



## **TWINNING CONTRACT**

**GE 21 NDICI ST 01 23**

### **Further Strengthening of the Georgian Statistical System**

## **MISSION REPORT**

**on**

### **Component 3:**

Capacity of government institutions for the production and use of official statistics strengthened.

### **Activity 3.1.2:**

Identifying additional administrative data sources - Administrative data experiences and use

Mission carried out by  
Ms. Barbara Bentz, Federal Statistical Office of Germany  
Mr. Timo Laukkanen, Statistics Finland

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**Version: Final**

## *Further Strengthening of the Georgian Statistical System*

### **Authors' names, addresses, e-mails**

MS. Bentz, Barbara.  
Short Term Expert  
Research Associate  
Statistisches Bundesamt  
Gustav-Stresemann Ring 11  
65189 Wiesbaden  
Germany  
Tel: +49 6611 75 4941  
Email: barabara.bentz@destatis.de

Mr. Timo Laukkanen  
Short Term Expert/ Component 3 leader  
Senior Statistician  
Statistics Finland  
Työpajankatu 13  
00580 Helsinki  
Finland  
Tel: +358 29 551 3388  
Email: timo.laukkanen@stat.fi

## List of Abbreviations

- AD = Administrative Data
- AI = Artificial intelligence
- EA = Enterprise Architecture
- EU = European Union
- BC = Beneficiary Country (Georgia)
- BR = Business Register
- C1 = Component 1
- C2 = Component 2
- C3 = Component 3
- Destatis = Statistisches Bundesamt
- ESS = European Statistical System
- GA = Global Assessment
- GAMS0 = Generic Activity Model for Statistical Organisations
- Geostat = National Statistics Office of Georgia
- GSBPM = Generic Statistical Business Process Model
- GSIM = General Statistical Information Model
- HR = Human Resources
- LFS = Labour Force Survey
- ML = Machine learning
- MR = Mandatory results
- MS = EU Member State (Finland, Germany, Italy)
- NSDS = National Strategy for the Development of the Official Statistics
- PL = Project Leader
- RTA = Resident Twinning Advisor
- SBS = Structural Business Statistics
- SBR = Statistical Business Register
- SR = Sub-result
- STE = Short-term Expert
- STS = Short-Term Business Statistics
- SWOT = Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats
- ToR = Terms of Reference
- UNECE = United Nations Economic Commission for Europe

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## 1. General comments

This mission report was prepared as part of the EU Twinning Project “Further Strengthening of the Georgian Statistical System.”

The purpose of the activity was to continue the work started with administrative data and administrative data sources in earlier missions in Component 3.

- Sharing the experiences and best practices in MS for mobilizing and using administrative data in statistical production. Linking MS experiences to the current situation in BC.
- Studying of the current proceedings with the use of administrative data and the use of admin data in statistical production.
- Defining the most important missing indicators in Georgia and identifying potential data sources for compiling these.
- Updating the Rolling Work Plan activities by component

The consultants would like to express their gratitude to all officials and individuals met for their kind support and valuable information which they received during the mission, and which highly facilitated the work of the consultants.

The views and observations stated in this report are those of the consultant and do not necessarily correspond to the views of the EU, Statistical Office of Georgia, Statistics Finland, Statistics Germany, or Statistics Italy.

## 2. Status at the beginning of the mission

This was the second mission of Component 3 under Sub-result 1 in the Twinning project. Mission 1 was carried out in August 2024 together with Component 2, which laid down the foundation for the study of the administrative data available in Geostat, and future promising new AD data sources. The aim was to provide good insight to Geostat on how different AD is used in statistical production in Germany and Finland, and to compare the existing AD inventory file produced by Geostat in earlier missions.

The goal is to assist Geostat in increasing the use of AD in statistical production. This is not an easy task as Geostat is already using several AD sets in their production, and all ‘easy’ gains in AD usage have already been met by Geostat. It is also clear that this project cannot focus on all statistical domains and AD providers, so some focus areas must be found during the mission.

## 3. Status of mission results

The first two days of the mission were spent sharing the country experiences in AD use in statistics. Ms. Bentz and Mr. Laukkanen presented different aspects of AD use in Germany and Finland, ranging from data collection procedures to the publication of the results. Ms. Bentz presented an overview of AD use in German federal statistics. The Central Operating Register Agricultural

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Statistics and agricultural statistics were used as examples of the detailed use of AD in statistics. It was shared how AD sources were identified and how the metadata were mobilized. The [Administrative Data Information Platform](#) (VIP) held by the FSO in Germany was shown as a tool to provide an overview of statistics about existing AD sources for potential use. The subsequent testing process of the AD source was described, and current examples in population statistics were introduced. The methodology, as well as the actual key figures of monitoring AD use were presented and discussed.

