

Meeting of the Sectoral Council for External Assistance in the field of official statistics

Emerging priorities of Moldovan statistics, especially in the EU integration process and assistance needed

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I. General context: Programme for the Development of the NSS 2023 – 2026

OBJECTIVE 1. NSS INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Institutional capacity of NSS members strengthened to produce relevant, accessible and interoperable statistical data, governed by standards and driven by innovation.

OBJECTIVE 3: DATA PRODUCTION – DATA SUPPLY

High-quality data (timely, relevant, reliable, internationally comparable) produced to inform society and support effective, evidence-based decision-making leading to sustainable development and an inclusive society.



OBJECTIVE 2. GOVERNANCE AND LEADERSHIP

NSS strengthened by good governance systems, a common legal and regulatory framework, privacy and data protection practices to ensure transparency and accessibility of data of public interest and increase public trust in and use of data.

OBJECTIVE 4. USE & ANALYSIS = DATA DEMAND

Statistical culture in society strengthened to enable decision-makers to use data effectively and to provide in a sustainable way the services and resources that the population needs, for crisis recovery and to provide opportunities for the general public to understand better statistics and hold the authorities accountable.

I. General context: PNA 2024-2027



The National Action Plan for the accession of the RM to the EU for 2024-2027



**Note: The National Accession Program of the RM to EU – in process*

I. General context: Annual EU Enlargement Package - progresses

The European Commission [Moldova Report 2024](#) related to the Annual EU Enlargement Package, in Chapter 18 'Statistics': ***good progress made in the field of statistics***, including in:

- The development of the legal framework;
- The conduct of the Population and housing census (PHC) 2024;
- The use of administrative data sources (ADS);
- The activities to modernize national statistics in a number of areas;
- Increased data transmission to Eurostat.



within 7 years:
3 measures

I. General context: Republic of Moldova 2024 Report

Republic of Moldova 2024 Report – recommendations:

In the coming years, Moldova should, in particular:

→ further **align sectoral data with EU standards** to improve comparability by improving the use of both administrative and privately held data;

→ ensure the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) **has adequate staffing and financial resources.**

within 7 years:
3 measures

II. The bilateral screening meeting on Chapter 18 "Statistics"

Bilateral Screening Meeting on Chapter 18 „Statistics”, Clusterul 1 – „Fundamentals”, recently held on 13-14 November 2024, in Luxemburg, addressing:

- current situation by statistical domains (legal framework, economic, social, demographic, environmental statistics, statistical infrastructure)
- level of alignment of statistical domains with EU requirements
- progress in harmonization with European standards and best practices
- challenges and difficulties faced by the National Statistical System (NSS)
- future plans for further harmonization of national statistics according to the EU requirements.

II. The bilateral screening meeting on Chapter 18 "Statistics"

41 country presentations (ppt) were prepared & presented, which included **87 topics** on specific statistical areas.

Institutions that delivered presentations during the Bilateral Screening Meeting:

- National Bureau of Statistics (33 ppt)
- National Bank of Moldova (5 ppt)
- Ministry of Environment (2 ppt)
- National Agency for Public Health, Ministry of Health (1 ppt)



Contributors:

- State Chancellery
- National Anticorruption Center
- Ministry of Finance
- Ministry of Internal Affairs and subordinated institutions (General Inspectorate for Migration, Information Technology Service, National Investigation Inspectorate, National Public Security Inspectorate)
- Ministry of Health
- Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry and subordinate institutions (National Agency for Land Improvement)
- Ministry of Labour and Social Protection

within 7 years:
3 measures

II. The bilateral screening meeting on Chapter 18 "Statistics"

Main challenges:

- **Limited institutional** capacities among institutions within NSS;
- **High staff turnover in the NBS and other member of NSS, lack of expertise/well trained human resources** with good knowledge of the EU acquis on statistics, especially in the institutions – candidates to become OPOS/ONAs;
- **Lack of an effective and sustainable system of training** in statistics of the staff in the NSS institutions;
- **Limited adequacy of resources:** shortages of funds needed for dynamic harmonisation of national statistics in line with the EU acquis, especially for the implementation of new data collections and IT infrastructure;
- **Inter-institutional agreements: Lack of clear division of responsibilities** for the production of **new statistics** (such as those on the excessive deficit procedure) between the relevant institutions;
- **Weak use of alternative data sources (administrative (ADS) and private (PDS) for statistical purposes):** they do not fully meet statistical requirements (concepts, definitions, classifications, updates, consistency/comparability of data, etc.); legal and operational difficulties in effective access to some of the claims between ADS and PDS;
- A low degree of **statistical culture and knowledge** in public institutions and in society as a whole;;
- **Need to adjust** the national legal framework according to the EU acquis (primary, secondary, tertiary);
- Need to adjust **methodology, methods & launch new/redesign data collection** in line with EU acquis;

