

## ESS peer reviews - Questionnaire on the coordination role of NSIs

Identification	
0. This questionnaire contains the replies of the National Statistical Institute of: -single choice reply- (compulsory)	Bulgaria
Institutional framework for the Coordination role	
1. The national coordinating body, set up by a legislative act or by another implementing measure is (multiple answers possible): -multiple choices reply- (compulsory)	NSI
Please specify (e.g. reference to legislative act, link to website) -open reply- (optional)	
Law on Statistics, Article 7. (1) The National Statistical Institute shall: 1. coordinate the State's statistical activity of the State by means of: f) coordinating all activities at national level for development, production and dissemination of the European statistical information <a href="http://www.nsi.bg/sites/default/files/files/pages/StatisticsAct_en.pdf">http://www.nsi.bg/sites/default/files/files/pages/StatisticsAct_en.pdf</a>	
2. The coordination role of the NSI and relevant tasks are set out in a legislative act. -single choice reply- (compulsory)	Yes
Please specify (e.g. support document, reference to legislative acts and specific articles or section, link to website). -open reply- (optional)	
See answer of question 1.	
3. The content of the coordination role includes (multiple answers possible): -multiple choices reply- (compulsory)	aspect related to the elaboration of the European statistics - aspect related to the production of the European statistics - aspect related to the dissemination of the European statistics
Please specify (e.g. type of tools, description of mechanism/process in place). -open reply- (optional)	
Official letters, Inter institutional and Working Groups.	
4. Memoranda of understanding/protocols/agreements which include reference to the coordination role of NSI are in place with other statistical authorities which contribute to European statistics. -single choice reply- (compulsory)	Yes
Please specify (e.g. type of acts and main references to coordination role). -open reply- (optional)	
Memoranda and agreements between NSI and Bodies of Statistics and other institutions are in place. The coordination role is described in the General provisions of these agreements and includes the coordination and cooperation activities in development, production and dissemination of information.	
5. The legal framework allows the national coordinating body to coordinate the national statistical system effectively. -single choice reply- (compulsory)	Yes, partly

Please specify (e.g. support document, practices). -open reply-(optional)	
The general provisions related to coordination role of the National Statistical Institute are clearly defined in the Law on Statistics. The specific coordination tasks are not identified in the Law on Statistics.	
6. There are other advisory bodies with tasks on general issues and/or specific topics which have a role in coordination -single choice reply-(compulsory)	Yes
Please specify (e.g. indications on the other bodies and their role on coordination). -open reply-(optional)	
According to the Law on Statistics, Article 14, the National Statistical Council operates attached to NSI President. The Council is a consultative body and has a function to give opinions and recommendations on the Strategy for Development of NSS for each period of five years and to discuss and support the implementation of the annual National Statistical Programme. The National Statistical Council consists of representatives of all Bodies of Statistics, BNB, academic society and different groups of respondents and users. The functions, tasks, composition and activities of the Council are regulated in the Rules on the National Statistical Council Activity.	
7. There is a clear mechanism to monitor the work flow of data transmission relating to European statistics. -single choice reply-(compulsory)	Yes
Please specify (e.g. describe the mechanism). -open reply-(optional)	
EDAMIS is used to exchange data between the NSI and Eurostat. A declaration of conformity is provided with the data. There is a schedule for data transmission. Transmission process is controlled by a local coordinator.	
8. The national coordinating body has a dedicated budget to implement the coordination role. -single choice reply-(compulsory)	Yes
Please specify (e.g. supported document, total amount/year, year(s)). -open reply-(optional)	
Every year, the State Budget of the Republic of Bulgaria Act determinates NSI's budget, which includes funds for the implementation of coordination role.	
9. There are adequate human resources for ensuring effective coordination across the national statistical system. -single choice reply-(compulsory)	Yes
Please specify (e.g. number of persons). -open reply-(optional)	
There is a directorate Statistical and IT Infrastructure, Coordination and International Activities with total permanent staff of 63 people; It includes the department Planning, Quality, Metadata and Projects, responsible for ensuring effective coordination across the national statistical system. Its total permanent staff consists of 12 people.	
Planning and Programming	
10. The national coordinating body has a specific entity responsible for coordinating and planning the production of national statistical system (multiple answers possible). -multiple choices reply-(compulsory)	Internal NSI unit/division/department
Please specify (e.g. support documentation, description of the structure/functions). -open reply-(optional)	
The specific entity responsible for the coordination activities of the NSS is Planning, Quality, Metadata and Projects Department. The functions of unit are as follows: Realizes cooperation with Bodies of Statistics and Bulgarian National Bank in the process of compilation, implementation and reporting on the National Statistical Programme (NSP); Coordinates and exchanges information with Bodies of	

Statistics and Bulgarian National Bank in the field of quality management in the National Statistical System (NSS); Organizes and coordinates the activities on monitoring the implementation of the European Statistics Code of Practice in the NSS. The process of planning the production within the NSS is not the subject of responsibility of this unit.