Mr. Laukkanen presented the basics of the work of the Data Acquisition team at Statistics Finland. Following the process-oriented organization, all data collection at Statistics Finland is done today by this team in co-operation with the different statistical departments. Streamlined processes and a centralized data collection system require good quality metadata and metadata systems, including the data collection register and well-described data sets and variables.

One specific item in discussions was the automatic classification of the transportation declarations' textual descriptions. Today, using artificial intelligence and machine learning procedures could help 'clean' the data in such a way that it is useful for statistical production. Transportation declarations contain information about the goods transported in Georgia, and they are based on the actual declarations written by the drivers or other staff in logistics.

The review of the existing administrative data in Georgia continued by adding more layers to the description Excel files. In addition to the data provider and primary users of the data (i.e., Statistical department), the incoming data sets and their variables were identified and described. Work began with the Revenue Service of MOF data, identified as 'Monthly turnover value indices'. The actual data contain two separate datasets, one containing mainly turnover-related information, and another containing mainly wages and salaries-related information. The turnover data is used today for compiling the turnover indices, which in EU statistics belong under the STS statistics (Monthly turnover series). The wages and salaries data are used today only as a support data for verifying Labour Force Survey (LFS) results, which is used for compiling the wage statistics.

It is clear that the data from the Revenue Service could form the basis for the compilation of the Monthly wages and salaries series, which is also part of the EU STS statistics. LFS-based statistics on monthly wages have a publication delay of 75 days. RS wages and salaries data are available in T+21 days, so there is plenty of room for improving the timeliness of the wages and salaries information. The purpose of ST is to provide fast information about the development of the economy for political decision-making, so publishing STS wages and salaries could serve as a first and fast indicator about the development of the wages in economy. This avenue will be further studied during the coming missions, and the STS mission was scheduled to take place in March 2025. This mission will also focus on the STS volume series, which require the use of producer prices in addition to turnover series.

Geostat will continue the work of describing other datasets and variables in the administrative data review Excel file. Mr. Zhorzholiani will delegate this work at Geostat to personnel who are in charge of each of the data files.

Some new activities/missions were scheduled, and initial content was decided. A mission for the publication and data dissemination issues (sub-result 2) was added to a plan. Annex 2 presents the Component 3 activities (extracted from the Rolling Work Plan), including the new ones. In total, there will be 6 missions on sub-result 1 and 4 missions on sub-result 2.

## **4. Sustainability of the achievements**

All parties agreed on the next steps. Should the need arise, adjustments can be made later through the rolling work plan.

## **5. Recommendations for the future (short and long term)**

The project will organize a mission on STS statistics, as the most promising existing administrative data for producing new statistical information is in turnover and wages and salaries indices (see above in Mission Results). The goal is to create new STS series in turnover (volume) as well as wages and salaries. After the introduction of the methodology for using incomplete data, Geostat should be able to create a quick proof of concept (PoC). If the results from the PoC are promising, and results coincide with the current statistics, Geostat could continue developing the method and calculation according to their needs. In the long run new data series could complement the existing data series. The advantage of the new series would be that they are almost completely based on the administrative data.

Geostat should study the possibility of using AI and ML tools for cleaning the transportation declarations' textual descriptions.

## **6. Identification of needs for additional support**

The support for STS activities will continue in the coming missions in the years 2025–2026.

## **7. Outstanding issues and next steps**

Geostat will continue working with administrative data review by filling the required information about the data sets and the variable contents and descriptions.

