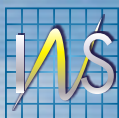


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NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF STATISTICS

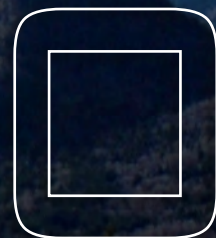
A C T I V I T Y

# REPORT



INSTITUTUL NAȚIONAL DE STATISTICĂ

2011



## NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF STATISTICS

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NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF STATISTICS

## ACTIVITY REPORT - 2010

## Foreword

Though a sound management in any field of activity supposes the assessment, at certain time intervals, of the activity carried out during certain periods, the drawing up of the Annual Report entails a complete retrospective analysis of what was achieved versus the assumed objectives, of what was properly done versus those things which were less well done and, I would say, moreover, of what we are supposed to do during the next year in view to reach a higher quality, core prerequisite of progress.

The year 2010 was a special one, both in terms of intelligence and creativity inflow from the whole staff of the National Institute of Statistics, either at central and at territorial level, and in terms of the efforts made in view to cope with the large scale challenges which have added to the traditional topics covered by our institution.

I cannot leave out the fact that, beyond the complex and diversified nature of challenges we have faced, we had also to cope with the stress entailed by the difficult circumstances of the economic crisis effects, felt by the whole society, which have implicitly affected the statistical activity.

Nevertheless, when I referred to the complexity and to the scale of topics governing during last year the statistical activity, I have naturally meant, first of all, the impressive volume of works and efforts imposed by the actions of national interest, such as the General Agricultural Census and the Population and Housing Census, under a concomitance imposed by the European schedule, putting to test our professional capacity and capability.

Though the year 2010 did not mark the achievement of tangible results of these actions, it was however determinant due to the finalisation of preparatory operations, whose success entail the success of all further activities, ending with the final results quality.

Naturally, the traditional statistical works, with the attached surplus of new objectives and tasks, entailed by the need of statistical information of users, at the same time with those meant to keep the pace with the European topics and standards related to statistics, kept their way straight forward, contributing to the satisfaction feeling engendered by the results of our endeavours all along the year.



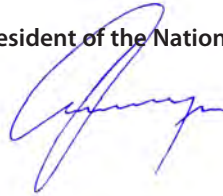


Within this Report, however, more than in the previous editions, we intended, in the virtue of objectivity and correctness, to reflect at the same time some difficulties and unfulfillments bearing in mind the increase in performance, exigency and commitment as core prerequisites for the year 2011 which, I have to admit, will not be less difficult but, for sure, more challenging, under the circumstances of much more rigorous assessment criteria.

Those interested in the statistical activity, hopefully not few, will find within the Report pages the defining elements of the statisticians work carried out in 2010, in keeping with the steadily upward trend of quality, having as priority the increased trust of those using the held forth product, taking the form of statistical data and information.

**Prof. Vergil Voineagu, PhD**

**President of the National Institute of Statistics**



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# Introduction

Under its position of National Statistical System coordinator, the National Institute of Statistics, specialised body of central government under Government coordination, had and permanently has as priority the achievement of objectives and tasks assumed in view to meet, to the highest extent, the information needs of all statistical data user categories, through the collection, production and dissemination of relevant, accurate, reliable and timely statistical information, necessary for the substantiation of decision making related to the economic and social development of the country and for assuring knowledge on Romanian society realities.

In 2010, the activity carried out within the National Institute of Statistics envisaged the coverage, both in terms of statistical surveys and of measuring, especially in quantitative (numerical) terms, the *main priorities of national and community policies* on:

- economic and social recovery, implicitly the evolution envisaging the economic crisis surpassing;
- the climate changes and the necessary actions meant to ensure sustainable Europe, in the perspective of accomplishing the objectives stipulated in Europe 2020 strategy;
- European citizens placement on top position;
- Europe, as world partner;
- better regulation and transparency of the European Union Programme activities and objectives;
- reducing the response burden of primary data and information providers.



## Economic and social recovery

The statistical activities, projects and analyses carried out in 2010 envisaged: the improved quality of macroeconomic statistics, the improved production of main annual and infra-annual statistics in all the key fields of macroeconomic statistics, the measurement of inflation and of economic crisis effects upon the labour market, intensifies efforts meant to extend the coverage of statistics harmonised with the European Union norms and standards, as well as the creation of new work places, the tendencies related to living conditions, the research related policies in a knowledge based economy, etc.

## Climate changes and a sustainable Europe

This priority had a special meaning in 2010, while the undertaken actions were oriented towards the provision of statistical data for a wide range of environment related fields, agricultural policies, as well as other sectoral policies relevant for the sustainable development.



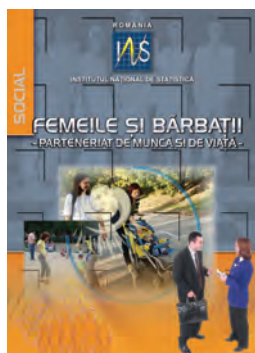
## Citizens in top position

The citizen, as “top priority”, covers a wide range of topics, from public health to civil security and equal chances for men and women.

Specific activities have been included in the National Annual Statistical Programme 2010, aiming at continued and improved supply of data on a diversity of specific and core social issues, such as: reconciliation of professional life with the family life, social protection, and labour market policies.

## Europe as world partner

In 2010, NIS continued to supply core statistics for the actions included both in the European Programme and at national level, related to: trade in goods and services, foreign investments, foreign trade affiliates and balance of payments, environment, etc.



## Better regulation and transparency

Simplification and improvement of regulation environment for enterprises and citizens, as an objective of the European Union statistical programme, was and still is a priority for the NIS as well.

## Reducing the response burden

The strategic approach of reducing the response burden, the simplification and the setting up of priorities both in the field of community statistics and at national level, were planned and put in place in compliance with the measures, actions and deadlines stipulated in the statistical programme, with the stress on upgrading statistics production systems.

In 2010, the NIS activities were carried out in the context of intensifying and diversifying the statistical production, meant to ensure the assessment, in quantitative terms, of undertakings, measures and actions comprised in the Governing Programme. Widening and amplifying the statistical activities in line with the governmental objectives and measures were entailed by the changes occurred in 2010, in terms of macroeconomic indicators evolution, the quantitative assessment of economic crisis effects and of anti-crisis governmental actions results, at the same time with those envisaging general and sectoral changes within the strategy of state reforms.

Practically, the National Institute of Statistics has advanced and carried out a package of actions actually covering the whole topics incumbent through the legal framework, the programmes of assuming and transposing the European Union norms and standards in statistics, the global and sectoral statistical policies implementation.

Based on the imperatives of the current stage of Romanian statistics development, of the compliance with the European legislation and of National Statistical System integration into the European Statistical System, the activities related to the application of the Law on Romanian official statistics organisation and functioning no. 226/2009, a law which has marked the completeness and the refinement of the legal framework regulating official statistics in Romania in line with the European one, stipulated in Regulation (CE) no. 223/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council, have continued.

# I. Statistical system quality

The quality improvement in official statistics is a permanent concern of all the EU Member States. The implementation of European Statistics Code of Practice, as well as the observance of quality components within the statistical activity are established and regulated at EU level, accounting for „the point of law” also guiding Romanian statistics in view to continue the process of Romanian statistics harmonisation with the related European norms.

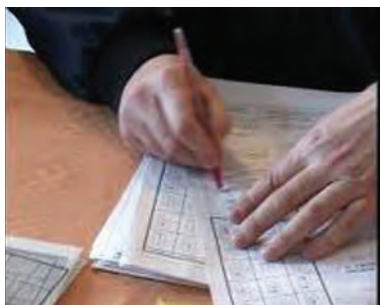
The operations envisaging the implementation of Total Quality Management (TQM) in statistics continued in 2010. TQM is a complex concept, including a series of fundamental values, which could be summarised in four concepts: appropriate leadership, staff involvement, quality driven organisation and continuous adaptation.

The main mission of the institute aiming at quality management is to meet the statistical data users' needs and desires. Quality means what is consumed by users and not what the statistical institution considers as most appropriate for its internal activity. A user tailored orientation is not, however, a sufficient condition for quality management. Statistical offices need well defined strategies in view to meet the above mentioned requirements.



Concerns related to higher quality in all stages of statistical production process existed within the institute in 2010 as well, among which: the setting up of electronic questionnaires for a series of statistical surveys; carrying out checking and validation operations of logical controls at county level; checking the micro-data files, continuing the activity of periodical users' consulting in view to ensure relevant information. 12 quality reports have been drawn up for surveys on living conditions, social services, estimates based on business surveys, improved quality of Statistical business register.

In consonance with the transparency principle, meant to allow users access to information proving the high quality of produced statistics and in view to increase the reliability of official statistics, the NIS concerns materialised into the following activities:



- designing a quality report intended for statistical data users which, after finalisation, will be progressively implemented for all the statistical surveys carried out by NIS and put at users disposal on the NIS website;
- establishing the set of quality indicators to be included in the quality report intended for the statistical data users;
- organising quality training sessions for the NIS experts as well as for other experts from other public administration institutions;
- redesigning the questionnaire on statistical data users satisfaction, meant to collect statistical data users' opinions in 2011.

Statistical surveys quality assessment and monitoring was a priority for the INS, this concern being put in practice through the self-assessment questionnaire intended for managers responsible for statistical surveys carrying out. This is, in fact, a generic checklist for the systematic assessment of statistical surveys carried out within the European Statistical System and allows for taking measures aiming at the quality improvement for those stages of the statistical production process evaluated as having a lower quality level.

A major achievement of 2010 in the field of quality management was the drawing up of the guide on „Improving the quality of statistical processes related to data collection, processing and imputation“, within the grant „Quality management and assessment“, a project inscribed in the actions of implementing the European statistics Code of Practice.

This guide offers the standards for identifying, measuring and analysing the key process variables for three stages of the statistical production process: statistical data collection, processing and imputation, stages with a high influence upon final results quality.



## II. Actions of national interest - Censuses

### 2.1. General Agricultural Census - 2010

**The General Agricultural Census - 2010** will be carried out for the second time in Romania, as a statistical operation of national interest. The preparatory works were already launched in 2008, the year when Law no. 153 on carrying out the General Agricultural Census in Romania was adopted, this action also having as legal support the Regulation (EC) no. 1166/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council of November 19, 2008 on farm structure surveys and the agricultural production methods, repealing Regulation (EEC) no. 571/88 of the Council, as well as the Government Decision no. 1370/2009 on the organisation and carrying out of the General Agricultural Census in Romania.

It is worth mentioning that the General Agricultural Census 2010 benefitted of a financial support from the European Commission amounting to 4 million euro. The *National contribution* is to be added to this amount, namely 95.6 million lei, for the years 2010, 2011, 2012, these amounts being included in the INS budget (about 27%), in the budget of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (about 66%) and the one of the Ministry of Administration and Interior (about 7%).



**Recensământul General Agricol 2010**

**GHIDUL METODOLOGIC AL RECENZORULUI**

Potrivit Legii nr. 228/2008 privind organizarea și funcționarea statisticii oficiale în România, care prevede:

- "Prezența legea se aplică tuturor persoanelor fizice și juridice rezidente în România, precum și celor nerezidente, care desfășoară activități pe teritoriul românesc";
- "Furnizorii de date sunt obligați să transmită, în mod gratuit, producătorilor de statistici oficiale date corecte, actualizate și complete, la termenul stabilit și după metoda de colectare prevăzută în Programul statistic național anual și în conformitate cu normele metodologice";
- "Cercetare statistică realizată în conformitate cu Regulamentul (CE) al Parlamentului European și al Consiliului nr. 1166/2008 privind anchetele agricole și arhivarea privind metodele de producție agricole".

**CAPITOLUL I. INFORMAȚII GENERALE PRIVIND EXPLOATAȚIA AGRICOLĂ**

**1. LOCALIZAREA EXPLOATAȚIEI AGRICOLE**

1.1. Numărul mapei

1.2. Numărul formularului în cadrul mapei

1.3. Județul

1.4. Municipiul/ Orașul/ Comuna

1.5. Localitatea componentă (satul)

Cod SIRUTA





Beyond the condition assumed by Romania as European Union Member State, of observing the European statistical legislation, the General Agricultural Census in Romania will ensure:

- obtaining statistical data comparable at international level and indispensable for Romania's participation in the Common Agricultural Policy;
- substantiating the measures for drawing up the National Development Plan as well as other programmes mainly envisaging agriculture and rural development;
- consolidating the agricultural statistical system by obtaining new data and information on agricultural holdings and on their structural characteristics;
- updating the Statistical register of agricultural holdings (REXA), sampling basis necessary for carrying out the current statistical surveys in agriculture;
- supplying data and information necessary for the development of Agricultural accountancy information network and of the Integrated system of management and control;
- ensuring comparable data on agricultural activities, at geographical level, covering the whole Community, in accordance with the European legislation requirements;
- setting up the agricultural holdings typology and economic size, based on the General Agricultural Census data and on the Standard Production 2007 coefficients, computed by the Agricultural accountancy information network, an integrated classification of agricultural holdings at European Union level.



## 2.2. Population and Housing Census 2011

The preparatory activities for the **Population and Housing Census** were launched at the same time with the adoption of Government Ordinance no. 36/2007 on carrying out the Population and Housing Census in Romania 2011, approved by Law no. 5/2008 on carrying out the Population and Housing Census in Romania 2011, with further amendments.

The preparatory activities carried out by the end of 2010 were devoted to the setting up of defining elements for drawing up the organisational and methodological framework, meaning the setting up of the reference moment, the registration period, outlining the methodology and the registration method, the setting up of county, municipality, town and commune commissions and of their tasks, as well as the tasks of public administration authorities in organising and carrying out the census.

Beyond the traditional specific topics covered by the Population and Housing Census, the current round has a wider coverage by approaching new issues, directly arising from the governance programme and from the concerns of central and local public administration authorities, such as external migration, both temporary and definitive, population continuous vocational training, unemployment level, issues of social life - education and health status, from the individual to the environmental conditions of households and human collectivities in various structures and profiles, in geographical terms and of administrative-territorial classifications of occupations.



