

Standard Summary Project Fiche – IPA centralised programmes

Project Number 22:Alignment with the European Statistical System (ESS)

1. BASIC INFORMATION

- 1.1 CRIS Number:** 2011/022-585
- 1.2 Title:** Alignment with the European Statistical System (ESS)
- 1.3 ELARG statcode:** 03.18 European standards. Statistics
- 1.4 Location:** Republic of Serbia

Implementing arrangements:

- 1.5 Contracting Authority:** EU Delegation to the Republic of Serbia
- 1.6 Implementing Agency:** EU Delegation to the Republic of Serbia
- 1.7 Beneficiary (including details of project manager)**

Ministry/Agency: Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia (SORS)

Name: Mr. Dragan Vukmirovic, Director

Address: Milana Rakica 5, Belgrade

Tel/fax: +381 11 2411 836; +381 11 2411 260

Email: dragan.vukmirovic@stat.gov.rs

Steering committee:

- Control and guidance of Project implementation will be the responsibility of the Project Steering Committee (PSC). The PSC will encompass representatives of the beneficiary (SORS), other key partners involved in Project implementation as well as the responsible Project Manager from the EU Delegation to Serbia.
- Working Group (WG) will be established and will act as a platform for the implementation of the Project activities in order to ensure that the final outputs result out of the properly planned actions. Members of the working group will be project experts and competent staff from SORS, relevant line ministries and other partner organisations. The mandate of the Working Group will be agreed with the Project Steering Committee, as well as the calendar of its meetings and deadlines for the delivery of the intended outputs.
- Project Management Unit (PMU) will be established in order to ensure the internal co-ordination of the Project operations and feed the discussion of the PSC with relevant reports and implementation plans. The core of the PMU will encompass representatives of the Project Working Group.

- Senior Program Officer (SPO) within the scope of the IPA 2011 Project is Director of the SORS, Mr. Dragan Vukmirovic. SPO will also chair the meetings of the Project Steering Committee.
- **Finance**

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| 1.8 Overall cost: | EUR 39.86 million |
| 1.9 EU contribution: | EUR 19.5 million |
| 1.10 Final date for contracting: | 2 years after the signature of the Financing Agreement. |
| 1.11 Final date for execution of contracts: | 4 years after the signature of the Financing Agreement. |
| 1.12 Final date for disbursements: | 5 years after the signature of the Financing Agreement. |

2. OVERALL OBJECTIVE AND PROJECT PURPOSE

2.1 Overall Objective:

Serbian Statistical System upgraded and strengthened in terms of improved availability, quality, comparability and timeliness of statistical data according to the European Statistical System approximation process requirements.

2.2 Project purpose:

Conduct a Population and an Agricultural Census and improve data availability, quality and comparability, while the sources for the production of National Accounts (according to ESA 95) are consolidated.

2.3 Link with AP/NPAA / EP/ SAA

European Partnership with Serbia (Council Decision 2008/213/EC, of 18th February 2008), underlines the need to further develop the statistical systems. The project is directly in line with the following **EP** priorities:

- Short term priorities, Sectoral policies, Statistics: “Conduct an agricultural census, create an agricultural register and continue the development of national accounts to ESA 95 including improving the data sources.”
- Medium term priorities, Sectoral policies, Statistics: “Put in place agricultural statistics and further develop all sectoral statistical areas”

Likewise, the outputs of this Project are, to a significant extent, in line with the priorities quoted in Agriculture part in Sectoral policies, short and medium term priorities: “Strengthen the administrative capacity needed to formulate and implement agricultural and rural development policy”.

Stabilisation and Association Agreement (SAA), Article 90, concerns the Statistical cooperation:

“Cooperation between the Parties shall primarily focus on priority areas related to the Community acquis in the field of statistics. It shall notably be aimed at developing efficient and sustainable statistical system capable of providing, reliable, objective and accurate data needed to plan and monitor the process of transition and reform in Serbia. It should also enable the Statistical Office in Serbia to better meet the needs of its customers in the country (both public administration and private sector)....”

National Plan for Integration of the Republic of Serbia into the European Union, section 3.18 describes priorities in statistical areas. Subsections which consider demography, macro-economic statistics and agriculture statistics (3.18.2.1; 3.18.4.2 and 3.18.7.1) define the following priorities for the years 2011 and 2012 which are directly in line with the present Project:

- Producing the Supply and Use tables in the frame of IPA national project;
- Expenditure method of GDP calculation, in constant prices;
- Conducting the Agriculture Census;
- Conducting the Census of population, households and dwellings in 2011, in accordance with international recommendation (UNECE Recommendations for the 2010 Censuses of Population and housing).

2.4 Link with MIPD¹

The project falls under the sectors of 'Agriculture and Rural Development' and 'Other EU acquis and horizontal activities'. Up to date and reliable statistics on agriculture will contribute to achieving the main goals under 'Agriculture and Rural Development', namely: the development of a sustainable and competitive agricultural sector and addressing the challenges of alignment with the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP). The achievement of other goals under this sector, such as the implementation of EU standards and on the preparation of the Serbia's administration to utilise pre-accession assistance under Component V, will also be facilitated by up to date and reliable statistics. The data gathered by the censuses will also contribute to other EU acquis and horizontal activities.

2.5 Link with National Development Plan (where applicable) N/A

2.6 Link with national / sectoral plans

Development Strategy of the Official Statistics in the Republic of Serbia (“*Official Gazette of the RS, No. 7, of January 30, 2009*”): This document contains the Review of expected results of official statistics development in the period 2009-2012. Beside the basic strategic development activities, this document also includes the actual changes program, together with the plan of its realisation in the forthcoming period; the Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia is in charge of these activities and it is also the main bearer of the official statistics development in Serbia.

In line with the previous Strategy for the development of Official Statistics of the Republic of Serbia (2006), a series of changes started with the intent to harmonise major indicators, primarily, in the field of national accounts and economic statistics. Modifications have been positively evaluated so far. According to the new Strategy: “in the forthcoming period a full harmonisation of national accounts and economic statistics with the EU *acquis* will be carried out, as well as that in the field of prices, wages and salaries, and employment. In addition, development activities in statistics of agriculture, environmental, sustainable development, and regions, etc. are envisaged. Preparations for two new crucial statistical actions: census of agriculture and census of population, households and dwellings, are particularly important”.

¹ Multi-Annual Indicative Planning Document

Sustainable Development Strategy of the Republic of Serbia, adopted in May 2008;

Serbian Strategy of Agricultural Development (“The Official Gazette RS” Nr.78/05);

Regional Development Strategy of the Republic of Serbia for the period 2007-2012 and Action Plan (“The Official Gazette RS” Nr. 21/07);

Serbian Strategy of IT Society Development (“The Official Gazette RS” Nr.87/06);

Migrations Management Strategy adopted in July 2009, reiterates some of the important outputs the SORS is expected to produce in line with its competences and which should feed into the decisive actions of migrations management. Namely, the SORS is already obliged to undertake annual survey on internal migrations and is expected to introduce the regular annual survey on external migrations as of year 2012. The latter will be based on the data obtained throughout population and households' census in 2011 and the information provided by the Ministry of Interior. The accuracy of statistical data in the context of migrations management is indispensable, not only for the purpose of alignment with EU standards and in order to ensure compatibility with migration policies of other states, but more importantly – for the purpose of research, analyses and forecasting of trends and planning of the proactive measures in management of migration flows.

3. DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT

3.1 Background and justification:

Statistics plays a dual role in the Stabilisation and Association Process (SAP) and in the EU membership negotiations. First, an entire chapter of the *acquis* is dedicated to statistics and has to be implemented in the pre-accession period. Second, statistics provides the data needed for other chapters and policy areas. This dual role is in particular evident in the areas of economy, finance, agriculture and regional policy where reliable and comparable statistics is a precondition for successful negotiations. Population, households and dwellings census (Population Census/PC), as well as Agricultural Census (AC) are the vital data sources which present the backbone for entire statistical system.

Population, households and dwellings census

Population censuses present the most massive and the most complex statistical actions, mainly conducted in ten-years periodic. In the current decade, that, according to UN recommendations, relates to the period from 2005 until 2014, all member states should conduct at least one census, so that census data could be comparable, not only methodologically and by contents but also by time period included.

The European Parliament and the Council have adopted a framework regulation on population and housing censuses (Regulation (EC) 763/2008) and several implementation regulations with technical specifications, on metadata, and on quality reporting. These Regulations are directly applicable in the EU Member States and in the EEA. Compared to previous census rounds, the EU has this time made the harmonisation of censuses mandatory in several respects. For instance, Article 5 of the main census Regulation states that the reference year shall be 2011. As a potential candidate country with a view to accession to the EU, the compliance by Serbia with the EU *acquis* will be monitored closely. At the time of accession to EU, basic issues such as the number of Serbian Members of Parliament and the number of Serbian votes in the Council will be determined based on certified population figures. In

many EU policies, population figures are used in indicators which determine the eligibility to funding from EU, such as in the Cohesion policy (regional GDP/capita).

From census to census it can be noticed more and more distinct need for new information, especially for empirical explanations and migratory and socio-economic features of population. The greater number and more complex data on households, especially on varieties of relatives' relationships and family composition inside a household shall be collected, as well as information on dwellings and residential conditions, which were not present in the contents of earlier censuses. According to that, it is completely certain that the approaching PC will leave behind all previous censuses by its scope of contents and by performing of series of new indicators from original topics. This trend of broadening of statistical information spectrum from census to census, typical of all modern societies, becomes regular because in all contemporary circumstances rational establishing and managing of any policy (population, economic, housing, health, etc.) can not be imagined without reliable statistical data. In that sense, PC presents the most important statistical source of certain data on one country's population. To dispose of quantity data on population, from the smallest spatial unit, through settlement and municipality, up to the state level, is an essential assumption of contemporary decision-making and governing on all levels.

Results of the PC are extremely significant, not only from the aspect of the complex demographic and socio-economic phenomena monitoring in our society, but also from the aspect of monitoring of successfulness of strategic goals completion, adopted by the Government of Serbia (National Strategy on ageing, Strategy of even regional development, Strategy of development of adults' education, Strategy of improvement of disabled persons' position, Strategy of employment development, Strategy of agriculture development, etc.). Also, results of the PC in 2011 are important because of continuity and comparability with the results from the previous censuses.

In July 2005, Economic and Social Council of UN (ECOSOC) adopted Resolution no. 2005/13, by which member states of UN organisations were stimulated to conduct PC and to disseminate census results "as an essential source of information for small-area, national, regional and international planning and development; and to provide census results to national stakeholders as well as the United Nations and other appropriate intergovernmental organisations to assist in studies on population, environment, and socio-economic development issues and programmes.

Upon request of the Conference of European Statisticians (CES), recommendations for ECE states have been developed by European Commission of UN for Europe (UNECE), in cooperation with Eurostat and the European Commission has several regulations on the population and housing census: first of all the framework Regulation (EC) 763/2008, which is supplemented by three implementing regulations. The process of making CES recommendations ran parallel with the process of revision of Principles and recommendations for population and households censuses (so called 'world's recommendations'). Basic goals of recommendations for population, households and dwellings censuses are:

- to provide methodological instruction and support to states in planning and conduction of censuses;
- to facilitate and improve data comparability on regional and international level through selection of core topics group and definitions and classifications harmonisation.

Role of various institutions and their interaction

Institutions included in the process of PC preparation and organisations, within the scope of their competence from tasks defined by Law on Census², are:

1. Ministry of Defense;
2. Ministry of Justice;
3. Ministry of Foreign Affairs;
4. Republic Geodetic Authority;
5. Other ministries and special organisations;
6. Activities of municipal administrations, town administrations and the administration of the City of Belgrade

1. *The Ministry of Defense* (article 12. of the Census Law) shall organise and carry out the enumeration of military and civilian personnel residing at the time of the Census in barracks, military schools and similar military institutions, and shall undertake previous enumeration of persons serving military service, in line with the instructions of the Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia.

The training of enumerators and census materials intended for the enumeration of persons referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article shall be provided by the Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia.

2. *The Ministry of Justice* (article 13. of the Census Law) shall organise and carry out the enumeration of persons being incarcerated in respective facilities in view of serving sentence or being in preventive detention.

The Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia shall ensure enumerators' training and census materials for the enumeration of persons referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article.

3. *The Ministry of Foreign Affairs* (article 15. of the Census Law), in co-operation with the Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia, shall organise and carry out the enumeration of the citizens of the Republic of Serbia working in: diplomatic and consular representations of the Republic of Serbia, branches of enterprises abroad, bank branches and other entities in the financial sector abroad, representations of the Chamber of Commerce abroad, Organisation of the United Nations, its bodies and specialised agencies and other international organisations. It shall also enumerate the members of households residing abroad with the above mentioned persons.

Census materials for the enumeration of persons referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article shall be provided by the Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia.

4. *The Republic Geodetic Authority* (article 17. of the Census Law) shall co-operate with the Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia in preparing the Census, and shall up-date the boundaries of enumeration areas in line with the law and organisational and methodological instructions of the Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia.

In addition to activities referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article, the Republic Geodetic Authority, in co-operation with the Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia, shall create maps and descriptions of the enumeration areas' borders according to the organisational and methodological instruction of the Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia.

² The Law on Census of the Population, Households and Dwellings in year 2011. (Official Gazette of the RS", No, 104/2009);

5. *Ministries and special organisations* (article 18. of the Census Law), among previously mentioned ministries, shall be bound to provide assistance to the Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia in conducting the Census within their law-based respective fields, as per need. For example, Republic and Provincial Institute for Social Protection, in co-operation with Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia, organise and conduct enumeration of homeless persons.

