



International Development Cooperation at Statistics Norway

A Newsletter from Statistics Norway's Division for Development Cooperation

How can we secure our broad-based and long-term approach to capacity development in statistics?

In recent years, we have seen an increased awareness both in the national and international aid community that a well-functioning National Statistical System plays a key role for development in providing a country's policy makers, citizens and businesses with information vital for making informed choices and formulating evidence-based policies that will drive development.

SSB has many years of experience working with statistical capacity development in partner countries. Our main strategy in this work has been to engage in long-term and broad-based institutional cooperation projects with sister organizations.

A possible challenge in keeping to our strategy in this work, is that an increasing share of SSBs country cooperations now are part of other high priority thematic aid programmes. Development of statistics is not the overall goal but merely one of many sub-components. I.e. in Ghana, Uganda, Kenya and Mozambique, SSB and our sister organizations are part of the Oil for development programme. Here we provide support on development of petroleum related statistics and analysis. In Nepal and Ethiopia, we support development of better gender related statistics under the Gender Equality for Development programme. The statistics component of these programmes are relatively narrow; related to both statistical subject area and scope.

This thematic approach opens interesting opportunities for statistical development. It gives an increased understanding on the user side that good official statistics is important for reaching the goals of i.e. sustain-

able management of the petroleum resources, and for achieving gender equality.

On the other hand, there are some risks to this emerging trend where development of statistics is a relatively small sub-component of various programmes on different thematic areas of Norwegian development aid.

There is a risk of supporting areas not on the top of our partner institution priority list. This may affect both the sense of ownership and commitment from our partners side. By setting criteria for what areas of statistics we are willing and able to support, there is a risk that we take up scarce resources and displace other priority areas for statistical development.

With more narrow and thematic oriented support to statistics, we may also lose some of the desired flexibility in our institutional development cooperation. We have less opportunity to align to other initiatives, or to make sure we support the most critical gaps in statistics and capacity, in a continuously changing environment.

It is also more challenging to support the more cross cutting areas we know is important for sustainable institutional- and organizational development. This includes systems for quality management and metadata, IT-infrastructure, project management and management training and improvements of production systems that goes across specific statistical subject areas.

So, what can be done to secure our broad-based support to statistical development in line with national priorities?



Irene Tuveng,
Head of International
Development
Cooperation

I think we need to acknowledge that a solid National Statistical system is important to drive development. With the establishment of the Knowledge Bank in Norad, where statistics is one thematic area, it is possible to design country programmes where the main goal is development of better NSS's serving national user needs.

We can join forces. There is potential for a more coordinated approach in planning of

the statistic sub-components of different Norwegian thematic aid-programmes in a partner country. We can do even better in coordinating our support with other initiatives for statistical capacity development, and make sure we are in line with national priorities.

Travel safety on the agenda

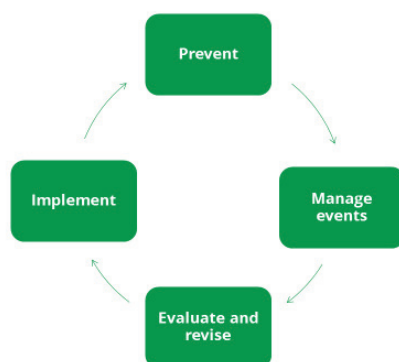
The Division for international development cooperation arranges many missions. Since January of this year, as many as 58 missions have been conducted to our cooperating countries. With such extensive travel activity, it is crucial that the aspect of travel safety is an ongoing issue for follow up.

Several of the Norwegian departments and directorates have similar travel activities, and travel safety routines and regulations are in constant focus. By sharing experiences and routines we are securing improvements in this area. On the June 18, Wibeke La Mond presented the divisions routines, at a seminar comprised of several directorates at The Knowledge Bank/Norad.

Link to the live-streamed event (in Norwegian/several presenters):
<https://norad.trippelm.tv/index.html>

A continuous process

The divisions primary focus is on preventive measures and routines. The goal is to reduce the risk of unfortunate events occurring as much as possible.



The ability to respond when something unfortunate occurs is a requirement for good management. The response should be appropriate according to the type of event, be conducted in a professional manner and all involved must know their responsibilities and be able to react accordingly. This means routines and roles must be clear and known by all involved.

All unfortunate safety events should be evaluated in retrospect. How did we manage the situation, and did the response serve the purpose? What could have been done differently? Our response ability must be evaluated, as well as the results. Should we find it necessary, the routines and the response system will be revised.

And finally, all new routines must be implemented and made known by all parties.

