Cekos In Ekspert

Pursuant to Article 18, paragraph 2 of the Law on Official Statistics (“Official Gazette of RS”, number 9/10), the National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia, at its third meeting of the first regular session in 2021, held on 18 March 2021, has adopted the

**DECISION**
 **ОN THE PROGRAM OF THE OFFICIAL STATISTICS OVER 2021 - 2025**

**(Official Gazette of RS no24/21)**

**Main text in force since 27/03/2021 , applicable since 27/03/2021**

1. The Program of the Official Statistics over 2021 - 2025 has been adopted, which is printed and annexed to this decision and makes its integral part.

2. This decision shall enter into force following the date of its publication in the “Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia”.

RS number 13
 In Belgrade, 18 March 2021

the National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia
the President,
Ivica Dacic, sgd

 **PROGRAM OF THE OFFICIAL STATISTICS OVER 2021 - 2025**

 **I. INTRODUCTION**

The Law on Official Statistics (“Official Gazette of RS”, number 104/09 - hereinafter: the Law) has been established as the legal frame for producing and disseminating the results and information of the official statistics, as well as for organizing the official statistics system in the Republic of Serbia. According to the Law, the program with planned official statistical activities is produced for a five-year period. The Program of the Official Statistics over 2021 - 2025 (hereinafter: the Program) has been prepared by the Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia (hereinafter: SORS) in cooperation with other responsible official statistics producers. The Program specifies achievement of better amount and quality of produced official statistical results than in the previous five-year period from 2016 to 2020.

The Program defines the activities that will allow to achieve the main objective, which is to complete in the mentioned period full harmonization of statistical surveys and other activities as well as the methodology for producing official statistics with international standards, particularly the European Statistical System (ESS) and European Union (EU) standards. Therefore, when defining the statistical activities, the requirements laid down in the documents have been taken into consideration: European Statistical Programme 2013-2020 (Regulation [EU] 2017/1951 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 October 2017 amending Regulation [EU] No 99/2013 on the European statistical programme 2013-17, by extending it to 2020), Еuropean Statistical Annual Programme for 2019 (Commission Decision on the financing of the European statistical programme 2013-2020 and the adoption of the work programme for 2019), Еurostat Statistical Requirements Compendium, 2019 edition, published by Eurostat and the European Statistical System Vision 2020. The realization of the Programme should meet the requirements of a broad circle of users and bring to better quality of official statistical results by using new data sources and enhancing the efficiency of production and dissemination processes.

The Strategy of Official Statistics Development in the Republic of Serbia over 2021 - 2025 is integral part of the Program, in line with the provisions of the Law. The Strategy should ensure the development of the official statistics towards full harmonization of statistical standards, methodologies and good statistical practice, as a base for obtaining relevant official statistical results and their comparability with statistical data of European and other countries.

In addition, the Program contains a Review of Expected Official Statistical Results by domains with data on their frequency and planned activities, including the planned activities for introducing new indicators allowing harmonization and implementation of international standards where this has not been done yet. It contains also a Review of Major Infrastructure and Development Activities. Statistical Domains are aligned with the Classification of Statistical Activities - CSA REV. 1. A list of responsible official statistics producers is also provided along with an outline of expected problems and conditions for the realization of the Programme.

 **II. STRATEGY OF OFFICIAL STATISTICS DEVELOPMENT IN THE REPUBLIC OF SERBIA OVER 2021 - 2025**

 **1. The Official Statistics in the Republic of Serbia**

Harmonizing the official statistics with international statistical standards, classifications, concepts, definitions, methodologies and procedure, as well as accepting good statistical practice of other countries are integral part of intensive activities of the Republic of Serbia within the process of EU accession. In that sense, providing good quality and international comparable official statistical results and achieving full harmonization with international statistical standards, primarily the ESS and the United Nations (UN), are the main strategic objective of the system of the official statistics of the Republic of Serbia.

The official statistical system, as part of the information system of every democratic society, is defined as a system of quantitative indicators obtained according to uniform methodologies, definitions, classifications and organization of statistical surveys and activities based on unique programs and plans. The most important task of the official statistics is to offer a real picture of social and economic trends in the country and to provide a basis for analysis and decision-making at various social levels, from the government administration to other institutions, through business subjects to interested citizens. The principle values of the official statistics come also from the following international documents: Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics of the United Nations and European Statistics Code of Practice - CoP of the ESS and Eurostat.

By recognizing the needs and importance of the official statistics the Republic of Serbia, with the support of the EU, strives to adapt our statistical system to international standards. Official statistics development is linked also to the process of EU accession, i.e. to the criterion of being able to assume the obligations from the EU membership (Chapter 18 - Statistics), as well as to monitoring of indicators showing to what level economic criteria have been met for membership and negotiations within this process. In addition, the obligations of the official statistics come also from other international institutions, such as the UN and their organizations, the International Monetary Fund, World Bank, International Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development - OECD), etc.

The program, on the basis of UN and EU recommendations, defines the legal, institutional and program frame for data and information collection, production and dissemination, and the organization of the official statistics system. The latter is made of the SORS, as the main system coordinator, the National Bank of Serbia, City Administration of the city of Belgrade - for the territory of the city of Belgrade, as well as other responsible official statistics producers listed in this programme, such as: the Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management, Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development, Ministry of Internal Affairs, Republic Fund for Pension and Disability Insurance, Institute of Public Health, Republic Geodetic Authority, National Employment Service, Environmental Agency, National Library of Serbia, etc. The SORS is, in line with the Law, the main data producer and disseminating authority, responsible expert stakeholder and manager of the system of official statistics. It represents the official statistics of the Republic of Serbia in the international statistical system. The Statistical Council of the Republic of Serbia occupies a particular place in the official statistical system, which role is defined by the Law.

 **2. Main activities of the official statistics**

The main activities of the official statistics refer to:

- data collection and processing, and production and dissemination of official statistical results of high quality and broadly accessible to all users;

- maintenance and strengthening of the position and professional independence of the official statistics;

- strengthening the confidence in the official statistics, both in data providers and users, and

- active international cooperation and participation in relevant national and international institutions.

 **3. Мission of the official statistics**

The principal mission of the official statistics is to provide relevant, unbiased, reliable, timely and internationally comparable indicators, results and information of the official statistics. Owing to the coordination of responsible official statistical producers the published official statistics results can meet the requirements of decision-makers, researchers and other users. Furthermore, those results can be used to monitor and direct policies in the economy and society, as well as policies linked to the process of the accession of the Republic of Serbia to the European Union. Methodological and organizational knowledge, statistical standard, modern technologies, improvement of production processes, optimal ressources use, protection of statistical confidentiality, moderate burden on data providers and data accessibility to all users under equal conditions are necessary prerequisites for data collection and processing, as well as for official statistical results compiling and dissemination..

 **4. Vision and values of the official statistics**

The official statistical system of the Republic of Serbia, by building professional and infrastructure capacities, by adopting and implementing good statistical practice, should achieve a high level of harmonization with international statistical standards as well as a high level of quality of published statistical data and acquired confidence of data providers and users.

The realization of the mission and vision of the official statistics is based on the following values:

- quality of produced and published official statistical results and information, by using the best international experiences in the field of the methods of data collection, processing and dissemination, and by implementing the principles of efficiency, user-oriented and permanent enhancement of human potentials;

- trust between all the participants in the statistical system, i.e. data users, providers and official statistics producers, and

- сonstant cooperation of official statistics producers in the country and abroad.

 **5. Main strategic objectives**

The main strategic objectives define priority actions and the results that should be therefore achieved by the official statistics:

 **5.1. Finalization of a complete harmonization of statistical standards and practice with the European Statistical System and the European Union**

The main strategic objective is to finalize full harmonization with ESS and EU requirements in terms of statistical indicators, release deadlines and applied methodologies until the end of this period. Statistical standards imply standard classifications, concepts, methodologies and procedures for calculating statistical indicators. In that sense, using standard definitions and classifications, as well as procedures to obtain complex statistical indicators is the basis for official statistical data comparability, primarily with the ESS data, i.e. their relevance and validity from the aspect of regulations and methodological rules, and EU recommendations. In this way the requirements for the official statistics will be met in the process of accession to the EU, both within Chapter 18 - Statistics, and withing other ones. In this process it is necessary to use positive practices of other countries official statistics.

This objective, in line with the ESS Vision 2020 covers the following key domains:

- raising the quality of statistical processes and data by using and modernizing as much as possible information and communication technologies;

- statistical monitoring of the globalization phenomenon from the economic and financial aspect, meeting a growing amount of needs for statistical data on national and regional levels;

- cost-efficiency for data collection and reducing the burden on data providers - larger use of administrative sources and statistical methods and models for the estimation of statistical results;

- provision of quality and timely statistical indicators required for decision-making and successful management of the economy at all levels.

Beside the development of methodologies and adoption of new standards, it is necessary to further develop statistical registers, as a framework for the selection of statistical units and broader use of sampling methods. To rely more on administrative data sources it is necessary to increase the influences on methodological solutions in important administrative registers and databases. This will make possible, in addition to the rationalization of the existing structure and way of conducting statistical surveys as the most frequent method for data collection, smaller burden on data providers and smaller total costs for obtaining selected statistical indicators.

The development of analytical work will follow the path of standardizing procedures, equalizing the level of data processing, monitoring and measuring results quality, reporting, etc. The development will mainly refer to the analysis, modeling and seasonally adjustment of time series, analysis of macroeconomic data and analysis of mutually harmonized statistical data and information from different sources.

The prerequesite for a successful realization of this strategic objective is the existence of a good quality and organized official statistics system, headed by an independent statistical institution with a clearly defined role of coordinator and national representative in the EU statistics, i.e. Eurostat.

 **5.2. Improvement of the quality of official statistical results, ensuring a high level of international comparability**

Statistical data and information, as a final result of an activity and target product of the official statistics, are the basis for comparison with other countries. The focus of the official statistics will therefore change towards statistical indicators, as results in which data users are interested.

Harmonized methodological solutions will be applied in existing statistical indicators and standard European solutions will be used in new ones, providing thus mechanisms for forming them by conducting existing and new surveys and using administrative data sources.

It is necessary to continue the activities in development and quality management, and in introducing a standard quality report. The use of the system of quality management implies the identification and description of those processes of statistical production, development of methods and tools for self-evaluation and provision of prerequisites for the implementation of a risk management system.

Fulfilling international standards means that information about the data (metadata), including data on applied definitions, classifications, coverage, calculation method and comments about their quality and potential use restrictions, should accompany the data. This will be made possible by continuing to develop the system of compilation of reference metadata and quality report (RZSMETA), improving quality report and raising the level of standardization and quality of the system of general metadata.

Official statistics will strictly implement the protection of individual data and have a dialog with data providers in order to reduce the burden on them as to data provision (defining common variables in surveys, considering the issue of sampling, etc.), as well as to strengthen their trust, which is a prerequisite of improving the quality of official statistical results.

Valuing statistical production requires the responsible producers of official statistics to constantly work on gaining trust and developing good relationships with the main data users and providers, as well as with the media representatives. Educating data providers and users by official statistics producers should contribute to higher importance of statistical data and their adequate use.

Better dissemination will make the results of the official statistics to be more accessible to all user at the same time and under equal conditions. The release calendar and dissemination databases are publicly available.

 **5.3. Ensuring the independence of the official statistics and improving coordination withing the official statistics system**

The independence of the official statistics guaranteed by the institutional position of the national statistical institution is one of the fundamental principle of modern statistical organizations in the world and one of the basic Eurostat requirement for official statistics of member-countries. The SORS, in the official statistical system, represents a responsible professional stakeholder, manager and coordinator of the system. For that reason, one must find a solution that will guarantee a long-term institutional independence and that will be aligned with EU recommendations so that the official statistics and its stakeholder should be objective and impartial, i.e. independent towards the stakeholder of the current policy, but maximally providing professional support to this policy. This to be achieved, it is necessary to adopt a new Law on Official Statistics, which will strengthen independence and professionalism, coordination of the statistical system, enable full contribution to the system of decision-making at all levels and which will define the SORS status that will be accountable for its work to the National Assembly.

The role of the SORS refers, among other things, to compiling the obtained data and information from all statistical subject-matters in order to create a whole picture of the economic and social life via explanations of a series of indicators, with an adequate analysis based on standard statistical methods and procedures.

The official statistics, in that sense, should represent a good system, which, based on the Law, long-term development strategy, long-term programs and annual plans of the official statistics as well as other regulations concerning selected areas, defines the role and concrete obligations of responsible official statistics producers. Constant building of the coordination role of the SORS and mutual co-operation of responsible official statistics producers are of special interest for the coherence and completeness of the system and implementation of standard classifications and definitions in creating statistical indicators.

