SUMMARY PROJECT FICHE

1. Basic information

1.1 Désirée Number: BG 00.06.04

1.2 Title: INSTITUTION BUILDING AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE NATIONAL STATISTICS SYSTEM

1.3 Sector: Statistics

1.4 Location: Bulgaria

2. Objectives

2.1 Wider Objective

The wider objective of the project is to strengthen the administrative capacity of the National Statistical Institute (NSI) in order to incorporate the *acquis communautaire* in the field of statistics under the described components and to ensure the provision of reliable and comparable statistics.

2.2 Immediate objectives

The project consists of six components where the immediate objectives are:

- to support the conduction of the population and housing census 2001,
- harmonising the financial accounts with the EU requirements,
- improvement of the coverage and quality of foreign trade information by applying new methods,
- improvement of the statistical infrastructure by maintaining classifications and nomenclatures using contemporary technologies,
- improvement of dissemination of statistical information by developing existing and new statistical products and services and
- development and improvement of IT system.

2.3. Accession Partnership and NPAA priority


According to the above-mentioned Council Decision the obligation to improve statistics is foreseen within the Medium Term priorities, chapter Reinforcement of institutional and administrative capacity.
The project “Institutional Building, development and improvement of the national statistical system” is linked with the priority as set out in the 1999 Accession Partnership for Bulgaria – point 4.1. “Medium-term objectives”, chapter “Reinforcement of administrative and judicial capacity, including management and control of EU funds”, bullet 4 – “strengthen statistical capacities”.

The component “Support to the Conduction of Population and Housing Census 2001” will also contribute substantially to the achievement of Short-term and Medium-term objectives for the implementation of the Roma Framework Programme – point 4.1 and point 4.2, Political criteria. It will strengthen the National Council on Ethnic and Demographic Issues by providing reliable, exhaustive and accurate statistical information on the ethnic structure of the population and the living conditions within the different ethnic groups.

Since the statistics is a tool for a general overview of the economic situation, the project, in particular with its component “Elaboration of financial accounts”, incorporates also the provision of developing national policy for economic and social cohesion – point 4.2. “Medium-term”, chapter “Economic and Social Cohesion”.

Another important link with the new Accession Partnership establishes the component “Improvement of dissemination of statistical information” by incorporating the goals within point 4.2. “medium-term”, chapter “Internal Market”, bullet 3 – Data protection. The component will contribute to the implementation of legislation on data protection by ensuring the applicability of the norms of the Statistical Law concerning the confidentiality of individual statistical data.

3. Description

The project consists of 6 components:

I. Support to the Conduction of Population and Housing Census 2001,
II. Elaboration of financial accounts,
III. Improvement of foreign trade statistics,
IV. Development and improvement of statistical infrastructure,
V. Improvement of statistical information dissemination,
VI. Development and improvement of IT system.

The project will be implemented through two contracts - one conventional technical assistance contract amounting to 1 315 000 Euro (Components 1 to 5) and a supply contract at the amount of 685 000 Euro covering the activities under Component 6. The Implementing Agency will announce and carry out tenders according to the DIS manual.

The objectives of the above-mentioned components are closely linked with the activities as outlined in the Strategy for Development of Statistics for the period 2000-2006. The strategy has been worked out through the assistance and according to the requirements of the EU and IMF and the tasks of Bulgaria towards the EU and IMF.

It is very important for the Bulgarian economy to be able to rely on modern, up-to-date and timely statistics. Nowadays all the important economic decisions are based on up-to-date data provided by the statistics. The project “Institutional Building,
development and improvement of the national statistical system” is a major step towards the fulfilment of this goal.

3.1. Background and justification

3.1.1 Support to the Conduction of Population and Housing Census 2001

The Population and Housing Census is a regular decennial statistical survey. It will provide valuable and unique information, which will be used by: the Government and other government structures, Parliament, Local authorities, Non-governmental Organisations, Universities, Scientific and research institutions. The 2001 Census will be the 16-th in the practice of the Bulgarian Statistics. The plan for 2001 Census is to conduct an agricultural census parallel to the main survey. Four more sample surveys are planned to be conducted also with the Census – a fertility survey, a migration survey, an employment survey and a population health survey.

Work on Census preparation has already begun. The Law on Census, Housing and Agricultural Farms in Bulgaria in 2001 has been approved recently by Parliament. The Census will be carried out as of March 1, 2001.

Overall Census data processing will be completed by the end of the year when the final results are expected to be ready. The following three parallel processes are planned to start:

- Introducing census data into the Population Data Base of the NSI,
- Updating the National Civil Registration System with the census results,
- Presenting census results with the help of Geographical Information System (GIS).

The three tasks are comparatively new for NSI statistical practice and together with some other specific census tasks are expected to be the main target of the project.

The Census methodology, organisation and procedures are completely synchronised with the requirements of Eurostat, the Statistical Commission of the United Nations (UN), International Labour Organisation (ILO), World Health Organisation (WHO), and Economical Commission for Europe (ECE). Special efforts are made to guarantee a complete international comparability of the census data.

