TWINNING CONTRACT

Institutional Capacity Building for the Central Agency for Public Mobilisation and Statistics (CAPMAS) and Developing the Legal Framework for Statistics in Egypt

EG/07/AA/F106



MISSION REPORT

on

Assessment of the state of the Egyptian national accounts

Component no 7/5.1.1

Mission carried out by Markku Suur-Kujala, Statistics Finland and Marek Rojicek, Czech Statistical Office Cairo, 26– 30.10.2008

Final version

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List of Abbreviations

BOP CAPMAS	Balance of Payments Central Agency for Public Mobilisation and Statistics
CBE	Central Bank of Egypt
CPI	Consumer Price Index
ESA 95	European System of Accounts 1995
EU	European Union
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
IMF	International Monetary Fund
IT-	Information Technology
MOED	Ministry of Economic Development
MEDSTAT	EU Statistical Co-operation with Mediterranean Countries
MOA	Ministry of Agriculture
MOF	Ministry of Finance
NA	National Accounts
NOE	Non Observed Economy
QNA	Quarterly National Accounts
ROSC	Report on Observance of Standards and Codes
SDDS	Special Data Dissemination Standard
SNA 93	System of National Accounts 1993
SUT	Supply and Use Tables
TOR	Terms of Reference
TSA	Tourism Satellite Accounts
USAID	United States Agency for International Development

Executive Summary

This mission report was prepared within the Egyptian-Danish Twinning Project "Institutional capacity building for the central agency for public mobilisation and statistics". It was the first mission to be devoted to Assessment of the State of the Egyptian National Accounts within Component 5, "Development of certain statistical areas" of the project. The mission was aimed at defining a strategic plan forming the base of the further implementation of the project in this statistical area.

Egyptian national accounts compilation is located in the MOED at the moment. It also might be possible that national accounts are compiled in the statistical office. In a matter fact this is very natural solution and adapted in practise widely in various countries. National accounts are one of biggest consumers of the economic and social statistics and on the other hand national accounts are very powerful tool to co-ordinate and develop economic statistics. Many practical and administrative bottlenecks, existing in current statistical work, can be avoided when national accounts are situated in an organisation, which produces the most of its source data.

A clear interface between the statistics producer (CAPMAS) and the user (MOED) of the statistics would prevent possible future conflicts of interest (see below: proposal 2).

The MOED also produces quarterly economic indicators including the estimate of the quarterly GDP. Quarterly national accounts are based on the benchmark of the annual national accounts and the quarterly information is collected from several individual short term economic indicators.

Quarterly growth figures are released 45 days after the preference period in the MOED websites and short production period means that the Egyptian infra annual statistics are very timely.

Main problem of the source statistics is exhaustiveness. Statistics covers the organised enterprises (legal enterprises) and enterprise with more than 10 employees. Unorganised (small enterprises and outdoor vendors) are outside the regular data collection.

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General comments

This mission report was prepared within the Egyptian-Danish Twinning Project "Institutional capacity building for the central agency for public mobilisation and statistics". It was the first mission to be devoted to Assessment of the State of the Egyptian National Accounts within Component 5, "Development of certain statistical areas" of the project. The mission was aimed at defining a strategic plan forming the base of the further implementation of the project in this statistical area.

The concrete objectives of the mission were:

- An assessment of the current status of the Egyptian national accounts with focus on the input data from primary statistics.
- An overview of previous international supported work on the national account
- A prioritized overview of the main areas for development within the scope of this Twinning project.
- An evaluation of the work plan set out in the contract and suggestions for changes.

The consultants would like to express their thanks to all officials and individuals met for the kind support and valuable information which they received during the stay in Egypt, and which highly facilitated the work of the consultants.

This views and observations stated in this report are those of the consultants and do not necessarily correspond to the views of EU, CAPMAS or Statistics Finland or the Czech Statistical Office.

2. Assessment and results

The compilation of the national accounts in Egypt was introduced by the CAPMAS at 1960's. The compilation was, however, moved from CAPMAS to the MOED (former Ministry of Planning) in year 1999. Since then the MOED has compiled the NA figures and CAPMAS has remained as a main data provider for the MOED. One practical reason for the move was to avoid the existence of two different GDP estimates on the total economy.

Furthermore, part of the NA source data comes from many individual ministries like the Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Investment, Ministry of Agriculture, etc.