**SC FORMULAR SPAȚIU COLECTIV DE LOCUIT**  
se completează pentru spații colective de locuit de tip cămin, respectiv hotel  
RECENSĂMÂNTUL POPULAȚIEI ȘI AL LOCUINTELOR - 2011

**PROIECT ROMÂNIA INSTITUTUL NAȚIONAL DE STATISTICĂ**  
R.P. 2011 anulari prin Legea nr. 20/2008

**Capitolul 1. DATE PRIVIND SPAȚIU COLECTIV DE LOCUIT**

**P FORMULAR INDIVIDUAL**  
se completează pentru persoanele prezente și temporar absente din gospodărie și din spații colective de locuit, respectiv pentru persoanele fără adăpost  
RECENSĂMÂNTUL POPULAȚIEI ȘI AL LOCUINTELOR - 2011

**NUMELE ȘI PRENUMELE**

**LC FORMULAR LOCUINȚĂ - CLĂDIRE**  
se completează pentru fiecare locuință și clădire în care se află locuințe  
RECENSĂMÂNTUL POPULAȚIEI ȘI AL LOCUINTELOR - 2011

**PROIECT ROMÂNIA INSTITUTUL NAȚIONAL DE STATISTICĂ**  
R.P. 2011 anulari prin Legea nr. 20/2008

**Capitolul 1. TITLUL SUB CARE ÎNDRĂDĂCEȘTE OCUPIA LOCUINȚA**

**G FORMULAR GOSPODĂRIE**  
se completează pentru fiecare din gospodăriile din locuință  
RECENSĂMÂNTUL POPULAȚIEI ȘI AL LOCUINTELOR - 2011

**TOATE INFORMAȚIILE DIN ACEST CHESTIONAR SUNT CONFIDENTIALE ȘI VOR FI UTILIZATE NUMAI ÎN SCOPURI STATISTICE**

**RECAPITULATIA PERSOANELOR ÎNREGISTRATE ÎN FORMULAR**

Numărul formularului G în cadrul locuinței	Numărul persoanelor din gospodărie		Prezente sau temporar absente înregistrate în capitolul 1		Persoane pe perioadă îndelungată înregistrate în capitolul 2		Temporar prezente înregistrate în capitolul 3	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
1								

The Census expected results will provide for an extremely valuable information basis for the Government, in view to forecast scenarios, strategies and policies in population field, from the standpoint of measures to be adopted in view to diminish the demographic decline and to resume population increase and the recovery of its age structure, the increase of population educational level and, last but not least, the diminution of major risk impact related to migration process size and dynamics.

### III. Statistical information dissemination

The statistical data and information dissemination process was carried out in 2010 by observing the statistical data transparency, visibility and confidentiality principles, in accordance with the legal provisions in force on the organisation and functioning of national and European official statistics and with the principles provided by the Code of Practice of European statistics.

#### 3.1 Progresses achieved in the current activity of statistical information dissemination

Particularly significant data for the substantiation of governmental policies and for the assessment of these policies results were drawn up and disseminated by the National Institute of Statistics towards governmental authorities and other data users, covering lots of other priority areas, namely those dealing with consumer prices evolution, number and structure of employment and of employees, pensioners number and average pension, employment and unemployment, living conditions and other fields of interest for monitoring the Romanian economy evolution.

Having as steady objective of its activity the complete and timely production and dissemination statistical information, the National Institute of Statistics has oriented its data dissemination policy towards their increased timeliness and quality, widening and diversifying the disseminations forms; increased number, volume and coverage of statistical publications; the timely information of all statistical data users, by issuing, in 2010, over 200 press releases; improvement of data sources, including the use of administrative sources; widening and improving the databases, at the same time with facilitating their accessing.

In 2010, the electronic dissemination activity intensified by issuing the CD-Rom versions of statistical publications and by adding 32 new matrixes in the online TEMPO database.

In 2010 there were over 8500 new users who have created their own accounts for accessing TEMPO-online, indicating the increased interest of the public in the online access to statistical information, the most requested fields from online TEMPO database being population, tourism and labour force, prices and international trade.

The users' interest in statistical information produced by INS is also pointed out by the requests received from 1780 users from the country and from 230 foreign beneficiaries.



The structure of most desired statistical information, by field of statistical activity and by main user categories, in 2010, was as follows:

#### Most request statistical fields:

1. Consumer price indices	53.2 %
2. International trade	11.2 %
3. Population	7.8 %
4. Industry, construction	6.7 %
5. Population income, expenditure and consumption	5.7 %
6. Labour market	4.8 %
7. Tourism	3.8 %
8. National accounts	3.7 %
9. CANE and CPSA	1.6 %
10. Other fields (health, education, etc.)	1.5 %



Data requests by user categories:	Structure [%]
1. Courts of law	39.8
2. Economic operators, trade unions, employers	29.6
3. Presidency and Romanian Government	7.8
4. Romania's Parliament (Senate, Deputies Chamber and specialised commissions)	7.7
5. Universities, students and researchers	6.5
6. Prefectures, mayoralities and local councils	4.9
7. Embassies and foreign economic representatives	2.5
8. Other clients	1.2
TOTAL	100.0

In view to improve the assistance granted to European statistical data users, the INS has carried out the fourth grant in a row allotted by Eurostat for the activity of European statistical data dissemination, finally providing a new office for the guidance of European statistical data users in accessing the desired information, through the Assistance Centre for European statistics dissemination in Romania set up within the NIS (ADSE).

The ADSE Centre - NIS Romania is part of the ESDS network (European Statistical Data Support) comprising the European Union Member States, the specialised staff of INS being available at any time for supporting the data users in finding the information they need, guiding them towards the use of statistical publications and databases available on Eurostat website.



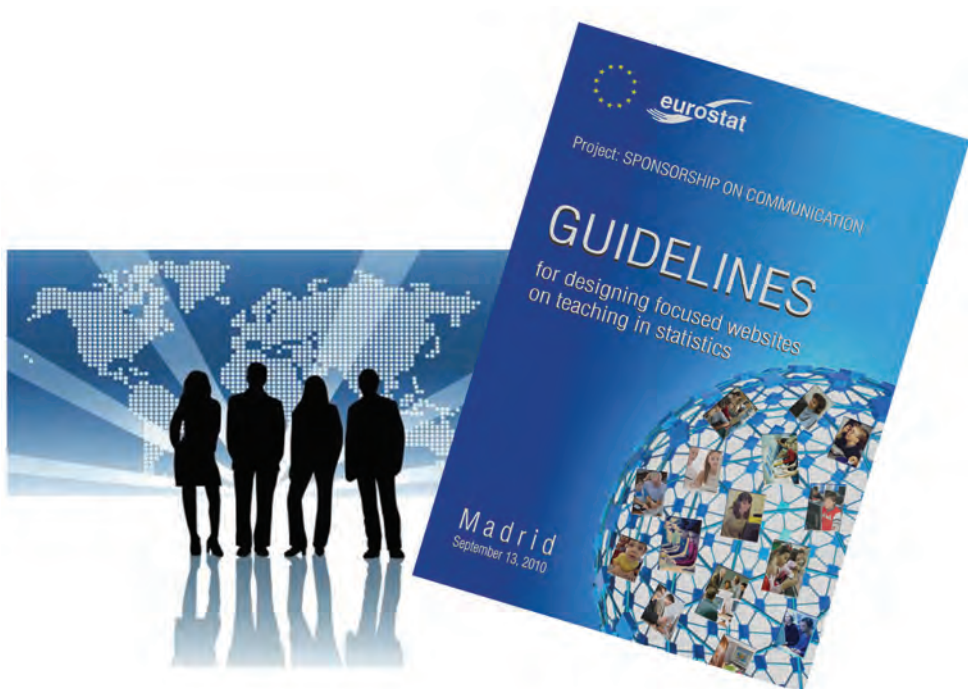


The ADSE team has solved during 2010 over 165 requests of European statistics, addressed both by domestic and foreign beneficiaries. Leaflets have been drawn up in view to promote the online Eurostat publications and databases and a seminar was organised, attended by representatives of ministries and central public administration institutions. The NIS website is permanently updated with the newest publications and press releases issued by Eurostat.

The NIS permanently promotes its statistical products by participating in various fairs and exhibitions.

Another achievement in the dissemination of statistical data is the coordination of the editing of data and metadata on the site of the International Monetary Fund, in the SDDS-online system in which, besides the NIS, the National Bank of Romania, the Ministry of Public Finance and the Bucharest Stock Exchange take part.

For the awareness and promotion of statistics among the users of statistical data, an important role played the implementation of the project granted by Eurostat for the sponsorship of the statistics communication - *Sponsorship in communication*, developed in collaboration with Bulgaria and Lithuania. The result of this project materialized in issuing a *Guide of recommendations* for building web sites for learning statistics, mainly by pupils and students, and for developing a survey in the Member States for reviewing the best practices in the field.



### 3.2. Improving and diversifying publications supply

The main objectives of publication were the following: edit publications with a coherent and unitary presentation by statistical domains, in accordance with the domestic editing standards; meet the issue schedule; print the statistical tools and deliver them in the field according to the Activity Plan of the NIS (AP); fulfil the goals in the AP in accordance with the economic measures, reduce the material expenses by using own resources for editing the publications, replace certain publications on paper with electronic ones, less expensive and easier to make.

Among the measures for saving resources, in view of the material expenses reduction, the printing number of publications and works on paper has been diminished in favour of those edited electronically. Therefore, over 100 titles were printed in 19000 copies of statistical publications on paper and 20000 copies were issued electronically (on CDs).

For the printing of the statistical tools on paper, the technological capacity of the County Statistical Office of Bistrița-Năsăud was used, which led to the shortening of the issue time and the reduction of the sending expenses towards ten regional statistical offices in the North of the country. As a result of the above said experience, the solution will be extended to other territorial statistical offices in the following years that will cover the East and the West of the country.



Thanks to the efforts for the development and modernization of the printing equipment, the issue of the Statistical Yearbook of Romania, a key statistical publication, was possible using only own means. The International Trade Yearbook of Romania, the 2010 edition, was printed in similar quality conditions, too.

In addition to the current activities included in the activity plan of the NIS, the following publications were printed in 2010:

- Papers necessary for the support of the externally financed projects developed by the NIS;
- The monthly publication *"The Romanian Magazine of Statistics"*;
- The paper *"Recent Progresses of Dissemination in the National Institute of Statistics of Romania"*, disseminated in Chişinău, during the *Seminar on the Statistical Data Dissemination and on the Launching of a New Web Solution*;
- The lobby-publication *"The Population and Household Census 2011 – statistical bench for the future social and economic development policies of Romania"*, which signalled once again to the Parliament of Romania the necessity and importance of The Population and Household Census of 2011;
- The brochure dedicated to the World Statistics Day.





Another activity that needed additional effort was the preparation for print of the *forms, Guide and the Control Manual* of the General Agricultural Census 2010, and part of the copies was printed on the equipment Highlight in colour.

All the scientific papers introduced at the *5<sup>th</sup> Edition of the International Conference on Applied Statistics*, edition dedicated to the World Statistics Day, have been issued electronically in collaboration with The Academy of Economic Studies.

Among the priorities of 2011, there is the further restructuring and modernizing of the presentation of the statistical publications, judiciously using the material results and the performing graphic programmes purchased in 2010, as well as the proposition to purchase new ones so that the institute meet the quality requests at European level.





## IV. Statistical standardisation

### 4.1. Sampling Frames

#### 4.1.1. Statistical Business Register - REGIS

The statistical business register provides the infrastructure necessary to all statistical business surveys and the main goal was the timely update, based on administrative sources, of all information necessary for obtaining relevant statistical data, of good quality and harmonized with the statistical standards and norms of the European Union.

In 2010, the statistical business register proved itself a source for new statistical information, necessary for:

- Update the Euro-Group Register, by transmitting to Eurostat the micro data on the enterprises of Romania which belong to the European groups of enterprises;
- Provide the infrastructure for the online receive of statistical data from the observation units through the web portal developed within the e-SOP project (e-Survey Online Portal).

For the harmonization of the classifications at European level, the nomenclature on the *Classification of Occupations in Romania* (COR) was updated by the Ministry of Labour, Family and Social Protection together with the National Institute of Statistics, classification that meets the provisions of the European Commission Regulation no. 1022/2009 on the International standard classification of occupations – ISC 08.

#### 4.1.2. Sample frame in social field - EMZOT

The activities developed in 2010 focused on the inventory of the Master Sample of Territorial Areas (EMZOT), on the extract samples for household surveys, on the calculation of expansion coefficients and the calculation of indicators for achieving the quality reports.

The inventory of the sample frame in the social field implied the update of households in EMZOT with data from the surveys carried out, the preparation of the frame for the sample extraction for the household surveys and the elaboration of statistics based on the information of the sample frame.

The extraction of samples for the household surveys implied the design and accomplishment of the household selection procedures and the preparation of household nomenclatures for every survey and their delivery in the field.

The sample frame EMZOT was the basis of performing certain statistical activities such as:

- The calculation of the expansion coefficients: design and accomplish the procedures for the calculation of the basic weights; apply adjustment procedures of total non-responses; design and accomplish the procedures for the sample recovery and the calculation of the final weights; determine the cross-weights for the life quality survey - ACAV for 2009 and of the longitudinal weights for ACAV, the years 2007-2008.



- The indicators calculation for accomplishing the quality reports:
  - the calculation of the sampling errors (standard deviation, variation, variation coefficient), of the non-response rate per total and by causes, of the errors due to the sample frame, for the evaluation of the data quality in the Household Labour Force Survey (AMIGO-2009 and the quarterly AMIGO-2010);
  - The calculation of the sampling errors (standard deviation, variation, variation coefficient), of the non-response rate per total and by causes, for the evaluation of the data quality in the ad-hoc module of the AMIGO survey and of the Survey on the household access to the communication and information technology;

$$\sigma = \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^n (r_i - \bar{r})^2 p_i} \quad \sigma = \sqrt{\frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (r_i - \bar{r})^2}{n-1}}$$

- The calculation of the sampling errors (standard deviation), of the non-response rate and of the errors due to the sample frame for the evaluation of the data quality in the ACAV statistical survey for 2007 -2009.
- The calculation of the statistical indicators in the social field: indicators of social inclusion from the Family Budget Survey (ABF) for 2009; indicators according to the Open Method of Coordination (OMC) in the ACAV survey for 2009.

#### 4.1.3. Statistical Register of Agricultural Holdings (REXA)

The Statistical Register of Holdings, that represents the base of the sample building for the statistical surveys in agriculture, was updated in 2010 based on the information obtained from the current surveys on animal and vegetal production.

After completion of the General Agricultural Census 2010, it will be totally redesigned and updated.

### 4.2. Databases

The existence of the central databases is required by the necessity of disseminating statistical data and of storing and filing the data series, too. The central databases of the National Institute of Statistics have been permanently updated, so as to picture all the content and structure changes of the statistical surveys, boasting more complete metadata and ways of accessibility superior to those of the previous years. Loading and updating the information of the databases has been done in accordance with the definite deadlines of the annual activity programme but also on precise request of the specialized departments within the National Institute of Statistics or of the statistical territorial offices.

The administration of the national fund of data and of the databases has also required the design/redesign and maintenance of the of the computer applications necessary for the management and extraction of the information from the databases. In order to meet the quality requirements of all the users, internal and external, the managed databases have been completed using also information taken from administrative sources.

#### 4.2.1. Database at administrative territorial units level (BDL)

The information in the database at the level of territorial administrative unit – BDL covers the following fields: territory, population, labour force, education, health, culture, agriculture, housing, public utility and tourism. For the period 1990-2009 there were achieved over 4.8 million values related to the indicators in the BDL. The database was completed with data for 2009, around 257700 values of the indicators for 3181 localities of Romania being included, the stored information including also the changes done in the nomenclature of the territorial administrative units SIRUTA.

#### 4.2.2. Database at county level (BDJ)

The apparition of new information sources and the changes in the sources structure have also been pictured in the database at County level. As the information included cover all the areas of the social and economic life, the volume of the data loaded annually is significant – for a number of 4700 indicators, over 110 thousand values correspond to 2009.

#### 4.2.3. Population database and „Demographic fiche”

The information corresponding to 2010 on the population of Romania (stable/residing, since 1995) by locality, gender and generation (on January 1<sup>st</sup> and July 1<sup>st</sup>) has been loaded in the population database.