6. *Municipal administrations, town administrations and the administration of the City of Belgrade* shall perform the activities set by the Census Law and organisational and methodological instructions of the Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia and monitor Census-taking on the territory of local government authority units.

Agricultural Census

Two very complex and sensitive chapters of the EU acquis, agriculture and statistics are linked by Agricultural Census (AC). The conduct of a census is therefore vital both for the development of reliable agricultural statistics and for the future harmonisation to the EU Common Agricultural Policy (CAP). Statistical information plays a central role in the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the CAP.

In obtaining comparable and harmonised data on the structure of agriculture at the EU level, a system of the Farm Structure Surveys (FSS) has been set up, with the purpose to collect information on agricultural holdings at different geographic levels and over periods, thus providing a base for decision making concerning the CAP.

The EU FSS are the backbone of the entire agricultural statistical system. They provide harmonised micro-data on the agricultural labor force, land use, livestock, equipment and non-agricultural activities. Also, they are the statistical basis (frame) for sample surveys on land use, livestock and agricultural income. The farm typology processed under the FSS is key tool used in the Farm Accountancy Data Network production (FADN is the EU instrument for the evaluation of agricultural holdings' income and the assessment of CAP's impact).

In view of Serbia's efforts towards membership in the EU, it is critical to upgrade and strengthen the agricultural statistical system which is essential for the future integration into the EU and for the future harmonisation to the EU Common Agricultural Policy.

The urgency of the issue is given by the fact that the last AC in Serbia was conducted 50 years ago – Last full scope AC was conducted in 1960. Sample based AC was conducted in 1969. The lack of accurate and reliable data is an obstacle for a proper formulation of agriculture policy or rural development strategies (by the relevant Ministries and Institutions) as well as for economic or trade planning.

Within the scope of the methodology elaborated by the SORS, which is accordingly reflected in the relevant national legislation in order to ensure efficiency and effectiveness in performing two major censuses, an important and strict sequence is envisaged for these two undertakings. Namely, the AC shall take place few months after the PC, thus allowing for the coordination of activities and concentration of resources between the two censuses, which will save funds and add to the usefulness of data from both sources. In those terms, using the PC enumerators' network will enable engaging the quality and targeted enumerators which can easily fulfill AC demands. In addition to this, enumerators' residence (place of living) is usually situated in the area where they are supposed to undertake enumeration activities, so

that they would be easily familiarised and recognised by the respondents, which will make the acquiring of data much more feasible and reliable.

In Serbia, relevant ministries and institutions (including SORS) are strongly oriented to apply all recommendations and the EU legislation in terms of undertaking agricultural census and leaning activities. Moreover, it is important to note that by conducting the AC, Serbia will be able to provide useful information also for FAO's decennial World Programme for the Census of Agriculture. According to FAO's recommendations, each country should conduct at least one AC within the world census program decade. The survey characteristics foreseen by the EC Regulation largely match the main information requested by FAO's 2010 program of the World Census of Agriculture. This will allow Serbia to respond to FAO needs simultaneously with fulfilling the EU requirements.

The ongoing IPA 2007 Project (February 2009 – July 2011) has one component which is fully dedicated to the preparation of the AC. The majority of preparatory activities for the implementation of the AC are covered by this project, i.e.: issues related to organisation, management and budgeting of the census; development of methodological prerequisites for the full census, a pilot survey and analysis of all phases and outputs of the pilot AC, staff training etc.

All these activities conducted with help of EU experts, contributed to the enhancement of the human capacity of the SORS. Thus, high professionalism and commitment of the SORS team (demonstrated during the pilot census in 2009) will certainly contribute to the success of the Census.

Outline of the characteristics of Serbian agricultural sector

Together with pre-farming sector (industry of input suppliers for agricultural production) and post-farming sector (food processing industry, trade, transport, services, financial industry etc.), primary agricultural production which consists mostly of family agricultural holdings, plays a significant role in Serbian economy as a whole.

The main feature of Serbian agriculture is its duality, which means that the agricultural holdings in Serbia can be separated into two main types: (a) Holdings being legal units (i.e. commercial enterprises and agricultural cooperatives) and (b) Family agricultural holdings.

According to the Census of population 2002 (part relating to agriculture), the average size of arable area owned by a family holding is about 2.37 ha. Out of the total number of holdings covered by the Population census 2002 (778 891 agricultural family holdings), only 5.6% cultivate more than 10 ha.

The agribusiness sector employs a big portion of the total labor in the country and contributes with an important part to the total GDP (in the last few years the share of agriculture in GDP has almost been 15%), with significant influence on a foreign trade balance of the country (more than 10% of the total foreign trade of Serbia is agricultural and, at the same time, it has been the only part of the economy with surplus in foreign trade). Importance of agriculture also arises from the influence that it has on the environment and preserving of rural areas.

Role of various institutions and their interaction

As for coordination with other bodies, the SORS signed two Memoranda of understanding with the Ministry of Agriculture on the planning and implementation of the agriculture census and with the Ministry of Finance on the collection and transfer of data to SORS.

- The Ministry of Agriculture (MoA), forestry and water management

Description of competence:

Creation of a national agricultural policy and its implementation. The data obtained from the upcoming AC will be used by the Ministry for planning of sustainable agricultural development policy and strategy of the agricultural sector, and for monitoring of the annual effects of the implementation of agricultural policy. In addition to this, the MoA is responsible for planning policy for incentive funds for rural development.

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management and SORS has been in force since 2007. Preparatory work on the Agricultural Census and leaning activities has been conducted jointly by the SORS and MoA (Pilot Census of Agriculture 2009) on the basis of the MoU.

- The Ministry of Finance

Description of competence:

Creation of the strategy of tax policy in agricultural sector. Ministry of Finance elaborates macroeconomic and fiscal analysis, together with quantification of measures of economic policy. Being an integral part of the national economy, Agriculture is also sensitive to the measures of economic policy. And vice versa – in order for the economic policy to be adequately formulated (in the agricultural sector), existence of the accurate data is of essential importance.

- The Ministry of Economy and Regional Development

Description of competence:

Together with the Ministry of Agriculture is involved in creation of an agricultural policy on regional level. This Ministry will be mostly involved in promotion of the Census and the inevitable field work on local level (municipality commissions etc.). Within this, one of the main goals is to define mechanisms to encourage balanced regional development in order to prevent the negative trends and reduce differences in development, especially when rural areas are in question.

Link between two Censuses:

The World Programme for Census of agriculture 2010 (FAO-UN), in Chapter VI - Link between the AC and PC and other censuses, among other things, provides the possibility of using the PC to establish the frame for the AC.

