

**UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE**

**Project “Strengthening national capacity in the most vulnerable**

**UNECE countries for the sustainable development of statistics”\***

**Implemented from 2014 to 2018**

## **Evaluation Report**

**Period of evaluation: January to April 2019**

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**Evaluation commissioned by United Nations Economic Commission for Europe**

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\*Official title used only for official UN reporting. Otherwise is used the title “Supporting the implementation of the global assessment recommendations in EECCA countries” (on UNECE websites, invitation letters and agendas).

## Evaluation report

The report compiled by Ms. Katerina Kostadinova Daskalovska, independent consultant, to evaluate the UNECE project “Strengthening national capacity in the most vulnerable UNECE countries for the sustainable development of statistics”, implemented from 2014 to 2018.

The views and interpretations are those of the author and do not necessarily represent those of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE).

## Acknowledgements

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## Contents

List of acronyms .....	4
Executive Summary.....	5
1. Introduction .....	7
1. A. Purpose of Evaluation.....	7
1. B. Scope of Evaluation.....	8
1. C. Methodology.....	8
2. Findings .....	9
Relevance .....	10
Effectiveness .....	16
Efficiency .....	20
Sustainability.....	23
Conclusions and recommendations.....	25

## List of figures

Figure 1. Evaluation of the Workshop on the implementation of the 2008 SNA in EECCA countries and linkages with BPM6 and GFSM 2014 .....	13
Figure 2. Evaluation of the Joint UNECE/OECD Seminar on the Implementation of SEEA (14-15 October 2015).....	14
Figure 3. Project evaluation Survey, Question 2, 3 and 4.....	14

## List of and Annexes

Annex 1.	Terms of Reference, Evaluation of UN Development Account 9 <sup>th</sup> Tranche Project 1415-af, “Strengthening national capacity in the most vulnerable UNECE countries for the sustainable development of statistics”
Annex 2.	Evaluator’s biodata
Annex 3.	List of documents included in the desk review
Annex 4.	List of Project activities
Annex 5.	Brief overview of activities in support to Expected Project Accomplishment
Annex 6.	Project Evaluation Survey Questionnaire
Annex 7.	Project Evaluation Survey Results

## List of acronyms

CES	Conference of European Statisticians
GA	Global Assessments
GAs	Global Assessments
GSBPM	Generic Statistical Business Process Model
GLOS	Generic Law on Official Statistics
EECCA	Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia
EEC	Eurasian Economic Commission
EFTA	European Free Trade Association
ENP	European Neighbourhood Policy
Eurostat	statistical office of the European Union
NSO	National Statistical Office
NSOs	National Statistical Offices
NSS	National Statistical System
NSSs	National Statistical Systems
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
SPECA	Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia
SPECA PWG	Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia Project Working Group on Statistics
Rosstat	Federal State Statistics Service of the Russian Federation
RPTC	Regular Programme for Technical Cooperation
SEEA	System of Environmental-Economic Accounting (SEEA)
UNECE	United Nation Economic Commission for Europe
UNDA	United Nations Development Account
UNDESA	United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs
UNDP	United Nations Development Fund
UNSD	United Nations Statistics Division
FPOS	see FPs
FPs	Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics

## Executive Summary

The purpose of this evaluation is to review the relevance, effectiveness, efficiency and sustainability of the UN Development Account project “Strengthening national capacity in the most vulnerable UNECE countries for the sustainable development of statistics” (hereinafter “the Project”) in achieving its objectives. The evaluation was carried out through desk study of the relevant Project documentation and analysis of the data collected through a survey designed for the purpose of this evaluation. The telephone interviews were foreseen as additional tool in case of need for more elaboration on some topics, however there was no need for that. Still telephone calls were made to encourage the Project participants to answer the evaluation survey.

The project was fully relevant to the objective of the UNECE to enhance the national capacity of the most vulnerable UNECE countries for sustainable development of statistics through the implementation of recommendations from the Global Assessments of national statistical systems. The Project design and its activities were appropriate to the needs of the beneficiary countries for specific technical support to address the issues and gaps identified with Global Assessments as: weak legal and institutional framework, needs for improvements of organization of work and production processes as well needs to increase the knowledge of national experts on international recommendations and their further application. Due to the Project flexibility, during the Project implementation were added activities to support beneficiary countries in their implementation of statistics on the SDGs.

The Project faced several challenges during its implementation that contributed to delayed implementation of the Project. However, challenges were overcome and didn't prevent achieving the project objective and expected accomplishments.

The Project achieved its objectives within the anticipated budget and allocation of resources. All financial resources allocated from UNDA 9<sup>th</sup> tranche were not spent because partner organisations co-funded many of the activities.

The benefits of the Project will continue after completion of the Project. Generic Law on Official Statistics (GLOS) will serve the beneficiary countries as a reference tool for amending their statistical legislation and the adopted UNECE Generic Statistical Business Process Model (GSBPM) as a tool for documenting and standardising statistical production processes. Started and planned changes in statistical production and dissemination based on improved knowledge will contribute for improving institutional capacity for implementing the UN Fundamental Principles and production and dissemination of international comparable official statistics.

The opinions collected within the Project evaluation survey confirmed the relevance, effectiveness and sustainability of the implemented Project. In addition, the collected opinions indicated the needs for continuation of the UNECE support to the beneficiary countries for further capacity building to support the implementation of statistics for the SDGs, modernization of official statistics and improvement of production and dissemination in specific statistical areas.

Based on the evaluation findings, the evaluator has two groups of recommendations:

### **A. Recommendations referring the sustainability of the results of this Project**

It is recommended UNECE to remain in close contact and cooperation with national statistical offices

of the beneficiary's countries:

1. To provide support in revising their statistical legislation in line with the Generic Law of official statistics (for the countries which didn't revise the statistical legislation) and to provide support for implementing the new legislation where needed;
2. To provide advices and support for further implementation of Global Assessments' recommendations from the first round of GAs and to follow up the implementation activities;
3. To continue the programme of Global Assessments of national statistical systems, to finalised the new round that was started and to follow up the implementation of the GAs' recommendations.

It is recommended UNECE to continue the capacity development activities to support the implementation of statistics for the SDGs and the modernization of official statistics in the beneficiary countries through regular UNECE capacity development work as well as by running similar capacity-building project within UNDA 10th tranche Programme on Statistics and Data or other available funding.

### **B. Recommendations based on the faced challenges during the Project implementation**

For UNECE future cooperation with the beneficiary's countries and for running similar projects in future, it is recommended UNECE to consider the following:

1. Within its mandate, working together with other international organisations, as well as the local UNDP office in Ashgabat, to continue making efforts and to find ways to bring State Statistics Committee of Turkmenistan (Turkmenstat) more into international initiatives in order to ensure more active participation of Turkmenistan in international cooperation and especially participation of representatives from SSC Turkmenistan in international and sub-regional workshops, seminars and other type of capacity building events as well as in future similar projects.
2. When planning a project, to have more advisory missions and more intensive professional and diplomatic contacts in order to ensure full participation of the countries that are intended beneficiaries.
3. When running a project, UNECE should ensure that all required documentation, such as mission reports, events documentation, related correspondence and similar are received, collated and deposited in a designated place in accordance with the prescribed procedures.
4. To examine the possibilities within the existing procedures and tools, for each project activity, in addition to the amounts of expenses breakdown by type, to keep evidence on expenses by activity and source of financing (as information given on some workshops in some mission reports or activity concept note<sup>1</sup>).
5. From the very beginning of a project, to have a deputy Project manager or other designated person who will take the over the management of a running project in case of Project manager

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<sup>1</sup> Example, Concept note on: *National Workshops and advisory missions The Use of Administrative Data for the Measurement of Migration: integration, improvement, modernization, and dissemination* (5-6 April, Tbilisi, Georgia)

departure from UNECE. The deputy Project manager or other designated person has to be involved in and familiar with the project from the very beginning in order to ensure smooth continuation of the project in case when the Project manager leaves the project.

## **1. Introduction**

### **1. A. Purpose of Evaluation**

The purpose of this evaluation is to assess the relevance, effectiveness, efficiency and sustainability of the Project in enhancing the capacity of the project countries, and review the implementation and assess the extent to which the objectives of the UN Development Account project “Strengthening national capacity in the most vulnerable UNECE countries for the sustainable development of statistics” (hereinafter “Project”) were achieved.

The results of the evaluation are aimed to support improvement of the future technical cooperation projects and activities implemented by UNECE, and in particular, activities which are global in nature (involving several regions and cooperation with several Regional Commissions).

### **1. B. Subject of Evaluation**

Subject of this evaluation is the project: “Strengthening national capacity in the most vulnerable UNECE countries for the sustainable development of statistics.” The objective of the Project is to enhance the national capacity of eight beneficiary countries (Armenia, Georgia, Kyrgyzstan, Republic of Moldova, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan) for sustainable development of statistics through the implementation of recommendations from the Global Assessments.

UNECE capacity building activities is based on the process of Global Assessments of national statistical systems of the selected countries in the Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia. The Project is linked to the expected accomplishment “improving support to the implementation of international standards” of the sub-programme 3, statistics in the 2014-2015 programme budget.

The Project builds on Global Assessments of national statistical systems (NSSs) conducted between 2010 and 2013 in these beneficiary countries by UNECE and partner organizations, Eurostat and EFTA. The key issues identified in GAs that lead to low capacity to produce internationally comparable, timely and accurate official statistics were the following three: weak framework for statistical work, organizational problems in statistical offices and low level of compliance with international standards. In the framework of the Project, UNECE aimed to support beneficiary countries to formulate, prioritize and eventually incorporate Global Assessments’ recommendations into strategic statistical work programmes.

During the implementation phase planned in the period 2014-2017, UNECE foreseen to provide advisory services and organise national and sub-regional workshops and training seminars in the relevant statistical domains.

The project was planned to draw on existing mechanisms and established partnerships with national and international statistical agencies, under the Conference of European Statisticians and the UN Special Programme for Economies of Central Asia (SPECA). UNECE planned to carry out the activities in coordination and partnership, in particular with the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP), Eurostat and EFTA. Synergies with other partners as

UN Development Programme (UNDP), the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and other bilateral and multilateral donors were as well foreseen for support.

Allocated financial sources for the Project were in amount of US\$ 532,000 from United Nations Development Account (UNDA) 9<sup>th</sup> tranche.

## **1. C. Scope of Evaluation**

The evaluation was guided by the objectives, indicators of achievement and means of verification established in the logical framework of the Project document. The evaluation considered the extent to which the Project built the capacities of beneficiary countries<sup>2</sup> to ensure the sustainable development of statistics, as per the title of this project. The evaluation included the full period of implementation from August 2014 to November 2018.

## **1. D. Methodology**

The implementation of the Project activities and reached results within the Project implementation period from August 2014 to November 2018 was reviewed against objectives, activities, expected accomplishments and indicators set out in the Project document “Strengthening national capacity in the most vulnerable UNECE countries for the sustainable development of statistics”<sup>3</sup>, dated December 2013 (page 12-13 and 16-18). The review against the indicators of achievement was primarily done for the achievements reached only within the Project implementation period. However, in the Report are presented as well information of the reached results after the implementation period based on information obtained from the Project evaluation survey.

The Project is assessed in terms of the evaluation criteria of relevance, effectiveness, efficiency and sustainability through answering the key questions given in the ToRs (Annex 1, Part IV. Issues). Gender aspects were also covered by the evaluation, taking into account guidance provided by the United Nations Evaluation Group on the matter.<sup>4</sup> For example, the gender dimension was evaluated in relation to the participation of both sexes in the Project activities.

The evaluation was carried out through desk study of the relevant Project documentation and analysis of the data collected through a survey designed for the purpose of this evaluation. The telephone interviews were foreseen as additional tool in case of need for more elaboration on some topics, however there was no need for that. Still telephone calls were made to encourage the Project participants to answer the evaluation survey.

The desk study covered available project documentation; reports, presentations and other materials from the implemented project activities; projects products as well as some other related materials including the one listed as means of verification in the Simplified Logical Framework given in the Project document.

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<sup>2</sup> The Project beneficiary countries are eight ECE countries: Armenia, Georgia, Kyrgyzstan, Republic of Moldova, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan.

<sup>3</sup> Available at <http://www.unece.org/info/open-unece/pmt/regular-budget/1415ad-strengthening-the-capacity-in-the-most-vulnerable-countries-in-the-ece-region-for-the-sustainable-development-of-statistics.html>

<sup>4</sup> UNEG, *Integrating Human Rights and Gender Equality in Evaluations*, August 2014, available at <http://www.unevaluation.org/document/detail/1616>

All reviewed materials are listed in the Annex 3. The UNECE Project manager provided the Project documentation and workshops' materials/ or links to workshops' materials as well as the list with contact details of the participants. In the Annex 4 are provided links where workshops' presentations and reports can be found.

The Project evaluation survey intended to cover the majority of national experts from statistical offices from the Project beneficiary countries who participated in the sub regional and national Project events. The respondents were selected from the available lists of participants in the Project events. In total were selected 81 persons to participate, with priority given to those who had participation in bigger number of events, although because of diversity of the workshops' subjects, it was rare to find one person in more events (except for events for top management). In addition, was taken care for including both women and men from each NSO. For data collection was tailored one single questionnaire (Annex 6) with 18 questions that, according to type, can be divided in two groups: one group of questions that refer to results that the respective National Statistical Office (NSO) as an institution reached in connection to this Project. Answers to these questions supposed to be facts and logically to be same in all questionnaires responded by staff from one NSO. The other group of questions are opinion questions that supposed to obtain opinion of the participants in the Project activities referring to specific Project event or specific area. Purpose of each question in the Survey Questionnaire is noted in Annex 7. Having in mind the type of the questions, some of the NSO find more appropriate to fill only one questionnaire on institutional level. i.e. on behalf of all participants in the events that received the questionnaire. The survey was conducted during March 2019. Six countries (out of eight) respond the survey: Armenia, Georgia, Republic of Moldova, Tajikistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan. The aggregated and summarised Survey results are presented in Annex 7.

The survey faced with very low responses within the initially planned period for answering. The problem was overcome with sending reminders by e-mail, support letter from UNECE Project manager and telephone calls made by evaluator with the representatives of NSOs. In addition, a single common questionnaire on institutional level i.e. on behalf of all participants in the events was accepted by the evaluator since some NSOs preferred that way of answering. Finally, after one month were received responses from 6 beneficiary countries.