*The demographic sheet* includes series of data since 1966 on the migratory and natural movement of the population at County and locality level, being updated with information corresponding to 2009. Out of both databases have been extracted pieces of information by extremely varied criteria, necessary to meet the numerous requests for data of the internal and external users.

#### 4.2.4. Central database with time series TEMPO

The activity of providing and completing the time series from TEMPO and also of adapting them to the changes in the statistical surveys of the NIS has been developed permanently. The information of the database covers 21 years at present, starting with 1990.

The central database with TEMPO time series includes statistical indicators that cover all the areas of the social and economic life, being important in the characterisation of the specific phenomena of Romania. The information is monthly, quarterly, annual or of variable apparition. The stored data compose time series, characterised by continuity and comparability in time, as coverage, methodology and representativeness.

At the end of 2010, in TEMPO there were 1123 matrices stored, 32 more compared to 2009, having almost 12 million non-zero values loaded, around 1 million values more compared to the previous year. New matrices have been loaded for the “labour force” statistical field as to the job vacancies and employment cost indices and the end of the year has also hall-marked the publishing of all the time series at macro region level on the NIS site. The data interrogation from the matrices specific to business statistics has been redesigned, the data being now available in accordance with the multi-level structures of CAEN at various levels of aggregation.

#### 4.2.5. Database with annual financial sheets and half-year balance sheets

The database has been completed with the information from the balance sheets of the economic operators corresponding to 2009 and it is used, beside *the database of the active traders*, in the correlation activity of the statistical indicators with the economic and financial indicators in the annual and semi-annual financial and accounting statements of the economic operators. The database includes information related to the economic operators, the credit and insurance institutions, non-profit legal persons, capital market and the execution of other budgetary funds.



#### 4.2.6. ASTRM database

In order to obtain the data on the road transport of goods, the sample base has been quarterly updated using the information provided by the Romanian Road Authority.

#### 4.2.7. Foreign trade database

Since 2007, the unified foreign trade database has been set up that includes data collected in the INTRASTAT system and the import–export data taken from the Customs National Authority monthly.

Hence, the NIS boasts the most complex foreign trade database, regarding both its content and the period covered (1986-2010) that includes annual and monthly foreign trade data which are detailed according to value and quantity, at 8 digits level in the Combined Nomenclature, by countries of origin, of expedition and of destination, by ways of transportation and by customs practice.

The information in the database represents the sources for the publications specific to the field, for solving the numerous data requests, as well as for various research projects, analysis and synthesis works or projects with external financing. In this respect, in 2010, from the foreign trade database:

- There was provided the necessary information to meet the collaboration conventions with various central institutions or ministries in the field of foreign trade;
- There were carried out specific data processing, of great volume, requested by ministries for the correlation with the information sent to the European Commission;
- There were carried out specific data processing for the standardization exercise 2010 – *„The Achievement of Foreign Trade Statistics by Business Characteristics“*;
- There were built data files that have been monthly sent to Eurostat in GESMES format;
- Complex data processing for 2009 and 2010 were carried out for using them within grants: *„Reduce asymmetries within INTRASTAT“*, *„Trade Statistical Indicators by Business Characteristics“* and *„Implementation of XT NET in Member States“*;
- Information was extracted for the issue of the International Trade Yearbook, of the International Trade Bulletin, of the monthly international trade press releases and of the press conferences, as well as for the questionnaires sent to Eurostat and to other international bodies.

#### 4.2.8. Consumer price indices database (CPI)

It includes monthly CPI data series, since October 1990 up to the present, as well as annual series since 1990. The update of the CPI standardized computer application has been done monthly and annually, respectively and it is used for dissemination daily.



#### 4.2.9. Physical industrial production database (PFIND)

It contains information – as to the value and quantity – on the production, deliveries, the productive internal consumption and stock at the beginning and the end of the period, as well as the total value of deliveries by the main products under research. The computer application PFIND uses the database updated monthly and allows the differentiate extraction of data depending on statute (confidential or non-confidential) and it is operated by the dissemination departments of the NIS.

A particular emphasis as to the database management was placed on the analysis and confidentiality of monthly, quarterly, semi-annual and annual data and on cumulative periods.

#### 4.2.10. Metadata database

In the statistical standardization, for the creation of the Complex Information System of official statistical information and data description, the Beta version of the metadata system was made by completeing the loading of information in the metadata base in both Romanian and English.

The last quarter of 2010 overlapped with the publication of the English version of the metadata base on the NIS site and the accomplishment of the total conformity of information available in both Romanian and English.

At the end of 2010, in the metadata base there were stored descriptions for 158 statistical activities and definitions for 1860 statistical terms and indicators. The permanent activity of maintaining and updating the database involved the loading of new statistical activities, but also the creation of the history of the activities already existent.

For the continuing modernization and harmonization with the requests of the European statistics, a series of priorities has been established for 2011 for the development of databases:

- Develop the structure of metadata description for ensuring their standardization and harmonization with those at European level and the improvement of the content of the reference database;
- Develop the metadata base by ensuring the structure necessary for storing metadata on quality in accordance with the European standard of quality reporting (ESQRS);
- Continue the improving and enriching of information in TEMPO, as well as the providing of new functions for the TEMPO online application: connection with the metadata base, adjust the interrogation application to any areas, sub-areas, sectors and matrices changes.

In a wider perspective, the following actions are taken into consideration for the future years:

- Harmonize the metadata of national reference (towards the ESMS standard), through a gradual approach, in accordance with the activities flow and their periodicity, by using the application NRME (National Reference Metadata Editor);
- Provide the metadata necessary for the SDMX format of data for the widest possible range.



## V. Statistical Production

In a comprehensive vision, the statistical production process includes the activities of design, research and methodological development, the actual production of statistical data and the dissemination of the statistical products and services.

In 2010, the production of statistical data and information was again the key activity of the National Institute of Statistics, including various production processes that involved the great majority of the available human, material and financial resources.

The statistical production was prevailingly determined by the request for statistical data. The picture of the information requirements was obtained from a long process of collaboration between the producers of official statistics and its users and the result of that collaboration was registered in the National Annual Statistical Programme (NASP) 2010.

The National Institute of Statistics is among the first fundamental state institutions that have elaborated and implemented annual statistical research programmes, based on complex structures of specific and inter-institutional activities generated by own initiatives and by proposals of partners in the National Statistical System. These programmes materialize the objectives and tasks of the official statistics necessary for the evaluation of the economic and social policies outcomes provided in the governing programme and for the information needs of the entire Romanian society.

The complex and varied topic of the NASP 2010 has covered all the areas of the economic and social life, providing the statistical data and information necessary for the evaluation of the activities developed at various time intervals (monthly, quarterly and annually) and for the definition of the development programmes.

The programme has been developed according to the principles of the European Statistics Code of Practice for the elaboration and dissemination of certain harmonized official statistics of high quality and with the purpose of providing an adequate operation of the National Statistical System as a whole.

NASP 2010 has provided the legal basis for requests addressed to data providers – companies, households and individuals and private or public organisations – constituting the support for the allotment of the necessary resources, especially regarding the financing of the statistical activities.

During 2010, the activity of the institute has focussed on the implementation, on time and under conditions of adequate quality, of all the statistical activities contained in the NASP.

At the level of the entire programme, in 2010, the data collection and centralization from a number of around 3000000 statistical units (economic agents, public administration units and population households) has been done through a number of 123 statistical surveys, and the outcomes of those activities materialized in the elaboration of 37 statistical works, 14 quality reports, 13 studies and statistical analyses, as well as through the issuing of more than 100 statistical publications.





Compared to 2009, in 2010:

- 7 new statistical surveys were introduced: *Tourism expenses of non-residents accommodated in the private tourism establishments, Passenger transport by car, The reconciliation between the professional and the family life, The survey of the structure of business earnings, The survey of business professional training, Time use survey, The survey of adult education.* Some of these surveys have been carried out for the first time and some others have been reintroduced as a result of their periodicity of 4-5 years. For the last two statistical surveys, in 2010 the statistical tools were redesigned and the data collection will take place in 2011.
- 4 statistical surveys were eliminated mainly as a result of their periodicity or of the obtaining the respective information from other surveys or from administrative: *The wildlife fund, the situation of the game and the results of the hunting, The production of milk and dairy products – annually, The agricultural waste statistics and The innovation.*
- 7 studies and analyses were replaced with new ones out of which some aim to ensure the need for information of the local and central administration at national level and others to continue the process of aligning the Romanian statistics to the European Statistical System; of them the following should be mentioned: *The projection of the school population in 2050, Children and young people in Romania: demographic balance, Women and men: life and work partnership, as well as Data collection for the common Eurostat or OECD questionnaires on the interior waters, the sector of environmental services and goods, the forestry sector and the education and health sector;*
- 5 new publications were issued: *Innovation in industry and services, The projection of the school population in 2050, Children and young people in Romania: demographic balance, Women and men: life and work partnership, The reconciliation between the professional and the family life.*



The National Annual Statistical Programme 2010 has met the development requests of the National Statistical System due also to the diversification of the collaboration in the statistical field and the transfer of the responsibility as to the performance of certain statistical surveys within certain ministries or national authorities that coordinate the respective domain. Therefore, we can underline the fact that *14 statistical surveys and works were achieved by other public institutions and authorities in 2010*.

In 2010, over 40 independent grants were developed for the support of the national statistics development by the European Commission by granting certain contracts for services and by signing different grant agreements for enhancing the harmonization process with the standards and regulations of the European Union and for meeting the users' needs in due time.

It is worth mentioning the fact that 90% of the statistical works done in 2010 had as statistical destination the European Commission (Eurostat), too. It is notable that in the NASP there are precise deadlines for data transmission to Eurostat, a confirmation of the Romanian statistics as to its commitment to meet the obligations arising from the status of official statistics of a Member State of the European Union.

A key importance and a special significance in the activity of the National Institute of Statistics in 2010 had the preparation and the launching, according to the applicable normative acts, of two actions of national importance: ***The General Agricultural Census 2010*** and ***The Population and Housing Census 2011***.

## 5.1. Macroeconomic statistics

The national accounts and the entire range of macroeconomic indicators – the fundamental indicators of any economy – have been in the centre of the preoccupation of the National Institute of Statistics, oriented towards the alignment of the methods and techniques of the indicators estimation, one hand, and towards the harmonization of these estimation results with the standards and rules of the EU on the other. In 2010, the following should be mentioned as *outstanding achievements* in the field: *strengthen the calculation of the macroeconomic indicators, elaborate the quarterly accounts of the institutional sectors and estimate quarterly the employment according to the methodology of the European System of Accounts 1995*. By switching to a quarterly determination of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) seasonally adjusted, the Romanian statistics aligned with the EU norms and standards for the evaluation of the economic growth on a comparable basis, a very important step in measuring the impact of the recession and, implicitly of the results of the measures for overcoming the crisis and the recovery measures, as a the Government's priority objective.

To the same context belongs the current implementation of the determination and publishing of "*signal*" estimates" which allowed to make available for the users, for the Government in the first place, the data on the GDP growth at a much shorter interval, that is of 40 days from the end of the quarter compared to the 75 days previously.



By aligning the Romanian statistics to the requests of the European Statistical System, the non-financial quarterly accounts of the institutional sectors have been elaborated for the period 1999-2010.

At the same time, the annual and quarterly estimation of the employment is highlighted according to the definitions and methodology of the national accounts, indispensable prerequisite of social labor productivity calculation for the period 2000-2010.

The collaboration of the NIS with the Ministry of Public Finances, the National Bank of Romania and the National Commission for Prognosis for the exceptionally important project regarding the determination and the report of the governmental debt and deficit within the programme of the Excessive Deficit Procedure, information sent regularly to the European Commission (Eurostat) which uses them as a barometer of economic and financial performance of the EU Member States, should be particularly emphasized.

The activity in the macroeconomic statistics also excels in the participation at community projects that aim to improve the quality of the national accounts.

There were started the activities within two projects with EU financing, which are to be finalized in 2011 and aim at improving the quality of national accounts and perfection of national accounting methodology by means of :

- Implementing the NACE Rev.2 in national accounting;
- improving the quarterly accounts of institutional sectors;
- improving the estimations on fixed capital consumption by institutional sectors;
- improving the estimations in volume and price for non-market services of health and education;
- improving the way to treatment R&D expenditure in national accounting.

## 5.2. International trade in goods statistics

Statistics in international trade in goods contain data on trade between member states (Intrastat) and on trade with extra-community countries (Extrastat).

Statistical information regarding international trade in goods is essential for European economic and commercial policies, as well as for the analysis of market evolution for various individual products. Statistics contain detailed data broken down by member partner states, by goods according to the Combined Nomenclature and other related classifications, such as Standard International Trade Classification , Broad Economic Categories, Classification of Products by Activities, by transport ways, etc.

The activity of producing statistics of international trade in goods focus on dissemination of harmonized statistics, observing the requirements of quality, actuality, relevance adapted to the users needs.

The concepts and methods are adapted so that they should integrate statistics of international trade in goods into general statistical system at community and international level.



At the same time, methodological principles and instruments of data collection are developed based on the most recent technological evolutions aiming at reducing the task of reporting for economic operators and improving the data quality. Data are collected, processed and disseminated according to the regulations stipulated in community legislation (Intrastat and Extrastat regulations).

Regarding the production of statistics of intra-community trade in goods – Intrastat, the main activities achieved in 2010 aimed at:

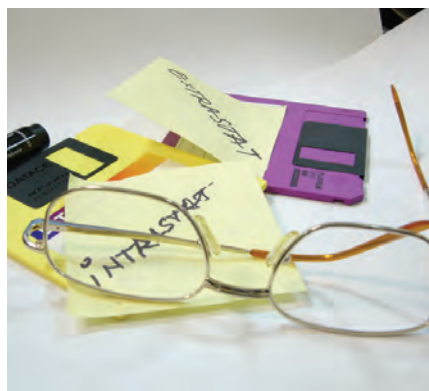
- permanent updating and improving the data quality in Intrastat Statistical Register, both based on direct information from data suppliers, and from sources of additional data (territorial statistical directions, Business Statistical Register, Trade Register, fiscal declarations from Ministry of Public Finances, Internet, etc.);
- statistical data collection, except electronically, from over 18500 monthly data suppliers;
- primary (form) and secondary (content) validation of over 350000 lines per month (in average) – direct contact with data suppliers for error lines;
- strict monitoring of data suppliers priority from the viewpoint of value volume of intra-community operations with goods (about 2000 firms);
- estimation of non-responses and of economic operators' trade under statistical thresholds and that do not send willingly Intrastat declarations.

We should remark the collaboration with National Customs Authority (ANV) for the reception and analysis of intra-community trade data for those intra-community operations for which export and import customs declarations are built up; analysis of these data at level of economic operator, in order to put out possible double registrations and their integration in intrastate system.

In order to improve the quality of data collection, INS provided methodological and technical assistance for data suppliers Intrastat, mostly by: completion of statistical tools, in electronic format, bilingual, on the site [www.intrastat.ro](http://www.intrastat.ro); services of methodological and technical help-desk, by phone, fax, e-mail, post, forum Intrastat or visits to INS headquarters; training courses organized by National Center of Statistical Training.

For trade with EU non-member states, specific statistics are carried out by INS based on data from export and import customs declarations monthly collected and send by INS to National Customs Authority.