National accounts compilation is located in the MOED at the moment. It also might be possible that national accounts are compiled in the statistical office. In a matter fact this is very natural solution and adapted in practise widely in various countries. National accounts are one of biggest consumers of the economic and social statistics and on the other hand national accounts are very powerful tool to co-ordinate and develop economic statistics. Many practical and administrative bottlenecks, existing in current statistical work, can be avoided when national accounts are situated in an organisation, which produces the most of its source data.

A clear interface between the statistics producer (CAPMAS) and the user (MOED) of the statistics prevents possible future conflicts of interest (see below: proposal 2).

National accounts staff of the MOED is 19 people. Fifteen of the staff has an academic examination, which means that the educational background of the staff is adequate to the tasks. The statistics department of the MOED is organised under three directors. The directors are responsible for: National accounts, General statistics and Economics. Statistics work under the three directors is organised by matrix organisations and teams through the whole MOED and it seems that permanent responsibilities for individual national accountant or groups of accountants do not exist in the MOED.

National accounts of the NOED cover flow accounts: goods and services, production, generation of income, allocation of primary income, secondary distribution of income, redistribution of income in kind, use of disposable income, use of adjusted disposable income, capital account

Figures are compiled also by sectors. Annual results are published in several bulletins.

The MOED also produces quarterly economic indicators including the estimate of the quarterly GDP. Quarterly national accounts are based on the benchmark of the annual national accounts and the quarterly information is collected from several individual short term economic indicators.

Quarterly growth figures are released 45 days after the preference period in the MOED websites and short production period means that the Egyptian infra annual statistics are very timely.

IT-system in national accounts is based on excel sheets. The present IT-system may be very suitable for compilations at the moment. With an enlargement of the scope of the calculations and greater detail lead to a situation that NA system can grow in to a complexity in future. It will be necessary to built up some databases and some more automatic production systems.

Balancing and adjusting system of the accounts is macro balancing without any SUT data. The difference between supply and demand is defined as an increase of stocks and statistical discrepancy is an unidentified component of the increase of stocks.

The MOED currently produces both annual and quarterly NA figures on a regular basis. The calculations of annual figures follow in principle the international guidelines according to SNA 93. If the general principles of SNA are followed and since the European System of Accounts (ESA 95) is consistent with SNA, the compilation of the Egyptian National Accounts also follows the general principles of ESA 95.

The fiscal year in Egypt is from July 1 to June 30. When figures according to the calendar year are presented, the figures of two individual fiscal years should be broken and merged together.

The MOED is compiling annual figures for years 2006/2007 at the moment and it is expected that the NA figures will be published by the end of the year 2008. Both users and producers of the annual national accounts seem to agree that the production lag is far too long at the moment. MOED has an objective to shorten the production process of the annual national accounts by one year.

Transmission of the source data from CAPMAS to the MOED typically takes place in a paper format. Sometimes also email is used as a mean of transmission. CAPMAS publishes a number of bulletins in the course of the year and the information included in the bulletins is used by the principal users. Electronic and automatic data transfer between institutes would make the transfer procedure more robust, because the possibilities for typing errors would diminish.

The annual and quarterly accounts are compiled in both current and constant prices. The constant price figures are of the fixed base-year type and the current base year is 2001/2002. The compilations cover the tables from the production account to the gross saving for the total economy.

Main problem of the source statistics is exhaustiveness. Statistics covers the organised enterprises (legal enterprises) and enterprise with more than 10 employees. Unorganised (small enterprises and outdoor vendors) are outside the regular data collection.

Several studies have been conducted to capture the size of the NOE, but still the methodology concerning the collection of the NOE is the main problem of the national accounts in Egypt.

2.1. An assessment of the current status of the Egyptian national accounts with focus on the input data from primary statistics.

CAPMAS is able to collect information properly from the organized enterprises. Organized enterprises are those corporations which are registered for business. Those enterprises are mainly on industrial activities. CAPMAS estimates that registered part of the production will cover some 60 percent of the GDP. Information concerning the rest of the units in economy is collected by using samples and utilizing a number of sources.

It is clear that the size of the non-observed economy should be estimated. The figures describing the size and breakdown of the NOE, when they are incorporated in national accounts, would be the major step forward in the quality of the Egyptian national account.

Main annual data providers for the MOED are the CAPMAS, MOF, CBE and MOA. The CAPMAS produces most of the activity data (branch statistics). MOF provides data concerning the general government. CBE produces BOP and current accounts of NA, which is a part of the BOP. MOA produces agriculture statistics, which is partly on money terms. Also the Petroleum Authority of Egypt provides comprehensive statistical information for the compilation of national accounts.

