



NATIONAL STRATEGY FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF OFFICIAL STATISTICS OF GEORGIA

(Short version)

2020-2023

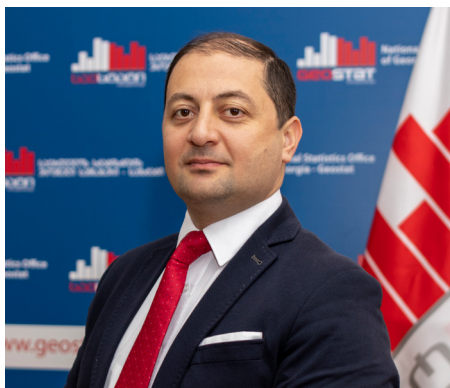


Reliable Data for Right Decisions!



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FOREWORD



National Strategy for the Development of Official Statistics of Georgia 2020-2023 defines the main directions of official statistics production in Georgia and provides general rules of conduct for the statistics-producing agencies. This strategy emphasizes the importance of official statistics for the development of a democratic society and calls on relevant agencies to assure reliability, objectivity and impartiality in the production of official statistics.

There is a growing need for high-quality statistics in our era, taking into account that reliable data represents the basis for evidence-based and good decision making. At the same time, it is impossible to meet all the requirements at once that may arise from the statistical data users. However, GEOSTAT offers the public a set of priorities that will be acceptable to a broad range of users and will be in line with their needs.

The production of high-quality statistics based on users' needs, creation of modern systems for data collection and dissemination and capacity building are the priority areas, on which the activities of GEOSTAT and the entire National Statistical System of Georgia (NSS) will be based over the next four years.

During the strategy period, we plan to establish new standards and methodologies, conduct new surveys and produce additional detailed figures, this will be

important for expanding the area of statistics and for calculating baseline indicators for the purposes of UN sustainable development. We also plan to conduct Population and Agricultural Censuses, which will become an important basis for the introduction of the administrative registration system in the direction of their further development.

Our plan also aims to improve data quality, in the context of making greater use of administrative data for statistical purposes, and invest more in information technology development. The above is of great importance both in terms of effective use of resources and in terms of reducing the burden on respondents.

In addition, past experience has shown that traditional methods of data collection, such as statistical surveys and administrative data, may not be sufficient to meet the increased demand for statistics. This is one of the reasons that the agenda included issues of finding alternative data sources and the introduction of modern technologies such as Big Data, scanned data, web scraping, etc., A number of activities are planned during the strategy implementation and development period.

Besides the production of high-quality statistics is one of our top priorities, our primary objective is to disseminate data in ways that facilitate their use and improve planning and decision-making processes at all levels.

The development of this strategy coincides with the 100 years anniversary of the establishment of GEOSTAT. On July 25, 1919, the country's first statistical office was established, which has paved the way for a very difficult and at the same time very important development of this century.

Georgia has made significant progress in developing the country's statistical system, in terms of implementing internationally recognized basic standards for statistics. However, there are some disadvantages and difficulties in statistical system, among which are insufficient resources. Increase awareness of

users, trust in official statistics and GEOSTAT, and data misinterpretation also remain as important challenges.

Bearing the above in mind, the present strategy aims at creating a more efficient and transparent system for the collection, processing, analysis and dissemination

of statistics in the country through active dialogue and communication with users, that will give users the confidence that statistics produced by GEOSTAT are reliable, objective, and independent from the stakeholders' influential factors.

Gogita Todradze
Executive Director of Geostat



LIST OF ACRONYMS

ACRONYM	DEFINITION
AA	Association Agreement
AGRIS	Agricultural Integrated Survey
BI	Business Intelligence
BOP	Balance of Payments
BPM6	Sixth Edition of the IMF's Balance of Payments and International Investment Position Manual
CAPI	Computer-Assisted Personal Interviewing
COICOP	Classification of Individual Consumption According to Purpose
CPA 2008	Classification of Products by Activity, 2008 version
DC	Depository Corporations
EFTA	European Free Trade Association
ENP	European Neighborhood Policy
ESCOPE	European Statistics Code of Practice
EUROSTAT	Statistical office of the European Union situated in Luxembourg
FDI	Foreign Direct Investment
FRIBS	Framework regulation integrating business statistics
GA	Global Assessment
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GEOSTAT	National Statistics Office of Georgia
GSBPM	Generic Statistical Business Process Model
GSS	Georgian Statistical System
HICP	Harmonized Index of Consumer Prices
HR	Human Resources
ILO	International Labour Organization
IMF	International Monetary Fund
ISCO-08	International Standard Classification of Occupations, 2008 version
IT	Information Technologies
LOS	Law on Official Statistics
MRDI	Ministry of Regional Development and Infrastructure
NACE REV.2	Statistical classification of economic activities in the European Community, Rev. 2 (2008)
NBG	National Bank of Georgia

NSDS	National Strategy for the Development of Statistics
NSO	National Statistics Office
NUTS	Nomenclature of territorial units for statistics
OCVA	Other Changes in the Volume of Assets
ODC	Other Depository Corporations
RPPI	Residential Property Price Index
SDDS	Specific Data Dissemination Standard
SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
SDMX	Statistical Data and Metadata Exchange
SITC	Standards International Trade Classification
SPAERS	Strategic Plan for Agricultural, Environmental and Rural Statistics
UN WOMEN	The United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNECE	United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
UPC	Universal Product Code
UVI	Unit Value Index

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1. INTRODUCTION

This document presents a common strategy (hereinafter referred to as NSDS) for the development of a national system of official statistics for 2020-2023 as well as an associated action plan for 2020-2021.