The quality of statistical data of international trade in goods and especially of statistical data of intra-community trade is permanently taken into account, due to their impact over the main macroeconomic indicators. In this context of evaluation and improvement of data quality, in 2010 there continued several activities meant to contribute to reduce the asymmetry between statistical data of intra-community trade of Romania and those of main member partner states. Thus, within the Program for European statistics modernization regarding enterprises and trade (MEETS) of Eurostat, during January-December 2010 it was developed the grant „*Reducing asymmetries in Intrastat*” for 2009 as reference period.



At global level, data analysis aimed at identifying and measuring asymmetries for each flow – intra-community inputs and outputs of goods. Where it was possible, analyses were carried out by longer series of data, to evaluate if identified asymmetries were caused by impact of Romanian's accession to the European Union, on January 1, 2007.

At detailed level, data analysis was mostly focused on codes of Combined Nomenclature at level of 8 digits with big discrepancies in 2009 and combined data from statistical and fiscal sources, respectively Intrastat system, VAT discounts and recapitulative declarations.

At the same time, within MEETS program, in 2010 there were developed actions aiming at:

- producing statistical indicators by characteristics of enterprise – actions within this project were meant to improve relation between trade data from both data sources - Intrastat system and Extrastat system - and Business Statistical Register, to identify and develop new statistical indicators, which combine trade statistics with business statistics.
- improving consistency between statistics of international trade in goods and balance of payments updating CIF/FOB adjustment method and recalculation of CIF-FOB adjustment coefficient for imports. Actions within this grant were started in January 2010 and will continue up to December 2011.

## 5.3. Economic statistics

### 5.3.1. Short term indicators statistics

In the field of *short term indicators*, main objective was to meet in time the users requests, at whose disposal there were put relevant quality statistical data, harmonized with European Union statistical standards and norms.

We should remark that besides the achievement in time of activities stipulated in the NASP 2010, a new statistical survey was carried out aiming at getting statistical information regarding *tourist expenditure of residents accommodated in private tourist accommodation establishments* and special efforts were done to successfully finalize the project called generically e-SOP (e-Survey Online Portal) on taking over online of statistical data from observation units, leading to less time for data collection and to unitary coordination of this activity within INS and territorial statistical directions.

In the field of science and technology there were developed projects from Phare 2006 program, as well as i2009 grants which aim at improving data quality in this field, as follows:

- *R&D grant* had as purpose to improve R&D data at national level, introduction in annual paper a part with new indicators from ERA (European Research Area);





- *grant regarding innovation activity in public sector*, which was carried out at Eurostat recommendation and which had a strong impact on pursuing (surveying) some indicators on innovation at level of public administration.
- project on *Carrier of doctorate holders*, which developed in our country for the second time and which contributed to improvement both of data quality and quantity. Improvements aimed at methodological aspects reformulating definitions of indicators, clear understanding of research purpose by respondents, as well as achieving all the tables (compulsory and optional of the survey) and not lately surveying more respondents.

For 2011, priorities to achieve statistics of short term indicators are oriented to:

- identification of data sources, needed to experimental compilation of satellite account in the field of tourism;
- implementation of e-SOP project to process online statistical data of „UNICA” statistical survey and from construction, tourism and R&D field;
- improvement of data collection questionnaires in R&D field.

### 5.3.2. Structural business statistics

Structural business statistics provides the most complex information from economic field and main objectives of 2010 were oriented to satisfy domestic and external users' requests, assuring the continuity of statistical indicators series and of data quality, as well as supply of information needed for development policies of Romanian economy.

At the same time, it should be specified that achieving of structural business statistics which involve material, financial and human efforts, was submitted to detailed reevaluations as a result of passing from the classification of national activities CANE Rev.1 to CANE Rev.2. In 2010, data collection on impact of international externalization was performed.

In 2010, important actions were developed on TIC products, according to which there were collected data on the use of TIC products in enterprises, being calculated besides annual indicators on access and use of TIC products, indicators on TIC security systems and their implementation policies by enterprises.

At the same time, 2010 was year of passing to date transmission by DGEFIN according to the classification CANE Rev.2 for short term surveys, then in 2011 to be assured recalculation of historical series in the new classification.

Regarding transport statistics it was carried out, for the first time, the multiannual statistical survey on transport of passengers by cars, to complete the sphere of indicators on passengers' mobility.



### 5.3.3. Agriculture, forestry and environmental statistics

In the field of agricultural statistics, there were collected, processed and put at disposal of users statistical data regarding crop production and animal production and economic accounts, at the same time with achievement of activities specific to General Agricultural Census.

In 2010, basic statistical survey was finalized on land under vines for the first time, according to Eurostat requirements. Main objective of this statistical survey was estimation of main indicators which determine productive potential of vines: area cultivated with types of wine grapes, area cultivated with types of table grapes, area cultivate with propagation material, plantation age, main types of grapes and potential yield.

Regarding forestry statistics, it could be pointed out the development of some data collection to get some statistical indicators in physical and monetary units, frequently asked by Eurostat and other international institutions.

In the context of environment statistics alignment to European standards and practices, INS carried out an integral statistical system „economy-environment”, building up basic environment statistics (waste statistics, water statistics, emissions statistics, statistics of environment statistics expenditure), environment accounts (account of material flows „economy-environment”, accounts of environment industries, air emissions accounts) and sustainability indicators.

To strengthen the statistical system in the field of agriculture and environment, INS developed within the Program „Facility of transition: Harmonization of Romanian agriculture and environment statistics with European norms and standards”, the following subprojects:

- *Statistics of chemical and dangerous substances*: complex activities of this project aim at elaboration of the following indicators: chemical risk index, production of toxic chemicals and apparent consumption of toxic chemicals by toxicity classes;
- *Indicators of impact over environment*: result in integration of existent statistical information and development of new statistics to build up indicators of impact over environment;
- *Statistical survey on pesticides on the market*: pursued to identify existent data sources on pesticides available on the market;

In order to study existent data sources and set up future method to collect data on ecological crop production, INS developed the grant „Statistics of ecological crop production”.

In order to estimate water volume used for irrigation of crops in agriculture, by means of the grant „Water volume used for irrigations”, INS carried out a study which had as objective the analysis of existent methods to estimate water volume used for irrigation of crops in agriculture and elaboration of an estimation methodology of water volume used for irrigation of crops in agriculture.



## 5.3.4. Social statistics

### 5.3.4.1. Demographic statistics

The demographic statistics system relies on exhaustive type surveys, assuring the collection and processing of information taken from institutions which deal with administrative data sources on population evidence and demographic events.

In 2010, over 1.2 million individual registrations were carried out with information on natural increase, civil status, internal and external migration.

The information on demographic statistics were put at the disposal of users by monthly press releases on demographic phenomena and by 12 annual statistical papers regarding the dynamics of demographic phenomena, population number and structure, at national and territorial level (regions of development, counties, localities).

Demographic data were transferred to INS databases (BDJ, BDL and TEMPO) and of Eurostat (DEMO, REGIO and MIGRAT).



### 5.3.4.2. Labour market statistics

#### Employment statistics

The system of labour force statistics developed by implementation of new statistical surveys, redesign some of already existent statistical surveys and their adaption to the most recent European regulations and development of new methodologies for a better harmonization of methods and practices to build up the indicators in this field.

The content of numerous press releases has been improved, disseminated statistical indicators being accompanied by comments on their size and evolution, as well as by significant metadata, for a better understanding of economic events taking place on the labour market.

The information needed to evaluate market phenomena on the labour market, measuring active population – employed and unemployed – and of non-economically active population are obtained from Household labour force survey (AMIGO). In order to organize and develop this statistical survey there were carried out the following activities: introducing new variables and modules in the survey questionnaires; data collection, processing and validation, analysis of results; elaboration of quarterly publications (Romanian and English) and of annual ones for 2009 (Romanian); supply, validation of Eurostat micro data.



As special results of 2010 we mention *redesign of statistical tools* for household labour force survey (AMIGO) which was carried out according to revised methodological data elaborated by Eurostat, in order to allow the implementation of revised classifications of occupations (COR 2008), as well as measurement of employment in agriculture according to new definitions agreed at EU level. Variables newly introduced in data collection will also allow the characterization of tele-working type occupation.

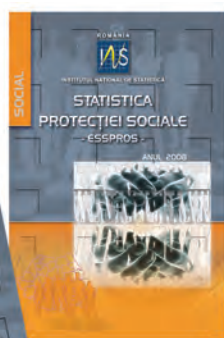
In 2010, within the grant project of European Commission, it was designed and implemented an ad hoc module regarding "*Reconciliation between professional and family life*" which had the second quarter of 2010 as reference period.

At end of year, also within the grant project of European Commission, there were started the activity of designing the tools for ad hoc module "*Employment of disability persons*", complementary module for household labour force survey (AMIGO), which takes place in the second quarter of 2011.

There were built up quarterly quality reports on accuracy indicators, it was elaborated the quality report for 2009 regarding the survey organization, development and results, as well as quality report for ad hoc module of second quarter 2009 with the topics "*Access of young persons to the labour market*".

Design and implementation activities of this ad hoc module were carried out within the grant working program. According to the work calendar of the project, activities were finalized by a final report and transmission to Eurostat of micro data files.

The results of statistical activity from employment and unemployment statistics became public by quarterly press releases (for quarterly results) and annual ones (for results from 2009) and by press release regarding the survey results "*Reconciliation between professional and family life*".







Based on the information obtained from the surveys there were elaborated and disseminated, quarterly and annually, the following publications: „Labour force in Romania: employment and unemployment” and „Reconciliation between professional and family life”.

In 2010 there were also developed activities stipulated by work calendars of several projects with EC financing, namely:

- *Access of young persons on the labour market* – grant 2008 – had as objective to design and carry out statistical survey with topics from the project title, as ad hoc module of household labour force survey in the second quarter of 2009; activities taking place in 2010 included analysis of results and trans-coding micro data in standard format and their transmission to Eurostat;
- *Reconciliation between professional and family life* – grant 2009 – has objective to design and carry out statistical survey with topics from the project title, as ad hoc module annexed to household labour force survey, in the second quarter of 2010; during 2010 it was achieved the testing of questionnaire; finalizing the tools; data collection, validation, analysis of results;
- *Employment of disability persons* – grant 2010 – has a objective to design and carry out the statistical survey with topics from the project title, as ad hoc module attached to household labour force survey, in the second quarter of 2011; during 2010 it was done partial projection of tools;
- *Improvement of labour force statistics*, component of ad hoc Module 2012 – grant 2009 – had as objective to test ad hoc module 2012 regarding transition from work to retirement; in 2010 it was done the analysis of results obtained following the testing and it was elaborated the report which was sent to Eurostat in February;
- *Improvement of labour force statistics*, component of Flows of inter-status transition – grant 2009 – has as objective investigation of methods producing statistics allowing longitudinal data analysis, of panel type – changes of professional status, work program, category from the viewpoint of taking part in economic activity – from available information from statistical survey on household labour force (AMIGO); during 2010, there were carried out activities of building up gross series of longitudinal data, extension of built data sets, analysis of estimations and drawing up the final report which was sent to Eurostat in December.

Taking into account the requirements formulated by Eurostat, during 2010 there were passed the first stages, within activities developing the derivation methodology with monthly periodicity of unemployment indicators of ILO type (according to criteria of International Labour Office) based on quarterly results obtained from household labour force survey (AMIGO), without using any type of auxiliary alternative.

## Salary statistics

The information needed to evaluate the size, structure and trends of earnings and of labour cost are assured by the results of statistical surveys of profile. Intra-annual statistical surveys – *Monthly earnings survey*, respectively *Vacancies survey*, provide information necessary to monitor short term terms for earnings indicators and demand of jobs. Annual statistical surveys – *Salary survey in October*, *Labour cost survey*, as well as Earnings structure survey carried out each four years, provide statistical production useful to evaluate middle and long term trends in the field of earnings and of labour cost.

Also on short term, evaluation of trends in the evolution of labour cost by economic and social activity sectors, under the conditions of comparability with European statistics, was carried out by means of quarterly indices of labour cost, produced and disseminated in gross (unadjusted) form, adjusted by number of working days and seasonally.

The tools of statistical surveys carried out in 2010 were redesigned again in order to allow data collection according to the last regulations in the field within national legislation.

During 2010 it was designed the tool of *Earnings structure survey* which is to be done in 2011 with 2010 as reference period, projected variables had in view compulsory implementation of revised classification of occupations (COR 2008).

A special achievement is online collection, by e-SOP system of data for „*Annual statistical survey regarding salaries in October 2010*”.

Most of statistical surveys in the field of salary statistics will be transferred on e-SOP system. Thus, work tools and flows for annual and infra-annual surveys to be launched at the beginning of 2011 were designed again in order to allow their adapting to the new system.

Following the development of specific methodologies and based on the results obtained from specified surveys, there were also produced *additional statistics*, namely:

- Real earnings indices – as ratio between net earnings indices and consumer price indices (annual and monthly);
- Templates for short term indicators (STS) - monthly;
- *Structural indices*: fiscal task of labour cost; unemployment trap; small salary trap; salary disparity of gender;
- *Indicators required by Eurostat according to Gentlemen’ Agreements*: net earnings for 13 particular cases, annual gross earnings by activities and genders and number of employees afferent to earnings; labour cost and its structure by component elements; minimum salary and weight of those who earn at level of minimum salary; ratio between minimum salary and net average earnings in industry and services.



The results of statistical activity in the field of earnings statistics, labour cost and vacancies became public by means of 23 infra-annual and annual press releases, regarding: monthly average earnings; vacancies; quarterly indices of labour cost; salaries in October 2009; labour cost in 2009.

In August 2010, quality report for 2009 on quarterly indices of labour cost was finalized and sent to Eurostat.

The statistics obtained from statistical surveys in the field were disseminated to the users of statistical data and into 2 publications and 4 papers, respectively: *Distribution of employees by salary groups achieved in October 2009*, *Earnings and labour cost in 2009*, *Distribution of employees by groups of salaries and occupations in October 2009*, *Number of employees in 2009*, *Average number of employees, gross amounts paid and monthly average earnings in 2009*, *Labour cost in 2009*.



In the field of salary statistics, during 2010, there were developed activities stipulated in work calendars of several projects with EC financing:

- *Vacancies statistics* – started at the middle of 2009. Project had two major objectives: the first one consisted in identifying a method to allow the production of good quality statistics under the conditions of lower task of reply for small and very small enterprises (under 10 employees), and the second one had as purpose to improve data quality for statistics corresponding to the new divisions – 87 and 88 - of CANE Rev.2 within health activities. During 2010, data and results of investigations were analyzed and two reports (interim and final) were drawn up and sent to Eurostat in March, respectively, September.
- *Using administrative sources* – collaboration with other INS specialised departments to accomplish the activities within the project.

## Social protection statistics

Statistics of social protection built up based on administrative data represent important sources of data needed to elaborate national policies in the field.

The main indicators in the field of social protection statistics refer to number of pensioners and unemployed registered. Information was taken over from administrative sources, respectively from institution registers with responsibilities in this field:

- National pensions and social security house (CNPAS), Lawyers pensions house, Pensions houses of Ministry of Culture and National Patrimony, Ministry of National Defense, Ministry of Administration and Interior, Romanian Information Office – *for number of pensioners and monthly pension*;
- National Employment Agency – *for number of unemployed registered and unemployment rate*.