11. The statistical plan prioritizes the production of statistics according to user information needs.  
-single choice reply-(**compulsory**)

Yes

Please specify (e.g. mechanism of prioritization, action in place or in the future to take into account user needs for the prioritization). -open reply-(**optional**)

In developing the draft of National Statistical Programme the NSI invites the main users - ministries and agencies to reply for their needs of statistical information. Their proposals are discussed and those which have been approved are included in the program. The User Satisfaction Survey is a useful tool for taking into account the information needs of the general public.

12. The planning and programming Coordination is implemented (*multiple answers possible*):  
-multiple choices reply-(**compulsory**)

through working groups/task forces

Please specify (e.g. support documentation, explain the mechanism and the Committees, WG or other involved). -open reply-(**optional**)

Where appropriate, working groups consisting of the representatives from the NSI and the respective institutions are established to discuss the proposals mentioned in issue 11. The National Statistical Council is also involved in the process of planning and programming the NSP. The Council discusses the proposals of the Bodies of Statistics and gives recommendations for including in the draft version of the National Statistical Programme particular statistical surveys specified in kind, coverage and responsible institutions (Article 14 (1), item 2 of Law on Statistics).

13. There is a report on the implementation of the statistical program within national statistical system. -single choice reply-(**compulsory**)

Yes

Please specify (e.g. support documentation, link to the report, future action in place). -open reply-(**optional**)

According to the Law on Statistics, Article 9, item 6 the NSI prepares and submits to the Council of Ministers on an annual basis a report on the implementation of the national statistical programme and on the activity of the National Statistical Institute for the previous year. The Annual Report is published in Bulgarian only on the NSI'S Internet site.  
[http://www.nsi.bg/sites/default/files/files/pages/uplf/Otchet\\_2013.pdf](http://www.nsi.bg/sites/default/files/files/pages/uplf/Otchet_2013.pdf)

## Dissemination / Communication

14. Communication between the NSIs and the principal producers and/or users of official statistics is promoted by:(*multiple answers possible*): -multiple choices reply-(**compulsory**)

other

Please specify (e.g. support documentation, other form of promotion). -open reply-(**optional**)

The main communication between the NSIs and the principal producers and users of official statistics is promoted by the National Statistical Council (see <http://www.nsi.bg/en/content/246/basic-page/rules-national-statistical-council-activity>). NSI also has an agreement with the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences.

15. There are guidelines for the dissemination of European statistics for use by other national authorities. -single choice reply-(**compulsory**)

No

Please specify (e.g. kind of guidelines, body that produces them). -open reply-(**optional**)

16. There is an information repository for the Yes, webpages - Yes, communication tools (e.g. periodical

national statistical system or other information and communication tools <i>(multiple answers possible)</i> . -multiple choices reply- <b>(compulsory)</b>	newsletter)
Please specify (e.g. support documentation, links). -open reply- <b>(optional)</b>	
Yearbook	
<b>Coordination on Training</b>	
17. There is a structure responsible for statistical training. -single choice reply- <b>(compulsory)</b>	Yes
Please specify (e.g. type of structure- internal unit, school., functions). -open reply- <b>(optional)</b>	
The structure responsible for statistical training is an inner unit - Human Resources sector within the department of Legal Services. It analyses, plans and fulfils the training programme of the NSI. The permanent staff of HR is 7 people.	
18. The NSIs have a training plan taking into account the needs of all the statistical authorities. -single choice reply- <b>(compulsory)</b>	No
Please specify (e.g. support documentation, future action, action in place). -open reply- <b>(optional)</b>	
19. The training is addressed to <i>(multiple answers possible)</i> : -multiple choices reply- <b>(compulsory)</b>	statistical staff from the NSI
20. There is coordination with the academic community. -single choice reply- <b>(compulsory)</b>	Yes
Please specify (e.g. type of partnership, example of projects). -open reply- <b>(optional)</b>	
Agreement for cooperation and exchange of information between the National Statistical Institute and the Bulgarian Academy of Science was signed by the President of NSI and the President of the Bulgarian Academy of Science in 2013. Annex for cooperation and exchange of information between the National Statistical Institute and the Institute of Mathematics and Informatics at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences was signed by the President of the National Statistical Institute and Director of the Institute of Mathematics and Informatics in 2013.	
21. There is an assessment of the impact of training. -single choice reply- <b>(compulsory)</b>	Yes
Please specify (e.g. mechanism and tools). -open reply- <b>(optional)</b>	
A questionnaire of fulfillment and adequacy of the training is obligatory filled in by the participants. The results are analysed and taken into consideration when other similar trainings are organized.	
<b>Standardisation of production processes</b>	
22. There are ad hoc methodological working groups for creating guidelines/manuals and/or their follow up <i>(multiple answers possible)</i> . -multiple choices reply- <b>(compulsory)</b>	Yes, NSI has a level of participation in each group - Yes, other statistical authorities have a level of participation in each group
Please specify (e.g. level of participation, functioning). -open reply- <b>(optional)</b>	
Experts from NSI and ONAs participate in different national working groups by different methodological issues (e.g. internal ad hoc groups within NSI, jointly working groups between NSI and ministries).	
23. There are different fora (virtual or physical) for exchanging technical knowledge and good	Yes

