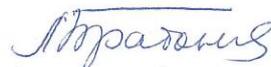


MANAGEMENT RESPONSE

Evaluation Title:	Strengthening national capacity in the most vulnerable UNECE countries for the sustainable development of statistics		
Period of Review:	2014-2018		
Date of Evaluation Report:	12/06/2019		
Approved by	Catherine Haswell Chief, Programme Management Unit	Date	Signature
		14/08/2019	
Cleared by:	Director of Division Lidia Bratanova	14/08/2019	
Prepared by:	Manager of the evaluation Steven Vale	14/08/2019	

Recommendation 1:

To provide support [to the national statistical systems of the beneficiary's countries] 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.

Management Response:

UNECE accepts this recommendation

Follow up actions and responsibilities:

Support will be provided to countries on request, and within the limits of available budgets and resources. To be coordinated by the UNECE Regional Adviser on Statistics.

Recommendation 2:

To provide advices and support [to the national statistical systems of the beneficiary's countries] for further implementation of Global Assessments' recommendations from the first round of GAs and to follow up the implementation activities;

Management Response:

UNECE accepts this recommendation.

Follow up actions and responsibilities:

Advice and support to implement recommendations will be provided to countries on request, and within the limits of available budgets and resources. To be coordinated by the UNECE Regional Adviser on Statistics.

Recommendation 3:

To continue the programme of Global Assessments of national statistical systems, to finalise the new round that was started and to follow up the implementation of the GAs' recommendations.

Management Response:

UNECE accepts this recommendation

Follow up actions and responsibilities:

The programme of global assessments is continuing on request from the countries, and within the limits of available resources, coordinated by the UNECE Regional Adviser on Statistics.

Recommendation 4:

Within its mandate, working together with other international organisations, as well as the local UNDP office in Ashgabat, [UNECE] 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

Management Response:

UNECE accepts this recommendation

UNECE will continue to engage with Turkmenstat and the UN country team in Turkmenistan to encourage greater involvement of Turkmenstat in international statistical activities.

Follow up actions and responsibilities:

As capacity development activities are strictly demand-driven, follow-up activities will depend on requests from Turkmenistan. However, UNECE will continue to seek ways to fund participants from Turkmenistan to attend relevant international meetings, and will use events such as the annual UNECE / Eurostat / EFTA High-level Seminar for EECCA countries (the 2019 seminar is on 24-26 September in Chisinau) to engage with senior managers from Turkmenstat to try to identify capacity development priorities. To be coordinated by the UNECE Regional Adviser on Statistics.

Recommendation 5:

When planning a project, [UNECE] 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.

Management Response:

UNECE accepts this recommendation

Projects should be demand-driven, so it makes sense to ensure that beneficiary countries are fully engaged from the outset.

Follow up actions and responsibilities:

The Statistical Division will ensure that project managers take the necessary steps to make sure that beneficiary countries are fully engaged and committed to project activities from the outset of all future projects.

Recommendation 6:

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.

Management Response:

UNECE accepts this recommendation.

Follow up actions and responsibilities:

The Statistical Division will ensure that project managers will be reminded of this for all future projects, particularly in cases where project managers are leaving their post.

Recommendation 7:

UNECE 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).

Management Response:

UNECE accepts this recommendation.

Follow up actions and responsibilities:

The Statistical Division will ensure that project managers keep appropriate financial records to supplement what is recorded in the UMOJA system, for all future projects.

Recommendation 8:

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

Management Response:

UNECE partially accepts this recommendation.

It is not always feasible to have designated deputy project managers, particularly for smaller projects. Project managers will be requested to have contingency plans in place in case of their departure mid-project, and to ensure that project documentation is kept up to date to facilitate a smooth handover in such cases.

Follow up actions and responsibilities:

The Statistical Division will ensure that effective contingency planning is included in all future projects.