Challenges

This work can be challenging. Not only must we be able to take into consideration known risks and appropriate actions, but also try to foresee undisclosed risk areas. Learning from our own experiences, and those of others, is one way of securing this work successfully. It has turned out to be very useful to cooperate with other institutions with similar travel portfolios.

The severity of the event is informative as to how the situation is managed. No routines and role descriptions are secure unless everybody knows exactly what their responsibilities are and how they should be conducted.

Safety measures and implemented routines

All consultants will have a safety briefing prior to their first mission to a cooperating country, and from then on whenever the consultants request it. They are informed about current routines, what is expected of the individual consultant and what kind of support that the division staff and others can provide. At the meeting we hand out a Departure Folder that contains an overview of all implemented routines as well as a list of practical tips. A Safety Response Card is handed out as well. The card lists important phone numbers, and everybody is asked to leave one card at the hotel and have at least one card on them. The idea is that the consultants themselves, or others, have an

overview of appropriate contacts should a situation arise.

If a security situation occurs, many can assist in the matter. This includes the MFA, SOS International and professional aid providers we have agreements with. Additionally, management and staff at Statistics Norway will provide appropriate support.

Main safety measures

Prior to the mission

- Safety briefing
- Book trip and accommodation through the travel agency
- Register the above information in the common calendar
- Get necessary vaccines and medicines
- Travel insurance
- Register contact information about next of kind
- Register copy of passport
- Establish contact with the cooperating institution

During the mission

- Report to the office when arriving at the destination
- Take into consideration means of safe local transportation and where to go
- Report to the office if an unfortunate event should occur
- Contact with the office and/or the project manager as agreed upon
- Support from MFA, SOS International, management, colleagues and professional aid providers
- Report to the office when back in Norway

After the mission

- Evaluate, revise and optionally implement new routines and safety measures
- Support from management, colleagues and professional aid providers

New long term consultant in Kampala, Uganda

Since the 1980s, Norway has assisted Uganda in developing the country's petroleum sector. In December 2018, the agreement for phase III of the Oil for Development (OfD) Programme was signed in Kampala. The new phase will run for more than 4 years.

To cover the whole field of petroleum management, the OfD program is divided into four components: Resource, Revenue, Environment and Safety. The revenue component of the new phase focuses on statistics, fiscal management and taxations issues. The three main partners in Uganda are the Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development (MoFPED), the Uganda Revenue Authority (URA) and the Uganda Bureau of Statistics (UBOS) while their Norwegian counterpart are the Ministry of Finance, Statistics Norway and the Oil taxation office.

Since April 2019, Mr. John Aage Haugen has been working as the Long-Term Consultant



Colleagues at work

for the project in Kampala. Before taking on this position, Mr Haugen was the project coordinator in SSB from the start of this cooperation between UBOS and Statistics Norway in 2015. In Kampala, he will work with UBOS on selected statistics. In addition, he is coordinating all activities for the revenue component of OfD.

The main goals for the Revenue component are:

- Ministry of Finance Planning and Economic Development has in place a Fiscal framework that is sustainable, credible and consistent with macroeconomic stability amidst oil revenue flows.
- MoFPED has capacity in monitoring and assessing the impact of the petroleum sector on the economy.
- URA has the necessary capacity and skills to comprehend and enforce the rules of the government take system and to effectively carry out tax audits of upstream oil and & gas companies.
- UBOS has in place a Statistical Business Register that includes Oil and Gas activities
- UBOS produces and publishes Oil and Gas related Statistics
- UBOS system of National Accounts Captures Oil and Gas subsector, including environmental economic accounts, and UBOS publishes the GDP with oil and gas subsector.

The programme activities on the revenue component has started for full since April 2019, with committed institutions on both the Ugandan and Norwegian side.



Seen from left: Alphonse Okurut, John Åge Haugen and Paul Okudi

Is there a link between developing evaluation capacity and statistical capacity?

SSB presented at a seminar arranged by Norad's Evaluation Department and Fafo

On June 12th, the Evaluation Department and FAFO arranged a seminar that aimed to reflect on current evaluation practices in light of Agenda 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). SSB was invited to talk about our work on building statistical capacity in developing countries and reflect on the potential link between developing evaluation capacity and statistical capacity.

Head of Division for International Development Cooperation, Irene Tuveng, argued that more and better official statistics available on country level gives the potential for increased monitoring and evaluation capacity, but that evaluations must not set the priorities for national statistical systems.