## Annex 1. Terms of Reference

### Terms of Reference

**EU Twinning Project GE 21 NDICI ST 01 23**  
**Further Strengthening of the Georgian Statistical System**

**Component 3:**

Capacity of government institutions for the production and use of official statistics strengthened

**Activity 3.1.2:**

Identifying additional administrative data sources - Administrative data experiences and use

*Dates: 17 - 20 Dec 2024*

*Hosting Institute: National Statistics Office of Georgia  
 30, T. Dadiani St., 0180 Tbilisi, Georgia*

#### 0. Objective, Mandatory results and Sub-results for the components 2 3

Objective:

Sharing country experiences and best practices on the use of administrative data in different statistics  
 Verifying the availability of the identified additional administrative data sources  
 Defining assessed new indicators based on new or existing administrative data

Mandatory results (MR) and Sub-results (SR) under each MR

• **MR 3: Capacity of government institutions for production and use of official statistics strengthened**

<p>Sub-result 3.1: Use of administrative data for the production of official statistics increased.</p> <p>(4 indicators)</p>	<p>This sub-component aims to increase the use of administrative data in official statistics production, identifying additional data sources, and training of the data owners. Creating an action plan is vital to improve the quality of administrative data.</p> <p>Indicators that assure this deliverable:                  Availability of identified additional administrative sources.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of trained government agencies proficient in managing and utilising administrative data for statistical purposes</li> <li>• Availability of action plan for improving the quality of administrative data for statistical purposes</li> <li>• Availability of assessed new indicators and disaggregated data production potential using administrative data sources</li> </ul>
<p>Sub-result 3.2: Data usage of government institutions for decision-making enhanced</p> <p>(4 indicators)</p>	<p>This sub-component aims to enhance the capacity of government institutions to use official statistics in decision-making processes by strengthening officials' skills and promoting the use of official statistics in policy development, monitoring, and evaluation.</p> <p>Indicators that assure this deliverable:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Availability of guidance documents for statistical data use</li> <li>• Number of trainings conducted for government representatives from relevant agencies for evidence-based decision-making.</li> <li>• Availability of established task forces for improved decision-making within government institutions</li> </ul>
<p>Key activities in Component 3</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MS Expert missions with meetings, workshops including presentations and sharing of best practices and hands-on training.</li> <li>• Study visit(s) with hands-on demonstrations in Member State(s).</li> <li>• Joint meetings with Geostat, data providers key data user groups.</li> </ul>



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### **1. Purpose of the activity**

- Sharing the experiences and best practices in MS for mobilizing and using administrative data in statistical production. Linking MS experiences to current situation in BC
- Study of the current proceedings with the use of administrative data and the use of admin data in statistical production.
- Defining the most important missing indicators in Georgia and identifying potential data sources for compiling these.
- Updating the Rolling Work Plan activities by component

### **2. Expected output of the activity**

#### Common overview of the current situation regarding:

- Access to relevant administrative data and establishing better working relationships with data owners
  - Identification of means to improve the use of official statistics
- 
- MS presentations on administrative data use in statistics
  - Listing of the new/wanted indicators and potential new administrative data sources for compiling these
  - Planning of the subcomponent 3.1 and 3.2 missions; content, timeframe, workdays, required expertise of the STEs

### **3. Participants**

#### **MS Experts**

- Mr. Timo Laukkanen, CL, Senior Statistician, Statistics Finland
- Ms. Barbara Bentz, STE, Research Associate, Destatis

#### **Twining team**

- Mr. Paata Shavishvili, Deputy Executive Director, National Statistics Office of Georgia
- Mr. Teimuraz Gogishvili, CL Counterpart, Head of Methodology and Quality Management Division, National Statistics Office of Georgia
- Mr. Aleksandre Arabuli, CL Counterpart, Head of Population Census and Demographic Statistics Department, National Statistics Office of Georgia
- Mr. Daviti Zhorzholiani, CL Counterpart, Head of Business Statistics Department, National Statistics Office of Georgia
- Mr. Marko Ylitalo, RTA
- Ms. Irma Gabunia, RTAA

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### 4. Resources

Translation and interpretation will be provided throughout the activity if needed.

### 5. Overall agenda

- Day 1: Opening. BC and MS recap of the previous mission findings and recent developments, MS experiences on AD
- Day 2: MS experiences on AD (continue from day 1), BC presentation of the existing and potential AD in Georgia
- Day 3: New indicators wanted by the data users, new and emerging AD sources.
- Day 4: Planning the activities and schedule of the Component 3. Summary and conclusions.