The goal of the document is to define an overall vision for the development of the national statistical system of Georgia (GSS) that includes the country's national and international needs, addresses the data requirements of a national policy-making system, identifies the areas of priority for effective statistical development, rationalizes the conduct of statistical activities and allocation of financial resources, serves as a framework for international cooperation, includes all parts of the data production process and adheres to the latest international standards.

The NSDS 2020-2023 also creates a framework for the development of a strong and unified National Statistical System (NSS) for the collection, management, dissemination and utilization of official statistics in the country both to support national policy-making and international commitments, according to UN Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics and European Statistics Code of Practice.

The NSDS 2020-2023 has been developed with the support of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Government of Sweden, under the frameworks of the European Neighborhood Policy (ENP) and the EU-Georgia Association Agreement (AA). The document has been formulated with the wide participation of key stakeholders and involvement of experienced international and local consultants.

1.1. Methodology

The UNDP Georgia office, under its Governance Reform Fund project, has formed a project team which was composed of external consultants to support Geostat in the NSDS preparation process. Geostat initiated the NSDS development and assumed the leading role in the coordination of all necessary activities within the development process.

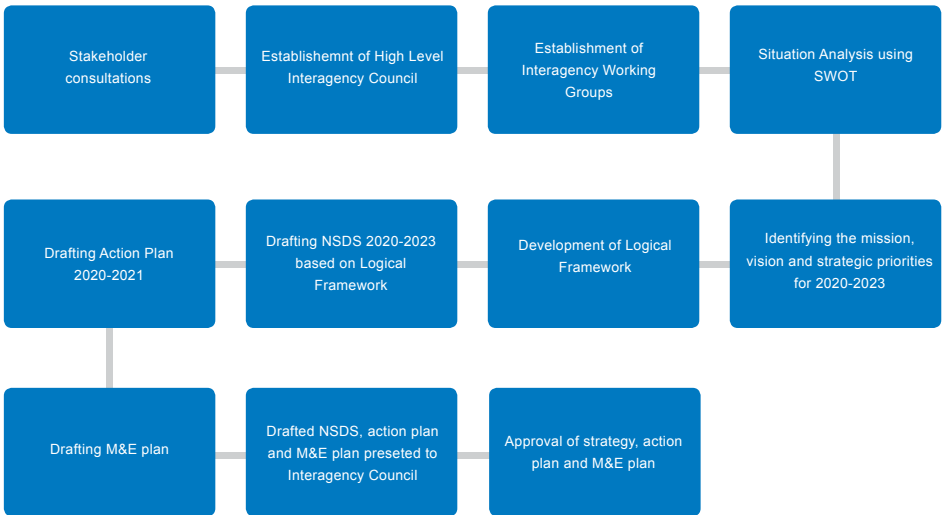


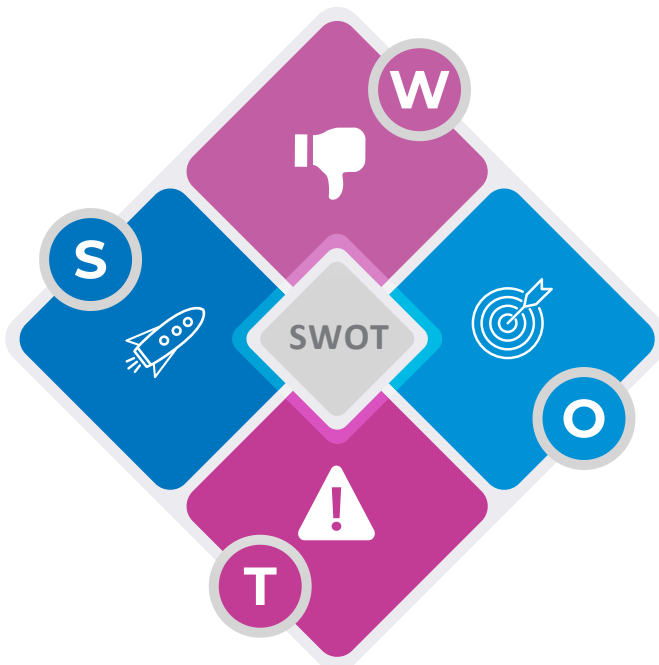
Figure 1: NSDS development process

A total of 32 interviews and meetings with stakeholders have been conducted. The results of stakeholder consultations were summarized and analyzed using the SWOT framework. The situation analysis was also based on the results of the GA. The GA was undertaken by a team of experts from UNECE, EFTA and Eurostat using a standard methodology agreed for ENP countries. The assessment objective was to review strengths and weaknesses of the GSS and propose recommendations.