practices. -single choice reply-(compulsory)

Please specify (e.g. links, future actions). -open reply-(optional)

Experts from the NSI participate in different scientific workshops and events (e.g. demographic conference jointly with the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences). For the sixth consecutive time from 23 to 25 October 2013 with the financial support of the Directorate-General Eurostat of the European Commission, the annual conference of the European Forum for Geostatistics (EFGS) was held in Sofia. (see <http://www.nsi.bg/en/node/11175>) On 28 and 29 January 2014 the National Statistical Institute is hosting a meeting of the partners in the "Migration management and its influence in Southeast Europe - international activities for developing strategies based on evidence" (SEEMIG), which is implemented under Operational Programme for Transnational Cooperation "South East Europe 2007 - 2013" project (see <http://www.nsi.bg/en/node/11881>).

24. There are processes for avoiding duplication of efforts in any stages of the production of European statistics (from the collection to dissemination). -single choice reply-(compulsory)

Yes

24b. Please explain. -multiple choices reply-(compulsory)

Stipulated in binding agreements

Please specify (e.g. references to legal act, agreement, recommendations). -open reply-(optional)

NSI has agreements for cooperation with ONAs in order to avoid duplications (e.g. National Revenue Agency, Ministry of Agriculture and Food, Bulgarian National Bank, Ministry of Finance).

25. These processes are coordinated by (multiple answer possible): -multiple choices reply-(compulsory)

NSI / other national coordinating body

Please specify (e.g. type of body). -open reply-(optional)

These processes are coordinated by the National Statistical Institute in accordance with the Law on Statistics (art. 7, see [http://www.nsi.bg/sites/default/files/files/pages/StatisticsAct\\_en.pdf](http://www.nsi.bg/sites/default/files/files/pages/StatisticsAct_en.pdf)).

26. The tools used to coordinate these processes are (multiple answers possible): -multiple choices reply-(compulsory)

agreements

Please specify (e.g. support documentation, type of other tools). -open reply-(optional)

See answer of the question 24.

## Release of data

27. There is a coordinating body for monitoring the pre-announced calendar, its publicity and its compliance. -single choice reply-(compulsory)

Yes, a specific unit of the NSI

Please specify (e.g. the body and its functioning). -open reply-(optional)

The Inspectorate, which is subordinated to President of National Statistical Institute.

28. There are mechanisms in place for the monitoring and assessment of the compliance with the pre-announced calendar. -single choice reply-(compulsory)

Yes

Please specify (e.g. the mechanism in place). -open reply-(optional)

The Inspectorate, which is subordinated to President of National Statistical Institute. Rules of Procedures of the NSI approved by the President of NSI. <http://www.nsi.bg/en/content/370/basic-page/inspectorate>

## Strengths and weaknesses

29. Please state below the main area of **strength** of your organisation with regard to its coordination role. -open reply-  
(compulsory)

Good coordination within the National Statistical System. Good cooperation with academic society based on several agreements for cooperation and exchange of information. Coordination role of National Statistical Council, regulated by the Rules on the National Statistical Council Activity.

30. Please state below the main area of **weakness** of your organisation with regard to its coordination role. -open reply-  
(compulsory)

Lack of guidelines for the dissemination of European statistics for use by other national authorities.

## Follow up

31. On the basis of the above mentioned actions/sentences please list below actions that you would like to take which are suited to improve your organisation with regard to its coordination role.

Actions and time frame -open reply-(compulsory)

To discuss a developing of guidelines for the dissemination of European statistics for use by other national authorities – year 2015.

32. Please identify below possible actions at European level suited to improve your organisation with regard to its coordination role.

Actions and time frame -open reply-(compulsory)

To discuss a developing of guidelines for the dissemination of European statistics for use by other national authorities – year 2015.