### Annex A. Tentative programme

Date	Place	Topic
<b>Tuesday – 17 Dec</b> <b>9:30 – 18:00</b>	Meeting room X	Welcoming, practicalities, programme of the week (BC and Marko Ylitalo)
		BC and MS recap of the previous mission findings and recent developments, STEs, Davit Zhorzholiani
		Country experiences of the administrative data (FIN/ GER)
<b>Wednesday – 18 Dec</b> <b>09:30 – 18:00</b>	Meeting room X	Cont.: Country experiences of the administrative data (FIN/ GER)
		BC presentation of the existing and potential administrative data in Georgia
<b>Thursday – 19 Dec</b> <b>09:30 – 18:00</b>	Meeting room X	Defining new wanted indicators and new potential administrative data sources <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- defining statistical areas where known AD would improve current situation</li> <li>- steps for mobilizing identified AD</li> </ul>
<b>Friday – 20 Dec</b> <b>09:30 – 16:00</b>	Meeting room X	Open issues and continuation with the mission topics
		Planning the activities and schedule of the sub-components 3.1 and 3.2
		Mission wrap-up and next steps in Component 3

#### Abbreviations:

MS = EU Member State (Finland, Germany, Italy)

BC = Beneficiary Country (Georgia)

AD = Administrative data

## Annex 2. Rolling work plan Component 3.

Below is described past and future activities of the Component 3 to be done during this Twinning project.

<b>Activity 3.1.1</b>	<b>Identifying additional administrative data sources - Further developing Work Plan for Component 3</b>
<b>Budget section</b>	III. Components Mandatory Results – Component 3
<b>Subject</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Seminar on administrative data with administrative data holders and key stakeholders (together with Component 2 activity 2.1.1).</li> <li>• Review of the administrative data inventory and documentation</li> <li>• Identifying new possible data sources and desired new indicators</li> <li>• Planning the activities and schedule of the sub-components 3.1 and 3.2</li> <li>• Drafting ToR for next activity</li> </ul>
<b>Methods</b>	Expert mission
<b>Resources</b>	MS: Timo Laukkanen (FI) RTA and RTAA BC: Key staff as set out above Venue: Geostat office
<b>Duration</b>	1 MS STE x 4 working days
<b>Output</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Seminar presentations</li> <li>• Review of requested documents</li> <li>• List of possible new indicators and potential data sources</li> <li>• Mission report prepared</li> <li>• ToR for next activity drafted</li> </ul>
<b>Time schedule</b>	20–23 August 2024
<b>Status</b>	Work completed

<b>Activity 3.1.2</b>	<b>Identifying additional administrative data sources - Administrative data experiences and use</b>
<b>Budget section</b>	III. Components Mandatory Results – Component 3
<b>Subject</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Country experiences on the use of administrative data in different statistics</li> <li>• Availability of the identified additional administrative data sources</li> <li>• Availability of assessed new indicators</li> </ul>
<b>Methods</b>	Expert mission
<b>Resources</b>	MS: Timo Laukkanen (FI), Barbara Bentz (DE) RTA and RTAA BC: Key staff as set out above Venue: Geostat office
<b>Duration</b>	2 MS STE x 4 working days
<b>Output</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presentations on country experiences</li> <li>• Mission report prepared</li> <li>• ToR for next activity drafted</li> </ul>
<b>Time schedule</b>	17–20 December 2024
<b>Status</b>	Work completed

<b>Activity 3.1.3</b>	<b>Non-traditional data sources</b>
<b>Budget section</b>	III. Components Mandatory Results – Component 3
<b>Subject</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Country experiences with non-traditional data sources</li> </ul>

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<b>Methods</b>	Expert mission
<b>Resources</b>	MS STEs: Pasi Piela (FI), Stefan Hauf (DE) RTA and RTAA BC: Key staff as set out above Venue: Geostat office
<b>Duration</b>	2 MS STE x 4 working days
<b>Output</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mission report prepared</li> <li>• Country experience of the non-traditional data (e.g. mobile phones, cash registers, etc.) use in statistics</li> </ul>
<b>Time schedule</b>	Beginning of February 2025 (4.-7.2 or 11.-14.2.2025)
<b>Status</b>	Scheduled

<b>Activity 3.1.4</b>	<b>Administrative data use in short-term business statistics and prices</b>
<b>Budget section</b>	III. Components Mandatory Results – Component 3
<b>Subject</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Short-term business statistics and producer prices</li> </ul>
<b>Methods</b>	Expert mission
<b>Resources</b>	MS: STE 1, STE 2 RTA and RTAA BC: Key staff as set out above Venue: Geostat office, Seminar Venue
<b>Duration</b>	2 MS STE x 4 working days
<b>Output</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mission report prepared</li> </ul>
<b>Time schedule</b>	18–21 March 2025
<b>Status</b>	Scheduled, not confirmed

