

**Plans and
reports**

Planer og meldinger

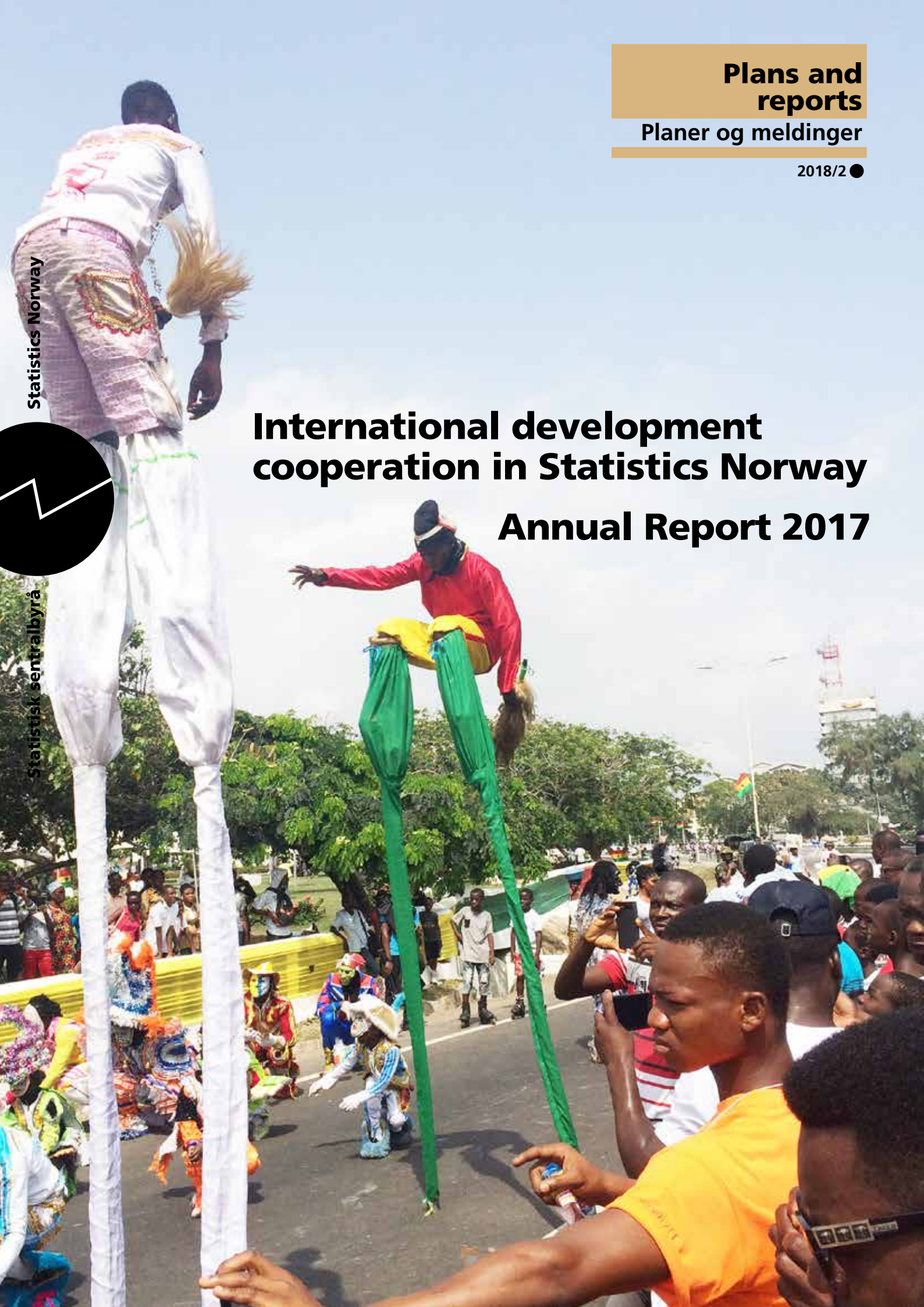
2018/2 ●

International development cooperation in Statistics Norway

Annual Report 2017

Statistics Norway

Statistisk sentralbyrå





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International development cooperation in Statistics Norway

Statistics Norway has been an active player in statistical capacity building for many years. In the beginning it consisted of standalone technical assistance conducted by dedicated staff in SN, but in 1994 SN institutionalized our capacity development work when we established the Division for international development cooperation. Since then our work in this area has mainly been organized through broad based and long-term institutional development cooperation with sister organisations in partner countries. Today, this division consists of 13 full time staffs working solely with international development cooperation. In addition we draw on specific technical experts in the subject matter divisions in SN.

The main purpose of SN's international development cooperation is to build capacity in producing official statistics of good quality and to contribute to the development of well-functioning National Statistical Systems. The operational goal is to promote evidence based planning, public transparency and good governance. We are convinced that these goals may only be reached through strengthening national capacity to collect, process, disseminate and analyse relevant statistical information. It is essential that this capacity is built within a national statistical system comprising one

or more public agencies which by law are professionally independent.

In this work we focus on lasting results through local ownership, building foundations and expertise that stay in the institutions. A key prerequisite for SN entering an institutional cooperation is that there is a strong and clear demand for support from the partner country. The beneficiary institution needs to request the project and be in the driver-seat in defining the overall content.

The SDGs have increased international focus on the importance of statistics. At the same time this has led to NSO's receiving increased attention from international organizations - which is a positive development.

A well-functioning national statistical system plays a key role in providing the country's policy makers, citizens and businesses with information vital for making informed choices and formulating evidence-based policies. Hence, statistics of high quality and relevance are not only important in relation to the SDGs but even more so for each individual country on a national level. By concentrating on building and strengthening National Statistical Systems with a focus on stable methodological foundations and the capacity to produce basic statistics on a regular basis, we are

convinced that both national as well as international needs can be met.

Institutional development cooperation projects often have a duration of up to 10-15 years. Our experiences from different projects show that building trust and good cooperation between the institutions involved takes time but is worth the time and effort if the ambition is to achieve high data quality and lasting results.



Main results in 2017

SN's statistical cooperation activities amounted to 17 person-weeks in 2017. 69 short term missions were conducted, and SN organized 12 study visits with participants from 8 countries. Long-term and broad based institutional development cooperation with partner countries constitutes the main part of this work. In addition, SN hosted 2 international meetings with participants representing countries from all over the world as well as several international organisations. During 2017, SN had long term institutional cooperation projects with 7 countries: Ukraine, Kyrgyzstan, Zambia, Sudan, Uganda, Kenya and Ghana. The last 3 countries mentioned here are part of the Oil for Development programme where development of statistics is one of several areas of cooperation. The cooperation with Zambia was finalized at the end of 2017, after 4 years. Initial planning activities have been conducted in Mozambique and Ethiopia. This report describes achieved results in 2017 in all these partner countries.

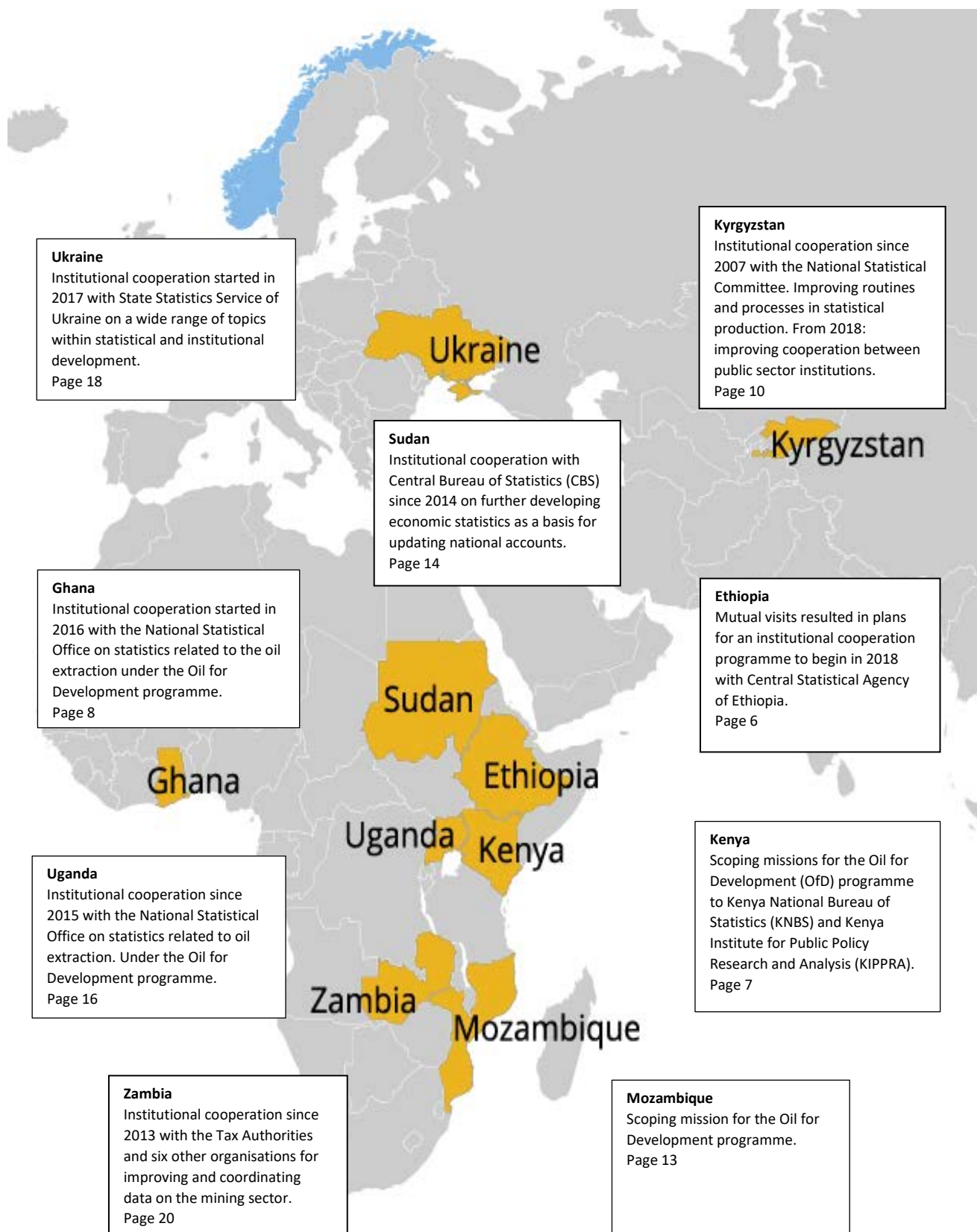
In addition to the country programmes, SN has worked together with different international partners on several thematic areas during 2017. The rationale of engaging in thematic work is that it brings added value to the country programmes. In this work we prioritise contributing to development of statistical areas and methods relevant and demanded by developing countries. Examples of thematic work in 2017 are; Work in cooperation with WFP on improving methods of analysing poverty and food security from household surveys, further development and implementation of a technical solution for generic statistical business register, work on Civil Registration and Vital Statistics (CRVS) with focus on development of statistics together with partners like ESCAP, ECA and UNSD, work on improving international refugee- and IDP statistics and various international assignments related to the SDGs. Results achieved in 2017 is presented in this report.