Assuring information on *average number of pensioners and monthly average pension* according to the retirement system and by categories of pensions was carried out by data collection, processing and validation, analysis of results and elaboration of quarterly and annual data papers, producing statistics necessary to elaborate national policies in the field of social insurance. For 2011, the tools used for data collection was designed again.

The evaluation of work resources and of ratio in which they are used in various branches and sectors of economic and social activity was done in a synthesis paper regarding *Balance of labour force on January 1, 2010*, being carried out based on data from statistical and administrative sources. Balance provides statistical indicators on civil population employment and unemployment registered, comparable in time, at national and territorial level (macro regions, regions of development and counties).



In order to provide statistical information on annual income and expenditure of social protection practiced in the national system, according to EU rules and recommendations, stipulated in ESSPROS methodology, there were produced data on income and expenditure of social protection, it was completed and sent to Eurostat statistical the questionnaire on income and expenditure of social protection. Also according to ESSPROS methodology, there were produced data on the number of pensions' beneficiaries and it was completed and sent to Eurostat the statistical questionnaire on the number of pensions beneficiaries.

In keeping with EU rules and recommendations from LMP methodology, there were assured statistical information on annual expenditure and number of participants in the measures constituted as public interventions on the labour market by data collection on policies acting on the labour market from administrative sources. Database in standard format was completed and sent to Eurostat.

An important activity was to take over from administrative sources and to check the data afferent to the indicators in the field of work conditions statistics, social insurance and social security; this information were disseminated by synthesis publications elaborated by NIS.



The results of statistical surveys and papers were materialized by achieving the following quarterly and annual publications: *Number of pensioners and monthly average pension; Number of pensioners and monthly average pension for 2009; Implementation of policies regarding labour market – 2009; Social protection statistics according to ESSPROS, in 2008; Labour force balance on January 1, 2010.*

The content of those two annual publications presenting social protection statistics with methodologies harmonized at EU level – Implementation of policies on labour market and Social protection statistics according to ESSPROS – was substantially improved under the aspect of information presentation, as well as supply of new indicators with relevant significance for the users.

Metadata base was actively built up and responses for data requests were provided.

The improvement of professional training represents a priority for European and national policies, integrating part of promoting the increase in employment degree. Therefore, a special attention was given to design the tools for the next round of business statistical survey regarding professional training (FORPRO) which is to be carried out in 2011, having 2010 as reference period. For this statistical survey, data collection will be carried out by the new e-SOP system, meaning additional efforts concerning redesign of tools and planning the work flows, mainly respondents and territorial statistical directions.



#### 5.3.4.3. Living conditions statistics

In the field of living conditions, actions developed in 2010 were oriented to implement the calculation methodologies of some indicators comparable in the fields of great interest at European level, redesign some already existent statistical surveys and their adapting to the most recent European regulations, as well as harmonization with national legislation.

A very important statistical survey for National Statistical System is *Family budget survey* – sampling statistical survey, the main data source to evaluate population income, consumption and expenditure, to fundament social protection programs, analysis of impact to apply various programs in social field, economic effects of transition, generally on economic and social situation of population. Survey was carried out following monthly data collection from 3120 households. Results of this survey are found in the publications *Population income and consumption* and in *Coordinates of living standard: Population income and consumption – 2009*. Data became public by three press releases.

During 2010 there were developed the activities within tow independent grants, namely: *European survey on income and living conditions - EU-SILC*, Romanian name of statistical survey being *Quality life survey - ACAV* and *Access of population to information and communication technology - TIC in households*.

- *Life quality survey (ACAV)* – longitudinal statistical survey, assured information need to evaluate population living conditions, ponting out the interconnection and complementarity of various aspects, such as: health, education, income, living conditions, occupation, poverty, material deprivation, etc. Data collection was done both for transversal module and for longitudinal one in May-June 2010. there were surveyed about 9300 households and about 17000 persons aged 15 years and over, resulted data being disseminated by the publication „*Population living conditions in Romania for 2009*”. There were drawn up two quality reports: *final report for 2008 and intermediary report for 2009*. Files with transversal microdata checked and validated wee sent to Eurostatin standard format required.
- In April 2010, data collection was done for the *Survey regarding access to information and communication technology* – harmonized survey with European recommendations providing information on household access to modern technique of information and communication, using computers, internet access and use, trade on internet, pace and frequency of internet use. To carry out this survey, number of surveyed units was 10000 households and about 15000 persons. There were built up two reports: report on metadata, and final report of data quality. These, together with files of micro data and metadata, were sent to Eurostat. Data were provided to the public by the publication “*Population acces to information and communication technology in 2010*”.





For *Indicators of social inclusion* – it was continued the calculation of national set of inclusion indicators, according to G.D. no. 488/2005 regarding the approval of national system of inclusion indicators, statistical activity whose results can be found in the publication „*Dimensions of social inclusion in Romania*”.

#### 5.3.4.4. Social services statistics

In the field of education statistics, those 13 exhaustive statistical surveys from education units which point out phenomena both at the beginning of school/university year and at the end of school/university year, gave the possibility to collect a generous volume of information regarding school population participation in education and training process by levels of education (according to International Standard Classification of Education - ISCED-97).

Dissemination of results in education field was done by those 10 statistical papers, in which data are presented at national, regional, county level, by residence area, ownership type, education type, specializations, language, gender, age, etc, as well as by annual synthesis publication „*Education system in Romania – synthetic data*”.

Also in the field of education statistics there were elaborated annual statistical indicators: net coverage rate, graduation rate, abandon rate, transition rate from one level of education to next level of education, results of graduation examinations, number of pupils per teaching staff, weight of qualified staff in total number of teaching staff by level of education, regions of development, counties, genders and residence areas. These indicators are required to set up the strategic documents PRAI (Action plans for vocational and technical education) and PLAI (Local plans for vocational and technical education).

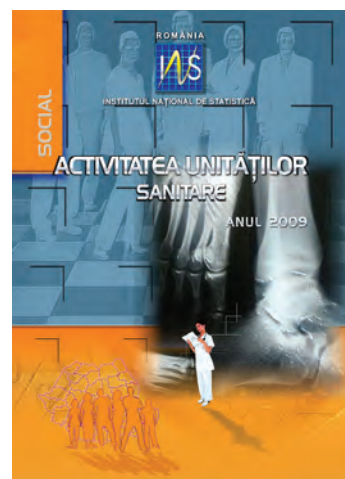


Non-financial and financial data on education were sent to Eurostat, in standard format, harmonized at European level by UOE methodology (UNESCO-OECD-Eurostat).

The evaluation of education and training level of population aged 25 to 64 years, had in the last 12 months (April 2007- March 2008), one or more types of formal, non-formal and informal education, achieved within Phare National Program 2005, by the *Survey on Adults Education in Romania* (AEDA), survey harmonized at European level.

The micro data base of the survey, in standard format at European level, was checked and validated by Eurostat and main indicators are available on Eurostat site.

In the field of health statistics there were obtained and put at the users' disposal statistical information on evaluation of sanitary activity by various types of public and private sanitary units and were produced comparable statistics on health care. Statistical data were disseminated mostly by annul publication „*Activity of sanitary units*”.



The main non-financial data on health resources, medical staff and main indicators of morbidity are sent annually to the World Health Organization (OMS) and to Eurostat, by means of a standard questionnaire, harmonized at European level.

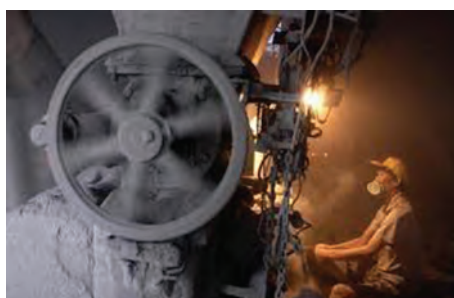
At the same time, financial data and metadata of health field were sent to Eurostat by a standard questionnaire of OECD, OMS and Eurostat, harmonized at European level and which contains statistical information regarding the international classification of health functions/services, providers of health services, financing sources/agencies of Health Accounts System, for 2008 financial year. At present, data are available, both on Eurostat site and on OECD site.

The data continued to be sent to Eurostat, in standard format, regarding professional diseases and work accidents, in keeping with European methodology of professional diseases (EODS - European Occupational Diseases Statistics) and of work accidents (ESAW - European Statistics on Accidents at Work).

Within Phare National 2005 program, it was carried out the sampling *Survey by interview regarding health*, harmonized at European level, having as objective to evaluate population health, to point out individual morbidity, appeal to medical services (contact of family doctor, of a specialist or dentist, alternative medicine, hospitalization) and consumption of medicines and to give the possibility to show the relation among them and certain demo-socio-economic factors (gender, age, civil status, professional status, occupation, etc.), environment (living conditions) or behavior which have direct impact over health (food regime, tobacco consumption, alcoholic drinks, sport or physical activity). The base with survey metadata, in standard format at European level, was sent to Eurostat to be checked and validated. The main results of the survey were at present available on Eurostat site.

In the second quarter of 2010 there were finalized and sent to Eurostat the final reports for the following independent grants:

- *Improvement of non-financial statistical data quality in the field of health*, having as main objective to identify some new data sources, leading to higher data quality collected and sent to Eurostat, according to a unitary methodology at European level.
- *Consolidation of data collection methodology regarding professional diseases*, having as purpose to implement European methodology regarding professional diseases (EODS) for data collection in this field, in keeping with the most recent European norms.



In the field of culture statistics there were obtained and disseminated information about units which carry out cultural-art activities: libraries, museums and public collections, show and concert institutions, publishing houses of newspapers and magazines, by synthesis publications *"Activity of cultural-art units in the first semester of 2010"*.



At work meeting of OECD Statistical Committee (CSTAT), held in Geneva in June 2009, OECD Secretariat proposed the promotion of human capital accounts development in order to have comparative analyses involving the UNECE - Eurostat - OECD working group regarding sustainable development. Following the invitation addressed by OECD Statistical Committee (CSTAT), National Institute of Statistics from Romania confirmed the participation as observer, in the Partners Consortium in order to develop Human Capital Accounts.

This consortium includes 15 OECD member countries (Australia, Canada, Denmark, France, Italy, Japan, Republic of Korea, Mexico, Netherlands, Norway, New Zealand, Poland, Spain, Great Britain, and USA), Romania and two international organizations (Eurostat and ILO).

Main action directions of this consortium imply:

- carry out the estimations on human capital value in various countries, based on a common set of hypotheses;
- carry out the analysis of sensitivity on how these estimations can be changed for a different set of hypotheses;
- structure, change of human capital in keeping with the contribution of various factors (investments, amortizations and reevaluations, demographic, education and labour force indicators, etc.) and by various groups of population.

The project will be finalized in 2011 and based on acquired experience, a methodological guide will be elaborated for national statistical offices and for various researchers, in order to carry out human capital accounts.



## 5.4. Statistica prețurilor

Each year, since 1990, National Institute of Statistics elaborated a range of price statistics in order to respond the needs of internal and international users. Most of statistics in the field of prices are presented as temporary price indices, but there are put at disposal also space comparisons of prices, either in absolute terms (average prices of main products sold on agro-food markets) or in relative terms (purchasing power parity)<sup>1)</sup>.

The most important temporary price of economic statistics system are *consumer price indices* (national CPI and harmonized index of consumer prices - IAPC), *indices of production prices for agriculture, industry and services* and *unit value indices* (export and import). Completed by labour cost indicators and purchasing power parities (PPC), these indices represent spine of prices statistics system in most of countries. They provide an integral and coherent image on the prices evolution regarding production, consumption and international transactions of goods and services.

In 2010, main improvements in the field of prices statistics were issued for the first time in Romania, *of prices indices of residential properties and of production for services*.



## VI. Territorial statistics

As regards territorial – county or regional development – National Institute of Statistics established and continued to develop a strategy of statistical indicators diversification, either introducing new statistical surveys at territorial level, or developing and using administrative sources. Purpose of all these actions is to get maximum statistical information, pertinent and useful as well. Taking into account the increasing demand of statistical data at territorial level, from institutions responsible of regional policies and regional development, as well as requirements of statistical data at regional level of European Commission, presented in Eurostat Work Program and in the annual reference guide for Regional Statistics elaborated by Eurostat, Annual Statistical Program 2010 pointed out the efforts of Romanian official statistics to meet Eurostat requirements in the field of regional statistics system.

Analyzing the representativeness at territorial level of statistical surveys carried out by NIS in 2010, it is important to underline that over 60% of them are structured to provide information at region level (NUTS 2) and 62% of total INS surveys assure representativity at county level (NUTS 3) and locality level (LAU 2).



<sup>1)</sup> Calculated by Eurostat based on information collected in Romania, by the Department of price analysis in the economy, according to the methodology proposed by the Program of European Comparison.



Out of total statistical surveys designed to provide information at NUTS 3 level, 39% are in social field, 39% in economic field and 22% in agricultural field. Regarding statistical surveys designed to provide information at NUTS 2 level, economic field has a weight of about 44%, social one 36% and agricultural one 20%.

At present, NIS provides data at regional level for almost all the statistical fields, in keeping with the stipulations of statistical community acquis. Harmonization degree of regional statistics with statistical community acquis is integral for the following fields: demography, education, labour force, migration, science and technology, structural business survey, health, tourism, transport and energy. For statistical fields, in which alignment to EU norms and standards regarding data requests at regional level is not yet totally carried out, INS, together with other interested ministries and institutions, develop, based on collaboration programs and conventions, preparing papers, in order to achieve the integral implementation of regional statistical indicators.

Audit Urban project is an important initiative of General Directorate for EC Regional Policy, in the context of preparation of a new regional policy for 2007-2013 budgetary periods. Audit Urban project is developed by Eurostat, at EC proposal, in order to create a database with statistical information at town level, for a considerable number of variables, comparable at European level, in order to achieve some comparisons among European towns, analyze the disparities among them, as well as to help taking decisions of regional policy. Statistical data collection is carried out for a definite number of variable, for 27 towns in Romania, respectively: Alba Iulia, Arad, Bacău, Baia Mare, Botoșani, Brașov, Brăila, Bucharest, Buzău, Călărași, Cluj-Napoca, Constanța, Craiova, Drobeta-Turnu Severin, Galați, Giurgiu, Iași, Oradea, Piatra Neamț, Ploiești, Pitești, Râmnicu Vâlcea, Satu Mare, Sibiu, Suceava, Timișoara and Târgu Mureș.

The main social and economic indicators, the counties of Romania, in October 2010



In 2010, NIS continued the collaboration with Eurostat in the field of Audit Urban, taking part in the grant Audit Urban 2009-2010.

The purpose of this project is to complete data series previously obtained within the projects „Audit Urban-2001 Data collection” and „Audit Urban - Historical Data” and „Audit Urban III” with data for reference years 2005 - 2009.

The project „Data collection at NUTS 3 level for rural development statistics, during 2005-2010”, was approved by European Commission at end of 2010.

The projects objectives consist in providing reliable and comparable data by the Commission regarding basic demographic and socio-economic aspects and facilities of infrastructure and services; carry out an inventory of data at NUTS 3 level and eventually a deposit of data providing information according to new types of urban-rural, of classification of regions NUTS 3.

Data collection and their transmission to Eurostat will take place in 2011.

