

Assuring Quality in the Different Data Collection and Processing Stages in National Statistics Office of Georgia (Geostat)

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Quality Control in Geostat

- Although Geostat does not operate a quality management system yet, the quality control procedures are maintained throughout all the phases of the statistical production process, viz:
 - Data collection;
 - Data processing;
 - Data dissemination and relations with users.

Enhancement of Sampling

- Completeness of coverage
- Accuracy of data
- Use of administrative data (from the Revenue Service and National Agency of Public Registry);
- Implementation of new software to update the business register;
- Implementation of CATI method to update the sampling frame;
- Regular updating of sampling frame for agricultural survey.

Electronic Survey Reporting and Monitoring System

- Created in 2012, the system allows:
 - to monitor field works and obtain information on activities of individual interviewers;
 - to acquire information on an update of the business register;
 - to get information on process documentation, a number of non-response cases and a list of enterprises which did not respond, etc.

On-line Data Collection

- Implemented in 2012.
- Covered business statistics, external economic relations survey and agricultural survey.
- In 2013 was expanded to price statistics and some fields of social statistics.
- Simplifies the reporting process.
- Respondents have their own profile where they complete and store questionnaires.
- Every respondent has a permanent consultant.

Coordination of Statistical Activities

- To ensure better coordination and information exchange Geostat has cooperation memoranda and agreements in place with major producers of official statistics and data providers (government agencies, business associations, etc.).
 - National Bank of Georgia;
 - Ministry of Education and Science;
 - Ministry of Environment and Natural Resource Protection;
 - Ministry of Energy;
 - Ministry of Agriculture;
 - Revenue Service [Tax authorities] of the Ministry of Finance;
 - Chamber of Commerce and Industry;
 - Business Associations.

Data Dissemination

- Timeliness of data dissemination – an important quality parameter – improved significantly in 2012-2013.
- The fixed time (11:00 a.m.) for data dissemination has been introduced.
- Number of visitors to Geostat website increased by 50% in 2013.