Both working in partner countries and working on different thematic areas, SN has increasingly prioritised cooperation and partnership with other organisations; both international partners and Norwegian partners. One important step in 2017 has been the establishment of a register coordination group consisting of the main register owners in Norway (The Norwegian Tax Administration, The Norwegian Mapping Authority and the Brønnøysund Register Centre and SN). The objective of this group is to enhance cooperation and coordination in our international development work and to inform and advocate for more development and use of administrative registers in partner countries. The Nordic cooperation has been strengthened through arranging joint seminars at international meetings and through joining forces in partner countries (i.e. Kenya). We have also improved our coordination and cooperation with international organisations, like the IMF and the World Bank, by sharing experiences and working together on thematic areas and in partner countries.

Our approach to capacity development has been frequently discussed theme this year. The SDGs are here. 232 indicators to measure progress have been identified and statistical systems across the globe are expected to deliver. A significant question is how to meet the challenge, and this has been on the agenda in most international meetings in the statistical community this year. In 2017, SN has increasingly been sharing our experiences and lessons learned while engaging in capacity development in partner countries.

SN's international development cooperation was in 2017 mainly financed by MFA through the Norwegian embassies in our partner countries and by Norad.

Partner countries



Ethiopia

In 2016, Central Statistical Agency of Ethiopia (CSA) proposed a collaboration between Statistics Norway (SN) and CSA on building statistical capacity. Ethiopia is one of the main recipients of development aid from Norway. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs/Norad decided to support a planning phase in 2017 for such a programme.

SN visited CSA in Addis Ababa in January and learnt about how they operate, and what areas that are most relevant for collaboration. 4 cross cutting areas were identified; Coordination of the National Statistical System, Quality assessments, Training and Advocacy. The proposed statistical subject areas are Vital Statistics and Environmental statistics.

On a return visit to Norway, CSA met SN staff and worked together on these subject matters. A project proposal resulted from these meetings. CSA was occupied with Census planning for most of 2017. The project will commence on conclusion of their census duties.

Facts

Project	Institutional cooperation planning phase
Partner	Central Statistical Agency of Ethiopia
Budget 2017	NOK 861 000
Donor	Norad
Time period	2017
Purpose	Planning for a future institutional cooperation project
Key words	NSS coordination, communication, vital statistics, environmental statistics

Results 2017

- Better knowledge of each other's organisations
- A 3-year project plan was developed



Project planning trip to Ethiopia in January 2017. Key partners at CSA with fact finding team from SN.

Ghana

Ghana discovered commercial quantities of offshore oil reserves in the 1970s. In 2007, oil and gas reserves were discovered in the Jubilee Fields, containing up to 3 billion barrels of crude oil. Ghana started producing oil in commercial quantities in 2010. In 2015 the daily average production was about 100,000 barrels, and this volume is expected to double within a few years.

The Norwegian Oil for Development programme was introduced in Ghana in 2008. The cooperation has included components on resources and environment, along with support to civil society. Statistics Norway became involved in establishing a finance component of the program in 2015.



Kristian Lønø on a mission to GSS to assist on the Integrated Business Establishment Survey (IBES).

Facts

Project	Institutional cooperation under the Oil for development cooperation
Partner	Ministry of Finance (MoF) Ghana Statistical Service (GSS)
Budget 2017	NOK 2 900 000
Donor	Ministry of Foreign Affairs/ Norwegian Embassy in Accra, Ghana
Time period	Oil for development programme 2017 - 2020
Purpose	To develop capacity for producing relevant statistics on the petroleum sector and to analyse the economy at a macro level.
Key words	Petroleum statistics, oil investments, business survey, business register, macroeconomic model.

Results in 2017

- Publication of aggregates from the Integrated Business Establishment Survey.
- A template for the questionnaire on oil investment statistics was initiated.
- The structure for a macroeconomic model with some key elements have been developed.
- A fact-finding mission on possibilities for a business register was carried out.

The main goal of Statistics Norway's involvement is to assist the Ghana Statistical Service (GSS) on oil related statistics, work on the Integrated Business Establishment Survey (IBES), establishing a business register, and to work with the Ministry of Finance on developing a macroeconomic model. Together, more and better statistics, particularly on the oil industry, and a tool for macroeconomic analysis, will assist the government in economic planning and good management of petroleum revenues.

The need for statistics

To analyse the macroeconomy it is critical to have up-to-date statistics of good quality. Consequently, a large part of the cooperation between Statistics Norway and the Ghanaian authorities involve assistance to Ghana Statistical Service on improving the quality of existing statistics, as well as production of new economic statistics.

The work on the IBES has been in progress for a while and Statistics Norway has assisted since 2016. In early 2017 work on data cleaning was carried out, and later aggregated reports were published.

Project activities started on two areas in 2017. The first is to collect statistics on oil investment where the development of a questionnaire is well underway. The goal is for GSS to start producing oil investment statistics in late 2018. This information will be an important source for the national accounts. Secondly, work on establishing a statistical business register was initiated in 2017 comprising a visit to the GSS to study the data sources and to set up a test version of the software.

Development of an analytical tool

The first step on designing a macroeconomic model was taken in early 2017. A planning mission to Ghana revealed the current tools available, and a detailed workplan for 2017 was prepared. The actual development of the macroeconomic model started in April 2017. Firstly, we focused on some key aggregates reflecting the real sector, with a corresponding database. Later the nominal side of the national account identities was implemented, together with the government sector. At this stage the work on the foreign sector has begun with implementing definitional relationships on the current account, and an econometric equation for non-oil export.



Kristian Lønø and Jakob Kalko (SN) together with Anthony Kofi Krakah, Head of Industrial Statistics and IBES Coordinator outside the GSS main office in Accra

Plans

Detailed reports from the IBES is expected to be published in early 2018. To advance further, the questionnaire for collecting data on oil investments will be finalised in 2018. However, prior to this, a draft version will be presented to various stakeholders for their remarks. Also in 2018 we expect to have the essential elements in place for a comprehensive statistical business register.

Further work on the macroeconomic model will follow along established plans, consisting of adding the foreign and the monetary sector. Once a first version is in place, Statistics Norway will train staffs in updating the database by bringing in the final statistics for the 2017 national accounts, fiscal data, and other information such as the oil price and the world market growth. In 2018 we will start to use the macroeconomic model for policy analysis; both to learn the techniques, but also to learn the workings of the model.

Kenya

In August 2014, the Kenyan Ministry of Energy and Petroleum submitted a request to the Norwegian embassy in Nairobi for technical assistance under the Oil for Development programme. Following a thorough assessment, the Norwegian Minister of Foreign Affairs in February 2016 responded favorably to the request. Since then, the relevant Norwegian government institutions involved in the OfD programme, and their respective Kenyan sister institutions have worked together to identify possible areas for cooperation. The planning has been supplemented by various introductory capacity-building activities.

Under the revenue pillar of the programme, Statistics Norway will cooperate with Kenyan authorities to develop a macroeconomic modelling toolkit that encompasses the different economic sectors including the petroleum sector, which is likely to become increasingly important for the Kenyan economy. A key objective of the work will be to establish modelling tools that meet the requirements for the supply side of the Kenyan economy, and to introduce supply side equations for production factors (e.g. labour and capital stock) to simultaneously determine value added by industry and the demand side components.

In parallel SN will work together with the Kenyan National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS) to develop petroleum related statistics. A key objective will be to ensure that the petroleum sector is reflected in the National Accounts system. SN will also support the development

From left:
Steinar Todsén (SN),
Robin Choudhury
(SN), Vebjørn
Aalandslid (SN),
Benson Kiriga
(Kenya Institute for
Public Policy
Research and
Analysis, KIPPRA)



Facts

Project	Mapping Institutional cooperation under the Oil for Development programme
Partner	Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS), Kenya Institute for Public Policy Research and Analysis (KIPPRA, Macro Working Group (MWG))
Budget 2017	NOK 1 200 000
Donor	Norad, Oil for Development programme
Time period	2017 onwards
Purpose	Assess the possibility for cooperation on petroleum related statistics and macro economic models
Key words	Macroeconomic models, Petroleum related statistics

Results in 2017

- A programme document for cooperation on petroleum related statistics and macromodels was developed.

of a technical foundation for a statistical business register. Both activities will be done in close cooperation with experts from Statistics Sweden. The Swedish statistical office has since 2015 given support to KNBS on a wide range of statistical topics. In the last week of October 2017, a mission from Statistics Norway met with Kenyan counterparts to further clarify the programme. It is anticipated that the cooperation will start during the 1st quarter of 2018.

Kyrgyzstan

Statistics Norway (SN) has cooperated with the National Statistical Committee of the Kyrgyz Republic (NSC) since 2006. In 2017 we worked on:

- Development of electronic data collection and processing
- Quality work and process analysis of statistical domains
- Communication and dissemination of statistics to users
- Metadata system
- Statistical business register
- Improving questionnaire design

NSC and SN have developed mutual trust through years of cooperation. This has built the foundation for an extensive work on restructuring and improving processes within NSC both regarding technical solutions and the organization of the institution. In November 2017, the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) formally agreed to three new years of cooperation with the NSC. The new project will be carried out jointly with the State Registration Service (SRS) of Kyrgyzstan and the Norwegian Mapping Authority.

Process review

NSC has decided to use the Generic Statistical Business Process Model (GSBPM), developed by UN, as their reference for a statistical production process. Using GSBPM, six statistical production processes were ana-



Team who was involved in questionnaire design in the office and at lake Issyk-kul.

Facts

Project	Institutional cooperation
Partner	National Statistical Committee of the Kyrgyz Republic (NSC)
Budget 2017	NOK 3 000 000
Donor	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Time period	2006 - 2020
Purpose	Improved routines and systems in the statistical production.
Key words	Modernising the institution, dissemination

Results 2017

- The NSC has mapped out processes for all its divisions and the employees have a better understanding of the whole cycle of statistics production
- The NSC has continuously improved its communication with users
- The Intranet is in use

lysed through a LEAN methodology, a work which was finalized early 2017. Employees from regional offices, the Main Computing Center and NSC headquarters all participated in the analysis, and the overall feedback was that it was very useful to get a better overview of what the other parts of the production cycle were doing. Based on the feedback, it was agreed that all statistical domains should develop a similar process map. The work was concluded in the second half of 2017 and all divisions now have a process map showing how the statistics production goes from data collection to dissemination. A general guidance also exists in draft format and will be worked more on in 2018.





Kyrgyz nature: View in Peak Lenin in the south of Kyrgyzstan with traditional yurts along the lake.

As of today each statistical domain has at least one statistics documented and described as per the template proposed by the project team and Statistics Norway. Processes documented in details and overall process maps for each statistical domain have already been posted on intranet and presented to staff of regional statistical offices during a workshop conducted in July 2017. This will enable staff of regional statistical offices to see an overall picture of the entire production processes. This work will also lay foundations for

improvement of the institutional memory of the entire NSC system.

