

Statistics Finland 

INTERNATIONAL CONSULTING NEWS

HIGHLIGHTS

- In 2017 to 2018, a total of 39 short-term expert mission trips, training sessions and study visits were organised and conducted by Statistics Finland in several statistical development projects
- New partnerships with different stakeholders to contribute to the monitoring of the implementation of the global Agenda 2030 were established
- Experts on geospatial information from more than 40 countries gathered in Helsinki in October 2018
- The International Statistical Literacy Project (ISLP) is now run from Finland

Contributing to statistical capacity development and enhancement in several projects

Statistics Finland, the national statistical office of Finland, has participated actively in international statistical cooperation projects since the 1990s. During the last two years it has been a consortium member or an implementing partner in many statistical projects carried out above all in the framework of the EU enlargement and neighbourhood policies but also more globally.



EU twinning project in Armenia in 2015 to 2017

Statistics Finland was one of the consortium members in the EU Twinning project “Strengthening the National Statistical System of Armenia – II” that ended in mid-2017. The project was led by Statistics Denmark. Finnish expertise focused on poverty statistics and innovation statistics.

WB twinning project in Mongolia in 2015 to 2017

Statistics Finland participated in the “Smart Government Project – Enabling Open Data Production Capabilities of NSO” of Mongolia in 2017. The project was led by Destatis. The activities implemented by Statistics Finland related to quality management and metadata, and, in particular, to the implementation of the General Statistical Business Process Model (GSBPM).

WB twinning project in Russia in 2016 to 2019

Statistics Finland is one of the consortium members in the twinning project “Strengthening Statistical Expertise in the Russian Federation”. The project is led by Statistics Denmark. Statistics Finland is involved in sharing of experiences and information in the field of environmental accounts and dissemination.

WB twinning project in Kyrgyzstan in 2017 to 2018

Statistics Finland was one of the consortium members in the project “Implementation of the National strategy for development of statistics of the Kyrgyz Republic” that ended in December 2018. The project was led by Destatis. Statistics Finland contributed in the areas of culture statistics, consumer price indices (CPI) and digital economy related statistics.

The focus of the study visit of the Kyrgyz delegation to Finland was on CPI production system.





Mr Johannes Nykänen, Senior Statistician, Statistics Finland, took part in a STE mission devoted to Quarterly International Investment Position in Sarajevo.

EU TAIEX assistance in Turkish Cypriot Community in 2017 to 2019

Statistics Finland's experts have cooperated under the Technical assistance information exchange (TAIEX) programme in the Turkish Cypriot community since 2017 by conducting the short-term mission trips related to national accounts, the business register and business statistics, as well as SAS programming.

EU twinning project in Bosnia and Herzegovina in 2018 and 2019

Statistics Finland is a consortium member in the EU Twinning project "Support to the reform of the statistics system in Bosnia and Herzegovina" that started at the beginning of 2018. The project is led by Statistics Denmark. Statistics Finland currently provides expertise in the areas of business statistics, business register, balance of payment and international investment positions statistics.

Focused inputs to international discussions on developing statistical systems

Integrating Non-Traditional Data Sources into National Statistical Systems

The High-Level Seminar on innovative use of non-traditional data sources for official statistics was organised by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) and Eurostat, and held in Santiago in Chile on 2 October 2018.

The seminar gathered together representatives from the statistical institutes of Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, Finland and Hungary, delegates from non-governmental organisations and the United Nations system.

The participation of Mr Pasi Piela, Senior Adviser, Population and Social Statistics at Statistics Finland was facilitated by Icon Institute. In presenting and analysing different tools, Mr Piela focused on non-traditional data sources (e.g. mobile network data, road network and traffic sensor data, public transport data) in social statistics.

The seminar on Integrating Non-Traditional Data Sources into National Statistical Systems was extremely inspiring and gave an excellent insight to new developments in the field, says Mr Pasi Piela.



Policy-data nexus: European Union-Asia Pacific experience sharing

The High-Level Seminar on the Policy-data nexus was organised by Eurostat in close cooperation with the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) in Bangkok in Thailand, from 14 to 15 October, for sharing experiences between EU countries and Asia in engaging a dialogue between policy-makers and statisticians, and especially in

relation to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals.

The seminar was attended by representatives from over 20 countries of the Asia-Pacific region. Experts from Bulgaria, Finland, United Kingdom and Eurostat also participated in the seminar.