New software and hardware is essential for the three new post census parallel tasks, which is not available at present in the NSI.

3.1.2 Elaboration of financial accounts

Financial accounts are not properly implemented in the national practice. Bulgaria needs to complete them to achieve compliance with the EU requirements. NSI will be the institution responsible for their preparation and elaboration in co-operation with Bulgarian National Bank (BNB) and Ministry of Finance (MoF).
Bulgaria needs to integrate the financial accounts in the system of national accounts. On national level this information will have a wide range of users: BNB, MoF and other government bodies and policy makers. Compilation of financial accounts is foreseen in the national strategy for development of statistics.

Material compliance is hampered by a combination of insufficient resource endowment and response deficiencies. The elaboration of Financial Accounts is crucial for the economic statistics to complete fully the system of adequate national accounts compilation system. The methodology will include also description of the calculation procedures applied to transform this basic data into ESA 95 aggregates and to assure reliability, exhaustion and logical control.

Agreements for exchange of information between the National Statistical Institute and BNB, and the respective Directorates of the Ministry of Finance are under preparation.

3.1.3 Improvement of foreign trade statistics

The data for imports and exports are based on customs declarations, processed in the Computer Centre of Ministry of Finance, from where NSI receives the files with the primary data. NSI makes comparison with the information available from the other sources like enterprises’ receipts from export sales. Based on comparisons, analysis and expert opinion, NSI makes an estimation of the missing monthly values for imports and exports. The General Customs Directorate (GCD) is responsible for the credibility of data filled in the customs declarations. NSI and the Bulgarian National Bank (BNB) are the main users of the exports/imports data sources, by compiling basic macro-aggregates as a GDP and Balance of Payments (BoP). It is foreseen the creation of an advisory group, including experts from NSI, GCD and BNB.

The foreign trade statistics should develop in compliance with the INTRASTAT system. The INTRASTAT system, in which the trade statistics between the Member States is drawn up, has to be introduced when the custom formalities and internal borders are abolished. It is well known that introduction of this system will create problems. Subsequently a preparatory period will be necessary in which the administration and in particular the enterprises can familiarise themselves with the principles and ideas of this system. Developments in this field must therefore be followed closely because of their strong impact on the nature of the future system. The foreign trade statistics in Bulgaria needs sustainable support – there are major problems to be solved such as insufficient coverage and errors. This project will help for improvement in the areas of coverage and quality of foreign trade statistics.

3.1.4 Development and improvement of statistical infrastructure

According to the Statistical Law NSI is responsible for elaboration and implementation of the national classifications and nomenclatures, maintenance and updating of the national classifications, nomenclatures, registers and databases. A unified computer system (Classifications Computer System) maintaining those classifications and nomenclatures is in process of elaboration. It is necessary to define exact levels of access of the governmental institutions to the unified computer system, maintaining the classifications and nomenclatures.

There is a register BULSTAT, built up on contemporary information technologies, which provides all existing economic subjects in the country with an unified
identification number. A new arrangement of the Register of statistical units is expected to be done using contemporary information technologies in accordance with the Council Regulation 696/93.

3.1.5 Improvement of dissemination of statistical information

The work under this project component will be of a great importance for better studying the information needs of the Government sector and business sector, international organisations, financial institutions and non-governmental organisations.

The work will assist for developing and implementing the adequate policy in the field of dissemination and information service that according to the National Strategy for Development of Statistics is a basic condition for increasing public credibility in statistical information. It will also enable the approximation in the field of dissemination of statistical information to the requirements of the EU Council Regulation 322/1997.

The necessity of the component is also determined by the NPAA targets for compliance with the requirements of the European legislation described in NPAA.

3.1.6. Development and improvement of IT system

The IT equipment in NSI is quite varied: some of the PCs date from many generations back while others are fully in line with today’s standards. The diversity in hardware obviously limits the degree to which different staff can use the same software tools and contribute to the same statistical processes. The achievement of the final aim of the project depends to a certain extent on available software and hardware.

The organization of data collection, data editing and data processing could be further improved. Currently, each survey still requires tailored programming. Improvements could be obtained through the use of more general tools for survey processing. This will also require a better standardisation in the hardware and software environment in the NSI.

3.2 Linked activities

The National Statistical Institute of Bulgaria works closely with the Statistical Office of the European Union (Eurostat) in accordance with the Common Declaration on Statistical Cooperation signed in 1994 between Eurostat and the Phare beneficiary countries. NSI co-operates also with the international organisations such as International Monetary Fund, World Bank, World Trade Organization, International Labor Organization etc. by providing regularly statistical information about Bulgaria.