In addition to the direct value of having better documented the processes and tasks, the aim is to use this information to see how processes can be improved in the future. This is particularly relevant as new IT systems are under development, which will make it necessary to restructure some of the work processes.

Defining the users of statistics and how to reach them

The main reason for the existence of a national statistical office is to serve the society with relevant official statistics. There are, however, different types of user groups, with different needs.

A government employee might be most interested in receiving detailed tables which he or she can use for further analysis. A school teacher might need simple graphs and maps which can be used in class to interest students in understanding differences in the population, or maybe even understand statistics. A politician maybe would like a short policy brief with figures, simple tables and explanatory text. The media is an especially important user group since it both represent a vast user group and is an important channel for distribution. The NSC has traditionally focused mainly

on users in key ministries, but is now also aiming at reaching other types of users. This demands a different approach and is therefore a key element of the new strategy under development.

They have, however already started some of the work through the development of a mobile web-app. The app is freely available in app stores in Kyrgyz, Russian and English and provides tables and graphs for many of the statistics the NSC produces. The NSC is one of the first statistical offices which have developed such an app which is quite impressive. In addition, the NSC has started an official profile on Facebook, which they want to develop further next year. It will be interesting to see how this change of focus will affect the use of NSC data in the future.

As a part of the quality work, a metadata system building on UNECE's Metadata framework has been developed and various kinds of metadata has been collected. A metadata portal will later be made as a part of the electronic data collection system described below.

Continued work to improve IT systems

NSC still collects data using paper questionnaires with the exception of a few statistical domains. Businesses have requested the possibility of reporting information electronically. An electronic solution for data reporting has been developed and is currently in use internally at the regional offices of NSC. A second phase on data handling and cleaning, also including metadata, was under development in 2017 and will be finalized with some delay early 2018.

A reusable business register which can be used in many countries is currently also under development. The requirement specification has been developed by SN based on 'Guidelines on Statistical Business registers' developed by the UN Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE). Kyrgyzstan is the first pilot country and the developer is also a Kyrgyz IT company. Many elements of the register are now in place and testing with real data had started at the end of 2017.

User-friendly questionnaires

While working with the electronic questionnaire, it became clear that it would be useful for the NSC to go through some of the forms and questionnaires currently in use to see if they can be made more user-friendly. Many are not easy to understand for external users, potentially leading to reduced response rates and more errors in the data reporting. Various techniques for questionnaire design and testing were discussed during a mission from SN. Based on this, the NSC developed a first draft guideline for questionnaire development with the support of Statistics Norway's consultant. Questionnaire design routines existing in NSC have never been properly documented and this is going to be the first attempt to document and follow these routines.

It should also be noted that NSC does not fully meet questionnaire design requirements. In particular, issues like specification of users' needs and questionnaire testing have not been considered properly. The above mentioned draft guideline for questionnaire development will highlight all these issues.



Training for staff in regional offices. One of the topics was the use of the new intranet.

Continued work to improve communication

Over the last years NSC and SN have worked together on dissemination of statistics. The NSC has taken an active role and changed some of its approaches to reach more users. They are hosting monthly press conferences, and have also changed publications to include more figures, graphs and text in addition to the detailed tabulation. In 2017 our two communication departments discussed how this work could be taken further to reach more users. The NSC developed a draft communication strategy which was discussed and will be finalized in 2018. A key area of discussion was how to categorize the different user groups; see separate box on this topic.

It has also been a project goal to improve the internal communication and exchange of information. In 2017, the first intranet for NSC was finalised. This has been particularly important for the regional offices who do not always get all information about what is going on at central level. Having a common platform where key documents are placed, has therefore been seen as important to improve their knowledge and also to get more unified production processes across regions

Challenges

Both NSC and SN have limited human resources beyond normal day-to-day work, and lack of human resources has led to delays in the project. Both organisations are working systematically on freeing enough time for the cooperation.

SN has supported two major IT developments in 2017, the second phase of the e-forms and the development of a business register. Both were initially planned to be finalized in 2017, but are delayed due to various reasons. This has not had direct impact on other activities, but does cost additional human resources from both SN and NSC. Luckily, since the MFA has granted a new project, we are able to finalize the work together in 2018.

Sudan

Three years of institutional cooperation between Statistics Norway (SN) and the Sudan Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS) came to a formal end in December 2016. Based on the mutual positive experience results achieved through this cooperation and the clear need for longer term commitment, the partners agreed to apply for funding of a new/continued cooperation. In November 2017 the Norwegian Embassy in Khartoum signed up with funding for three more years.

Plans for the continued cooperation 2017-2020

The planning of the new project started back in May 2016 with a workshop where all CBS division directors and the project coordinators discussed needs and priorities for continued institutional and individual capacity sharing between SN and CBS. Immediately after the project's annual meeting in September 2016 a jointly developed project proposal, and an SN application for further funding, were submitted to the Norwegian Embassy in Khartoum. The 2017-2020 project will continue to work along three main pillars:

- I. Further development of Economic and related statistics with continued focus on national accounts input statistics, and follow up on the long-term development of administrative registers as basis for statistics
- II. Technical support, supplementary to other and leading agencies, to a new round of population census, a new round of AfDB funded Household budget survey and possibly other large surveys/censuses (agriculture and establishment census/survey) expected in Sudan in the next few years
- III. General institutional and individual capacity sharing with focus on improved questionnaire design, data edits and analysis. Also open for other areas such as sharing of experience on aspects of quality insurance, project management and support to user/producer dialogue.

Facts

Project	Institutional cooperation
Partner	Sudan Central Bureau of Statistics
Budget 2017	NOK 4 300 000 To be extended into 2018
Donor	Ministry of Foreign Affairs through the Norwegian Embassy in Khartoum
Time period	2017 -2020
Purpose	Institutional and individual capacity sharing
Key words	Economic statistics Registers Supplementary support to upcoming national censuses and surveys Capacity sharing/training courses

Results 2017

- The main result achieved during 2017 was the final agreement with the Norwegian Embassy in Sudan to fund a continued institutional cooperation between SN and CBS.

The organization of the cooperation, and the scope of the technical assistance, shall be flexible and take account/adapt to possible actions by other donors and cooperation partners. In addition, enable change of priorities over time in order to make the most efficient use of total resources in CBS.



CBS main office 2017

Main activities 2017

Due to the uncertainty and waiting for formal accept for new funding, only a total of four missions were completed in 2017:

1. Based on a 2016 budget non-cost extension a final mission from CBS to Oslo was conducted in January 2017 - focusing on administrative and statistical registers.
2. A high-level mission from Sudan Taxation Chamber, the National Information Center and the Sudan Ministry of Finance concerning coordination of administrative registers and taxation to Norwegian counterpart institutions – hosted by SN in October 2017 (Fully funded by Sudan and in cooperation with the Sudan Embassy in Oslo).
3. A one-week SN mission to CBS to provide urgently needed technical assistance on transferring price-data-collection from paper-based forms to an electronic system of tablets and a central server solution in October 2017
4. A two-week SN mission to CBS in October/ November 2017 with the objective first and foremost to settle all remaining issues on the start-up of the new project-round with the CBS management and the Embassy. Furthermore, the mission assisted on finalization/update of the long-awaited tabulation report from the household budget and poverty survey (conducted 2015).

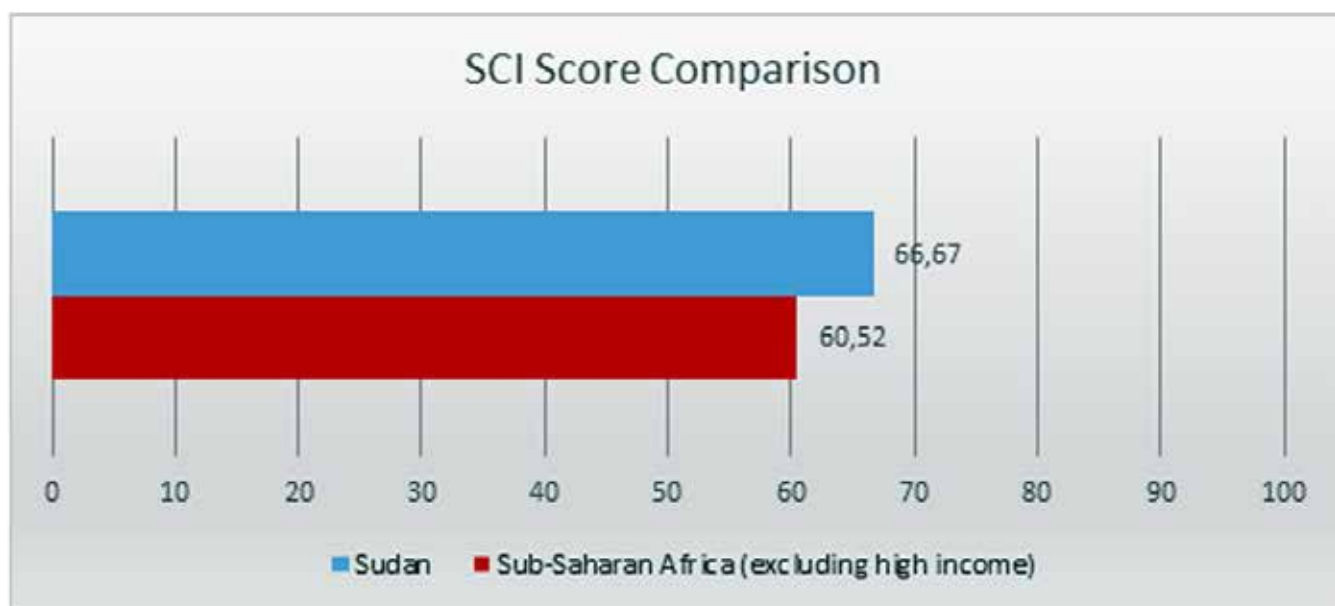


Dervish dance in Omdurman every Friday evening.

CBS into a wave of positive development

Late 2016, a new Director General was appointed to CBS, and this was soon followed by a process of some reorganization of directorates and departments staff in 2017. CBS is now relocated to a new and modern office building at 60th Street south in Khartoum Ilmamora district, and almost all functions of CBS is now assembled under one roof. CBS is still short of new computers, updated software and infrastructure. However, currently work is ongoing to connect the building with fiberoptic cable and to build up a modern central server for secure and efficient data storage.

An international team of experts (PARIS21, UNECA, AfDB), who evaluated the existing National Strategy for Development of Statistics (NSDS 2012-2016), was still pointing to many challenges remaining for Sudan in the area of statistics, but they also concluded on important recent achievements. According the World Bank Statistical capacity indicator the SCI-score for Sudan rose from as low as 43.3 in 2012 to 66.67 in 2017 and thereby superseding the Sub-Saharan average score (60.52).



Source: World Bank 2017

Uganda

Background

The Oil for Development (OfU) programme has cooperated with Ugandan authorities for many years. The current cooperation programme period runs from 2015 to 31st of March 2018. Developing petroleum related statistics belongs to the Revenue pillar, and Statistics Norway (SN) assists Uganda Bureau of Statistics (UBOS) on producing and disseminating statistics on the petroleum related activities.