2. SITUATION ANALYSIS USING SWOT FRAMEWORK

Based on consultations with the GA team and the final list of recommendations, meetings with GSS members, focus groups and other stakeholders' consultations, the current challenges and needs of the statistical system were analysed and systematically organised using the SWOT framework, as shown below:



- Highly centralized system of official statistics production led by NSO;
- Free access to administrative data sources;
- Highly qualified staff and network of experienced interviewers at NSO;
- Good experience of international cooperation;
- Good relations and cooperation between the main statistics providers: Geostat, National Bank of Georgia and Ministry of Finance;
- NSO has placed an increased focus on data quality improvements. There is a dedicated structural unit as well as the interagency working group on quality issues at NSO.



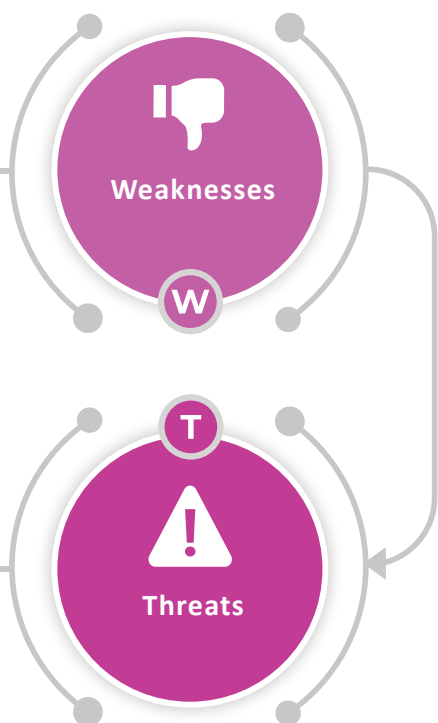
- The implementation of the SDGs in Georgia, with the development of high priority indicators to monitor progress;
- Sectorial Ministries have a growing need for high-quality statistics to support evidence-based decision making;
- Implementation of the Global Assessment recommendations;
- The modern technologies like “open data” and “big data”;
- Access and availability of administrative data should be exploited further;
- Decennial Censuses of Population, Housing and Agriculture.

- Weak coordination and lack of clear distinction between producers of official statistics and data providers;
- Staffing levels in Geostat are significantly below those in other comparable countries. Significant underinvestment in the Information Technology hardware;
- Accommodation conditions at the NSO are quite poor and restrictive and need to be improved;
- Law on Official Statistics needs to be aligned more closely with the Generic Law on Official Statistics to ensure full compliance with ESCoP;
- The efficiency of the statistical production process should be improved to reduce reliance on traditional approaches;

- Limited “user-centric” view;
- The existing training system is not targeted well at development of needed expertise for statisticians and IT staff at NSO;
- NSO doesn’t have enough control over the quality of the data provided by public sector entities;
- There is room for improvements in statistics dissemination practice.

- The high dependence on a relatively small number of skilled and experienced staff;
- Underinvestment in Information Technology limits the ability to adopt more cost-effective statistical methodologies and puts the sustainability of existing systems at risk;
- Limited resources to further improve the level of salaries and accommodation;

- Reorganization of sectoral Ministries may lead to partial loss of data sources;
- Insufficient financial resources;
- Poor infrastructure;
- Outflow of qualified staff.





3. MISSION



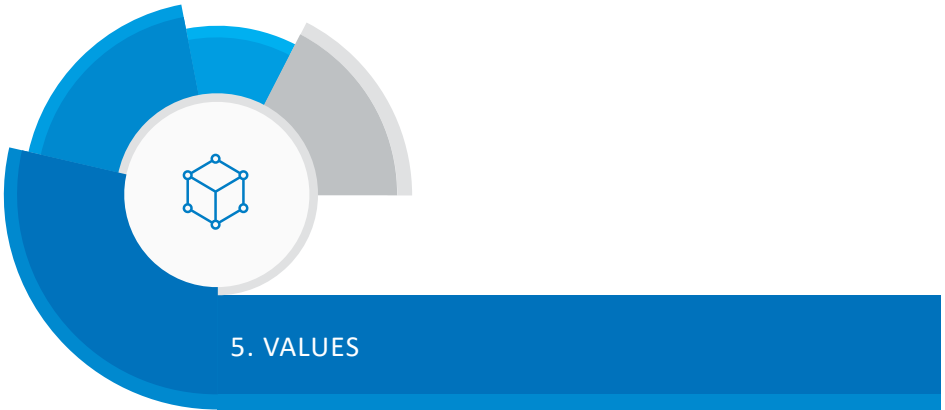
The mission is to produce and disseminate high-quality, timely and relevant official statistics in an effective manner based on user needs to inform good decision making and enhance public accountability.



4. VISION



The vision for the Georgian Statistical System is to create a well-coordinated, user focused and efficient national statistical system based on international standards.



5. VALUES

The list of core values of GSS consist of the values related to the institutional environment and all statistical processes.

-  **Professional Independence**
-  **Objectivity**
-  **Reliability**
-  **Data confidentiality and security**
-  **Efficiency**
-  **User focus**
-  **Managed statistical burden on respondents**



6. STRATEGIC GOALS

The NSDS 2020-2023 seeks to be “fit for users’ needs” when responding to users’ (government, public and private sectors, civil society, academia & research, international organization etc.) growing demand for high-quality, credible statistics, increasing accessibility of statistical information maximally, using resources more rationally and effectively and at the same time keeping the system sustainable.

