



TWINNING CONTRACT

JO 21 ENI ST 01 22

Strengthening the capacity of Jordan's Department of Statistics in terms of compilation, analysis and reporting of statistical data in line with International and European best practices

MISSION REPORT

on

Component 1

Roadmap for the development of an integrated administrative data system in Jordan with pilots on Statistical Business registers (SBR) and population statistics

Activity 1.2.3

Introduction and testing of the StatBus System II

Mission carried out by

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Amman, Jordan

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List of Abbreviations

- BC – Beneficiary Country
- CoP – General Population and Housing Census 2015
- DoS – Department of Statistics
- HEIS – Household Expenditure and Income Survey
- MS – Member State
- PL – Project Leader
- RTA – Resident Twinning Advisor
- STE – Short-term Expert

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Executive Summary

Only if core text of mission exceeds 4 pages – otherwise delete

Main conclusions and highlights from findings.

1. General comments

This mission report was prepared within the Twinning Project “Strengthening the capacity of Jordan’s Department of Statistics in terms of compilation, analysis and reporting of statistical data in line with International and European best practices”. This was the third activity related to MR 1.2 titled “*Pilot project to develop strategy for integrating administrative data sources for the purposes of creating an SBR* and the second activity aiming to evaluate and test the suitability of the StatBus System in the Jordanian contexts. The StatBus is a client-server based system for statistical business registers which is an important backbone of any national statistical office.

The actions planned for this activity were carried out as scheduled.

The following subject was covered:

- Set up and data integration with DoS data;
- Defined and set up DoS variables;
- Prepared integration of DoS data;
- Combining data from different sources;
- Meeting was conducted with National Account for a comprehensive understanding of any special needs;
- Meeting was conducted with staff from economic surveys for a comprehensive understanding of any special needs;

The consultants would like to express their sincere thanks to all officials and individuals met for the kind support and valuable information which they received during the stay in Jordan and which highly facilitated their work. The views and observations stated in this report are those of the consultants and do not necessarily correspond to the views of EU and Statistics Denmark.

2. Assessment and results

Starting point is the list of activities mentioned in the ToR.

Description and assessment of the situation as basis for conclusions and recommendations in section 3 below.

What have been achieved during the mission. Were there problems, delays.

3. Conclusions and recommendations

List conclusions and recommendations related to the activities mentioned in the ToR.

Actions needed for moving forward as well as for preparing the next mission –add rows as needed.

Annex 1. Terms of Reference

Terms of Reference

EU Twinning Project JO 21 ENI ST 01 22

Component 1:

Roadmap for the development of an integrated administrative data system in Jordan with pilots on Statistical Business registers (SBR) and population statistics

Activity 1.2.3:

Introduction and testing of the StatBus System II

Dates: 06 – 09 March 2023

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Annex A: Program for the activity

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Annex C: Achievements and challenges for building a SBR in Jordan (PowerPoint presentation)

Annex D: Mission report from activity 1.2.2 on installing and testing the StatBus system
(draft in English)

Annex F: Mission report from activity 3.1.1 on review of methodology business surveys (Draft in English)

Annex G: UN Guidelines for SBR

Annex H: Methodology document for StatBus (English and Arabic draft)

Annex I: User Manual for StatBuS

List of abbreviations

BC	Beneficiary Country
CoE	Census of Establishments
DoS	Department of Statistics
ESS	European Statistical System
MS	Member State
NA	National Accounts
RTA	Resident Twinning Advisor
SBR	Statistical Business Register
STE	Short Term Expert
ToR	Term of References

0. Objective and Mandatory Results for the component

Objective:

To prepare a roadmap for the development of an integrated administrative data system for Jordan, and conduct pilot projects on creating an SBR and strengthening population statistics.

As the development of a fully integrated administrative data system is a long-term project. The main focus of the Twinning project will be on specific pilot projects where the use of administrative records can address key challenges currently faced by the DoS. These pilot projects will constitute the first steps in rolling out a roadmap for the Jordanian statistical system by providing a template for expanding the use of administrative data across the wider statistical system over time. In relation to business statistics specifically, the development of a Statistical Business Register (SBR) it is essential to integrating different data sources, and providing additional analysis without increasing costs.