In the next period, activities will be focused on the preparation of the national code of good practice of the official statistics, and later on also on providing support to its use in the whole statistical system. As strong co-operation and coordination within the official statistics system of the Republic of Serbia are necessary to set up a coherent and whole system, the SORS will work in the next period on establishing a national coordination council of the official statistics (coordination council), which will unite the representatives of all responsible official statistics producers in the Republic of Serbia.

The SORS will continue to use intensively administrative data for the production of official statistics due to the cost-effectiveness of data collection, smaller burden on data providers and timely provision of a large amount of statistical indicators at an as much as possible lower level of the territory and and Classification of Activities (CA).

 **5.4. Development of the system of support to decision-making and other modern information solutions adapted to the needs of different types of users**

Statistical methodology and analysis of statistical results represent the most complex part of the statistical system. Methodology is the basis for carrying out statistical surveys, and analysis enables quality interpretation and efficient use of statistical data and information. Applying modern technologies and innovations render optimal results in meeting the needs of different types of users. Having in mind the accelerated development of technological innovations in the statistics, the official statistics system has not only to constantly follow trends and renew resources but also to make its own innovative breakthrough in this area.

The Decision Making Support System - DMSS is a new concept of devising on analytics focused on optimal satisfaction the needs of government bodies and other subjects involved in the decision-making process. In times of modern technologies and a multitude of data and information, decision-makers face an enormous amount of information and data that often lead to confusion and erroneous errors in the decision-making process. On the other hand, the official statistical system is extremely complex, sector-oriented (agriculture, prices, external trade, etc.) and offers a partial picture of the national economy, which is often vague and interpreted as contradictory. In that sense, in order to provide the users with information that will clearly present the economic situation in Serbia, the SORS has created a decision-making support system. Concretely, the system implies the collection of various indicators (not only statistical ones), which catalyzed and grouped, enables decision-makers in clear and easily understandable manner to recognize and consider the phase in which is the economy. The system uses various “tools”, such as: leading indicators that detect changes in the economic cycle and enable forecasts up to nine months ahead; presentation of attitudes and expectation of producers and consumers, as indicators of business tendencies; production of forecasting models based on the analysis of time series; analysis and forecast of living standard; nowcasting of GDP before the flash forecast; forecast of monthly GDP trend; analysis of the most important GDP components.

The introduction of the Decision Making Support System at local level and of the platform for cooperation with the users of statistics at local authorities level is focused on the development of methodological, organizational and applicative solutions for decision-making support at the levels of municipalities and towns. On that account, expert teams for support to local authorities will be created and a partnership cooperation will be organized with local institutions, with the involvement of regional departments of the SORS.

Further development of the statistical portal of open data and the integration with the national portal of open data enables a fast and efficient access to data for the broad public. Data vizualisation, the introduction of sustainable development indicators and the promotion of the portal will contribute to the interaction with the community that uses those data.

The development of the national portal for following the indicators will make it possible to have access at one place (one-stop-shop approach) primarily to indicators for following the Sustainable Development Goals - SDG and 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, as well as to indicators relative to other global strategies. The dissemination database of indicators will be continuously up-dated, and continuous training of internal and external data producers and users will be conducted.

 **5.5. Provision of adequate resources for the functioning and development of the official statistical system**

To achieve strategies goals and realize the planned activities, it is necessary to have human, financial, infrastructure and technological resources in the official statistical system.

The planned activities require adequate specialized professionals, primarily mathematicians and economists, as well as adequate professional upgrade. Generally, solving the human resources issue is the key to the achievement of the set-up goals, thus it is very important that the SORS has an influence, as much as possible, on its resolving. Restrictions introduced by the regulations in the previous period rather impeded efficient implementation of human resources policy, which led to a smaller number of employees in the official statistics. It is necessary to engage as quickly as possible new staff, having in mind particularly that in this period a large number of employees in the official statistics is getting retired.

It is necessary to continue the intensive training of staff in the field of statistics and computing, primarily in order to apply new methodological solutions, international statistical standards and to increase analytical capacities and vocational training of staff to create and analyse the influence of various policies. The planned training can be organized and held internally, in co-operation with responsible official statistics producers and related ministries in order to initiate the creation of a network of points for questions of the statistics as well as in the scope of international co-operation, particularly in the field of European integrations. Use of assistance in acquiring knowledge through seminars, training, summer schools and assistance in producing certain procedures should be intensified.

One should certainly have in mind that the activities for the achievement of the strategic goals are very demanding in terms of necessary financial funds, infrastructure and modern technology.

 **6. Strategic goals and priority activities of development by statistical areas**

In addition to the achievement of the mentioned main strategic goals, it is necessary to realize special goals and priority activities of selected statistical areas.

 **6.1. Demography and social statistics**

The main strategic goal in the area of demography and social statistics is to carry out the Census of Population, Households and Dwellings 2021, enhance the content od data on population, labour market, education, culture, health care, disability, judiciary and gender statistics, security and protection of consumers, personal consumption, inequalities in income distribution, poverty, social cohesion and protection that are needed to monitor the life standard and conditions, life quality, as well as of the social and health protection. It is also necessary to provide a larger number of data shown by sex and at lower territorial levels as well as the visualization of the mentioned data.

The following development goals need to be realized in this area:

- carrying out of the Census of Population, Households and Dwelling, 2021;

- modernization of data collection through surveys concerning households (Labour Force Survey, Household Budget Survey, Time Use Survey, Survey on Income and Living Conditions, etc.;

- reduction of the burden on reporting units;

- more intensive use of available administrative data sources;

- enhancement of data content in demographic surveys and health statistics;

- harmonization of the methodology for labour market statistics with European standards;

- enhancement of data content for labour market statistics (labour costs and earnings structure);

- enhancement of the content and broadening of data sources in the field of Sustainable Development Goals;

- preparation of the International Classification of Crime for Statistical Purposes - ICCS;

- enhancement and broadening data content for gender statistics;

- enhancement of the content of data on persons living in collective dwellings, with a special focus on persons with disabilities;

- enhancement of data content for education, provision of a larger number of indicators and transmission of indicators of education according to UOE questionnaire (Joint questionnaire of UNESCO, OECD and Eurostat);

- enhancement of the republic and municipal DevInfo database, and

- continuation of activities on the implementation of the European System of Integration of Social Protection Statistics (ESSPROS).

Priority development activities in this area are:

- census of Population, Households and Dwellings, 2021,

- statistics of births, deaths, marriages and divorces,

- health statistics,

- statistical population register,

- statistics of asylum seekers, residence permits and illegal migrations,

- migration statistics,

- employment and unemployment statistics,

- salaries and wages statistics and labour costs,

- Household Budget Survey and Time Use Survey,

- statistics on income, social inclusion and living conditions,

- statistics on life quality,

- education statistics.

 **6.2. Economic statistics**

The main strategic goals in economic statistics refer to macroeconomic and business statistics. In macroeconomic statistics, the main goal is to further harmonize the System of National Accounts with international standards, i.e. timely and quality implementation of SNA 2008 standards (2008 System of National Accounts) and ESA 2010 (European National Accounts 2010). To provide data for monitoring macroeconomic trends requires constant upgrade of the content of relevant statistics and their mutual harmonization, particularly in national accounts (annual, quarterly, regional), input-output statistics as well as government finance statistics and reporting on deficit surplus. It is also necessary to improve the co-operation with other official statistics producers along with the adaptation and larger use of administrative data sources. The main strategic goal in business statistics is to provide statistical indicators relevant for taking measures of economic policy and monitoring economic development and comparing domestic with European and other foreign economies, as well as for taking measures and plans of special policies in corresponding areas.

The following development goals need to be achieved in economic statistics:

- larger coverage, quality building and timely release of macroeconomic indicators for the purpose of keeping and monitoring the results of economic policy;

- provision of consistency of data via the coordination of activities of official statistics producers that collect, publish or use macroeconomic statistics;

- adaptation of administrative data sources to the implementation of a new methodology in macroeconomic statistics;

- full implementation of international standards (SNA 2008 and ESA 2010) and other relevant methodologies of macroeconomic statistics;

- harmonization of price statistics with EU standards and constant improvement of data quality;

- modernization of data collection methods for annual and short-term business statistics surveys;

- more intensive use of available administrative data sources for the needs of business statistics;

- improvement of indicators of structural and short-term statistics and other areas of business statistics, and

- regular harmonization of business statistics with Eurostat methodology changes and adaptation to ESS changes.

Priority develoрment activities of economic statistics are as follows:

- main aggregates of national accounts,

- monetary and financial statistics,

- government statistics,

- balance of payment statistics,

- payment transactions statistics,

- housing price statistics,

- structural business statistics,

- short-term statistics (monthly and quarterly statistics of industry, construction, turnover, services, employment, salaries and wages, producers’ prices of industrial products, price indices in construction and price indices in services),

- statistics of foreign trade in goods (external trade statistics)),

- annual statistics of industrial production (Prodcom),

- foreign affiliates trade statistics (FATS),

- statistics of direct foreign investments,

- statistics of international trade in services, and

- statistical business register.

 **6.3. Sectoral statistics**

The main goal in sectoral statistics is to have them harmonized with EU standards in order to provide quality and timely data on structural characteristics of agricultural holdings, agricultural production, energy, transport, tourism, as well as data on science, technology and innovations.

The following development goals need to be realized:

- harmonization of agricultural statistics with ESS standards in this area in order to develop, harmonize and complement the data on structural surveys, crop production, livestock, fisheries, forestry, agro-monetary statistics and environmental protection;

- carrying out of the Census of Agriculture, 2021;

- coordination with other official statistics producers for integrating agriculture statistics;

- introduction of new surveys on road transport of goods with transport for own account and passengers’ mobility in road transport;

- provision of a set of indicators on total budgetary investment in R&D activity, improvement of the quality and level of international comparability of R&D indicators and human resources surveys in high-technological areas, and

- establishment of an efficient method of data collection, processing and publication using ECT solutions.

The priority development activities in this area are as follows:

- farm structure surveys - Census of Agriculture and farm structure survey,

- crop production statistics,

- livestock statistics,

- statistical register of agricultural holdings,

- agricutlture accounts and prices,

- food safety statistics,

- forestry statistics,

- energy statistics,

- transport statistics,

- tourism statistics, and

- statistics of science and technology, innovations and information and communication technologies.

 **6.4. Environment statistics and statistics covering more than one area**

The main strategic goal in this area is to provide statistical data on the environment, statistical data at regional and municipal levels, sustainable development indicators, improvement of the geographical information system and to further develop gender statistics according to EU statistical standards.

The following development goals need to be achieved in this are:

- implementation of monetary and physical environment statistics;

- calculation of new new indicators of environment statistics;

- coordination with other official statistics producers in order to integrate statistical data and indicators;

- establishment of an efficient method of data publication according to users’ needs, using modern information solution.

The priority development activities are as follows:

- environment statistics and accounts,

- nature protection statistics,

- waste and hazardous materials statistics,

- water statistics,

- statistics of rural area development,

- regional and urban statistics,

- geographical information system,

- sustainable development indicators, and

- gender statistics.

 **7. Infrastructure and development activities**

Infrastructure and development activities of the official statistics enhance directly or indirectly the efficiency of producing quality statistical indicators as the main goal of the official statistics. Those statistics refer to the methodology of collecting, processing, dissemination and analysis of statistical data and to other strategic and management issues of the official statistics.

 **7.1. Methodology of the official statistics**

All responsible official statistics producers of planned infrastructure and development activities in the field of methodologies should be focused on: the harmonization with European statistical standards, methodologies and classifications; development of a complex information system for the integration of all administrative data and management of datasets; storage of metadata and their accessibility, as well as linking data and metadata to a complete production cycle; enhancement of the information system of dissemination of data and metadata according to users’ needs and requirements and ESS guidelines; development and use of tools for managing confidential data as well as access to microdata by authorized researchers, etc. It is also necessary provide adequate resources for the functioning and development of the official statistics system in order to realize the planned activities in the harmonization process.

The system of statistical metadata defines the production, storage and use of statistical metadata and their development enables efficient functioning of the whole statistical information system.

Harmonization of national statistics and other classifications with standard international classifications is one of the main prerequisites to provide official statistics comparison with other countries. In the next period, it is necessary to adopt, as national statistical classifications, new classifications or to harmonize existing ones harmonized existing ones with the modifications of referent international standards.

Меthodological coordination of introducing new and modifying existing administrative registers, using standard identifiers, definitions and classifications is in the direct interest of responsible official statistics producers. This directly leads to the integration of data from different administrative sources in the official statistics system and enables data exchange between institutions being part of the official statistical system. Active participation of the SORS and other official statistics producers in establishing administrative registers (population register, education register within a uniform information system in education, central information system in catering trades and tourism (E-tourism) will contribute to a more efficient collection of administrative data and their use for statistical purposes.

In addition, the development of the sampling methodology, including the coordination of sample of different surveys, makes it directly possible to reduce the burden on data providers and to reduce the statistical production costs.

The development of methods and practice of analyzing time series and enhancement of databases contribute also considerably to better official statistics quality.