In this context, three strategic goals have been identified on which to focus during the

implementation of the 2020-2023 NSDS of Georgia. Based on the NSDS an associated action plan for 2020-2021 has been elaborated. A total of 12 strategic objectives, with 86 implementing activities, have been grouped and elaborated under each of the three strategic goals. The strategic goals and related objectives are explained below.

The goals were formulated using SMART (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant and Time-bound) principles. Each goal has specific targets and indicators to measure their achievement.



STRATEGIC GOALS



**PRODUCE HIGH QUALITY
OFFICIAL STATISTICS BASED
ON USER NEEDS**



Production of statistical
information to support evidence-
based decision making



Production of official statistics in full
compliance with international standards
and guidelines



Improvement of data
quality



Promote the use of statistics



**BUILD EFFECTIVE, MODERN
AND SUSTAINABLE STATISTICAL
PRODUCTION PROCESSES**



Modernization and standardization of
the statistical information production
process



Establishment of a modern and
comprehensive data collection
system



Improvement of practices for
dissemination and communication
processes



**BUILD THE STATISTICAL
INFRASTRUCTURE AND
CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT**



Improvement of legislative
base in line with
international standards



Establishing sustainable IT and
development of data protection
systems



Ensuring adequate staffing and the
development of an Effective Human
Resource Management System



Establishing modern and
up-to-date system of
classification and
registers



Fostering a good image and reputation,
increasing credibility and developing
trust in official statistics



6.1.

STRATEGIC GOAL 1: PRODUCE HIGH-QUALITY OFFICIAL STATISTICS BASED ON USER NEEDS

Meeting the real needs of users for high-quality official statistics at national, regional and local levels is the core function of the GSS. Geostat and the other statistical producers and data providers in the GSS are committed to strengthening their capacity to deliver to the maximum extent an increased range of statistics that are based on international statistical standards and quality cri-

teria. By the end of the strategy period the GSS, and Geostat in particular, are aiming at being able to produce almost all SDG quantitative indicators, which are to be produced by NSO.

The first strategic goal is: ensuring that the produced statistics are of high quality and that official statistics are tailored to user needs, or in other words are “fit for purpose”.

There are four strategic objectives under this goal, which are divided into several implementing activities:





Objective 1.1. Production of statistical information to support evidence-based decision making

- Expand statistical areas and production of new indicators
- Development of National Accounts
- Expand the area of business statistics
- Improvement of social statistics
- Production of demographic statistics which are compatible with EU standards
- Development of new indicators on agricultural and environment statistics
- Increasing the volume of price index
- Development of External Sector Statistics



Objective 1.2. Production of official statistics in full compliance with international standards and guidelines

- Harmonization with international methodologies
- Cooperation with international partners



Objective 1.3. Improvement of data quality

- Improving the quality of existing indicators
- Transition to the integrated structure for quality management
- Development of metadata system



Objective 1.4. Promote the use of statistics

- Improvement of the content and channels of dissemination products
- Conducting statistical literacy activities and development of guidance documents



**PRODUCE HIGH QUALITY OFFICIAL
STATISTICS BASED ON USER NEEDS**



Objective 1.1. Production of statistical information to support evidence-based decision making

Direction 1.1.1.

Expand statistical areas and production of new indicators

Activity

Result in 2023

Conduct Time Use Survey (TUS) and develop additional indicators disaggregated by gender



TUS results are published, at least 20 new indicators are disaggregated by gender. The gender statistics are produced in accordance with the latest international methodologies

Further development of regional statistics



Possibilities of production of statistics at municipal and regional level are assessed; Short list of priority indicators is developed in cooperation with the relevant stakeholders; Key demographic, social and business statistics have been published by regions of Georgia

Develop statistics for calculation of baseline indicators for SDGs which are not available by 2019



At least 95% of SDG indicators to be covered by Geostat are developed

Develop Financial Accounts for financial sector



Financial sector financial accounts for stocks are developed and published Financial accounts for flows (revaluations and OCVA) are published

Direction 1.1.2.

Development of National Accounts

Activity

Result in 2023

Development of quarterly GDP by expenditure approach in constant prices	➤	Quarterly GDP by expenditure approach in constant prices is available at Geostat website
Development of sectoral accounts	➤	Methodology is developed and sectoral accounts are published
Development of supply and use tables in nominal and constant prices by types of activities and products according to NACE Rev. 2 and CPA 2008	➤	Supply and use tables in nominal and constant prices by types of activities and product according to NACE Rev. 2 and CPA 2008 are published
Development of Input-Output tables	➤	Methodology is developed and input-output tables are published

Direction 1.1.3.

Expand the area of business statistics

Activity

Result in 2023

Identification and development of short-term business statistics (STS) indicators in accordance with FRIBS



At least 3 STS indicators are identified, developed and published

Development of 1-4 tables of tourism satellite accounts



Published 1-4 tables of tourism satellite accounts

Development of at least 5 additional business demography indicators



At least 5 additional business demography indicators are published

Direction 1.1.4.