The Strategy for Development of Statistics was worked out according to EU and IMF recommendations concerning the following issues: quarterly national accounts, monthly industrial product index, Consumer Price Index (CPI), Producer Price Index (PPI). NSI implements the General Data Dissemination System (GDDS) through the assistance of IMF and foresees to implement the Special Data Dissemination System (SDDS). EUROSTAT and IMF delivered training to NSI experts.
Under the National Phare programme 1998 National Statistical Institute was benefited with 700 000 Euro for the Phare project **BG 9806-03-02-0002 “Compliance of the Bulgarian statistical practice with the requirements of membership of the European Union”**. This project consisted of three components: (1) compliance of Bulgarian legislation on the statistical infrastructure with EU legislation; (2) compliance of economic statistics with the EU requirements and (3) Regional statistics. The objectives of the above-mentioned components were to achieve compliance of legislation, to achieve harmonisation of methodology on basic economic statistics and to develop Bulgarian Settlement Register. By the end of 2000 the basic part of the activities foreseen in this contract will be carried out, e.g. the pilot survey to assess the register quality, the participation in the Eurostat-OECD Purchasing Power Parity Program, survey on import/export indices and work on creating Bulgarian Settlement Register prototype.

NSI has been involved in the **Eurostat Pilot Project Government Finance Statistics for Candidate Countries** for the reporting of data on government deficit and debt. This project should lead to elaboration of financial accounts for General government sector.

NSI took part in the **Eurostat Pilot project “Development of foreign trade statistics”** for loading the Bulgarian data into COMEXT database and making mirror comparisons with the Member states and other candidate countries. NSI is engaged in providing regularly data for imports and exports, which is loaded into Eurostat database COMEXT. Since January 1, 1999 NSI applies “Special System of Trade”. By applying this system, our methodology is in full compliance with the requirements of Eurostat.

### 3.3 Results

#### 3.3.1 Support to the Conduction of Population and Housing Census 2001

- Formulated, implemented and monitored social and economic policy of the different government bodies and non-government organisations for the pre-accession process at governmental and local level,
- Updated National Civil Registration System,
- Completed numerous data time series of the National Population database at the NSI,
- Presented population statistics with the help of GIS.

The 2001 Bulgarian Population, Housing and Agricultural Census publications and documents of the related statistics, which will be in paper and electronic forms, on Internet site and inputs to other statistical databases are: data tables, Graphical presentations, analytical papers, project records, post-enumeration surveys, logbook of the Population Database, publications of the Vital and Housing Statistics.

#### 3.3.2 Elaboration of financial accounts

- Specific national methodology for collecting, organising and processing the information on financial transactions,
- Unique data on structure and flows of financial assets and liabilities - the basis for adequate government policy,
• Improved quality and reliability of non-financial national accounts by creating possibilities for cross-checking of the transactions and a more precise estimate of net lending/net borrowing by institutional sector,
• Raised qualification of NSI personnel,
• Development of specific software.

3.3.3 Improvement of foreign trade statistics

• High quality of preliminary data from the customs declarations,
• Accurate monthly values of the imports and exports,
• Applied new methods of data control and processing in accordance with the EU standards,
• Efficient decision of methodological discrepancies between external trade data, provided by NSI, and other national and EU organisations.

In order to satisfy the growing demands of the variety of users of foreign trade statistical data NSI will disseminate different press releases, bulletins, publications, Web site of NSI, questionnaires, etc. The efforts will be directed towards improving data quality and ensuring full coverage of trade for providing timely, reliable and accurate foreign trade data.

3.3.4 Development and improvement of statistical infrastructure

• Implemented Unified computer system for easy access to classifications and nomenclatures and their better usage,
• Implemented contemporary Register of statistical units,
• Project proposal of the Unified Register for Identification of farmers, self-employed persons, and other persons.

3.3.5 Improvement of dissemination of statistical information

• Enlarged channels for dissemination of statistical products and services – information system (register) of the users,
• Improved relations with mass media and public relations for the existing and newly developed statistical products and services: press releases, specialised WEB pages, calendars of promotions of the results of statistical surveys, online service and other user-friendly forms,
• Transfer of statistical information in Internet as background for national users and international organisations,
• New price policy and advertising policy concerning statistical products and services
• Implemented adequate software for protection of individual and personal data.

3.3.6 Development and improvement of IT system

• purchasing of hardware,
• development of software,
• training of NSI staff, if necessary.
3.4 Activities

3.4.1 Support to the Conduction of Population and Housing Census

There are traditional census tasks, where enough experience has been accumulated and methodological difficulties are not expected to be encountered and tasks, which are more or less new for our statistical practice and necessitate international methodological help and financing.

- Organisation and preparation of the census,
- Development and implementation of contemporary software for census data processing and dissemination,
- Procuring up-to-date hardware and equipment,
- Training of NSI personnel in foreign statistical offices where similar census methods are used,
- Printing of complete census documentation,
- Dissemination of results,
- Assistance for achieving harmonisation with the EC practice in the area of Census legislation, organisation and methodology,
- Establishing a connection and updating National Registers with the help of census data,
- Analysis of census data in conjunction with population data from registers and population databases.