Given that the Population Census in the Republic of Serbia is going to be followed by the Agricultural Census, this opportunity will be also used for the following purpose:

- Data obtained from the PC will be used as a frame for AC
- Coordination of activities between the Population Census and the Agricultural Census is to contribute to positive financial effects meaning that less money will be needed, and to an increase in utility of data from the two censuses;
- The use of common statistical standards, definitions and classifications provides consistency and comparability of data and afterwards easier interpretation and analysis of the same data;
- Since, the AC is to be conducted after the Population Census, the body responsible for organisation and conduction of the Population Census, and the same auxiliary material (e.g. sketches and descriptions of borders of enumeration areas) can be used as well as the same IT equipment and premises.
- Short time period between two censuses prevents the established frame to become out of date, but also requires a good organisation and coordination of activities between the two censuses;

National Accounts

Improvement of the domestic system of producing National Accounts is of crucial importance for the promotion of adherence to ESS requirements and methodologies, notably by conducting an analytical survey on economic entities in order to collect detailed and analytical data on income and expenditure structures of economic entities. This survey will provide data which can not be obtained from existing administrative and statistical sources, but are, at the same time, of utmost importance for *Supply and Use Tables* (SUT) being the core statistical instrument in the system of National Accounts. Introduction of the SUT system based on quality and reliable data is a critical step in the National Accounts development and harmonisation with the EU regulations in the field.

The production of the SUT are obligatory element of the National Accounts System of each MS and it is as such prescribed by Council Regulation No. 2223/96 of 25 June 1996 on the European System of National and Regional Accounts (ESA95)) and ESA 1995 Transmission Programme in which tables with defined macroeconomic indicators must be sent to Eurostat.

Compilation of SUT will improve quality of NA system as well as the reliability and precision of GDP and of other macroeconomic aggregates estimates. SUT represents the main statistical tool for macroeconomic analysis, modelling and the creation of economic and structural policies and for the monitoring of the effects of policy implementation. The SUT provides a framework for checking the consistency and integration of the statistical system as a whole and improves its overall quality.

With this regards, the Input-output survey envisaged within the scope of the present Project, represents the first step in compilation of SUT. This survey is aimed at production of detailed information about inputs and outputs of economic subjects on product level, which represents the core of the SUT system. A survey of such a scale requires significant resources, as it is obligatory that it covers all economic subjects irrespectively of their size and legal status. This aspect of the Project will provide a direct continuation of the support currently provided by the IPA 2007 national programme where the methodology for SUT has been established and the staff has been trained in producing, analysing and interpreting SUT data.

3.2 Assessment of project impact, catalytic effect, sustainability and cross border impact (where applicable)

Population Census represents the most important statistical source of individual data on population of certain country. Disposing of quantitative data on population, from the smallest territorial unit, over the settlement and municipality, up to the level of state, is essential presumption of modern decision-making and managing on all levels.

Beside the basic question “*How many of us is there*”, census is providing answer on question “*Who we are*”, in the relations of age, sex, education, activity, occupation and other characteristics, as well as answer on the question “*Where and how do we live*”, in the light of information on type of the dwelling, equipment of the dwelling with basic installations of water, electricity, etc. Answers on those questions provide numeric frame of the population, which is the base of efficient planning, development of economic, social, population, agrarian, etc. politics, as well as administrative activities and science researches.

Since agriculture represents a very important component of the total economy in Serbia, the data obtained through the agricultural census are the backbone for the future planning and development of this sector. Realisation of this project will accelerate overall agriculture development, institutional development and increased absorption capacity for EU funds. Also, AC data will have influence on economic developments as well as on local and national decision-making about: competitive market pricing, farm services, transportation and marketing locations, rural tourism and relating activities development, environmental and conservations issues, farming trends, production practices, new and changing technologies and many other key issues facing population from local communities.

Improvement of data sources needed for the compilation of National Accounts will have positive impact regarding quality and consistency of National Accounts system of Serbia and increase reliability and precision of calculations of GDP and estimates other macroeconomic aggregates. It will improve decision making process in all areas in which statistical and national accounting data are used (economic and structural policy making, regional development, economic analysis and modeling etc.). Project results will enable SORS to establish consistent and integrated system of NA in long term period. Coefficients and indicators produced can be used in national accounts system in mid-term period (about 5 years).

3.3 Results and measurable indicators

Result 1: An exhaustive picture of the characteristics of the Serbian population, households and housing obtained

Indicator: Population Census conducted; the results analysed and disseminated.

Result 2: Identification frame for conducting Agricultural Census established

Indicator: List of households with agricultural production which have to be enumerated within AC created.

Result 3: Statistical data needed for creation of state policies, especially in the area of population policies provided

Indicator: An increased Governmental use of population census statistics by policy makers.

Result 4: Data needed for estimations and projections, as well as identification frame for conduction of sample based surveys improved

Indicator: Greater use of data by analysts and researchers.

Result 5: An exhaustive picture of the structural characteristics of the Serbian agricultural sector obtained

Indicator: Agricultural Census conducted; the results analysed and disseminated

Result 6: A Farm Register which contains the key agricultural statistical variables and which serves as a sampling frame for agricultural sample surveys and the EU obligatory farm structure survey provided

Indicator: The level of agricultural statistics availability and accessibility increased

Result 7. Statistical data needed for the development of a sustainable Serbian agriculture policy and rural area strategy provided

Indicator: An increased Governmental use of agricultural statistics for policy and rural area strategy development and planning

Result 8. Data sources for the production of National Accounts upgraded

Indicator: Input-output survey conducted and new data sets provided

Result 9: Compilation of SUT using data obtained through the Input-Output survey

Indicator: Make and use matrix constructed; investment matrix constructed and first unbalanced estimates of GDP within SUT framework provided

3.4 Activities:

Indicative activities among others within IPA 2011 shall be:

Population Census

- Enumerators' engagement and fulfilling the PC questionnaires - Fieldwork
- Pre-enumeration – Fieldwork
- Post enumeration survey – Fieldwork

Agricultural Census

- Enumerators' and supervisors' engagement and carrying out of three rounds of trainings
- Agricultural Census conduct – Fieldwork;
- Control of the fieldwork activities
- Census sample quality control;

National Accounts

- Interviewers' engagement and familiarisation with the objectives and "National Input-output Survey" methodology;
- Participation in the operational preparatory activities for the Survey;
- Conducting the "National Input-output Survey" survey;
- Data collection, processing and first-level quality control of the Survey sample
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One direct action grant to the SORS for the conducting of the activities of Population and Agricultural Censuses as well as for the conducting of the "National Input-output Survey".

National co-financing is envisaged to cover part of the eligible costs in the amount of approximately 51% of the overall funding necessary for the undertaking of both major censuses. The list of activities envisaged for the national co-financing is outlined in the table presented in the Annex VI.

3.5 Conditionality and sequencing:

The number of requests for different statistical indicators will grow along the negotiations on stabilisation and accession to the EU. Therefore, Official Statistics should be ready to meet those requirements, because SORS is perceived by international organisations and the public as the unique competent and authorised institution to provide objective statistical information on socio-economic trends in the Republic of Serbia. However, to fulfil this task, the official statistics needs modern methodologies and adequate mechanisms, recognised and accepted by Eurostat, IMF, OECD and other relevant international organisations and institutions, for their implementation.