Dissemination policy is focused on timely provision of high quality statistical data to users. In the next period, better accessibility and quality of statistical data will make the official statistics more recognizable, as the main source of reliable and timely data. It is also necessary to: improve the communication between the users and official statistics in order to meet users requirements; apply new information technologies in the process of data dissemination; improve the infrastructure for data access, ensuring their confidentiality; increase the offer of publicly available data for various users’ needs; build the co-operation with national and foreign data users for better identification of their needs; increase the offer of microdata for the needs of R&D institutions, in line with a defined procedure allowing access to individual data without identifiers for R&D purposes, as well as with conditions defined in the European Statistical System, and raise users’ awareness on the possibilities and limits of the official statistics.

The official statistics protects fully the rights of data providers and statistical units by applying the principle of confidentiality that covers the protection of data referring to an individual statistical unit, but the individual data can be used only for statistical purposes. Responsible official statistics producers are due to take all prescribed administrative, technical and organizational measures for the protection of confidential data against illegal access, disclosure or use.

 **7.2. Legal framework**

 The Law on Official Statistics is a legal act that regulates the official statistics, i.e. the production and dissemination of data and information, as well as the organization of the official statistical system in the Republic of Serbia. In the next period, modifications to the legal framework are planned. They should strengthen SORS independence and professionalism, build the coordination of the official statistical system and fully contribute to the decision-making system. The Law on the Census of Agriculture 2021 regulates the preparation, organization and carrying out of the census, its content, competences of the SORS and other participants in the census (ministries, government bodies and local authorities, etc.), the obligations of directs field participants in data collection, as well as the obligations of citizens regarding data provision.

 **7.3. Coordination of the statistical system**

For official statistics full realization of coordination of SORS role and enabling co-operation of responsible official statistics producers is of special interest. The preparation of a national code of official statistics, its implementation in the entire statistical system and establishment of a national coordination board of official statistics, made of representatives of all responsible official statistics producers, are necessary steps to be taken in order to set up a coherent and complete system. The coordination board shall actively be engaged in the implementation of the national code of practice of the official statistics, therefore in improving the official statistics quality, then in drawing up the content of the five-year official statistics program and annual plans of statistical surveys, in identifying new administrative data sources relevant for official statistics production as well as in active striving to provide resources necessary for the development, production and dissemination of official statistics.

 **7.4. Quality management**

The quality management system of the SORS relies on the Mission and Vision of the official statistics of the Republic of Serbia as well as on the European Statistics - CoP, Basic principles of UN official statistics and Total Quality Management - TQM. Activities focused on constant improvement of quality within a coherent and well ordered system will lead to better efficiency of the process of production and quality improvement of statistical products. The development and implementation of an integral quality management system will make it possible to identify and describe all of the processes of statistical production, establish methods and tools for self-evaluation of quality and ensure prerequisites for introducing a risk management system, which will enables having a real picture of the situation and improving the level of standardization and quality.

 **7.5. Information and communication technology**

Information and communication technology (ICT) provides services and technological infrastructure that supports and improves business processes of statistical systems, making them more successful and efficient. Further development of a ICT package for integrated data processing, completely developed in the SORS, is a priority in this area, with a focus on the application of new innovative solutions, improvement of international technical co-operation along with establishing new partnerships and on the participation in international projects. The ICT base is a metabase of structural data, and the preliminary design is based on the Generic Statistical Business Process Model - GSBPM. It is also planned to develop more efficient data exchange between applications supporting directly given specifications, without any specific adaptation to the application, in order to reach interoperability, i.e. smooth exchange and understanding of information through the whole system.

 **7.6. Еuropean integrations and international statistical co-operation**

The process of European integrations of the Republic of Serbia and development activities of the official statistics aim at ensuring in the next period harmonization of the ESS, i.e. harmonization of the standards, classifications and methodologies in order to obtain comparable indicators, as well as to have even more included in international statistical co-operation of all responsible official statistics producers, coordinated by Eurostat on European level and by the SORS on national level. This process should follow: the realization of important strategic international projects, which are, in the scope of the international assistance, intended to build the official statistical system, then more intensive bilateral co-operation with other national statistical institutions, verified through formalized mutual co-operation as well as active participation in the activities of international working groups or statistical forums, with the aim to improve global statistics and strengthen the Serbian official statistics.