3.4.2 Elaboration of financial accounts

- Consultancies with EU experts on methodology of financial national accounts: content and coverage of indicators, data sources, required desegregation, recording and valuation problems, revaluation of assets and liabilities,
- Acquainting with EU experience: study visits, consultancies with EU experts on practical implementation of specific surveys, specific data sources for each institutional sector: ways of measurement and presenting financial transactions, problems connected with privatisation, inflation and revaluation of assets,
- Translation of methodological documents and terminology,
- Consultancies on elaboration of metadata, specific national phenomenon and practices, content and coverage of indicators,
- Survey of available data sources,
- Development of software for collecting and processing the results.

3.4.3 Improvement of foreign trade statistics

- Analysis of the data accuracy and the most typical errors,
- Experiment on recommended methods, software and analysis of the results,
- Selection of methods and approaches for control of the quality and the coverage of the data,
- Development of software for automatic control,
- Analysis of the needs of hardware and the required parameters,
- Assessment of the effect of the project.
3.4.4 Development and improvement of statistical infrastructure

- Consultancies on the systems for maintenance of the national classifications,
- Elaboration, implementation and promotion of the access system to “Unified system for maintenance of the national classifications and nomenclatures”. Realisation of the project,
- Elaboration of the software for development of the Register of the Statistical Units (RSU) and for its usage by NSI and by other bodies of statistics,
- Elaboration of the methodology for regular survey of the RSU-quality: including the units as statistical units and checking the basic economic characteristics and publishing the results,
- Consultancies on defining the farmers, self employed persons and other persons as units in business register and on usage of such register
- Elaboration of the project for building the register.

3.4.5 Improvement of dissemination of statistical information

- Consultancies and expert assistance on marketing surveys, strategies and software problems,
- Development of the concept of the Marketing Survey Methodology and organising the survey,
- Working out and implementing National Marketing Strategy for dissemination of statistical products and services,
- Assessment of existing and elaboration of new products and services;
- Analysing the information flow;
- Construction of specialised databases of information services for users.

3.4.6 Development and improvement of IT system

- Evaluation of the needs for new equipment or upgrades,
- Purchasing of hardware and development of software,
- Training of the NSI staff to carry out the statistical processes with the general statistical software tools.

4. Institutional Framework

The main beneficiary of this project will be the National Statistical Institute of Bulgaria. The NSI is a state agency to the Council of Ministers with just over 1, 800 employees, of which some 340 are employed in the central office in Sofia and the rest are employed in the 28 regional offices, and a printing and publishing house. Its role is to collect, produce and disseminate statistical data, and prepare analyses and forecasts on Bulgarian socio-economic situation. In addition, the NSI manages certain administrative registers, such as the Register of territorial units and Business register.

A President and one Vice-president manage the NSI. There are six statistical directorates:

- Business statistics directorate,
- National economic accounts and balances directorate,
- Development of statistics directorate,
- Demographic and social statistics directorate,
• General administration directorate,
• Registers directorate.

The NSI operates according to the 1999 Statistical Law, through a National program for statistical surveys being adopted annually by the Council of Ministers. The program is influenced by users and other stakeholders (including representatives of other ministries and institutes) of the statistical system through the National Statistical Council.

In application of the new Statistical Law in 1999 NSI elaborated Strategy for development of statistics 2000-2006, which outlines the priorities and the time schedule for achieving compliance with the EU requirements in the field of statistics. The Strategy was adopted by the National Statistical Council – an inter-institutional body responsible for coordination of overall process in the field of Bulgarian statistics – on 16 March 2000.

Main beneficiaries of the NSI products (processed data) are the Government and other government structures, Non-governmental Organisations, Universities, Scientific and research institutions, international statistical organisations etc. some of which are in the same time suppliers of raw data. Under the conditions of developing of information society the process of carrying out a statistical activity is no longer a matter of importance to one institution. Specialisation of parties in concrete domains of performance contributes to increasing the effectiveness of the overall National Statistical System and raising the statistical information quality. Other bodies of statistics, beside the NSI implementing also EC requirements are: Bulgarian National Bank (BNB), Ministry of Finance (MF), Ministry of Labour and Social Policy (MLSP), National Centre for Health Information (NCHI), National Social Security Institute (NSSI), General Customs Directorate (GCD), Bulgarian National Bank (BNB) etc. Further development of inter-institutional co-operation and co-ordination of activities between different institutions - suppliers and users of data is of great importance.

5. Detailed Budget

The project will be implemented through two contracts - one conventional technical assistance contract amounting to 1 315 000 Euro (Components 1 to 5) and a supply contract at the amount of 685 000 Euro covering the activities under Component 6. The Implementing Agency will announce and carry out tenders according to the DIS manual.

