establish the press-center, to conduct press-conferences on a regular basis etc.</li> </ul>

<p><b><i>Principle 7</i></b> <b><i>"Sound methodology"</i></b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- the overall framework of national statistical methodology follows generally accepted international standards;</li> <li>- general methodological approaches are based on main European statistical standards and recommendations;</li> <li>- there is a Procedure Commission at the SSCU;</li> <li>- frame for population surveys is evaluated and adjusted to ensure high quality;</li> <li>- graduates in the relevant academic disciplines are recruited.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- need to improve inadequate statistical methodology to follow the European standards;</li> <li>- insufficient support of official research in the area of improvement of statistical methodology;</li> <li>- traditional (out-of-date) approaches of preparation of statistical questionnaires;</li> <li>- insufficient use of sample statistical surveys;</li> <li>- low number of people speaking foreign languages explains slow work with international documents related to statistics.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- existence of a division responsible for development and implementation of modern methodology in the organizational structure of the SSCU;</li> <li>- participation in international conferences, seminars on best practice in modern statistical methodology.</li> </ul>
<p><b><i>Principle 8</i></b> <b><i>"Appropriate statistical procedures"</i></b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- national statistical classifications are used by all national authorities;</li> <li>- statistical reporting is regularly reviewed;</li> <li>- methodology and questionnaires related to collection and use of administrative data are first approved by statistics authority;</li> <li>- national program for information system development is available;</li> <li>- survey designs, sample selections are regularly reviewed and updated as required, (also according to needs of users);</li> <li>- appropriate imputation computer systems are used and regularly revised and updated as required;</li> <li>- regular revisions of the model questionnaire for HLCS.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-insufficient level of development of metadata.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- development of a standard metadata system and quality reports for users.</li> <li>- more detailed study and use of methods of imputation, automated coding and editing of data.</li> </ul>

<p><b>Principle 9</b> <i>"Non-excessive burden on respondents"</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- annual inventory of statistical documentation in order to reduce reporting burden on respondents;</li> <li>- three surveys: household living conditions (HLCS), population economic activity (PEA) and agricultural activity (AA) are carried out for different respondents;</li> <li>- duration of interview is taken into account when estimating the burden;</li> <li>- modules used with different periodicity help to reduce the burden on respondents.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- insufficient use of sample surveys;</li> <li>- insufficient co-ordination of operations of different independent structural subdivisions;</li> <li>- mostly, censuses instead of surveys and burden on respondent not estimated correctly.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- development of a system of monitoring the reporting burden on respondents;</li> <li>- respondents feedback is necessary.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Principle 10</b> <i>"Cost effectiveness"</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- availability of independent structural subdivisions in charge of their human and financial resources;</li> <li>- regular assessment of staff to assure that they scrupulously fulfill their duties;</li> <li>- availability of the national program for information system development;</li> <li>- better information exchange among authorities; methodology and reporting documentation related to collection and use of administrative data are agreed with state statistical authority;</li> <li>- national statistical classifications are used by all authorities.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- insufficient level of development of databases (both in state statistical system and the authorities responsible for collection, processing and dissemination of administrative data);</li> <li>- number of experts in computer programming does not meet the needs of the SSCU;</li> <li>- low level of automation of statistical processes and procedures.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- a division for computer programming is needed in the organizational structure of the SSCU;</li> <li>- increased financing for computer programming is necessary.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Principle 11</b> <i>"Relevance"</i></p>	<p>occasional user satisfaction surveys are undertaken.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- insufficient relations with users;</li> <li>- absent regulation to advise on relations between state statistics authority and data users.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- more precise regulation of work with users.</li> </ul>

<p><b>Principle 12</b> <i>"Accuracy and reliability"</i></p>	<p>Sampling errors and non-sampling errors are measured according to the framework of the ESS quality components. This is now the initial stage of this work but will continue as quality reports will be implemented.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- insufficiently sound analysis of data quality which requires systematic approach and adequate resources: skilled workforce including extra staff. Besides, the system approach requires coherent methodological coordination (e.g. Quality Analysis Center), introducing appropriate program-technological procedures etc;</li> <li>- "low statistical culture" of representatives of some groups of users, in particular small and average business;</li> <li>- traditional (out-of-date) methods of state statistical observations;</li> <li>- insufficient use of sampling methods.</li> </ul>	<p>-step by step introduction of quality reports for users of HLCSS (first stage - IV quarter 2008).</p>
<p><b>Principle 13</b> <i>"Timeliness and punctuality"</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- all statistical information is disseminated according to the Plan of state statistical observations;</li> <li>- standard time is set for the compilation and consolidation of data (according to the Plan of state statistical observations);</li> <li>- dissemination time schedule is fixed and publicised.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- non-optimized reporting burden on state statisticians due to tight deadlines for submitting the statistical reports (besides, there is insufficient use of sampling methods);</li> <li>- compilation of significant quantity of monthly and quarterly statistical reports in tight timing;</li> <li>- very tight fixed period for dissemination of short-term data;</li> <li>- unreasonably strict timing for data dissemination.</li> </ul>	<p>- timeliness meets the Eurostat dissemination standards.</p>
<p><b>Principle 14</b> <i>"Coherence and comparability"</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- statistics are internally coherent and consistent (arithmetic and accounting identities observed);</li> <li>- scope of short-term observations is regularly revised;</li> <li>- indicators are analyzed, and results of short-term observations are compared with the annual data;</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- deficit of qualified experts in methodology development and analysis, especially at regional level.</li> <li>- problems with methodological support and personnel training.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- training of staff on methodology and analytics;</li> <li>- seminars involving external experts.</li> </ul>

	- statistics from household living conditions survey and other statistics (including national accounts) are compared.		
<b><i>Principle 15 "Accessibility and clarity"</i></b>	- access to microdata is allowed for research purposes; - users are kept informed on the methodology of indicators compilation and the quality of statistical output.	- absence of a regulation to explain relations between state statistics and data users; - insufficient relations with users.	- need in trainings on press-releases writing and communication with mass media.