At present, national administration is undergoing preparations for two crucial statistical actions: Population census and Agricultural census. Legal framework is established by the adoption of the Law on Census of Agriculture as well as the law on Population, Households and Dwellings. Field activities for the planned Censuses are envisaged for 2011, according to the adopted regulations. Moreover, there is a methodological, practical and cost-effective request that both Censuses take place in the one year period and there is also a sequencing in-between the Censuses, so that the PC has to precede the AC. Population Census is the best and the only possible frame for choosing the households with own-account agricultural production which have to be include in the AC. This approach enables use of updated enumeration area and other organisational issues, which have direct influence on saving time and funds.

In the context of the economic crisis, and consequently, of extremely restrictive national budgetary policy, costs of both Censuses incur enormous pressure for domestic public finances. The PC is envisaged to be held from 1st to 15 October 2011, and the AC shall take place from 1st October to 15 December 2012. IPA 2011 funding for the Censuses is seen as the unique possibility and at the same time optimal solution for accomplishing of this important statistical exercise. Without this funding, the progress of Serbian statistics towards integration of the national statistical system into the European Statistical System would be certainly delayed. Since the statistics has a dual role in accession process, also other important policies would be directly hampered. In the moment of submitting the project proposal, the maximum outreach of the national budget towards census undertakings in 2011 squares only part of the necessary funding³, which is why the Government of Serbia is committed to ensure the minimum of the acceptable rescheduling of activities via Amendments to the Laws on Censuses, as well as to urge for the EU financial assistance necessary for complementing national funding with this regards (as presented in this Project Proposal).

Strong support from the relevant Ministries, as well as of the population and the farmers who will be requested to provide information, will be of crucial importance for the successful implementation of the present Project regarding the Censuses. With careful planning and the experiences acquired during previous Censuses, preparatory awareness rising actions will minimise this kind of risk for the rolling out of project activities.

The action Grant for the SORS will be the implementing arrangement to be launched promptly within IPA 2011 Project. Apart from financing dominantly the PC and the AC, this Grant is also intended for conducting of the analytical Survey of economic entities (National Input-output Survey) to feed upgrading the system of National Accounts.

³ The source of information being the Draft Law on Budget of the Republic of Serbia for the year 2011, submitted for the National Assembly for the adoption on December 17, 2010.

IPA financing for this project is conditional upon agreement that all census related activities will be limited to the territory upon which the Serbian government exercises administrative control. Moreover, the "legally invisible" persons, i.e. persons without birth registration, will be included in the forthcoming census. They should be included in a way that allows us to extract the statistical data on "legally invisible" persons in Serbia, respecting the standards on data protection.

3.6 Linked activities

The first national CARDS technical assistance in the field of statistics started early 2005. The project was implemented by the Italian National Institute of Statistics, in partnership with the Central Statistical Offices of Hungary and Sweden. The objective of the Project was to start building up a system of accounts and bring GDP compilation closer to the methodology of the European System of Accounts (ESA95). Development of price indices and implementation of a Structural Business Statistics survey made important components of the Project, as they constitute important input for GDP.

In the frame of the CARDS National Programme 2005, EU funded the upgrading of the 14 Regional Statistical Offices mainly responsible for data collection and field operations throughout Serbia. This Project provided an ambitious training programme covering management and organisation, Information Technology, Economics and European Structures and functioning. This project had also a supply component and 17 vehicles were delivered to the Head Office and Regional Offices to facilitate field work and transportation of material.

The CARDS National Programme 2006 has funded a 1 million Euro procurement of IT hardware and software that were needed to support the implementation of new methodology.

SORS had also participated in the CARDS Regional programmes on Statistics. The programmes gathered all CARDS countries in common activities of training, exchanges of experiences and pilot projects. The Regional CARDS 2001 supported external trade statistics, purchasing power parity (PPP), business statistics and improved knowledge about EU statistical standards and the European Statistical System. The second Regional project - CARDS 2003 - started in July 2006 and focused on labour market statistics, external trade statistics, migration statistics and purchasing power parities. In addition, the regional programmes had a technical assistance component including participation at Eurostat meetings, trainings and study visits as well as consultations to the statistical offices.

Furthermore, a horizontal project was planned under the Multi-beneficiary IPA 2007 to build on previous CARDS regional programmes as well as expand on the areas covered. The ongoing MB IPA 2008 project is the continuation of the both previous programmes.

IPA 2007 National Project on Improving Structural Capacity of the Serbian Statistical Office in view of approximating European Statistical System (ESS) requirements, made methodological basis for undertaking of the Agricultural Census as well as for the introduction of the SUT. During this Project, first experimental SUT for 2007 and 2008 has been elaborated using existing data sources. This exercises provided opportunity for training of the NA staff in production of SUT and it will surely contribute to the success of the Project submitted under IPA 2011. It will also contribute to the improvement of other subsystems of SORS especially statistics of Manufacturing industry, Construction statistics, Structural Business statistics, all of which are in state of harmonisation with EU statistical standards.

Likewise, the statistical system is benefiting or has benefited from the assistance of other donors. These include:

- OECD, Eurostat and EFTA – Regional projects on Non Observed Economy aimed at achieving exhaustiveness in national accounts.

- The Swedish Development Agency (SIDA) has been supporting agriculture statistics, economic statistics, business register, short term statistics, SBS, energy statistics and energy balances, IT development and IT training, survey methodology, monitoring of sector performance, household budget survey, labour market statistics, cooperation with users and human resource training. In the framework of SIDA support Pilot Census of Roma Population was conducted successfully in 2009. In addition, the SIDA Regional project supported environmental statistics, statistical methodology and gender statistics. Among others, this regional project has improved the quality of waste and air pollution statistics, has trained staff for survey implementation, questionnaire design, sampling techniques, compliance with the EU requirements and has improved cooperation with users and producers of official statistics.

- The Swedish Development Agency (SIDA) supported Pilot census for Roma Population. Pilot census had been successfully conducted from 1st until 15th November 2009, in co-operation with National Council of Roma minority, Office for Roma Inclusion in Vojvodina and Ministry for Human and Minority Rights.

- SORS is also an active partner in many other projects, funded by EU or other donors that have an impact on statistics (for instance Poverty Reduction Strategy Programme of the World Bank; Support to the development of SME; Energy strategy).

3.7 Lessons learned

In order to better prepare for the next Population Census, the Department of population census of the Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia (SORS), conducted in 2009 two pilot censuses. The first one had been conducted on the sample of 50 enumeration areas in the period from 1-15 April 2009, and the second one from 1-15 November 2009, so called Pilot census for Education of Roma people. Although pilot census which took place in April, due to lack of financial resources had been conducted on non-representative sample, the main aim was accomplished, i.e. testing basic enumeration forms (one form field approval and connection between forms), testing prepared methodological solutions, organisational structure etc. Pilot census for Education of Roma people had the aim to train certain number of Roma representatives for conducting some of the census activities, so they could be actively included in PC 2011 realisation. Also, one of the basic aims was to strengthen the relation of trust and cooperation between Roma minority representatives and official statistics, which was also achieved.