Key messages in her presentation were:

- Developing countries have huge data- and capacity gaps even for the most basic statistics
- We must acknowledge the need to support development of National Statistical Systems and as a minimum make sure to "Do-No-Harm"
- Building sustainable statistical capacity is a long-term process that goes beyond 2030

An article published in EvalNews elaborates more on the presentation:

<https://norad.no/en/front/evaluation/news/2019/evaluation-views-development-of-statistical-capacity-in-the-sdg-era/>

Specifying the supply side in a macro model for Kenya

During the last week of February 2019, Statistics Norway hosted a visit from the macro modelling team of KIPPRA's Macroeconomics department and a representative from Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS) Macroeconomics directorate. The visit was part of an institutional cooperation between KIPPRA and SSB on macro modelling under the Oil for Development program in Kenya.

The mission entailed presentation and discussion of a draft paper outlining the theoretical framework for the supply side in a macro-model for Kenya, and initial discussion on specifying equations for the model. Also covered was SSB experiences in supply side macro-modelling, presentations of the Norwegian statistical system; Oil & Gas investment Statistics in Norway and collaboration between SSB and Uganda Bureau of Statistics (UBOS) under the Oil for Development (OfD) program. In addition, a demonstration on programming macro

models in EViews was done using the Ghana macro model.

Later in the spring, Statistics Norway carried out a mission to Nairobi in April 2019 to further specify the model. This was followed by a visit to Norway, with representatives from the same institutions in June 2019, where extensive trainings were given in the EViews modelling tool.



The KIPPRA/KNBS delegation together with Norwegian colleagues

The Oil for Development programme – Course on petroleum revenue management. Oslo 11-21 June 2019

30 participants working in various Ministries and regulatory bodies related to petroleum activities came to Oslo in June to participate in a 9-day course. Delegates were from Tanzania, Zanzibar, Uganda, Cuba and Mozambique. The course covered topics relevant to fiscal policy, sovereign wealth funds, Dutch disease, transparency, government take, taxation policies, and relevant statistics. Statistics related to petroleum activity was the main topic for 1,5 of the 9 days.

The first week of the course reviewed general petroleum revenue management topics and discussed challenges, key concepts, economic theory, and best international practice. The second week focused on Nor-

wegian experiences and case studies from each participating delegation. As part of the preparations for the course, the delegations had to prepare their own case study. These along with the challenges identified during the first week of the course formed the basis for good discussions of policies and practices for responding to specific challenges in the participating countries.

The course was sponsored by NORAD Oil for Development (OfD) programme. Tarik Ogbamichael and Julie L. Hass from the Division for International development cooperation at Statistics Norway were responsible for the statistics component of the course.



Course participants together with Director General Geir Axelsen and course trainers Julie Hass and Tarik Ogbamichael at the statistics day of the program.

On Monday 17th of June, we welcomed the group to Statistics Norway. Julie L. Hass started with an introduction about petroleum related statistics, and some of the specializations Norway has made in their statistical system to deal with the large influence of the offshore oil and natural gas activities on the Norwegian economy. SSB's Director General, Geir Axelsen, provided an overview of Statistics Norway and the function of statistics in the Norwegian society. He also shared some of his personal experiences from working at the Ministry of Finance and in the Norwegian oil company, Equinor (formerly, Statoil).

The focus on how to produce statistics continued as we heard from five colleagues, from national accounts, price statistics, foreign trade, financial accounts, and investment statistics. Each gave short presentations and then participated in a panel discussion, facilitated by Julie L. Hass. The audience was actively asking questions to the panel.

After lunch Tarik Ogbamichael explained the group work of mapping the petroleum activity in each country. The groups started working on the petroleum value chain mapping on Friday and could now finish the work with some additional information gained in the morning. They worked hard pasting and drawing on a big sheet of paper how oil and natural gas goes from exploration to development to extraction/production to export/refining to retail and finally to shut down/dismantling. These illustrations were then presented to the whole group and the challenges in the data flows and collection were discussed.

SSB participates as trainers in this type of tailored course for delegations from countries where Oil for Development is engaged. Holding these courses in Oslo allows us to draw on expertise from other divisions at SSB and to have subject matter expertise to enrich the discussions.



The Tanzanian team working on mapping their petroleum value chain

Milestone report on food security analysis

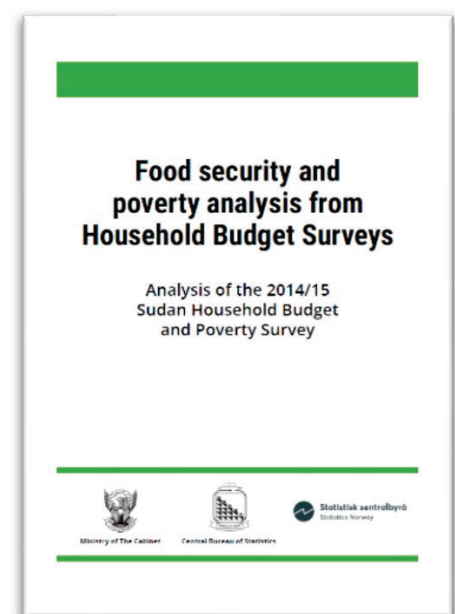


Analysts who contributed to the report: Janne Utkilen (at the time seconded to WFP), Dr Astrid Mathiassen (SSB), Huda Mohamed Osman Babiker (CBS), Inaam Mubark Mustafa Mohamed (CBS), Ellen Cathrine Kjøsterud (SSB), Marwa Mohamednour Issa Mohamednour (CBS) and Hoda Sati Abdelrahman Sati (CBS).