SBR is an essential component in supporting the coherence, consistency and quality of statistics produced as well as providing data on the population of business units. The SBR provides a basis for selecting and monitoring samples, integrating administrative and other data sources and providing a framework for deriving business demographics and National Accounts.

The lack of a comprehensive SBR was identified as an obstacle to future improvements of DoS statistics back in the 2015 Twinning project led by Statistics Denmark. This gap still remains - developing and maintaining an SBR for Jordan would, therefore, greatly enhance the ability of the DoS to monitor and analyze developments in a rapidly changing business environment. The pilot project will examine available administrative data sources on business entities.

For business statistics, the development of a statistical business register (SBR) is essential to integrating different data sources, and providing additional analysis without increasing costs. It is also the main source of business demography indicators. The lack of an SBR has also been identified as an impediment to improving DoS statistics.

SBRs are an essential component in supporting the coherence, consistency and quality of statistics produced. As well as providing data on the population of business units, the SBR provides a basis for selecting and monitoring samples, integrating administrative and other data sources and providing a framework for deriving business demographics. The lack of a comprehensive business register was identified as an obstacle to future improvements of DoS statistics back in the 2015 Twinning project led by Statistics Denmark. This gap still remains - developing and maintaining an SBR for Jordan would, therefore, greatly enhance the ability of the DoS to monitor and analyse developments in a rapidly changing business environment. The pilot project will examine available administrative data sources on business entities, primarily in the Companies Controller Department and Ministry of Industry and Trade. Based

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on the mapping exercise in 1.1 above, a strategy for linking these data with DoS information, primarily from the Census of Establishments (CoE), will be drawn up. While specific administrative source data have been identified for the pilot, other information can also be considered.

Recently the [Jordan Economic Modernization Vision 2030](#) was launched and “[Smart Jordan](#)” was identified as one of the eight Growth Drivers to implement the Economic Modernization Vision. The ‘Smart Jordan Driver’ includes seven sectors where data is one of them. This indicates the national interest to ensure constant and reliable data sources, and robust statistical systems that contribute to timely and informed policy making.

This specific mission relate to MR 1.2: Pilot project to develop strategy for integrating administrative data sources for creating an SBR. In table 1 the associated indicators are listed.

Mandatory results and indicators for achievement for sub-component 1.2

Table 1: Mandatory results and indicators for achievement (IA) for the sub-component 1.2.

MR from the Twinning Fiche	Indicator
MR 1.2: Pilot project to develop strategy for integrating administrative data sources for the purposes of creating an SBR	<p>Indicator 1.2.A: Administrative data sources identified and assessed and plan developed for integrating these with Census of Establishments (CoE) information in an SBR</p> <p>Indicator 1.2.B: Documentation prepared on database structures and compliance with statistical standards, classifications (e.g. ISIC, Rev 4) etc. and use of common identifiers etc.</p> <p>Indicator 1.2.C: Explore how SBS can benefit other statistical domains in the DoS</p>

1. Purpose of the activity

The purpose of this activity is to Introduction and testing the StatBus System for it suitability to support an SBR in Jordan. This is the second Mission dedicated for testing StatBus. Results from the Mission carried out for testing suitability of the StatBus System.

The following subject will be covered:

- Set up and data integration with DoS data;
- Define and set up DoS variables;
- Prepare integration of DoS data;
- Combining data from different sources;
- Meeting with National Account for a comprehensive understanding of any special needs;
- Meeting with staff from economic surveys for a comprehensive understanding of any special needs;

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Background information about StatBus:

StatBus is a client-server based system for statistical business registers which is an important backbone of any national statistical office. For additional information, please consult:

<https://www.StatBus.org/>

The main features are:

- A tool for storing and maintain information on businesses from administrative sources, surveys and censuses
- Licensed as open source
- Based on UN international guidelines for development and maintenance of statistical business registers
- Used for drawing samples and make national economic statistics
- Important for National Accounts

The screenshot shows the StatBus web application interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the following items: 'Statistical Business Register', 'Statistical units', 'Sample frames', 'Data sources', 'Administrative tools', 'Reports', and 'admin'. Below the navigation bar, the main heading is 'Search statistical units'. The search area contains three input fields: 'Name' (with a placeholder 'Name'), 'Sort' (with a dropdown menu 'Select sort by...' and radio buttons for 'By ascending' and 'By descending'), and 'Statistical unit type' (with a dropdown menu 'Any type'). Below the search area, there are buttons for 'Reset', 'Extended search', and 'Search'. Below the search area, it shows 'Displaying 0 of 0' items and a 'No items to display' message. The page number is 1.