<b>Activity 3.1.5</b>	<b>Administrative data part V</b>
<b>Budget section</b>	III. Components Mandatory Results – Component 3
<b>Subject</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Topic is still open and will be decided based on previous mission findings</li> </ul>
<b>Methods</b>	Expert mission
<b>Resources</b>	MS: STE 1, STE 2 RTA and RTAA BC: Key staff as set out above Venue: Geostat office, Seminar Venue
<b>Duration</b>	2 MS STE x 4 working days
<b>Output</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mission report</li> <li>• ToR for next activity drafted</li> <li>• Post-Activity tasks defined in Mission Report</li> </ul>
<b>Time schedule</b>	8–11 July 2025
<b>Status</b>	Upcoming

<b>Activity 3.1.6</b>	<b>Administrative data part VI</b>
<b>Budget section</b>	III. Components Mandatory Results – Component 3
<b>Subject</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Administrative data follow-up</li> <li>• Seminar for the administrative data providers and the key data users in administration</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Simultaneous mission with component 2</li> </ul>
<b>Methods</b>	Expert mission
<b>Resources</b>	MS: STE 1, STE 2 RTA and RTAA BC: Key staff as set out above Venue: Geostat office, Seminar Venue
<b>Duration</b>	2 MS STE x 4 working days
<b>Output</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mission report prepared</li> </ul>
<b>Time schedule</b>	3–6 February 2026
<b>Status</b>	Scheduled

### 3.2: Data usage of government institutions for decision-making enhanced

<b>Activity 3.2.1</b>	<b>Decision making enhanced I</b>
<b>Budget section</b>	III. Components Mandatory Results – Component 3
<b>Subject</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promoting the use of statistics among governmental bodies</li> <li>• Tracking the data users</li> <li>• User needs analysis among administration</li> </ul>
<b>Methods</b>	Expert mission
<b>Resources</b>	MS STEs: Timo Koskimäki (FI), Elisabeth Rödel (DE) RTA and RTAA BC: Key staff as set out above Venue: Geostat office
<b>Duration</b>	2 MS STE x 4 working days
<b>Output</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mission report</li> <li>• ToR for next activity drafted</li> <li>• Post-Activity tasks defined in Mission Report</li> </ul>
<b>Time schedule</b>	10–13 June 2025
<b>Status</b>	Upcoming/STEs identified/Scheduled

<b>Activity 3.2.2</b>	<b>Data Room and Research Laboratory</b>
<b>Budget section</b>	III. Components Mandatory Results – Component 3
<b>Subject</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Providing information to decision making</li> <li>• Case Statistics Finland Data Room and Research Laboratory</li> <li>• Micro data use and/or dissemination for the research and policy making purposes</li> </ul>
<b>Methods</b>	Expert mission
<b>Resources</b>	MS: STE 1, STE 2 RTA and RTAA BC: Key staff as set out above Venue: Geostat office
<b>Duration</b>	2 MS STE x 4 working days
<b>Output</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mission report</li> <li>• ToR for next activity drafted</li> <li>• Post-Activity tasks defined in Mission Report</li> </ul>

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<b>Time schedule</b>	23–26 September 2026
<b>Status</b>	Upcoming/Scheduled

<b>Activity 3.2.3</b>	<b>Decision making enhanced III</b>
<b>Budget section</b>	III. Components Mandatory Results – Component 3
<b>Subject</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Topic is still open and will be decided based on previous mission findings</li> </ul>
<b>Methods</b>	Expert mission
<b>Resources</b>	MS: STE 1, STE 2 RTA and RTAA BC: Key staff as set out above Venue: Geostat office
<b>Duration</b>	2 MS STE x 4 working days
<b>Output</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mission report prepared</li> </ul>
<b>Time schedule</b>	28–31 October 2025
<b>Status</b>	Upcoming/Scheduled

<b>Activity 3.2.4</b>	<b>Data dissemination and publication of the data</b>
<b>Budget section</b>	III. Components Mandatory Results – Component 3
<b>Subject</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Data dissemination and publication of the data</li> </ul>
<b>Methods</b>	Expert mission
<b>Resources</b>	MS: STE 1, STE 2 RTA and RTAA BC: Key staff as set out above Venue: Geostat office
<b>Duration</b>	2 MS STE x 4 working days
<b>Output</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mission report prepared</li> </ul>
<b>Time schedule</b>	18–21 November 2025
<b>Status</b>	Upcoming/Scheduled