

NEWSLETTER N° 2

A quarterly newsletter published by the RTA Office of the EU-financed Twinning Project
"Development of Ukrainian statistical methodologies in line with EU Standards"

ON THE WAY TO THE ACHIEVEMENT OF THE FIRST RESULTS

Dear reader,

I am delighted to present the second newsletter on the progress of the implementation of the EU Twinning Project on Statistics in the Ukraine.

The second quarter has been very intensive and fruitful. In total, 13 expert missions have been carried out – spending 76 working days of experts from the MS countries.



Overall the progress of the project is very good. Communication and cooperation between the involved partners is very efficient.

On 22 February 2012 the first Steering Committee Meeting took place in Kyiv. It was attended by representatives of the SSSU, Statistics Denmark, EU Delegation to Ukraine and Twinning Programme Administrative Office. All is going according to plan and the project is considered to have very positive dynamics and underscoring the good overall working atmosphere.

I am also pleased to mention the independent EU monitoring mission, which has been conducted on the project in March. This resulted in a very positive project appraisal.

The main highlights of the project 2nd quarter:

- SSSU staff successfully trained in the use of PC-AXIS dissemination database
- Price indices on housing marked and construction are considered in line with EU standards
- The focus and initiatives of the respondent burden are pointing in the right direction.

During the second quarter the project welcomed leading experts from Denmark, Lithuania, Finland, Sweden and Spain. This period has been marked by establishment of strong working ties between EU and Ukrainian experts.

During the upcoming period, the dates for 25 missions are confirmed. Included are 8 upcoming study visits of the SSSU staff to the statistical offices in Denmark, Finland and Lithuania in May and June 2012.



Alongside study visits to MS statistical offices, the Twinning Project has also enabled participation of a SSSU expert in 21st annual PC-Axis Reference Group Meeting 2012 Stockholm, Sweden, as well as in the Meeting of the Group of Experts on Consumer Price Indices in Geneva, Switzerland. In both cases the SSSU experts have an opportunity to meet and further the dialogue with MS experts from their respective components.

I would like to end this newsletter by reminding that we continuously update our webpage dst.dk/ukraine. You can find all presentations, questionnaires and mission reports from all the activities carried out during the first two quarters as well as our calendar for the following months.

Looking forward to seeing you again after EURO2012!

*Irina Bernstein
Resident Twinning Advisor
22 May 2012*

Fifteen completed activities - overview:

Dissemination database: Danish expert trained SSSU and Lviv Main Statistics Department in using relevant tools to present data on maps and dynamic database.

Housing market: Great Britain expert provided methodological advice on price indices for houses and construction.

Respondent burden: Danish experts assessed the respondent burden reducing initiatives. Many results have already been achieved, but there are still room for new initiatives. A seminar on reducing response burden and on feedback with respondents was provided.

Business register: Danish experts discussed on how to draft procedures for recoding economic activities in the statistical business register.

HR management: Danish experts drafted together with their Ukrainian colleagues ethical code for staff members and prepared recommendations for the improvements on personnel management.

Production: Lithuanian expert provided expertise on how to develop draft methodology for time series recalculations

Salaries and wages: Experts from Denmark and Finland assessed draft methodology for measuring wages against its compliance with the EU standards

Capital investment/Foreign direct investment: Swedish experts provided their know-how and practical skills regarding the EU experience on respective sample surveys

Tourism statistics: Spanish experts presented EU legislation and methodology of tourism statistics and compilation with tourism satellite account.

Steering Committee Meeting 1st quarter: Representatives of the SSSU, Statistics Denmark, EU Delegation to Ukraine and Twinning Programme Administrative Office (PAO) discussed the current state of the project implementation.

Monitoring mission: Independent monitor report gave a very positive evaluation on the implementation and progress of the project.

For more information

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