The national co-financing amounts up to 17 000 000 Euro, subject to the final decision of the Ministry of Finance. The Bulgarian government will provide funds for the conduction of the 2000 Census according to the Law on Census, Housing and Agricultural Farms in Bulgaria in 2001 (adopted by Parliament). The NSI will provide suitable office space, the necessary office equipment and facilities for implementation of the project and qualified personnel of the institute that will co-operate with EU experts in the areas covered by the six components.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Components 1-5 ( TA contract)</th>
<th>Phare</th>
<th>Support</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Investment Support 1 315 000</td>
<td>1 315 000</td>
<td>17 000 000*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Institution Building 1 315 000</td>
<td>1 315 000</td>
<td>17 000 000*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Phare (=I+IB) 18 315 000</td>
<td>18 315 000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Cofinancing 17 000 000*</td>
<td>17 000 000*</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL (In Euro) 19 000 000</td>
<td>19 000 000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Component 6 (supply contract) 685 000

Total 2 000 000 17 000 000* 19 000 000

*subject to final decision of Ministry of Finance

6. Implementation Arrangements:

6.1 Implementing Agency

On 12.11.1998 with a Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of the Republic of Bulgaria and European Commission a Central Finance and Contracts Unit (CFCU) was established to regulate the Phare National Programme. The Programme Authorizing Officer is Mr. Plamen Oresharski, Deputy Minister of Finance.

Address: 112, Rakovski str. 1004 Sofia, Bulgaria
tel. (+359 2) 9859 2772; 9859 2777
fax: (+359 2) 9859 2773

The role of CFCU comprises the tendering, contracting, administration, accounting, payments, reporting, training and audit for all programs.

In order to ensure good and timely implementation of the project a Senior Program Officer (SPO) was officially appointed. This is Mrs. Natalia Nikolova, Head European Integration and International Cooperation Division, NSI of Bulgaria.

Address: 2, P. Volov str. 1504 Sofia, Bulgaria
tel: (+359 2) 9857 2505
fax: (+359 2) 9857 2002

The technical side of the programme implementation, regarding the project will be covered by the SPO. The qualified personnel of the NSI will co-operate with EU experts in the areas covered by the six components – Population and Housing Census, Financial Accounts, Foreign Trade Statistics, Statistical Infrastructure, Dissemination of Statistical Information, Development and Improvement of IT. The active participation by the Bulgarian NSI is crucial to the successful outcome of this project. As well as providing personnel, documentation, logistical support and office space to the Contractor’s team, the beneficiary institution will at all times collaborate with the Project Leader and Short-term experts with a view to achieving the project’s objectives. A Steering Committee will be established.
6.1.1 Profile of EU experts

NSI would like to have the expert assistance of one Project Leader and Short-term experts. The Project leader should have an extensive experience in the field of institution building and development of statistical system. The Project Leader should provide consultancy and training for Bulgarian statisticians, exchange of experience through study visits and other forms in each of the above mentioned components. The Project Leader should be a high level EU statistician with vast experience in the management of statistics projects implemented in EU and CEC.

The Short-term experts should have experience in the relevant component areas – conduction of censuses, financial accounts, external trade statistics, dissemination of statistical information and statistical infrastructure.

6.2 Twinning – N/A

6.3 Non-standard aspects – N/A

6.4 Contracts

There will be two contracts at the total amount of 2 000 000 Euro:

1) One conventional technical assistance contract which amounts to 1 315 000 Euro. It will cover the costs for support provided by European and local experts, training of staff, surveys, study visits and expert assistance.

2) One supply contract, which amounts to 685 000 Euro and which will cover the costs for purchase of necessary hardware, copy machines and printers and specialised statistical software packages as well as the costs for training of the staff, if necessary.

7. Implementation Schedule

7.1 Start of tendering
    Third quarter of 2000

7.2 Start of project activity
    First quarter of 2001

7.3 Project Completion
    December 2003 (end of disbursement period)

8. Equal Opportunity

Equal opportunity will be taken into account in the preparation of all tender dossiers and in the recruitment of personnel.

9. Environment - N/A

10. Rates of return – N/A

11. Investment criteria – N/A
12. Conditionality and sequencing:

Projects to be implemented require the full commitment and participation of the senior management of the beneficiary institution. In addition to providing the contractor with adequate staff and other resources to operate effectively, the senior management must be whole-heartedly involved in the development and implementation of the policies and institutional change required to deliver the project results.

The program assumes continued Government support in reform policies and EU harmonisation and Phare support for the expansion and enhancement of the activities. The Government of Bulgaria considers very important the activities of the NSI, which is the strategic supplier of reliable and accurate statistical information in line with the needs of a democratic and market oriented society and compatible with the EU statistical system.

Based on the Law on the Administration, NSI has updated the structure of the Central and Regional Offices in order to become capable to answer the higher requirements of data collection, processing, supply and dissemination as well as the requirements of the EU for harmonisation. NSI personnel raise its professional level permanently by attending specialised courses on statistics, IT and foreign languages. New comers are selected on competition basis and according to previous professional experience.

Obstacles that need to be overcome are connected mainly with the lack of sufficient financial resources. The staff fluctuation could have also some negative impact on the implementation of the project. There is necessity of supplying specialised software and equipment in the fields covered by the components.

A very positive impact on the implementation of the project will have the increase of the NSI’s role as main co-ordinator of statistical activities in the country as foreseen in the Statistical Law (adopted on 10 June 1999). The well-established coordination with other institutions such as Bulgarian National Bank, Ministry of Finance and Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry will contribute substantially to the success of the project.

