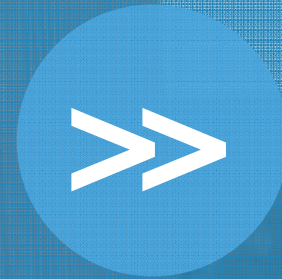


THE COMPONENTS OF THE TWINNING PROJECT AND THE EXPECTED RESULTS

Lars Thygesen, Statistics Denmark, Project Leader
Thomas Bie, Statistics Denmark, Resident Twinning
Adviser

*Opening Ceremony
28 May 2013, Jerusalem*





Statistics Denmark

- The central authority on Danish statistics
- Statistics Denmark's mission is to collect, compile and publish statistics on the Danish society
- Some of Statistics Denmark's expertise fields
 - Use of administrative registers for statistical purposes
 - Electronic dissemination of statistics
 - National Accounts and its satellite accounts
 - Cooperation with other national bodies
- International consulting since the 1990's
 - Technical assistance to sister agencies, building up capacity to produce reliable, comparable, and timely available national statistics
 - Twinning with Croatia, Egypt, Armenia, Bosnia, Ukraine etc.



Project objective and purpose

Objective:

To improve the quality and international comparability of Israel official statistics in key domains

Purposes:

- To support ICBS in aligning National Accounts, Educations Statistics and Survey Methodology to EU and other international organizations' standards and guidelines
- To enable the ICBS to better coordinate the National Statistical System (NSS) and prepare strategic plan for official statistics, including dissemination and communication strategy
- To redesign the ICBS website to meet users' needs



Components – expected results (A)

National Accounts

- Structure for improved government finance accounts
- EU experience on cooperation and data exchange between Statistical Offices and Ministries of Finances presented
- Detailed work plan for the development of financial accounts
- Detailed work plan for the development of Balance of Payments
- Definition of indicators on the provision of welfare services
- Definition of the structure of a satellite account on welfare, presenting expenditure and financing of welfare by sector
- Definition of the structure for waste and air environmental accounts



Components – expected results (B)

Education Statistics

- Detailed plan for better estimates of early school dropouts
- Definition of new indicators of higher education statistics
- Plan for development of adult education statistics and its integration into the Register of Educational Attainment
- Strategy for the development of indicators on personnel and positions engaged in R&D
- Plan identifying indicators on culture and sports

Components – expected results (C)

Coordination of the NSS and strategic planning

- Establishment of a long-term strategic plan for Israeli official statistics
- Establishment of a system and procedures for long- and short term planning
- Enhancement of ICBS engagement in the National Statistical System



Components – expected results (D)

Data collection and management of interviewers

- Establishment of quality control methods and tools for monitoring *field* interviewers
- Establishment of quality control methods and tools for monitoring *telephone* interviewers
- Establishment of a manual of guidelines for interviewers
- Detailed design of at least one web questionnaire
- Guidelines on cognitive aspects of questionnaire and interview design
- Guidelines on how to measure and reduce response burden on enterprises



Components – expected results (E)

Dissemination and Website

- Drafting of an ICBS dissemination and communication strategy document
- Establishment of mechanisms for continuous monitoring of user satisfaction with the website
- Establishment of a plan for redesigning of the website, including an improved search function
- Establishment of rules for updating the website, including linkage of the data warehouse to the website

How?

Specific benchmarking of each of the expected and mandatory results

Quarterly Reporting and Quarterly Meetings of the Steering Committee: follow-up on benchmarks

Project activities in Israel: Seminars and work shops with experts from Statistics Denmark and Statistics Netherlands

Study visits to Denmark and the Netherlands: Discussion of methods and practices in EU Member States



Twining – an equal partnership

Mutual presentations and open-minded round-tables and discussions: listening to each other is the key

Each activity will result in recommendations and agreements on implied work programme towards the final, expected result

Agreement between ICBS and Member States Experts on recommendations based on the actual situation in Israel

The EU Member States experts will gain valuable knowledge and experience from their ICBS counterparts



Involvement of stakeholders

Project stakeholders include in particular the different Ministries and the Bank of Israel

The active participation of the stakeholders in seminars and workshops is all-important for the project's success

The stakeholders' own needs as well as ideas and other input to possible solutions will be listened to when working out planning documents etc.

Communication

Quarterly Newsletters from the project
First Newsletter in June 2013

Project website – www.dst.dk/israel

Personal contact through the RTA team:

- RTA Thomas Bie, thomasb@cbs.gov.il
- RTA Counterpart Batia Attila, batia@cbs.gov.il
- RTA Assistant Michael Bothstein, michaelb@cbs.gov.il