



**EU Twinning Project MK/09/IB/ST/01
SUPPORT TO THE STATE STATISTICAL OFFICE FOR CAPACITY BUILDING
AND IMPROVING COMPLIANCE OF STATISTICS WITH EU STANDARDS**



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The 2nd Quarter 2013 at a glance

Dear readers,

The specific characteristic of 2nd quarter 2013 is the high number of implemented short-term-missions. With 17 missions we realized more than a fifth of all planned missions in spring 2013. Colleagues from Czech Republic, Slovakia, France, Denmark, Bulgaria and Germany worked together with the Macedonian statisticians on the realization of the project goals.

Activities implemented in the 2nd quarter 2013			
Component	Expert missions	% of all in that component	Number of involved experts from EU-countries
1	8	26,7	10
2	3	13,0	5
3	3	18,8	7
4	3	25,0	4
Total	17	21,0	25*

* One of the experts participated in two components.

The activities in component 1 have continued with eight more missions. The main topics were the sector accounts (1.1.1.8, 1.1.1.9), the

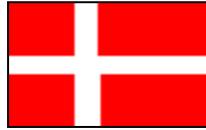
continuation of the work on financial institutions (1.1.1.3) and several specific topics like indicators for inventories (1.1.2.3), supply and balance tables (1.1.2.5) or seasonal adjustment in quarterly accounts data (1.2.1). One mission (1.3.1.2) has, as a topic, the practical work for transferring date on NA to the new NACE Rev.2.



A special activity was additionally introduced in the work plan and was dedicated to the preparation of a task which is planned to be realized by a private consulting company. After some starting problems with finding applicants on the tender a company could be identified that is able to realize the requested task – the interpretation and explanation of the business accounting information in Macedonia in such a way that usage, processing and integration in National Accounts of Macedonia is possible. Two meetings in preparation of the contract were provided in June 2013 (see photo above). There the approach for realizing that goal was discussed and it was agreed that the planned knowledge transfer will be realized by consultations for the SSO-staff organized by the



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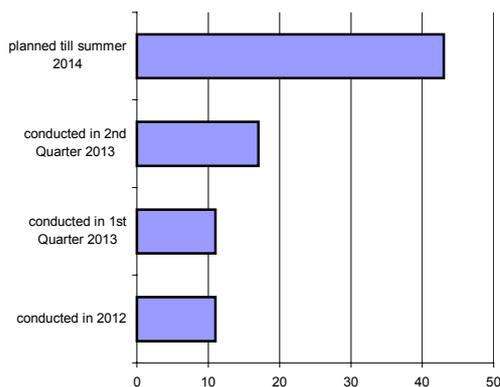


company and by preparing and providing of documentation on the topics of the consultations.

In component 2 the consultation on organic farming (2.3.1.2), measurement of social exclusion (2.5.4.2) and external trade real price and real price import/ export statistics (2.2.2), continued as planned. The draft survey methodology and draft guidelines for external trade real price and real price import/export indices have been developed in mission 2.2.1 – this can be considered as fulfilment of the benchmark 2.B.1. In mission 2.2.2, then, the survey methodology and guidelines were finished.

Time (end of the ... quarter)	Component	Contents	Status
2	2.2.	External trade real price and real price import/ export statistics - survey documentation	✓
3	2.3	Organic farming - survey documentation	✓
3	3.1	Standards for data transmission to Eurostat enhanced	✓
3	4.1	SSO needs for archiving, backup and disaster recovery documented and detailed technical specification for tendering completed	✓

Short-term-expert missions in the project - current state

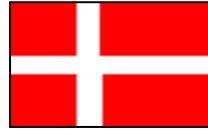


Another benchmark was planned to be reached till the end of the 3rd Project quarter, what means till May 2013. The topic of that benchmark is a survey documentation for organic farming. That goal was realized as result of mission 2.3.1.1, which was conducted in January 2013.