Table 1: Screenshot from StatBus in English

For additional information, please consult: <https://www.StatBus.org/>

Background information for enhancing SBR at DoS

As background information for building a roadmap for an enhanced SBR in Jordan the current achievements and challenges are provided in Annex C. In table 2 the known available variable from key administrative sources are listed.

In brief, DoS has reach out to the following five owner of administrative data where the two first two is regarded as the most important according to DoS.

- The Ministry of Industry and Trade
- Companies Control Department
- Income and Tax Department
- Greater Amman Municipality
- Social Security Corporation
- Ministry of Local Administration
- Ministry of digital Economy and Entrepreneurship

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Table 2: Current variables in the current SBR as well as know available variable from different key sources of administrative data (Based extract from appendix c).

Source/Variable	SBR in DoS	Companies Controller Department	Social Security Corporation	Greater Amman municipality
Commercial name for the establishment	x	x		
Common name	x			
Establishment's owner name	x			
Establishment's owner nationality	x			
Establishment's owner national number	x	x		
Establishment's registration number	x	x		
Detailed address	x	x		
Number of workers			x	
Establishment's size				x
Establishment's registration date	x	x		
Registered capital	x			
Establishment's legal entity	x	x		
Occupation and description of economic activity			x	

In early February 2023 StatBus was successfully installed on a DoS server and test populations and classification was uploaded to the system. Furthermore, it was proved that the system support both Arabic and English (The Mission report is provided as an Annex D). Since then DoS employees has become more comfortable with the system, tested loading of more data sources as well as uploaded more classifications.

2. Expected output of the activity

- Activity report;
- Set up and data integration with DoS data;
- Define and set up DoS variables;
- Prepare integration of DoS data;
- Combining data from different sources;
- Meeting with National Account and the Economic survey department for a comprehensive understanding of any special needs;

3. Participants

MS Short Term Experts (STE's)

- **Mr. Steen Eiberg Jørgensen**, Deputy Head of Division for Business Data Collection and Registers, Statistics Denmark (MS Component Leader)
Mr. Steen Eiberg Jørgensen has more than 20 years' professional experience in official statistics administration. Since 2008 Mr. Jørgensen has strong expertise in all dimensions of business registers in particular - and of register based official statistics in general. This includes integration of administrative data within official statistics and knowledge of standardizing datasets, classifications and identifiers. In addition Mr. Jørgensen has extensive experience in delivering training programs both at national and international level and is active member of several Eurostat working groups.
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- **Mr. Christian Bendtsen**, IT Developer, IT, Statistics Denmark.
Mr. Bendtsen is IT Developer and has been employed at Statistics Denmark since 2007 mainly in the field of Statistical Business Register. Besides that, Mr. Bendtsen has extensive knowledge on Oracle Database, PL/SQL.
E-Mail: chb@dst.dk
- **Michael Lützhøft Kongsted**, Head of Section, SBR (DK), Statistics Denmark.
Mr. Kongsted is a project manager of SBR in Statistics and has been employed at Statistics Denmark since 2003 mainly in the field of Statistical Business Register. Mr. Kongsted has extensive knowledge on data quality management, is a Global Enterprise Group specialist, EU Profiling and multinational enterprise groups specialist.
E-mail: mkg@dst.dk

DoS experts

BC Component Leader: **Mr. Jaffar Ababneh**, Director of Data management Directory, DoS.
E-Mail: Jafaar.Ababneh@DOS.GOV.JO

Additional experts from DoS: The full list will be prepared by DoS and will be provided in Annex B.

Twining team

Eng. Mohammad Khalaf, Director of Sustainable Development Unit, Department of Statistics (DoS), Jordan (RTA Counterpart)
Dr. Charlotte Nielsen (RTA)
Ms. Hala Abdallat (RTA Assistant) /**Ms. Zaina Amireh** (Language Assistant)

4. Resources

Translation and interpretation will be provided throughout the activity. Translation will be provided as sequential translation. Therefore, please keep frequent pauses when presenting and talking allowing our project translator to provide as accurate a translation as possible.