## VII. Activity of territorial statistical offices

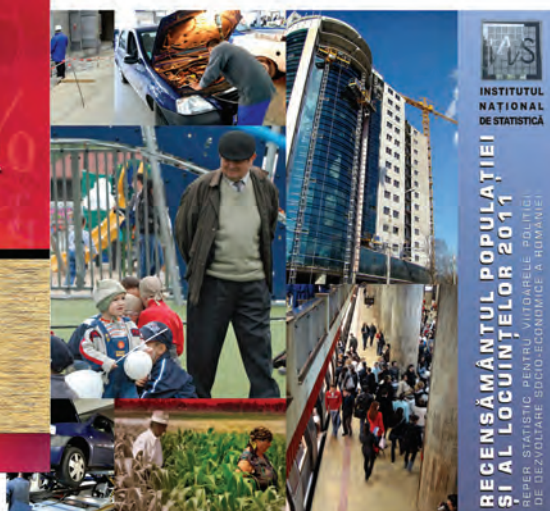
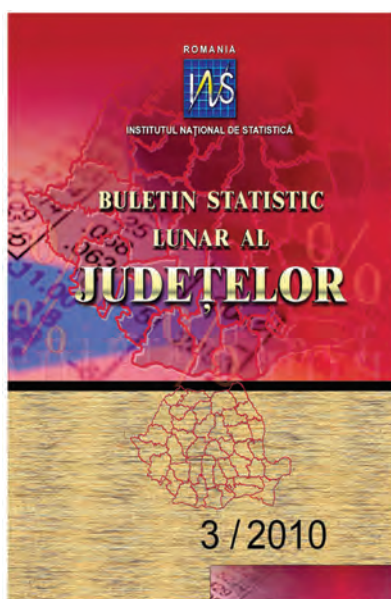
The whole activity of territorial statistical directions relied on the observance of norms, objectives and best practices in processes used for organization, collection, processing and transmission of official statistics, as well as actions meant to increase efficiency, credibility, relevance and consistency of these statistics, territorial statistical body being at present the main support of relation between National Institute of Statistics and suppliers and users of statistical data.

In 2010, there were carried out statistical surveys within the Annual National Statistical Program 2010, as well as objectives of statistical system development at territorial level. Thus, over 75% of territorial statistical directions activity was mostly meant for collection, checking, electronic processing and validation of data from statistical surveys of annual program.

In 2010, the main objectives were directed to achieve in time and under quality conditions the statistical surveys included in Annual National Statistical Program 2010, extending the electronic system for data collection and statistical information dissemination, reduction of non-response rate, respect of deadlines for data transmission, assuring the continuity of statistical data series at level of administrative-territorial unit.

The activity developed by territorial statistical directions was also oriented to improve collaboration relations with public authorities, intensify collaboration with the media, promote statistical culture in economic and social environment, professional continuous upgrade of employees, efficiency of using material and financial funds, human resources and increase of statistical activity quality.

An important objective was organization of General Agricultural Census by various preceding actions (training of census staff, monitoring census actions, methodological guidance for the censuses), as well as preparation of Population and Housing Census organization.



In the context of efforts done to have efficient primary statistical information collection and processing, launching and implementing the web Portal for online taking over of statistical data constituted an important step in the process of data collection.

2010 was characterized by continuous increase in the number of units that sent statistical questionnaires in electronic format or on portal and carry out in time, qualitative and a complete volume of statistical surveys.

In 2010, territorial statistical directions carried out a rich activity of statistical data and information dissemination, being relevant by high number of statistical publications achieved and disseminated. A special attention was paid to higher degree of adequate responses to statistical data users (public administration, institutions/services decentralized of state at local level, economic operators, natural persons, etc). The process of information dissemination was performed based on the respect for the principles of statistical data transparency and confidentiality, under the conditions of efficiency and timeliness, in keeping with legal stipulations in force regarding organization and functioning of official statistics in Romania and especially with those of Code of practices of European statistics.

Numerous publications and synthesis papers were elaborated, namely: „Monthly statistical bulletin of county/region”, „Statistical yearbook of county/region”, „Demographic yearbook of county/region”, “Economic and social situation of county”, various publications regarding tourism, dwellings fund, education system, etc.



The territorial statistical directions were concerned with development of cooperation relations, collaboration, partnership and exchange of information with several local institutions, with public services decentralized, with institution of Prefecture and county Council, with academic environment, supporting their activity with statistical data and information required to build up projects and studies financed by European Union or in co-financing.

At the same time, experts within territorial statistical direction took part and acted in county bodies (working groups, county commissions, local coordination committees, prefecture boards), in order to elaborate studies, analyses, programs or projects regarding various fields.

The increase in statistical quality and management within territorial statistical direction was reflected in the improvement of work, monitoring the quality management, a good organization and efficiency in using financial and human resources.

## VIII. European affairs and international cooperation

### ❖ World Statistics Day

2010 marked a special event, namely the celebration of *World Statistics Day* for the first time in the history of official statistics, event underlining the importance of statistical science and practice in democratic society. According to UNO Resolution 64/267, **October 20, 2010** was adopted as World Statistics Day, UNO Statistical Division proposing as general topics of this event "Progress registered in official statistics".

**World Statistics Day**  
October 20, 2010



Service • Professionalism • Integrity

Romanian statisticians celebrated this event organizing several actions:

- NIS press release, "*European statistics: an information source for anyone*", pointed out beside comments on the role and importance of statistics, major priorities of the institute until the end of 2010;
- articles issued in Economic Tribune, in Romanian Statistical Review, celebrating this event which "*will remain over time a homage for the history of our future, of statisticians, of scientific community, for their profession and for human destiny*";
- wide promotion of special poster dedicated to this event;
- organization of special session of "Octav Onicescu" scientific seminar, dedicated to World Statistics Day.

In the plenum of Romania's Parliament, President of Sub-commission for Population and Development took the floor regarding this event and considered it a confirmation of importance which UNO granted to the population censuses – round 2010.

### ❖ European Affairs

- NIS representatives actively took part in all those four meetings of European Statistical System Committee (CSSE) organized in 2010 (February, May, October, November);
- Participation of NIS representatives in those 43 reunions organized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Department for European Affairs, in order to prepare Romania's position within COREPER;
- Participation of Romanian statisticians, in Brussels, in those 10 reunions of Working Group "Statistics" of European Union Council, where there were analyzed various proposals of regulations on official statistics, as well as quality of statistical data in the context of Excessive Deficit Procedure, statistical reports regarding sea transport of goods and passengers, European statistics regarding tourism, European economic accounts of environment, European statistics on permanent cultures and statistical reports regarding road transport of goods.



## ❖ International cooperation

In the field of international cooperation, NIS took actively part in several events, such as:

- the 41<sup>st</sup> session of UNO Statistical Commission – February 23-26, 2010;
- the 7<sup>th</sup> meeting of OECD Statistical Committee (CSTAT) - Paris, June 7, 2010. At this meeting in which INS participated as permanent observer, there were debated topics of great importance: program regarding measurement of society progress, statistical indicators of strategy *Green Growth*, financial statistics, OECD strategy in the field of innovation, business statistics and entrepreneurial, OECD database on immigrants;
- the 58<sup>th</sup> plenary session of European Statisticians Conference (CES), Paris, June 8-10, 2010. In this reunion, Romanian delegation presented a paper which draw attention of audience owing to its actual topics: „in the focus for Romanian official statistics: economic and financial crisis”;
- the 96<sup>th</sup> DGINS Conference organized at Sofia on September 30, 2010, with the topics “*Measurement of progress, welfare and sustainable development*”. The conference was honored with the presence of Bulgaria Prime Minister, Eurostat General Director and INSEE France General Director;
- the 6<sup>th</sup> reunion of statistical societies in the region of Central Europe, organize at Wien, during October 18-19, 2010. Besides INS representatives, in this reunion took part also representatives of Romanian Statistical Society, statistical societies of Slovenia, Hungary, Czech Republic and Austria. The debates aimed at possible options to create a common review of national statistical societies.





Cooperation agreements and exchanges of experience between INS Romania and other institutions of EU member states and non-member states continued to be concluded having as ground a solid know how of inter-states cooperation in the field of statistics, as follows:

- Memorandum of agreement between NIS and Statistical Agency of Kazakhstan Republic regarding the cooperation in the field of statistics was signed on March 2, 2010. Objective of this Memorandum is to outline general frame of cooperation bilateral relations development in the field of official statistics;
- General Director of National Statistical Office of Republic of Moldova was in official mission at INS headquarters, during March 3-5, 2010. Main objective was discussion of current problems of cooperation, being identified those statistical fields to be included in the future Memorandum of cooperation between the two official statistical offices. Beyond general context of cooperation, there were mostly discussed the followings: *survey on reconciliation between professional and family life*, *short term indicators survey (UNICA)*, *issues on information technology in statistics*, *education and statistical training*;
- Visit of General Vice Director of National Statistical Office of Republic of Moldova, during November 18 – 20, 2010, at INS headquarters. Main topics of discussion were UNICA survey and CANE implementation;
- The NIS hosted an official delegation from the Bulgarian NIS, a delegation headed by the President of this institution, during the period 18-19 March 2010.

It's worth mentioning that the Romanian NIS and the Bulgarian NIS were appointed co-presidents of a European project aimed at providing guidelines that would make statistics more comprehensible for pupils, students and other categories of users.

### ❖ NIS – host of the International Conference on Applied Statistics

The 5<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Applied Statistics, organised by the National Institute of Statistics and the Bucharest Academy of Economic Studies, took place in Bucharest from 19 to 20 November 2010.

The conference was structured on five sections. More than 70 papers drawn up by applied and academic statistics researchers from Romania, Algeria, Bulgaria, France, Republic of Moldova, Serbia, Spain, Turkey and Hungary were presented.



A round table on the topic “Sustainable Development and Human Capital”, which was organised with the support of the University Agency for Francophony, also took place on this occasion. The debate included issues revealing the most recent concerns of the international scientific community in the field of human development, the interconnection between economic evolution and social progress, the support that statistics can provide by means of its data and information, the finding of a solution to the crisis a large part of the countries has been dealing with.



#### ❖ Participations of the NIS in seminars, working groups, international conferences

In 2010, over 230 persons participated in more than 200 actions such as seminars, working groups, conferences, training courses, etc., of which 179 actions were supported from Multi-Beneficiary Phare funds and 33 actions were financed from NIS funds.

During the period 2003-2010, a number of 86 Romanian experts took part in long-term traineeships either at Eurostat or in other national statistical institutes of the Member States: 61 experts underwent traineeships at Eurostat and 25 experts underwent traineeships in the EU Member States (Denmark, Spain, Portugal, Greece, Hungary, Poland, Estonia, Great Britain and Germany).

#### ❖ Attracting non-reimbursable Community external funds

2010 was the year in which the pre-accession Phare-type programmes whose beneficiary Romanian statistics has been over the years were finalised.

Thus, after 1990, the NIS carried out 10 National Phare programmes whose total value was 32.5 million euro and which provided the basis for the modernisation of statistical processes:

- 1992: “The modernisation of the IT infrastructure of the National Institute of Statistics”;
- 1994: “The modernisation of the IT infrastructure of the National Institute of Statistics and of the 42 county statistical offices”;
- 1997: “Statistics”;
- 2000: “The harmonisation of agricultural and regional statistics with the European Statistical System”;
- 2001: “The harmonisation of Romanian statistics with the European Statistical System”;
- 2003: “The sustainable development of the Romanian Statistical System”;
- 2004: “The design and implementation of the Intrastat system”;
- 2005: “The consolidation of the Romanian Statistical System”;
- 2006: “The adoption of the measures of the new Community acquis in the statistical field”.

With regard to Multi-Beneficiary Phare programmes, 2010 marked the end of the last programme of this type (the 2006 Multi-Beneficiary Phare programme), after the implementation of 6 horizontal assistance programmes in Romanian official statistics over the years.

In 2010, the NIS successfully implemented the Transition Facility programme “The harmonisation of agricultural and environment statistics with the European norms and standards”, which was aimed at building the institutional and administrative capacity and fully implementing the Community acquis.

A reason for satisfaction, as far as the activity of the institute is concerned, is the fact that we are one of the institutions that received significant amounts through post-accession facilities and funds, being able to absorb more than 90% of the funds allocated. The overall amount, which covers three years (2008-2010) (estimated until the end of 2010), includes more than 80 Community grants.

In 2010, 28 Community grants were finalised and 16 Community grants were implemented and are underway. In 2010, the NIS obtained non-reimbursable external financing for 16 contracts that were signed.

The category of post-accession funds also includes a big project financed from structural funds; approximately 5 million euro were attracted through the European Regional Development Fund for the Sectoral Operational Programme “Increasing Economic Competitiveness”, the project “Web portal for the on-line collection of statistical data”, a project completed at the end of the year.

In 2010, under the structural funds, the NIS applied for two new projects: *The implementation of an integrated e-education solution* and *The improvement of the public administration's capacity to measure performance by means of databases, methodologies and other tools specific to statistical activity*, the value of the projects amounting to more than 9 million euro each.

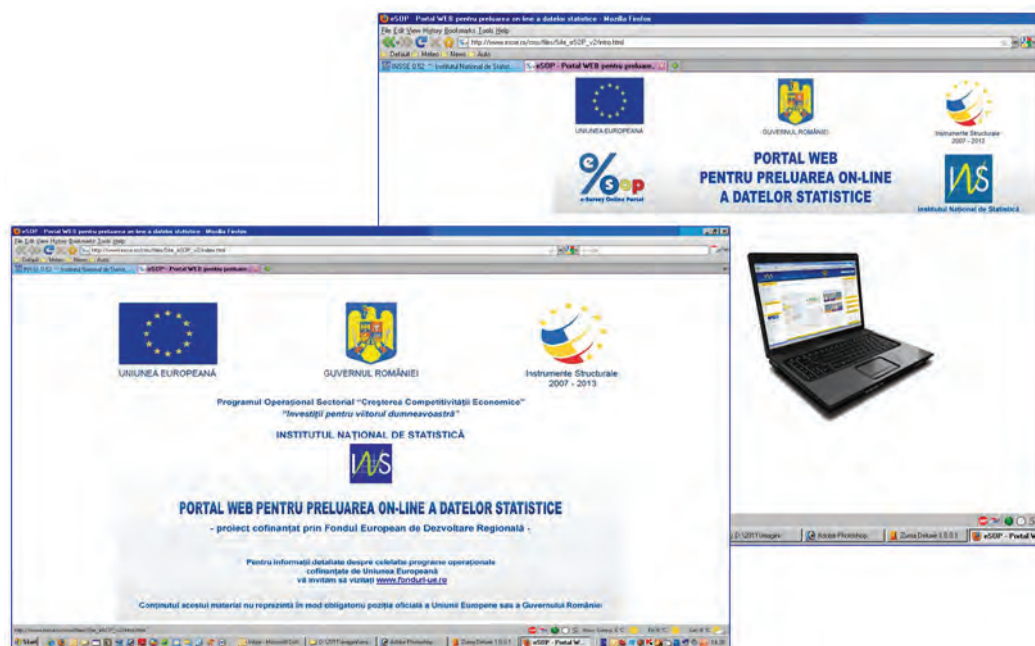
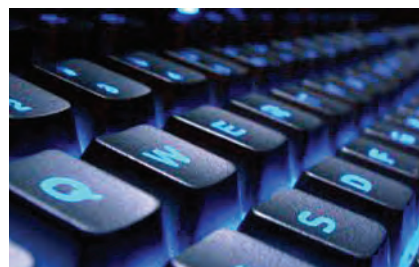
## IX. Statistical infrastructure – Information technology activity

The entire statistical activity, particularly the production of statistical data and information within a statistical institute, wouldn't be possible without the support of information technology, without a modern IT architecture.

