

STATE STATISTICS COMMITTEE OF THE REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN

0. PREREQUISITES OF QUALITY

0.1. Legal environment

0.1.1 Responsibility for collecting, processing, and disseminating statistics (Required)

The State Statistics Committee (SSC) is operating independently under the Law on "State Statistics" of the Republic of Uzbekistan, dated December 12, 2002, amended in 2012, which regulates relations in the sphere of organization of state statistics work, defines powers of state statistics agencies and creates a normative basis for maintaining the uniform system of statistical information.

In September 2017, a new Statute on the State Statistics Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan has been introduced to specifying the mandate, the functions and the structure of the SSC, which shall be the principal data collecting, processing, analyzing and dissemination agency responsible for co-coordinating, monitoring and supervising the National Statistical System. Its functions include the provision of a uniform statistical methodology corresponding to international standards.

The SSC, like other State statistics agencies performing statistical work, shall have the right, within the limits of their powers, to request and obtain state statistical reports, administrative accounting data, and other data necessary for the conduct of state statistical observations, as well as explanations appended to the reports from other offices.

According to the presidential decree Nr.5054, dated December 12, 2017, economic and financial data in the country should be compliant and coordinated under the IMF GDDS system.

In April 2019, the Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On additional measures to ensure openness and transparency of public administration, as well as improving the statistical potential of the country" No. 4237 was approved, according to which a unit responsible for work related to the work of the State Statistics Committee was created coordination of activities of state bodies and organizations on the formation, maintenance and updating of the list on the Open Data Portal of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

0.1.2 Data sharing and coordination among data sharing agencies (Required)

According to the Article 9 of the Law on Statistics, State statistics agencies shall perform statistical work in interaction with other state bodies in fulfillment of the Program of State Statistical Works. State statistics agencies permit other state agencies and legal entities to perform separate actions concerning their powers in accordance with the procedure established by the legislation. Other state agencies and legal entities shall conduct statewide statistical observations according to the Program of State Statistical Work, as well as departmental statistical observations according to the forms coordinated with the authorized state statistics agency. The data of departmental statistical observations shall be submitted to the authorized state statistics agency at its request.

In addition, the Statistics Council, a collegial advisory body, ensures coordination on problems associated with the development, functioning and coordination of state statistics under the authorized state statistics agency. The Statistics Council may appoint expert commissions to examine separate matters of state statistics. Experts may be

invited to meetings of the Statistical Council and the expert commissions, and representatives of ministries, state committees and departments may be heard on matters of state statistics. The composition of the Statistical Council shall be approved by the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

0.1.3 Confidentiality of individual reporter's data (Required)

Under the Article 7 of the Law on State Statistics, State statistics agencies shall be obliged to ensure confidentiality of individual statistical data, preservation of state secrets and trade secrets of legal entities and anonymity of data regarding individuals. In addition, the Statute of the State Statistics Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan (Sep.2017) stipulates that the SSC shall take security measures to prevent confidentiality issues (art. 13.c, §15), including on bank secrecy (13.c, §11). Lastly, according to the Article 5 of the Law on State Statistics, interference by state agencies and local public authorities in the state statistics activities shall not be permitted.

The employees of SSC must follow a Code of Ethics, including an oath of secrecy, not to disclose any information availed to them while carrying out their duties as assigned to them. They are informed of duties upon appointment. Each employee of the SSC is required to sign a contract which requires him not to disclose such data.

0.1.4 Ensuring statistical reporting (Required)

The SSC follows the Generic Statistical Business Processes Model (GSBPM) of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), which lists the statistical business process that ensures quality management and metadata management.

To ensure the reporting of information by respondents, the State statistics agencies, within the limits of their powers, shall have the right to request and obtain state statistical reports, administrative accounting data, and other data necessary for the conduct of state statistical observations (at any stage of their development), as well as explanations appended to the reports, from financial, customs, tax authorities, banks, other departments and services, legal persons and their representations and branches, natural persons, including individual businessmen, and use them for statistical purposes.