 **III. REVIEW OF EXPECTED RESULTS OF THE OFFICIAL STATISTICS**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| STATISTICAL AREAS | RESPONSIBLE PRODUCER | ADMINISTRATIVE SOURCE | STATISTICAL INDICATORS, PLANNED ACTIVITIES AND INDICATOR PERIODICITY  |
| DEMOGRAPHIC AND SOCIAL STATISTICS |
| 1.Population |
| 1) Vital statistics | Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia | Competent services keeping registrars, basic courts and Institute for Public Health of Serbia | Main demographic indicators.  Absolute and relative indicators of births and deaths, marriages and divorces by demographic, ethnic and educational characteristics; general rates for all vital events, as well as specific fertility, mortality, nuptiality and divorciality rates; abridged approximate mortality and fertility tables, etc. 2020-2022. The periodicity of indicators is ten-year.    The calculation of “Healthy life years”. “Healthy life years” is a concept that refers to healthy life expectancy. The indicator of health life years measures the number of that remains to a person of a certain age can expect to live without serious or moderate health problems. This indicator belongs to the group disability-free life expectancy (DFLE), i.e. life expectancy with disabilities (Eurostat, 2014).  The methodology consists in combining two data sources - data on mortality and morbidity, i.e life tables and (in our case) the answer to the question on self-evaluation of health from the Survey on Income and Live Conditions - SILC (Sallivan method, recommended by Eurostat for the calculation of healthy life years. The periodicity of the indicator is an annual one.  |
| 2) Мigrations | Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia | Мinistry of Internal Affairs and Commissariat for Refugees and Migrations  | Internal migrations, i.e. the number and territorial distribution of migrants by demographic, ethnic and economic characteristics; international migrations.  In the next period, planned are activities on establishing external migration statistics (immigration, emigration, obtaining or loosing citizenship). It is necessary to define a Memorandum of Understanding with competent bodies and institutions for monitoring migrations, which would imply carrying out all necessary activities relative to the implementation of the external migration statistics survey, as well as the building of the national legislation and harmonization with international regulations.  The periodicity of the indicator is an annual one.  |
| 3) Population estimations | Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia |   | In the next period, planned are activities on establishing a methodology for population estimations by certain demographic characteristics (nuptiality, country of birth, citizenship, etc.) in addition to existing estimations by age and sex.  The periodicity of the indicator is an annual one.  |
| 4) Population projections | Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia |   | Long-term population projections based on data from the last Census of Population at NSTJ 2 level, in five variants: low, medium, high, variant of constant fertility and variant without migrations.  In the next period, the following activities are planned: production of long-term population projections of the Republic of Serbia 2021-2051 based on the Census of Population 2021 at regional level and production of projections at municipal/town level.  The periodicity of the indicator is a ten-year one.  |
| 5) Census of Population, Households and Dwellings, 2021 | Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia |   | The Census of Population, Households and Dwellings 2021 provide data on the total number and territorial distribution of population according to the main demographic, migration, ethnic, cultural, educational, economic, etc. characteristics, as well as data on the main characteristics of households, families, dwellings and buildings.  The following activities are planned: preparation of methodological and organizational tools, development of a information system for the preparation, carrying out, processing, updating, graphic documentation, preparation and realization of a communication campaign, selection and training of enumerators, instructors, and other participants in the census, field data collection (2021), post-census quality and coverage control, data processing, analysis and dissemination of census results, etc. The periodicity of this indicator is a ten-year one.  |
| 6) Statistics of asylum seekers | Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia | Мinistry of Internal Affairs | Data on asylum seekers, i.e. data on persons who applied for asylum, persons for whom a are adopted a decision of court of first instance, final decision in the asylum procedure and minors who applied for asylum. For the mentioned persons, data on sex, age and citizenship are collected. The planned activities are as follows: regular harmonization with methodological modifications of Eurostat (establishing conditions for the production of new indicators), establishment of a new dynamics for data transmission. The periodicity of this indicator is monthly, quarterly and annual.  |
| 7) Statistics of residence permits | Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia | Мinistry of Internal Affairs | Data on the number of residence permits delivered to foreign citizens and persons without citizenship. For persons to who a residence permit has been delivered, the following data are collected: on sex, age, citizenship, purpose of temporary residence, validity of the residence permit.  The following activities are planned: regular harmonization of modifications by Eurostat, establishment of a regular dynamics of data transmission, data control, analysis and dissemination.  The periodicity of the indicator is an annual one.  |
| 8) Statistics of illegal migrations | Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia | Мinistry of Internal Affairs and Commissariat for Refugees and Migrations  | Data on irregular migrants, i.e. foreign citizens and persons without citizenship who have been denied entry in the Republic of Serbia at a border crossing, and statistics on irregular migrants who reside illegally in the Republic of Serbia. The following data are collected: on sex, age, basis of denial of entry in the Republic of Serbia, type of return, type of received assistance, type of agreement, country od destination. The following activities are planned: regular harmonization of modifications by Eurostat, establishment of a regular dynamics of data transmission, data control, analysis and dissemination.  The periodicity of the indicator is an annual one.  |
| 2. Labour market |
| 1) Employment and unemployment | Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia,  National Employment Service  | Central Register of Compulsory Social Insurance, National Employment Service, Republic Fund for Health Insurance, Republic Fund for Pension and Disability Insurance, and employment agencies  | Labour Force Survey - socio-demographic population characteristics; working age population by working, demographic and educational characteristics; for employees: characteristics of the main and additional job, position in employment, hours of work, working hours, activity, occupation, place of work, years of service, form of ownership, type of work, etc; informal employment by sex, educational structure and age groups; for the unemployed: previous work experience, way of seeking work and type of sought work; for inactive population: previous work experience and status; activity, employment and unemployment rates.  In the next period the following is planned: harmonization with new regulations of Eurostat and the International Labour Organization - ILO, which should be applicable at EU level starting from 2021. The changes refer to the definition of the main labour market indicators (employees, the unemployed, active and inactive persons), i.e to most of the questions in the questionnaire.  The periodicity of the indicator is quarterly and annual.    Employees according to administrative sources, i.e. registered employment by modalities of employment, activities, sex, age and municipality of work and residence. The planned activities are on establishing a employment register, as well as exploring the possibilities of providing data on the number of employed persons with disabilities based on the data from the Central Register of Compulsory Social Insurance. The periodicity of this indicator is quarterly and annual.    The unemployed according to records of the National Employment Service, i.e. registered unemployment, by sex, age, educational level, occupation, area of work, municipality of residence and length of seeking work. The periodicity of this indicator is monthly.    It is planned to implement a new survey, based on the records of employment agencies and National Employment Service in order to provide data on the needs for employment by activities and groups of occupation. The periodicity of this indicator is quarterly.  |
| 2) Salaries and wages and labour costs | Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia | Мinistry of Finance - Tax Administration, Republic Fund for Pension and Disability Insurance, National Employment Service and Central Register of Compulsory Social Insurance  | Average net salaries and wages by sex, age and qualification level.  The periodicity of this indicator is monthly, quarterly, semiannual and annual.  It is planned to establish a register of salaries and wages.    Labour costs - amount and structure of labour costs (costs for salaries and wages, remunerations and other payments, social contributions and payment borne the employer, costs for employees’ education and vocational training, and other costs borne by the employer).  The periodicity of this indicator is a four-year one (for 2020 AND 2024).    Labour cost index - index of total labour costs (with bonuses); index of salaries and wages; index of costs of total social expenditure; index of total labour costs without bonuses. The periodicity of this indicator is quarterly.    Structure of Earnings Surveys are carried out on a sample of employees, in order to provide data on earnings by sex, age, occupation, years of service, qualification level, type of employment and working hours, on the number of paid hours of work, as well as the calculation of the payment gap between women’s and men’s earnings.  The periodicity of this indicator is a four-year one (for 2022). It is planned to explore the possibilities of using administrative sources in order to provide necessary indicators.  |
| 3. Education |
| 1) Preschool, primary and secondary education | Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia, Мinistry of Education, Science and Technological Development  | Мinistry of Education, Science and Technological Development | Data on preschool, primary and secondary education, tertiary education institutions and postgraduate studies; rate of participation of certain age groups in corresponding educational levels; distribution of pupils and students by educational level; data on pupils’ enrolment, terminating certain educational levels and continuing schooling and rate of drop out by educational levels; data on inclusive education in education up to university; dual education; employees by occupation; data on teaching staff by educational level, title, type of working hours; data on pupils’ and students’ standard. The periodicity of this indicator is annual.  |
| 2) Adults and lifelong education | Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia |   | Adult Education Survey - indicators on including the adults (population aged from 18 to 64) in the educational system (formal, and informal), by sex, age, employment, working status and education.  The periodicity of this indicator is a five-year one.  The carrying out of the Continuing Vocational Training Survey - CVTS will provide indicators on the inclusion in lifelong education: training and vocational The periodicity of the indicator is a five-year one.  |
| 4. Health |
| 1) Public health | Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia,  Institute for Public Health and Environmental Protection Agency  | Health care provider, social protection institutions, Republic Fund of Health Insurance and Fund for Social Insurance and Insurance of Military Men,  Мinistry of Justice, Ministry of Defense, Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development,  Мinistry of Labour, Employment, Veterans’ and Social Affairs and professional associations (chambers/boards) of health workers  | Data on death causes in vital statistics according to the International Classification of Diseases (ICD-10).  Data on health protection statistics (health institutions state-owned privately owned, private medical practices. The data on health protection statistics: health care providers (health institutions in public and private ownership , private practices and other legal persons) and long-term care and accommodation, beds, equipment, space, staff, graduated health workers, immunization, screening programs, discharged patients, hospitalization days, diagnosed diseases, conditions and injuries, diagnostic examinations, medical interventions/procedures, deliveries, miscarriages, transplants and health care quality.  Data on consumption for health care: national health account (expenditure for health by care functions, health services providers and financing sources, expenditure for health by care functions and activities, expenditure for health by activities and health services providers and financing sources).  Data on population health condition, health determinants and use health care: national survey on population health in line with the European Health Survey (EHIS).  Data on environmental condition (air, water, soil) and health safety of food, general use articles, drinking water.  National health indicators, including the indicators for monitoring Sustainable Development Goals.  It is planned to calculate the standard mortality rates and introduce new indicators in line with current requirements and obligations towards international institutions (WHO, Eurostat, etc.).  The periodicity of the indicator is annual and five-year.  |
| 2) Occupational safety and health | Republic Fund for Health Insurance,  Мinistry of Labour, Employment, Veterans; and Social Affairs and Ministry of Health  |   | Data on occupational injuries according to the following indicators:  - code of employer’s activity and number of employees,  - sex, age, citizenship, employment status, occupation and qualification level of the injured,  - working place, working environment and work process of the injured,  - specific physical activity, source, contact and cause of injury,  - type of injury, injured body part, evaluation of injury and estimated number of lost days.  Data on professional diseases and diseases linked to work.  The periodicity of this indicator is annual.  |
| 3) Data on insured persons in compulsory health insurance | Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia |   | Data on insured persons by activities, main insurance, demographic characteristics and types of health protection; data on incapacity to work and nature of diseases by sex, main causes and basis for obtaining sick leave allowance during sick leave; data on expenditure for health insurance and costs for health protection of certain categories of insured persons, etc.  The periodicity of this indicator is semiannual and annual.  |
| 5. Distribution of income and living conditions |
| 1) Household consumption | Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia |   | Data on income, expenses and consumption of households, ie. on the main components of personal consumption and living standard (housing conditions, availability of durable consumer goods, etc.), as well as data on demographic, economic and social characteristics of households.  The periodicity of this indicator in quarterly and annual.  |
| 2) Time use | Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia |   | It is planned to conduct a survey, process data and calculate indicators with data on time use by sex, age, employment, employment status, education, type of settlement, living cycle, etc.  The periodicity of this indicator is a five-year one.  |
| 3) Income and living conditions | Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia |   | Data on poverty, income, living conditions, housing conditions, employment, health, demographic characteristics, education and social exclusion.  The periodicity of this indicator is annual.  |
| 6. Social protection |
| 1) Statistics of social insturance | Republic Office for Social Protection and Ministry of Labour, Employment, Veterans and Social Affairs | Local authorities units, social protection institutions, social protection providers, social protection centers and Ministry of Labour, Employment, Veterans and Social Affairs | Data on social protection beneficiaries by sex, age structure, education and employment status.  Data on services, rights and measures of social protection.  Data on expenses for service provision, exercising of rights and implementation of social measures.    The periodicity of this indicator is annual.  |
| 2) Statistics of social protection (ESSPROS)  | Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia | Мinistry of Labour, Employment, Veterans and Social Affairs,  Ministry of Finance, Republic Fund for Pension and Disability Insurance,  Republic for Health Insurance, National Employment Service  | Data on social protection according to the ESSPROS methodology, statistical indicators on revenues and expenditure in social protection at the level of plan of social protection (units of observation), i.e. the whole system, on the share of social protection expenditure in certain aggregates, e.g. gross domestic product, information on social protection allowances, way of their financing, etc. The periodicity of the indicator is annual.  |
| 3) Statistics of pension and disability insurance | Republic Fund for Pension and Disability Insurance |   | Data on pension beneficiaries by type of pension, average pension, years of service, etc.  The periodicity of the indicator is monthly, semiannual and annual.  |
| 7. Crime and judiciary |
| 1) Perpetrators of criminal offences, economic offences, and survey on economic disputes | Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia | Basic and high prosecutors’ offices, basic and high commercial courts | Data on reported adult and minor perpetrators of criminal offences; accused and convicted adult and minor perpetrators of criminal offences and on reported, accused and convicted legal and responsible persons perpetrators of economic offences, validly terminated economic disputes.  The periodicity of the indicator is annual.  |
| 2) Crime statistics | Ministry of Internal Affairs,  Republic Public Prosecutors’ Office,  Ministry of Justice - Administration for the Implementation of Criminal Sanctions, Ministry of Finance - Administration for Preventing Money Laundry and Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia  |   | Retrieval of crime data in order to produce indicators for the Eurostat and UNODC The periodicity of the indicators is annual. Data provided are:  - Intentional murder - number of attempted offences, total number of offences in three major towns, victims by sex, age and citizenship, relationship between the victim and perpetrator and means of committal;  - Total number of persons: who are recorded by the police, for whom a proceedings have been initiated, convicted and are in prison for the criminal offences: intentional murder, rape, sex assault, narcotics possession, traffic of narcotics and bribery;  - Population in prisons by sex and age;  - Number of employees in the police, number of prosecutors and judges, employees in prisons, by sex;  - Number of files in proceedings of first instance.  |
| 3) Justice statistics | Ministry of Justice and Republic Public Prosecutors’ Office | Ministry of Justice and Republic Public Prosecutors’ Office | Data on the number of courts, prosecutors’ offices and their assistants, persons in institutions for serving criminal sanctions; number of employees in all courts and prosecutors’ offices, number of persons engaged in judiciary professions, data on preventing money laundry, etc.  Number of files in courts and public prosecutors’ offices, as well as on legal and physical persons sanctioned for offences.  The periodicity of the indicators is annuals.  |
| 4) Survey on Gender-based Violence | Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia |   | It is planned to publish the results on gender-based violence and victims of general crime based on the survey. |
| 8. Culture |
| 1) Cultural institutions | Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia, Center for Study in Cultural Development and National Library of Serbia  | National Library of Serbia and Film Center of Serbia | Provided are data on cultural institutions: theaters, museums, exhibitions and galleries, cinemas, production and import of films, radio and TV stations and libraries.  The periodicity of the indicators is annual.  |
| 2) Publishing activity and printing | Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia | National Library of Serbia | Provided are data on books, brochures and serial publications.  The periodicity of the indicators is annual.  |
| 9. Sport | Serbian Institute for Sport and Sports Medicine | Serbian Institute for Sport and Sports Medicine | It is planned to provide data on sport achievements, institutions and associations in the field of sport, facilities for sport events, national training centers, etc.  The periodicity of the indicators is annual.  |
| 10. Elections | Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia | Republic Election Commission and municipal, i.e. town election commission | Data on election results for deputies to the National Assembly and president of the Republic of Serbia, as well as on election results for deputies to local authorities assemblies (municipalities and towns) and municipal chairmen and mayors.  The periodicity of the indicator is a four-year one after scheduling elections.  |
| ECONOMIC STATISTICS |
| 1. Мacroeconomy |
| 1) Annual economic accounts | Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia | National Bank of Serbia, Ministry of Finance and Business Register Agency  | System of national and regional accounts that covers: calculation of GDP by production, expenditure and income approach, as well and gross national income (GNI) and of other macroeconomic aggregates and indicators derived from the system of national accounts, accounts of institutional sectors (sectoral accounts), input-output system with offer and demand tables, system of regional accounts - calculation of regional GDP and other regional and subregional economic aggregates and of indicators of regional economic degree of development.  The periodicity of the indicators is annual.  It is planned in the next period to finalize the process of harmonization with the methodology of the European System of Accounts (ESA 2010), primarily to complete data series backwards in linve with the Eurostat requirements as to the length of time series of the indicators of the system of national accounts.  Also, in 2024 it is planned, according to periodical revisions in the EU, to perform a large revision of GDP calculation in which hitherto improvements in administrative and statistical data sources and calculation method will be implemented.  |