The improvement of the information technology activity in the National Statistical System consisted in the following:

- the IT infrastructure of the computer system used to produce official statistics in Romania was improved, so that it can support the statistical surveys and works of the National Institute of Statistics while ensuring quality and timeliness. Numerous activities were carried out in accordance with the strategy for the computerisation of public administration, through the administration of the statistical computer system within the NIS;
- IT assistance for the implementation and functioning of the GAC Contact Centre was provided, and the documents regulating its functioning were drawn up;
- the implementation of the virtualisation of servers in the Bucharest headquarters, which had started in 2009, continued. At this moment, in the institute there are 4 virtualisation servers connected to two large-capacity pieces of storage equipment. On these virtualisation servers, 35 virtual servers are in operation;

- the technical conditions for the functioning of the web applications that record heavy traffic, such as <http://www.intrastat.ro>, the main site of the NIS <http://www.insse.ro> as well as the newly implemented portal <http://e-SOP.insse.ro>, were ensured. In general, they had a 97% availability, the problems encountered being dealt with in the shortest amount of time possible;
- the participation in the commissions that assessed the tenders for the building of the computer system for the GAC as well as the tenders for the procurement of spare parts, consumables and computing equipment necessary for a proper functioning of the computer system of the NIS;
- through the eDAMIS system (eWA-application + eWP-portal), the statistical data were transmitted to Eurostat within the set deadlines. Technical assistance was also provided for the new way of transmitting data to Eurostat through the portal by means of Web forms (eWF). At the end of 2010, of all EU Member States, Romania had one of the highest percentages of coverage of the unique data collection point at Eurostat and is among the first 6 EU statistical institutes (its percentage is 87% and the EU average is 82%);
- the technical conditions required for the proper functioning of the Extranet, LAN and WAN networks within the NIS and of all the NIS computing equipment (servers, work stations, peripheral equipment, network infrastructure and components) were created;





- the functioning of the Microsoft Exchange electronic mail system and of the Internet connections for the entire statistical system was ensured. During the year there were no major problems except the ones caused by the interruptions in the power supply. All these problems were dealt with in the shortest amount of time possible and did not affect the activity of the institution;
- the tender books for the procurement of IT components for the statistical system (including for the General Agricultural Census and the Population and Housing Census) were prepared;
- a new centralised antivirus solution (Kaspersky) was implemented in the entire statistical IT system;
- IT support was provided in the procurement, installation, configuration and implementation of software and hardware components under the project "Web portal for the on-line collection of statistical data", a project which started in November 2009 and which was co-financed through the European Regional Development Fund. This project has been implemented and is in operation.

One of the important achievements in the IT activity of the National Statistical System is related to the creation, testing and implementation of the project "Web portal for the on-line collection of statistical data".

The need for and importance of the project, which is generically called e-SOP (e-Survey Online Portal), result from:

- the need to reduce the gap between the collection of statistical data and their dissemination;
- the unification of the two stages that make up the life-cycle of a statistical survey, i.e. the collection of data in the field, from reporting units, economic and social operators and units or households, using statistical questionnaires and forms, and the entry and validation of the data from the statistical questionnaires and forms;
- the WEB technology is more and more present in all activity sectors;
- the lack of IT staff specialised in Web technologies within the NIS. It is worth mentioning that the NIS Division for the Design and Maintenance of IT Applications has 34 positions in its structure, of which 20 are vacant positions, mainly because of the rather small salary of the entire staff within the statistical system, a salary that was diminished by 25%;
- no financial funds necessary for outsourcing the design of Web applications were identified;
- the positive Intrastat experience, a statistical survey that does not use paper in the reporting of statistical data;
- in the last 2-3 years, at the request of the reporting units, electronic questionnaire solutions were developed by the NIS specialists using EXCEL solutions.

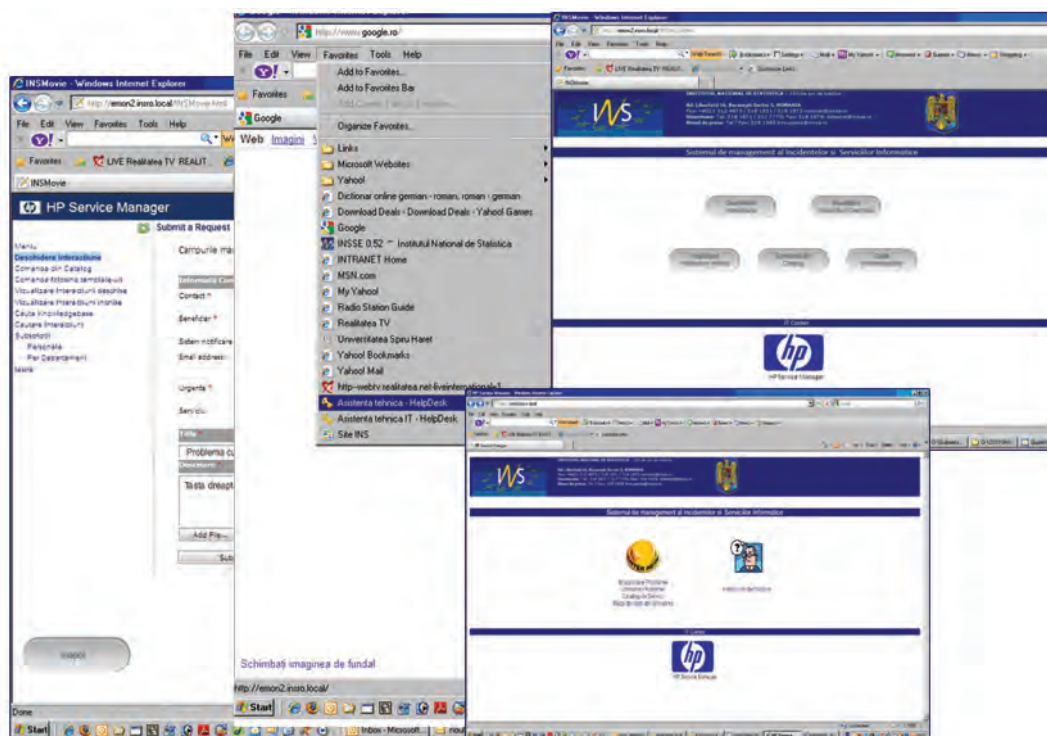


Considering the above, starting with 04.08.2009, the National Institute of Statistics has benefited – through the European Regional Development Fund, on the basis of the financing contract signed with the Ministry of Communications and Information Society through the Intermediate Body for the Promotion of Information Society, through the Sectoral Operational Programme “Increasing Economic Competitiveness”, Axis 3 “Information and Communications Technology for the Public and Private Sector” – from a non-reimbursable fund of 25.4 million lei.

The “Web portal for the on-line collection of statistical data” project was selected of a list of 114 projects proposed for financing. Of the 114 projects a number of 12 projects were selected; the project of the National Institute of Statistics had the fourth best score.

The “Web portal for the on-line collection of statistical data” project involves not only a solution for the on-line entry and validation of the statistical data from the statistical data providers but also a new IT architecture, servers, communications equipment, licences, on which the e-SOP IT solution can be properly executed. Moreover, the project makes available a network monitoring system and an automated help-desk solution that almost instantly deals with potential hardware and software incidents within the statistical IT system at national level.

20 statistical surveys, different in questionnaire content and form and of different complexity, were identified. As soon as they were designed as Web solutions, the 20 statistical surveys could serve as an example and model for the design of Web solutions and for other statistical surveys. The 20 statistical surveys will be in operation once they are launched, in accordance with the Annual National Statistical Programme, approved by Government Decision. The first statistical survey that was launched on October 25, 2010 was the “Salary Survey in October 2010”, a sample survey with 23907 reporting units. The units that used on-line reporting accounted for 6.16%. The rest of the units reported the data on paper questionnaires, and the data were entered by the territorial statistical divisions using the e-SOP system.



Some of the important characteristics of the e-SOP system:

- a WEB IT solution that employs the WEB navigation facilities using Mouse;
- the IT solution is based on a new IT architecture and meets all the IT security criteria;
- the IT solution is addressed to the reporting units, but it will also be used by the territorial statistical divisions;
- the reporting units are uniquely identified by the Unique Registration Code (CUI);
- the identification data of the reporting unit are updated only once, even if the reporting unit participates in several surveys;
- unique and unitary nomenclatures for various statistical surveys;
- when data are entered, at the level of the questionnaires, all computable indicators will be calculated;
- when data are entered, at the level of the questionnaires, the data from the previous period are displayed;
- the IT solution ensures the automatic codification;
- the e-SOP involves a tool for the design of a solution for the entry and validation of data specific to a statistical survey;
- the e-SOP involves a new approach to the collection of statistical data.

## X. Functional services

### 10.1. Human resources

Ensuring a sustainable basis for the development of a statistical system requires appropriate human resources in terms of number and especially quality.

#### 10.1.1 Structure of NIS staff

In 2010, the NIS operated on the basis of Government Decision No 957/2005 on the organisation and functioning of the NIS, republished, with subsequent amendments. Thus, the maximum number of positions is 2159, of which 708 in the central office and 1451 in the territorial statistical units.

Of the maximum number of positions (2159), 1869 are filled positions and 290 are vacant positions.

#### Positions in 2010 <sup>\*)</sup>

	Maximum number of positions	Number of filled positions	Number of vacant positions
NIS – central office	708	524	184
Regional/county statistical divisions	1451	1345	106
TOTAL	2159	1869	290

<sup>\*)</sup> excluding the staff who were employed for a definite time period for the carrying out of the 2010 General Agricultural Census.

At the level of the institute, 97% of the employees of the statistical system are civil servants and approximately 3% are staff employed for a definite time period.

In 2010, in accordance with Law No 153/2008 on the conducting of the General Agricultural Census in Romania, the Central Technical Secretariat was set up within the National Institute of Statistics.

For the preparation, organisation, collection and processing of the data and the publication of the results of the census, the National Institute of Statistics was given a number of 220 positions to be filled for a definite time period:

- 20 positions in the central office of the National Institute of Statistics;
- 200 positions for the territorial statistical units.

The legal restrictions did not allow the organisation of contests for the vacant civil service positions (i.e. non-managerial positions). Thus, in 2010, by means of a contest, additional staff was hired for a definite time period (19 persons) in order to carry out the General Agricultural Census and contests were held for the vacant civil service managerial positions within the territorial statistical divisions (i.e. Executive Director and Deputy Executive Director).

11 civil servants were promoted to class 1. They had filled civil service positions corresponding to secondary education and they had subsequently graduated from a tertiary education institution (long-term studies) specialising in the field in which they worked. 7 persons who had been employed for a definite time period and who had completed their traineeship were promoted to a higher civil service position.

Compared to the 89 employees who left in 2009, of which 31 civil servants of the NIS central office, 57 employees left in 2010, of which 51 persons were civil servants.



#### Staff turnover <sup>\*)</sup>

Total staff of which:	2089
- hirings	220
- departures	243

<sup>\*)</sup> including the hiring of staff for a definite time period for the carrying out of the 2010 General Agricultural Census.

### 10.1.2 Staff remuneration

In 2010, the remuneration of the staff and the changes in staff positions complied with Framework Law No 330/2009 on the unitary remuneration of the staff paid from public funds, Emergency Government Ordinance No 1/2010 on measures regarding changes in staff positions for the staff categories of the public sector and the setting of their salaries, and Law No 118/2010 on measures necessary for re-establishing the budgetary balance.



Following the implementation of the provisions of the legislative acts mentioned above, the evolution of the number of staff by gross income level during the period May-August 2010 is presented in the table below:

Gross income level (lei)	Number of employees (NIS central office)				Number of employees (territorial statistical units)			
	May	June	July	August	May	June	July	August
600-1000	7	7	97	94	33	31	256	252
1001-1500	126	124	158	159	382	382	446	447
1501-2000	123	121	78	80	297	291	282	282
2001-2500	55	60	63	63	257	258	181	185
2501-3000	47	47	32	31	179	177	68	68
3001-3500	45	39	33	33	204	201	76	76
3501-4000	32	27	20	19	-	-	-	-
over 4001	76	73	20	20	-	-	-	-

### 10.1.3. Professional training and competence

For the future development and improvement of statistics, in close connection with the EU norms and standards, and for the improvement of the statistical methods and procedures meant to lead to an efficient and complex use of statistical tools, the National Institute of Statistics has to provide qualified human resources that can contribute to the sustainable development of the National Statistical System, in accordance with the evolution of the European Statistical System.



The participation of the NIS staff in the continuing vocational training process with a view to meeting the current and future challenges was a priority of the institute in 2010, and this was ensured through the annual programme of vocational training.

In 2010, 1339 civil servants working in the official statistical system attended and completed 65 training programmes organised by the National Centre for Training in Statistics (NCTS).

Through the multi-annual programme of training in French (2010-2012) meant for civil servants, four series of French language courses attended by 37 civil servants were organised in collaboration with the Bucharest French Institute.

41 civil servants participated in external courses and 13 civil servants underwent 5-month traineeships, all organised by Eurostat.

## 10.2. Budgetary execution

The activities of the National Institute of Statistics and of its territorial units were financed from the state budget, own funds and non-reimbursable external funds awarded by the European Union through the National PHARE programme, the Transition Facility and various GRANTS for which the National Institute of Statistics applied in 2010 or which had started in 2009 and were under way in 2010.

In 2010, the “Web portal for the on-line collection of statistical data” project was financed from post-accession structural funds (the amount was 13,192 thousand lei). The project was finalised.

Though in 2010 it had to deal with a scarce budget, the National Institute of Statistics managed to cover the expenses required for the implementation of the 2010 Annual National Statistical Programme, i.e. for the conducting of all the statistical surveys scheduled for 2010.

Financing was also provided for the actions carried out by the National Institute of Statistics in relation to the 2010 General Agricultural Census, for which payments amounting to 12,260 thousand lei (from the budget) and 3,575 thousand lei (from non-reimbursable external funds) were made.

The implementation of the budget is presented in detail in *Annex 1*.

In 2010, the sales of statistical data and publications resulted in earnings amounting to 998.3 thousand lei, received from internal and external beneficiaries in the framework of the activity “Dissemination of Romanian statistical information”, carried out at the level of the National Institute of Statistics and the territorial statistical divisions.

Compared to the earnings amounting to 998.3 thousand lei, obtained from the activity financed from own income, namely “Dissemination of Romanian statistical information”, expenses of 587.2 thousand lei, whose breakdown is presented in *Annex 2*, were incurred.

With regard to the financing from non-reimbursable external funds, in 2010 the following projects were under way: the 2005 and 2006 National PHARE, the Transition Facility, the 2005 and 2006 Multi-Beneficiary PHARE for Statistics, as well as approximately 50 actions financed through grant agreements.

The breakdown of the expenses financed from non-reimbursable external funds is presented in *Annex 3*.