Improvement of social statistics

Activity

Result in 2023

Update the methodology for poverty and living conditions statistics	»»	Methodology is reviewed and updated in line with recent international standards. Additional indicators are developed and published
New additional indicators on labour statistics are produced	»»	At least two new indicators on labour market statistics are developed and published including Median Earnings and Gender Pay Gap
Develop education statistics	»»	In close cooperation with the Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sport additional indicators are obtained from administrative sources. At least 5 new indicators are published
Develop sports statistics	»»	The set of indicators is identified in close collaboration with the Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sport; At least 3 new sport statistics indicators are developed and published
Develop culture statistics	»»	Methodology for theatres and museums survey is updated; At least 3 new culture statistics indicators are produced and published
Develop health statistics	»»	At least 3 additional indicators are obtained from administrative sources and published

Direction 1.1.5.

Production of demographic statistics which are compatible with EU standards

Activity

Result in 2023

Improvement of the quality of the causes of death indicators	»»	Share of ill-defined causes of death is reduced to 20%. The baseline data (2019) - 33%
Creation of the base for migration statistics development: a) Development of methodology for internal migration statistics b) Development of methodology for international migration statistics	»»	In close cooperation with Migration Commission the methodology is developed; The use of nontraditional administrative sources for migration statistics are tested (e.g. Big data)
Conduct Population Census	»»	Methodology and questionnaires are developed and approved by the State Commission; Census fieldwork is conducted
Creation of the base for population projection introduction	»»	Methodology for introduction and conduction of population projection is elaborated and published; Capacity building of relevant staff is conducted

Direction 1.1.6.

Development of new indicators on agricultural and environment statistics

Activity

Result in 2023

<p>Conducting the Agricultural Census</p>	<p>⇒</p>	<p>Agriculture Census is conducted together with the Population Census</p>
<p>Further implementation of the Strategic Plan for Agricultural, Environmental and Rural Statistics (SPAERS)</p>	<p>⇒</p>	<p>Data archive is created and access to the anonymised microdata is provided; Computer-assisted personal interviewing (CAPI) method is implemented in all relevant surveys; Classification of agricultural holdings is updated in compliance with international standards and data users' needs</p>
<p>Implementing Agricultural Integrated Survey (AGRIS)</p>	<p>⇒</p>	<p>Existing questionnaires are updated; 2 Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) indicators (2.3.1 and 2.3.2) are calculated and published</p>
<p>Development of waste statistics</p>	<p>⇒</p>	<p>At least one indicator on waste statistics is calculated and published</p>
<p>Development of environment statistics</p>	<p>⇒</p>	<p>At least one additional United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) indicator is calculated and published</p>

Direction 1.1.7.

Increasing the volume of price index

Activity

Result in 2023

Development of Domestic Supply
Producer Price index



Domestic Supply Producer Price Index is available on the Geostat website

Development of Producer Price Index for Telecommunication Services, Warehouse and Storage services and Tourism agencies' services



Methodology is developed and approved by Geostat Board; Producer Price Indices for Telecommunication services, Warehouse and Storage services and Tourism agencies' services is available at Geostat website

Development of Residential Property Price Index (RPPI)



Pilot index calculation is conducted using 3 methods as per recommendations of IMF RPPI data series are developed and published

Direction 1.1.8.

Development of External Sector Statistics

Activity

Result in 2023

<p>Development of external trade indexes (Export–Import Unit Value Indices) on the basis of the Foreign Economic Activity Commodity Nomenclature (HS) by sections</p>	<p>»»</p>	<p>External trade unit value indices (UVI) are published</p>
<p>Develop the international trade in services statistics</p>	<p>»»</p>	<p>Pilot survey is conducted in 2021; Regular surveys are conducted since 2023 and results are published</p>
<p>Development of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) by size and age of enterprises</p>	<p>»»</p>	<p>FDI by size and age of enterprises is published</p>
<p>Development of existing FDI indicators according to the BPM6 manual</p>	<p>»»</p>	<p>Existing FDI indicators are published in accordance with the BPM6 manual</p>
<p>Development of domestic export statistics</p>	<p>»»</p>	<p>Domestic export statistics is published</p>
<p>Mirror Comparison in International Merchandise Trade Statistics (IMTS)</p>	<p>»»</p>	<p>Mirror Comparison in International Merchandise Trade Statistics (IMTS) with pre-selected partner country is conducted and published</p>



Objective 1.2. Production of official statistics in full compliance with international standards and guidelines

Direction 1.2.1.

Harmonization with international methodologies

Activity

Result in 2023

Harmonization with HICP methodology in Price statistics



Methodology is adapted to national context and approved by the Board of Geostat; Harmonized CPI is produced and published along with the existing CPI

Use of renewed Classification of Individual Consumption According to Purpose (COICOP 2018) while creating consumers basket



COICOP 2018 is translated and adopted by the Board of Geostat; COICOP 2018 is introduced in the CPI survey

Process and disseminate External merchandise trade data in accordance with Standard International Trade Classification (SITC) at a maximally detailed level (5-digit level)



External merchandise trade statistics by Standard International Trade Classification (SITC) is produced and published

Introduce the latest standards in Labour Force Survey (LFS) based on the resolutions adopted at the 19th and 20th International Labour Conference



The national LFS methodology is updated according to the ILO new standards; The LFS is carried out according to the new standards, results are published

STRATEGIC GOALS

Activity	Result in 2023
Introduce International Standard Classification of Occupations (ISCO-08) in labour market statistics	⇒ Employment statistics is calculated according to the International Standard Classification of Occupations ISCO-08
Develop Financial Corporations Surveys based on the IMF's improved methodology	⇒ New Survey of National Bank of Georgia is developed and published; New ODC and DC Surveys are developed and published
Develop methodology for Financial Intermediation Services Indirectly Measured (FISIM)	⇒ FISIM records are published in BoP

Direction 1.2.2.