| 2) Quarterly national accounts | Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia | National Bank of Serbia and Ministry of Finance  | Calculation of GDP by sections of activities of CA and by categories of GDP use, at current and constant prices (prices of the previous year), in the form of not seasonally adjusted and seasonally adjusted data.  The following is planned in the next period: further improvement of the methodology and results of quarterly calculation of macroeconomic aggregates; pilot calculation of quarterly GDP by income approach at current prices; harmonization of all three approaches and quarterly GDP calculation; preparation of data for the compilation of quarterly national accounts for the total economy.  The periodicity of the indicators is quarterly.  |
| 3) Indicators for macro, small and medium enterprises and entrepreneurs  | Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia | Business Register Agency, Ministry of Economy and Republic Secretariat for Public Policies  | Set of economic indicators for statistical monitoring of the sector of micro, small and medium enterprises and entrepreneurs.  It is planned to extend the set of indicators in line with new international standards.  The periodicity of the indicators is annual.  |
| 2. Statistics of government financies and monetary and financial statistics |
| 1) Statistics of government finance | National Bank of Serbia, Ministry of Finance and Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia  | Мinistry of Finance with connected administrations, funds of social insurance and Business Register Agency  | Statistics of government finance implies the calculation of macroeconomic aggregates of units classified in the government sector, reporting on deficit surplus and quarterly debt of the public sector.  The periodicity of reporting on consolidated public revenues and fiscal deficit is monthly.  The periodicity of reporting on aggregates of the government sector, deficit and debt is quarterly and annual.  It is planned in the next period to switch to GFS 2014 (Government Finance Statistics 2015), creating thus conditions for further improvement of the methodology of the GFS, as well as for the harmonization of the methodology with EU (ESA 2010).  |
| 2) Monetary and financial statistics | National Bank of Serbia | Мinistry of Finance,  Treasyr, Public Debt Administration, funds of social insurance, Securities Commission, Central Register, Depot and Clearing of Securities, Business Register Agency, Deposit insurance Agency, Fund for the Development of the RS, Republic Secretariat for Public Policies, National Corporation for  Home Loans Insurance, Agency for Insurance and Financing Exports of the Republic of Serbia,  Province Secretariat of Finance of AP Vojvodina, Information System of the Belgrade Bank in bankruptcy and banks in bankruptcy  | Balance of banks, the National Bank of Serbia and other financial institutions.  Balance of other financial intermediaries (lessors and factoring of society) - receivables and liabilities by sectors of according to financial tools, original maturity and due data.  Statistics of interest rates of banks on deposits and loans.  Balance of insurance company and of voluntary pension funds - receivables and liabilities by sectors according to financial tools, original maturity and due date.  Balance of investment funds - receivables and liabilities by sectors, according to financial tools, maturity and due data.  Statistics of financial accounts for the Republic of Serbia - data on intersectoral receivables and liabilities by corresponding financial tools, maturity and due date, for all institutional sectors by ESS 2010.  Тransactions and non transaction changes in stock accounts of bank, National Bank of Serbia and other financial institutions.  Survey on bank loan activity - qualitative presentation on demand side for bank credits.  Survey on financing and business conditions of small and medium enterprises.  The periodicity of the indicators is monthly, quarterly and annual.  |
| 3. Business statistics |
| 1) Structural Business statistics | Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia | Business Register Agency,  Ministry of Finance- Tax Administration,  Ministry of Finance - the Treasury and the National Bank of Serbia  | Calculated are the indicators from the data on structural operating income and expenses by products and services according to the Classification of Products by Activity - CPA; donations, taxes, number of employed persons, gross salaries and wages; turnover from foreign affiliate transactions; data on local units (number of employed persons, gross salaries and wages) for the calculation of regional indicators and indicators by activities; calculation of indicators for special activity aggregates; calculation of indicators for production and service activities in the ICT sector.  The following activities are planned:  - harmonization of structural business statistics with ESS changes (implementation of improvement of the coverage of reporting units in SBS, including entrepreneurs (estimation of certain indicators based on administrative data sources);  - calculation of SBS indicators referring to employment based on data from other statistical surveys in the SORS;  - improvement of the coverage of indicators from business demography;  - calculation indicators for production and service activities in the ICT sector;  - calculation of turnover by CPPA in business services;  - transmission of data sets from structural business statistics, business services and business demography to Eurostat, with previous control of data in EDIT program as well as of metadata;  - defining the primary and secondary confidentiality of SBS data that are transmitted to Eurostat, using TAu Argus software or programs developed in the SORS.  The periodicity of the indicators is annual and pluriannual.    Financial and other indicators of the results of transactions of enterprises: number of enterprises, turnover, value of production, value added, gross operating surplus, purchase of goods and services, payment for agency workers, costs for employees, earnings, costs of social insurance, number of employees, indicators for the area of business services, regional indicators, etc., according to the EU regulation concerning all the areas.  Realized investments and payment for investments in fixed assets, by technical structure and CA sections. Income by sources and expenses by use for budgetary beneficiaries. Employees, earnings and number of local units in financial institutions by municipalities, towns, and City of Belgrade; income and expenses, interest rates and insurance premiums by municipalities, current and capital transfers, income from exchange rates differences and other economic indicators.  The periodicity of the indicators is annual.  |
| 2) Annual statistics of industrial products (Prodcom) | Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia |   | Natural indicators on production, stocks in the beginning and end of the year, internal consumption, sale as well as sale value. The nomenclature of products for the annual survey of industry is harmonized every year with Prodcom list changes. It is planned to continuously conduct the existing activities  according to changes made by Eurostat.  The periodicity of the indicators is annual.  |
| 3) Short-term business statistics  | Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia | Business Register Agency, Ministry of Finance - Tax Administration and Central Register of Compulsory Social Insurance  | Set of short-term indicators for industry: industrial production index; index of turnover in industry; producers’s prices of industrial products; export and import prices, number of employees, hours of work and average salaries and wages, etc.  Regular harmonization with the changes in the Eurostat methodology is planned, as well as the monitoring of turnover in industry on monthly basis and harmonization with ESS changes (implementation of FRIBS).  The periodicity of the indicators is monthly.    Set of short-term indicators for construction: index of construction production; issued building permits; number of employees, hours of work, average salaries and wages, etc.  It is planned to conduct harmonization with the changes in the Eurostat methodology and to adapt to the changes in ESS (implementation of FRIBS).  The periodicity of the indicators is monthly and quarterly.    Set of short-term indicators for wholesale and retail trade: turnover in wholesale trade at current prices by months, turnover by types of buyers and merchandise groups, etc.; monthly and quarterly turnover and turnover indices in retail trade with and without VAT , turnover at current and constant prices; turnover by way of payment and merchandise groups; turnover in division 45 of CA, as well as the number of employees, hours of work and average salaries and wages, etc. It is planned to conduct harmonization with the changes in the Eurostat methodology and to adapt to changes in ESS (implementation of FRIBS)  The periodicity of the indicators is monthly and quarterly.    Set of short-term indicators for other services: calculated are quarterly indices of operating income and expenses as well as the number of employees, hours of work and average salaries and wages by CA activities.  The planned activities are: improvement of the use of administrative data sources for estimating the turnover of entrepreneurs in order to have a more precise coverage of reporting units, calculation of the indicators for the ICT section, harmonization of the survey methodology with the changes in the Eurostat methodology (implementation of FRIBS) in the part of short-term business statistics, the indicator Turnover in other services, development of data collection method for realized turnover in other services on monthly basis,  The periodicity of the indicators is quarterly.    Indices of producers’ prices of industrial products for domestic market, export and import. It is planned in the next period to develop the index of producers’ prices of services.  The periodicity of the indicators is monthly.  |
| 4) Other business statistics |  | Republic Geodetic Authority | Set of indicators for construction on prices of new built dwellings; construction works in the Republic of Serbia, construction work abroad, consumption of building materials and fuel, pulled down buildings with apartments and adaptation of residential space.  It is planned to harmonize the indicators with the changes in Eurostat classifications.  The periodicity of the indicators is semiannual and annual.  |
| 4. International trade and balance of payments |
| 1) Statistics of foreign relationships | National Bank of Serbia | Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia,  Business Register Agency and Central Register, Depot and Clearing of Securities  | Balance of payments of the Republic of Serbia (including sub-balance tables) as well the indicator of transactions and transfers of residents of the Republic of Serbia with abroad.  International investment position as the indicator of the state of the financial assets and financial liabilities of the residents of the Republic of Serbia towards abroad.  Statistics of external debt (public and private sector) as the indicator of liabilities (of state and transactions based on debt instruments of the residents of the Republic of Serbia towards abroad.  Statistics of securities - data on securities issuers and holders by sectors (towards abroad and in the country).  \The periodicity of the indicator is monthly, quarterly and annual.  |
| 2) Foreign affiliates transactions (internal and external FATS)  | Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia and National Bank of Serbia | Business Register Agency, Ministry of Finance - Tax Administration and National Bank of Serbia  | Calculated are indicators (by CA activities and geographical distribution) from data on financial and other indicators of annual performance of foreign affiliates in the Republic of Serbia (internal FATS): number of foreign affiliates, turnover, production value, value added, costs for employees and number of employees.  Planned activities:  Harmonization of internal FATS statistics to the changes in ESS in this area (implementation of FRIBS regulation).  Introduction of the calculation of other indicators defined by EU regulations to be internal FATS.  Transmission of data sets from internal FATS statistics to Eurostat, with previous control of data in EDIT, as well as of metadata.  Defining primary and secondary confidentiality of data to be transmitted to Eurostat, using Tau Argus software or programs developed in the SORS.  The periodicity of the indicators is annual and pluriannual.  |
| 3) International trade in goods | Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia | Мinistry of Finance -Customs Administration and Electrical Network of Serbia | Published are data on quantities and values of exported and imported goods distributed by partner countries, Customs Tariff products, types of transport, preferential interest rates in case of imports of goods, type of external trade transactions, currencies (RSD, USD, EUR), size of enterprises and their trading characteristics, etc.  For analytical purposes calculated are indices of unit values, physical volume and exchange relationship, which can help to have a more real picture of the international trade in goods and serve as deflators in national accounts.  The planned activities are: work on improving data quality by introducing new procedures for control, use of new additional data sources on merchant boats and airplanes, further harmonization with Eurostat standards, by developing methodologies and software until toal harmonization is achieved, work on homogeneity of samples for the calculation of indices and beginning to work on introducing an Intrastat Trade System.  The periodicity of calculations of values is monthly, from the beginning of the year to the month for which processing is done, and annual.  The periodicity of the calculations of indices, for the period from the beginning of the year to the month for which they are calculated, and quarterly. The indices are calculated to the same period of the previous year.  |
| 5. Payment system statistics | National Bank of Serbia | National Bank of Serbia | General indicators of payment system functioning: RTGS NBS system (execution of transfer order in real time by gross principle), IPS NBS system (system for instant payments) and Clearing NBS system and and International Clearing System in foreign currencies and Interbanking Clearing system in foreign currencies.  The periodicity of the indicator is monthly.    Statistics of payment services and use of payment instruments - data on the number of clients by types of selected payment services, non-cash transactions, transactions in cash, cheques and payment cards and POS acquiring.  The periodicity of the indicator is quarterly.  |
| 6. Prices | Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia |   | Consumer price indices, prices of products in retail trade and purchasing power parities.  It is planned in the next period to work on the development of housing price indices.  The periodicity of the indicators is fortnight, monthly, semiannual.  |
| SECTORAL STATISTICS |
| 1. Agriculture |
| 1) Statistics of crop production | Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia and Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Supply  |   | Data on sown areas in autumn and spring sowing, harvested areas, and yields of vegetables, fruits and grapes. Estimations of expected yields of major crops, fruit and vineyards.  It is planned to continue to carry out regular sample-based surveys on crop production; surveys on fruit plantations in cooperation with the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Supply and to use administrative data sources concerning areas under vineyards and production of wine.  The periodicity of the indicator is monthly, annual and pluriannual.  |
| 2) Statistics of livestock, meat and eggs | Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia | Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Supply | Data on the number of livestock, by types and categories; livestock slaughter in and outside slaughter houses; production of meat, eggs, wool and honey, and trade in chickens.  It is planned to continue to carry out statistical surveys on livestock, including forecast of gross domestic production - by species, as well as to provide data concerning eggs statistics.  The periodicity of the indicators is monthly, semiannual and annual.  |
| 3) Statistics of milk and dairy products | Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Supply,  and Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia | Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Supply | Milked milk by types of milk, use of milk on holdings, production of dairy products, input of milk for obtaining dairy products, proteins and fat content in milk and dairy products, structure of dairy factories and milk collection stations by collected quantities of milk, structure of dairy factories according to selected types of dairy products.  It is planned to continue to carry out regular statistical surveys on livestock and to use administrative data sources to provide statistics on input of raw milk and obtained dairy products in dairy factories.  The periodicity of the indicators is monthly, annual and three-year.  |
| 4) Statistics of farm structures | Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia | Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Supply | Area of used agricultural land by categories of use, number of livestock by species and categories, labour force and other profit activities of holdings, support to rural development, use of fertilizers, tillage and maintenance of land.  The planned activities are: preparation of organizational and methodological tools, organization and carrying out of the Census of Agriculture 2022 and Post-census Survey, processing, dissemination and analysis of the results.  The periodicity of the indicators is a three-year one.  |
| 5) Agricultural accounts and prices | Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia | Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Supply | Calculation of economic accounts of agriculture refers to the components of the accounts of production and factor income in agriculture, expressed in current and constant prices.  The planned activities are:  Improvement of economic agricultural accounts (EAA) - in line with EU regulation number 138/2004 of the Eurostat Parliament and Council, of 5 December 2003, concerning economic agricultural accounts in the Union, Commission Regulation (EU) number 306/2005, оf 24 February 2005, amending Annexe I, Commission Regulation (EU) number 909/2006, оf 20 June 2006, amending Addenda I and II.  The periodicity of the indicators is annual.  Producers’ prices of agricultural and fishery products - monthly and annual.  Price indices of intermediate materials, capital goods and services in agriculture - quarterly and annual.  The planned activities are:  Prices of land and rents in agriculture - annual.  The periodicity of the indicators is monthly, quarterly and annual.  |
| 2. Implementation of FADN system - Accountancy data system on agricultural holdings of the Republic of Serbia  | Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Supply |   | Collection of accountancy data necessary for annual fixing of income and expenses on agricultural holdings; calculation of the coefficient of production value; development of a farm classification according to the type of agricultural production and category of economic size, and drawing up a plan for the selection of agricultural holdings on annual level. |
| 3. Forestry | Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Supply  and Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia |   | Growing, tending and exploitation of forests, plantations and intensive plantations, economic indicators, hunting, damages to forests, etc.  The planned activities are: provision of data on current volume by species of trees and stand structure, use of administrative data sources and improvement of data quality.  The periodicity of the indicators is annual, two-year and three-year.  |
| 4. Fishery | Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia | Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Supply  and Ministry of Environmental Protection  | Quantity of caught fish by species, Fish stocking, number of fishermen, fishpond capacities, production of consumption fish and young fish in fishponds, navigable and fishpond equipment.  The planned activities are: to continue to carry out regular surveys, improve the quality of fishpond coverage and validate obtained results.  The periodicity of the indicators is annual.  |
| 5. Оrganic production | Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Supply |   | Data on the number of persons engaged in organic production, area and production of organic crops and organic livestock breeding. It is planned to use administrative data sources.  The periodicity of the indicators is annual.  |
| 6. Agroecological statistics | Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Supply and Environmental Protection Agency |   | The planned activities are: the use of administrative sources to provide data on annual quantities of pesticides traded, as well as data on annual quantities of pesticides used and areas treated with with any substance in the selected reference year.  The categories of agroecological indicators are:  Reactions (agricultural and ecological obligations; agricultural areas under Natura 2000; level of education of farmers and use of counseling services for environmental protection; area under organic agriculture (statistics of organic production);  Triggering factors (consumption of mineral fertilizers; consumption of pesticide; irrigation; consumption of energy; change in land use; way of mowing and types livestock breeding; land cover, way of land cultivation, manure stocking; intensification; specialization; risk of land abandoning); nitrogen; hazard of phosphor pollution; risk of of pesticide; emission of ammonia; emission of greenhouse gases; use of water; land erosion; genetic diversity; agricultural land; of high natural value; production of energy from renewable sources);  State/influence (population trends of birds on agricultural areas; land quality;  Water quality - nitrates pollution and pesticides pollution; landscape - state and diversity).  The periodicity of the indicators is annual and five-year.  |
| 7. Еnergy | Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia and Ministry of Mining and Energy  | Мinistry of Mining and Energy | Annual data on energy commodities supply, transformation and consumption (electricity and heating energy, coal, petroleum and petroleum derivative, natural gas, renewable energy sources - hydro-energy, wind energy, solar energy, fuelwood, biofuels and biogas) in line with Eurostat requirements. It is planned to successively meet the requirements of Eurostat monthly energy statistics.  It is planned to successively meet the requirements of Eurostat monthly and short-term energy statistics on the supply of energy commodities. Full realization will be terminated until the accession of the Republic of Serbia to the EU.  The periodicity of the indicators is monthly and annual.  Electricity and gas prices. The periodicity of the indicators is semiannual.  |
| 8. Transport |
| 1) Road transport | Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia | Мinistry of Finance -Customs Administration and public enterprise “Roads of Serbia” | Data on carried passengers and goods, road infrastructure, kilometers travelled by transport means, consumption of fuels, entry, exit and transit of freight motor vehicles and trailers in road transport, etc.  It is planned to introduce the indicator of transport for own account in road transport, carried good in domestic and international transport, types of goods according to the international classification (NST2007), way of packing, types of hazardous goods (ADR) and region of loading and unloading goods. The periodicity of the indicators is quarterly and annual.  |