The quality check of received data was done by the evaluator. Namely the consistency of answers from one NSO was checked with inter-record check i.e. comparison of answers in all received questionnaires from one NSO. In addition, responses referring the NSO results were checked against related information in Project reports, GAs Reports and related available information in NSOs' web portals.

## **2. Findings**

The implementation of the Project activities and results achieved within the Project period from August 2014 to November 2018 is assessed in terms of the evaluation criteria of relevance, effectiveness, efficiency and sustainability. For each criterion are answered the key questions based on context and data analyses done on Project document; progress reports, final report, mission and workshops' reports, workshops' presentation and other materials, compilation of the evaluation results of the workshops held within the Projects and Project Evaluation Survey results.

## Relevance

### **1. To what extent was the project relevant to the objective of the UNECE to enhance the national capacity of the most vulnerable UNECE countries for sustainable development of statistics through the implementation of recommendations from the Global Assessments of national statistical systems?**

The project was fully relevant to the objective of the UNECE to enhance the national capacity of the most vulnerable UNECE countries for sustainable development of statistics through the implementation of recommendations from the Global Assessments of national statistical systems.

The Project was designed and its activities were planned to address the key issues and gaps identified in Global Assessments: weak legal and institutional framework, needs for improvements of organization of work and production processes as well needs to increase the knowledge of national experts on international recommendations and their further application.

Global Assessments (GAs) provide in-depth and comprehensive analyses of the institutional, organizational and technical capacity of countries to produce statistics in compliance with international standards, and suggest concrete recommendations for the sustainable development of national statistical capacities. In the period between 2010 and 2013, UNECE and partner organizations (Eurostat and EFTA) conducted GAs of national statistical systems in Kyrgyzstan (2011), Ukraine (2012) Georgia (2013), Republic of Moldova (2013) and Tajikistan 2013<sup>5</sup>. Turkmenistan filled a self-assessment questionnaire in 2015. GA in Armenia was in 2009. The key issues identified in GAs that lead to low capacity to produce internationally comparable, timely and accurate official statistics were the following three: weak framework for statistical work, organizational problems in statistical offices and low level of compliance with international standards.

The main causes of the weak framework for statistical work were the lack of strategic planning for statistical development, low engagement of government in long-term development of statistics and the lack of coordination between national statistical authorities.

Second, the often inadequate IT, human and financial resources were identified as main causes of organizational problems in statistical offices. The lack of coordination among statistical authorities also added to this problem.

Third, low level of compliance with international standards was a major obstacle to availability of internationally comparable, timely and accurate official statistics. One of the main underlying reasons for this was the lack of knowledge on how to apply international recommendations and guidelines. The weak mandate for data collection and restricted access to administrative data for statistical offices also had impact on the quality of statistics.

The Project was built on GAs findings and recommendations that showed these three main areas for improvement across. The project strategy and its activities were to support strengthening the legal and institutional frameworks for statistical work, to support improvement of statistical production

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<sup>5</sup> GAs available at: <https://www.unece.org/statcoop/ga.html>; accessed on 21.02.2019

processes and organization of statistical work, as well as to provide training to increase compliance with international standards in key areas where gaps exist according to the GAs.

**2. To what extent did the project respond to the specific needs of member States covered by the project's activities? Was the project design and implementation appropriate for meeting the project's overall objectives?**

The Project was appropriate to the needs of the beneficiary countries for specific technical support to address the issues and gaps identified with GAs as well expressed by beneficiary countries. The Project design and implementation was appropriate to the overall objective to improve the capacity of the beneficiary countries to produce internationally comparable, timely and accurate official statistics that will allow for the monitoring of their economic, social and environmental reforms.

The Project was built on the findings and recommendations from GAs that were common for all beneficiary countries, but as well taking into account the specific country needs identified in respective GAs and expressed by beneficiary countries.

At first sub-regional workshop within the Project organised on 10-11 December 2014 in Almaty, Kazakhstan, was introduced the project and were discussed its objectives, the implementation strategy and the monitoring tools with the beneficiary countries. On the meeting, beneficiary countries had chance to express their needs for specific technical support to be delivered in the framework of the Project. In addition, identification of the recommendations from Global Assessments for which a country needs support and coordinate technical assistance was done through participation of the beneficiary countries in donor coordination survey<sup>6</sup>. Beneficiary countries welcomed the Project and stressed that it is crucial for the Project to support their efforts to achieve sustainable results in the development of statistical capacities through the implementation of the recommendations provided in Global Assessment reports. They acknowledged that a review of a national statistical system should be carried out every five to six years. This would be in line with the duration of master plans in most countries and would allow beneficiaries to implement the recommendations, and donors and other stakeholders to assess the achievement of each strategic plan as it comes to a close and accurately prepare for the next one.

The Project design envisaged advisory missions to beneficiary countries, national and sub-regional activities:

- 8 advisory missions to assist national statistical authorities of beneficiary countries in the formulation and inclusion of the recommendations in their respective statistical programmes of work.
- 4 sub-regional workshops/training seminars in support of the objective to strengthen the capacities to build sustainable statistical production processes that are supported by sufficient organisational structures. The aim of these activities was to promote the exchange of good practices and experience among the target countries in implementing the UN Fundamental Principles and rationalizing (streamlining) the production of official statistics. These activities were planned to focus mainly on general recommendations provided in Global Assessment reports such

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<sup>6</sup> Developed by Eurostat and launched in the EECCA region jointly with UNECE

as:

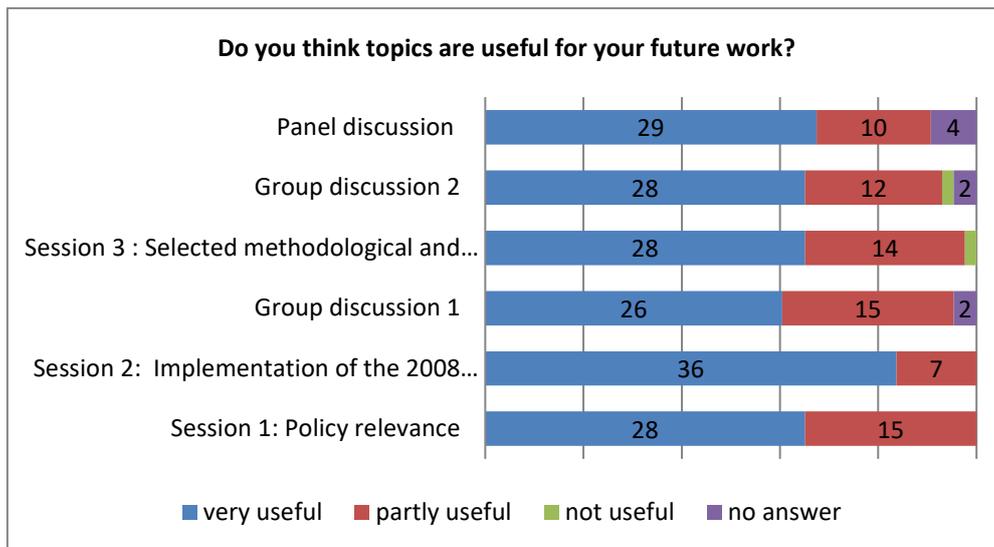
- Legal and institutional framework for the production of official statistics; including the UN Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics;
  - Modernising statistical production processes and improving planning of statistical activities including allocation of necessary human, technical and financial resources;
  - Use of administrative data for the production of official statistic, and set-up and maintenance of statistical registers;
  - Quality and dissemination of statistics information from a users' perspective.
- 16 national workshops/training seminars combined with advisory missions to assist target countries in building sustainable capacities of national statistical offices for collecting, processing, analysing and disseminating internationally comparable statistics, including set-up and maintenance of online dissemination databases and user-friendly data extraction software.
- The Project envisaged 8 advisory missions at the end of the project to beneficiary countries to conduct follow-up assessments of progress made and to identify remaining gaps referring planned Projects results.

One of the major issue that was common for all beneficiary countries was the need for improving the legal statistical framework. Based on request for support for developing statistical laws from the beneficiary countries (namely: Armenia, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Ukraine), within the Project, UNECE developed Generic Law on Official Statistics (GLOS.) The work was done by editorial committee established by UNECE and EFTA, composed with international and sub-regional (national) experts/consultants. EECCA countries and Mongolia were consulted throughout the process of the GLOS elaboration. GLOS was developed primarily for the beneficiary countries, but was endorsed by the Conference of European Statisticians, and published in 2016, in English French and Russian (ECE/CES/STAT/2016/3).

To support enhancement of the organisation of work and production processes in the beneficiary countries, during the Project, UNECE provided support for implementation of the UNECE Generic Statistical Business Process Model (GSBPM) as a tool for documenting and standardising statistical production processes. The support was provided in various sub-regional events, as well as national workshops in Armenia and Uzbekistan.

In support of implementation of various international statistical standards and recommendations, in sub-regional and national workshops, as well as advisory missions, were included topics on migration, gender and environment statistics, as well as the compilation of National Accounts.

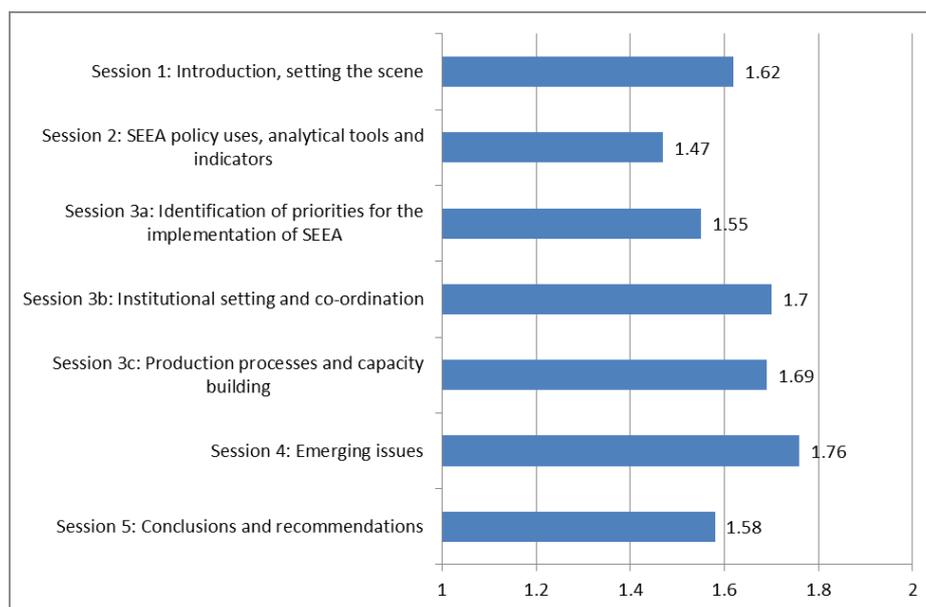
**Figure 1. Evaluation of the Workshop on the implementation of the 2008 SNA in EECCA countries and linkages with BPM6 and GFSM 2014**



\*Source: UNECE Project documentation; Answers from 43 respondents

Relevance of the topics included in the Project activities was evaluated with workshops' evaluation surveys. Evaluations of two sub-regional events covering Implementation of 2008 SNA and SEEA are given in Figure 1 and 2. Workshops' participants that answered the surveys evaluated these topics as very useful and partly useful for their future work i.e. very good and good.

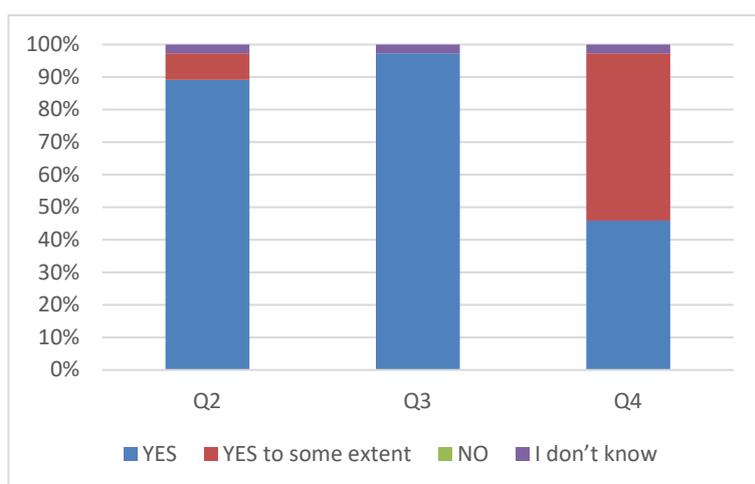
Figure 2. Evaluation of the Joint UNECE/OECD Seminar on the Implementation of SEEA (14-15 October 2015)  
How would you rate the usefulness of the sessions for your work?



\*Source: UNECE Project documentation, (Summary of replies to the online evaluation survey; out of 82 registered participants who took part in the Seminar, 39 replied to the online survey. The results represent the weighted average of four selection options from 1-4 (1=very good, 4=unsatisfactory)

Relevance of the recommendations in the GARs for the national statistical systems in beneficiary countries was subject in the Project evaluation survey conducted within this evaluation. Questions 2 and 3 refer to usefulness recommendations in the GARs for creating a development strategy and for improvement of the statistical production and dissemination of statistical data. Majority of participants in the survey consider them useful and few useful to some extent. Opinions whether recommendations in the GARs are applicable providing that financial and human resources for their implementation are available (Q4) are divided between “yes” and “yes to some extent” (Figure 3).

Figure 3. Project evaluation Survey, Question 2, 3 and 4



Majority of the respondents in the survey (81%) consider that the Project respond to the needs for support expressed by their statistical offices and the rest thinks that the Project respond to some extent.

**3. While the project was conceived and designed prior to the adoption of the 2030 Agenda by Member States in 2015, the evaluation will consider the contribution of the project as per the Sustainable Development Goals where feasible.**

The Project design did not foresee activities connected with Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). However, during the Project implementation was possible to add activities, and tailor existing ones, to support beneficiary countries in their implementation of statistics on the SDGs.