Cooperation with international partners

Activity	Result in 2023
Continue active cooperation with international organizations and partners	⇒ Geostat staff members actively participate in international trainings/workshops and projects; Cooperation projects with international partners to modernize statistical production processes are realized
Strengthening cooperation with colleagues in different countries to improve the exchange of experiences, ideas and knowledge	⇒ Cooperation with NSOs of different countries established; Study visits to Georgia for foreign colleagues and vice versa are organised; System for exchanging of information on new methodologies and technologies established
Developing new partnership and collaboration with scientific community	⇒ Conditions of new partnership and collaboration with scientific community identified; At least 2 meetings per year conducted with scientific community



Objective 1.3. Improvement of data quality

Direction 1.3.1.

Improving the quality of existing indicators

Activity

Result in 2023

Development of software for national accounts compilation	»»	Software for data processing and analysis on national accounts is introduced
Elaboration of methodology and conduction of additional surveys for non-observed economy estimation	»»	Information gaps in non-observed economy are reduced
Development of additional surveys to expand business statistics area	»»	Business statistics area is expanded by at least one additional survey results
Development of energy efficiency indicators	»»	At least 5 energy efficiency indicators are published
Development of additional transport statistics indicators	»»	Transport statistics indicators are identified by consultations with relevant stakeholders; At least 5 additional indicators are produced
Develop high-quality flow data collection system from other depository corporations	»»	Quality of collected flow data is sufficient to expand Financial Accounts report
Develop BI interactive reports for other depository corporations to ensure data quality checks	»»	NBG has assigned for each ODC separate interactive statistics web page, where interactive reports are published for data quality checking purposes
Develop debt securities database	»»	Debt security database is published on NBG website

STRATEGIC GOALS

Direction 1.3.2.

Transition to the integrated structure for quality management

Activity

Result in 2023

Enhancement of an integrated quality management system and a mechanism to ensure high quality of statistical data



A quality policy document is developed; Established a high-level committee (working group) to oversee the implementation of the quality management system; A self-assessment form of activity is developed and introduced; Priorities for quality audit areas are identified

Direction 1.3.3.

Development of metadata system

Activity

Result in 2023

Establishment of a metadata administrating system in compliance with international standards (Euro SDMX Metadata Structure-ESMS)



Metadata administrating system is developed and introduced



Objective 1.4. Promote the use of statistics

Direction 1.4.1.

Improvement of the content and channels of dissemination products

Activity

Result in 2023

Production of statistics based on user needs



The results of the user satisfaction survey are analysed; Analysis of the user needs is performed; New studies are conducted; Data dissemination system has been upgraded and statistical products have been diversified according to user needs

Develop survey results in more understandable and visually attractive manner



Visualization materials for all major research results are prepared and posted on the website

Perform analysis of gender statistics



Analytical narrative part is added to regular publication "Men and Women in Georgia"

STRATEGIC GOALS

Direction 1.4.2.

Conducting statistical literacy activities and development of guidance documents

Activity

Result in 2023

Systemic and proactive development of user literacy



At least 100 people from selected users have participated in user literacy development programmes annually

Increase the awareness on the use of statistics in the public sector



Two workshops annually are organized for public organisations in data processing and statistics/data analysis; Awareness of public sector users on the right interpretation of statistics is significantly improved, statistics used more actively in decision making



6.2.

STRATEGIC GOAL 2: BUILD EFFECTIVE, MODERN AND SUSTAINABLE STATISTICAL PRODUCTION PROCESSES

The Generic Statistics Business Process Model (GSBPM) has been developed internationally to provide a comprehensive and integrated framework for the production and dissemination of high-quality official statistics. National statistical services have increasingly adopted this model in the modernisation of their systems. Geostat will aim to make data collection,

processing and statistics production faster, more accurate and more effective. When striving for the enhancement of process effectiveness throughout the strategic period, Geostat will apply innovative solutions and adopt the best practices developed in other statistical systems abroad.

There are three strategic objectives under this goal, which are divided into several implementing activities:





Objective 2.1. Modernization and standardization of the statistical information production process

- Preparation works for transition to Generic Statistical Business Process Model (GSBPM)



Objective 2.2. Establishment of a modern and comprehensive data collection system

- Improvement of survey questionnaires
- Active cooperation with owners of administrative data
- Developing and testing the use of new data sources and modern technologies



Objective 2.3. Improvement of practices for dissemination and communication processes

- Development of a policy on data dissemination
- Improving the content system of website
- Upgrading the dissemination practices



**BUILD EFFECTIVE, MODERN AND
SUSTAINABLE STATISTICAL
PRODUCTION PROCESSES**



Objective 2.1. Modernization and standardization of the statistical information production process

Direction 2.1.1.

Preparation works for transition to Generic Statistical Business Process Model (GSBPM)

Activity

Result in 2023

Developing a road map for moving towards a more process-based organisational structure, in line with the GSBPM



Results of IT infrastructure assessment are available; Statistical processes are described; A road map for introduction of GSBPM is developed.

