

A Quarterly Newsletter published within the European Union's ENPI programme for Israel
EU Twinning Project: Support to the Israeli Central Bureau of Statistics

EU Twinning project puts focus on Israel's National Statistical System

Successful seminar for Israeli producers of official statistics

One of the most important activities in the EU-Israel Twinning project on statistics is the seminar that was held on 26 November 2013 where producers of Israeli statistics were gathered to discuss the concept of official statistics and the Israeli National Statistical System.

During the event which was organized as part of the Twinning project's component on the National Statistical System, most of the 20 attending institutions presented examples of their statistics, and gave input to how the co-ordination between the partners of the National Statistical System could be further optimized.

The seminar was opened by the Israeli project leader, Ms Olivia Blum from the Israeli Central Bureau of Statistics (ICBS). The Danish project leader, Mr Lars Thygesen, together with his colleague, Ms Kirsten Wismer, Director of Economic Statistics at Statistics Denmark, facilitated the discussion and drew up the conclusions of the meeting.

One of the main conclusions was that there already exists a good cooperation between the statistics producers and the ICBS. However, there is a demand for ICBS to serve as the "statistical methodology expert" that promotes common guidelines for concepts and production methods.

It was noted that the Public Council for Statistics (PCS) together with the Government Statistician has the important role of taking the leadership in the co-ordination. ICBS will take an active role in the process and visit every organization together with the Chair of the PCS.

The event was filmed, and most of the presentations are accessible through the ICBS website (under activity C.3): [NSS_26NOV2013](#)



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Project progress, so far

During the third quarter of the Twinning project good progress was obtained within each of the five components.

Activities in Jerusalem on Environmental Accounts in December and on Welfare Accounts in January both involved numerous experts from other Governmental bodies as well as the Israeli Academia, and promising foundations were laid for extended satellite systems to the National Accounts.

In the Education Statistics component, two missions were completed, and their outcomes included a draft work plan for new statistics on R&D personnel, first steps towards development of early school drop-out statistics, and planning for new statistical indicators on Higher Education were undertaken.

There were two activities within the Survey Methodology component, one in November regarding telephone interviewing, and one in January regarding response burden measurement and reduction. Within the Dissemination component, an activity on statistical metadata was conducted in February.

Finally, it should be noted that the Twinning project has been prolonged from 18 to 20 months, and is thus closing by the end of 2014.

From the 26 November 2013 seminar in Jerusalem on the National Statistical System: the Israeli project leader, Ms Olivia Blum, introduced the event where more than 20 Israeli institutions discussed their future co-operation with ICBS as official statistics producers.

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Brochure and other information

The project brochure, Hebrew and English, can be taken from the project's websites: www.dst.dk/israel or http://www.cbs.gov.il/twinning/twinning_h.html from where also mission and study visit reports, as well as other project materials, are available.



This project is implemented by the Israeli Central Bureau of Statistics and Statistics Denmark

The views expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect the views of the European Commission

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