The development of an overall system for production of quality statistics is the main content of component 3. Most of the starting activities in component 3 were realised already in the first quarter 2013: Quality management (3.1.1.1), Eurostat transmission programme (3.1.2.1) and producing thematic maps in GIS environment (3.2.1). While in subcomponent 3.1.2 only one activity was planned, the implementation in the other subcomponents was continued with missions 3.1.1.2 and 3.2.2. The start of the activities in the last subcomponent, which is dedicated to ESS polices and tools for harmonising confidentiality management (3.1.3.1), was realized in June 2013. The first benchmark in component 3 aimed to improve the standards for data transmission to Eurostat. On the debriefing meeting of the only planned mission on that topic the benchmark was considered as reached.



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The activities in component 4 have continued with work on elaboration of a data management, archiving and backup strategy (4.1.2) and on electronic data collections (4.2.2 and 4.2.3). The first benchmark in that component was planned to be reached till May 2013 and aimed to create an archiving, backup and disaster recovery system for the SSO and to prepare the connected tendering procedure by detailed technical specification. As a result of the first two implemented missions on that topic, the technical specification was completed and has already been submitted to CFCD, so this benchmark is also fulfilled.

The 3rd Steering Committee Meeting took place on 28th May. After a preliminary presentation of the current state of the project and a first overview on the evaluations results, the component leaders presented the realized achievements. The project progress and related topics were discussed afterwards. The Quarterly Report was commented by the SC members to be adopted in the final version for approval.

Project implementation in figures

The implementation of project activities started on 17th September. Until the end of the year 2012, 11 short-term-expert missions had been carried out. After the New Year's break the 1st activity in 2013 started on 14th January. 10 more activities were realized in the 1st quarter. The activities in the reported quarter started in the

2nd week in April with three short-term-activities. Another one followed in the next week. In May and June another 5 respectively 8 missions were provided.

Month in 2013	Activities realized
April	4
May	5
June	8

The end of the 2nd quarter gives us a chance to look at the current state of project realization:

Indicator	Amount on the end of the 2 nd Quarter 2013
Missions realized	39
- % of total	48.2 (39 out of 81)
MS experts involved	78
BC participants	246

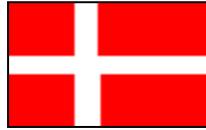
The number of involved MS and BC colleagues means the figures for added participants not for the physical persons. Some MS experts and many BC participants participated in more than one activity.

The realized activities have affected all components.

	Activities realized till end of the 2 nd quarter	% of all in that component
Component 1	17	56.7 (out of 30)
Component 2	10	43.5 (out of 23)
Component 3	6	37.5 (out of 16)
Component 4	6	50.0 (out of 12)



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Next activities in the 3rd Quarter 2013*

Due the summer holiday period the realization of the project goals in the next quarter will continue with a decreasing number of activities. Up to now 7 activities have been confirmed, four of them in the National Accounts Component. The topics of these activities are the further improvement of fixed capital indicators and dwelling services indicators (1.1.2.1. and 1.1.2.2). The topic of a study visit to Prague is

gross fixed capital formation (1.1.2.7). Concerning quality management the work continues with activity 3.1.1.3. Two other activities in September are dedicated to the production of thematic maps for the Internet and the development of a set of Economic indicators. On the last day of the 3rd quarter 2013 starts the work on development of concepts for surveys with the aim to get data base for obtaining and calculating indicators for sustainable forest management.

Activity- No.	Contents	Date
1.1.2.1	Further improvement of fixed capital indicators	08. – 12. 07.2013
1.1.2.7	Gross fixed capital formation	17. – 19.07 2013
1.1.2.2	Further improvement of Dwelling services indicators	26. – 30.08.2013
3.1.1.3	Guidelines for data collection processes and questionnaire design	10. – 13.09.2013
3.2.5	Assistance in developing of applications for the production of thematic maps	10. – 13.09.2013
1.4.1	Development of the set of Euro/Principal European economic indicators I	16. – 20.09.2013
2.3.2.1	Defining of relevant indicators for sustainable forest management – Assessment and identification indicators	30.09. – 04.10.2013

* Current state: 26th July 2013



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What remains is to wish all our readers a nice holiday!

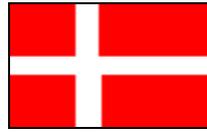


Contacts at a glance

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