The main objective of the project

Statistics on the petroleum sector is important for all oil and gas producing countries. The main objective for the project is to enable UBOS to produce and disseminate oil related statistics to a greater degree. To achieve this objective, the project focuses on four main areas:

- Oil and gas investment statistics
- Including the oil and gas sector in national accounts
- Business register that includes the oil sector
- General institutional building to support the first three areas

Oil and gas investments

Investment statistics on oil and gas is one of the main areas in the cooperation between SN and UBOS. This statistic is an important source of information for stakeholders in the industry, both government and business. An important milestone was reached in 2017 when UBOS presented the first initial tables and figures on the Oil and Gas investments in Uganda. This means that the system for data collection and data processing is in place, and this is a mayor achievement by UBOS. There is still work that is awaiting before the statistics on Oil and Gas investments is ready for the first official dissemination, this includes both further quality assurance and final approvals at UBOS.

Facts

Project	Institutional cooperation under the Oil for Development programme
Partner	Uganda Bureau of Statistics (UBOS)
Budget 2017	NOK 2 250 000
Donor	Royal Embassy in Kampala, Oil for Development
Time period	2015-2017 (Q1 2018)
Purpose	Improve UBOS' capacity for producing and disseminating petroleum statistics
Key words	Oil and gas investments, national accounts, business register

Results 2017

- UBOS presented Statistics on Oil and Gas investment
- System for including Oil and Gas sector into National accounts ready for testing
- Software for Business register developed and installed for testing at UBOS

National accounts

UBOS has the responsibility for producing and disseminating national accounts in Uganda. National accounts is an important contribution when preparing economic policies and Ministry of Finance Planning and Economic Development (MoFPED) is among its most important users. Data from National accounts is used both in the budgeting process and as input to macro-economic models. The main goal for this part of the project is to incorporate oil and gas into the system of national accounts.

In 2017 there have been two main lines of work on this topic. UBOS has, in cooperation with SN, defined and made a system for incorporating the data from the Statistics on Oil and Gas. This is ready for testing. This is an important step for including Oil and Gas data into the System of National accounts. The second line of work has been with MoFPED. The ministry has the responsibility for the Ugandan macroeconomic models. The basis for the model is the Social accounting matrix which is UBOS responsibility, and which is based on National accounts and other statistics. For this reason, MoFPED and UBOS have worked together for understanding and defining present and future needs from national accounts and in particularly petroleum related statistics.



Statistical business register

A statistical business register (SBR) is important to map and document how the economy changes over time. In Uganda, where there is an emergent oil sector, a SBR would be able to document how that economic sector develops. In 2017 SN developed generic software for statistical business register, which is based on international recommendations. Late in 2017 a first version of the register was installed and presented at UBOS. While this system covers the technical side of a SBR, it is important with good quality data that can feed into the register. Therefore, an evaluation of available data at UBOS was carried out, and in addition plans for data improvement and cooperation with other institutions were made.

Challenges

Publishing new statistics is challenging, it is a task which requires thorough quality controls and reviews. All stakeholders in Uganda are eager to contribute, and sometimes this can lead to necessary delays. In the continuation of this, having a fruitful cooperation with data providers, both companies and governmental institutions, is important when developing new statistics. It can at times be time consuming, but working together always gives the best results in the end. A more general challenge is to secure and set aside enough time for project activities in an already busy schedule.



Ukraine

Statistics Norway (SN) and State Statistics Service of Ukraine (SSSU) launched a new institutional project financed by the Norwegian Embassy at SSSU's premises in Kiev on 28 November 2017. The launch was attended by the top management of SSSU, led by the Chair Ihor Verner, the Norwegian Embassy represented by the Ambassador Ole T Horpestad, Counsellor for Development Cooperation Petter Bauck and a delegation from SN led by Director Lasse Sandberg.

The project was developed and planned in 2017 in a collaborative process between SSSU and SN. The 2016 global assessment by Eurostat, UNECE and EFTA's Statistical Office and the experiences from previous EU twinnings between 2011 and 2015 were used in the planning process. The overall goals for the project are optimal resource allocation by improving evidence based planning, and higher welfare across the Ukrainian society. It is considered that high quality statistics available for users and decision makers will contribute to such goals.

Key elements in the project are increased institutional capacity, better availability of statistics for users and more and improved official statistics. This is a broad institutional project, and the activities will include several short-term missions and study visits between SSSU and SN on a wide range of topics.

Facts

Project	Statistical Development – Institutional cooperation between Statistics Norway and State Statistics Service of Ukraine
Main partner	State Statistics Service of Ukraine (SSSU)
Budget 2017	NOK 465 000
Donor	Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Time period	2017-2020
Purpose	Contribute to increased evidence-based planning for optimal resource allocation and improved welfare across the Ukrainian society
Key words	Technical cooperation, institutional cooperation, dissemination

Results 2017

- Contract between MFA and SN and MoU between SSSU and SN signed
- Project launched

The first activity of the project will take place in January 2018 with a study visit from SSSU to SN on foreign trade in services.



Launching the project: Norwegian Ambassador Ole T. Horpestad, Chair of SSSU Ihor Verner and SN Director Lasse Sandberg.



Kiev



SSSU



Zambia

The cooperation with Zambia is different from standard SN cooperation as the lead partner is not a statistical office. There are seven Zambian institutions involved in the Mineral Value Chain Monitoring Project (MVCMP), but the Zambian Revenue Authority (ZRA) have a coordinating role and have also been SNs main counterpart. The project goal is still the same as in our other cooperation projects: To contribute to improved data quality and statistics. In this project the focus is on quality and harmonizing copper data collected by different public institutions.

New team established

Involvement and training of staff working at the stakeholder institutions has been a major challenge for the project since the beginning. After much pressure from SN, the Mineral Data Analysis Centre (MiDAC) team was finally established in March 2017. The team, which consists of experts from the seven stakeholder institutions¹, has been trained and is working on the data evaluation. Because of this change, SN is now much more confident that the new approaches and methods introduced can be continued also after SNs involvement in the project.

First results from data verification processes

A 'statistical framework' is now almost in place. The classifications of different data have been specified, and a technical set up for how to link and compare data is almost complete. Much of 2017 has been used to test the system on actual data. This has revealed lack of reporting and erroneous reporting from the mines. The experts have therefore been in contact with the mines to better understand where there might be challenges in reporting and how it can be improved. More work is still needed in this field however.

Data verification has revealed the challenges on how transit trade is registered and reported. The work in this field has helped the statistics office improving its trade statistics.

Facts

Project	Institutional cooperation
Main partners	Zambian Revenue Authority (ZRA), Ministry of Mines and Mineral Development (MMMD), Central Statistical Office (CSO)
Budget 2017	NOK 3 000 000
Donor	Ministry of Foreign Affairs by the Norwegian Embassy in Lilongwe
Time period	2013 - 2017
Purpose	To establish a data collection verification system for the copper production from the metal mines in Zambia. The goal is a system that produces good quality data which ends a long national disagreement on how much copper (and other metals) is produced and exported by Zambia
Key words	Register, economic statistics

Results 2017

- Team of local experts established which have learned and work on new, regular production routines
- Prototype for merging and verification of reported data almost finalised
- Trade statistics improved because of better information through the project.



End of project phase and SNs involvement

SNs involvement has been prolonged at several instances, but did finally come to an end on the conclusion of 2017. Most of the technical tools had been developed, but there were still challenges with integration and interaction. The server system is installed, but not yet fully operational as many of the partners do not yet have access. Electronic reporting from the mines has started and will hopefully soon replace the old approach and lead to more efficient processing and feedback to mines. Also, an electronic system for export permits has been developed and is currently tested.

If the project is allowed to continue, particularly if the important technical work that the MiDAC team is doing is continued, there are good chances of achieving the

results which were specified for the project: To design and develop a multi-purpose and multi-stakeholder scheme for monitoring the country's mineral resources throughout the value chain².

Challenges

There have been several challenges along the way, and the sustainability of the work implemented is dependent on continued efforts and work. Controlling and comparing data is something which needs to be done continuously and should be part of regular production processes. That this happens needs to be ensured by the management of the core organizations. At the current state, it is unclear what the continuation will be.



MIDAC team at workshop in May

¹ The seven institutions are: Zambia Revenue Authority (ZRA), Ministry of Mines and Mineral Development (MMMD), Central Statistical Office (CSO), Road Development Agency (RDA), Zambian Bureau of Standards (ZABS), Patent and Company Registration Agency (PACRA) and Road Transport and Safety Agency (RTSA).

² From the overall agreement between the Zambian and Norwegian Governments on the 'Mineral Value Chain Monitoring Project'.

Mozambique

The long term Scandinavian cooperation, SCAN-STAT, with Instituto Nacional de Estatística (INE) was terminated medio 2017, but there was no Norwegian contribution in 2017.

Background

There has also been a long-term cooperation between Norway and Mozambique through the resource pillar of the Oil for Development program. In 2017, the Oil for Development program decided to look into a possible extension of the program to include a financial pillar. Hence a scoping mission was conducted in November with the aim to start the appraisal process which may lead to a full scale financial pillar program in 2018/19.

Results 2017 - Scoping mission

The mission was led by the Oil for Development secretariat and comprised a consultant from the Norwegian Ministry of Finance and two consultants from Statistics Norway. The team from Statistics Norway appraised the status in the Mozambican institutions with responsibilities for petroleum sector statistics, national accounts and macro-economic modeling. The mission also linked up to other donors being active in the same or related areas, such as a large statistical cooperation program with the World Bank, a planned program of cooperation with IMF on financial petroleum revenue

Facts

Project	Finance component, Oil for Development program in Mozambique
Partner	Instituto Nacional de Estatística, Ministério de Economia e Financeiro
Budget 2017	NOK 655 000
Donor	Norad, Oil for Development
Time period	November-December 2017
Purpose	Scoping mission
Key words	Petroleum statistics, National accounts, Macro-economic modelling

forecasting, and a long-term program of cooperation with the UNU Wider and Copenhagen universities. The mission met and worked with INE, the national petroleum administration, the ministries in charge of planning and natural resource management, the tax administration and the central bank. The mission was asked to assist the Mozambican institutions in conducting a study to review the available economic information linked to petroleum fields, licenses and agreements.

Recommendation

The mission has recommended that Statistics Norway may conduct such a study in 2018. The Oil of Development program and the Norwegian Embassy in Maputo will discuss this with the Mozambican government.



Mudar o mundo meu amigo Sancho, não é loucura, nem é utopia, é justiça.

O parque de Maputo: Mudar o mundo meu amigo Sancho, não é loucura, nem é utopia, é justiça.

The Park of Maputo: Change the world my friend Sancho, is not crazy, nor utopia, it is justice.

Poverty and food security

Statistics Norway has worked towards improving the efficiency of using National Household Budget Surveys (NHBS) for poverty and food security with various projects since 2003. In September 2017, we got funding to continue this work with the two concrete projects: “Validating poverty prediction models using poverty trends in Malawi” and “Sustainable Development Goals 1 and 2: The connection between poverty and food security”. Both projects will be finalized in the first quarter of 2018.