All material will be provided in both English and Arabic before, under and after the Mission.

The venue will be the Meeting room at DoS. Projector, flip-overs and other office material will be available.

2. Inputting Data

StatBus currently supports uploading data mainly through CSV files, so it would be ideal to have some cleaned up data ready in that format so we avoid using mission time for it. Additionally, it would be ideal to have testing data ready, for example, a version of the relevant data files with only 100 rows, so that it is quick and easy to test them against the StatBus uploading module.

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6. Overall agenda

Monday

- Quality check of data (MS)

Tuesday

- Upload, update and search functions in StatBus
- Data sources for SBR

Wednesday

- Upload, update and search functions in StatBus – continued
- Statistical units and repetition (presentation)

Thursday

- Summarizing and presentation of results for the management

Annex 2: Programme for the mission

Monday 06 March 2023

Time	Subject	
10:00 – 12:00	Welcome and status since last Mission (BC) SBR team and IT	
11:00 – 12:00	Variables in sources (Jointly BC and MS) SBR team and IT	
13:00 – 15:00	SBR Theory (MS) SBR team, NA, Economic surveys	Quality check of data (BC and MS) IT

Tuesday 07 March 2023

Time	Subject	
09:30 – 10:30	Presentation of outcome from the work by the IT team on Monday on upload and preparing upload screens (MS and BC) SBR team and IT	
10:30 – 12:00	Data Sources for the SBR (MS) SBR team	IT – Upload data – set up upload – continued (BC and MS) IT
13:00 – 15:00	Work in StatBus – Search and update (MS) IT and SBR team	

Wednesday 08 March 2023

Time	Subject	
09:30 – 10:30	Presentation of outcome from the work by the IT team on Tuesday (BC) SBR team and IT	
10:30 – 12:00	Work in StatBus – Extract (BC + MS) IT and SBR team	
13:00 – 15:00	SBR team – Statistical units and repetition (presentation) (MS) SBR team, (NA), Economic surveys	

Thursday 09 March 2023

Time	Subject	
09:30 – 10:30	StatBus / theory/ moving forward (BC and MS) IT and SBR team	
10:30 – 12:00	Results (BC + MS) IT and SBR team	
13:00 – 14:00	13:00 – 14:00 Presentation of results for the management (BC + MS) IT, SBR team, NA, Economic surveys, DoS Management	
14:00 – 14:30	Evaluation and any other business (BC + MS) IT, SBR team, NA, Economic surveys, DoS Management	

Abbreviations:

MS = EU Member State (Denmark);

BC = Department of Statistics, Jordan (DoS)

Annex 3. Persons met

Data Management Directorate

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Business Register Division

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- Mr. Abd Alwahad Alharaizeh, Business Register Division in DoS- Staff /
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- Ms. Anwar Al Khasbah, Business Register Division in DoS- Staff / anwarkh@dos.gov.jo

Economic Surveys Directorate

- Mr. Mohammad Abdel Razzaq, Director of Economic Surveys Directorate, Component 3 Leader from DoS / Mohammad.AbdelRazzaq@DOS.GOV.JO

National Account Directorate

- Mr. Murad Bani Hamad, Head of Annual Accounts- DoS / Murad.BaniHamad@DOS.GOV.JO

National Account project

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Electronic of Transformation and Information Technology Directorate

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- Mr. Mohammad Sakhreih, Engineer at the IT Directorate – DoS /
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- Ayman Alholoul, Developer at the IT Directorate – DoS / Ayman.Elholoul@dos.gov.jo

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Top management

(For the opening and presentation of conclusion and recommendation on day 4 of the Mission)

- Dr. Tayseer Muqdadi, Technical Assistant to the Director General – DoS / Tayseer.Megdady@dos.gov.jo
- Dr. Ali Al Shebli, Operational Assistant to the Director General – DoS / ali.Shebli@dos.gov.jo
- Dr. Fozan Al Hurout, Administrative and Financial Affairs Assistant to the Director General – DoS / fozan.Hrout@dos.gov.jo