The participation of Mr Ari Tyrkkö, Senior Adviser at Statistics Finland, was facilitated by DevStat. In his presentation Mr Tyrkkö concentrated on indicator-based communications of the SDGs, taking place in close interaction between the users and “creators” of the indicators.



Bilateral and international meetings, conferences and training sessions hosted



Ms Heli Mikkela, Deputy Director General, Ms Phetsamone Sone and Ms Marjo Bruun, Director General, Statistics Finland, exchanged information and ideas on SDG monitoring and institutional development

Discussing current practices and ideas on SDG monitoring with Lao Statistics Bureau management

In the context of a study tour organised by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) to Finland on the topic of SDGs, Statistics Finland had the pleasure to host a visit of Ms Phetsamone Sone, Deputy Head of the Lao Statistics Bureau (LSB) in September 2018.

Ms Phetsamone Sone visited Statistics Finland as a member of a high level delegation, consisting of the vice ministers from the Ministry of Planning (MPI) and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and further public institutions of the Government of the Lao People's Democratic Republic.



The Nordic meeting at Statistics Finland was opened by Ms Hannele Orjala, Director, Communication and Information Services.

Exposure visit coordinated by the Indian Institute of Forest Management; Bhopal

Statistics Finland and the Natural Resources Institute Finland (Luke) jointly hosted the Indian Institute of Forest Management; Bhopal, in a coordinated study visit that took place in Helsinki in June 2018. The overall focus was on environmental accounting and forest statistics.



In the study visit of the delegation from India recent developments in environmental accounting were addressed at Statistics Finland.

Nordic meeting for exchanging experiences and ideas on statistical capacity development and ways to cooperate

The Nordic contact network "Internationell rådgivning" has as its general cross-cutting area of activity the support in statistical capacity development. Statistics Finland as the current chair country hosted the network meeting held in Helsinki in September 2018.

While recognising the differences in institutional arrangements and operational environments, experiences

and ideas between the Nordic statistical offices were exchanged on ways to cooperate, good practices as well as planned and on-going statistics projects in the meeting. Taking the opportunity, tour of at Statistics Finland's newly renovated, multi-purpose work space was arranged.

Visit of NBS China /UNFPA/UNICEF on census experiences

A joint mission of the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) China and the UN took place in September 2017 for gaining more understanding of the Finnish experience, methods and challenges of using administrative records for census purposes. The visit was hosted by Statistics Finland's Population and Social Statistics Department.



During the study visit on register-based census in the Finnish context, pros and cons of various options of using administrative records in census were discussed.



The motto of the 11th EFGS conference was “Finding the Future Together”

Experts on geospatial information from more than 40 countries gathered in Helsinki

The 2018 European Forum for Geography and Statistics (EFGS) conference was held in Helsinki from 16 to 18 October 2018 and brought together over 200 experts on statistics and geospatial information from more than 40 countries. The conference was hosted by Statistics Finland and the National Land Survey of Finland in collaboration with Eurostat and the EFGS.

The keynote speakers’ themes concerned the future of geospatial information, international cooperation, data visualisation and innovations.

“There were also interesting addresses on, for example, sustainable development indicators, the use of mobile data in statistics production and open source code applications. The quality of statistics and data protection, as well as urban statistics were also discussed”, says Ms Marja Tammilehto-Luode, Senior Adviser, Statistics Finland.

The EFGS started as the result of cooperation between the Nordic countries in 1998 but nowadays many countries outside Europe are also active.



The International Statistical Literacy Project (ISLP) currently run from Finland

The mission of the ISLP is to support, create and participate in statistical literacy activities and promotion of statistical literacy around the world. Ms Reija Helenius, Head of Development at Communication and Information Services at Statistics Finland, acts as the current ISLP Director.

The most important actors in the project are the 134 voluntary country coordinators who operate in 73 countries located in every continent. The ISLP organises a poster competition every second year. The competition has proven to be a successful tool for engaging the attention of young people in statistics.



The IASE-ISLP award ceremony at the World Statistics Congress in Morocco in July 2017, attended by Past-President Andrej Blejec, IASE and Ms Reija Helenius, Statistics Finland.

Statistics Finland's organisational contact details

The contact point for international consulting and technical cooperation is the Communication and Information Services Department at Statistics Finland.

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