The following legal documents provide favourable conditions for the modern development of statistics in Bulgaria and the project implementation:

- Regulation on building up, maintaining and functioning of BULSTAT Register and Electronic Register for traders and other legal entities – referring Component 4.

The most important milestones of the project in terms of impact are the development of Civil Registration System, Population Database, implementation of financial accounts methodology, increased quality of foreign trade statistics and statistical infrastructure and well-established system for dissemination of statistical information.
ANNEXES

1. Logframe matrix
2. Implementation Chart
3. Contracting and Disbursement Schedule
4. Census schedule
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wider Objectives</th>
<th>Indicators of Achievement</th>
<th>How, When and By Whom Indicators Will Be Measured</th>
<th>Assumptions and Risks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The wider objective of the project is to strengthen the administrative capacity of the National Statistical Institute in order to incorporate the <em>acquis communautaire</em> in the field of statistics under the described components and to ensure the provision of reliable and comparable statistics.</td>
<td>Availability of statistics relevant to the accession process;</td>
<td>Independent evaluation e.g. using questionnaires to users;</td>
<td>The successful implementation of the project is closely linked with the continuing government and international support for development of statistical system and good co-operation of the NSI staff.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Use of statistics in the enlargement negotiations;</td>
<td>Minutes and reports of enlargement negotiations;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Comparability of CEC data at European (EU/CEC) level.</td>
<td>Assessment of compliance with EU statistical requirements (e.g. by Eurostat).</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Immediate Objective</th>
<th>Indicators of Achievement</th>
<th>How, When and By Whom Indicators Will Be Measured</th>
<th>Assumptions and Risks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Support the conduction of the Population and Housing Census 2001</td>
<td>Number of Public and Private users of Census information grows by 50% from mid 2001 to end of 2002; User satisfaction level reaches 75% by end of 2002.</td>
<td>User surveys; Project records; NSI report; Printed material disseminated to users and census and surveys results published.</td>
<td>Reliability of the collected data and up to date population and census information; Public thrust.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Harmonising the financial accounts with the EU requirements</td>
<td>A unique, comprehensive set of data on the financial transactions between the institutional sectors and the economy as a whole and the rest of the world.</td>
<td>Participation in Eurostat publication Financial Accounts for Accession Countries; Presenting the results in NSI publication “Main macroeconomics indicators”; NSI will follow fully the EU methodology and <em>acquis communautaire</em>.</td>
<td>Existence of reliable and sufficient initial information for financial accounts elaboration; Possible inconsistency between national practice, definitions and coverage of indicators and EU standards.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Improvement of the coverage and quality of foreign trade information</td>
<td>Unified methodological concepts for export-import data strictly</td>
<td>Comparative series of the data before and after the corrections;</td>
<td>Adequate software and technical equipment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>by applying new methods</td>
<td>following the EU regulations;</td>
<td>• Mirror statistics;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------------------</td>
<td>--------------------------------</td>
<td>------------------</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Accurate monthly values of imports and exports available.</td>
<td>• Providing regularly data on external trade into COMEXT database.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4. Improvement of the statistical infrastructure by maintaining classifications and nomenclatures using contemporary technologies

- Receiving up-to-date information for national and European classifications and nomenclatures by Unified computer system.
- • Comparison with international classifications and nomenclature.
- Legislation of the market economy still under elaboration.

5. Improvement of dissemination of statistical information by developing existing and new statistical products and services

- Enlarged channels for dissemination of statistical products and services;
- • Improved and new products and services.
- Analysis of the information needs/supplies and identification of the target groups.
- Adequate technical and technological equipment for needs of dissemination.

6. Development and improvement of IT

- Purchased new hardware
- Developed new software
- Introduced general statistical tools for statistical processes
- Trained staff on IT novelties
- Analysis of the needs and requirements, carried out by EU and national experts,
- • Comparison with the contemporary practice with EU statistical offices

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Results</th>
<th>Indicators of Achievement</th>
<th>How, When and By Whom Indicators Will Be Measured</th>
<th>Assumptions and Risks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

1. Conduction of the Census

- Formulated, implemented and monitored social and economic policy of the different government bodies and non-government organisations;
- Updated National Civil Registration System;
- Completed numerous data time series of the National Population database at the NSI;
- Presented population statistics with the help of GIS.

- Level of 96% and above for correct Personal Identification Numbers (PIN);
- Level of 96% and above for the personal records matching with the Civil Registration System;
- Compliance with the international and the European requirements;
- Ease and speed of access to publications and on-line information from the Population DB for decision support.

- Project records;
- Post-enumeration surveys;
- Logbook of the Population Database;
- Publications of the Vital and Housing Statistics;
- Consultancy and evaluation of the census by EU and local experts.

- Delay in gathering and training the staff personnel for conducting the Census;
- Computer system’s technical capacity;
- Inadequate division of the country’s territory into census districts;
- Timely implementation of census plan.