There is no statistical business register in Egypt. The CAPMAS employs the list of the legal enterprises in data collection. The list includes the enterprises, which are obliged to register before starting business.

Economic data from the enterprises are collected by 29 regional offices. There is one office in every governorate and additional offices in Cairo and Alexandria. Decentralised way of data collection presupposes that the central unit is able to provide adequate tools (registers, guidelines and instructions) for the regional offices. Among those tools should also be a statistical business register to identify enterprises and their sector and activity codes. Procedure that an individual branch statistics in the CAPMAS and regional offices use their own address lists in data collection lead very likely to the results, where a part of enterprises would be omitted and/or some enterprises would be counted twice.

Agriculture statistics have undergone quite remarkable revisions during latest years and they are able to provide source data, which is comparable with most countries' data. CAPMAS wished to get the opportunity to add some additional questions on agriculture statistics. Agriculture production is compiled by commodity flow method in national accounts. The share of agriculture is about 14 percent of the production of the total economy of Egypt.

Economic census was conducted in year 2001. The questions to identify enterprises in the census were for example: establishments, production, intermediate consumption, employment. The threshold of the census was enterprises with five or more employees. Statistics on industrial activities (transforming activities) appeared to be very well conducted. Same also holds for petroleum cluster statistics.

The confederation of construction employers provides the basic data on construction activities. Data includes enterprises, whose personnel are 10 or more.

Public government data is transferred directly from the MOF to the MOED. The data concerning general government transactions (especially taxes and subsidies) were considered to be too aggregative for the requirements for the quality national accounts compilation and balancing.

Input-output tables for the Egyptian total economy were very much asked by users. The only input output table for Egypt has been produced by Cairo University quite a number of years ago.

CAPMAS and the MOED have established permanent working groups for co-operation. The working group on organised enterprises meets on monthly basis. There is also a working group for data collection and measurement of the unorganised enterprises.

Working groups discuss and elaborate the questions concerning the compilation of the national accounts and the source data provided for compilations. It is easy to see that the working groups are essential means for successful co-operation between the two institutes, because their tasks are so closely intermingled in the field of statistics.

The CBE compiles the BOP of Egypt. The Central Bank follows the concepts and definitions of the fifth BOP Manual in its compilations. The MOED and the CBE have only a little co-operation at regular basis concerning NA compilations.

The BOP statistics are based totally on the bank settlement statistics, which are corrected with the information concerning Suez Canal and the Egyptian free zones. National accounts employ the BOP data from the CBE. A special study on tourism is employed every two year. Tourism accounts are compiled according to the nights stayed in hotels multiplied by an average outlay of a tourist.

A special question is the treatment of free zones in national accounts.

The compilations of the foreign trade statistics are revised and started again at the beginning of the year 2008. Board of Custom will establish a data warehouse concerning export and import of goods.

Some single observations:

- CPI is planned to collect by cities and rural areas.
- One problem is the transfer of the fiscal year (July 1to June 30) into a calendar year, which is used in annual national accounts and economic statistics in general.
- Taxi survey has prepared.
- Information on health and education services is provided by the MOF.
- CAPMAS produces household budget surveys every fifth year.
- Samples used are designed in CAPMAS.

CAPMAS prepare statistical production plan annually in advance. Discussions during the mission, however, indicated that information chains between CAPMAS and the MOED and the CBE are not defined clearly enough. There is a lack of exact time tables for the releases of individual source statistics. The MOED and the CBE find it difficult to plan their work when clear release calendar is missing. According to the present division of tasks it is also equally necessary that the MOED had a statistics development programme, which allows the CAPMAS to be prepared for the future revisions.

This cooperation is essential in order to reduce costs, improve the quality of statistics, improve consistency between different statistics and diminish the burden on respondents. In particular it is important that the national accounts division have the possibility to express their needs when new statistics are planned.

2.2. An overview of previous international supported work on the national account

Two projects in the field of international supported work were presented during the mission.

IT-project: "Data access and transmission activity" was completed together with the USAID. Project period was 1999-2005. There were several subcomponents connected directly or indirectly to national accounts such as:

- improvement and development of national accounts in SNA -93 compliance,
- data quality,
- reduce the processing time,
- surveys needed to improve the source statistics of national accounts,
- Social Accounting Matrices,
- Input-output tables.

The second project was **Medstat II** project. The project period of the Medstat II project also has come to its end. Project focused on unorganised sector of the total economy. In addition to the mentioned subcomponent, there were other subcomponents in the project. The training courses on the QNA and on compilation of current and fixed prices were organised.