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development was adopted in September 2015 and officially came into force on 1 January 2016. SDGs seek to build on the Millennium Development Goals and complete what they did not achieve. A robust follow-up and review mechanism for the implementation of the new 2030 Agenda will require a solid framework of indicators and statistical data to monitor progress, inform policy and ensure accountability of all stakeholders. The total number of indicators listed in the revised global list of SDG indicators is 244, however, since nine indicators repeat under two or three different targets, the actual total number of individual indicators in the list is 232. According to availability of the indicators concept, methodology and input statistical data, indicators are grouped in 3 tiers.<sup>7</sup>

Having in mind the importance of 2030 Agenda and availability of metadata and data sources for SDGs, support to beneficiary countries in their implementation of statistics on SDGs is very important. During the Project implementation were added activities to support beneficiary countries in their implementation of statistics on the SDG. Two sub-regional workshops on strengthening statistical and institutional capacities in the context of SDGs and strategic partnerships for countries of EECCA were held in Paris, France (26 April 2016) and in Geneva (20th June 2018). In addition, taking into consideration the specific needs of the countries, were held 5 national workshops with topics as: localization of SDGs (9-13 November 2016, Tashkent, Uzbekistan); road map for SDGs and statistics for SDGs (12 October 2017 and 1 November 2018, Yerevan, Armenia); modernizing statistical production and statistics for the SDGs (1-2 November 2017, Tashkent, Uzbekistan); Shared Environmental Information Systems (SEIS) and Environmental Statistics for the SDGs (Dushanbe, Tajikistan, 16-18 October).

According to the Project evaluation survey conducted within this evaluation (Questions 14) half of participants in the survey consider that the Project supported their office in creating road map/national plan for implementing SDG statistics, and the rest think “the Project supported to some extent”. However, almost all think that will need further UNECE support in implementing SDG statistics through similar projects (Questions 15).

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<sup>7</sup> <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/> approached at 15.03.2019

## Effectiveness

### **1. Did the project achieve the results expected during the project design in terms of the planned activities, outcome, and impact?**

With the Project document were envisaged 8 (at the beginning) plus 8 (at the end of the Project) advisory missions, 4 Sub-regional workshop and 16 National workshop. During the Project implementation was possible to add activities and tailor existing ones as appropriate to support beneficiary countries in their needs and to achieve the expected project accomplishments. The final list of Project activities includes 14 advisory missions, 10 Sub-regional workshops and 14 National workshops. The implemented activities supported the expected accomplishments and in terms of results, all main aims and objectives, were achieved.

The kick-off meeting of the Project was the first sub-regional workshop within the Project organised on 10-11 December 2014 in Almaty, Kazakhstan. At the workshop was introduced the Project and were discussed its objectives, the implementation strategy and the monitoring tools with the beneficiary countries. The beneficiary expressed their needs for specific technical support to be delivered in the framework of the Project and identified the recommendations from GAs for which they needed support and coordinate technical assistance.

***Expected Accomplishment 1 (EA1): Recommendations from Global Assessments (GAs) are endorsed by relevant national authorities and incorporated into the multiyear (strategic) and annual (operational) statistical programmes of work***

By the end of the project, all beneficiary countries had started the process, by requesting Global Assessments or similar exercises. All countries had integrated the recommendations into their work programmes and strategies for the development of statistics, except Uzbekistan who finalized the GA in February 2019. Uzbekistan plans to do it in the Strategy that is currently developing.

During the project it was possible to complete a new round of Global Assessments in Ukraine and Moldova, and to start the process in Armenia and Georgia. Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan have requested new Global Assessments in 2019/20, and Turkmenistan is considering when and how the next assessment should be undertaken.

The Project envisaged 8 advisory missions to assist national statistical authorities of beneficiary countries in the formulation and inclusion of the recommendations in their respective statistical programmes of work. In addition, were planned 8 advisory missions at the end of the project, with aim to conduct follow-up assessments of progress made in beneficiary countries and to identify remaining gaps.

According to the Project Final report, Table 2 - Review of Activities in support to EA1 were held 12 advisory missions, out of which 4 (2 Ukraine and 2 in Moldova) were conducting a new round of Global Assessments. However, according to the reviewed progress reports, mission reports and documentation on national events, the number of held advisory missions seems to be bigger, but not always clearly shown as separated activity from the national events.

The advisory missions on implementation of the recommendations from the global assessment and their incorporation into the statistical work programmes were held in Kyrgyzstan, Ukraine, Armenia

and Moldova. The advisory missions were held back to back with the capacity building events organised in these countries. UNECE staff provided advice to the national statistical offices of these countries on the formulation and inclusion of the recommendations in their respective statistical programmes of work. An overview of the activities done in support to EA 1 is given in Annex 5 (*Brief overview of activities in support to Expected Project Accomplishment*).

Five beneficiary countries in 2015 (Armenia, Georgia, Moldova, Kyrgyzstan, Ukraine) and one in 2016 (Tajikistan), integrated the Global Assessments recommendations into their National Strategies for the Development of Statistics, developed by the World Bank (WB), jointly with national statistical authorities and ECE.

The countries who respond the Evaluation Survey confirmed these results. Namely Armenia, Georgia, Republic of Moldova, Ukraine and Uzbekistan answered that have integrated or plan to integrate all applicable recommendations in their strategies for the period 2019-2023 and Tajikistan for the period 2019-2030.

The recommendations of the GA of the National Statistical System of the Kyrgyz Republic had taken as a basis for Strategy for Statistics Development in the Kyrgyz Republic for 2015-2019. In accordance with UNECE requirements related to the assessment of progress and monitoring of measures on implementation of the GA recommendations, National Statistical Committee of the Kyrgyz Republic send a completed Global Assessment questionnaire.<sup>8</sup>

***Expected Accomplishment 2 (EA2): Strengthened capacities to build sustainable statistical production processes that are supported by sufficient organisational structures***

Armenia and Republic of Moldova have adopted new (Law on official statistics) LOS and used GLOS as a reference model, Ukraine and Tajikistan had started development of a new LOS based on GLOS, Georgia plans to develop a new LOS based on GLOS in 2020. All beneficiary countries have adopted the UNECE GSBPM as a tool for documenting and standardising statistical production processes. Armenia, Georgia, Tajikistan and Ukraine already started to use GSBPM in practice and Republic of Moldova and Uzbekistan are not yet using, but plan to use GSBPM. The beneficiary countries have made considerable progress in modernising their statistical production processes. This includes greater adoption and implementation of international standards, use of new data sources, as well as introduction of new tools (software, standard etc.) for web dissemination of statistical data and metadata.

In support to EA2 was developed a *Generic Law on Official Statistics* (GLOS) and were held 2 advisory missions, 4 sub-regional workshops and 5 national workshops. An overview of the activities done in support to EA 2 is given in Annex 5 (*Brief overview of activities in support to Expected Project Accomplishment*).

GLOS (already explained in this Report in question on relevance) was endorsed by CES as a recommendation, a reference tool when amending statistical legislation. It is not a legal tool, but an example of best practice and guidance on statistical legislation that needs to be adapted to the

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<sup>8</sup> Project documentation, Letter 24.11.2014 № 16-08/1959, National Statistical Committee of the Kyrgyz Republic to UNECE Regional adviser

national legislative framework. GLOS since attracted much attention, has been the subject of follow-up activities involving countries across the UNECE region and beyond.

According to the Final Project report (as on January 2019), amongst the beneficiary countries of this project, Armenia and the Republic of Moldova have already passed new laws based on the generic law, whilst in others (e.g. Kyrgyzstan and Ukraine) draft legislation has been submitted to the national parliament. Related to the enhancement of the organisation of work and production processes, during this project, all beneficiary countries have adopted the UNECE GSBPM as a tool for documenting and standardising statistical production processes. This can be seen as an important success.

According to the responses to the Project Evaluation Survey, Armenia and Republic of Moldova have adopted new LOS and used GLOS as a reference model, Ukraine and Tajikistan had started development of a new LOS based on GLOS, Georgia plans to develop a new LOS based on GLOS in 2020.

As evidenced by the latest Global Assessment reports, the beneficiary countries have made considerable progress in modernising their statistical production processes. This has included greater adoption and implementation of international standards, as well as the use of new data sources (Final Project Report).

According to the responses to the Project Evaluation Survey, Armenia, Georgia, Tajikistan and Ukraine already started to use in practice the GSBPM as a tool for documenting and standardizing statistical production processes, and Republic of Moldova and Uzbekistan are not yet using, but plan to use GSBPM.

Statistical Committee of the Republic of Armenia had documented 1.139 statistical products according to GSBPM (<https://www.armstat.am/en/?nid=373>). National Statistics Office of Georgia (GEOSTAT) did routine descriptions of statistical processes prepared in line with the GSBPM and is conducting quality audit in line with the GSBPM. Agency on statistics under the President of the Republic of Tajikistan had developed a national GSBPM model. State Statistics Service of Ukraine created the annual technological program for statistical processes and GSBPM was introduced for all state statistical observations at the level of planning. (Annex 7, responses to question 10).

All countries (statistical offices) that respond the survey stated that their offices made changes for improvements in statistical production based on administrative sources; had introduce new tool/s (software, standard etc.) for web dissemination of statistical data and metadata; had increased the internationally comparable statistics, methodological notes and quality reports (metadata) on their websites. (more details in Annex 7, responses to question 11-13).

***Expected Accomplishment 3 (EA3): Increased capacity of national statistical offices to produce and disseminate internationally comparable statistics.***

In support to EA3 were held 6 sub-regional workshops and 9 national workshops. An overview of the activities done in support to EA 3 is given in Annex 5 (*Brief overview of activities in support to Expected Project Accomplishment*).

Sub-regional workshops respond to the needs of the beneficiary countries to improve production and dissemination in the areas that were identified through GA and stated by the countries, such as System of National Accounts, System of Environmental- Economic Accounting, migration, producing statistics required for SDG indicators.

The sub-regional and national workshops have supported the beneficiary countries in their implementation of various international statistical standards and recommendations. According to the Final Project Report, all beneficiary countries have increased the volume of internationally comparable statistics disseminated on their statistical websites. All except Turkmenistan now subscribe to the IMFs GDDS or SDDS standards for the presentation of comparable data. All except Tajikistan and Turkmenistan publish information on methodology. All countries (statistical offices) that respond the survey stated that their offices had increased the internationally comparable statistics (more details in Annex 7, responses to question 11-13).

**2. *What were the challenges/ obstacles to achieving the project objective and expected accomplishments?***

The Project faced several challenges during its implementation. The UNDA allotment was available in April 2014 and the post of the Regional Adviser was vacant from March 2015 to May 2016 that contributed to delayed implementation of the project. Uzbekistan has conducted a Global Assessment only at the end of the Project. However, challenges were overcome and didn't prevent achieving the project objective and expected accomplishments.

The UNDA allotment was available only in April 2014. Availability of funds in January 2014 would have allowed better implementation of the project.

Participation in the sub-regional workshop (kick-off meeting of the Project) organised on 10-11 December 2014 in Almaty, Kazakhstan was important for Project beneficiary countries as the workshop introduced the Project and the beneficiary countries expressed their needs for specific technical support to be delivered in the framework of the Project. All beneficiary countries except Turkmenistan took participation in this workshop. It was due to late confirmation received from Turkmenistan. After sending the timely invitation, UNECE sent several reminders to the Statistical Office of Turkmenistan. These emails were copied also to the UNDP Resident Coordinator in Turkmenistan and the representative of the Permanent Mission of Turkmenistan to the United Nations Office in Geneva. However, the representatives of Turkmenistan confirmed their participation just a week before the event and was impossible to organise their participation.

Based on the review of the list of participants and reports from sub-regional workshops was noted that representatives from State Statistics Committee of Turkmenistan (Turkmenstat) had participate only in few events.

Workshop and advisory mission on the use of administrative data for the measurement of migration in Georgia was initially planned to be held in 2015. Activities were postponed due to the resignation of the P3 staff, the expert on the migration statistics. A temporary replacement was hired, while waiting the permanent post to be filled. The meeting was rescheduled and held in April 2016.

The Global Assessment was a prerequisite for full participation in the project. At the beginning of the Project, Uzbekistan has not yet conducted a Global Assessment. Efforts by UNECE continued throughout the project to encourage Uzbekistan to request a Global Assessment. Uzbekistan was strongly encouraged to request a Global Assessment at the High-Level Workshop for EECCA countries (June 2015, Riga). UNECE has co-organized with UNDP a national workshop in Uzbekistan in November 2016. A high-level mission to Tashkent was arranged in 2017 involving the Director and

Regional Advisor from the UNECE Statistical Division. After meetings with the head and senior staff of the Uzbek statistical office, and with the support of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, an agreement was reached to conduct a light Global Assessment in October 2018. Finally, GA as “Joint Overview of the implementation of international statistical standards and good practices in the Republic of Uzbekistan” was done and the report was finalised as on 13.02.2019.

The post of the Regional Adviser was vacant from March 2015 to May 2016. The hiring process was complex and took time. In meantime, the Director of the Division acted as the Regional Adviser and followed-up on the activities related to the Project. A temporary staff member was hired for part of this period (from the RPTC budget) and assisted with certain project administration and reporting tasks. This delayed the implementation of the project. An extension of the project until November 2018 was requested and approved. As a result, all project activities could be completed.

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development was adopted in September 2015 and officially came into force On 1 January 2016 while the Project implementation was already ongoing. The adoption of 2030 Agenda resulted in high demand for related statistical capacity development activities form beneficiary countries. The project scope was sufficiently flexible to allow the inclusion of several sub-regional and national activities to support the development and implementation of statistics for the SDGs.

## Efficiency

**1. Did the project achieve its objectives within the anticipated budget and allocation of resources?**

**2. Were the resources (financial and human) appropriate to the design the project?**

The project achieved its objectives within the anticipated budget and allocation of resources. Allocated financial and human resources were appropriate to the design the project. All financial resources allocated from UNDA 9<sup>th</sup> tranche were not spent because partner organisations were co-fund many of the activities.

According to the Project document the allocated budget from UNDA 9th Tranche Development Account<sup>9</sup> for the Project is 535,000 USD (Table1).

**Table 1. Result-based budget by expected accomplishment and main activities (as per Project document)**

Expected accomplishment	Main activities	Amount (in USD)
EA1	A1, 8 advisory missions	26,000
EA2	A2, 4 sub-regional workshops/training seminars	242,500
EA3	A3, 16 national workshops/training seminars combined with advisory missions	228,500
	A1-3, 8 advisory missions at the end of the project	27,000
	Monitoring and evaluation of the project implementation	11,000
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>535,000</b>

<sup>9</sup> United Nations Development Account (UNDA) - RB sec35.