In order to better prepare for the next Agricultural Census, the Department of agricultural and forestry statistics of the Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia (SORS), conducted during 1-15 December 2009, a Pilot census of Agriculture. All regional statistical offices were involved in this activity. The pilot census was organised in the frame of the National IPA 2007 Project, Component 2, according to the Plan of activities foreseen under the Project. The main goals of the pilot census were to test, on a small scale, all the methodological and organisational instruments, necessary for carrying out the complete Agricultural Census on the entire territory of the Republic of Serbia. Having in mind that the SORS has outstanding experience in organising population censuses (for more than 150 years) as well as in the execution of the field activities encompassing procedures of organising various census local teams, selecting appropriate enumerators and maintaining good relationship with local authorities, it will be most beneficial for the whole AC project to be under full control of the SORS.

Likewise, when it comes to the National Accounts, experimental compilation of SUT for 2007 and 2008 showed number of missing data and inconsistencies regarding various data sources. One of the biggest issues represents lack of data on economic efficiency of economic subjects and detailed information on products and services used in production activity. This information is very valuable because it represents foundation for creation of so called *use matrix* and construction of SUT. This information can be obtained only through special survey and all EU countries conduct such a survey. International experts engaged in ongoing IPA project stressed need for introduction of this survey as a first step in production of SUT.

Experimental compilation of SUT for 2007 and 2008 showed number of missing data and inconsistencies regarding various data sources. One of the biggest issues concerns lack of data on economic efficiency of economic subjects and detailed information on products and services used in production activity. These information represent foundation for creation of the so-called “use matrix” and construction of SUT, and can be obtained only through special survey, which all the EU countries conduct according to the consolidated methodology. International experts engaged in ongoing IPA project stressed the necessity of introducing this survey as a first step in production of SUT.

4. INDICATIVE BUDGET (AMOUNTS IN EUR MILLION)

| Title: Alignment with the European Statistical System (ESS) | | | TOTAL EXP.RE | SOURCES OF FUNDING | | | | | | | | |
|---|----|-----|-----------------------|---------------------|------------|-----------------------------|------------|--------------|----------------------|----------|----------------------|----|
| | | | | IPA EU CONTRIBUTION | | NATIONAL CONTRIBUTION | | | | | PRIVATE CONTRIBUTION | |
| ACTIVITIES | IB | INV | (a) = (b) + (c) + (d) | (b) | %* | Total (c) = (x) + (y) + (z) | %* | Central (x) | Regional / Local (y) | IFIs (z) | (d) | %* |
| Contract | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Contract 1 – Direct Grant | X | | 39.86 | 19.5 | 49% | 20.36 | 51% | 20.36 | | | | - |
| TOTAL IB | | | 39.86 | 19.5 | 49% | 20.36 | 51% | 20.36 | | | | |
| TOTAL INV | | | - | - | | | | | | | | |
| TOTAL PROJECT | | | 39.86 | 19.5 | 49% | 20.36 | 51% | 20.36 | | | | |

Amounts net of VAT

(1) In the Activity row use “X” to indentify whether IB or INV

(2) Expressed in % of sum of each line of the Total Expenditure (column (a))

5. INDICATIVE IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE

| Contracts | Start of Tendering | Signature of contract | Project Completion |
|---------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| Contract 1 – Direct grant | - | T+1Q | T+6Q |

*All projects should in principle be ready for tendering in the 1ST Quarter following the signature of the FA

6. CROSS CUTTING ISSUES

6.1 Equal Opportunity

SORS is an institution with a very high share of female employees, occupying also management positions. Equal opportunity principles and practices in ensuring equitable gender participation in the Project will be guaranteed. Equal treatment will be followed while selecting a TA provider. All contractors shall be requested to provide monitoring data recording the participation of men and women in terms of expert inputs (in days) and of trainees benefiting under the project (in days) as an integral component of all project progress reports.

6.2 Environment

The project will contribute to decision making process in the field of environment protection, since the Agricultural Census data are the basis for the environmental database development, and particularly for „agri-environment" indicators development. Agri-environment statistics are the integral part of AC, and they include data on:

- Water statistics -Water use for irrigation, water sources, irrigated methods, irrigable and irrigated area, land erosion, drainage, water use for livestock, nutrients in the water: Pesticides (insecticides, fungicides and herbicides), Fertilisers (Mineral and organic fertilisers),
- Waste statistics – (included agricultural waste) according to national and international requests,
- Agricultural waste - biomass from agriculture, fisheries, forestry, wooded biomass,
- Biodiversity and land use -arable land, gardens, pastures, species planted culture, an area covered by forests and ponds,
- Air pollutions
- Livestock - Number and type of livestock, organic fertiliser, manures
- Energy use - agriculture vehicles, equipment for renewable energy production (by the source of energy, etc.)
- Toxic chemicals - use and consumption (pesticides, fertilisers..)

6.3 Minorities

Based on the fundamental principles of promoting equality and combating discrimination, participation in the project will be guaranteed on the basis of equal access regardless of sex, racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation.

ANNEXES

- I. Logframe in Standard Format
- II. Indicative amounts contracted and Disbursed per Quarter over the full duration of Programme
- III. Description of Institutional Framework
- IV. Reference to laws, regulations and strategic documents:
 - Reference list of relevant laws and regulations
 - Reference to AP /NPAA / EP / SAA
 - Reference to MIPD
 - Reference to National Development Plan
 - Reference to national / sectoral investment plans
- V. Details per EU funded contract (where applicable)

ANNEX I: Logical framework matrix

| LOGFRAME PLANNING MATRIX FOR Project Fiche | | Programme name and number: EUD to complete | |
|---|---|--|---|
| Project title: Alignment with the European Statistical System (ESS) | | | |
| | | Total budget : EUR 39.86 million | IPA budget: EUR 19.5 million |
| OVERALL OBJECTIVE | Objectively verifiable indicators | Sources of Verification | |
| Serbian Statistical System upgraded and strengthened in terms of improved availability, quality, comparability and timeliness of statistical data according to the European Statistical System approximation process requirements | | <p>Council Decision and Action Plan for the implementation of the European Partnership adopted by the Serbian Government</p> <p>EC Progress Report</p> <p>Statistical Requirements Compendium (reference document for the <i>acquis</i> in statistics)</p> | |
| SPECIFIC PROJECT PURPOSE | Objectively verifiable indicators | Sources of Verification | Assumptions |
| Population and Agricultural Census conducted and agricultural data availability, quality and comparability improved, while the sources for the production of National Accounts (according to ESA 95) are consolidated. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Relevant data from the Population Census available in the format and contents suitable for national and EU requirements; - Relevant data from the Agricultural Census available in the format and contents suitable for fulfilling the requirements of national alignment with Common Agricultural Policy; - National Accounts in higher compliance | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - EC and Eurostat Progress Report - Report from SMIS (Statistical Information Management System) - Annual Statistical Report - Reports by Serbian Government; - Reports and publications by Eurostat, SORS and other | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Strong support from the Ministry of Agriculture, the Ministry of Finance, the population and the farmers who will be requested to provide information - Political support towards the statistical sector indicating sufficient financial resources for the production of |

