

4.18. Chapter 18: Statistics

Good progress was made in the area of **statistical infrastructure**. The strategic plan of the State Statistical Office (SSO) for 2010-2012 was adopted. The staffing situation improved and the IT capacity was further reinforced. However, SSO's budget for 2010 was significantly reduced, the overall resource situation is weak and equitable representation needs to be ensured. A memorandum of understanding was signed with the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Economy. Preparations in this area are advanced.

Progress was made in the field of **classifications and registers**. The classification of economic activities, NACE Rev. 2, has been introduced in the business register. Sources and procedures for updating the statistical farm register were defined. Preparations in this area are moderately advanced.

Good progress was made in the area of **sector statistics**. Preparations for the population and housing census scheduled for April 2011 are continuing. However, the budget for the population census is not yet secured and the law on census has not yet been adopted. The SSO carried out the first regular survey on income and living conditions. Population projections at regional level for 2005-2055 were published. The SSO implemented the EU ad hoc module for the labour force survey and started transmitting quarterly data to Eurostat. Improvements were made in short-term business statistics. Methodological improvements were made in national accounts. Revised quarterly accounts were published in June 2010. Further alignment with ESA 95 is needed. Compliance with ESA 95 of the Pre-accession Economic Programme remains weak. The preparation of harmonised indices of consumer prices is advanced. Progress was made in agricultural statistics. The farm structure survey has been carried out. Progress has been achieved in the field of waste statistics. Data transmission to Eurostat has increased significantly but needs to be further improved, in particular for economic data. Preparations in the area of sector statistics are advanced.

Conclusion

Overall, there was good progress in several areas, especially in producing sector statistics. However, there is still some way to go before full alignment with the *acquis* is achieved. The overall resource situation remains weak and equitable representation needs to be ensured. It is essential that funding is secured for the population and housing census 2011. Substantial efforts to improve sector statistics need to continue, in particular for economic statistics. Preparations in the field of statistics are advanced.