Are poor people food insecure? Are food insecure people poor?

Household food insecurity and poverty are measured from the same household budget survey data. Each of them represents critical information in policy development nationally and internationally. But rather than analysing them separately, food security and poverty together enables us to see more dimensions and get a much better foundation to understand these two complex issues.

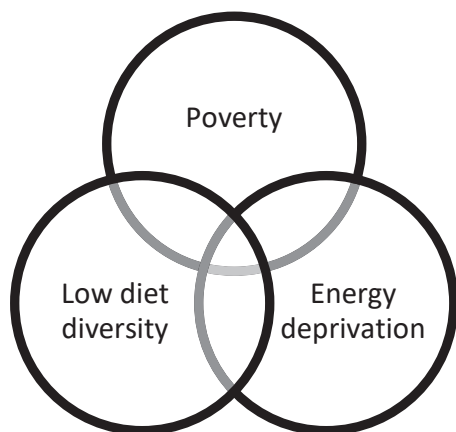
This has been the target of a long collaboration between Sudan Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS), World Food Programme (WFP) and Statistics Norway (SSB). Earlier this year CBS and SSB published a report together using the data from the 2014/15 Sudan National Household Budget and Poverty Survey. The report represents a milestone to us. The goal has been to improve the basis for analysis and policy development. Poverty indicators are routinely published on basis of the household budget surveys. The road to the goal has been to publish more food



security indicators from such surveys, and that poverty and food security statistics are published together.

Dimensions of food security

The report analyses calorie consumption, diet diversity, what food items the households consume, food prices, where the food is sourced from and seasonal variations. The report also looks at how poverty, energy deprivation and low diet diversity overlaps. Results show how the challenges are different in different parts of the country.



Centralised preparation of data

Another part of the report deals with the preparation of food consumption data, arguing that the quality of both poverty and food security statistics will improve if these two analyses are prepared for in the same process. Quite simplified, we can say that food security analysis has the strictest demands on food consumption data preparation, while poverty analysis has the strictest demands on other consumption data. Doing these analyses separately often leads to slightly different estimates of the same indicators, which are unnecessary and only causes confusion among users. Double work is also waste of time and money.

Due to this, SSB has for a long time argued that it is necessary to strengthen the NSO control over data processing and preparation of indicators. One thing is that the data needs to be channelled through a single cleaning and preparation process to make one set of data satisfactory for both analyses. A second argument is that the experiences from each round of analysis must be institutionalised. The process of conducting the next survey is three or maybe five years down the line and by then the international consultants are usually far away.

Need for capacity development

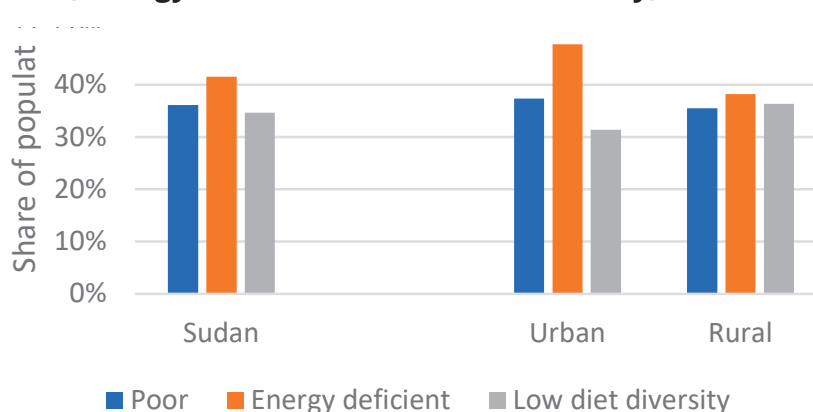
To make consumption data in HBSs better suited for food security analysis, the Inter Agency Expert Group on Food Security, Agricultural and Rural Statistics collected their recommendations in a guide on how to design food consumption modules. The guideline was adopted by the UN Commission on Statistics in 2018. The work on the HBS in Sudan is in line with those recommendations.