The standard approach to estimate how many people that are poor needs costly NHBS surveys often undertaken only about every 5th year. A main approach to fill the poverty gap is a “survey to survey imputation” approach: socio economic information collected in a smaller survey is used to predict poverty using a poverty model estimated from a NHBS-survey. Statistics Norway has previously contributed to the research and development, and built a solid methodological documentation. This approach was implemented in cooperation with the Statistical Office in Malawi. The current project uses these data, covering 10 years, to test how well this approach worked and discuss improvements of the method. The understanding of Malawi’s experience is important not only for policy makers and statisticians in Malawi, but also for the international community as poverty models are increasingly applied. The results will be documented and discussed in a forthcoming report as well as with stakeholders in a workshop in Malawi next year.

The second project will produce an “example report” on how a statistical office can utilize the household consumption and expenditure survey to analyse and understand the poverty and food security indicators together. This report is a result of the unique collaboration between the Sudan Central Bureau of Statistics, Statistics Norway and World Food Programme in producing poverty and food security numbers at the same time. The report will illustrate how these two dimensions of deprivation can be analysed and understood together.

Facts

Project	Poverty and food security
Partner	Sudan Central Bureau of Statistics, World Food programme
Budget 2017	NOK 1 100 000
Donor	Norad
Time period	October 2017- March 2018
Purpose	Better quality and cost efficiency of reporting on poverty and food security
Key words	Poverty model, poverty and food security, SDG, UN

Results 2017

- Preliminary poverty model results discussed with World Bank researchers.
- A first draft of the results of the joint poverty and food security analysis for Sudan.

International Refugee and IDP Statistics

Improving international recommendations on refugee and IDP statistics

The United Nations Statistical Commission (UNSC) decided at its 47th session in 2016 to establish an international Expert Group on Refugee and Internally Displaced Persons Statistics (EGRIS). The group would consist of participants from national authorities and international statistical organizations as well as other technical experts. This decision was based on a joint proposal by Statistics Norway, Eurostat, the Turkish Statistical Institute (TURKSTAT) and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). UNSC decided that Norway and UNHCR should continue to develop international recommendations on refugee statistics. Norway was, together with UNHCR and Eurostat, asked to lead an expert group tasked with developing the recommendations.

The absence of an international framework for developing statistics on refugees created uncertainties around national and international figures. The main purpose of the recommendations is to incorporate statistics on refugees and internally displaced persons into national statistical systems and establish a better cooperation between UNHCR, national immigration authorities and national statistical offices. The expert group also developed a technical report on developing better statistics on internally displaced persons (IDPs). Both reports will be presented at the 49th session of the Statistical Commission held in New York in March 2018.

EGRIS conference in Oslo

Statistics Norway, in collaboration with UNHCR, Eurostat and the EFTA Statistical Office, hosted the 2nd meeting of the Expert Group on Refugee and IDP Statistics from 24-26 April 2017. The meeting was held at the premises of Statistics Norway in Oslo. The objective of the meeting was to consolidate the work on developing international recommendations for refugee statistics and continue the work on IDP statistics. During the three days of the meeting, a first draft of the recommendations was discussed. The meeting gathered more than 70 international experts, representing 30 different countries and international institutions/organizations.

Facts

Project	International recommendations on refugee and IDP statistics
Partner	UN High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR)
Time period	2015 – onwards
Purpose	Contribute to the work on improving international refugee and IDP statistics
Key words	UN Statistical Commission, UN High Commission for Refugees, International recommendations Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs)

Results 2017

- The expert group had its second meeting in Oslo in April 2017
- A separate meeting for IDP statistics was arranged in Geneva in August 2017.
- Draft international recommendations on refugee statistics and a separate report on IDP statistics has been circulated on a global consultation round.
- Broad collaboration between international organizations working with refugees and IDPs and national statistical offices from most parts of the world.

IDP statistics

A separate IDP sub-group was established to work on the Technical Report on IDP Statistics. This group has been led by the Joint IDP Profiling Service (JIPS), the Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC) and Statistics Norway. During the second meeting in Oslo, the substance and structure of the various chapters of the documents were discussed in more detail as well as the concrete recommendations to be included in the IRRS. A third face-to-face meeting was held involving only the members of the IDP sub-group in Geneva, August 2017, where a set of recommendations on IDP statistics was developed to be included in the Technical Report.

Global consultation

Both reports were finalized in November and were circulated for a global consultation from 10th November to 10th December. The overall feedback was positive which is promising for the future production and dissemination of official refugee and IDP statistics.



The EGRIS conference held in Oslo 24-26 April 2017. Some of the participants gathered outside Oslo City Hall.

The Nordic approach to capacity sharing

Capacity development has been on everybody's lips this year. The Sustainable Development goals are here; 232 indicators to measure progress have been identified and statistical systems across the globe are expected to deliver. A significant question is how to meet the challenge, and this has been on the agenda in most international meetings this year.

As a result, Statistics Norway has increasingly been sharing lessons learned on how we share knowledge and experiences.

In January, the first World Data Forum was organised in Cape Town, South Africa. At a side-event, the Nordic countries Finland, Denmark, Sweden and Norway presented our experiences from working with institutional cooperation. Two months later, the topic was on the agenda at the United Nations Statistics Commission, where Statistics Norway shared results from institutional cooperation in a session with IMF, as well as hosting a side event together with our Scandinavian counterparts. We also contributed to the 2017 OECD Development Cooperation Report, whose theme was Data for Development.

To take the step from talking about it to bringing it into international recommendations, Statistics Norway joined the Paris21 task team working on new approaches to Statistical Capacity Development. We have also given our inputs to the ongoing capacity development discussions in UNECE.



Representing Statistics Norway: Live Rognerud from International Secretariat and Ellen Cathrine Kiøsterud from Division for International Development Cooperation participates in the Paris21 Task team on Statistical Capacity Building. (Photo: Paris21)

The message

The Nordic statistics offices have many similar experiences, and have developed similar approaches to institutional cooperation. We have found a common ground to talk about the Nordic approach. The approach is however not unique to the Nordic statistics offices.





A piece in the puzzle: The collaboration with other NSO's is only one of several strategies to build sustainable capacity in National Statistical Systems.

For the Paris21 workshop in December, Statistics Denmark and Norway summarized the characteristics of the Nordic approach in the following six principles:

Demand driven

International assistance may be an important source of training and capacity building, but is only one part of the bigger picture. Assistance must therefore be anchored in the national strategies and priorities of the National Statistical System (NSS). A crucial starting point for institutional cooperation is that it is responding to a need defined by the National Statistical Office (NSO) who requests it.

Broad based

All efforts to improve and change current systems require a holistic approach in order to get sustainable results. The systems approach is key; the NSO is part of the statistical system and has possibilities to navigate in



Future challenges: NSO's, UN organisations and private consultants came together in Paris in December to discuss how to meet new challenges in the statistical ecosystem.

that system based on experience, capacity and vision. Factors like legislation, political power and hierarchy between state institutions can play a major role.

Long term

Building sustainable capacity to produce statistics takes time. Most statistical products involve years of planning and implementation. In countries with weak surrounding systems, it naturally takes some detours as well. A long-term perspective is therefore necessary. Good cooperation also requires mutual trust and context knowledge, which can only be built over time.

Management ownership and good communication

A good planning phase is important to establish common understanding of goals and tools. Ownership of this process at the top management of the institutions is crucial to ensure that the project has support throughout the process and beyond individuals. Good communication between all stakeholders is essential to the success of the project.

Working together

There are many tools for capacity building, with different advantages. The main tool is to do the work together. Learning by doing, on the job and over time. Instead of providing a finished product, we find the results more lasting and sustainable when developed together.

Flexible and results oriented

In the end, it is the results that matters. To succeed in creating change or innovation, it is crucial to agree on the goal. But changing environments requires flexible projects. It is important to be able to adjust plans and move resources. Flexible plans, regular updates, good communication and the ability to change direction when needed, has proven core to success. This includes an understanding financing partner who trusts the involved parties to make good choices.



Methods for increasing quality on health data

An administrative system for reporting health data is important for providing information on a country's health services. A health information system can be used as a source for statistics that contributes to evidence based decision making. It can also be used for managing resources, supervise and improve health services in a country. Despite the importance of health data, there are still great challenges for low income countries regarding data quality.

DHIS2 (District Health Information System 2) is a system for collecting data on health and is used by more than 50 countries world wide. DHIS2 offers an open source IT solution covering everything from data collection to dissemination, and the Department of Informatics at the University of Oslo has a central role in its development. In August 2017 the "WHO data quality tool" could for the first time be downloaded as an application in DHIS2. Statistics Norway has trough the last 3 years had an advisory role in development of the tool.

Data quality at the DHIS2 academy

Early in 2017 Statistics Norway presented the quality tool at a DHIS2 academy in Kisumu, Kenya. This was one of the first presentations of a test version of the "WHO data quality tool" to many DHIS2 countries. Statistics Norway also presented the tool at the DHIS2



Geir Hjemås explaining Statistics Norway approach to data quality and editing at the DHIS2 academy in Kisumu Kenya 2017.

Facts

Project	Improved quality on health data
Main partners	Department of Informatics at UIO and WHO
Budget 2017	NOK 650 000
Donor	Norad
Time period	2017
Purpose	Contribute to ensure that the DHIS2 system offers a better system for improving data quality
Key words	Health, data quality, DHIS2

Results 2017

- Two presentations at DHIS2 academies of the DHIS2 WHO data quality tool
- Feedback and testing of "WHO data quality tool"

Expert academy in Oslo in August. Both presentations were focused on data quality in general and connected it to the "WHO data quality tool". In general, the "WHO data quality tool" was met with a lot of interest, questions and most importantly uses who wanted to try it out. The main idea for both of these presentations was to make the "WHO data quality tool" more widely known, and to start of the continuous process of getting feedback from users and making improvements.

The "WHO data quality tool" is a major first step to provide DHIS2 users with a powerful system for improving data quality. However, with further development and refinements the "WHO data quality tool" has the potential to contribute more to improve health data and making the data ready for analysis. One way this can be done is to expand the tool and include more well known and tested approaches for improving data quality

Improvements of the WHO data quality tool

Statistics Norway has as a part of the agreed-on project, given feedback on the WHO data quality tool and suggestions for the way forward. After testing the data quality tool thoroughly, Statistics Norway has provided a requirement specification for further development to UIO and WHO. This feedback also includes methodological recommendations.

A technical solution for a generic statistical Business register

SN has throughout the years received requests for assistance in building registers – both administrative and statistical. In 2015, the UN Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) published «Guidelines for statistical business registers». At the time, SN worked on a register project in Kyrgyzstan, and it was decided to develop a technical solution for a generic business register that can be used in all partner countries.

The development of the business register was tendered in the Spring of 2017, and the main work on the system was finished at the end of the year.