<https://www.un.org/development/desa/da/project-view-public/>

The planned activities were implemented without using the entire available budget. Partner organizations were attracted by the project objectives and outputs, and were willing to co-fund many of the activities, particularly relating to the development of the Generic Law for Official Statistics. The contribution of EFTA is estimated at \$90,000 and of Eurostat at \$45,000. The contribution was in kind and includes funding travel of participants and resource people, event venues and interpretation. These contributions were accepted in the context of strategic and long-term partnerships with these organisations. Doing so, helped to strengthen these partnerships, whilst saving money for the UN. It was not an option to add extra activities due to human resource constraints. None of the funding sources could be used to employ more staff.

**Table 2. Realized expenditure on project activities**

		USD
1	Budget/Allotment as per project document	535.000
2	Total Expenditure from Project budget	381.671
3	Difference (1-2)	153.329
4	EFTA and Eurostat (estimated contribution)	135.000
5	<b>Total Expenditure on Project activities (2+4)</b>	<b>516.671</b>

According to the mission reports, some of the advisory missions and some workshops were financed from Regional Programme of Technical Cooperation (RPTC) -RB sec23.

According to the information from the Final Project report (presented in Table 2 above), the total expenditures for all implemented activities is about 517,000 USD out of planned 535,000 USD.<sup>10</sup>

Having in mind the number and type of planned Project activities and number and type of implemented activities, the allocated financial and human resources were appropriate to the design the project.

A temporary staff member was employed at the start of the project to assist with documentation and budgeting. However, the available funds only supported this arrangement for about 6 months. For the remaining four years of the project, the resources needed for the different substantive, reporting and administrative tasks within this project were provided from the UNECE regular budget (sections 20 and 23). This regular budget input was equivalent to approximately two years of staff time at the P-4 level.

**3. Were the activities implemented according to the planned timeframe?**

**4. Were the activities implemented in the required sequence needed to ensure the greatest impact of the Project?**

The Project activities were implemented in the period August 2014- November 2018, instead of January 2014- December 2017, however the delay didn't prevent reaching the project objectives and

<sup>10</sup> In the Project documentation available to the evaluator, for some activities in the mission reports were given detail information about funding sources, spent amounts and breakdown of the expenditures by provider and by purpose. As such information were not available for all activities, was not possible for the evaluator to make checks of the total derived from costs on each activity against the total by type of expenditures presented in the Final Project report.

expected accomplishments. The sequence of the implemented activities ensured the greatest impact of the Project activities.

The time frame for Project implementation envisaged with the Project document was the period January 2014 - December 2017. Sub regional events (except the kick-off meeting) were planned for the period 2015-2017 and the national events and workshops over the entire Project implementation period (Table 3).

**Table 3. Result-based work plan**

Expected accomplishment	Main activity	Timeframe by output/activity			
		2014	2015	2016	2017
EA1	A1, 8 advisory missions	X	X	X	
EA2	A2, 4 sub-regional workshops/training seminars		X	X	X
EA3	A3, 16 national workshops/training seminars combined with advisory missions	X	X	X	X
	A1-3, 8 advisory missions at the end of the project			X	X
	Monitoring and evaluation of the project implementation				X

**Table 4. Result-based time frame of implemented Project activities**

Expected accomplishment	Main activity	Timeframe by output/activity					
		2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
EA1	A1, 8 advisory missions	X	X	X	X	X	
EA2	A2, 10 sub-regional workshops/training seminars		X	X	X	X	
EA3	A3, 14 national workshops/training seminars combined with advisory missions	X	X	X	X	X	
	A1-3, 8 advisory missions at the end of the project				X	X	
	Monitoring and evaluation of the project implementation						X

Due to the faced challenges (mentioned above in this report), the implementation of the Project activities had started later i.e. instead of January 2014 had started in August 2014. At the end of 2017, while the financial implementation rate was at 57.6%, the project was granted an extension to implement the activities through to end of November 2018 instead of end of 2017. The changed timeframe for implementation of Project activities enabled the completion of those activities during the Project period. Only the envisaged follow up of the implementation of the GA recommendations or the new round of GA were not done in all countries. However, the reason for that was not the delayed implementation; for example, Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan have requested new Global Assessments in 2019/20, to coincide with the end of their current strategies for the development of statistics. Turkmenistan is considering when and how the next assessment should be undertaken. Finally, the time frame of implementation of Project activities didn't prevent reaching the project objectives and expected accomplishments.

The sequence of the implemented activities was done taking into account the initial Project planning, priorities stated by the beneficiary countries and the adoption of 2030 Agenda on SDGs. This ensured the fullest implementation of the Project activities.

## Sustainability

### **1. To what extent will the benefits of the project continue after completion of the project?**

The benefits of the Project will continue after completion of the Project. GLOS will serve to the beneficiary countries as a reference tool for amending their statistical legislation. Adopted UNECE GSBPM and modernisation of statistical production and dissemination process will increase the institutional capacity for implementing the UN Fundamental Principles and production and dissemination of international comparable official statistic.

Perhaps the greatest success of this project was the development of a “Generic Law on Official Statistics”. GLOS was endorsed by CES as a recommendation and published in 2016, in English French and Russian (ECE/CES/STAT/2016/3). The beneficiary countries, but as well other countries are provided with a reference tool for amending their statistical legislation. It is not a legal tool, but an example of best practice and guidance on statistical legislation that needs to be adapted to the national legislative framework.

All beneficiary countries have adopted the UNECE GSBPM as a tool for documenting and standardising statistical production processes. According to the Project evaluation survey, 5 of the beneficiary countries (out of six that responded to the survey) made changes in the statistical production or dissemination based on the GA recommendations given in the latest GA Report on their statistical systems (for more details see Annex 7. Question 7, Listed changes).

The beneficiary countries have made considerable progress in modernising their statistical production processes. This includes greater adoption and implementation of international standards, use of new data sources, as well as introduction of new tools (software, standard etc.) for web dissemination of statistical data and metadata (see Annex 7. Question 11-13). All these benefits together with improved knowledge in specific covered area will contribute for improving institutional capacity for implementing the UN Fundamental Principles and production and dissemination of international comparable official statistics.

### **2. How is the stakeholders’ engagement likely to continue?**

UNECE will continue to support GLOS. UNECE will continue to provide support for the Global Assessments and follow-up activities funded by the Regional Programme on Technical Cooperation (RPTC) budget, and in partnership with Eurostat and the EFTA Statistical Office.

The Generic Law for Official Statistics will continue to be supported by UNECE after the project, including capacity development activities as needed. An expert group has continued this work, and produced “Guidelines for Modernising Official Statistics”, which will be published in early 2019. Support will be given to countries such as Georgia, Kyrgyzstan and Ukraine that are in the process of revising their statistical legislation in line with the Generic Law.

The programme of Global Assessments of national statistical systems will continue after the project. The Global Assessments of Armenia and Georgia will be finalized in the first half of 2019, and a new

Global Assessment of Kyrgyzstan is scheduled for late 2019 / early 2020. Discussions on the timing of future Global Assessments in Tajikistan and Turkmenistan will continue. UNECE will continue to provide support for the Global Assessments and follow-up activities through the Regional Programme on Technical Cooperation (RPTC) budget, and in partnership with Eurostat and the EFTA Statistical Office.

Capacity development activities to support the implementation of statistics for the SDGs and the modernization of official statistics in the beneficiary countries will continue in the context of regular UNECE capacity development work, and a UNDA 10th tranche Programme on Statistics and Data.

### ***3. How will the capacity built ensure that institutions will take over and sustain the benefits of the project?***

Improved legal framework is one of required elements to enhance the national capacity of the beneficiary countries for sustainable development of statistics. Amongst the beneficiary countries of this project, Armenia and the Republic of Moldova have already passed new laws based on the GLOS, whilst in others Kyrgyzstan and Ukraine draft legislation has been submitted to the national parliament. Tajikistan had started development of a new LOS and Georgia plans to develop a new LOS based on GLOS in 2020, as reported verbally by the countries.

All countries had integrated the GAs' recommendations into their work programmes and strategies for the development of statistics, except Uzbekistan who finalized the GA in February 2019<sup>11</sup>. According to the Project evaluation survey, Uzbekistan plans to do it in the Strategy that is currently developing.

Countries reported that GAs exercises and provided recommendations with the GA are very important for the sustainable development of national statistical capacities (see Annex 7. Question 11-13). During the project was completed a new round of GA in Ukraine and Moldova, and was started the process in Armenia and Georgia. Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan have requested new Global Assessments in 2019/20, and Turkmenistan is considering when and how the next assessment should be undertaken.

## **Gender and Human Rights Considerations**

As noted above, both women and men have been involved in the various project activities, although no gender consideration has been recorded in the project's proposal, no indicator has been established and no gender-relevant information has been specifically collected during the project's implementation.

The human rights dimension was not incorporated in the project proposal. The project outcomes make no explicit reference to the human rights dimension, though the Generic Law on Official Statistics requires "equal and simultaneous access" to official statistics for all users, in line with the United Nations Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics.

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<sup>11</sup> Ibid, page 4

## Conclusions and recommendations

The project was fully relevant to the objective of the UNECE to enhance the national capacity of the most vulnerable UNECE countries for sustainable development of statistics through the implementation of recommendations from the Global Assessments of national statistical systems.

The Project was designed and its activities were planned to address the key issues and gaps identified in Global Assessments: weak legal and institutional framework, needs for improvements of organization of work and production processes as well needs to increase the knowledge of national experts on international recommendations and their further application.

The Project was appropriate to the needs of the beneficiary countries for specific technical support to address the issues and gaps identified with GAs as well expressed by beneficiary countries. The Project design and implementation was appropriate to the overall objective to improve the capacity of the beneficiary countries to produce internationally comparable, timely and accurate official statistics that will allow for the monitoring of their economic, social and environmental reforms.

From gender perspective, taking into account the Project objectives and expected achievements, the Project as designed have same relevance and gave same opportunities for participation to both sexes. Although the project was not specifically designed to ensure gender balance, in all Project activities, from all NSOs were participating both women and men. This is confirmed in the available lists of participants.

With the Project document were envisaged 8 (at the beginning) plus 8 (at the end of the Project) advisory missions, 4 Sub-regional workshop and 16 National workshop in specific identified areas. During the Project implementation was possible to add activities and tailor existing ones as appropriate to support beneficiary countries in their needs and to achieve the expected project accomplishments. Thus, even the Project design did not foresee activities connected with Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), during the Project implementation were added activities to support beneficiary countries in their implementation of statistics on the SDGs.

The final list of Project activities includes 14 advisory missions, 10 Sub-regional workshops and 14 National workshops. The implemented activities supported the expected accomplishments and in terms of results, all main aims and objectives, were achieved.

By the end of the project, all beneficiary countries had started the process, by requesting Global Assessments or similar exercises. All countries had integrated the recommendations into their work programmes and strategies for the development of statistics, except Uzbekistan who finalized the GA in February 2019. Uzbekistan plans to do it in the Strategy that is currently developing.

During the project it was possible to complete a new round of Global Assessments in Ukraine and Moldova, and to start the process in Armenia and Georgia. Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan have requested new Global Assessments in 2019/20, and Turkmenistan is considering when and how the next assessment should be undertaken.

The Project faced several challenges during its implementation. The UNDA allotment was available in April 2014 and the post of the Regional Adviser was vacant from March 2015 to May 2016 that contributed to delayed implementation of the project. Uzbekistan has conducted a Global Assessment only at the end of the Project. However, these challenges were overcome and didn't prevent achieving

the project objective and expected accomplishments. In addition to the mentioned challenges, the representatives from State Statistics Committee of Turkmenistan (Turkmenstat) participated only in few events.

The project achieved its objectives within the anticipated budget and allocation of resources. Allocated financial and human resources were appropriate to the design the project, though human resources for project activities were subsidised from the regular budget. All financial resources allocated from UNDA 9<sup>th</sup> tranche were not spent because partner organisations co-funded many of the activities.

The Project activities were implemented in the period August 2014- December 2018, instead of January 2014- December 2017, however the delay didn't prevent reaching the project objectives and expected accomplishments. The sequence of the implemented activities ensured the greatest impact of the Project activities.

The benefits of the Project will continue after completion of the Project. GLOS will serve to the beneficiary countries as a reference tool for amending their statistical legislation. Adopted UNECE GSBPM and modernisation of statistical production and dissemination process will increase the institutional capacity for implementing the UN Fundamental Principles and production and dissemination of international comparable official statistic.

UNECE will continue to support GLOS. UNECE will continue to provide support for the Global Assessments and follow-up activities through the Regional Programme on Technical Cooperation (RPTC) budget, and in partnership with Eurostat and the EFTA Statistical Office.

The opinions collected within the Project evaluation survey confirmed the relevance, effectiveness and sustainability of the implemented Project. In addition, the collected opinions indicated the needs for continuation of the UNECE support to the beneficiary countries for further capacity building to support the implementation of statistics for the SDGs, modernization of official statistics and improvement of production and dissemination in specific statistical areas.

Based on the evaluation findings, the evaluator has two groups of recommendations.

#### **A. Recommendations referring the sustainability of the results of this Project**

It is recommended UNECE to remain in close contact and cooperation with national statistical offices of the beneficiary's countries:

4. To provide support in revising their statistical legislation in line with the Generic Law of official statistics (for the countries which didn't revise the statistical legislation) and to provide support for implementing the new legislation where needed;
5. To provide advices and support for further implementation of Global Assessments' recommendations from the first round of GAs and to follow up the implementation activities;
6. To continue the programme of Global Assessments of national statistical systems, to finalised the new round that was started and to follow up the implementation of the GAs' recommendations.

It is recommended UNECE to continue the capacity development activities to support the implementation of statistics for the SDGs and the modernization of official statistics in the beneficiary countries through regular UNECE capacity development work as well as by running similar capacity-

building project within UNDA 10th tranche Programme on Statistics and Data or other available funding.