In addition, the State Statistics shall check the accuracy of the statistical data at enterprises, establishments and institutions, conduct expert analysis of the completeness and objectivity of statistical data obtained and, in cases in which violations are found, to give the instructions necessary for correcting them and make the appropriate adjustments to the statistical data.

1. INTEGRITY

1.1 Professionalism

1.1.1 Impartiality of statistics (Encouraged).

According to the Law on Statistics (Article 4), the basic principles of the state statistics include accuracy, objectivity and impartiality. In addition, the Statute of the State Statistics Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan (art. 13 c., §6) stipulates that the principles of the SSC should include impartiality.

1.1.2 Selection of sources, methodology, and modes of dissemination (Encouraged).

According to the Law on Statistics (Article 15), statistical data shall be used for state and scientific purposes, for informing the public, ensuring rights, freedoms and lawful interests of users. Primary statistics obtained by state statistics agencies from legal persons, their representations and branches, natural persons, including individual businessmen, shall be used for statistical purposes only for the preparation of summary statistical indicators and shall be published in summary and anonymous form. Statistics that contain the state and trade secrets shall be submitted in the manner prescribed under law.

1.1.3 Commenting on erroneous interpretation and misuse of statistics (Encouraged)

The SSC can, on ad-hoc basis, comment on erroneous interpretation and misuse of statistics.

1.2 Transparency

1.2.1 Disclosure of terms and conditions for statistical collections, processing, and dissemination (Required)

According to the Law on Statistics (Article 4), the basic principles of the state statistics include accessibility, transparency and openness. The terms and conditions for statistical collection, processing and dissemination are incorporated into Uzbekistan's laws and resolutions dealing with statistics. These legislative measures are on the websites and thus accessible to the public. Thus, the *Law on Government Statistics (2002)* and Resolution Number 368 are posted on the Committee's website (www.stat.uz). The *Law* is also reproduced in the Bulletin of Oliy Majalis (Parliament), and included in the data base on laws and regulations (NORMA), as well as that of the Ministry of Justice accessible on the address www.Lex.uz.

1.2.2 Internal governmental access to statistics prior to their release (Required)

The government has no access to SSC data prior to their release. The State statistics agencies are independent in the dissemination of statistical data. Interference by state agencies shall not be permitted (cf. Article 5 of the Law on Statistics). Only the Chairman of the Committee has access to statistics prior to release.

1.2.3 Attribution of statistical products (Encouraged)

Data released to the public are clearly identified by the data producing agency (logo and footnotes).

1.2.4 Advance notice is given of major changes in methodology, source data, and statistical techniques. (Required)

Before a move to a new methodology, the SSC provides to the public advance notice when major changes are introduced in methodology and statistical techniques. The SSC posts on its website a relevant methodological note explaining what changes users should expect.

1.3 Ethical standards

1.3.1 Guidelines for staff behavior (Encouraged)

The employees of SSC must follow a Code of Ethics, including an oath of secrecy, not to disclose any information availed to them while carrying out their duties as assigned to them. They are informed of duties upon appointment. Each employee of the SSC is required to sign a contract which requires him not to disclose such data.

4. SERVICEABILITY

4.3 Revision

4.3.1 Revision schedule

Resolution Number 368 gives revision schedules for a range of data categories, including national accounts, price and production indices, and trade. The cycle of data revision is determined in advance and from year to year it is quite stable. Further, every year, the State Statistical Work Program allows for a review of current data and of the data users' needs. The annual statistical Work Program is drafted in November of each year and submitted to the Central Government for approval in January.

4.3.2 Identification of preliminary and/or revised data (Required)

In publications, preliminary data are identified and explained, as appropriate.

5. ACCESSIBILITY

5.1 Data

5.1.3 Advance release calendar (Required)

According to the presidential decree Nr.5054, dated December 12, 2017, economic and financial data in the country should be compliant with the Advance Released Calendar under the GDDS system. Resolution N. 368 of the SSC gives deadlines for publishing various data categories.

5.1.4 Simultaneous release (Required)

The SSC releases to the public to its website (www.stat.uz).