People, who participated on projects, felt them very useful. Objectives of the Medstat II project can be found on EU sites.

In addition to the above mentioned projects, extremely useful reports concerning national accounts in Egypt and its source statistics are also IMF's documents: ROSC and SDDS. The MOED is the Egyptian correspondent concerning the SDDS. The SDDS data and metadata form perhaps the best source of information on the compilation of the national accounts in English language.

2.3. An evaluation of the work plan set out in the contract and suggestions for changes.

The tourism industry is rather important and a calculation of the expenditures of non-domestic residents broken down by products is carried out.

The current calculations of the national accounts in national accounts are based on excel sheets. With an enlargement of the scope of the calculations and greater detail this can grow in to a myriad of complexity. It will be necessary to built up some databases and some more automatic production systems. It is therefore recommended that the possibilities for a new IT-infrastructure are investigated.

3. Conclusions and recommendations

Proposals concerning an assessment of the current status of the Egyptian national accounts with focus on the input data from primary statistics.

Proposal 1:

The main priority of the project component should be to ensure the **exhaustiveness** of the GDP compilation in Egypt.

Mission 5.1.15 should identify the main types of non-exhaustiveness in the categories introduced by Eurostat (N1 - N7) and the main industries, where they occur. The missions focused on individual industries (agriculture, trade, manufacturing) should then take their information into account in their work.

Responsible institute/Person: CAPMAS and MOED **Deadline:** According to the project plan **Actions needed for preparing next mission:**

Proposal 2:

CAPMAS and MOED should study if the administrative location of the national accounts statistics as a part of the MOED is optimal at the moment.

National accounts compilation is located in the MOED at the moment. It also might be possible that national accounts are compiled in the statistical office. In a matter fact this is very natural solution and adapted in practise widely in various countries. National accounts are one of biggest consumers of the economic and social statistics and on the other hand national accounts are very powerful tool to co-ordinate and develop economic statistics. Many practical and administrative bottlenecks, existing in current statistical work, can be avoided when national accounts are situated in an organisation, which produces the most of its source data.

A clear interface between the statistics producer (CAPMAS) and the user (MOED) of the statistics prevents possible future conflicts of interest.

Responsible institute/Person: MOED and CAPMAS

Deadline: One issue in discussions about new statistics legislation **Actions needed for preparing next mission:** Examine if issue can be taken on the agenda in component 1: Statistical policy and legislation

Proposals for prioritized overview of the main areas for development within the scope of this Twinning project.

Proposal 3:

The high priority should be given to the introduction the system of the regular compilation of the **supply and use tables** on annual basis.

Supply and use tables are necessary for the improvement of the balancing process between the sources and uses in the economy and for the future application for the deflation purposes.

Responsible institute/Person: CAPMAS and MOED **Deadline:** According to the project plan **Actions needed for preparing next mission:**

Proposal 4:

The priority of the twinning project should be the improvement of the **fixed price** calculation, especially assessment of the suitability of the methods used in different industries. **Responsible institute/Person:** Capmas and MOED **Deadline: Actions needed for preparing next mission**:

Proposal 5: Practical cooperation between CAPMAS, MOED, and CBE should be intensified.

Responsible institute/Person: Capmas and MOED and CBE **Deadline:** Time span of the ongoing project **Actions needed for preparing next mission:** Partners to agree the idea in principle

Proposal 6:

There are room for develop the documentation of concerning the compilation methods.

Brief summaries concerning the methodology and sources of data both in national accounts and in statistics bulletins released by CAPMAS in English language would facilitate the future work in the project. Summaries should include also main headings and titles of the rows and columns of the relevant tables. Summaries should be asked also from CBE concerning the BOP statistics.

Responsible institute/Person: CAPMAS and MOED and perhaps CBE **Deadline:** Time span of the ongoing project **Actions needed for preparing next mission:**

Proposal 7:

In order to prepare an action plan for developing national accounts (and supporting branch statistics) it is necessary that CAPMAS, MOED and CBE agree upon the timetables and release dates of the current production

Responsible institute/Person: CAPMAS and MOED and CBE **Deadline:** Solved within the time span of the project **Actions needed for preparing next mission:** Partners to agree the idea in principle

Proposals for an evaluation of the work plan set out in the contract and suggestions for changes.