2. Elaboration of financial accounts

- Specific national methodology for collecting, organising and processing the information on financial transactions;
- Unique data on structure and flows of

- Independent estimation of net lending/borrowing by institutional sector;
- Net lending/borrowing – balancing item of both the capital account (non-financial accounts)

- Comparing the independent estimate of net lending/borrowing by institutional sector from the financial account with the one reached by the non-financial accounts;
- Use of other indicators drawn on the

- Existence of reliable and sufficient initial information for financial accounts elaboration;
- Quality of basic data;
- Possible inconsistency between national practice, definitions and
| Financial assets and liabilities – the basis for adequate government policy; |
| Improved quality and reliability of non-financial national accounts; |
| Raised qualification of NSI personnel; |
| Development of specific software. |
| and financial account; |
| Adequate database of financial accounts. |
| Presenting the results in NSI publication “Main macroeconomics indicators”; |
| Providing information for revaluation of assets. |
| base of information from Ministry of Finance and Bulgarian National Bank. |
| coverage of indicators and the EU standards. |
| 3. Improvement of foreign trade statistics |
| Accurate monthly values of the imports and exports; |
| Improved quality of primary data; |
| Efficient decision of methodological discrepancies between external trade data, provided by NSI, and other national and EU organisations; |
| Applied new methods of data control and processing. |
| Unified and adequate software according to new requirements; |
| Improved credibility and quality of aggregated data; |
| Harmonised longitudinal database on external trade following up European requirements. |
| Project reports by NSI experts; |
| Macroeconomic analysis; |
| Multi-country activities in the field of mirror statistics; |
| Reports by project leaders from Eurostat; |
| Co-operation with General Customs Directorate, Bulgarian National Bank and others administrations concerned for solving the problems of the data quality. |
| Rising the qualification and self-motivation of statistical experts dealing with external trade; |
| Availability of database of exports and imports. |
| 4. Development and improvement of statistical infrastructure |
| Better usage of classifications and nomenclatures; |
| Easy access to the national classifications and nomenclatures and papers ensuring their unified application; |
| Project proposal of the Unified Register for Identification of farmers, self-employed persons, and other persons. |
| Implemented Unified computer system for classifications and nomenclatures; |
| Register of statistical units based on modern information technologies; |
| Project description of the Unified Register for Identification of farmers, self-employed persons, and other persons. |
| Level of harmonisation with equivalent European classifications and nomenclatures; |
| Expert evaluation of the access system; |
| Register Bulstat. |
| Legislation of the market economy still under elaboration; |
| Risks in quick changes require amendments in the tools of the statistical infrastructure. |
| 5. Improvement of dissemination of statistical information |
| Enlarged channels for dissemination; |
| Improved price policy and contemporary and flexible publishing and advertising policies; |
| Improved relations with mass media |
| Implemented unified software for the needs of inter-institutional and international information exchange; |
| Implemented modern methods in the field of public relations and relations with mass media; |
| Evaluation of inter-institutional inflows and outflows; |
| New products and services: press releases, specialised WEB pages, Calendar for promotion of results and other user-friendly forms. |
| Risks in raising the qualifications of the personnel working on dissemination. |
and public relations;
• Quality improvement of inter-
institutional and international statistical data exchange;
• Information system (register) of the users.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activities</th>
<th>Indicators of Achievement</th>
<th>How, When and By Whom Indicators Will Be Measured</th>
<th>Assumptions and Risks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Development and improvement of IT</td>
<td>• Purchased new hardware</td>
<td>• The increased IT quality will be assessed jointly by EU experts and the NSI top management and staff</td>
<td>• Expected delay in gathering and training the staff for conducting the Census;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Developed new software</td>
<td></td>
<td>• Insufficient capabilities of technical equipment;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Introduced general statistical tools for statistical processes</td>
<td></td>
<td>• Unproper division of the country’s territory into census districts.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Trained staff on IT novelties</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Elaboration of financial accounts</td>
<td>• National methodology for</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. Conduction of the Census
• Organisation and preparation of the census;
• Development and implementation of contemporary software for census data processing and dissemination;
• Procuring up-to-date hardware and equipment;
• Training of NSI personnel in foreign statistical offices where similar census methods are used;
• Printing of complete census documentation;
• Dissemination of results;
• Updating National Registers with the help of census data;
• Analysis of census data in conjunction with population data from registers and data bases.