General requirements

The technical system is designed to be reusable in any new countries, and this puts some demands on the solution: It must both follow the UNECE guidelines and be flexible. Additionally, no components can require extra licensing costs for the partner countries.



Facts

Project	Business register
Main partners	National Statistical Committee, Kyrgyzstan, Uganda bureau of statistics, Kenya National Bureau of Statistics, Ghana Statistical Service
Budget	NOK 900 000
Donor	Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Time period	2017 -
Purpose	Implementation of technical solution for statistical business register

Key words Register

The solution is developed in the programming language C# and runs on Microsoft's web server – Internet Information Server. Any database solution can be used.

Implementation in several countries

As the system is developed in Kyrgyzstan, a test version was set up there already in the fall, and the employees at NSC are doing a good job in testing and giving feedback on what works and what does not.

In addition to the test system in Kyrgyzstan, fact finding missions were done to Ghana, Uganda and Kenya with the aim of setting up systems there too, but this proved impossible as the system was not completely finished. Valuable experience was nevertheless achieved, and implementations will start in the spring of 2018.

Challenges

As expected, the main challenge when establishing a statistical business register will be the lack of a national ID of the businesses. In most countries, different institutions have different systems for identifying the units. It seems that in general, the tax authorities have the most reliable ID variable, but NSOs hesitate to ask for this in surveys, as the non-response rate will increase.

Already during testing and fact finding, it became apparent that another challenge is the lack of detailed data. Most of the countries have data on "Establishment" level – which sometimes are local units and sometimes legal units. In these cases, it was easy to identify which were which, but to connect the different kinds of units proves to be very hard. Other kinds of units are not identified at all. However, the system is designed with this in mind: As a start, the NSO can start with the existing data and over time identify Enterprises, Enterprise groups and Kind of Activity Units.

Statistics Norway and the Oil for Development programme

Large petroleum reserves were discovered on the Norwegian shelf in the late 1960s. Norway has through the last 50 years built experience in managing the oil resources in a way that promotes sustainable economic growth and welfare. Norway's goal is to share this competence with other countries through the Oil for Development programme (www.norad.no/en/front/).

In Norway, Statistics Norway (SN) has adapted existing statistics and developed new statistics because of the petroleum activity. This is necessary to capture the petroleum sector in a satisfactory way. In this way, SN contributes to making information on investments, turnover and environmental consequences available to users. Open, available and independent information on the petroleum sector is a challenge in several countries, and SN has therefore been asked to assist with developing petroleum related statistics as a part of the OfD programme. The aim is more available information that contributes to better management of petroleum resources and to make the authorities accountable.

SN has four ongoing statistical projects as a part of the OfD programme in Uganda, Ghana, Kenya and Mozambique (mapping phase).

- SN has been one of the partner institutions in Uganda since the start in 2015, and the statistical project is a part of the Revenue pillar. SN's cooperation partner is Uganda Bureau of Statistics (UBOS). In 2017 SN has also been responsible for coordinating the revenue pillar (resource manager). Planning for a new 5-year (2018-2022) programme phase has started.
- The mapping for a project on revenue management for the oil and gas sector as a part of the OfD in Ghana started in 2015. SN is currently (2017) one of the partners negotiating a new programme agreement with the Government of Ghana, although project activities are well under way. SN's cooperation partners are the Ministry of Finance and Ghana Statistical Services (GSS).

- In 2016 SN was one of the institutions that contributed to the mapping and planning of a Oil for Development programme in Kenya. In 2017 further planning activities have been carried out, with a goal to have in place a formal OfD agreement in 2018. SN main cooperation partners are Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS) and Kenya Institute for Public Policy Research and Analysis (KIPPRA).
- Late in 2017 Statistics Norway and the Norwegian Ministry of Finance visited Mozambique to map out possibilities for establishing a Revenue Pillar as part of the OfD programme in the country.

Team Oil for Development

In February 2017, the OfD Secretariat in Norway organised a Team OfD for the Norwegian partners in the programme. The main goal of the Team OfD gatherings is for the Norwegian partners to exchange knowledge, get to know each other and discuss important issues and common challenges. The were two main topics for the 2017 Team OfD; first large demand and limited resources, second the Paris agreement and consequences for the OfD programme.

Report: Oil and Gas statistics - The Norwegian Experience

In 2017 SN published the report "Petroleum statistics-the Norwegian experience". The report was funded by the OfD secretariat, and describes various petroleum related statistics in Norway. The report includes the Norwegian experience with developing petroleum statistics, and the basic conditions necessary for good



Annual meeting in Uganda.



statistical production. The report has two parts: The first provides a general introduction of how SN has built a statistical system that reflects the activities on the Norwegian continental shelf and its effects on the Norwegian economy, environment and society. The second part is more technical and includes separate chapters on many of the most relevant petroleum statistics, details on production and is in a greater degree meant for producers of statistics.

Courses: The basic of Petroleum management

The Oil for Development secretariat has arranged two Basic of Petroleum Management courses in 2017.

In June the first was arranged in Nairobi, Kenya and the second was in Norway and Stavanger in November. The two-week course provided:

- An understanding of the petroleum sector value chain
- Approaches to current national challenges and opportunities
- Insight into the key dynamics of transparency and accountability
- A foundation for collaboration with other sector authorities
- Opportunities to discuss pending petroleum sector issues with engaged colleagues

Statistics Norway presented and led an exercise on the importance of statistics for management of the petroleum resources. The statistics session was aimed at increasing knowledge of the usefulness of statistics, and to show how cooperation among Governmental institutions is essential for producing good statistics.

The main learning goals were that statistics contributes to:

- Holding politicians accountable
- Better management of oil resources
- Knowledge based decision making

The participants were motivated, and discussions were many and engaging. The course is an important arena for the countries and institutions to learn from each other and discuss common challenges.



Register Coordination Group between the main Norwegian register owners and Statistics Norway

Good quality administrative registers are important for strengthening good governance, and the use of administrative registers has long been regarded as an advantage for efficient production of good quality official statistics. The key registers are the population register, the business register and property and address register. These registers provide identity and information on citizens, businesses and properties, and are used by SN for producing statistics important for the society. The Nordic countries have a comparative advantage on establishing, maintaining and coordinate the basic administrative registers, and on using these registers for statistical purposes. There is an increasing demand from our development partners for register expertise, and this is often included in project with our partners within development cooperation.

The owners of these registers in Norway are the Norwegian Tax Administration, the Norwegian Mapping Authority and the Brønnøysund Register Centre. The register owners and Statistics Norway have a close and long-lasting cooperation in Norway. This cooperation has been important for the development of the Norwegian society. All four organisations are involved in development cooperation at different levels. The institutions have been cooperating in each other's projects for years in a more ad hoc way, and there is a need for a more targeted and coordinated cooperation.



Storage of civil registration records Source: ESCAP

Facts

Project	Register cooperation
Partner	The Norwegian Tax Administration, the Norwegian Mapping Authority and the Brønnøysund Register Centre
Time period	2017-
Purpose	Further coordinate the main Norwegian register owners for efficient international development
Key words	Registers, administrative data

Results 2017

- Establishing a register group including the main Norwegian register owners
- Agreeing on a mandate and a mode of cooperation

In 2017 the 4 institutions established a register coordination group for targeting the whole process of creating and maintaining registers for administrative purposes, and for using the registers for statistical purposes. The group consists of representatives from the divisions for international development of each of the institutions. The aim is to create a more comprehensive and cost-efficient approach in development cooperation in this area, and to share the extensive experience from this work with our development partners. 2017 was used for developing the mandate and the working method of the register group. The group will continue the work in the upcoming years.

External Review of the PCBS Program 2015-2017

Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS) was established in 1993. During the period 1996 – 2003 Statistics Norway provided technical cooperation support funded first by GTZ and then by the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The main coordinator at the end of the institutional cooperation is now the President of PCBS and has just served two years as president of IAOS. Today PCBS has a well qualified and experienced staff counting 319 permanent employees and is one of the main national statistical offices in the region.

Review process

The two consultants from SN reviewed the achievements of PCBS and the overall statistical system of Palestine according to the program for the period 2015-17. The two consultants met with all departments of PCBS, other data providers and the main users of statistics to collect written documentation and track each of the main statistical processes from data collection to use of data.

Main review findings

The PCBS is a professional, efficient, and vibrant national statistical institute. For the program period under review, 2015-2017, it set itself four priorities; improve the use of statistics in decision making, establish better partnerships with users and producers of the NSS, enhance the quality of statistics, and enhance

Facts

Project	External Review of the PCBS programme 2015-2017
Partner	Review of PCBS by independent consultant Hallgrímur Snorrason and Bjørn K Getz Wold from SN
Budget 2017	NOK 300 000
Donor	Core Funding Group of PCBS
Time period	March 2017
Purpose	External review of PCBS program achievements
Key words	External review, National statistical office

utilization of administrative records and central registers for statistics. During the two years 2015-2016, the activities of the PCBS have been geared towards these goals and largely followed the planned program of work. Most of the statistical projects planned were completed. Practically all statistical outputs were achieved. Capacity building was maintained at a high level.

Recommendations

The mission provided justified recommendations in the following areas: gender satellite accounts, a joint LFS and PECS approach, hand-held devices, web-based surveying, utilization of administrative records and registers for data collection, business register, public use files and access to microdata, International partner relations and funding, sustainable development goals indicators, dissemination, efficiency, agriculture statistics, annual report, cooperation with NSS partners, and CFG cooperation.



The market in Nablus.

Development of capacity for vital statistics

SN has in later years been actively involved in the international work on Civil Registration and Vital Statistics (CRVS) with focus on development of statistics. As there are not that many actors contributing to the work on developing vital statistics based on civil registration data and SN has long and broad experience in the field, SNs support is in high demand.

Development of tools

The UN Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) and UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP) asked SN to develop 'Guidelines and template for developing a vital statistics report'. After another round of revision, they were finalized in 2017 and will be available on the web pages of UNECA and UNESCAP shortly. The document is meant as a practical tool for countries to produce and disseminate vital statistics based on data from civil registers. Some countries have already used the document to produce their own reports.

The e-learning course on CRVS which SN employees contributed content to in 2016 was launched mid-2017. The three core modules are available for everyone, while ten additional modules can be taken as part of a facilitated online course. The two modules on vital statistics were partially facilitated by SN.

Facts

Project:	Civil registration and vital statistics (CRVS) / population registration and demographic statistics
Partner	UNECA, UNESCAP, UNSD, World bank, Plan International
Budget 2017	NOK 655 000
Donor	Norad and partners
Time period	2017
Purpose	Improved knowledge of births and deaths from the administrative register system
Key words	Vital statistics/Demographic statistics

Results 2017

- 'Guidelines and template for developing a vital statistics report' finalized
- Training material developed for Vital Statistics trainings
- Countries trained have produced their own VS reports

The UN Statistical Division (UNSD) is currently updating several of the guidelines and handbooks related to CRVS. In 2017, SN has been member of an expert group which provided input to the 'Handbook on CRVS Systems – Management, Operation and Maintenance'. SN participated actively at the meeting held on the



Discussion between participants from Kenya, Namibia, Zambia and Zimbabwe during workshop in Nairobi

topic in New York in February and sent many suggestions for additional content in the following months. The revision is expected to become available early 2018.