Food consumption data is used in measuring indicators for the sustainable development goal (SDG) to end hunger. The information on caloric consumption is needed to calculate the Prevalence of Undernourishment. The food consumption data can also be used in cost-of-the-diet analysis, which for instance is central in WFP Fill the Nutrient Gap analysis. Increasing capacity to produce food security statistics is a priority for NSOs. Last year, Paris21 and HLG-PCCB conducted a survey on capacity development needs, receiving responses from half the NSOs in the world. Measuring SDG indicators on food security came out as first priority for capacity building worldwide.

We hope the report can inspire other NSOs to look further into their household budget data and get more mileage from existing data sources to inform the fight against poverty and hunger.

The report can be found on <http://cbs.gov.sd/index.php/en/home/versions/25>

Poor, energy deficient and low diet diversity, Sudan



Source: NHBPS 2014/15

PARIS21, High-level Group for Partnership, Coordination and Capacity-Building for Statistics for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (HLG-PCCB) and United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD). The questionnaire was distributed to 195 NSOs with a 47% response rate in 2017/18. <https://paris21.org/capacity-development-40/cd40-survey>

How can the world improve civil registration systems?

Registration of vital events such as births and deaths are essential to ensure the rights and access to services for the population. However, many countries still have insufficient registration systems. Are there lessons to be learned from the Nordic countries on how these systems have been implemented? This was some of the backdrop for a side event arranged by the UNSD at this year's Statistical Commission. The title of the event was 'Civil Registration, Vital Statistics and Identity Management' where SSB and The Norwegian Tax authorities took an active part.

SSB was represented by Director General Geir Axelsen who presented a new initiative; "Registers for development". This is a collaboration between Statistics Norway and the owners of the central base administra-

tive registers in Norway. These include the Central population register (Tax Administration), the address register (Mapping Authorities) and the business register (Brønnøysund register centre). The general idea behind this cooperation is to share the Norwegian experiences in sharing data between the owners of different administrative registers and how these data can also be used to produce statistics. Marianne Henriksen from the Norwegian Tax Administration presented the Norwegian Population Register, how it was established, its current use as well as new developments in securing identity management. She also addressed how data is shared with SSB. In the general debate several countries expressed interest in learning more about this systematic approach of sharing data.

Presentations:

<https://unstats.un.org/unsd/statcom/50th-session/side-events/20190307-1E-Civil-Registration-Vital%20Statistics-and-Identity-Management/>



Director General Geir Axelsen from SSB and Marianne Henriksen from the Norwegian Tax Administration

Impact of Access to Sustainable Energy Survey Instrument Workshop in Oslo April 1 – 5, 2019

SSB is working with its sister-organizations, Instituto Nacional de Estatística, INE, Mozambique and National Bureau of Statistics, NBS, Tanzania to develop a household questionnaire and a community questionnaire. These questionnaires are designed to measure the household level impact of getting access to sustainable energy and the impact in economic development and human welfare of getting such access.

The governments in Mozambique and Tanzania are giving it a high priority to increase the coverage of the national grids and other means to increase the share of households with access to energy. Lucky enough, there is a rapid technological development which are making light bulbs a lot more energy efficient, and hence, cheaper to run for provision of light in the homes of urban and rural households. However, the costs of extending national grids and building local mini-grids are still high, and there is a large cost barrier for getting access. The service providing electrical supply companies are squeezed between the demand for providing access at an affordable tariff to an increased share of the population, and at the same time, earning enough to be able to run a proper maintenance. The cost of solar power is rapidly declining, but this is still only an option for the slightly better off.

For the service providers, governments, and donors to justify a continued investment in grid extension, and other energy solutions, it is essential to document the barriers for getting access and the impact of getting such access e.g. by a combination of energy efficient stoves and electric light.

SSB agreed with its sister organizations, INE and NBS, to combine the solid professional survey experience by all institutions, with the special knowledge of energy supply built up in SSB and the national knowledge of opportunities and barriers in Mozambique and Tanzania. This combined knowledge formed the platform for a workshop on the design of survey instruments in Oslo in April 2019. The survey expertise from SSB, INE and NBS was assisted by energy specialists from all three countries, NVE, MIREME, EDM and TANESCO.