Proposal 8:

Generally the work plan set out in the contract is balanced with the focus on the supply side of the economy and the main Egyptian industries. The main goal is to improve the calculation of the GDP from the supply and use side in current and constant prices and improve the balancing process by introduction of the supply and use tables. It would be desirable to add one mission focused on assessing the complex treatment of tourism in the Egyptian NA and to design the TSA for Egypt.

Recommendation to the structure of the next missions:

8.1. Instead of the activity 5.1.4 (Review of data sources II.) one mission focused on the tourism industry in Egypt + introduction of tourism satellite account. This industry is very important for Egyptian economy and there is demand for TSA from Egyptian side.

8.2. Join the missions 5.1.19 and 5.1.20 to one mission (4 people) – it would be more efficient for sharing the experience between countries.

Responsible institute/Person: Capmas/? Deadline: Actions needed for preparing next mission:

Annex 1. Terms of Reference

Terms of Reference for a short-term mission to the Central Agency for Mobilisation and Statistics on

Activity 5.1.1

Assessment of the state of the Egyptian national accounts

Background

CAPMAS and Statistics Denmark with partners have established a fruitful cooperation in the framework of Twinning. This twinning project is EG/07/AA/F106.

This activity is part of component 5, *Development of certain statistical areas* in the subcomponent dealing with the National Accounts. The objectives for this component is develop and improve the National Accounts in Egypt.

This activity will contribute to this objective and especially to the benchmark set out in the contract: An action plan to improve input data to the Egyptian national accounts to be drafted within 9 month of the start of the project (end May 2009).

Purpose of the mission

The mission is an assessment mission where the current status of the national accounts is examined. The aim is to identify strong and weak areas of the national accounts and determine possible areas for improvement. The primary, but not limited to, focus should be on the quality and use of primary statistics.

The national accounts are produced in the Ministry of Economic Development. Most of the input data comes from CAPMAS. Data comes also from a number of other ministries like the Ministry of Investment, etc. (to be filled in). It will be important to have discussions with all the major stakeholders.

In addition to the input and producer sides, it will be beneficial to have input from user side to have their view on the weaknesses and strong areas.

In the assessment the previous work, done within other donor programmes like MOEDstat II, IMF and Worldbank projects should be included to follow up and avoid superfluous work.

In addition to the assessment the work plan for the subcomponent 5.1 set out in the contract must be assessed in view of the benchmark and objective and revisions may be suggested.

Expected Results

- An assessment of the current status of the Egyptian national accounts with focus on the input data from primary statistics.
- An overview of previous international supported work on the national account

- A prioritized overview of the main areas for development within the scope of this Twinning project.
- An evaluation of the work plan set out in the contract and suggestions for changes.

Activities

A tentative schedule for the mission is: Sunday 26 October Introduction to CAPMAS and overall discussion on the activity – RTA and BC project management Meeting with component leader and the relevant staff within CAPMAS

Monday 27 October

National accounts staff in the Ministry of Economic Development

- The input for the national account: availability, quality, use, pre-control
- The production system: presentation of the production of national account in Egypt
- The development projects now and earlier (reports and status)

Tuesday 28 October

National accounts staff in the Ministry of Economic Development, continued Other data suppliers than CAPMAS

Wednesday 29 October

Follow-up with CAPMAS

User input for the quality and use of the Egyptian national account

Thursday 30 October

Final discussions and clarifications jointly with CAPMAS and National account Presentation of preliminary results and findings with BC project management

Tasks to be done by CAPMAS to facilitate the mission

The beneficiary shall provide experts with the reports from earlier projects on the Egyptian national accounts in good time before the mission (1 week before).

The beneficiary will arrange meetings with the national accounts unit in the Ministry of Economic Development as well as other suppliers of data for the national account and users of the national account.

The beneficiary will arrange meetings with the relevant staff in CAPMAS.

Consultant and counterpart

The mission will be carried out jointly by: Mr. Markku Suur-Kujala, Statistics Finland And Mr Marek Rojicek, Czech Statistical Office

The beneficiary's counterpart will be Ms Awatef Hussein.

Timing

The mission will be carried out during 26-30 October 2008 in Cairo.

Report

A final report from the mission should be made available not later than two weeks after the termination of the mission.