5.3 Assistance to users

5.3.1 Dissemination of information on contact points (Encouraged)

Contact points are available on the website of the State Statistics Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan (www.stat.uz) and available in the metadata.

5.3.2 Availability of documents and services catalogs (Encouraged)

The methodology-related documentation is publicly available on the website of the State Statistics Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan (www.stat.uz). Data are and contained in the State Statistics Committee (SSC)'s online bulletin.

9. PLANS

9.1 Recent

9.1.1 Plans for improvement - Recent improvements

In September 2017, a new Statute on the State Statistics Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan has been introduced to specifying the mandate, the functions and the structure of the SSC.

The SSC follows the Generic Statistical Business Processes Model (GSBPM) of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), which lists the statistical business process that ensures quality management and metadata management.

An Information Technology Department was recently established.

In 2018, the list of consumer goods and services was updated and expanded, and prices are monitored. Improvement of tools (forms and questionnaires) of state statistical observations. Expansion of the nomenclature list of goods and enterprises for monitoring the prices of producers (annual basis).

For the National Accounts, NACE Rev.2 has been implemented in the statistical practice. Tourism Satellite Account has been implemented.

For the Production index, a new Classification of Economic Activities, equivalent to the Classification of Economic Activities in the European Union (Eurostat), has been introduced in 2017. Industry: developments in the methodology for calculating the volume of individual and entrepreneurial activity, taking into account modern international standards. Improvement of tools (forms and questionnaires) of state statistical observations.

Methodological provisions on organizing and conducting a sample survey of small businesses dated June 20, 2016 No. 6 were adopted. These Methodological provisions determine the mechanisms for organizing and conducting a sample survey of small businesses in order to obtain representative data for calculating key indicators and assessing the contribution of small businesses to economic development republics for the period under review.

To obtain reliable and high-quality data on wages, reporting on work with quarterly periodicity was improved.

9.2 General

9.2.1 Plans of improvement – Short-term

Implementation of new provisions of the SNA 2008. Improvement of the non-observed economy registration. Improvement of estimates of the main aggregates of national accounts at constant prices discretely by quarter.

Further improvement of data exchange on employment between State Statistics Committee, the Ministry of Employment and Labor Relations and the Tax Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan through the development of special software.

Work is in progress to improve the toolkit for household surveys.

Improvements were made to the Methodology for Defining the Number of the Unemployed Population

(introduced from January 1, 2018).

Revision and amendment of the Methodological Provisions. Revision and expansion of the classifier for the generation of statistical data on export-import services.

Implementation of calculations of production indexes (services, industry and agriculture) on discrete quarters since 2018.

9.2.2 Plans for improvement – Medium-term

Development and implementation of financial account.

Measures are planned to improve methods of monitoring prices, taking into account the capabilities of modern technologies and international best practices. In particular, conducting "pilot" surveys based on the "scan" method.

Reflection of labor indicators in state statistics reports by occupation.

Expanding the scope of enterprises at the expense of small businesses (PPI).

Production index: improvement of the "Methodological provisions for the statistical accounting of services (including services rendered), including services rendered in rural areas", taking into account the recommendations of the 2008 SNA.

To increase the level of breakdown, profession. Wait for legislative changes. In the future may request. Need to study the first pilot of breakdown, big step forward. Reflection of salaries in the state statistical reports in the context of professions. Development of methodological provisions for the calculation of wages.

9.3 Financial

9.3.1 Plans for improvement – needs for TA/financing needs – Short-term

Financing is provided in the framework of the annual Program of State Statistical Works. For the implementation of medium-term plans, technical assistance is needed to study international recommendations and best practices.

Technical assistance is required to improve the calculation of macroeconomic indicators in accordance with the SNA 2008.

9.3.2 Plans improvement – needs for TA/financing needs – Medium-term

Financing is provided in the framework of the annual Program of State Statistical Works. For the implementation of medium-term plans, technical assistance is needed to study international recommendations and best practices.

Technical assistance is required to implement financial account.