## **B. Recommendations based on the faced challenges during the Project implementation**

For UNECE future cooperation with the beneficiary's countries and for running similar projects in future, it is recommended UNECE to consider the following:

6. Within its mandate, working together with other international organisations, as well as the local UNDP office in Ashgabat, to continue making efforts and to find ways to bring State Statistics Committee of Turkmenistan (Turkmenstat) more into international initiatives in order to ensure more active participation of Turkmenistan in international cooperation and especially participation of representatives from SSC Turkmenistan in international and sub-regional workshops, seminars and other type of capacity building events as well as in future similar projects.
7. When planning a project, to have more advisory missions and more intensive professional and diplomatic contacts in order to ensure full participation of the countries that are intended beneficiaries.
8. When running a project, UNECE should ensure that all required documentation, such as mission reports, events documentation, related correspondence and similar are received, collated and deposited in a designated place in accordance with the prescribed procedures.
9. To examine the possibilities within the existing procedures and tools, for each project activity, in addition to the amounts of expenses breakdown by type, to keep evidence on expenses by activity including external financing (as information given on some workshops in some mission reports or activity concept note<sup>12</sup>).
10. From the very beginning of a project, to have a deputy Project manager or other designated person who will take the over the management of a running project in case of Project manager departure from UNECE. The deputy Project manager or other designated person has to be involved in and familiar with the project from the very beginning in order to ensure smooth continuation of the project in case when the Project manager leaves the project.

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<sup>12</sup> Example, Concept note on: *National Workshops and advisory missions The Use of Administrative Data for the Measurement of Migration: integration, improvement, modernization, and dissemination* (5-6 April, Tbilisi, Georgia)

# Annex 1 – Terms of Reference for Evaluation

## TERMS OF REFERENCE

### EVALUATION OF UN DEVELOPMENT ACCOUNT 9<sup>th</sup> TRANCHE PROJECT 1415-AF

#### *“Strengthening national capacity in the most vulnerable UNECE countries for the sustainable development of statistics”*

#### **Purpose**

The purpose of this evaluation is to review the implementation and assess the extent to which the objectives of the UN Development Account project “Strengthening national capacity in the most vulnerable UNECE countries for the sustainable development of statistics.” (hereinafter “Project”) were achieved. The evaluation will assess the relevance, effectiveness, efficiency and sustainability of the project in enhancing the capacity of the project countries with regards to the sustainable development of statistics.

The results of the evaluation will support improvement of the future technical cooperation projects and activities implemented by UNECE, and in particular, activities which are global in nature (involving several regions and cooperation with several Regional Commissions)

#### **Scope**

The evaluation will be guided by the objectives, indicators of achievement and means of verification established in the logical framework of the project document. The evaluation will consider the extent to which the Project built the capacities of beneficiary countries to ensure the sustainable development of statistics. The evaluation will include the full period of implementation from 2014 to 2018.

#### **Background**

Since 1992, UNECE has been promoting the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics (ECE C(47)) which provide the basis for a sound legal and institutional framework for national statistical systems. In 2013, ECOSOC endorsed the Fundamental Principles and noted the critical role of high-quality official statistical information for informed decision-making in support of sustainable development (E/RES/2013/21). The Global Assessments of national statistical systems assess the adherence of countries to the Fundamental Principles.

Providing timely, reliable and internationally comparable statistics was identified as a major challenge for the producers of official statistics in the region. To overcome the challenge, the development of national statistical capacities and a series of adjustments on the institutional, organizational and technical levels are required.

The project was implemented from 2014 to 2018. UNECE led on the execution of the project. Project activities included 8 beneficiary countries: Armenia, Georgia, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova,

Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan, either through national, regional or intergovernmental activities.

The objective of the project was to enhance the national capacity of the most vulnerable UNECE countries for sustainable development of statistics through the implementation of recommendations from the Global Assessments of national statistical systems.

## Issues

The evaluation should review the following aspects of the project implementation and results:

- *Relevance:*

To what extent was the project relevant to the objective of the UNECE to enhance the national capacity of the most vulnerable UNECE countries for sustainable development of statistics through the implementation of recommendations from the Global Assessments of national statistical systems?

To what extent did the project respond to the specific needs of member States covered by the project's activities? Was the project design and implementation appropriate for meeting the project's overall objectives?

While the project was conceived and designed prior to the adoption of the 2030 Agenda by Member States in 2015, the evaluation will consider the contribution of the project as per the Sustainable Development Goals where feasible.

- *Effectiveness:*

Did the project achieve the results expected during the project design in terms of the planned activities, outcome, and impact?

What were the challenges/ obstacles to achieving the project objective and expected accomplishments?

- *Efficiency:*

Did the project achieve its objectives within the anticipated budget and allocation of resources?

Were the resources (financial and human) appropriate to the design the project?

Were the activities implemented according to the planned timeframe?

Were the activities implemented in the required sequence needed to ensure the greatest impact of the Project?

- *Sustainability:*

To what extent will the benefits of the project continue after completion of the project?

How is the stakeholders' engagement likely to continue?

How will the capacity built ensure that institutions will take over and sustain the benefits of the project?

## Methodology

The evaluation will be conducted on the basis of:

1. A **desk review** of all the relevant documents obtained from project files including:
  - Programmes and materials (presentations, background documents) developed for national and regional workshops as well as lists of participants; reports of workshops; Meeting webpages; Global Assessments of National Statistical Systems of those beneficiary countries that have requested them; Publications developed in the framework of the project; and Yearly interim progress reports (for 2014, 2015, 2016 and 2017).
2. An electronic **questionnaire** will be developed by the consultant to assess the perspective from member States targeted by the project, after consultation with UNECE. The questionnaire will be available to participants in both English and Russian.
3. This questionnaire will be followed up by **selected interviews** (methodology to be determined by the evaluator in consultation with UNECE) with key internal and external stakeholders. The interviews will take place via phone and Skype. The UNECE project manager will provide the list and contact details.

The project manager will also guide the evaluator on the appropriate recipients for the questionnaire, and for follow up interviews, and ensure that the necessary communications with these recipients are introduced by the secretariat.

The report will summarize the findings, conclusions and recommendations of the evaluation. An executive summary (of no more than 2 pages) will briefly summarize the project, the methodology of the evaluation, key findings, conclusions and recommendations. The final report will be a maximum of 20 pages (excluding annexes).

All material needed for the evaluation, will be provided to the consultant: project document and reports, meeting reports and publications, list of involved experts that can be interviewed by telephone. The UNECE project manager will be contacted to obtain clarifications and any missing data. He will provide support and further explanation by Skype and phone to the evaluation consultant when needed.

The evaluation will be conducted in accordance with the UNECE Evaluation Policy. The evaluation will comply with the United Nations Evaluation Group (UNEG) Norms and Standards, including due consideration of the gender aspects of the project's design and implementation. UNECE will provide all documentation as needed throughout the timeline of the evaluation. UNECE will provide support and further explanation to the evaluator as needed.

## Evaluation Schedule

- Desk review of all documents provided by UNECE to the evaluator (by 10 January 2019)
- Delivery of inception report including design of survey (by 10 January 2019)
- Feedback on inception report by the project manager and PMU (by 15 January 2019)
- Launching the survey (15 January 2019)
- Conducting in-person and telephone interviews (by 15 February 2019)
- Analysis of collected information (by 25 February 2019)
- Draft report (25 February 2019)

- Comments back to the evaluator after review by the project manager and the PMU (5 March 2019)
- Final report (15 March 2019).

## **Resources**

The requirement for an external evaluation is specified in the project document. An external evaluation consultant identified through the UNECE Evaluation Consultants' Roster will be hired and managed by the project manager (Steven Vale). The project manager will also guide the evaluator on the appropriate recipients for the questionnaire, and for follow up interviews, and ensure that the necessary communications with these recipients are introduced by the secretariat.

The UNECE Programme Management Unit will provide guidance on the evaluation requirements, design, and review of the draft evaluation report.

The resources available for this evaluation are USD 11,000 (all inclusive). Payment will be made upon satisfactory delivery of work.

## **Intended Use/Next Steps**

The evaluation will be consistent with the UNECE Evaluation Policy. The results will be used in the planning and implementation of future similar projects in the region and possibly beyond. The findings of the evaluation will inform follow up actions and guide initiatives already started and required to disseminate the knowledge created and enhance its use. The outcomes of the evaluation will also contribute to the broader lessons learned of the UNDA, by being made available on the UNECE public and internal websites, as well as submitted to UN DESA in UNHQ.

## **Criteria for Evaluators**

Evaluators should have:

- An advanced university degree or equivalent background in relevant disciplines
- Specialized training in areas such as evaluation, project management, statistics, statistical capacity development.
- Demonstrated relevant professional experience in design, management and conduct of evaluation processes with multiple stakeholders, survey design and implementation, and project planning, monitoring and management.
- Demonstrated methodological knowledge of evaluations, including quantitative and qualitative data collection and analysis for end-of-cycle project evaluations.
- Fluency in written and spoken English and Russian languages.

Evaluators should declare any conflict of interest to UNECE before embarking on an evaluation project, and at any point where such conflict occurs.

## Annex 2 – Evaluators Biodata

Mrs. Katerina Kostadinova-Daskalovska holds Master Degree (MSc.) in economic science (Financial Management). She is an experienced statistician in managing the national official statistics with in-depth knowledge in various fields of statistics and particularly in population censuses, demographic statistics, migration, education and labour force, as well in gender statistics. She has gained her knowledge through practical work in the State Statistical Office of Macedonia for 18 years, being responsible, and one of the most involved persons in all activities during the 1991, 1994 and 2002 Population and Housing Census in Republic of Macedonia in her capacity as associate, adviser, head of unit. In the period 2004-2005 she was director general of the State Statistical office of Macedonia. In addition, through numerous workshops, conferences, UNECE and Eurostat meetings, long-term training in Eurostat (1988-1999), field studies in the EU countries, DGINS conferences etc., she has gained in-depth knowledge of EU statistics, European Statistics Code of Practice and key principles for the production and dissemination of European official statistics. She was participating in activities for updating the International and ECE Region Census Recommendation for the censuses around 2000 and 2010.

Since 2006 Mrs. Daskalovska is working on operational risk management in a bank, and at the same time as independent international consultant mostly on population and housing censuses. She performed short term assignments in Macedonia, Moldova, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Montenegro, Belarus, Turkmenistan and Lebanon and was engaged by EU Commission, Council of Europe, UN agencies or private consultant company. She was a member of Steering Committee (SC) of the International Monitoring Operation (IMO) of the 2011 Population and Housing Census in Kosovo, as well in SC of IMO of 2013 Population and Housing Census in Bosnia and Herzegovina. In 2012 Census in Moldova she was a member of ITAB (international technical advisory board) as well a short term consultant in TA projects supporting the preparation of census methodology and questionnaires. Currently, she is engaged as short term expert in EU Project: *Assistance to Population and Housing Census, Albania 2020* with objective to assess and monitor the implementation of the Population and Housing Census 2020.

Besides projects in the field of Population and housing Census, she was working on other projects connected with developing assessment methodologies and analytical reports in the field of demography, social statistics, socio-economic development, social vulnerability in relation with disaster risk and climate change; developing indicators for measuring access to justice etc. She is author of several papers in the field of demography, migration and population censuses.

So far, she has experience as evaluator (short term consultant) in two UNECE projects:

- *Preparation for the 2020 round of population censuses and the production of better migration data in CIS countries*, (November 2016/ January 2017)
- *Capacity Building Programme on Engendering National Statistical Systems for a Knowledge-Based Policy Formulation in Eastern and South-eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia* (implemented by UNECE Statistical Division from 2006 to 2010 with financial support from the World Bank Institute), evaluation done January/ February 2011.

Mother tongue of Mrs. Daskalovska is Macedonian. She has excellent knowledge of English language, as well Serbian, Montenegrin, Bosnian, Croatian; can read and understand Bulgarian and has basic understanding of Russian language. She has good communication skills and positive experience in working in multicultural environments.

## **Annex 3. List of documents included in the desk review**

### **I. Project documents and reports**

- Project document “Strengthening national capacity in the most vulnerable UNECE countries for the sustainable development of statistics”, December 2013.
- Yearly interim progress reports for 2014, 2015, 2016 and 2017.
- UNECE, *Final Report of the UNDA 9th Tranche Development Account Project: Strengthening National Capacity in the Most Vulnerable UNECE Countries for the Sustainable Development of Statistics*, January 2019.

### **II. Project activities’ documents and materials (the available one as checked in the Annex 4, UNDA 9th Tranche Project Activities checklist):**

- Concept / information note
- Agenda
- List of Participants
- Mission reports/ Workshops’ Reports
- Papers, presentations, background documents developed for national and regional workshops (available on workshops’ /meeting webpages)

### **III. Global Assessments of National Statistical Systems of those beneficiary countries that have requested them**

- Uzbekistan (Joint Overview – 2018) (English)
- Ukraine (2017) (English) and Ukraine (2012) (English) (Russian)
- Georgia (2013) (English)
- Moldova (2013) (English)
- Tajikistan (2013) (English) (Russian)
- Kyrgyzstan (2011) (English) (Russian)
- Armenia (2009) (English) (Russian)

GAs available at: <https://www.unece.org/statcoop/ga.html>; accessed on 21.02.2019

- Summary of the Self-assessment Report of Turkmenstat, Richard Roberts, 24 April, 2015 (not available on web)

### **IV. Publications developed in the framework of the project**

UNECE, *Generic Law on Official Statistics for Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia*, United Nations, New York and Geneva, 2016 available at <https://www.unece.org/index.php?id=45114>; accessed on 18.02.2019

#### Annex 4. UNDA 9th Tranche Project, Activities checklist

Ref	Title	Date	Place	Concept / information note	Agenda	List of Participants	Papers / presentations	Report/ Mission report (MR)	Web
A1-1	Advisory mission to Kyrgyzstan	6-7 October 2014	Bishkek	Letter		Yes		MR	n/a
A1-2	Advisory mission to Ukraine	January 2015	Minsk					MR	n/a
A1-3	Advisory mission to Turkmenistan	9-14 March 2015	Ashgabat					MR	n/a
A1-4	Advisory mission to Uzbekistan	31 Oct – 3 Nov 2017	Tashkent		Yes		Yes	MR	n/a
A2-1	Kick-off workshop	10 – 11 December 2014	Almaty	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	<a href="http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=37066">http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=37066</a>
A2-2	SNA Implementation workshop	6-8 May 2015	Istanbul	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	<a href="http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=38312">http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=38312</a>
A2-3	SEEA workshop	14-15 October 2015	Geneva	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	<a href="http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=37910">http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=37910</a>
A2-4	SEEA Training	20-22 October 2015	Minsk	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	MR	No
A2-5	Modernisation and GLOS workshop	1 to 3 December 2015	Bishkek	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	<a href="http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=37889">http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=37889</a>
A2-6	SDG workshop	26 April 2016	Paris	Yes (invitation)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	<a href="http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=42593">http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=42593</a>
A2-7	Migration workshop	17 - 18 May 2016	Geneva	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	<a href="http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=41272">http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=41272</a>
A2-8	GLOS Seminar	7-8 July 2016	Ohrid	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	<a href="http://www.efta.int/seminars/glos">http://www.efta.int/seminars/glos</a> Organised by EFTA with UNECE support
A2-9	HRMT workshop	7-9 September 2016	Krakow	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	<a href="http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=41259">http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=41259</a>
A2-10	GLOS and Risk workshop	4-6 October 2017	Tbilisi	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	<a href="https://statswiki.unece.org/display/UNDA9/Tbilisi+Workshop">https://statswiki.unece.org/display/UNDA9/Tbilisi+Workshop</a>
A2-11	SDG workshop	20 June 2018	Geneva	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No