Identification of statistical works which duration can be shortened due to improved statistical processes efficiency



Inventory of work processes is performed; Surveys, the production processes of which can be shortened, are identified.



Objective 2.2. Establishment of a modern and comprehensive data collection system

Direction 2.2.1.

Improvement of survey questionnaires

Activity

Result in 2023

Improve the quality of questionnaires and reduce the respondent burden



All survey questionnaires have been aligned to international standards; Respondent burden is measured, ways to reduce it are stipulated in the road map and implemented

Direction 2.2.2.

Active cooperation with owners of administrative data

Activity

Result in 2023

Playing a more active central role in coordinating official statistics



Appropriate amendments to the LoS entered into the force; Memoranda of Understanding with other statistics producing agencies are signed; Regular meetings with state agencies and local self-governments are organized to discuss statistics related issues

Establish criteria for clearly and systematically identifying other producers of statistics and their outputs



Procedures for the coordination of other producers of statistics and administrative data keepers are introduced

Direction 2.2.3.

Developing and testing the use of new data sources and modern technologies

Activity

Result in 2023

Develop software platform for use of modern technologies in data collection



Established platform for using new data sources (big data) and modern technologies (e.g. web scraping and scanner data)

Study the possibilities of production of statistical information on job vacancies



Possibilities of using the data from the internet for producing statistics on job vacancies have been analysed (web scraping); IT platform is developed to ensure easy monitoring of job vacancies

Introduce the use of modern technologies for data collection such as web scraping, scanner data and use of Big Data for consumer price statistics



Cooperation with data keepers is established (e.g. retail chains to provide access to scanner data); Big data, scanner data and web scraping data is integrated in the CPI survey



Objective 2.3. Improvement of practices for dissemination and communication processes

Direction 2.3.1.

Development of a policy on data dissemination

Activity

Result in 2023

Development of the strategy for data dissemination and communication



New version of the communication and dissemination strategy is approved

Preparing the policy/guidelines for assuring impartiality and objectivity in the production and dissemination of official statistics



Published a policy on the treatment of errors, their corrections. Dissemination is performed in accordance with the new policy. The document is available at Geostat website

Direction 2.3.2.

Improving the content system of website

Activity

Result in 2023

Further development of Geostat website



New services are being added regularly to the website (quarterly); Number of multimedia instruments is increased

Expanding sources and publishing new statistical information produced by other state institutions

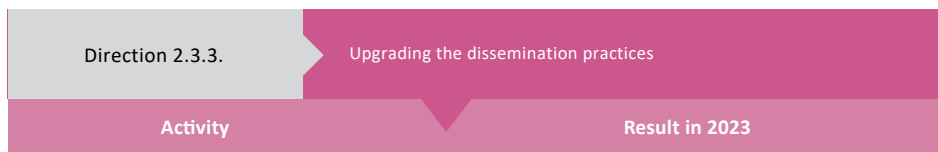


Geostat website has covered the statistical information produced by other producers of statistics

Publish external sector statistics interactive (visualized) tables



Published tables on the NBG website



<p>Optimise the process for preparing responses to requests for statistical information</p>	<p>»»</p>	<p>Monitoring and analysis of users' data requests are introduced; Statistical content of the website is updated in accordance with results of users' data requests analysis</p>
<p>Upgrade existing SDDS standard to SDDS Plus</p>	<p>»»</p>	<p>Macroeconomic statistics is published and disseminated in accordance with the highest available IMF standard - SDDS plus</p>
<p>Implementation of SDMX format for data sharing with international financial organizations</p>	<p>»»</p>	<p>MFSCBS - Central Bank survey shared with IMF in SDMX format; MFSODC - Other Depository Corporations survey shared with IMF in SDMX format</p>



6.3.

STRATEGIC GOAL 3: BUILD THE STATISTICAL INFRASTRUCTURE AND CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

The term “capacity” in statistics can be defined as the ability of NSSs to produce reliable, accurate, timely, relevant and internationally comparable data. Capacity development is the process used to create or strengthen this ability in statistical institutions, or in broader terms, to

reform a country’s statistical system as a whole to make it more efficient and effective. Geostat and the whole GSS, therefore, need to reform and modernize the infrastructure and adopt new developments to build their capacities as core and essential elements of the NSDS.

There are five strategic objectives under this goal, which are divided into several implementing activities:



Objective 3.1. Improvement of legislative base in line with international standards

- Preparation of amended law in line with the international frameworks and recommendations



Objective 3.2. Establishing sustainable IT and development of data protection systems

- Assessment of IT Systems
- Development of IT Systems
- Development of data protection systems
- Install the Geostat intranet



Objective 3.3. Ensuring adequate staffing and the development of an Effective Human Resource Management System

- Development of motivated professional team in GSS
- Elaborate capacity development programmes for the personnel to create an attractive and sustainable environment



Objective 3.4. Establishing modern and up-to-date system of classification and registers

- Development of register systems in line with international recommendations
- Establishing a classification system covering the whole GSS



Objective 3.5. Fostering a good image and reputation, increasing credibility and developing trust in official statistics

- Increase awareness of Geostat and its services
- Strengthening cooperation with international partners and improving international image
- Striving for social responsibility



**BUILD THE STATISTICAL INFRASTRUCTURE
AND CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT**



Objective 3.1. Improvement of legislative base in line with international standards

Direction 3.1.1.

