

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



Left. Survey Methodology: Yoel Domb, Nitzan Hacoen, Efrat Friedrich and Zohar Chessakov in front of Statistics Netherland's Heerlen branch.

Middle. Welfare Accounts: Lior El-Al in front of the premises of Statistics Denmark.

Right. Education Statistics: Aviel Krentzler, Susanne Sørensen and Peter Hansen (both from Statistics Denmark), Silvia Liplewski and Edna Shimoni on the rooftop of the premises of Statistics Denmark.

In the fourth quarter of the EU-Israel Twinning project on statistics no less than three study visits were implemented. What is the output of these study visits, and how do they supplement the EU member states experts' missions to the Israeli Central Bureau of Statistics?

"The study visits are important", explains Nitzan Hacoen from the Survey Department of ICBS, "because while many topics are easily discussed during the missions to ICBS there are certain ways things are done or organized in other statistical offices that simply have to be experienced at first hand."

Nitzan Hacoen and his three colleagues from the Survey Department mention the example of how the telephone interviewers at Statistics Netherlands worked together with the interview supervisor, using and updating a big whiteboard to monitor all ongoing interviewing work in order to maximize efficiency.

Nava Brenner and Lior El-Al were on a study visit regarding the Welfare Accounts part of the Twinning project. Nava Brenner explains: "It was interesting to learn and really understand how Statistics Denmark works together with its users in developing the welfare statistics." For Nava Brenner this is not something entirely new, though, and especially within the Twinning project there has been intense cooperation with the future potential users of the coming Welfare

Accounts, regarding the scope and the design of the accounts.

The study visit of the Twinning Project's Education Statistics component to Statistics Denmark involved Edna Shimoni, Silvia Liplewski, Ariel Krentzler and Dan Scheinberg. What was the main impression they received?

"The way data from the educational institutions is collected by the use of specialized and standardized software installed in the institutions really has a lot of perspective", say Edna Shimoni and Dan Scheinberg, and add that "in particular the built-in automatic quality checks seem like an efficient way to reduce the time-consuming recontacting work with the respondents".

Edna Shimoni and Dan Scheinberg, like Nava Brenner, also point out that the co-operation between Statistics Denmark and its users, in particular the ministerial level, is inspiring. The evaluation of the study visit is overall positive, and their feeling is that it was a mutually beneficial experience: "We presented the statistics we are producing, and got a good response from our Danish colleagues, and it could be a hope of ours that Statistics Denmark would develop statistics that are conceptually similar to some of our products".

All in all eight study visits are carried through during the course of the Twinning project – four of them within the National Accounts component, and one within each of the four other components of the project; Education Statistics, Strategic Planning, Survey Methodology, and Dissemination & Website.

For on-going project information and more photos, please follow the link to join us on [Facebook – Twinning Statistics](#)

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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.