| | | | |
|---|--|--|---|
| | with the EU methodologies and standards | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - public institutions - Project progress reports - Reports by the IMF and FAO | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - statistics - Strong users' awareness of the need for planning and decision making based on quality and accurate data; - Coordination of donor support |
| RESULTS | Objectively verifiable indicators | Sources of Verification | Assumptions |
| R1: An exhaustive picture of the characteristics of the Serbian population, households and housing obtained | I1: Population Census conducted; the results analysed and disseminated. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Census publications; - Quality Census control report | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sufficient financing |
| R2: Identification frame for conducting Agricultural Census established | I2: List of households with agricultural production which have to be enumerated within AC created. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Data base of households with agricultural production | |
| R3: Statistical data needed for creation of state politics, especially in the area of population politics provided | I3: An increased Governmental use of population census statistics by policy makers. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reports and publications by Serbian Government; | |
| R4: Data needed for estimations and projections, as well as identification frame for conduction of sample based surveys improved | I4: Grater use of data by analysts and researches. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reliable studies | |
| R5: An exhaustive picture of the structural characteristics of the Serbian agricultural sector obtained | I5. Census conducted. The results analysed and disseminated | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Census publications; - Quality Census control report | The conduct of the census according to the planning made under IPA 2007 Sufficient financing |
| R6: A Farm Register which contains the key agricultural statistical variables and which serves as a sampling frame for agricultural sample surveys and the EU obligatory farm structure survey provided | I6. The level of agricultural statistics availability and accessibility increased | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - SORS, Eurostat and DG AGRI reports, publications and databases; - Project progress report | |

| | | | |
|---|--|--|---|
| R7: Statistical data needed for the development of a sustainable Serbian agriculture policy and rural area strategy provided | 17. An increased Governmental use of agricultural statistics for policy and rural area strategy development and planning | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reports and publications by Serbian Government; - Strategies and policies by relevant ministries; Project progress report - Calendar of statistical publications, SORS's administrative time use survey. | |
| R8: Data sources for the production of National Accounts upgraded | 18. Input-output survey conducted and new data sets provided | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Eurostat's annual progress assessments - IMF reports - Ministry of Finance and National Bank's reports | |
| R9: Initial compilation of SUT using data obtained through the Input-Output survey | 19: Make and use matrix constructed; investment matrix constructed and first unbalanced estimates of GDP within SUT framework provided | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Eurostat's annual progress assessments - IMF reports | |
| Activities | | Means & Costs | Assumptions |
| <p><i>Population Census</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Enumerators' engagement and fulfilling the PC questionnaires - Fieldwork - Pre-enumeration – Fieldwork - Post enumeration survey – Fieldwork <p><i>Agricultural Census</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Enumerators' and supervisors' engagement and carrying out of three rounds of trainings - Agricultural Census conduct – Fieldwork; - Control of the fieldwork activities - Census sample quality control; <p><i>National Accounts</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Interviewers' engagement and familiarisation with the objectives and "National Input-output Survey" methodology; - Participation in the operational preparatory activities for the Survey; - Conducting the "National Input-output Survey" survey; | | <p>Means</p> <p>Direct Grant to SORS</p> <p>Costs</p> <p>EUR 19.5 million</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dedicated manager and staff members with relevant competence to ensure the implementation of the development processes - Absorption capacity |

| | | |
|--|--|--|
| - Data collection, processing and first-level quality control of the Survey sample | | |
|--|--|--|

ANNEX II: Indicative amounts (in EUR million) Contracted and disbursed by quarter for the project (IPA contribution only)

| Contracted | 1Q | 2Q | 3Q | 4Q | 5Q | 6Q | Total |
|----------------------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|
| Contract 1 Direct Grant | 19.5 | | | | | | 19.5 |
| Cumulated | 19.5 | | | | | | 19.5 |
| Disbursed | | | | | | | |
| Contract 1 Direct Grant | 15.6 | 0 | 1.95 | 0 | 0 | 1.95 | 19.5 |
| Cumulated | 15.6 | 15.6 | 17.55 | 17.55 | 17.55 | 19.5 | 19.5 |

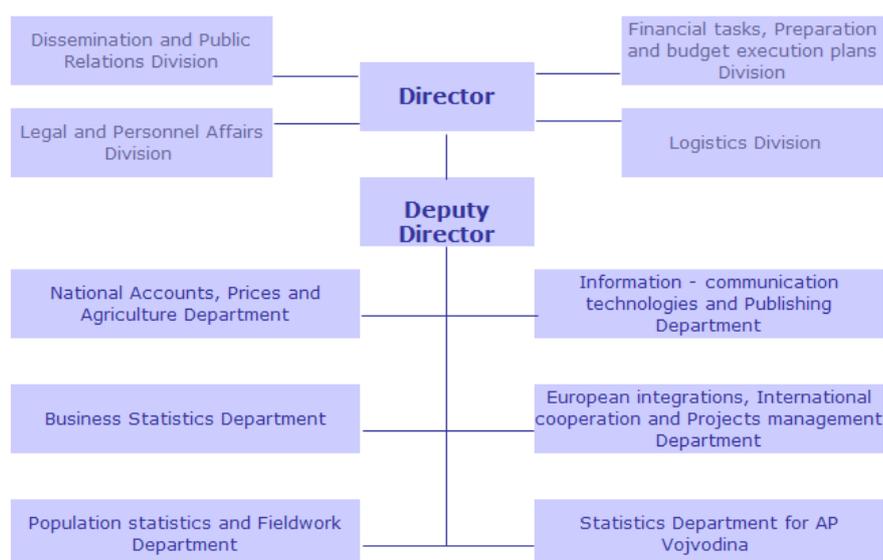
ANNEX III: Institutional Framework – legal responsibilities and statutes

The Official Statistics Law ("Official Gazette of RS ", no. 104/2009) provides the legal frame for the production and dissemination of official statistics and also for the organisation of the system of official statistics of the Republic of Serbia.

System of official statistics consists of: Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia (hereinafter referred to as the Office), which realises over 80% of overall statistical activities, National Bank of Serbia, City administration of the city of Belgrade – the territory of the city of Belgrade and other responsible producers of official statistics, such as Ministry of Labour and Social Policy, Republic Fund for Pension and Disability Insurance, National Employment Service, Ministry of Health, Republic Fund for Health Insurance, etc. According to the previously mentioned, the Office is in charge of preparation of the legal acts and institutional frame that provide the conditions for: obtaining the most significant statistical indicators; development of official statistics in the direction of methodologies, classifications, nomenclatures and statistical practices harmonisation, according to the internationally accepted standards; increasing the level of comparability of official statistics with statistics of other countries and statistics of international organisations, promoting the role and importance of official statistics in the society. This primarily refers to the Law on Official Statistics, Development Strategy of the Official Statistics, Semi – annual Program of Statistical Surveys and internal system and systematisation within the Office.