Vital statistics workshops

As a follow up to the Guidelines and Template developed by SN, UNESCAP created a project to support countries further with the development of their own Vital Statistics Reports. The project required the eight countries who participated to

- Create national inter-agency committees who would work on the report
- Prepare necessary data
- Commit to a plan to publish their own reports

Three participants from each country were invited to two one-week workshops. UNESCAP asked SN to facilitate the workshops and follow up with countries between and after the workshops. This was not possible due to funding constraints. Instead, three SN employees became involved taking temporary leave. At the end of 2017 seven of the eight countries had developed their first national vital statistics reports and around half had published them.

Since the model developed by ESCAP was quite successful and SN was able to secure funding later in the year, SN initiated a similar project for African countries together with Plan International, UNECA and UNSD.

Country representatives discussing exercise during workshop in Bangkok
Source: ESCAP



The first workshop was held in Nairobi in October, also gathering eight countries from the region. The second workshop will be held in the first half of 2018 once countries have shared first chapters of their vital statistics reports.

Building partnerships

In the last years, SN has become a valued partner in the work to improve CRVS systems. While originally working with a few UN agencies only, SNs work is now known to many of the agencies involved in CRVS development. This led to more active collaboration with both the UNSD and with Plan International in 2017. Collaboration with UNECA, UNESCAP and the World Bank also continued and some of SNs activity was co-funded by them.

The collaboration has also given SN the opportunity to participate at regional conferences where our work was presented. One was the Regional Steering Group meeting in Asia and the Pacific in Bangkok. The second was the Fourth Conference of African Ministers Responsible for Civil Registration in Nouakchott, Mauritania.

Challenges

SN has been active in the work on CRVS in the last years and developed a good reputation. It has, however not been easy as the Norwegian funding has been short-term and unstable. Other partners have, fortunately, been able to co-fund some of the activities, but for continued and broader SN engagement in the field, longer term funding will be needed.

ASEAN MDG and SDG reporting

Statistics Norway has participated in the EU ASEAN COMPASS consortium to deliver statistical assistance to the ASEAN Statistical Office in the ASEAN secretariat. This includes special support to close the development gap between the 6 best off countries, and the 4 countries which started their development from a lower stage; Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar and Vietnam.

The contribution from Statistics Norway has focused on a final MDG achievement report and the preparation for an ASEAN SDG report.

During 2017 the focus has been upon strengthening the capacity for the production of a regional report on the MDG achievements and preparing for an SDG report in 2018.

Support to strengthen the capacity of the ASEAN Statistical Office

The contribution from Statistics Norway comprised improving the capacity of the ASEAN statistical office to receive MDG data in a standardized manner, how to review and ensuring the quality of data and the compilation and drafting of a statistical report on the MDGs.

Statistics Norway also facilitated a discussion and identification of preliminary priorities for SDG reporting. This discussion and agreement was carried out in an iterative manner to ensure consistency between reporting at regional and country level.

Support to individual CLMV countries

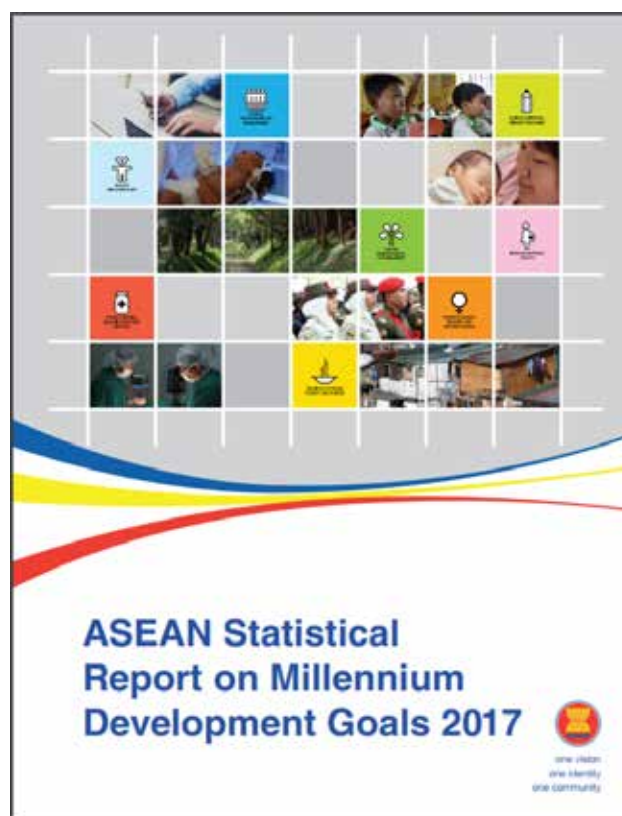
Statistics Norway reviewed and assisted two so-called CLMV countries, i.e. Cambodia and Myanmar with their SDG statistical approach and provided recommendations for further work. These missions will be followed by a mission to Laos in January 2018. This work at country level will serve as an input to the process of the possible production of an ASEAN SDG report by the end of 2018.

Facts

Project	EU ASEAN COMPASS
Partner	COMPASS, Statistical offices of Myanmar and Cambodia
Budget 2017	For Statistics Norway NOK 350 000
Donor	EU
Time period	2017-2018
Purpose	Building statistical capacity of the ASEAN statistical office
Key words	Capacity building, MDG, SDG

Results 2017

- **Output:** The final presentation of the statistical report for the ASEAN summit in August 2017
- **Outcome:** An improved capacity to prepare statistical reports.



Sustainable Development Goals (SDG)

Statistics Norway has worked on the SDG development and implementation throughout 2017. In mid-2017 the Norwegian Ministry of Finance requested SN to compile a list of the status of the SDG indicators in Norway by end 2017. The Norwegian SDG report in 2019 will include a statistical report.

The Division for Development Cooperation in SN has been involved in SDG activities:

- Cooperation with the UNDP Oslo Governance Center Oslo throughout the year.
- Participating in the EU ASEAN COMPASS project with a focus on the SDGs

Cooperation with the UNDP Oslo Governance Center Oslo throughout the year.

Cooperation with the UNDP Oslo Governance Center Oslo throughout the year. SN co-hosted a conference of SDG good governance statistics in May. We also participated in two other specialist meetings participating in the development of SDG 16 indicator with a special focus on 16.6.2 Proportion of the population satisfied

with their last experience of public services, 16.7.1 Proportions of positions in public institutions compared to national distributions, and 16.7.2 Proportion of population who believe decision-making is inclusive and responsive. Reference:

http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/our-work/global-policy-centres/oslo_governance_centre/sdg-16-.html

Participating in the EU ASEAN COMPASS project with a focus on SDGs

Participating in the EU ASEAN COMPASS project, including two issues. First, the support to draft and coordinate the production of the ASEAN Statistical Report on the Millennium Development Goals 2017, which also included the preliminary SDG priorities for the ASEAN community, aiming at an ASEAN SDG Statistical Report in end 2018. Second a special effort to strengthen the capacity for SDG measurement in the 4 development countries. This included a mission to Myanmar and to Cambodia and will be followed by a mission to Laos in January 2018. Reference:

http://asean.org/storage/2012/05/ASEAN_MDG_2017.pdf



Cooperation with Norcap

SN and the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) entered into an agreement in 2010 on secondment of SN employees to UN operations. The agreement is organisationally a part of the Norcap programme, which is an emergency force assisting UN and is financed by the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. During 2017 four SN experts were seconded to different UN organisations. The assignments varied from home-based work on analyses and reports to different missions abroad. Compared to earlier years there has been fewer, but longer assignments.

- Two SN experts have been working to support statistical capacity on internally displaced persons at the Joint IDP Profiling service (JIPS) in Geneva. One of the secondees has coordinated the work on taking stock of IDP statistics, under the mandate of the Expert Group on IDP and Refugee statistics (EGRIS) as well as carrying out quality assurance of indicators and developing a questionnaire for a project on Durable Solutions for displaced persons. Furthermore, he has led a project to enhance gender focus and gender analysis in profiling exercises in displacement situations, and developing tools for statistical guidance related to UNHCR's Integrated Household Survey Framework Project (IHSF) and the JIPS Essential Toolkit (JET). The seconded expert has also given advice on collecting data and producing statistics in displacement situations. The latest mission was to support a pilot survey in IDP camps in Northern Darfur in December 2017.
- The second expert seconded to JIPS in Geneva carried out an analysis of the dataset that is the basis for the vulnerability assessments that the Victims' Unit conducts twice per year. The Victims' Unit is a Colombian government agency that coordinates the state's assistance, attention and reparation measures aimed at internally displaced persons. It has so far used results of the analysis to review and adjust the vulnerability assessment criteria. The expert has also supported the start-up of a profiling exercise in Greece. Moreover, she has participated in the development of the new JIPS Essential Toolkit (JET), and facilitated a workshop on data cleaning and processing in SPSS.

Facts

Project:	Cooperation with the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC)/Norcap force
Partner	Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC)
Time period	2010 -
Purpose	Statistical assistance to various UN institutions
Key words	NRC, Norcap, UNHCR, JIPS, WFP

- One SN expert participated in a UNHCR workshop in Baku in Azerbaijan on statelessness in the context of the national population census. This was followed up by writing a report with recommendations on how censuses may be used to collect data on statelessness.
- An SN expert was for the first part of the year long term seconded to the World Food Programmes (WFP) regional office in Cairo, Egypt. The work mainly consisted of food security analyses based on national surveys. The expert has contributed to several food security analyses based both on national household surveys (Armenia and Sudan) and based on WFP's own data collection (Tajikistan and Iraq). The work has additionally consisted of capacity building on SPSS competence and food security analyses through courses and other training of both colleagues in WFP and in National Statistical Offices in the region.

The cooperation with the Norwegian Refugee Council/Norcap is not a regular SN project, and SN does not receive any funding for this work. SN experts are seconded through Norcap for different assignments according to the UN institutions needs for assistance, and the experts will be on an unpaid leave from SN for the period. Most of the projects for UNHCR, JIPS and UNFPA have been short term missions lasting 1-3 months, while the WFP secondments have been longterm assignments.