2. Elaboration of financial accounts
• National methodology for
• Exchange of experience with other
• Existence of reliable and sufficient
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>3. Improvement of foreign trade statistics</th>
<th>4. Development and improvement of statistical infrastructure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Analysis of the data accuracy and the most typical errors;</td>
<td>Unified system for classifications and nomenclatures in use;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Experiment on recommended methods, software and analysis of the results;</td>
<td>Register of statistical units in use;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Selection of methods and approaches for control of the quality and the coverage of the data;</td>
<td>Staff trained for new practices.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Development of software for automatic control;</td>
<td>Use of national, European and international classifications and nomenclatures</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Analysis of the needs of hardware and the required parameters.</td>
<td>Regular surveys of the RSU-quality.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>4. Development and improvement of statistical infrastructure</th>
<th>4. Development and improvement of statistical infrastructure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Consultancies on the systems for maintenance of the national classifications;</td>
<td>Use of national, European and international classifications and nomenclatures</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elaboration, implementation and promotion of the access system to “Unified system for maintenance of the national classifications and nomenclatures”;</td>
<td>Regular surveys of the RSU-quality.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elaboration of the software for development of the Register of the</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>governmental institutions;</td>
<td>Legislation of the market economy still under elaboration;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assessment of EU experts on national financial accounts;</td>
<td>Risks in quick changes require amendments in the tools of the statistical infrastructure.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation in Eurostat Pilot projects on government debt and deficit and financial NA and presenting the required data;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation in Eurostat publication “Financial accounts of accession countries”.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Analysis of the data quality before and after applying the new approach;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assessment of the project outputs and the effect of the project;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Questionnaires.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>3. Improvement of foreign trade statistics</th>
<th>4. Development and improvement of statistical infrastructure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Two missions of experts by donor country for 5 days;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Study visit of two Bulgarian experts for 5 days in donor country;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Installed software for automatical data checking;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>System for communication and data transmission;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Providing regular data on external trade into COMEXT database;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Press release, bulletins, publications, Web site of NSI.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Analysis of the data quality before and after applying the new approach;</td>
<td>Use of national, European and international classifications and nomenclatures</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assessment of the project outputs and the effect of the project;</td>
<td>Regular surveys of the RSU-quality.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Questionnaires.</td>
<td>Legislation of the market economy still under elaboration;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Risks in effective collaboration between NSI and national Customs directorate.</td>
<td>Risks in quick changes require amendments in the tools of the statistical infrastructure.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### 5. Improvement of dissemination of statistical information
- Consultancies on marketing surveys, strategies and software problems;
- Development of the concept of the Marketing Survey Methodology and organising the survey;
- Working out and implementing National Marketing Strategy for dissemination of statistical products and services;
- Assessment of existing and elaboration of new products and services;
- Information flow analysis;
- Construction of specialised databases of information services for users;
- Working out information register of statistical data users.

| • National marketing strategy for dissemination; | • New high quality and user-friendly statistical products and services in use; | • Unfavourable trends in staff qualification dealing with information services and dissemination; |
| • Modern information services available: Internet, library, databases etc. | • Analysis of the results and overall assessment of project’s output; | • Shortage of financial resources for technical equipment, development of the software. |
| • Contemporary publishing and advertising practices in use. | • Identification and satisfaction of information needs of existing and potential users. | |

### 6. Development and improvement of IT
- Purchased hardware
- Developed software
- Trained staff

| • NSI staff will provide the feedback on the successful day-to-day use of IT system | • Unfavourable trends in staff qualification dealing with information services and dissemination; |
| | • Shortage of financial resources for technical equipment, development of the software. |
## Annex 2

### Implementation Chart

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Title</th>
<th>Institution building and development of the National Statistics system</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Support to the conduction of Population and Housing Census 2001</td>
<td>Design, contracting, contract finalisation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Elaboration of financial accounts</td>
<td>Implementation and disbursement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Improvement of foreign trade statistics</td>
<td>Disbursement and completion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Development and improvement of statistical infrastructure</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Improvement of dissemination of statistical information</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Development and improvement of IT system</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Legend:
- Black: Design, contracting, contract finalisation
- Dark grey: Implementation and disbursement
- Light grey: Disbursement and completion
Annex 3

Cumulative Contracting Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contract 1</td>
<td>1.315</td>
<td>1.315</td>
<td>1.315</td>
<td>1.315</td>
<td>1.315</td>
<td>1.315</td>
<td>1.315</td>
<td>1.315</td>
<td>1.315</td>
<td>1.315</td>
<td>1.315</td>
<td>1.315</td>
<td>1.315</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contract 2</td>
<td>0.685</td>
<td>0.685</td>
<td>0.685</td>
<td>0.685</td>
<td>0.685</td>
<td>0.685</td>
<td>0.685</td>
<td>0.685</td>
<td>0.685</td>
<td>0.685</td>
<td>0.685</td>
<td>0.685</td>
<td>0.685</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Cumulative Disbursement Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contract 1</td>
<td>0.1</td>
<td>0.2</td>
<td>0.3</td>
<td>0.4</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td>0.7</td>
<td>0.8</td>
<td>0.9</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>1.315</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contract 2</td>
<td>0.685</td>
<td>0.685</td>
<td>0.685</td>
<td>0.685</td>
<td>0.685</td>
<td>0.685</td>
<td>0.685</td>
<td>0.685</td>
<td>0.685</td>
<td>0.685</td>
<td>0.685</td>
<td>0.685</td>
<td>0.685</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Annex 4

CENSUS SCHEDULE

2. Analyse results from pilot census.
3. Improve organisational aspects, methodology and questionnaires.
5. Organise co-operation with Civil Registration System for the needs of the compilation of the above lists.
7. Draw maps of the above.
8. Print questionnaires and other census materials.
12. Produce first preliminary results – April 2001
13. Produce provisional results on the basis of 2 % sample.
15. Update the National Civil Registration System with the census results – January – October 2002.