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management and SORS has been in force since 2007. Data and information about the Agricultural Census and the planned activities have been exchanged on the basis of the MoU. SORS has communicated that a specific annex may be added to the MoU that will specify the responsibilities and working arrangements under the census.

Organisational chart of the SORS



In the process of official statistics development, regional departments of the Office play the significant role. Namely, the greatest number of statistical surveys is conducted in the field,

via regional departments, thus making the departments very important for the whole statistical system. Direct contacts with the reporting units and data sources present great advantages and they make the obtained data timely and of higher quality. Upgrading the already existing ways of data collecting and also introducing some new methods (phone, Web, etc.), as well as better organisation of field work will certainly contribute to improved quality of the whole statistical system. The main preconditions relate to enhanced technical equipment in regional offices, also including the possibility of constant expert trainings of the employed. Detailed overview of the regional departments of the SORS is available on the following electronic address: <http://webrzs.stat.gov.rs/axd/en/podrod.php>

ANNEX IV: Reference to laws, regulations and strategic documents

- Regulation (EC) 763/2008 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of 9 July 2008 on population and housing censuses;
- COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 1201/2009 of 30 November 2009 as regards the technical specifications of the topics and of their breakdowns;
- COMMISSION REGULATION (EU) No 519/2010 of 16 June 2010 adopting the programme of the statistical data and of the metadata for population and housing censuses;
- COMMISSION REGULATION (EU) No 1151/2010 of 8 December 2010 regarding the modalities and structure of the quality reports and the technical format for data transmission;
- Regulation (EC) No 1166/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 19 November 2008 on farm structure surveys and the survey on agricultural production methods;
- Council Regulation (EC) No 2223/96 of 25 June 1996 on the European system of national and regional accounts in the Community;
- The Official Statistics Law ("*Official Gazette of RS* ", No. 104/2009);
- The Law on Census of the Agriculture in year 2011 ("*Official Gazette of the RS*", No. 104/2009);⁴
- The Law on Census of the Population, Households and Dwellings in year 2011. (*Official Gazette of the RS*", No. 104/2009);⁵
- The Statistical Surveys Act ("*Official Gazette of RS*", No. 83/92);
- The Regulation Act on Defining of Statistical Surveys ("*Official Gazette of RS*", No. 110/2009)

Links with EP, SAA, NPI:

European Partnership with Serbia (Council Decision 2008/213/EC, of 18th February 2008), underlines the need to further develop the statistical systems. The project is directly in line with the following EP priorities:

- Short term priorities, Sectoral policies, Statistics: "Conduct an agricultural census, create an agricultural register and continue the development of national accounts to ESA 95 including improving the data sources."
- Medium term priorities, Sectoral policies, Statistics: "Put in place agricultural statistics and further develop all sectoral statistical areas"

⁴ To be amended

⁵ To be amended

Likewise, the outputs of this Project are, to a significant extent, in line with the priorities quoted in Agriculture part in Sectoral policies, short and medium term priorities: “Strengthen the administrative capacity needed to formulate and implement agricultural and rural development policy”.

Stabilisation and Association Agreement (SAA), Article 90, concerns the Statistical cooperation:

“Cooperation between the Parties shall primarily focus on priority areas related to the Community acquis in the field of statistics. It shall notably be aimed at developing efficient and sustainable statistical system capable of providing, reliable, objective and accurate data needed to plan and monitor the process of transition and reform in Serbia. It should also enable the Statistical Office in Serbia to better meet the needs of its customers in the country (both public administration and private sector)....”

National Plan for Integration of the Republic of Serbia into the European Union, section 3.18 describes priorities in statistical areas. Subsections which consider demography, macro-economic statistics and agriculture statistics (3.18.2.1; 3.18.4.2 and 3.18.7.1) define the following priorities for the years 2011 and 2012 which are directly in line with the present Project:

- Producing the Supply and Use tables in the frame of IPA national project
- Expenditure method of GDP calculation, in constant prices
- Conducting the Agriculture Census
- Conducting the Census of population, households and dwellings in 2011, in accordance with international recommendation (Recommendations for the 2010 Censuses of Population and housing).

Link with MIPD

The project falls under the sectors of 'Agriculture and Rural Development' and 'Other EU acquis and horizontal activities'. Up to date and reliable statistics on agriculture will contribute to achieving the main goals under 'Agriculture and Rural Development', namely: the development of a sustainable and competitive agricultural sector and addressing the challenges of alignment with the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP). The achievement of other goals under this sector, such as the implementation of EU standards and on the preparation of the Serbia's administration to utilise pre-accession assistance under Component V, will also be facilitated by up to date and reliable statistics. The data gathered by the censuses will also contribute to other EU acquis and horizontal activities.

ANNEX V: Details per EU-funded contract where applicable:

Implementation of the present Project is envisaged via direct grant:

| Contract # and Name | Description | Cost Estimates (EUR m) |
|----------------------------|---|-------------------------------|
| Direct Grant | <p>Having in mind that SORS is the sole institution entitled to develop, prescribe and regularly update appropriate methodological approach for conducting of the Censuses in the Republic of Serbia, and the only capable of utilising the available resources of the network of regional and local statistical offices, as a matter of efficient implementation of IPA funding, a direct grant is awarded to this institution, covering exclusively the eligible costs for undertaking of the Census-related activities.</p> <p>The following services will be delivered under this implementing arrangement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Population Census conduct – Fieldwork (activities as detailed in the PF above); overall costs for EU funding: 10 million EUR • Agricultural Census conduct – Fieldwork (activities as detailed in the PF above); overall costs for EU funding: 9 million EUR • Conducting the “National Input-output Survey” survey as the basis for the quality production of National Accounts (activities as detailed in the PF above); overall costs for EU funding: 0,5 million EUR | 19.5 |

ANNEX VI: National co-financing

| National co-financing | Description | Cost Estimates (EUR m) |
|-----------------------|---|------------------------|
| | <p>As complementary to the IPA-funded direct grant for the realisation of the Results within the scope of the present Project, national co-financing is envisaged in a substantial amount which represents approximately 51% of the overall Project costs and refers to various operations that SORS is mandated to undertake during the pre- and the post- phase of the Population and Agricultural Census Fieldwork. To indicate only the principal groups of activities to be nationally co-financed (for Population and Agricultural census):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Census methodological preparation; - Printing and distribution of the census material; - Training of the enumerators, supervisors and other participants of the census; - Census sample second-level quality control; - Production of the data entry application; - Data entry, coding, and editing; - Data processing - Dissemination of the census results; - Miscellaneous | 20.36 |