| 2) Railway transport | Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia | Railway Directorate | Data on the transport of passengers and goods, traffic safety, railway infrastructure, enterprises engaged in railway transport and railway lines network.  Introduction of regional railway transport statistics.  Indicators of multimodal transport.  The periodicity is quarterly and annual.  |
| 3) Inland waterways transports | Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia | Мinistry of Construction, Transport and Infrastructure - Administration for Establishing Vessels Seaworthiness and Port Authorities | Data on goods, navigable crafts, countries of loading and unloading, vessels of navigable crafts, transport of goods in containers, types of goods, etc.  It is planned to introduce indicators in the field of regional statistics. Introduction of passengers monitoring in river transport.  The periodicity of the indicators is quarterly and annual.  |
| 4) Air transport | Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia |   | Data on carried passengers and goods, travelled kilometers for airplanes at a flight section, available passenger seats; length of runway, airport capacity, equipment serving airplane, etc.  The periodicity of the indicators is quarterly and annual.  |
| 5) Postal services | Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia |   | Data on postal services: number of mails, orders in classic and electronic form, as well as parcels. Number of units of postal network and processing centers, volume of reception, transfer and delivery of mails, number of transport means for mail transport and realized income from postal services.  It is planned to monitor courier services.  The periodicity of the indicators is quarterly and annual.  |
| 6) Теlecommunication services | Office of the Republic of Serbia |   | Data on telecommunication services: indicators on operators and telecommunication network, number of Internet services, employees, financial traffic by modalities, physical volume of telecommunication traffic by modalities and data on infrastructure.  It is planned to monitor the transactions of operators offering fixed telephony services over the Internet.  The periodicity of the indicators is quarterly and annual.  |
| 7) Pipeline transport | Office of the Republic of Serbia |   | Data on oil and gas in domestic transport, import, export and transit; consumption of electricity and employees; length of gas and oil pipelines..  The periodicity of the indicators is quarterly and annual.  |
| 8) Transshipment  | Office of the Republic of Serbia |   | Data on transshipped and handled tons, consumption of electricity and fuels, transshipment by way of handling, transshipment of containers, etc.  The periodicity of the indicators is quarterly and annual.  |
| 9) Registered vehicles | Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia  and Ministry of Internal Affairs  | Ministry of Internal Affairs | Data on first time registered, new and total registered motor vehicles and trailers in road transport by types of vehicles, year of production and makes. Registered motor vehicles and trailers in road transport by year of production, loading capacity, cylinders, power, makes, types of fuels and municipalities of vehicles registration.  The periodicity of the indicators is quarterly and annual.  |
| 10) Мobility of passenger in road transport | Office of the Republic of Serbia |   | It is planned to provide indicators on passengers mobility in road transport: indicator on passengers mobility in transport by types of used passenger transport mean, type of journey, frequency of journeys, average distance and journey season.  Preparation of methodological tools for producing the indicators and carrying out the survey.  The periodicity of the indicators is a three-year one.  |
| 11) Traffic safety | Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia  and Ministry of Internal Affairs | Ministry of Internal Affairs | Data on traffic accidents and casualties, influence factors and participants.  The periodicity of the indicators is quarterly and annual.  |
| 9. Тourism | Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia | Ministry of Commerce, Tourism and Telecommunications,  Business Register Agency, Ministry of Finance - Tax Administration | Data set on tourist offer and demand: Number of accommodation facilities, number of catering facilities, number of accommodation units and beds by types of facilities; number of domestic and foreign tourist arrivals and overnights by types of accommodation and country of origin; rate of bed and accommodation unit occupancy and annual data on the turnover of travel agencies (number of overnights of domestic and foreign tourists arranged by travel agencies, by countries of destination and origin of tourists).  It is planned to provide indicators on tourist demand, i.e. to provide data on tourist trips of the population of the Republic of Serbia in the country and abroad, and trip characteristics (one-day and several-day trips, type of accommodation, transport mean, etc.), data on tourist characteristics (sex, age, employment status, etc.), as well as to broaden the coverage of reporting units.  The periodicity of the indicators is monthly, annual and pluriannual.  |
| 10. Science, technology and innovations |
| 1) Research and development | Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia | Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development | Data on organizations dealing with R&D by sectors and scientific fields; employed scientists and researchers, assistant-researchers and persons engaged on contract, by sectors, scientific fields, full-time equivalent (FTE), academic titles, age and sex; R&D works by sectors: gross domestic outlays for R&D by sectors; sources of funds for R&D, etc.  Provided are data on budgetary investments in R&D by socio-economic objectives, as well as planned budgetary funds for R&D.  Macroeconomic indicators: share of investments in GDP, budgetary investments in GDP; financing from abroad by sectors of realization and inclusion of data for the business sector.  The periodicity of the indicators is annual.  |
| 2) Innovations | Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia |   | Data on innovative activities of business subjects and effects of innovations, existing capacities in enterprises, aggravating factors to introduce innovations, etc. As well as data on technological innovations or products and production process; on-going innovations or abandoned innovations; expenses for innovative activities; sources of information and cooperation in innovative activities; protection of intellectual property rights and innovative potentials.  The periodicity of the indicators is a two-year one.  Provision of all indicators for the survey of European Innovation Results (EIS) in annul periodicity.  |
| 3) Human resources in science and technology | Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia |   | Data on human resources in science and technology (HRST). Persons aged 15-74 by sex, education, age groups, activity status, sections of activity and fields of science and technology.  The periodicity of the indicators is annual.  |
| 4) Statistics of the use of information and communication technologies | Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia |   | Data on the use of information and communication technologies in households, enterprises and financial institutions: access to information and communication technologies, use of computers and the Internet, e-commerce, main information of ICT system, automated data exchange within and outside enterprises, exchange of electronic information in purchase management chain, etc..  The periodicity of the indicator is annual.  |
| 11. Emergency events and emergency situations  | Ministry of Internal Affaire - Sector for Emergency Situations |   | Total number of emergency events; number of emergency events by hazards: number of earthquakes, rockfalls, landslides and erosion, floods, extreme weather occurrences, epidemics and pandemics, animal diseases, plant diseases, lack of drinking water, technical and technological accidents, open air fires; total number of declared emergency situations; number of days of emergency situations; number of emergency situations by hazards that caused them: number of emergency situations due to earthquakes; number of emergency situations due to floods; number of emergency situations due extreme weather occurrences; number of other emergency situations.  Review of the number of emergency events with consequences; number of fires; number of explosions; number of technical interventions; number of technical interventions with hazardous materials; number of technical interventions in traffic; number of realized interventions and number of casualties, injured and rescued persons in emergency events.  Total number of fires and explosions; number of interventions of fire and rescue units in fires and explosions; number of fires and explosions by sector of ownership; number of casualties, injured and rescued persons in fires and explosions and number of fires and explosions by amount of material damage.  Total number of fires and explosions in construction structures by purposes; total number of fires and explosions in construction structures by premises position where they occurred (floor); total number of open air fires and explosions by types of open air and total number of fires and explosions in transport means by types of transport means.  Review of the number of fires and explosions by way and cause of occurrence and taken measures and activities due to fire and explosion occurrence; total number of participants in interventions; total number of operational maps and analysis of interventions and total number of submitted crime reports.  Review of the number of exploration of terrain in order to find and destroy explosive remnants of war; areas of explored locations; review of the number of removed and destroyed pieces of explosive remnants of war; review of the quantities of removed and destroyed explosive matters.  |
| STATISTICS OF ENVIRONEMENTAL PROTECTION AND STATISTICS COVERING SEVERAL AREAS |
| 1. Environment |
| 1) Мonetary environmental accounts | Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia |   | Calculation of data on investments and current expenses for environmental protection and income from activities related to environmental protection by activities of environmental protection.  Calculation of income from payments for environmental protection.  Calculation of characteristics for the Sector of Ecological Goods and Services.  It is planned to implement major Eurostat goals for economic environmental accounts (improvement of the quality and dissemination of existing accounts; calculations of new indicators based on current accounts and implementation of new environmental accounts).  The periodicity of the indicators is annual.  |
| 2) Physical volume of environmental accounts | Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia | Ministry of Internal Affairs and Environmental Protection Agency  | Calculation of indicators of material flows. Compilation of accounts of emissions into the air. Calculation of characteristics for the account of energy flows.  It is planned to implement major Eurostat goals for economic environmental accounts (improvement of the quality and dissemination of existing accounts; calculation of new indicators based on current accounts and implementation of new environmental accounts).  The periodicity of the indicators is annual.  |
| 3) Statistics of wastes and chemicals | Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia, Мinistry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Supply; Environmental Protection Agency,  Мinistry of Health and Institute for Public Health of Serbia  | Мinistry of Health and Institute for Public Health of Serbia  | Data on waste management according to the Regulation concerning waste statistics and municipal waste; data on medical waste and pharmaceutical waste according to the Law on Waste Management and Rulebook on Medical Waste Management; data on treatment of infectious medical waste; data on the consumption, production and import/export of chemicals, according to toxicity classes and CA sections.  It is planned to to realize the existing activities continuously and the calculation of new indicators in line with the changes made by Eurostat.  The periodicity of the indicators is annual.  |
| 4) Statistics of water, air and climatic changes | Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia, Мinistry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Supply; Environmental Protection Agency,  Мinistry of Health and Institute for Public Health of Serbia  | Republic Hydrometeorological Office, Environmental Protection Agency  | Data on abstracted and used quantities of water for public water supplies, industry and agriculture, hydroenergy, fisheries, etc; discharges and processed waste waters; irrigated agricultural areas, etc.; data on air quality in urban areas, as well as data necessary for the calculation of emissions of polluted matters into the air, according to the Convention of Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution (CLRTAP) and data for meeting the needs of the framework UN conventions (UNFCCC).  It is planned to realize the existing activities continuously and the calculation of new indicators in the field of water in line with the changes made by Eurostat.  The periodicity of the indicators is annual.  |
| 5) Statistics of nature protection | Ministry of Environmental Protection and Office of Nature Protection of Serbia |   | Data on protected natural goods (protected areas, protected species and moveable protected natural documents). List of protected areas, name of the act under which wild species of plants, animals and fungi are protected and list of moveable protected natural documents. This activity is related to the Central Register of Protected Natural Goods, kept by the Office for Nature Protection of Serbia. Containing the following information: name of the protected area, type of protected area, international category of the protected area, central coordinate point by Greenwich, short description of the protected area, description of the boundaries of the protected area, list of cadastre plots by protection system, data on ownership and manager, physical and legal changes to the protected area, number and date on placing the area under protection and number and date of the act by which the protection ceases. The activity contains also information on the number of strictly protected and protected wild species of plants, animals and fungi.  List of areas proposed to be protected in line with the working plan for the current year, list of areas that are in the protection procedure, list of areas which studies of protection have been transmitted to the Ministry of Environmental Protection and local authorities in order to be declared protected, with main information on natural values, are proposed protection system and category of the area proposed for protection.  Data collection and constant GIS database updating with distribution of wild plant, animal and fungi species, and priority types of habitats for the purpose of establishing an ecological network of the Republic of Serbia made of areas of national and international interest (potential Emeral and Natura 2000 areas, areas o international interest for birds and plants and selected areas for day butterflies, areas of ecological interest and ecological corridors of international interest for the ecological network of the Republic of Serbia) and compilation of red lists and red books for selected groups of organisms.  |
| 2. Regional statistics | Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia, Ministry of the Economy, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Supply,  Environmental Protection Agency, Institute for Public Health of Serbia, National Library of Serbia and Center for Studies in Cultural Development  |   | It is planned to develop regional statistics in line with the Nomenclature of Statistical Territorial Units, which, on the basis of defined criteria, covers three hierarchical levels of statistical regionalization,.  Indicators at regional level will be provided in the following areas: regional accounts (macroeconomic indicators at regional level); regional labour market statistics (average salaries and wages and number of employees); regional agriculture statistics (land use, farm structure, crop production, livestock production, agroindustrial production, etc.); regional business statistics (local units indicators - number of local units, salaries and wages, amount of available income per person, investments in material goods and structure of employees by economic CA sections); transport statistics (road network density, number of registered motor vehicles and trailers in road transport, etc.); statistics of regional environment (quantities of abstracted, used and discharged waters and treatment of waste waters; generation, treatment of municipal waste) statistics of science and technology (data on human resources in science, financial indicators of investments in R&D, projects and scientific works); statistics of tourism at regional level (data on accommodation capacities and foreign tourists by types of tourist resorts and by tourist resorts); health statistics (organization and work of health services, health system resources, diseases and behaviour related to population health and environmental state, etc.); statistics of education (data on kindergartens, primary, secondary schools, tertiary education institutions, teaching staff, financing education, etc.), statistics of culture (theaters, museums, exhibitions, cinemas, radio and TV stations, archives, libraries, publishing activity and printing) and regional demography and migration statistics (data on live births, stillbirths and population migrations at municipal and settlements levels).  The periodicity of the indicator is monthly, quarterly, semiannual and annual.  |
| 3. Geographical Information System |
| 1) National infrastructure of geospatial data | Republic Geodetic Authority  |   | National infrastructure of geospatial data (NIGD) allows access, exchange and use of harmonized spatial data and services being under the authority of different bodies from local to national level.  The process of establishing NIGD is made of a series of activities on creating an institutional and technical framework carried out through main components, such as: metadata; sets and services of geodata; networkd services and technologies; agreements of exchange, access and use of geodata, as well as mechanisms of coordination, monitoring and reporting.  It is planned to further work on establishing NIGD by implementing the following activities: full transposition of INSPIRE directive into the national legislation by adopting the remaining three bylaws and draft for amending the Law on NIGD; socio-economic analysis of the benefits of NIGD influence; аnalyzis of the effect of NIGD strategy implementation for the period 2020-2024; plan of adoption of a new NIGD strategy after 2024; development of a National Geoportal in line with INSPIRE implementation principles; drawing up a catalogue of metadata and linking with the European INSPIRE geoportal, drawing up of a metadata catalogue and harmonization of thematic data sets according to INSPIRE technical specifications; coordination and creation of conditions for cooperation and exchange of geodata and services; monitoring and reporting on the implementation status; development of mechanisms for the protection and security of data; drawing up of a sustainable system for defining prices and licensing geospatial data.  |
| 2) Geographical Information System | Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia |   | Georeferenced network of spatial units (regions, administrative districts, areas, settlements, cadastre municipalities, local communities, statistical and enumeration areas) is retrieved from the Republic Geodetic Authority. The retrieval and integration of the graphical base of the Register of Spatial Data (up to the level of enumeration areas) and address register in the statistical system allows graphical presentation of statistical data at different territorial levels. Cartographic presentations are used for regular and special SORS publications from different statistical areas..  It is planned to further develop GIS through the cooperation with other NIGD subjects (retrieval, exchange, access to new sets of geodata through web services, etc.). It is planned to prepare a web GIS portal for publicly accessible statistical data and or presenting the Census 2021 results.  |
| 3) Register of Geospatial Units (RGU) | Republic Geodetic Authority and Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia |   | The Register contains alfanumerical and graphical data (names, unique identification number, history of changes, etc.) on all spatial units (regions, administrative districts, areas, towns, municipalities town municipalities, settlements, cadastre municipalities, local communities, statistical and enumeration areas). Data updating is of current nature. The Register of Geospatial Units as well as the Address Register are under the authority of the Republic Geodetic Authority. The following activities are planned: updating the boundaries of statistical and enumeration areas, and preparation of geospatial data for the purpose of carrying out the Census of Population 2021, linking final results with geospatial data and production of a population network per 1 km2; production of a classification of urban levels, rural and urban areas and other classification in line with international standards; introduction in the Register of Geospatial Units of data on urbanization level, etc.  |
| 4. Statistics of sustainable development  | Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia | All responsible official statistics producers and other republic bodies and organizations | Indicators of Sustainable Development Goals Agenda 2030 referring to ending poverty, ending hunger and improving food safety, providing healthy life, inclusive and quality education, achieving gender equality, providing sanitary conditions and access to drinking water, ensuring access to available and reliable energy, promoting sustainable economic growth, building infrastructure, reducing inequalities between countries, making towns better and safer, sustainable consumption and production, fight against climatic changes, conservation of oceans and seas, forest management, inclusive societies and building partnerships for sustainable development.  The periodicity of the indicators is annual and pluriannual.  |
| 5. Gender statistics | Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia | Institute for Public Health of Serbia, Ministry of Internal Affairs, National Employment Service, Ministry of Justice, etc.  | Indicators from the following official statistics areas: population, education, justice, labour market, elections, etc, presented by sex.  It is planned to continue the cooperation with data providers from administrative sources.  The periodicity of the indicators is a three-year one.  |
| 6. Youth statistics | Ministry of Youth and Sports |   | It is planned to provide data on youth from population statistics as well as from health, socio-economic and education statistics, etc, presented by age groups of young people.  The periodicity of the indicator is annual.  |