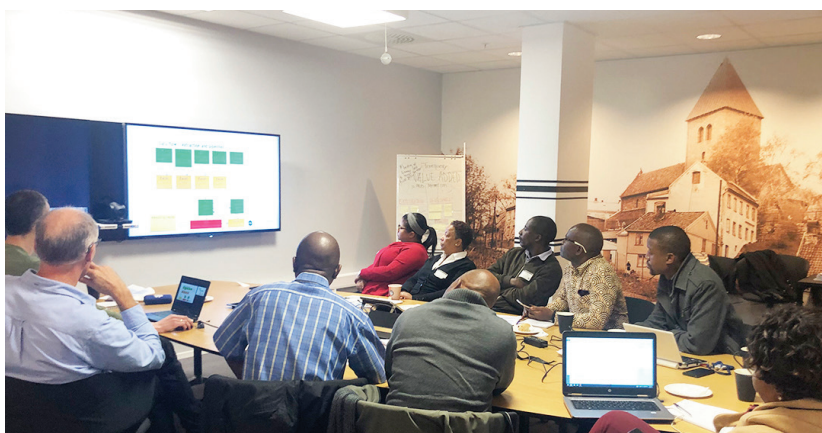
The main focus was on the design of the instruments including testing the electronic version of the questionnaire with the following program:



- Overview of energy grids and mini-grids in Mozambique and Tanzania
- Information priorities in Tanzania and Mozambique
- Brainstorming and summary of information needs
- Introduction to CSPro, CSPro Manager
- Test and mock test interviews. All participants serving as enumerator, supervisor, observer and respondent from urban and rural household with access to national or local grids, solar energy or no electricity.
- Survey field work approach and tradition in Tanzania and Mozambique
- Manuals for tablets and for pre-test in Tanzania and Mozambique
- Sightseeing to Holmenkollen ski-jump
- Summarizing of experience with questionnaires section by section for the household questionnaire and the community survey.
- Discussion of training, logistics and time schedule for pre-test
- Evaluation

The workshop turned out to serve the purpose well. We agreed upon a revised version of the main household questionnaire adapted to the issues in Tanzania and Mozambique. We also agreed upon the plans for a pre-test in Tanzania and Mozambique from mid-June.

Mozambique's essential triangle for developing petroleum related statistics



A concentrated group listening to Håkon Skullerud presenting the annual oil and gas statistics

SSB has a statistics cooperation project under the Revenue Management Pillar of the Oil for Development Programme in Mozambique. Although the formalization of the program has been delayed due to unforeseen events the planned activities for the statistics cooperation has not been affected.

During the first week of April 2019, SSB hosted a visit from a Mozambican team representing three different institutions. In addition to having a broad team from our sister organization INE, we had a representative

from the tax authority (AT) and two persons from the National Petroleum Institute (INP). The same team is also a part of a wider oil and gas technical working group that will work with easing data flows between government institutions. The purpose of the visit was to assist INE in mapping data needs for developing petroleum statistics. INE will rely heavily on administrative data from AT and INP and one of the core lessons from Norway on developing petroleum statistics is the reliance of exchange of data between government institutions.

Several subject matter experts within SSB contributed to experience sharing on Investment-, National Accounts, Foreign trade- and the annual oil and gas statistics. In addition, we also had a contribution from the Norwegian Petroleum Directorate on production data for oil and gas. Lectures were followed by workshops during the whole week where we based on the gained insight were able to dig deeper in the assessment of INEs data needs. These sessions were very interactive and were often held in two languages; although most Mozambican professionals speak English the heart only speaks Portuguese; so, as the discussions and involvement got more heated the share of Portuguese rose.



Group picture taken the very first morning of an intense and fruitful week.

Learning about the value of administrative data, Maps, Civil registration and vital statistics

During a rather cold week in May 2019, a delegation from the State Registration Service (SRS) and the National Statistical Committee of the Kyrgyz republic (NSC) visited Norway. Participants from the National Agency of Public Registry of Georgia and Agency for Land Relations and Cadastre of Moldova were also present.

The State Registration Service (SRS), the National Statistical Committee of the Kyrgyz republic (NSC) and the Norwegian Mapping Authority (NMA) and Statistics Norway (SSB) have had a four parties' cooperation since 2017.

The six institutions shared experiences across borders and across subject areas. The topic for the study visit was "Administrative data, Maps, Civil registration and vital statistics (CRVS)". Sharing of administrative data between different institutions is becoming more common in Kyrgyzstan, and access to administrative data for statistical purposes shall also be ensured in the new statistical act. The NSC is investigating how they can utilize data on tax and social funds from the Tax authorities and on population registration from SRS. Some of the aims are less response burden, lower costs for data collection and better quality of statistics.

The study visit covered topics like how to combine data from different administrative data to make new statistics, doing a census based on register data and the advantages of cadaster information on maps. SRS and NSC jointly presented and mapped the Kyrgyz CRVS system and the bottlenecks and possibilities for making register-based statistics on vital statistics. In addition to NMA and SSB, the delegation also visited the Tax Authorities in Norway who is responsible for the population register and met with a representative from Norwegian Institute of Public Health that is responsible for the coding of death causes in Norway.