III. Future priorities in NSS development

OBJECTIVE 1: NSS INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT (1)

Legislation, organizational structure and coordination (*expertise/capacity building*)

- Full transposition of relevant articles of the updated Regulation (CE) No 223/2009 of European Parliament and Council by amending Law No 93/2017 on official statistics

Enhance the coordination of institutions within NSS:

- Strengthen the role of NBS as coordinator of NSS and chair of the Aid Coordination Council in statistical sector;
- Raise public awareness on the NSS and its governance mechanism;
- Establish Permanent Working Groups in different statistical domains comprising the NBS and other institutions involved in statistical production and dissemination and signing of Memorandums of Understanding with specific responsibilities of the parties
- Identification of the needs of the potential OPOS in order to strengthen their capacities to comply with European Statistics Code of Practice (ESCoP) and Statistical Requirements Compendium (with the development of roadmaps) - (*expertise/capacity building for NSS institutions (BNS, BNM, OPOS)*)

within 7 years:
3 measures

III. Future priorities in NSS development

OBJECTIVE 1: NSS INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT (2)

Human resource management

- Strengthening administrative capacity within the NSS, taking into account the level of task complexity, skills and abilities required of the statistical staff;
- Establishing a **Center of continuous training** (Excellence Center) within NSS for data producers and data users (*technical, financial support, lobby*)
- Development of the career development plan for employees in statistics (*HR expertize*)
- Involvement of the National Statistical System (SSN) staff in training sessions and working meetings organized through international platforms, especially within the European Union (such as participation in workshops, ESTP courses, expert groups, working groups, task forces, on-the-job-trainings, etc.) (*capacity building support*)

OBJECTIVE 2: GOVERNANCE & LEADERSHIP

Data protection and the access to administrative and private data sources (ADS / PDS) *(technical support, thematic expertise)*

- Evaluation of the **compliance** of ADS and PDS with the principles of official statistics based on the Quality Evaluation Methodology
- Strengthening the **capacities and skills** of producers of official statistics to fully respect confidentiality and data protection in the process of data production, dissemination and archiving
- Revise and improve **statistical tools** in order to exclude duplication of information and statistical indicators with low informational value, as well as to **reduce the informational pressure** on respondents;
- Measure the **informational burden** on respondents using quantitative methods, setting targets for **reducing the response burden** and monitoring it;
- **Increased use of administrative and private data sources** for statistical purposes will allow:
 - (i) substitution of existing statistical surveys;
 - (ii) the development of statistical data with greater frequency;
 - (iii) reducing costs for the production of official statistics;
 - (iv) reducing informational pressure on respondents.

III. Future priorities in NSS development

OBJECTIVE 3: DATA PRODUCTION – DATA SUPPLY (1)

Modernize technical & technological infrastructure (*technical support, thematic expertize*)

Modernise the ICT system of the NBS:

- **Assessment of statistical ICT system** (*ICT assessment/ expertize (UNECE t/a)*)
- Design a Concept and a detailed roadmap/plan for its development based on modern technologies and international good practice
- Gradual/modular implementation of the **Integrated Statistical Information System** (*ICT expertize & financial support*)
- **Upgrade** technical and technological endowment (*acquisitions*)

III. Future priorities in NSS development

OBJECTIVE 3: DATA PRODUCTION – DATA SUPPLY (2)

Modernize technical & technological infrastructure (*technical support, thematic expertise*)

Implement new data collections & methods based on modern technologies (*technical support, thematic expertise*)

- Implement new master sample for h/h interviews (EMDOS 3) – basis for surveys in households
- New/redesigned data collections using CAPI for face-to-face interviewing for the conduct of continuous, ad-hoc /periodical household surveys (e.g. HBS, LFS, EU-SILC, EHIS, VAW, TUS, ICT, small farmers), including for Electronic statistical self-reporting/web-interviewing (CAWI) and CATI (*incl. establishing a Call Center*) by legal entities (private sector, public institutions, etc.) and by households
- Harness **new data sources and processing methods** to produce meaningful statistics (earth observations, scanner data, big/thin data, GIS, web scrapping, AI, machine learning, etc.)