 **IV. REVIEW OF MAJOR INFRASTRUCTURE AND DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| ACTIVITY TITLE  | RESPONSIBLE PRODUCER | CURRENT SITUATION AND PLANNED ACTIVITIES |
| МЕTHODOLOGY OF DATA COLLECTION, PROCESSING, DISSEMINATION AND ANALYSIS  |
| 1. Меtadata | All responsible official statistics producers | The system of statistical metadata has a growing role in statistical organizations. It represents a system for producing, storing and using statistical metadata, where the system means people, processes and technology needed for managing statistical metadata.  It is planned to further develop this system, which aim is to enable efficient functioning and further development of the entire statistical information system. This implies a systematic and coordinated management of activities related to the design, implementation, maintenance, use and evaluation of the system of statistical metadata.  |
| 2. Classifications | All responsible official statistics producers | Development and implementation of national statistical classifications, in line with international standards, as well as harmonization and introduction in the statistical system of new versions of international statistical classifications developed by relevant international institutions (UNSD, ILO, UNESCO, WHO, Eurostat, etc.).  |
| 3. Registers | All responsible official statistics producers | It covers management of statistical and other registers.  The Statistical Business Register (SBR) is a set of statistical and legal units which serves as the main framework for carrying out statistical surveys in business statistics.  The following activities are planned:  - constant work on defining new and improving existing procedures for updating statistical units of the business register;  - introduction of new methodological solutions and further harmonization with positive European practice;  - work on building cooperation with existing administrative sources, as well as introduction of new administrative sources in the system of updating the business register;  - monitoring European regulations in terms of possible introduction of new statistical units and redesigning the business register according to European regulations; further development of the register Group of Enterprises to be included in EuroGroup Register;  - analysis of the structure of large and complex systems; carrying out surveys of local units;  - introduction of a survey on SBR quality;  - intensifying the cooperation within the SORS between the SBR and subject-matter statistics that rely on the SBR; defining the procedures for measuring the burden on data providers;  - gradual inclusion in the European System of Business Registers (ESBRs) etc.  Activities are planned on establishing a Statistical Population Register, based on data collected in the 2021 Census and available administrative sources. The Statistical Population Register will contain data on persons, households and dwellings. It will be used the framework for sample selection for surveys conducted by the SORS, for the next population census (2031), as well as for producing annual population estimations and other demographic indicators. Data will updated from administrative sources and from statistical surveys. The following activities are planned: definition of the register content, mapping administrative data sources, establishing cooperation with owners of administrative data sources, defining the protocol for retrieving data from administrative sources, defining procedures for data management, etc.  Activities area planned on establishing a Statistical Register of Activities, which will be based on data from the Central Population Register, Business Register, Central Register of Compulsory Social Insurance, data from the Tax Administration and from the Register of Children, Pupils and Adults and Register of Students, which will be formed within a Unique Information Education System, as well as from other relevant available administrative sources. The Register of Activities will contain data on activities concerning employment, learning and other activities relative to labour market, and for each activity there will be data on the beginning and end of those activities. The Register of Activities will represent a bridge between data referring to individuals and data referring to business subjects, where each activity can be identified with the personal identification number and registration number of the business subject. It will be used to produce indicators in labour market statistics and to observe offer and demand on labour market by linking information from education and labour market.  The planned activities on managing The Statistical Register of Agricultural Holdings cover the cooperation with the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Supply on harmonizing definitions and improving the quality of administrative sources, both for validation of data collected through statistical surveys and fro use of those sources for producing statistical data.  |
| 4. Sampling methodology | Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia | Definition of standards and improvement of the methods the provide optimal sample stratification and allocation.  Improvement the method of coordination of different surveys in order to reduce the burden on reporting units. Formation of a database with sampling units.  Development and implementation of methods for the evaluation of parameters and sampling errors: larger use of calibration procedure; evaluation of parameters for small domains; provision of evaluation of errors for key parameters and indicators of sample-based surveys and testing the use of error modeling.  It is planned improve the implementation of statistical methodology in surveys as well as software support for the preparation of sample frame, allocation, parameter evaluation, etc, through international cooperation and by following EU regulations  |
| 5. Analysis of time series | Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia | Statistical analysis and seasonally adjustment of time series, using mathematical and statistical structural models and standardizing the procedures for model implementation in line with international standards. |
| 6. Databases | All responsible official statistics producers | Development and maintenance of databases, such as Statistical Database, DevInfor database, etc.  The Statistical Database is intended for publishing statistical data produced according to the annual plan of statistical surveys carried out by the SORS and other producers in the official statistical system. The Website along with the database represents the main channel for the dissemination, which is used to provide services to users. The statistical database allows the users to browse data at one place and retrieve data series for indicators from all statistical areas, as well as for indicators of Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), depending on the survey/activity periodicity, from which they have been produced with corresponding metadata. The database is updated every day with new data; the updating is performed at 13 o’clock and is adapted to the Release Calendar.  It is planned to continuously work on enhancing the database and implementing modern technologies in view of a simpler and more efficient use of statistical data.  DefInfo is a database that contains official statistical data for monitoring global goals and indicators of social inclusion and reducing poverty, the national action plan for children, policity of gender equality and other strategies.  DevInfo is a software tool that enables efficient organization, storage, review and presentation of of data and indicators at national and local levels. The database contains detailed pieces of information on the period, geographical areas, units of measurements, sub-population and datasources, as well as indicator metadata. It is used for monitoring social development.  In order to improve data availability and use up to municipal level, municipal DevInfo databases and the database of Population natural changes and Profiles have been developed, through which data can be accessed for every municipality in the Republic of Serbia. The databases and profiles are updated four times a year, in January, April, August, and October, and are located on the SORS website.  |
| 7. Information and dissemination | All responsible official statistics producers | The development of the dissemination policy is focused on timely meeting users’ needs for high quality statistical data, i.e. those data should be adapted to their needs and requirements. In the next period, by increasing the availability and quality of statistical data, official statistics will be more recognizable as the main source of reliable and timely data.  The following priority activities are planned:  improvement of communication between the users and the official statistics to meet users’ needs;  use of new information technologies (Open Data, SDMX, etc.) in the process of data dissemination and exchange;  continuation of the work on establishing standards in data exchange in line with the standards recommended by the International Initiative for Development and Implementation of More Efficient Methods of Data and Metadata exchange (SDMX initiative);  continuous work on upgrading infrastructure for data access ensuring at the same time their confidentiality; increase of the offer of available data for various users’ needs;  building cooperation with national and international users for better identification of their needs;  development of the infrastructure for accessing microdata for the purpose of R&D institutions in line with the procedure for Allowing Access to Individual Data without Identifiers for R&D Purposes and in line with the conditions defined within the ESS.  It is planned to work on the development of a national portal for monitoring quantitative indicators within different strategies defined in the international statistical system or based on national strategic documents, based on a unique information system with one-stop-shop approach, where data and metadata are stored and published at one place and are linked with all relevant strategies.  |
| 8. Data security and statistical confidentiality | All responsible official statistics producers | The official statistics exercises full protection of data providers and reporting units rights protection. The principle of confidentiality covers data protection concerning an individual statistical unit, and data can be used for statistical purposes only.  The questionnaires and other documents containing individual data obtained through statistical surveys should be destroyed after data entry, coding and processing, in line with valid regulations.  Data collected, processed and stored for official statistics purposes are confidential in cases when a physical or legal persons can be directly or indirectly identified by its name, address or identification number. Confidential data cannot be used to determined rights or create obligations to the reporting unit.  Responsibility statistical producers can provide to R&D institutions, provided a written request, individual data without identifiers, but they are due to keep records on such users as well as on the use for which data are submitted.  The protection of confidential data is provided by restricting access to confidential data because it is restricted to persons who during exercises their tasks produce official statistics, up to the level at which those data are necessary for producing official statistics.  Responsible official statistics producers are due to take any administrative, technical and organizational measures required for protecting confidential data against illegal access, disclosure or use.  |
| STRATEGIC AND MANAGING ISSUES OF THE OFFICIAL STATISTICS |
| 1. Legislation framework | All responsible official statistics producers |  The Law on Official Statistics, as the main legal act, regulates the statistics, i.e. the production and dissemination of data and data of the official statistics as well as the organization of the official statistical system in the Republic of Serbia:  definition of the official statistics; data providers’ protection, main principles; responsible official statistics producers; preparation of five-year statistical program and annual applicable plans; way of release of the statistical survey results and data use; way of data collection, processing and storage; obligations of creating statistical registers; conditions of data and information dissemination; data confidentiality and protection of confidential data; cooperation of statistical organizations, etc.  The Law is harmonized with the main principles and provision of international regulations concerning the official statistics.  The National Bank of Serbia is the competent institutions for collecting, processing and analyzing the data of monetary and balance of payments statistics in the Republic of Serbia, which are processed according to the Law on the National Bank of Serbia and the Law on Official Statistics. The Law on the National Bank of Serbia defines that it can stipulates obligations for banks, financial organizations and other legal persons to record, collect, process and transmit selected data and the Law on Official Statistics lays down that the National Bank of Serbia set up standards for the official statistics within its competences.  In the next period it necessary to made amendments to the Law for more efficient organization of the official statistical system, as well as the harmonization with the provisions of other laws that regulates the protection of individual data.  The draft of the new Law on Official Statistics, which is in the course of preparation, i.e. in the phase of collecting the opinions of ministries and other relevant institution, foresees complete harmonization with EU regulations, efficient coordination of the statistical system, as well as complete harmonization with the law that regulated the protection of individual data.  |
| 2. Coordination of the statistical system | Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia | Provision of support for further development of the official statistical system of the Republic of Serbia and stronger coordination of the system by the SORS, as the official coordination of the national statistical system.  The planned activities are:  - preparation of the list of official statistics producers, in line with the criteria from international statistical recommendations;  - preparation of the rulebook on the method of defining an official statistics procedure;  - drawing up of the lists of official statistical products;  - creation of a permanent body (board) of official statistics producers;  - preparations for the development of the official statistical portal and joint release calendar;  - drawing up of the National Code of Practice of the official statistics (according to the European Code of Practice) and its implementation in the official statistical system;  - promotion and monitoring of the implementation of international statistical principles, standards and classifications in the official statistical system.  It is planned to intensify the cooperation with the owners of administrative data and the use of data for producing official statistics.  |
| 3. Quality management | All responsible official statistics producers | It is planned to continue the initiated activities on the implementation of the quality management system that relies on the Mission of the official statistics of the Republic of Serbia, as well as the European Statistics Code of Practice - CoP, main principles of the Total Quality Management - TQM.  In that sense, the SORS will:  - strive to improve the cooperation with the users of statistical products and services by introducing new forms of dissemination and communication;  - continue to follow the attitudes and satisfaction of the users and strive to meet their needs and requirements as much as possible;  - work on the identification and description of all processes in the chain of statistical production;  - improve systematically the quality of statistical products and processes;  - сreate prerequisites for the implementation of internal audit and self-evaluation;  - сreate prerequisites for introducing a system of risk management;  - work on building the cooperation with data providers and reducing the burden on the latter;  - continue to follow employees’ satisfaction, opinions and attitudes;  - continuously organize employees’ training;  - develop more intensive cooperation and experience exchange with the neighbouring countries and ESS countries.  These activities successfully realized will make the SORS an organization dedicated to quality and its improvement.  |
| 4. IT infrastructure | All responsible official statistics producers | It is planned to define the standards and enhance the ICT program for developing and maintaining software for statistical surveys and administrative activities (metadata driven system with a uniform approach to data for updating, entering, tabulating, software for administrating databases, etc.). On that account, one of the main priorities is further development of ICT, software package, completely developed by the SORS, which is the main database of structural data and use of modern technologies (Open Data, Big Data, Data mining, etc).  According to the Law on the Protection of Personal Data, it is planned to continue working on defining the standards of the procedures for retrieving data from selected administrative sources, creating a database and developing a complex information system for integration of all administrative data and management of data sets so they can be easily accessed for use by statistical services needing those data.  It is planned to enhance the SORS IT infrastructure within IPA projects, as well as to purchase equipment, consolidate IT solutions and implement solutions of the IT infrastructure.  It is planned to continue to implement standards in both internal an data exchange and data exchange with other organizations, in accordance with recommended standards of the International Initiative for Development and Implementation more efficient methods of data and metadata exchange(SDMX initiative). On that account, it is necessary to define technical specifications and solutions and provide a uniform communication method, both between applications in the SORS and with information systems of other government bodies.  It is planned to further standardize business processes and transactions with constant improvement of service services for clients, as well as to develop an web-service for providing personalized services to business subjects.  It is planned to realize a system of electronic collection and transmission of reports and data.  It is also planned to use more data from administrative sources, using both classical and modern methods (Big Data, etc.).  |
| 5. International statistical cooperation | All responsible official statistics producers | Provision of available data to the most significant international organization (Eurostat, Bank of International Settlement, European Central Bank, UN, IMF, World Bank, etc.).  Participation in the activities of international working group and meetings, particularly in Eurostat.  Use of IPA and other international funds for enhancing the official statistical system of the Republic of Serbia.  The planned activities should enable harmonization with ESS, i.e. work on harmonizing standards, classifications and methodologies in order to obtain internationally comparable indicators and to include all responsible official statistics producers in the international statistical cooperation.  |