Visiting the Vigeland sculpture park in Oslo. A symbolic, suitable place for people interested in births, deaths, marriages and other important life events.



Discussing CRVS



Sudan Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS) visiting Norway to learn more about dissemination and CRVS



From lecturing on dissemination

The three-year program of institutional cooperation between CBS and SSB is now well into the second year. Since January 2019, two CBS delegations have been visiting Norway as a follow-up activity from the autumn 2018.

The cooperation has over several years focused on legal and organizational preparations for an administrative business register in Sudan. From 2018, the partners agreed to expand the sharing of experience with administrative registers also to cover population registration - firstly looking into how life-cycle key events like birth, death and marriage (CRVS) is registered and used for statistics. A Sudan delegation visited SSB for 5 workdays in Oslo in early February 2019 to discuss experiences on CRVS with statisti-

cians and meet with key register owners like the Norwegian Tax Authority and the Mapping Authority.

Late February 2019, a CBS delegation visited SSB to learn more about website strategy and design, dissemination and internal communication. The delegation discussed with the Norwegian counterpart and followed lectures and exercises during the 5 days visit to Oslo. The CBS has recently launched their new web site: www.cbs.gov.sd. The tabulation report from the National Household Budget Survey 2015 and the CBS/SSB analytical report on poverty and food security are now published on this site.

Cooperation with CBS on hold until further

The most recent Sudan popular protests for improved livelihood and change of the regime started late 2018. Early April 2019, the increasing intensity of the protests and civil unrest lead to recommendations for no-travel to Sudan for SSB staff. The cooperation program is now on hold until further, and the planned activities are postponed in agreement with CBS. We continue to stay in contact with the colleagues in CBS. May month came with Ramadan, a time for hope, contemplation and charity. We wish our colleagues in CBS and Sudan all the best for the future and look forward to work together again.

The Sudan delegation on dissemination (February 2019) together with a delegation from Kenya on sightseeing at Holmenkollen ski-jump Oslo.



Internal training at State Statistics Service of Ukraine

A delegation from State Statistics Service of Ukraine (SSSU) visited Kongsvinger and Oslo in May to discuss internal training. The visit was a part of the institutional cooperation between SSSU and SSB and follows a visit from SSB to SSSU in October last year.

The main part of the study visit was centered on SSSU's experiences of implementing the routines for internal training established by SSSU after the discussions in Kiev in October, and on assessing possible solutions for the challenges SSSU has met. A key discussion issue was how to ensure that courses are repeated and developed over time, and how to introduce new courses regularly according to SSSU's needs. A tentative training programme was finalized for courses developed within SSSU and for courses included in the institutional cooperation. SSSU wants to use E-learning to increase the possibility for internal trainings in SSSU's 25 regional offices, and this topic was also addressed.



Halyna Blotshchytska (SSSU), Siv Irene Pedersen (SSB), Pavlo Tytarenko (SSSU), Anne Trolie (SSB) and Diana Rybalko (SSSU)



Discussing e-learning: Diana Rybalko (SSSU), Pavlo Tytarenko (SSSU), Natalia Karpova (interpreter), Anne Trolie (SSB), Halyna Blotshchytska (SSSU) and Ellen Cathrine Kiøsterud (SSB)

Preparing for analysing the 2020 Ghana national budget



From left: Mr. Robin Choudhury (SSB), Dr. Alhassan Iddrisu (Director, MoF), Mr. Ådne Cappelen (SSB), Mr. Eric Okumko (MoF), Dr. Ahmed-Jamil Seini, Ms. Priscilla Asabea Asare, Dr. Joseph Kwadwo Asenso (Head Energy, Oil and Gas Unit, MoF), Mr. Erick Asuman. Photo: Mr. Joseph Sarpong (MoF).

In June 2019, seven staffs from the Economic Strategy & Research Division of the Ministry of Finance (MoF) in Ghana visited Statistics Norway (SSB) in Oslo for a workshop. The workshop aimed at preparing the macroeconomic model for use in analysing the 2020 national budget later this year.

One of the critical elements for maintaining a relevant model includes updating its database. This time, in addition to updating all model variables with 2018 annual statistics, the revised national account data with 2013 as base year was implemented as well. As part of transferring knowledge in maintaining the model, this regular event is crucial for the model team at the Ministry of Finance to gain experience.

After the model database was updated, all the econometric equations were re-estimated and checked for coefficient stability. Some of the equations had to be re-specified. To compare the behaviour of the model to the previous version we created a baseline future scenario and simulated the effects of shocks in key variables.