III. Future priorities in NSS development

OBJECTIVE 3: DATA PRODUCTION – DATA SUPPLY (3)

Manage statistical data quality (*technical, financial support, expertise*)

Implementation of the quality management system in NSS in accordance with European quality standards:

- **Strengthening the capacities of the NBS** and other producers of official statistics to ensure quality management;
- **Carry out the overall evaluation** (peer-review) of producers of official statistics from the perspective of compliance with the requirements of the European Statistics Code of Practice (ESCoP) (**February 2026**);
- Development of the **Guide on quality in official statistics** in accordance with European quality standards;
- Documentation of **statistical methodologies** and **processes**;
- **Monitoring and evaluation** of process quality.

Redesign statistical processes:

- In accordance with GSBPM to streamline statistical activity;
- Based on the use of ADS.

III. Future priorities in NSS development

OBJECTIVE 3: DATA PRODUCTION – DATA SUPPLY (4)

Manage statistical data quality (*technical, financial support, thematic expertise*)

- Dissemination of **2024 PHC results** and their use via dissemination platform, GIS, analytics, etc.
- Initiating preparations for the 2020 & **2030 world rounds for General Agriculture Census**
- Carry out periodic **sectoral assessments** regarding the degree of alignment of the methodologies used in the production of official statistics with international standards, especially European ones
- **Redesign** the continuous statistical **household surveys** (HBS, LFS) on a new sample framework (census based)
- **Implement new statistical surveys** - the continuous & periodical surveys on households or enterprises - required to comply with EU acquis, 2030 NDS, 2030 Global Agenda
- **Continuously harmonize** the national statistical infrastructure (**statistical classifications**) with the international standards and European requirements
- **Expand the availability** of statistical data on macroeconomic statistics, including on national accounts statistics according to the ESA 2010 including data on SUT, data on EDP, GFS and ensuring data transmission to Eurostat etc. (*technical support, good practices (EU, IMF, countries etc.)*)

III. Future priorities in NSS development

OBJECTIVE 3: DATA PRODUCTION – DATA SUPPLY (5) Enhance data dissemination

Improve **content and accessibility** to statistical information (*technical support*)

- Adapt the **content** and **timeliness** of statistical dissemination to the users' needs on the NBS website and Statistical Databank
- Enhance the use of **interactive and visual tools**: digital maps, animated graphs, dedicated interactive platforms (genderpulse.md, recensamint.statistica.md), infographs, e-publications, visualization dashboards
- Further maintain the **SDGs National Reporting Platform, Gender Pulse, etc.**

Coordinate data dissemination within NSS (*technical support, good practices*)

- Integrate statistics produced by other national authorities on a common dissemination platform

III. Future priorities in NSS development

OBJECTIVE 4: USE & ANALYSIS - DATA DEMAND

Improve communication and use of statistical information

Improve **methods of communication** and **dissemination** of statistical information


- Development/reuse of the **online training platform** in the field of official statistics for the staff of the National Statistical System, of the curriculum and training materials (syllabus) (*identification of training needs, capacity building*)
- Strengthening the **capacities and skills** of producers of official statistics to data dissemination and archiving (*capacity building*)
- Support in data **dissemination** to support **local public authorities** (*technical, financial support*)
- Involvement of society in the **efficiency of statistical activity** and increasing the **degree of use** of official statistics
- Strengthening the **communication policy**, with a more active presence of the NBS, NBM and other producers of official statistics in the public space

III. Future priorities in NSS development

OBJECTIVE 4: USE & ANALYSIS - DATA DEMAND

Build statistical culture (*technical support, thematic expertise*)

- Conduct **trainings, workshops, round tables, “statistics explained” seminars** held by statisticians for data users (policy/decision makers, CSOs, private sector, etc.)
- Organize **scientific conferences** and **tailored events** and **products** for data users
- Develop statistics **e-learning courses** to be institutionalized (official web-sites, educational curriculum, open access tailored courses)
- Developing **partnerships** with universities & secondary education institutions, specialized establishments, as well as analytical think-tanks in order to create statistical culture among the young generation (students & pupils)
- Revise **statistical metadata** to be more accessible to users
- **Informing the public** about the achievement and results of statistical surveys by the institutions within the NSS.



**Thank you
for your attention,
and your continued support!**