Preparation of amended law in line with the international frameworks and recommendations

Activity

Result in 2023

Amending the Law on Official Statistics in line with the international requirements and Global Assessment recommendations



The professional independence of Geostat is in compliance with ESCoP; Articles on mandate for data collection are in line with the principle of ESCoP; Articles on statistical confidentiality are in line with the principle of ESCoP



Objective 3.2. Establishing sustainable IT and development of data protection systems

Direction 3.2.1.

Assessment of IT Systems

Activity

Result in 2023

Evaluation of the capacity and sustainability of current IT system by international experts



Needs assessment on the IT development performed by international experts

Direction 3.2.2.

Development of IT Systems

Activity

Result in 2023

Elaboration of IT development strategy



Strategy for the development of IT is adopted and published on the website; The infrastructure for networks, servers, hardware, software and databases is updated according to the IT strategy document

STRATEGIC GOALS

Direction 3.2.3.

Development of data protection systems

Activity

Result in 2023

Development of data protection and security policy document



Adopted policy on data protection and security; IT audit is performed

Direction 3.2.4.

Install the Geostat intranet

Activity

Result in 2023

Development and introduction of intranet at Geostat



Geostat's internal communication portal is designed and introduced



Objective 3.3. Ensuring adequate staffing and the development of an Effective Human Resource Management System

Direction 3.3.1.

Development of motivated professional team in GSS

Activity

Result in 2023

Development and implementation of a policy for the recruitment and retention of qualified and experienced staff



Created HR Management Guidelines; Geostat is represented in all thematic employment forums

Introduction of a performance evaluation system in accordance with the national legislation



The system is implemented and all Geostat employees are evaluated with the new performance evaluation system

STRATEGIC GOALS

Direction 3.3.2.

laborate capacity development programmes for the personnel to create an attractive and sustainable environment

Activity

Result in 2023

Development of mechanisms for enhancing employee well-being



The staffing levels and accommodation needs are assessed and addressed by the respective actions to improve employee well-being; Remuneration increased by 10% and have been made more comparable with the officials in other areas of the public service; Accommodation conditions are improved and equipment is renewed; A flexible work schedule is introduced

Elaboration of GSS employees' capacity development scheme



GSS Staff assessment conducted and capacity development needs are identified; Training strategy is elaborated and implemented bringing more systematic basis on skills development of GSS staff in general and Geostat staff in particular, and focusing on the IT skills of relevant staff



Objective 3.4. Establishing modern and up-to-date system of classification and registers

Direction 3.4.1.

Development of register systems in line with international recommendations

Activity

Result in 2023

Reduction of missing data in business register



Missing data in business registers are reduced by 5%

Preparation of roadmap for developing population register



Adopted and implemented strategic plan on the location of the registers, procedures for gaining full access and linking of the register to the next Census of Population returned to individual and household levels

Establishment of farm registers



Farm registers have been developed and introduced in close cooperation with the Ministry of Environment Protection and Agriculture

STRATEGIC GOALS

Direction 3.4.2.

Establishing a classification system covering the whole GSS

Activity

Result in 2023

Introducing new and updating existing classifications



All classifications are in full alignment with the recent international methodologies

Conduct the Inception Study on the EU NUTS classification system and the related perspectives and needs of its gradual introduction in Georgia



Inception study prepared and published on the MRDI website



Objective 3.5. Fostering a good image and reputation, increasing credibility and developing trust in

Direction 3.5.1.

Increase awareness of Geostat and its services

Activity

Result in 2023

Strengthen relations with media and conduct awareness raising campaign on statistics



Number of meetings with media increased by 10% compared to 2019; 20 meetings have been organized with other targeted user groups per year; Number of references to Geostat in the media is significantly increased

STRATEGIC GOALS

Direction 3.5.2.

Strengthening cooperation with international partners and improving international image

Activity

Result in 2023

Identify new partners and start negotiations with them to expand cooperation



New international partnership opportunities are identified and at least 4 new international projects are initiated

Direction 3.5.3.

Striving for social responsibility

Activity

Result in 2023

Striving for social responsibility



Geostat participates in at least two social or/and sport activities, such as blood donation, environment clean-up campaign, national marathons

Develop special services for users with disabilities



Adaptation of a particular part of the website to users with disabilities; Preparation of special leaflets with Braille transcription



7. IMPLEMENTATION, MONITORING AND EVALUATION

The coordination mechanism used in the process of strategy development will be retained to ensure effective implementation of the strategy and associated action plan.

Policy level
Interagency
Council



Technical level
Interagency
Working Groups



Secretariat
Geostat, Department of Strategic
Planning, Coordination and
Communication

Figure 2. **Coordination mechanism**

The strategy implementation and monitoring thereof will be coordinated by Geostat. Geostat will also coordinate the evaluation process. Geostat will organize regular, annual meetings with the Council to present the results of monitoring in the form of an annual monitoring report. The structure of the annual monitoring report will be in line with the national guidelines.

Once the strategy period has concluded, strategy evaluation will be performed. The evaluation will assess the impacts that the strategy had on the system of official statistics development and will serve as a base for the development of the next medium-term strategy.