Presentation of new employees



Janne Utkilen

I joined Statistics Norway in 2005, where I have been working with national accounts and business statistics. I have also had the opportunity to work for Eurostat and the UN World Food Programme (WFP). In WFP I worked with food security statistics, while in Eurostat I worked in the team for international cooperation with EU candidate countries.

In January 2019, I started working for the Division for international development cooperation where my key task is to be the project coordinator for two of our cooperation projects in Uganda and Ethiopia. In addition, I am also participating in international collaborations and working groups, including the Expert Group on Refugees and Internally Displaced Statistics (EGRIS) and the Expert Group for National Quality Assurance Framework (EG-NQAF).



Moez Abidi

I have around 20 years of technical experience in computer networking, network security, and worked in a number of roles in different organizations before starting at SSB in 2016. From 2016 to 2019, I worked with the IT support team as a support engineer supporting network infrastructure, security incidents, VPN, encryption and Firewalls.

I started working at the Division for International Development Cooperation in March 2019. My main task in the new position are: Statistical Business Register. At the same time, I am involved in the Oil for Development program.

Division for International Development Cooperation

Employees per 1.6.2019



Irene Tuveng
Head of division

Email: itu@ssb.no



Kristin Lundby
Senior adviser

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Administrative tasks. Accounting



Allan Henrysson
Project manager

Email: rys@ssb.no
Long term adviser in Ukraine



Moez Abidi
Senior adviser

Email: mza@ssb.no
IT. Generic business register



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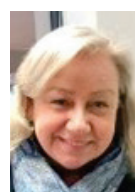
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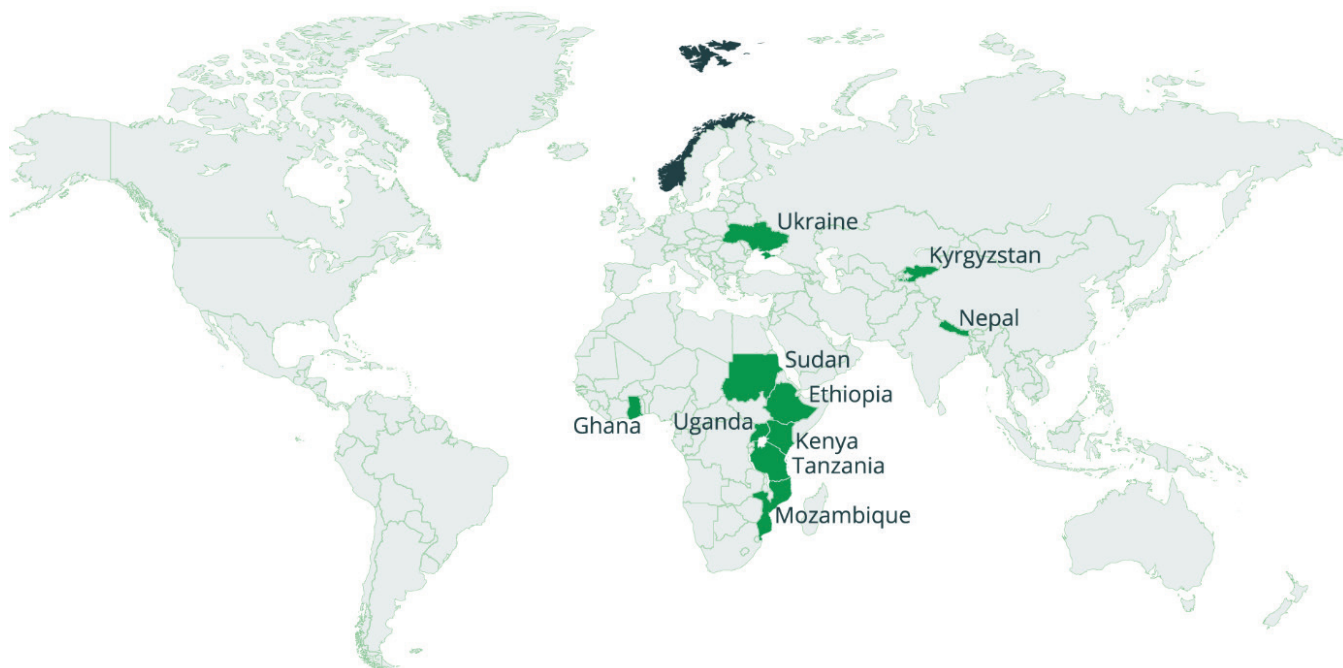
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We wish you a wonderful Summer!



More information about the Division for International Development Cooperation can be found at:
www.ssb.no/en/omssb/samarbeid/internasjonalt-utviklingsamarbeid

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