## Annex 4, continuation

Ref	Title	Date	Place	Concept / information note	Agenda	List of Participants	Papers / presentations	Report/ Mission report (MR)	Web
A3-1	Kyrgyzstan - GLOS	4 December 2015	Bishkek	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Press release	
A3-2	Ukraine - Global assessment 1	11-15 January 2016	Kiev	n/a	No	No	n/a	Yes - GA report	<a href="http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/statistics/documents/technical_coop/GA_Ukraine_2017_EN.pdf">http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/statistics/documents/technical_coop/GA_Ukraine_2017_EN.pdf</a>
A3-3	Georgia - Migration	5-6 April 2016	Tbilisi	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	<a href="http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=41280">http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=41280</a>
A3-4	Ukraine - Global assessment 2	4-8 April 2016	Kiev	n/a	Yes	No	n/a	Yes - GA report	<a href="http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/statistics/documents/technical_coop/GA_Ukraine_2017_EN.pdf">http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/statistics/documents/technical_coop/GA_Ukraine_2017_EN.pdf</a>
A3-5	Uzbekistan - SDGs	9-13 November 2016	Tashkent	No	No	No	n/a	Yes - MR	
A3-6	Moldova - Global assessment 1	9-13 October 2017	Chisinau	n/a	No	No	n/a	Yes - GA report (draft)	
A3-7	Armenia - GSBPM	9 October 2017	Yerevan	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes - MR	
A3-8	Armenia - Gender	11 October 2017	Yerevan	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
A3-9	Armenia - SDGs	12 October 2017	Yerevan	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes - MR	
A3-10	Tajikistan - Environment	16-18 October 2017	Dushanbe	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes - MR	<a href="https://environmentlive.unep.org/egm/tajikistan">https://environmentlive.unep.org/egm/tajikistan</a>
A3-11	Tajikistan - Administrative data	27 October 2017	Dushanbe	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	
A3-12	Uzbekistan - Modernisation	1-2 November 2017	Tashkent	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes - MR	
A3-13	Uzbekistan - SDGs	1-2 November 2017	Tashkent	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes - MR	
A3-14	Moldova - GLOS	20-21 November 2017	Chisinau	No	No	No	No	Yes - MR	
A3-15	Moldova - Global assessment 2	February 2018	Chisinau	n/a	No	No	No	Yes - GA report (draft)	
A3-16	Kyrgyzstan - Gender	29-31 May 2018	Bishkek	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	<a href="http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=48280">http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=48280</a>
A3-17	Moldova - Supply-use tables	5 October 2018	Chisinau	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	
A3-18	Armenia - SDGs	November 2018	Yerevan	Yes	No	No	Yes	Pending	

Ref	Title	Date	Place	Concept / informati on note	Agen da	List of Partic i- pants	Papers / presen tations	Report/ Mission report (MR)	Web
A4-1	Advisory mission to Georgia	September 2018	Tbilisi	n/a	No	No	n/a	Yes - MR	
A4-2	Advisory mission to Uzbekistan	October 2018	Tashkent	n/a	No	No	n/a	Yes - MR	
A4-3	Advisory mission to Armenia	November 2018	Yerevan	n/a	No	No	n/a	Yes - MR	Financed from RPTC as just outside the project period
A4-4	Advisory mission to Turkmenistan	December 2018	Ashgabat	n/a	No	No	n/a	Yes - MR	Financed from RPTC as just outside the project period

## **Annex 5. Brief overview of activities in support to expected project accomplishment**

### **Activities in support to Expected Accomplishment 1 (EA1)**

In Turkmenistan were held two advisory missions. The objective of the first one in 2015 was to provide advisory services to the State Statistics Committee of Turkmenistan (SSC) to conduct the global self-assessment of the National Statistical System of Turkmenistan. The SSC undertook a self-assessment of its institutional framework and operations in order to identify opportunities for improvement. The assessment was conducted using a modified version of the internationally accepted Adapted Global Assessment methodology supported by Eurostat, ECE and EFTA which has been successfully used in the EECCA countries. The assessment of Turkmenstat has resulted in a series of recommendations relating to the legal framework under which Turkmenstat operates and practical aspects of its operations.

The second advisory mission in Turkmenistan was held in 2018 (back to back to Sub-Regional Workshop on Trade Statistics, Ashgabat). In collaboration with the Eurostat and EFTA representatives, the aim of the mission was to raise awareness of the joint programme of global assessments of national statistical systems, and encourage Turkmenistan to take part. A side-meeting was held with local UNDP representatives to explain the process and get their support. At the end of the Project, Turkmenistan still was considering when and how the next assessment should be undertaken.

An advisory mission to Uzbekistan in 2017 was conducted to assess priorities for technical cooperation activities, and to discuss options for some form of light global assessment. Agreement was only reached with Uzbekistan to conduct the Global Assessment shortly before the end of the Project, so a lighter version, involving just one mission was implemented. The Joint Overview (Global Assessment) of the National Statistical System of Uzbekistan, Tashkent, was conducted 27 October – 3 November 2018n October-November 2018. The conclusions and draft recommendations from the Global Assessment team were broadly accepted by the minister in charge of the Uzbek Statistical Office. The report was drafted by the end of 2018 and the final report was issued 13 February 2019. The integration of the recommendations into their work programme and strategy for the development of statistics. Uzbekistan plans to do in early 2019 i.e. in the strategy that is currently developing.

UNECE, jointly with the partners, EFTA and Eurostat, in 2016, has started a second round of the Global Assessment of the national statistical systems in EECCA countries. The pilot assessment was conducted in 2016 in Ukraine in two phases. The first mission, preliminary assessment, was conducted from 11 to 15 January, 2016 in Kiev. The second mission to fill any gaps and clarify any remaining points was conducted in April 4-8, 2016 in Kiev and the regional office in Zhytomyr. In addition to this GA, during the project it was possible to complete a new round of GA in Moldova (first mission in October 2017 and second in February 2018), and to start the process in Armenia and Georgia. Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan have requested new Global Assessments in 2019/20, to coincide with the end of their current strategies for the development of statistics. Turkmenistan is considering when and how the next assessment should be undertaken.

### **Activities in support to Expected Accomplishment 2 (EA2)**

Advisory missions to support modernization of the official statistics and statistical legislation were held in Kyrgyzstan in December 2015 and in Moldova in November 2017.

In support of modernizing official statistics and statistical legislation were held two sub-regional workshop:

- *Modernization of official statistics and presentation of the final draft of the Generic Statistical Law to the beneficiary countries* (10th SPECA jointly with the UNDA 9th tranche project, 1-3 December 2015 in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan). The final draft of the GLOS was well supported by the beneficiary countries. The countries emphasized the need to have the GLOS endorsed as a sub-regional recommendation at the CES that will ensure having a strong reference tool for the revision of statistical legislation in these countries.
- *Strategic Management Seminar on the GLOS* (Jointly organized by Eurostat and EFTA, 7-8 July 2016, in Ohrid, Republic of Macedonia). The workshop aimed to support implementation of the GLOS. It discussed the GLOS chapter by chapter as well as the way of its implementation in a country and its possible application in enlargement countries, although GLOS was initially was developed for EECCA countries.

Two other sub-regional workshop in support to EA1 were:

- *Workshops on Human resources management and training (HRMT)*, 6-9 September 2016 in Krakow, Poland. HRMT are organized every second year since 2008, in cooperation with EFTA and Eurostat and national statistical offices. In 2016, the workshop included a special session for EECCA countries to discussed lessons learned, and priorities for future work.
- *Workshop on Strengthening National Capacity for the Sustainable Development of Statistics* (4-6 October 2017, Tbilisi, Georgia). It reviewed the progress in the project, including the updating of national statistical legislation in line with the GLOS. It also included a training session on risk management techniques and practices in statistical organisations, addressing the need identified during the workshop in Krakow above.

In support to EA2 were held 5 national workshops and capacity building events<sup>13</sup> to strengthen the modernization of official statistics and the legal and institutional framework based on the recommendation from global assessment, international standards and good practices in the area of modernising statistical production. The national workshops are the following one:

- National workshop for Kyrgyzstan to promote the implementation of global assessment recommendations and to support the National Committee on Statistics in the revision of the Law on Statistics (4 December 2015, Bishkek);
- National workshop for Armenia on implementing the Generic Statistical Business Process Model (GSBPM) and the Generic Activity Model for Statistical Organisations -GAMSO, (9 October 2017 Yerevan);
- National Workshop for Tajikistan on the Use of Administrative Data for Statistical Purposes (27 October 2017, Dushanbe);
- National Workshop for Uzbekistan on modernisation of statistical production (1 November 2017, Tashkent). Topics covered included the implementation of GSBPM and GAMSO;

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<sup>13</sup> In Progress Reports 2014-2016 are mentioned national capacity building events organised back to back with advisory missions held in the respective country: Kyrgyzstan 2014, Ukraine and Turkmenistan in 2015, Armenia in 2016. However, these events are not listed as a separate activity in the List of activities and are not supported with any other documentation. Exception is the national event in Kyrgyzstan 2014, for which in the Project documentation there is a press release from National Statistical Committee of the Kyrgyz Republic.

- National Workshop for Moldova, High-level seminar on the Law on Official Statistics (20-21 November 2017, Chisinau).

### **Activities in support to Expected Accomplishment 3 (EA3)**

Implementing the 2008 version of the System of National Accounts (2008 SNA) was a major challenge to all statistical offices. A sub-regional workshop on the Implementation of the 2008 SNA: *Institutional arrangements and harmonization of key macroeconomic statistics* was organized on 6-8 May 2015 in Istanbul, Turkey. The workshop increased understanding on key issues identified in Global Assessments, namely enhanced quality and coherence of macro-economic statistics ( NA, GFS and BoP<sup>14</sup>) and improved coordination among major producers (National Statistical Offices, Ministries of Finance, National Banks). It also increased the capacity of the countries to support implementation of 2008 SNA (System of National Accounts) in eight beneficiary countries of the project.

A sub-regional *Seminar on the implementation of the System of Environmental- Economic Accounting (SEEA)* was organised on 14-15 October 2015, Geneva, Switzerland. The seminar was organised by UNECE, Eurostat and EFTA in cooperation with other partners. The capacity of eight beneficiary countries of the project was enhanced in implementing recommendations from Global Assessments, specifically related to the development of high quality and internationally comparable environmental indicators and statistics and adaptation of the latest internationally agreed methodologies, standards and recommendations.

The week after the seminar in Geneva (14-15 October 2015), *in Minsk, Belarus, was organised a complementary training course* by EFTA and Statistics Norway in cooperation with UNECE. The training course resulted in increased levels of knowledge on populating physical energy flow accounts and awareness of the links with IEA energy balances. In addition, participants formulated concrete actions needed to address data gaps and data shortcomings.

Back to back with Conference of European Statisticians (CES) held 26-29 April 2016 in Paris, France, was held a *sub-regional workshop on strengthening statistical and institutional capacities in the context of SDGs*. UNECE presented GLOS and its Explanatory Notes to the Conference of European Statisticians for endorsement as a recommendation for the countries of the Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asian sub-region that took part in the United Nations Development Account project. The Generic Law was unanimously endorsed at the CES plenary session one day after, and further work to extend the guidance to all countries wishing to benchmark their statistical legislation was launched. *Another sub-regional Workshop on statistics for SDGs and strategic partnerships for EECCA countries was held in June 2018 in Geneva.*

The *Workshop and Work session on Migration Statistics held 17-18 May 2016 in Geneva*, reviewed the progress in EECCA countries in using administrative sources for measuring migration. At the Work Session (18-20 May), countries exchanged experience on the methods and techniques used for the collection, processing and dissemination of international migration statistics, and discussed methodological work for improving the measurement of international migration in the UNECE region. The national workshops in support of EA3 had objective to address the specific beneficiary countries' requirements that includes statistics on migration, gender, SDGs.

*National Workshop on Use of Administrative data for Migration in Georgia* (5-6 April 2016 Tbilisi) examined the existing sources of migration data, particularly administrative sources, and investigated

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<sup>14</sup> SNA – National Accounts; GFS – Government Finance Statistics; BoP – Balance of Payment.

both how to best utilize and integrate existing sources and how to develop new sources to measure migration.

*National Workshop for Uzbekistan - joint UN-Government Retreat on SDG localization* (9-13 November 2016, Tashkent) supported the government of Uzbekistan to improve the understanding of the global SDGs framework and to set a strategic vision for Uzbekistan's national SDGs, targets and indicators, based on internationally accepted criteria and the global SDG framework.

*National Workshop on Gender Statistics in Armenia* (11 October 2017, Yerevan) reviewed the project on the modernization of dissemination of gender statistics in Armenia, by assessing progress reached and identifying areas for further focus.

*National Workshop on Statistics for SDGs in Armenia* (12 October 2017, Yerevan) reviewed the national plans for implementing SDG statistics with the National Statistical Service of the Republic of Armenia and representatives of 16 ministries and various UN organisations represented in Yerevan, as well advised on plans' implementation.

*National Workshop on Environment Statistics in Tajikistan* (16-18 October 2017, Dushanbe) contributed in development the capacity of the Statistical Agency under the President of the Republic of Tajikistan to produce environmental statistics, including those needed for measuring progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals.

*National Workshop in Uzbekistan on Modernising Statistical Production and Statistics for the SDGs* (1-2 November 2017 Tashkent), provided information to the staff of the State Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan on Statistics about the UNECE CES Roadmap for SDG Statistics and related activities on national reporting platforms. SDG indicators' list was discussed and data requirements for the calculation of such indicators and local understanding on some topics.