 **V. RESPONSIBLE OFFICIAL STATISTICS PRODUCERS**

The Law on Official Statistics, in Article 6, lays down that the official statistical system of the Republic of Serbia, as responsible official statistics producers are taken to be: Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia, National Bank of Serbia, City Administration of the City of Belgrade - for the territory of the City of Belgrade, and other official statistics producers listed in the five-year program.

The program of the official statistics over 2021 - 2025, mentions, in line with the Law, as responsible official statistics producers:

- Мinistry of Finance;

- Мinistry of Internal Affairs;

- Мinistry of Justice;

- Republic Public Prosecutor Office;

- Мinistry of Health;

- Institute for Public Health of Serbia;

- Мinistry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Supply;

- Мinistry of Environmental Protection;

- Environmental Protection Agency;

- Office of Nature Conservation of Serbia;

- Мinistry of Labour, Employment, Veterans and Social Affairs;

- Republic Office of Social Protection;

- National Employment Service;

- Мinistry of Education, Science and Technological Development;

- Center for Studies in Cultural Development;

- National Library of Serbia;

- Мinistry of the Economy;

- Мinistry of Mining and Energy;

- Мinistry of Youth and Sports;

- Office of Sport and Sport Medicine of the Republic of Serbia;

- Republic Geodetic Authority;

- Republic Fund of Pension and Disability Insurance;

- Republic Fund of Health Insurance.

 **VI. EXPECTED PROBLEMS AND CONDITIONS TO IMPLEMENT THE PROGRAM**

Responsible official statistics producers started in the previous period intensive activities on harmonizing statistical surveys and results of the official statistics with international statistical standards, primarily with ESS and EU standards. This was done with restricted and constantly decreasing available official statistics resources, primarily of the SORS, as the main producer and disseminating authority of official statistics and coordinator of the official statistical system. The regular conclusion in annual reports of the European Commission about the progress of the Republic of Serbia, within Chapter 18 - statistics recommendations, is that the SORS capacities need to be built by increasing the number of employees and improving their skills in order to realize their obligations towards the EU Acquis in the field of statistics.

In the next period, the process of full harmonization of the official statistics with international standards in all statistical areas, primarily in national accounts and economic statistics, should be finalized, in line with the mentioned planned activities. The development of the statistics over 2021 - 2025 requires adequate resource, primarily financial resources, infrastructure and larger number number of professional staff, as a prerequisite for producing quality and updated official statistical results.

The SORS faces difficulties in realizing development activities due to restricted capacities and status, which impede the exercise of coordination role in the official statistical system, the influence on methodological solutions in important administrative registers and databases, and the implementation of leading an adequate human resources policy. The worrisome employees’ age structure in this period, if new employees are not timely recruited, can cause important problem to the functioning of the official statistical system. The National Assembly, Government and competent government bodies will create, by adopting this program, a corresponding institutional framework for changes in the official statistics and adequate measurement of socio-economic occurrences. This implies an active policy concerning further improvement of the legal framework and provision of conditions necessary for the functioning of the official statistics.

Creating better conditions and setting up larger cooperation and coordination with data users and providers, as well as further building of capacities of all stakeholders in the process of producing and using statistical data and analysis, are one of the essential prerequisites for the implementations of the Program of Planned Official Statistics Activities. It is also necessary to offer public support to the statistics in relation to data providers, including administrative sources, primarily through legislative regulation of this area.

In the initiated process of accessing to the EUR, there is an increasing number of requirements for providing different statistical indicators, both from ministries and other government institutions, international organizations, business subjects, R&D and educational institutions, and from the media and broad public. The Official Statistics must be completely ready to meet those requirements because it is the only component and competent to provide objective statistical information about socio-economic trends in the Republic of Serbia. However, for this role the official statistics need to continuously follow the development of modern international statistical standards and corresponding tools, defined by the UN, ESS, Eurostat, IMF, OECD and other relevant international organizations and institutions.

The planned strategic activities and program tasks are considerably larger to the previous period, and they need to be realized faster than in the neighbouring countries. It is also necessary to provide an adequate atmosphere and infrastructure for the planned changes and activities when drawing up the Program, i.e. procedures for adoption of regular annual official statistics plans, as well as adequate financial investments in material, technical and human resources for carrying out new statistical surveys and producing new indicators.

 **Review of abbreviations in the text**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Law | Law on Official Statistics |
| Program | Program of the Official Statistics over 2021 - 2025 |
| SORS | Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia |
| ЕSS | European Statistical System - ESS |
| ЕU | European Union - EU |
| CSA | Classification of Statistical Activities  |
| UN | United Nations - UN |
| CoP | European Statistics Code of Practice  |
| Еurostat | Statistical office of the European Union - Eurostat  |
| IMF | International Monetary Fund - IMF  |
| OECD | Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development - OECD  |
|  ESS Vision 2020  | European Statistical System 2020 |
| RZSMETA | System for compiling reference metadata and reports on quality of the SORS |
| CA | Classification of Activities |
| DMS | Decision Making Support  |
| SDG | Sustainable Development Goals  |
| ICCS | International Classification of Crime for Statistical Purposes  |
| UOE | UNESCO OECD Eurostat joint data collection  |
| UNESCO | UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization - UNESCO  |
| DevInfo | Database for monitoring social development |
| ESSPROS | European System of integrated Social PROtection Statistics  |
| SNA | System of National Accounts  |
| ESA | European System of National and Regional Accounts  |
| Prodcom | Statistics on the production of manufactured goods  |
| FATS | Foreign Affiliates Statistics |
| ICT | Information and communication technologies |
| TQM | Total Quality Management  |
| IST | SORS software package - concept for integrated data processing |
| GSBPM | Generic Statistical Business Process Model  |
| DFLE | Disability-free Life Expectancy  |
| SILC | Survey on Income and Living Conditions  |
| NSTJ | Nomenclature of statistical territorial units |
| ILO | International Labour Organization  |
| CVTS | Continuing Vocational Training Survey  |
| ICD | International Classification of Diseases |
| EHIS | European Health Interview Survey  |
| WHO | World Health Organization - WHO  |
| UNODC | UN Office on Drugs and Crime  |
| GDP | Gross domestic product |
| GFS | Government Finance Statistics  |
| CPA | Classification of Products by Activity  |
| FRIBS | Framework regulation integrating business statistics  |
| SBS | Structural business statistics  |
|  Prodcom list | List of products for the statistics of annual production of industrial products |
| VAT | Value added tax |
| RSD | Serbian dinar |
| USD | Аmerican Dollar |
| EUR | Euro |
| RTGS | Real Time Gross Settlement  |
| NBS | National Bank of Serbia |
| IPS | Instant Payments Serbia  |
| EAA | Economic accounts for agriculture  |
| FADN | Farm Accountancy Data Network  |
| NST | Standard goods classification for transport statistics  |
| ADR | European Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Road  |
| FTE | Full-time equivalent |
| EIS | European innovation scoreboard |
| HRST | Human resources in science and technology  |
| ЕRW | Explosive remnants of war |
| CLRTAP | Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution  |
| UNFCCC | UN Framework Convention on Climate Change  |
| GIS | Geographic Information System - GIS  |
| NIGD | National Infrastructure of Geospatial Data |
| INSPIRE | INfrastructure for SPatial InfoRmation in Europe  |
| UNSD | United Nations Statistics Division  |
| SBR | Statistical Business Registers  |
| ESBRs | European System of Interoperable Statistical Business Registers  |
| SDMX | Statistical Data and Metadata eXchange  |
| IPA | Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance - IPA  |

[**© Cekos In, Beograd, www.cekos.rs**](http://www.cekos.rs/)