TWINNING CONTRACT

BA 12 IB ST 01

Support to the State and Entity Statistical Institutions, phase VI

STUDY VISIT REPORT

on

Short – Term Statistics

Activity 2.3.0

Study visit to Denmark

28- 30 October 2014

Version: Final

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List of Abbreviations

BHAS	Agency for Statistics of Bosnia and Herzegovina
BiH	Bosnia and Herzegovina
CBBH	Central Bank of Bosnia and Herzegovina
EC	European Commission
EU	European Union
FBiH	Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina
FIS	Institute for Statistics of Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina
MS	EU Member State
RSIS	Institute for Statistics of Republika Srpska
RTA	Resident Twinning Adviser

Executive Summary

Study visit for representatives of BIH's statistical institutions to Statistics Denmark was organized in order to introduce our statistiticians with current practice and development of Producer prices in Construction and Services (CPPI and SPPI).

The study visit program covered topics that are important in early stages of the Project in order to better prepare Pilot surveys for CPPI and selected services for SPPI. The following topics were covered through Study visit program:

1. Introduction to Statistics Denmark

2. Use of indices in the National Accounts

3. Business Registers in Statistics Denmark

4. Oracle system for producing price indices

5. Business Surveys

6. Sampling and weights

7. IT project management

1. General comments

This mission report was prepared within the IPA 2012 Twinning Project "Support to the State and Entity Statistical Institutions, phase VI". It was joint mission for subcomponents 2.3.1 CPPI and 2.3.2 SPPI that was focused on current status and further activities on development of producer prices in Statistics Denmark.

Main purposes of the study visit were:

- Usage of knowledge and experience of MS in order to introduce Pilot surveys for CPPI and SPPI in BiH

- Possibilities for introducing new data collection method - web surveys for STS

- Discussion on concrete issues regarding implementation of IPA 2012 Project and its role in development of BiH's statistics

- To get more familiar with the calculation methods applied in Statistics Denmark, the way of defining weighting structure, etc.

- Applying MS best practices in statistical institutions in BiH.

BC experts (participants of the study visit) would like to express big gratitude to all officials and individuals met, for good organisation, kind support and valuable information received during the study visit.

2. Lessons Learned

The first day of the study visit, participants were introduced to information on organisational structure, historical development as well as mission and vision of Statistics Denmark. We were also informed about the different sources of getting the data that are used for production of official statistics in Denmark, especially business statistics. The significant flow of data comes from administrative sources. In comparison with statistical system in Denmark, Bosnia and Herzegovina doesn't have established all needed registers that could be used in statistical purpose and beside that access to existing is limited. Having in mind all advantages of usage of this kind of data for production of official statistics, BiH should follow this practise in the future and start with use of administrative sources in order to improve quality, reduce costs and response burden. We were able to see the different ways of data publishing and how the different users can access statistical data. Representative from NA Department presented the importance of CPPI and SPPI indices as proper deflators and their use in National Accounts. After that, we were introduced with basic data model for the Danish Statistical Business Register which is established by using two types of units within the SBR of Statistics Denmark (Statistical units and Administrative units). We could see the links between statistical units (enterprise group, enterprise, KAU and LKAU) under the responsibility of Statistics Denmark and administrative units (legal unit and local legal unit as well as VAT units) under the responsibility of the Danish Business Authority and Tax authorities. There are a lot of variables in SBR of Statistics Denmark available for each unit. All these data are available for statistical purposes, auxiliary information for different surveys. We discussed about the importance of regular updating and maintenance of SBR with the feedback information from survey side. Statistical divisions should forward errors and corrections in SBR in order to improve the quality of SBR.

The second day of study visit was dedicated to CPPI and SPPI surveys in Statistics Denmark in more detailed. Experts from Statistics Denmark presented the Oracle system as IT solution for producing price indices. We were introduced with data collection process supported through Oracle system and web questionnaires used for data collection. They stressed out the importance of preparation of timetable for production of CPPI and SPPI with specified deadlines and persons responsible for each survey phases. They also recommended that this approach should be used in development of new surveys in BiH.