*National training workshop in Kyrgyzstan<sup>15</sup> on Disseminating, Communicating and Using Gender Statistics in Kyrgyzstan* (29-31 May 2018, Bishkek) was attended by a large and diverse variety of participants. It provided an opportunity for producers and users to interact directly. The workshop highlighted the progress made in production of gender statistics in Kyrgyzstan, while at the same time ensuring a better understanding among NSC staff that aiding interpretation of their products is an integral part of their duty as official statistics producers.

*National workshop for Moldova on Supply-use tables* (5 October 2018, Chisinau) discussed the user needs and the usefulness of SUTs and IOTs for economic analysis and forecasting, the methods of deflating SUT in Republic of Moldova, data sources and the challenges of NBS of Moldova in calculation of trade and transport margins as well as data and methodological issues related to taxes and subsidies on products. The meeting concluded that compiling SUTs according to ISIC4 and 2008 SNA on product level should have a high priority in the future work.

*National workshop for Armenia on Statistics for the SDGs, (November 2018, Yerevan)* with objective to discussed the possibilities to develop statistical capacity of national statistical offices to monitor progress for Agenda 2030 and in that regard as a pilot experiment an online capacity development partnering tool. This tool would use an open space for interested countries (at their own initiative) to post "want ads" for specific capacity development assistance.

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<sup>15</sup> Although was national workshop for Kyrgyzstan, the workshop was attended by additional participants from Tajikistan and Ukraine funded by UN Women

## Annex 6 – Evaluation Questionnaire

### EVALUATION OF THE PROJECT “SUPPORTING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE GLOBAL ASSESSMENT RECOMMENDATIONS IN EECCA COUNTRIES”<sup>16</sup>

#### QUESTIONNAIRE

on project implementation process and achievements, as well lessons learned

**Note for the respondents:** Data collected with this questionnaire will be used for evaluation of the UN Development Account Project “Supporting the implementation of the global assessment recommendations in EECCA countries” that was implemented by UNECE from 2014 to 2018. Analyses and findings based on information collected through this questionnaire will be presented in the Evaluation Report summarized. The received questionnaire with your responses will only stay with the evaluator.

#### Your personal data and contact details

Family name:			
First name:			
Sex (male, female):			
Languages spoken:			
Name of the institution where you work			
Your present position			
Years of work experience	within the institution:		total working experience:
Your e-mail address :			

#### Brief summary of the UN Development Account Project “Supporting the implementation of the global assessment recommendations in EECCA countries” (hereinafter “the Project”)

The objective of the Project was to enhance the national capacity of the most vulnerable ECE countries for sustainable development of statistics through the implementation of recommendations from the Global Assessments of national statistical systems that provided in-depth and comprehensive analyses of the capacity of countries in the region to produce statistics in compliance with international standards, and suggested concrete recommendations.

The Project aimed to support producers of official statistics in eight beneficiary countries (Armenia, Georgia, Kyrgyzstan, Republic of Moldova, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan) in addressing the observed statistical gaps in order to allow for the monitoring of their economic, social and environmental reforms. The project builds on Global Assessments of national statistical systems (NSSs) conducted between 2010 and 2013 in these beneficiary countries by UNECE and partner organizations, Eurostat and EFTA. In the framework of this project, UNECE aimed to support beneficiary countries to formulate, prioritize and eventually incorporate Global Assessments’ recommendations into strategic statistical work programmes.

During the implementation phase, UNECE provided advisory services and organized national and sub-regional workshops and training seminars in the relevant statistical domains, in coordination with international and bilateral partners. The project drew on existing mechanisms and established partnerships with national and international statistical agencies, under the Conference of European Statisticians and the UN Special Programme for Economies of Central Asia (SPECA).

#### Information on your participation in the events done within the Project

<sup>16</sup> The official title of the project used only for official UN reporting is “Strengthening national capacity in the most vulnerable UNECE countries for the sustainable development of statistics”.

**You were one of the participants in one or more Project activities.**

Please notify which sub regional and/or national event/s you have attended?

(tick the box/es with "X" in front of the appropriate answer/s in Column 1)

**Table 1. List of Sub regional events within the Project**

<b>You</b>		<b>Sub regional events</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Venue</b>
1	2	3	5	4
	1	Workshop on modernization of official statistics and presentation of the final draft of the Generic Statistical Law to the beneficiary countries	1-3 December 2015	Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan
	2	Strategic Management Seminar on the Generic Law on Official Statistics (GLOS)	7-8 July 2016	Ohrid, Republic of Macedonia
	3	Workshop on Human Resource and Management training, including special session for EECCA countries	6-9 September 2016	Krakow, Poland
	4	Workshop on Strengthening National Capacity for the Sustainable Development of Statistics (statistical legislation and risk management techniques and practices in statistical organizations)	4-6 October 2017	Tbilisi, Georgia
	5	Workshop on the implementation of the 2008 SNA in EECCA countries and linkages with BPM6 and GFSM 2014	6-8 May 2015	Istanbul, Turkey
	6	Workshop on SEEA implementation for EECCA countries	14-15 November 2015	Geneva, Switzerland
	7	SEEA Training (EFTA/Statistics Norway SEEA-CF Energy Accounts Course)	20-22 October 2015	Minsk (Belarus)
	8	Conference of European Statistician (CES), Paris, France: Sub-regional workshop on strengthening statistical and institutional capacities in the context of SDGs, back to back with CES.	26 -29 April 2016	Paris, France
	9	Workshop and Work session on Migration Statistics	17 - 18 May 2016	Geneva, Switzerland
	10	Workshop on statistics for SDGs and strategic partnerships for countries of Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia	20th June 2018	Geneva

**Table 2. List of National events within the Project**

	You	National events	Date	Venue
	1	4	5	6
	1	National Workshop on implementing the Generic Statistical Business Process Model and the Generic Activity Model for Statistical Organizations	9 October 2017	Yerevan, Armenia
	2	National Workshop on Using Administrative Data for Statistical Purposes	27 October 2017	Dushanbe, Tajikistan
	3	National Workshop on Modernising Statistical Production (Generic Statistical Business Process Model and the Generic Activity Model for Statistical Organisations)	1 Nov 2017	Tashkent, Uzbekistan
	4	Workshop on the use of administrative data for the measurement of migration	5-6 April 2016	Tbilisi, Georgia,
	5	National Workshop for Uzbekistan, joint UN-Government Retreat on SDG	9-13 November 2016	Tashkent, Uzbekistan
	6	National Workshop on Gender Statistics	11 October 2017	Yerevan, Armenia
	7	National Workshop on Statistics for SDGs	12 October 2017	Yerevan, Armenia
	8	National Workshop on Environment Statistics	16-18 October 2017	Dushanbe, Tajikistan
	9	National Workshop on Statistics for SDGs	2 Nov 2017	Tashkent, Uzbekistan
	10	National -Workshop on disseminating, communicating and using gender statistics	29-31 May 2018	Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan
	11	National Workshop on Supply and Use Tables	5 October 2018	Chisinau, Moldova
	12	Armenia - National Workshop on SDGs	01.11.2018	Yerevan, Armenia

**Technical instructions:**

Questions 1-17: please give answers with filling **"X" in the yellow box in front of the answer that you will choose.**

Question are given like table with offered answers

	.....
	.....

Or like this

	YES		YES to some extent		NO		I don't know
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## Questions

Global Assessments provide in-depth and comprehensive analyses of the institutional, organizational and technical capacity of countries to produce statistics in compliance with international standards, and suggest concrete recommendations for the sustainable development of national statistical capacities.

Since 2010 the countries included in the Project had one or more Global Assessments of national statistical systems, full one, lighter version or some modification of GA.

**Question 1.** When was a Global Assessment done on the national statistical system in your country? Consider the period from year 2009 to present date. If two or more assessments were done in this period, please provide information on all.

Type of Global Assessment	year	year	year
Global Assessment (full, adopted Global Assessment or lighter version)			
Self-assessment questionnaire			

**Question 2.** Do you find the recommendations in the Global Assessment Report/s on the national statistical system in your country useful for creating the strategy for development of your national statistical system or creating a strategic multi-year statistical work plan?

YES     
  YES to some extent     
  NO     
  I don't know

**Question 3.** Do you find the recommendations in the Global Assessment Report/s on the national statistical system in your country useful for improvement of the statistical production and dissemination of statistical data?

YES     
  YES to some extent     
  NO     
  I don't know

**Question 4.** In your opinion, are the recommendations in the Global Assessment Report/s on the national statistical system in your country applicable, providing that financial and human resources for their implementation are available?

YES     
  YES to some extent     
  NO     
  I don't know

**Question 5.** In the period 2014 to the present date, did your office develop and adopt a new strategic statistical programme or National Strategy for the Development of Statistics (NSDS) or other type of strategic planning document in which are integrated the Global Assessment recommendations given in the latest GA Report?

		Year
A.	We have developed new Strategic statistical programme/ NSDS	
	- We integrated all applicable recommendations	
	- We integrated the majority of the recommendations	
	- We integrated some of the recommendations	
	- We didn't introduce any of the GA recommendations	
B.	We have started development of a new Strategic statistical programme/ NSDS	
	- Will introduce the GA recommendations	
	- There are no plans to introduce the GA recommendations	
C.	We plan to develop a new Strategic statistical programme/ NSDS	
	- There are plans to introduce the GA recommendations	
	- There are no plans to introduce the GA recommendations	

*Comment (if any):*

**Question 6.** What is the latest strategic statistical programme or National Strategy for the Development of Statistics (NSDS) (or other type of strategic planning document) produced in your country and for which period?

Title of the document	
Reference period	
Date of adoption (month and year)	
Link where it can be find	

Please send the **strategic planning document** to the evaluator if it is not available on your web portal (in English or Russian)

**Question 7.** In the period 2014 to the present date, did your office make any change in the statistical production or dissemination based on the Global Assessment recommendations given in the latest GA Report?

YES  NO

If Yes, please notify some of the more important changes:

1.	
2.	
3.	

*Comment (if any):*

Under the Project, in a collaborative process with Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia countries (EECCA countries), UNECE jointly with EFTA and Eurostat developed **Generic Law on Official Statistics (GLOS)**. It takes into account the environment of the countries based on the findings of Global Assessments. GLOS provides a strong reference for developing a solid legal basis for the functioning of the National Statistical System (NSS) and production of high quality official statistics, and also supports modernization of the NSS.

At the plenary session of Conference of European Statisticians (CES) held in 2016, GLOS was endorsed as a recommendation, a reference tool when amending statistical legislation. It is not a legal tool, but an example of best practice and guidance on statistical legislation that needs to be adapted to the national legislative framework.

**Question 8.** Did you make any amendments in the Law of Official Statistical (LOS) in your country since 2016 (adopting a new law or amending the existing one)? If YES, **was the** Generic Law of Official Statistical (GLOS) used as a reference for developing the amendments or for the new law?

		Year
<input type="checkbox"/>	We have adopted a new LOS/ amended the existing one and used GLOS as a reference model	
<input type="checkbox"/>	We have adopted a new LOS/ amended the existing one, but we didn't used GLOS as a reference	
<input type="checkbox"/>	We have started development of a new LOS based on GLOS	
<input type="checkbox"/>	We plan to develop a new LOS based on GLOS	
<input type="checkbox"/>	There are NO plans to develop a new LOS based on GLOS	

**Question 9.** Please provide information about current LOS in your country?

Title of the LOS	
Date of adoption (day, month and year)	
Published in (official gazete or similar)	
Link where it can be find	

Please send the **LOS document** to the evaluator if it is not available on your web portal (in English or Russian)

Within the Project were organized 4 sub-regional (Table 1, events 1-4 ) and 3 national workshops (Table 2, events 1-3) aimed to support the beneficiaries' countries in their efforts for **modernization of statistical production and strengthening legal/institutional frameworks**. Subjects of these workshops were: Generic Law on Official Statistics (GLOS), the UNECE Generic Statistical Business Process Model (GSBPM), Human resource and Management training, statistical risk management, use of administrative data for statistical purposes.

**Question 10.** Did your office start to use in practice the UNECE Generic Statistical Business Process Model (GSBPM) as a tool for documenting and standardizing statistical production processes?

YES	Not yet, but there are plans to use GSBPM	NO	I don't know
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If Yes, please notify the statistical surveys or other type of statistical production where your office applied GSBPM:

1.
2.
3.

*Comment (if any):*

**Question 11.** Since the Project started, did your office make any changes for improvements in statistical production based on administrative sources? Changes refer to increased use of administrative data, improved quality of the administrative data used for statistical production; improved coordination and cooperation with providers of administrative data etc.

YES	Not yet, but there are plans for such changes	NO	I don't know
-----	---	----	--------------

If Yes, please notify area of statistical production where your office implemented such changes:

1.
2.
3.

*Comment (if any):*

Within the Project were organized 6 sub-regional (Table 1, events 5-10) and 9 national workshops (Table 2, events 4-12) aimed to support the beneficiary countries in their efforts for implementation of various international statistical standards and recommendations with objective to increase the capacity of national statistical offices to produce and disseminate internationally comparable statistics.

Topics covered included migration, gender and environment statistics, the compilation of National Accounts as well as statistics on the Sustainable Development Goals.

**Question 12.** Since start of the Project to present date, did your office increase the internationally comparable statistics, methodological notes and quality reports (metadata) on the websites?

	YES
--	-----

	Not yet, but there are plans for such changes
--	---

	NO
--	----

	I don't know
--	--------------

If Yes, please notify the statistical area for which disseminated data and metadata are increased:

1.
2.
3.

<i>Comment (if any):</i>
--------------------------

**Question 13.** Since start of the Project to present date, did your office introduce any new tool (software, standard etc.) for web dissemination of statistical data and metadata?

	YES
--	-----

	Not yet, but there are plans for such changes
--	---

	NO
--	----

	I don't know
--	--------------

If Yes, please notify the introduced tool/s (software, standard etc.)

1.
2.
3.

<i>Comment (if any):</i>
--------------------------

**Question 14.** In your opinion, did the Project support your office in creating road map/ national plan for implementing SDG statistics?

	YES
--	-----

	YES to some extent
--	--------------------

	NO
--	----

	I don't know
--	--------------

**Question 15.** Do you think that your office needs further UNECE support in implementing SDG statistics through similar projects?

	YES
--	-----

	YES to some extent
--	--------------------

	NO
--	----

	I don't know
--	--------------

The first **sub-regional workshop within the Project was organised on 10-11 December 2014 in Almaty, Kazakhstan** with aim to introduce the project, and to discuss its objectives, the implementation strategy and the monitoring tools with the beneficiary countries.

