

## **TWINNING CONTRACT**

**AZ/16/ENI/ST/01/19 (AZ/53)**

**Support to the State Statistical Committee and the State Tax Service under the Ministry of Economy  
to  
strengthen collection, harmonization, analysis, publishing and dissemination of business statistics**



### **MISSION REPORT**

#### **Activity 6.1.SV**

**Reviewing and assessing the sampling designs used for Business Surveys**

**Component 3: Capacity of the SSC, the STS and the SME Agency staff improved**

Study Visit carried out by

**PARTICIPANTS, State Statistical Committee**

**PARTICIPANTS, State Tax Service under the Ministry of Economy**

**17-21 January 2022**

On-site Study Visit at the premises of Statistics Lithuania, Vilnius, Lithuania

Version: Final

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## List of Abbreviations

AD	Administrative Data
AZ	Azerbaijan
BC	Beneficiary Country
EBS	European Business Statistics
EC	European Commission
ESS	European Statistical System
EU	European Union
MS	EU Member State
NACE	Nomenclature générale des Activités économiques dans le Communautés européennes NACE is the industrial classification of units dealing in economic activities
NSI	National Statistical Institute
RS	Remote Sessions
RTA	Resident Twinning Adviser
SRSU	State Register of Statistical Units
SSC	State Statistical Committee
STS	State Tax Service under the Ministry of Economy
ToR	Terms of Reference



## 1. General comments

This study visit report was prepared within the EU Twinning Project” Support to the State Statistical Committee and the State Tax Service under the Ministry of Economy to strengthen collection, harmonization, analysis, publishing and dissemination of business statistics” and organized under Component 1, Result 1 of the project.

The purposes of the Study Visit were:

Capacity of SSC, State Tax Service under the Ministry of Economy and SME Agency staff on statistical design, analysis, reporting and dissemination improved.

This views and observations stated in this report are those of the consultant and do not necessarily correspond to the views of EU, SSC, STS, SME-Agency, Statistics Finland, Statistics Lithuania, Statistics Netherlands, Statistics Denmark and HAUS.

## 2. Lessons Learned

Reviewing and assessing the sampling designs used for Business Surveys; Quality management and measurement applied to SBR; Uses of business certificate and personal income tax declaration data in Service statistics survey; Statistical Survey on Investment; SBS data production in statistics Lithuania; SME Statistics in statistics Lithuania; Validation checks for SBS data; Common sampling practice at Statistics Lithuania; Statistical Survey on Construction Enterprises Activity.



### **3. Conclusions and Recommendations**

The delegation consisting of representatives from the State Statistical Committee and the State Tax Service of the Republic of Azerbaijan were on a study visit to the Statistics Lithuania within the EU Twinning Project "Support to the State Statistical Committee and the State Tax Service under the Ministry of Economy to strengthen collection, harmonization, analysis, publishing and dissemination of business statistics" on 17-21 January 2022.

During the visit, the SL experts made presentations on the production of business statistics data, maintaining a register of enterprise statistics and statistical units according to the GSBPM, application of the business register in the management of business statistics, organization of statistical sampling surveys in this area, statistical assessments of non-responses and improving statistical production in general. Information was provided on the application of the administrative database of the income database created in the tax service in the production of official statistics, and the necessary information required to be transferred to the SL to this end.

On the first day of the study visit, Ms. Daiva Jureleviciene, the first deputy director of the Statistics Lithuania, greeted the staff of the State Statistical Committee and the State Tax Service under the Ministry of Economy and expressed hope that the mission would help to gain necessary knowledge and experience. She provided brief information about the history of the SL, legislation in the field of statistics, areas of cooperation, and noted that the organization and maintenance of official statistics in Lithuania is currently based on the Law on Official Statistics, relevant EU regulations and other statistical regulations.

Then, presentations and information on general models of activities for statistical organizations were given.

The representatives of the State Tax Service got acquainted with the European standards for data quality management in order to maintain and update statistical data, and mutual discussions were held in this regard. Of particular interest was the acquisition and harmonization of administrative data, as well as processing some statistical units on a sampling basis.

The presentation "The role of small and medium enterprises in the economy" presented and analyzed information on the dynamics of the share of value added in the total value added of these enterprises by types of economic activity. It was noted that the processing and production of data is carried out on the basis of ORACLE database management system. Examples of controls applied during the data verification were given. Information was provided on the administrative sources that are used in accordance with the Lithuanian Law on Official Statistics, the structure of these sources, key indicators, rules of usage, as well as SAS and R programmes. Then, information was provided on the integration of statistics and administrative data, and methods of assessment and imputation in this area were explained.



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It was noted in the presentation "Statistical survey of the activities of construction enterprises" that the statistical survey of construction enterprises is carried out according to a sampling method. It was reported that 14 percent of all construction companies operating in the country with 50 or more employees were included in the sample, and the stratified sampling method was applied to the remaining enterprises. It was noted that the information is obtained on a monthly basis through the e-statistics system and e-mail, and double checks are carried out to ensure the quality of the data. The participants were informed about the comparison of the results with the previous periods and the replacement of indicators which were missing in the evaluation of the completed construction work. The use of the of administrative data source - the data of the State Tax Inspectorate to assess the missing data, the use of adjusted weights for enterprises that can not be assessed through the administrative data source was discussed. It was noted that the data provided by these enterprises in previous periods are used to impute the missing data, and the assessments are carried out using a stratified random sampling method. Visual examples were provided in the presentation.