Next topic was questionnaire design with focus on business surveys. Through this presentation we became more familiar with the design process (the way) of digital questionnaires for all surveys in Statistics Denmark with functional steps for questionnaire development. We were very interested in this topic because we have a plan to start with development of web surveys in BiH. Modernization of business statistics in BiH, including new data collection method, is our priority in order to reduce response burden on reporting units, the costs and to improve the quality of collected data. Also, data dissemination process in Statistics Denmark was presented. All data collected through different surveys are available in StatBank Denmark and official website of Statistics Denmark (www.dst.dk).
The most interesting part of study visit was third day when the MS presented the sampling procedures applied for selection of units for CPPI and SPPI surveys. They also showed us, in detailed, the way how the weights are calculated for CPPI and different SPPI methods of calculation. We were able to see how the indices are calculated and how the price indices are controlled before their publishing.

3. Conclusions and recommendations

1. We gained a lot of knowledge and useful experiences during this Study visit. Different topics covered on SV are directly related to our activities that will be carried out through our IPA Project.

2. BC will consider the possibility to implement similar procedures used in MS in BiH statistical system which will contribute to further harmonization of BiH statistics with EU requirements.

3. These experiences will be used in process of development of CPPI and SPPI in BiH and will directly contribute in reaching our goals planned through IPA 2012 Project.

Annex 1. Programme

Tuesday 28 October   **(Venue: Bergsøe 1)**

10:00-11:00   Introduction to Statistics Denmark

Charlotte Juul Hansen

11:00-12:00   Use of indices in the National Accounts

Lars Gustafsson

12:00-13:00   Lunch

13:00-15:30   Business Registers in Statistics Denmark

Wednesday 29 October   **(Venue: 10-12 Adolph Jensen, 13-15.30 Bergsøe 1)**

10:00-12:00   Oracle system for producing price indices

Rasmus Anker Kristiansen, Sigrid Krogstrup Jensen

12:00-13:00   Lunch

13:00-15:30   Business Surveys

Thursday 30 October   **(Venue: Bergsøe 1)**

10:00-12:00   Sampling and weights

Rasmus Anker Kristiansen

12:00-13:00   Lunch

13:00-15:00   IT project management
Sigrid Krogstrup Jensen

15:00-15:30   Debriefing/evaluation
Charlotte Juul Hansen

Annex 2. Persons met

Agency for Statistics of BiH (BHAS)

- Fahir Kanlić, Head of Department for Industry and Construction Statistics
- Radomir Mutabdžija, Senior officer in Department for Industry and Construction Statistics
- Alen Bajramović, Head of Department for Services Statistics
- Lejla Krehić, Junior officer in Prices Department

Institute for Statistics of Federation of BiH (FIS)

- Sanja Ambrožić, Head of Department for Services Statistics and External Trade
- Nusreta Imamović-Kaljanac, Head of Department for Industry, Construction and Energy Statistics
- Elvir Juljević, Senior officer in Department for Communication Statistics
- Edina Dulić, Senior adviser for Construction Statistics

Institute for Statistics of Republika Srpska (RSIS)

- Jelena Glamočika, Head of Department for Services Statistics
- Sanela Vasiljević, Senior Officer for Retail Trade Statistics
- Biljana Đukić, Head of Department for Industry, Construction and Energy Statistics
- Želimir Radišić, Senior officer for Construction Statistics

MS Experts – Statistics Denmark

- Rasmus Anker Kristiansen, Head of Section
- Sigrid Krogstrup Jensen, Head of Section
- Connie Andersen, Senior head clerk
- Lars Gustafsson, Senior adviser
- Hanne-Pernille Stax, Deputy Head of Division
- Peter Ottosen, Chief Advisor

Project

- Charlotte Juul Hansen, Project Leader
- Đemka Šahinpašić, RTA Assistant/Interpreter