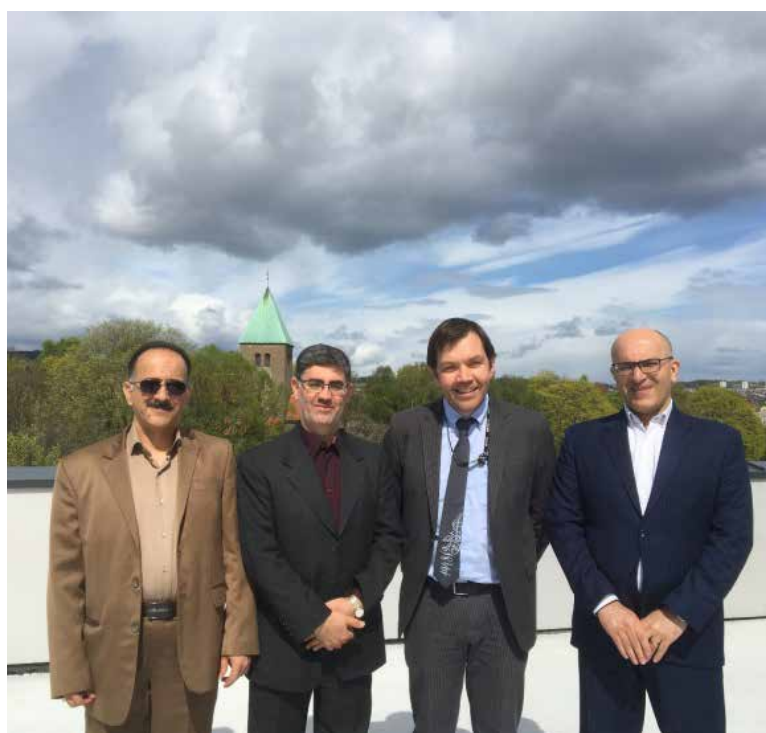
NORWEGIAN CAPACITY
OPERATED BY NRC

Study visits

In 2017, Statistics Norway hosted 12 study visits. The overall number of visits were related to ongoing institutional cooperation projects. But SN also had the pleasure to welcome delegations from other sister organizations, and host international meetings on different subject matters. The UNHCR/EGRIS meeting was executed in cooperation with UNHCR and Eurostat, and partly funded by Eurostat and EFTA.

Study visit from Statistical Centre of Iran

Statistics Norway hosted a study visit from the Statistical Centre of Iran 9-10 May. The study visit focused mainly on using administrative registers for production of population and social statistics, with a special focus on register based census. Iran carried out a population and housing census in the autumn of 2016 which allowed respondents to answer via an internet application and the delegation shared Iran's experiences with this approach. SN presented various examples of using register based statistics from labour market and education. The delegation met with the Norwegian Tax Authorities, who presented population registration and the role of the Directorate of Taxes in the total registration system.



Mr. Jamal Moghaddam, Head of Information and Communication Technology Centre, Mr. Alireza Zahedian, Deputy Head for Statistical Surveys and Administrative Registers, Dr. Kaveh Kiani, Faculty Member of the Statistical Research and Training Centre(SRTC) and Vebjørn Aalandslid, Statistics Norway.

Guests	Date	Topic
Sudan	January/February	Statistical business register
UNHCR/EGRIS	April	Refugee statistics
Turkey	May	Social protection statistics
Iran	May	Administrative registers
UNDP	May	SDG 16
Kyrgyzstan	May	Dissemination
Ethiopia	May/June	Scoping mission
Ghana	May/June	Oil investments statistics
Uganda	September	Oil investments statistics
Sudan	October	Administrative registers and taxation systems
Uganda	October/November	National accounts – petroleum sector
Bangladesh	November/December	Labour statistics

International meetings

The UN World Data Forum in South Africa, 15-18 January 2017

The first World Data Forum arranged by UN took place in January in South Africa, Cape Town. The purpose was to gather data experts from governments, national statistical offices, the private sector and academia, international organizations and civil society groups to discuss and move forward on the huge challenge of putting systems in place to collect and analysing the data needed to follow up on the SDGs.

One of the main outcomes from the WDF was the launching of the Cape Town Global Action Plan for Sustainable Development Data. This plan calls for a commitment by governments, policy leaders and the international community to undertake key actions for better data under six strategic areas, including coordination and leadership, innovation and modernization of national statistical systems, dissemination of data on sustainable development, building partnerships, and mobilizing resources. More information about the WDF is available here: <https://undataforum.org/WorldDataForum/>

SN organized together with Statistics Sweden, Statistics Finland and Statistics Denmark a seminar to share our experience on statistical capacity development cooperation, learn from each other and get feedback from our partners on what we can do better. SN introduced the Nordic general approach to capacity development projects. This was followed by shared presentations with partners from Palestine/Norway, Somalia/Sweden and Armenia/Denmark, discussing experiences from specific projects. Statistics Finland also presented their experiences. The presentations from the seminar are available at: <https://undataforum.org/WorldDataForum/sessions/north-south-and-south-south-approaches-for-capacity-development/>

Side-event at the 48th UNSC, 7-10 March - Capacity Development in Africa

SN organized a seminar together with IMF at the UNSC meeting in New York in March. The purpose of the seminar was to provide an overview of IMF and Norway's work on statistical capacity development in Africa, and to discuss how we can better coordinate support and cooperate within capacity development work to enhance the partner countries' benefit even more.



The delegation from SN: Vebjørn Aalandslid, Irene Tuveng, Christine Meyer (Director SN) and Live Rognerud.

Louis Marc Ducharme, Director of the Statistics Department in IMF, and Christine Meyer, Director General in SN, opened the seminar. They welcomed more cooperation and pointed out the importance of avoiding duplication of effort and exhaustion of the scarce resources in the partner country. We also got the views of selected partner countries on their experience at the seminar. Ben Paul Mungyereza, Executive Director Uganda Bureau of Statistics, and Baah Wadieh, Acting Statistician General of the Ghana Statistical Service, presented their experience of receiving support from IMF and SN respectively. Irene Tuveng (SN) and Louis Venter (IMF) presented their approach and experience from capacity development projects in Africa.

Side-event at the 48th UNSC, 7-10 March - The Nordic model - A broad approach

SN organised together with our sister organisations in Sweden and Denmark a seminar on the Nordic model for institutional development cooperation. The emphasis was on our understanding of a broad-based approach to capacity development. Experiences made over the years have demonstrated that cooperation with National Statistical Offices on improving the production of specific statistics is not sufficient to build sustainable National Statistical Systems and capacity for statistics. A broader focus is needed.

The presentations from this seminar are available at: <https://unstats.un.org/unsd/statcom/48th-session/side-events/20170307-1M-institutional-cooperation-for-capacity-development/>

Annual meeting of PARIS21, 5-6 April

PARIS21 (Partnership in statistics for Development in the 21st Century) is a global partnership supporting development of good national statistical systems and statistical capacity in low income countries. Norway has been a member of the partnership since 1999, and provided financial support until 2014. Norway's participation the last couple of years has been limited, but we have continued as board members. The meeting was back-to-back with a OECD-DAC meeting on capacity development (see separate article on 'The Nordic approach on capacity sharing'), so in 2017 SN had two participants, one official delegate and one who joined the first thematic day. Norad had to cancel last minute.

The topic for the meeting in 2017 was 'Revisiting Capacity Development to deliver on the SDGs'. The board meeting was on the second day, while the first and thematic day discussed new approaches to capacity development. The discussion was partially based on two articles developed by Paris21 and a market place where many of the partners presented new tools and

methods. While some partners focused on 'big data' and 'data revolution' as important elements for improved capacity development, representatives from the statistical offices present, focused more on the need for continued support to traditional methods and tools.

At the annual board meeting, the progress report and success stories for 2016 were presented together with plans for 2017. Countries expressed satisfaction with the support received, especially the workshops on strategies for development of statistics and management trainings.

More information, including agenda and background documents can be found at:

<http://www.paris21.org/annual-meetings-2017>

19th meeting of the Management Group on Statistical Cooperation (MGSC)

SN participated at the annual MGSC meeting in Eurostat, Luxembourg. MGSC is a forum for discussions on statistical cooperation, and is important for donor coordination, initiating new projects and general exchange of best practice and information. The meeting is organised by Eurostat, and representatives of national statistical offices of the European Statistical System and EU candidate countries participate.



Official picture from Paris21 board meeting.

Division for Development Cooperation:

Employees per 1.1.2018



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The year in figures

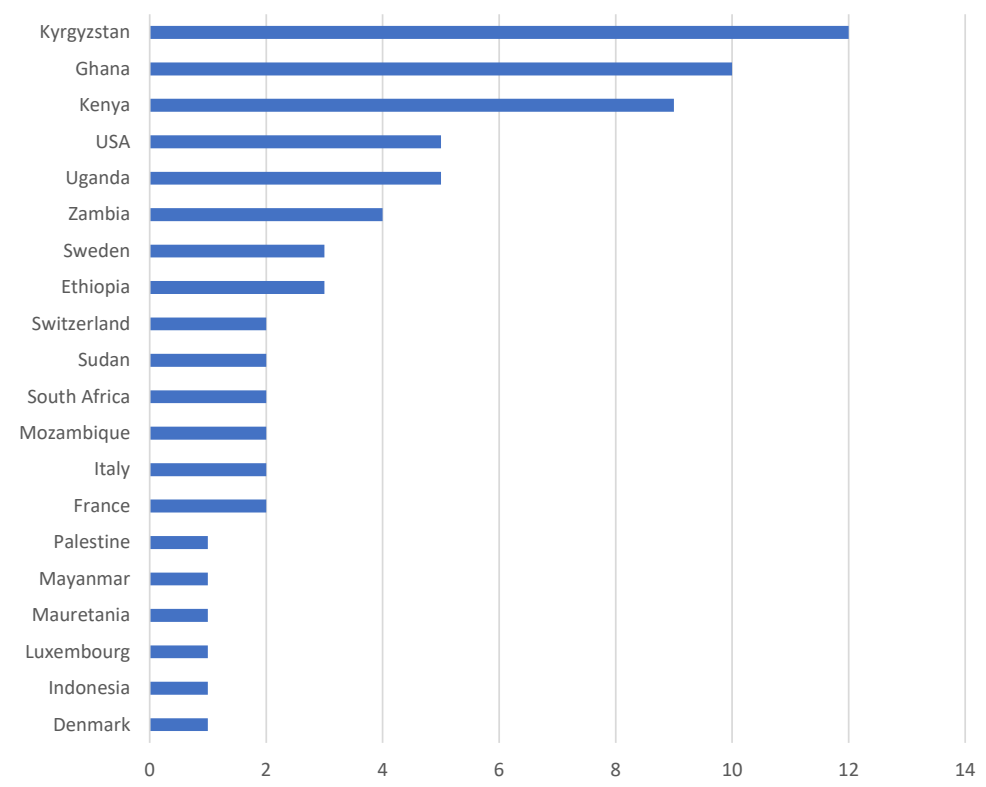
Statistics Norway's international development cooperation consisted of 15 person-years in 2017. There were 69 short-term missions involving experts from different subject matter divisions, including experts from Division for development cooperation.

SN had long-term advisers in Kyrgyzstan and Zambia, but only for part of the year.

Activities

Short-term missions	69
Study visits at SN	12
Long-term advisers, person years	1.3

Number of short term missions by country



Accounts 2017	NOK
Zambia	2 978 000
Ghana	1 814 000
Uganda	1 297 000
Kirgisistan_inst	3 710 000
Kirgisistan_Reg	714 000
Kirgisistan_Nytt prosjekt 2017-2020	1 592 000
Ukraina	483 000
Sudan	588 000
Project financed by Norad	
Ghana	542 000
Etiopia	861 000
Kenya	1 206 500
Mosambik	634 000
Other project financed by Norad	3 000 000
Project financed by others	327 000
	19 746 500

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