The meeting also allowed participants to share ideas and current good practices in implementing recommendations provided in respective Global Assessments reports and express needs for specific technical support to be delivered in the framework of the project. The beneficiary countries were encouraged to send a request for support in implementation of five specific global assessment recommendations. As well the beneficiaries' countries had an opportunity to express their needs for support through the donor coordination survey developed by Eurostat and launched in the EECCA region jointly with UNECE.

**Question 16. In your opinion, did the Project respond to the needs for support expressed by your statistical office?**

 YES YES to some extent NO I don't know

**Question 17.** Do you think that your office needs further UNECE support through similar project to improve its capacity for producing statistics in compliance with international standards?

 YES NO

If Yes, please notify the statistical area for which further support is welcomed?

1.
2.
3.

*Comment (if any):*

**Question 18.** Please provide any additional information, conclusion, comment, lessons learned etc. what was not covered with the questions given above, but in your opinion is relevant for the Project and can be a useful information for preparing future Projects.

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**Thank you very much for your time!**

## Annex 7 - Project Evaluation Survey Results

### About the survey

The survey questionnaire was designed to collect opinion about the Project from the persons who participated in the Project activities as well as information about the result connected to the Project reached on institutional level.

In the survey sample were selected 81 persons, employees in the NSOs of the beneficiary countries:

- 11 persons from each of the following beneficiary countries: Armenia, Georgia, Kyrgyzstan, Republic of Moldova, Tajikistan Ukraine and Uzbekistan
- 4 persons from Turkmenistan.

The aim was to include in the survey equal number of representatives from each NSO. Starting criteria for selection was to have participants from each field covered in the sub-regional and national workshops. However, due to the low participation of NSO Turkmenistan in the Project events, could be selected only few representatives for the survey.

The survey was conducted via e-mail during March. In order to obtain bigger number of responses, the initial deadline for survey finalization was postponed twice. Nevertheless, not all beneficiary countries respond to the survey, i.e. it was respond by 6 countries Armenia, Georgia, Republic of Moldova, Tajikistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan. Three countries replaid only in one questionnaire on institutional level and on behalf of all included in the survey. These were considered as reply from six persons, as an average of other countries who send individually filled questionnaires. With such adoption, in total are 37 responses.

### Purpose of the questions and aggregated and summarized survey results

Purpose on Question 1. Informational; institutional level

**Question 1.** When was a Global Assesment done on the national statistical system in your country? Consider the period from year 2009 to present date. If two or more assessments were done in this period, please provide information on all.

Answer:

	Year when the assessment was conducted						
	2009	2011	2012	2012-2013	2016	2017-2018	2018-2019
I. round, Number of countries	1	1	2	1			1
II. round, Number of countries					1	1	1

Purpose on Question 2, 3, 4: Relevance; opinion-individual level

	Answers				Total
	YES	YES to some extent	NO	I don't know	
<b>Question 2.</b> Do you find the recommendations in the Global Assesment Report/s on the national statistical system in your country useful for creating the strategy for development of your national statistical system or creating a strategic multi-year statistical work plan?	33	3		1	37

	Answers				Total
	YES	YES to some extent	NO	I don't know	
<b>Question 3.</b> Do you find the recommendations in the Global Assessment Report/s on the national statistical system in your country useful for improvement of the statistical production and dissemination of statistical data?	36			1	37
<b>Question 4.</b> In your opinion, are the recommendations in the Global Assessment Report/s on the national statistical system in your country applicable, providing that financial and human resources for their implementation are available?	17	19		1	37

**Purpose on Question 5. Effectiveness –impact and Sustainability; institutional level**

**Question 5.** In the period 2014 to the present date, did your office develop and adopt a new strategic statistical programme or National Strategy for the Development of Statistics (NSDS) or other type of strategic planning document in which are integrated the Global Assessment recommendations given in the latest GA Report?

		Number of countries	
		I Strategy*	II Strategy*
A.	We have developed new Strategic statistical programme/ NSDS		
	1. We integrated all applicable recommendations	1	1
	2. We integrated the majority of the recommendations	3	
	3. We integrated some of the recommendations		
	4. We didn't introduce any of the GA recommendations		
B.	We have started development of a new Strategic statistical programme/ NSDS		1
	1. Will introduce the GA recommendations		3
	2. There are no plans to introduce the GA recommendations		
C.	We plan to develop a new Strategic statistical programme/ NSDS		
	1. There are plans to introduce the GA recommendations		1
	2. There are no plans to introduce the GA recommendations		

\* First, second means within the observed period

**Purpose on Question 6. Informational; institutional level**

**Question 6.** What is the latest strategic statistical programme or National Strategy for the Development of Statistics (NSDS) (or other type of strategic planning document) produced in your country and for which period?

All countries provided information on their latest strategic statistical programme or National Strategy for the Development of Statistics

**Purpose on Question 7. Effectiveness –impact; institutional level**

**Question 7.** In the period 2014 to the present date, did your office make any change in the statistical production or dissemination based on the Global Assessment recommendations given in the latest GA Report? If Yes, please notify some of the more important changes

Answer:

	Number of countries
YES	5
NO	1

**Listed changes**

1. Population census (incl. agricultural component) conducted and new sampling frames for household and agricultural surveys introduced
2. Tourism statistics (domestic, inbound, outbound tourism surveys) started
3. Fixed dissemination time introduced (11:00 am on a dissemination day)
4. CAPI and CAWI was introduced in a number of surveys such as agricultural survey (CAPI), business surveys (CAWI), inbound tourism survey (CAPI)

1. Information dissemination and communication policy
2. Information Dissemination Strategy
3. Quality Policy, Quality Declarations, GSBPM, Quality Assurance Framework of The European Statistical System, Version 1.2, Quality Glossary

1. Methodological explanations on gross regional product calculating (2018)
2. Methodological explanations on Input-Output Table state statistical observation (2018)
3. Methodological explanations on gross domestic product calculating (2018)
4. The SDDS IMF Metadata had been updated
5. Interagency Working Group on National Accounts Statistics with the participation of the Ministry of Finance, National Bank, Ministry of Economic Development and Trade and NSO established (2018)

1. NOE estimation
2. PPI index
3. Production statistics (agricultural, industry)

1. Implementation in the official practice of the SNA - 2008
2. We have first results on net migration for 2014-2016 and respectively we have first results on population estimates at 1st of January 2015, 2016 and 2017.

Purpose on Question 8. Effectiveness –impact and Sustainability; institutional level
--

**Question 8.** Did you make any amendments in the Law of Official Statistical (LOS) in your country since 2016 (adopting a new law or amending the existing one)? If YES, was the Generic Law of Official Statistical (GLOS) used as a reference for developing the amendments or for the new law?

	Number of countries
We have adopted a new LOS/ amended the existing one and used GLOS as a reference model	2
We have adopted a new LOS/ amended the existing one, but we didn't used GLOS as a reference	
We have started development of a new LOS based on GLOS	2
We plan to develop a new LOS based on GLOS	1
There are NO plans to develop a new LOS based on GLOS	
No answer	1

Purpose on Question 9. Informational; institutional level

**Question 9. Please provide information about current LOS in your country?**

All countries provided information on their latest LOS.

Purpose on Question 10. Effectiveness –impact and Sustainability; institutional level

**Question 10.** Did your office start to use in practice the UNECE Generic Statistical Business Process Model (GSBPM) as a tool for documenting and standardizing statistical production processes?

	Number of countries
YES	4
Not yet, but there are plans to use GSBPM	2
NO	
I don't know	

Listed statistical surveys or other type of statistical production where NSO applied/ plan to apply GSBPM:

1. We created the annual technological program for statistical processes
  2. GSBPM was introduced for all state statistical observations at the level of planning.
  3. Statistical activity monitoring, self-assessment questionnaires
  4. Time spent accounting
1. National GSBPM model developed
1. Routine descriptions of statistical processes prepared in line with the GSBPM
  2. Quality audit conducted in line with the GSBPM
1. 139 statistical products are documented according to GSBPM
1. Estimation of migration using Border Police data
  2. Prevalence of disability is estimated based on administrative data on beneficiaries of pensions and disability allowances

Purpose on Question 11. Effectiveness –impact; institutional level

**Question 11.** Since the Project started, did your office make any changes for improvements in statistical production based on administrative sources? Changes refer to increased use of administrative data, improved quality of the administrative data used for statistical production; improved coordination and cooperation with providers of administrative data etc.

	Number of countries
YES	6
Not yet, but there are plans for such changes	
NO	
I don't know	

1. Health statistics
2. Transport statistics
3. Environment statistics

In 2018 NSO started to analyze the administrative data of Border Police on crossings by persons for migration statistics. The results are not yet available to the public, but the results on net migration will be used to review the population number since 2014 based on Population and Housing Census 20XX.

1. IT statistics is produced based on the administrative register (Ministry of Transport, Communications and Information Technologies)
2. Statistics on financial services is produced based on the administrative register (the Central Bank)
3. Wages/salaries statistics is based on the administrative register of employers on the individual records on income tax and social security tax authorized by the State Revenue Committee

Comment: The next Population Census in the country will be conducted in 20XX. It is planned for the first time to conduct a Population Census based on the Population Register. It would a combined census with 25% sample collection of additional data by Tablets.

1. We use the ecological data from National Inventory reopt
2. Statistics of National Accounts

Comment: In 2011, the NSO concluded 20 agreements on information exchange with administrative data providers. Since then and up to now more than 68 agreements have been made.

1. Use of personal ID data for census purposes from civil registry (Public Service Development Agency)
2. Use of border crossings individual data for migration statistics and tourism statistics from Border Police (Ministry of Interior)
3. More detailed data from the Revenue Service (Ministry of Finance) for production of business statistics indicators
4. Production of energy statistics indicators based on data from the National Energy and Water Regulatory Commission – monthly statistics on electricity, gas

Purpose on Question 12. Effectiveness –impact; institutional level
--

**Question 12.** Since start of the Project to present date, did your office increase the internationally comparable statistics, methodological notes and quality reports (metadata) on the websites?

	Number of countries
YES	5
Not yet, but there are plans for such changes	1
NO	
I don't know	

Listed statistical area for which disseminated data and metadata are increased:

Agricultural and environment statistics; Statistics of National Accounts; Labor market statistics; Price statistics; Trade statistics; LFS; HLCS

1. 139 statistical products are documented according to European Quality Declaration
1. Metadata and policy documents/guidelines related to i) confidentiality; ii) data revision; iii) quality
2. A number of new internationally comparable indicators related to the area of tourism statistics, ICT surveys in businesses and households, innovations survey (all new surveys), agricultural survey, labor force survey (more indicators with new sampling frame and increased sample size), environmental statistics, etc.
1. Implementing the Flows of Goods Flows to develop:
  - final consumption of households;
  - gross fixed capital formation
2. Energy statistics

Purpose on Question 13. Effectiveness –impact; institutional level
--

**Question 13.** Since start of the Project to present date, did your office introduce any new tool (software, standard etc.) for web dissemination of statistical data and metadata?

	Number of countries
YES	6
Not yet, but there are plans for such changes	
NO	
I don't know	

Listed introduced tool/s (software, standard etc.)

1. Use of GIS for census and business statistics data dissemination
  1. ...StatBank
  2. National Reporting Platform on SDGs
    1. GenderPulse application
    2. Census Results 20XX Application
  1. Regions' statistics: thematic maps (2018)
  2. Calendar for information release (2012)
  3. Infographics (annual and monthly data)
1. IMF metadata
2. SDGS metadata (Tier 1)
3. NADA systems

Purpose on Question 14 and 16. Relevance and Effectiveness –impact; opinion, individual level
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Purpose on Question 15. Relevance; opinion, individual level

	YES	YES to some extent	NO	I don't know	Total
<b>Question 14.</b> In your opinion, did the Project support your office in creating road map/ national plan for implementing SDG statistics?	18	18		1	37
<b>Question 15.</b> Do you think that your office needs further UNECE support in implementing SDG statistics through similar projects?	36	1			37
<b>Question 16.</b> In your opinion, did the Project respond to the needs for support expressed by your statistical office?	30	7			37

Purpose on Question 17: Relevance and Sustainability; opinion-individual level

	YES	NO	Total
<b>Question 17.</b> Do you think that your office needs further UNECE support through similar project to improve its capacity for producing statistics in compliance with international standards?	35	2	37

**Listed statistical area for which further support is welcomed**

1. Metadata system
2. GAMS0, GSIM , CSPA
3. SDMX, DDI

1. NSO, together with other national and international experts, should develop a methodology for the production of population projections.

1.SDGs

2.Modern ways of data collection

3. Generic Statistical Business Process Model and the Generic Activity Model

1. Energy Accounts - Extension of the course initiated in Minsk on 20-22 October 2015

2. Elaboration of input-output tables - Extension of the National Workshop in Chisinau on 5 October 2018

1. Energy Accounts - Extension of the course initiated in Minsk on 20-22 October 2015

1. Global assessment/peer reviews

2. Human Resource Management and Development

3. Sectoral reviews

4. Continuing support in ensuring participation of NSO management/staff in international meetings

1. SDGs implementation

2. Population and housing census round 2020

3. Implementation SNA 2008

1. technical assistance in the development of a new version of the Law On Official Statistics

2. organization of quality management of statistical products, including the implementation of the DatQam package
  3. creation and organization of a business process model of statistical production (GSBPM)
  4. development of a master plan for the development of state statistics (Statistical Master Plan)
  5. development of a methodology for monitoring real estate prices
  6. developing a methodology for observing export-import prices
1. macroeconomic statistics and national accounts statistics
  2. industry and construction statistics
  3. household surveys
  4. Natural expenditure accounts
  5. Statistics of National Accounts:
    - Quarterly National Accounts,
    - Quarterly Financial Assets and Liabilities Balance
  6. Statistics of Input-Output tables including software
  7. Labor market statistics
  9. Price statistics, business statistics, labor market statistics

**Question 18. Please provide any additional information, conclusion, comment, lessons learned etc. what was not covered with the questions given above, but in your opinion is relevant for the Project and can be a useful information for preparing future Projects.**

One of the respondents: Just because I was involved only in one activity it is hard to expose on all components of the project, needs and support for the entire office and all areas.

Thank you for the great support provided to ... to be changed and developed.

The project is very useful for our organization in a global sense for expanding cooperation with the EU and in practical matters to improve the quality of statistical products.