Annex 2. Programme for the mission

Activities

A tentative schedule for the mission is: Sunday 26 October Introduction to CAPMAS and overall discussion on the activity – RTA and BC project management Meeting with component leader and the relevant staff within CAPMAS

Monday 27 October

National accounts staff in the Ministry of Economic Development

- The input for the national account: availability, quality, use, pre-control
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Thursday 30 October

Final discussions and clarifications jointly with CAPMAS and National account Presentation of preliminary results and findings with BC project management

Annex 3. Persons met

<u>Activity 5.1.1</u> <u>Workshop on assessment of the state of Egyptian national accounts</u> <u>26-30/10/2008</u> <u>Participants from CAPMAS</u>

	Name	Title	
1	Ms. Awatif Emam	Head of central department for public statistics	
2	Ms. Nadia Farid	General manager of Trade and Transportation Statistics	
3	Mr. Khaled El Sayed	Assistant national coordinator for national accounts (head of section)	
4	Ms. Faten Mohamed	Manager of department- general department of	
5	Ms. Thoria Ata	Manager of department- general department of trade and statistics	
6	Mr. Abd Allah Mahmoud	Head of contraction section, private sector	
7	Ms. Magda Hasan	Head of internal trade	
8	Ms. Mona Mohamed	National coordinator for national accounts (head of section)	
9	Ms. Dorea Abbas	General manager of general department for industrial statistics	
10	Ms. Samiea Abd EL Azez	General manager of general department for services and population	
		statistics	
11	Ms. Maha Mohamed	Department manager -General manager of general department for	
		services and population statistics	
12	Ms. Aza Mohamed	Department manager - General manager of general department for	
		services and population statistics	
13	Ms. Azeza Fuad	Head of electricity, gas and steam section	
14	Ms. Hoda Abd El Aal	Head of industrial statistics section, public and private sector	
15	Ms. Magda Mahmud	General manager of general department for financial statistics	
16	Ms. Huaeda Nasr	Head of banks section, financial Department	
17	Mr. Ismail Mohamed	Head of public and private sector, financial department	
18	Mr. Mohamed fared	Office of head of central department for public statistics	

Outside CAPMAS

	Name	Title	Side		
1	Dr. Mohamed Abbas	Head of central department	Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reclamation		
2	Ms. Faten Farg	General manager	Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reclamation		
3	Mr. Kamal El-Araby	Advisor of National Accounts	Ministry of Economic Development		
4	Mr. Refaat Salam	General manager	Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reclamation		
5	Mr. Adel Abbas	Assistant general manager	Central Bank of Egypt		
6	Mr. Hashem Fared	Assistant general manager	Central Bank of Egypt		
7	Mr. Mahmoud Arafah		Ministry of Economic Development		
8	Ms. Amal Ayub		Ministry of Economic Development		
9	Ms. Amani Khalel		Ministry of Economic Development		
10	Mr. Magdy Hafez		Ministry of Economic Development		

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Annex 3. Presentation on National Accounts in Finland

Presentation was held on Thursday 30.9.2008 together with the presentation of the system of National accounts in the Czech Statistical Office.

30.10.2008

Some Draft Features concerning the Compilation of Finnish National Accounts

Organisation:

Staff about 40 people

Sector researchers, who are responsible for the compilation individual sectors and/or activities Special balancing teams:

- Annual and quarterly figures
- Supply and Use Tables
- Capital stocks (consumption of fixed capital)

National accounts department do not conduct questionnaires

A number of permanent working groups:

- inside Statistics Finland (with branch statistics)
- outside Statistics Finland (with Ministry of Finance, Bank of Finland, Board of Customs)

Main source data:

Annual structural business statistics (e.g. individual branch statistics) Wage and price statistics Labour statistics Infra-annual short term statistics Statistical business register Income distribution statistics Household budget survey Tax data Central government book keeping Local government book keeping Agriculture and forestry statistics **In a word: National accounts department is one of the biggest users of economic**

In a word: National accounts department is one of the biggest users of economic statistics

National accounts department has direct access to the all service data bases in Statistics **3** Finland (SF)

Government and tax authorities transfer their unit data to Statistics Finland and SF is entitled to use data in statistical production according to the agreements, which are made between the SF and individual data provider

Sector researchers transform the source data into the concepts of national accounts and classify them accordingly

Statistical production of the SF (also in national accounts) is scheduled annually.

Each statistics is contracted to release their statistics in day, which is fixed in advance

The release dates of individual statistics are published by the SF in a special Release Calendar

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Main Products:

Monthly indicator of the GDP, (t+45 days) Quarterly national accounts, (t+70 days) Annual national accounts, (first release t+ 6 months, second release t+11 months) Annual supply and use tables, (t+11 months) Regional accounts by counties, (t+11 months) Capital stocks, (first release t+6 months, second release t+11 months)