The training provided detailed information about the Lithuanian Official Statistics Portal. The structure and use of the portal were demonstrated. Also information was provided on the measures made to improve access to information.

## Annex 1. Agenda

17 <sup>th</sup> January, Monday	
Time	Program
8:30	PCR test
8:45	Arriving to Statistics Lithuania (SL)
9:00 – 10:00	Opening, welcome SV goals
10:00 – 12:00	Production of Business statistics data at SL. Overview of main sub-processes according to the process map. Coffee/Tea Break
12:00 – 14:00	Lunch
14:00 – 17:00	Production process for Short-Term Business statistics and commodities statistics surveys follow the GSBPM. Coffee/Tea Break
18 <sup>th</sup> January, Tuesday	
Time	Program
9:00 – 12:00	Common sampling practice at SL. Overview of statistical surveys on activity of industrial enterprises, on trade and



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	catering enterprises, on construction, and on investment. Coffee/Tea Break
<b>12:00 – 14:00</b>	Lunch
<b>14:00 – 15:00</b>	BR data quality control
<b>15:00 – 17:00</b>	SMEs data in SL Coffee/Tea Break
<b>19<sup>th</sup> January, Wednesday</b>	
<b>Time</b>	<b>Program</b>
<b>9:00 – 12:00</b>	SBS/SME data acquisition: sample design, processing, AD used, software Coffee/Tea Break
<b>12:00 – 14:00</b>	Lunch
<b>14:00 – 17:00</b>	SBS/SME data acquisition: sample design, processing, AD used, software Coffee/Tea Break
<b>20<sup>th</sup> January, Thursday</b>	
<b>Time</b>	<b>Program</b>
<b>9:00 – 12:00</b>	Non-response processing in SBS/SME data acquisition Coffee/Tea Break
<b>12:00 – 14:00</b>	Lunch
<b>14:00 – 17:00</b>	SBS/SME data compilation and validation Coffee/Tea Break
<b>21<sup>st</sup> January, Friday</b>	
<b>Time</b>	<b>Program</b>
<b>8:30</b>	PCR test
<b>9:00 – 12:00</b>	Publication of SME indicators Coffee/Tea Break around
<b>12:00 – 14:00</b>	Lunch
<b>14:00 – 16:00</b>	Work with data users



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<b>16:00 –</b>	Conclusions, Closing Evaluation of the study visit Comments Depart to hotel Depart to airport
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## **Annex 2. Persons met - List of participants**

### **State Statistical Committee**

- Ms. Aida Ibrahimova, Head of Trade Statistics Department
- Mr. Gulbala Guliyev, Head of Service Statistics Department
- Ms. Sevinj Fattahova, Head of Enterprise Statistics Sector, Department of National Accounts and Macroeconomic Indicators Statistics
- Ms. Lala Salamzada, Head of Metadata and Classifications Sector, Quality Management and Metadata Department
- Ms. Leyla Ismayilova, Chief Advisor of the Department for Statistical Works Coordination and Strategic Planning
- Ms. Nargiz Chalabi, Consultant, Department for Statistical Works Coordination and Strategic Planning

### **State Tax Service under the Ministry of Economy**

- Mr. Eldar Babazada, Head of Division, Main Department of International Relations, International Experience Research and Project Management Division
- Mr. Elshan Huseynov, Head of Main Department for Economic Analysis and Registry Control
- Mr. Emil Rahimov, Head of Division of Economic Forecasting of Main Department for Economic Analysis and Registry Control

### **SME-Development Agency**

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### **Statistics Lithuania**

- Mr. Ms Jurga Rukšėnaite, Head, Methodology and quality division
- Ms. Janina Šakalienė, Advisor
- Ms. Danutė Geležauskaitė, Chief specialist
- Ms. Žana Akramienė, Chief specialist
- Mr. (Dr) Andrius Čiginas, Specialist
- Ms. Aušra Skorniakova, Chief specialist



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- Ms. Simona Radišauskaitė, Advisor
- Ms. Greta Kudžmė, Chief specialist
- Ms. Rasa Beržvinskaitė, Chief specialist
- Ms. Daliutė Kavaliauskienė, advisor
- Mr. Maksim Lata, advisor
- Ms. Antanina Valiulienė, Head of Enterprise Statistics Division
- Ms. Vera Bevziuk, Advisor
- Ms. Aušrinė Kazlauskaitė specialist
- Ms. Janina Šalkauskaitė, Chief specialist
- Ms. Jana Vanagė, (GIS) Data Technology Development Group
- Ms. Eglė Vankevičė, Statistics Dissemination and Communication Division

### **RTA-Office**

- Mr. Tarlan Arzumanov, RTA-Language Assistant

### **Any Others**

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