

TWINNING: SHARING EXPERTISE AND INFORMATION

Twinning projects are a European Union initiative to help acceding, candidate or neighboring countries acquire the necessary skills and experience to adopt, implement and enforce EU legislation. On a demand driven basis, the projects bring together public sector expertise from EU Member States and partner countries, with the aim of enhancing co-operation activities. Twinning projects are joint projects awarded following a call for proposals and shared by the two partner administrations. In this Twinning project the Kosovo Agency of Statistics works with Statistics Denmark. Experts from EU Member States also participate in the project.

EUROPEAN UNION TWINNING PROJECT ON STATISTICS

The Kosovo Agency of Statistics has partnered with Statistics Denmark to implement a 24 months Twinning project. The overall objective of the Twinning project is to strengthen the statistical system of Kosovo, with a focus on improving National Accounts and business statistics according to EU standards, and to modernize the IT systems and the internet dissemination.

The purposes of the Twinning project are:

 Strengthen the capacities of KAS and enable KAS to carry out its core activities in a standardized manner

- Improve the quality of annual National Accounts and start the compilation of quarterly accounts
- Improve Structural Business Statistics and increase the coverage of Short-term Statistics
- Strengthen the KAS IT system and internet dissemination of statistics

THE WORKING METHODS

The results of the project will be obtained through the general working principle of dialogue between equal partners.

Transfer of knowledge including experience with EU Regulations on statistics will take place through seminars and workshops to be conducted in Kosovo during the Twinning project. Study visits to EU member states will be organized within each component in order to exchange experiences and learn about best practices in the European Union. Also practical on the job training will be conducted during the project on issues like sampling, imputations and quality assurance.

TOPICS AND EXPECTED RESULTS

The Twinning project is organized in four separate components. Expected results of the Twinning project have been specified for each component.

COMPONENT 1: A QUALITY SYSTEM FOR STATISTICS

The activities in component 1 – A Quality System for Statistics are designed to

strengthen the general capacity of KAS and allow KAS to carry out its activities in a standardized manner. The activities will ensure the following results:

- Statistical work plan updated
- Policies and guidelines prepared for the implementation of the quality system

COMPONENT 2: NATIONAL ACCOUNTS

The activities in Component 2 will enhance compliance with the current EU-standard, ESA 2010. The Twinning Project is expected to undertake the following activities:

- Review of National Accounts and analysis of the available data sources
- Review compilation of annual accounts by production and expenditure approach and in constant and current prices, following ESA 2010
- Implement the relevant recommendations of the Action Plan for compiling and publishing comprehensive statistics on National Accounts and labour market and carry out revision of annual National Accounts based on the new sources and improved methodology.

COMPONENT 3:BUSINESS STATISTICS

The activities in Component 3 will improve the Structural Business Statistics,

increase the coverage of short-term statistics, and improve the Statistical Business Register.

The following results are expected from the component:

- Improved Structural Business Statistics, including data collection, data processing, timeliness and coverage
- New short-term indicators, including industrial production index and output prices prepared
- Selected short-term statistics according to NACE Rev. 2 prepared
- Improvements of the Statistical Business Register

COMPONENT 4: IT AND DISSEMINATION

The activities in component 4 are designed to improve IT systems and the quality of the IT services available to KAS. But also web communication and activities related to the press, media and marketing of statistical services will also be conducted in this component.

The component will yield the following results:

- IT system strengthened
- Web dissemination of statistics improved
- Specifications for an internal network (Intranet) provided
- KAS website and its user-friendliness improved
- Dissemination database installed and available to the public

FUNDING

The project is funded by the European Union within the IPA 2012 Centralized Programme – KS 12 IB ST 01 with an amount of EUR 1,500,000.

EUTWINNING PROJECT 'SUPPORT TO STATISTICS'

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