Concept Note

Project support meeting: Strengthening capacity of NSSs in priority countries to produce and disseminate economic statistics, including national accounts in accordance with 2008 SNA

Bangkok, 4 May 2016
UN ESCAP Conference Centre MR-A

Background

The Regional Programme on Economic Statistics, implemented by countries with support from the ESCAP secretariat and development partners delineates the framework for capacity building for the improvement of basic economic statistics in the region. The Russian Federation has been providing regular project funds and ESCAP is currently implementing the second phase of the economic statistics project.

A project consultation meeting in March 2015 reviewed proposals from four countries and accepted one - on improving business statistics in the Kyrgyz Republic through collection of data on individual entrepreneurs. During the first quarter of 2016, Mongolia submitted a project proposal focusing on the use of yield of agricultural productivity and producer prices for estimation of agricultural production, which was approved for funding following a review by selected Steering Group member as well as experts from FAO. Both national studies by the Kyrgyz Republic and Mongolia have an assessment component for the statistical area that they focus on.

Tajikistan has also revised an earlier submission on trade-related surveys which is currently being reviewed by experts. The most recent funding proposal was submitted by Vietnam on the use of tax data for business registers in conjunction with a paper that Vietnam is submitting for the seminar component of the Asia-Pacific Economic Statistics on 2-4 May 2016. Given that many project countries will be represented at this meeting, ESCAP proposes to convene a project support meeting in its margins.

Overall objective

The overall objective of the project support meeting is to help the Kyrgyz Republic and Mongolia progress in project implementation and discuss next steps for launching additional national studies.

Expected outcome

1. Monitor progress of the national studies in the Kyrgyz Republic and Mongolia based on the preliminary results of the national studies;
2. Discuss proposals and next steps with Tajikistan and Vietnam;
3. Discuss on the timing, scope and modality of the final seminar for sharing the national studies.

Countries

All priority countries that are represented at the Asia-Pacific Economic Statistics Week.
Suggested Programme (2 hours)

- **Overview of the first year of Phase II of the Project** - Presentation by the secretariat and discussion
- **National research study updates:**
  - “Assessing the state of business statistics and improving its coverage in the Kyrgyz Republic” the National Statistical Committee of the Kyrgyz Republic
  - “Use of Yield of agricultural productivity and producer prices for estimation of agricultural production”, the National Registration and Statistics Office of Mongolia
- **Project proposals:**
  - “A Survey of trade-related costs”, Agency on Statistics of the Republic of Tajikistan
  - “Business registers data used for official statistics”, the General Statistical Office of Vietnam
- **Next steps and conclusion**