## 10.3. Control body

In 2010, the activity of the Control Body was aimed at performing the duties set out in the Regulation on the organisation and functioning of the National Institute of Statistics. In this respect, the main achievements of this department were:

- regulating some organisational issues (the operational procedure applicable to actions carried out by the Control Body; the Thematic Control Plan for 2010);
- receiving, recording and dealing with petitions – an activity that is set out in Government Ordinance No 27/2002 *regulating the dealing with petitions*, approved with amendments by Law No 233/2002;
- performing the thematic controls *The observance of the norms of conduct of civil servants, ethical standards and the implementation of disciplinary procedures and Checking the task of promoting statistical culture in Romania. The transparency of the NIS.*

As a result of the unannounced and thematic controls performed, a series of problems were identified, some of them being solved in 2010. The rest of the measures and actions proposed by the Control Body will be implemented in 2011.



## 10.4. Internal audit

The audit plan for 2010 forms part of the 2009-2011 Multi-Annual Plan. It was drawn up based on an inventory of the auditable activities of the NIS. The scheduled actions are in compliance with the general objectives set out in the Strategy for the development of the National Statistical System in terms of aligning the internal auditing practices of the NIS to the audit standards accepted at the international level and to the international good practices.

The internal audit plan for 2010 was substantiated through the conducting of audits at least once every 3 years and through risk assessment. 4 sections were included:

### Section A. Auditable statistical surveys:

- Preparation and organisation of the 2011 Population and Housing Census;
- Environment statistics;
- Construction and investment statistics;
- Dissemination of statistical information;
- Co-ordination of the statistical system;
- Health statistics.

### Section B. Auditable functional activities:

- 17 territorial statistical divisions;
- National Centre for Training in Statistics;
- Procurement, Investment and General Administration Services Division.

### Section C. Non-reimbursable external funds:

- 2005 National Phare Programme - Consolidating the Romanian Statistical System;
- 2006 National Phare Programme - Adopting the measures of the new Community acquis in the statistical field;
- 24 grant agreements for actions.

### Section D. Other actions:

- Reports on the reliability of the accounting system for 2009 for the 42 tertiary authorising officers subordinate to the NIS.

The updated internal audit plan for 2010 was fully implemented.

In 2010, the control environment within the NIS improved, favouring an auditing activity that gives priority to ethical values and tries to increase risk awareness and which is based on an organisational policy that is in line with the strategic objectives.

The Quality Assurance and Improvement Programme were drawn up and are to be updated.

In our view, the implementation of the recommendations in the activity of the audited institutions is meant to add new value to their activity. The file of each audit mission conducted by the specialised division and endorsed by the NIS President also includes a summary table of all the deadlines and responsibilities regarding the implementation of the recommendations. This document, together with the written responses of the entities, will be the focus of analysis in the next audit missions.



## 10.5. Legal services

In 2010, the main aims of the legal activity of the NIS were to make sure work is done in accordance with the law and to defend the patrimonial interests of the institution by:

- ❖ preparing the documents needed in court by the National Institute of Statistics and the territorial statistical divisions;
- ❖ endorsing the orders issued by the management of the institution, the public procurement contracts, the co-operation protocols with other specialised ministries/bodies of central public administration; monitoring the issuance of normative provisions and drawing attention to the content of the ones that had implications for the activity of the NIS; providing legal counselling to the NIS departments (including to the territorial divisions); recording and archiving the orders issued by the NIS President, etc.;
- ❖ drawing up the draft normative acts initiated by the NIS and constantly monitoring their endorsement. Some of these draft normative acts are:
  - Government Decision No 199/2010 on measures necessary for the proper organisation and carrying out of the partial elections for the Chamber of Deputies in Constituency No. 42 – Bucharest Municipality, Single-Candidate Sub-Constituency No. 19, of 25 April 2010;
  - Emergency Government Ordinance No 20/2010 amending Art. 1 of Government Ordinance No 36/2007 concerning the carrying out of the Romanian Population and Housing Census in 2011;
  - Government Decision No 356/2010 establishing an official report model for recording the results of the vote in the partial elections for the Chamber of Deputies in Constituency No. 42 – Bucharest Municipality, Single-Candidate Sub-Constituency No. 19, of 25 April 2010;
  - Government Decision No 533/2010 approving the Memorandum of Understanding between the National Institute of Statistics of Romania and the Kazakh Statistical Agency on co-operation in statistics, signed in Astana on 2 March 2010;
  - Government Decision No. 570/2010 on the approval of the 2010 Annual National Statistical Programme;
  - Government Decision No 744/2010 changing the inventory values of some buildings that are included in the State's inventory of public goods;
  - Government Decision No 1251/2010 amending *Government Decision No 1502/2009* on the organisation and carrying out of the Romanian Population and Housing Census in 2011;
  - Emergency Government Ordinance No 116/2010 amending Government Ordinance No 41/1994 authorising the payment of dues to the intergovernmental international organisations Romania is part of and approving the payment of the annual contribution for the participation of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development as permanent observer in the OECD Committee for Agriculture (CoAg), for the period 2010-2011, as well as the annual contribution for the years in which Romania will continue to have an observer status in the OECD Committee on Statistics (CSTAT);
  - Government Decision No 1250/2010 amending Government Decision No 957/2005 on the organisation and functioning of the National Institute of Statistics.



To this we need to add Law No 211/2010 amending Law No 226/2009 on the organisation and functioning of official statistics in Romania, a law which was based on a proposal for a law made by five senators and to which the National Institute of Statistics also contributed.

## 10.6. Investments, upgrading

In 2010, the *investment and modernisation* activity was possible as a result of more than 35 public procurement procedures: open bids, calls for tenders and negotiations concerning the contracting and monitoring of the provision of services, of the provision of products and of the execution of construction works and repairs, procedures that were organised, in over 50% of the cases, through on-line electronic means. With regard to the contracting and monitoring of services (46 contracts concluded), procurements were made for:

- the integrated IT system for the processing of the 2010 General Agricultural Census data (2,910,158 lei);
- the printing and distribution of the statistical tools for the carrying out of the General Agricultural Census (2,389,850 lei);
- servicing IT equipment, printing machinery, the car fleet, and the technical installations within the central office of the NIS.

As far as the procurement of products is concerned, the following are worthy of mention: the provision of integrated computing techniques for the processing of the General Agricultural Census data (5,042,584 lei), colour printing equipment for the processing of cardboard through folding, creasing and mechanical insertion (441,951 lei), the provision of a black and white printing system for leaflets and manuals (370,445 lei), as well printing consumables and office supplies.

Technical assistance was provided for the organisation, conducting and technical endorsement of the public procurement procedures that took place in the territorial statistical divisions.

## XI. Statistical training – National Centre for Training in Statistics



In 2010, in accordance with the objectives set by Government Decision No 295/2003, the National Centre for Training in Statistics (CNPS), which is subordinate to the NIS, a public institution with legal personality, fully financed from own funds, provided continuing vocational training for the staff of the official statistical services, enabled the development of research projects under the National Programme PN II (projects financed from European structural funds) and provided technical assistance for the official statistics of other countries: Ukraine, Uzbekistan, Kosovo and Serbia.

### 11.1. Vocational training activity

The vocational training programme drawn up for 2010 was structured on five categories of courses:

1. Courses for companies and the public “Developing statistical culture through one-day courses”;
2. Courses for the civil servants working in the NIS and in public administration;
3. Courses for the civil servants within the territorial statistical divisions;
4. Courses for statisticians from other public institutions: the Romanian Development Bank (BRD), the Brăila Regional Development Agency (ADR Brăila), etc.;
5. Courses with international attendance: The European Statistical System, Transport statistics, etc.

These courses are presented in the table below from a statistical perspective:

Source of financing	Course category	No. of courses	No. of participants
NIS budget	Courses for the civil servants within the NIS	6	98
NIS budget	Courses for the civil servants within the regional/county statistical divisions	59	1241
For a fee	Courses for companies and the public (Intrastat)	9	133
For a fee	Course under the "Web portal for the on-line collection of statistical data" project	2	30
For a fee	Course on FDI for the Romanian Development Bank		
For a fee	International course "The European Statistical System"	1	19
For a fee	International course on transport statistics	1	8
For a fee	Training course "The General Agricultural Census"	2	30

The vocational training programmes were based on the offer of the CNPS, improved with proposals from the divisions of the central office and the territorial statistical divisions. The topics included methodologies used in Community statistics, the European Statistics Code of Practice, the measurement and evaluation of statistical data quality, communication and internal audit, IT applied to statistics, statistical analysis, statistical databases, business statistics, and macro-economic statistics. As a result of these courses, the following objectives were reached:

- Harmonising national statistics with the latest requirements of the European Statistical System;
- Supporting the quality and efficiency of statistical processes and products;
- Strengthening the co-ordinating and supporting role of the NIS and improving the level of training of the staff within the National Statistical System.

## 11.2. Carrying out scientific research projects

In February 2008, the National Centre for Training in Statistics submitted to the Advisory Council for R&D and Innovation the Self-Assessment Report meant to confirm its capacity to carry out scientific research activities.

By Decision No 9725/25.08.2008, the National Agency for Scientific Research and Innovation confirms that the National Centre for Training in Statistics is authorised to carry out research activities.



In this context, in 2008, the National Centre for Training in Statistics signed collaboration agreements for 14 research projects included in the National Programme PN II, projects (to be) carried out during the period 2008-2011.

In 2010, the NCTS is partner in technical assistance projects whose beneficiaries are national statistical offices from other countries (Ukraine, Macedonia, and Serbia).

As partner or contractor, the CNPS submitted the documents for the following research projects financed from structural funds:

Cur.no.	Contracting institution	Project name	Project status
1.	National Trade Union Bloc	Office for monitoring the labour market and the quality of employment	Won and underway
2.	IRECSON S.A.	Technical assistance for the development of the statistical analysis and evaluation system for the Romanian Border Police and the Ministry of Administration and Interior	Won and finalised
3.	Ministry of Education, Research, Youth and Sport	Management of the link between the education system and the labour market	Won and underway
4.	Foundation for the Development of Economic Civil Society	Promoting Romanian social economy through research, education and vocational training in accordance with the European standards - PROMETEUS	Won and underway
5.	Academy of Economic Studies	Modern practice systems for facilitating the access to the labour market for the future specialists in statistics and economic forecasting or economic informatics	Won and underway

### 11.3. Staff

The establishment plan provides for 21 positions of which 4 are filled positions.

The research and training activities are carried out by temporarily employing highly qualified NIS experts or university professors.

In 2010, the average number of employees of the National Centre for Training in Statistics was 29.





## 11.4. 2010 budget

2010 budget implementation:

- Available funds 01.01.2010: 419,155 lei
- Available funds 31.12.2010: 380,970 lei (excluding the pre-financing account in the Treasury)
- Available funds 31.12.2010: 462,362 lei (in the pre-financing account in the Treasury)

Turnover				
2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
808,347 lei	1,072,868 lei	1,715,753 lei	1,420,055 lei	2,099,556

Cur.no.	Income type	Amount			
		2007	2008	2009	2010
1	NIS courses	108,295	117,029	119,350	52,826
2	Courses for the territorial statistical divisions	144,618	164,963	82,610	73,339
3	Courses with other units	364,668	192,228	99,110	90,512
4	Research, of which:	424,491	1,162,422	1,020,527	1,538,160
	National		623,904	601,990	1,048,613
	International		538,518	418,537	489,547
5	Sponsors	25,312	48,057	70,374	22,700
6	Exchange rate differences	3,918	29,429	22,512	23,253
7	Interest	1,566	1,625	5,572	2,486
8	Income from structural funds				288,280
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1,072,868</b>	<b>1,715,753</b>	<b>1,420,055</b>	<b>2,099,556</b>

## XII. Difficulties faced in 2010

In 2010, the NIS faced a series of problems that affected the timeliness and quality of the work.

Most of the problems originate in the lack of staff, particularly qualified staff, in the significant reduction of vacancies and in the reduction of funds as compared to the amounts estimated for reaching the objectives of the approved Annual National Statistical Programme. In 2010 as well, the administrative data sources were insufficiently exploited.

A series of undertakings that are important for official statistics haven't been completed or are being completed:

- anticipating and measuring the effects of the crisis and substantiating policy decisions with a view to overcoming this phenomenon;
- in the field of labour force – obtaining data whose structure and level of detail meet the requirements of the users, such as: the number of employees in the national economy, the monthly number of unemployed persons;

- in the field of prices – determining the new consumer price index based on the national accounts weights combined with the Family Budget Survey weights;
- in the field of national accounts – improving the estimates of the hidden economy;
- providing the adequate framework for the measurement of external migration;
- delays in the carrying out of the Population and Housing Census (i.e. the activities related to the organisational structure and the new methodological issues);
- the implementation and monitoring of quality is not yet efficient enough to cover all the divisions within the NIS.



Another series of problems that affected the carrying out of the NIS activities were due to:

- the high workload for the staff, as there are insufficient human resources;
- unscheduled urgent requests for data and information, which involve a high workload;
- some economic and social units' refusal to respond to the statistical questionnaires, which means additional time spent recontacting them with a view to obtaining the necessary data;
- some agencies and ministries' failure to meet the deadlines for the reporting of the necessary data to the NIS;
- the high number of errors in the Intrastat monthly declarations, which affects the quality of the Intrastat data; addressing these errors requires additional time for analysis, contacts, clarifications, corrections, retransmission/recollection, etc.);
- the extended revision of the data by important exporters and importers, which may affect the quality of the intra-Community trade data published as provisional. In order to meet the reporting deadlines (15 days following the end of the reference month), many companies submit partial Intrastat declarations and then, in a few days, weeks or months, they submit revised Intrastat declarations that are considerably different from the initial declarations;
- the economic crisis has made the data providers give up on the specialised staff that filled in the Intrastat statistical declarations, which affected the quality of the collected data, by increasing the number of errors in the Intrastat statistical declarations;
- the unannounced repeated interruptions in the power supply in 2010 led to the deterioration of some PC sources, UPSs and server hard disks and created problems for the entire IT system (field servers, e-mail servers, the NIS website, the network, etc.);
- the lack of financial resources did not allow the implementation of the hardware and software reconfigurable structured cabling network for data/voice transmission within the NIS as specified in the feasibility study conducted in 2008. The fact that no funds are allocated for replacing the NIS network (cabling + passive/active equipment) as soon as possible increases the risk of massive failures within the statistical IT system of the NIS.

## XIII. Priorities of the National Institute of Statistics in 2011

The National Statistical Systems operates as a component of the European Statistical System, providing the operating framework for meeting the information needs of all the categories of statistical data users, at the national and international level, particularly the requirements of the Government and of central and local administration.

In order to continue to carry out and expand its activities, in compliance with the governmental policy in the statistical field, the National Institute of Statistics has set itself a series of targets for the following period:

Romanian statistics has a wide range of priorities for 2011. Some of the most important are:

- ❖ Continuing the qualitative improvement of the existing statistical framework by:
  - *absorbing and implementing*, to a high extent in terms of coverage and quality of the statistical process, the statistics-related Community acquis by implementing new statistical surveys, with the focus on attracting non-reimbursable European funds;
  - *expanding and diversifying the data collection area and the solutions for collecting data* from primary information providers by:
    - gradually replacing the paper questionnaires with electronic questionnaires that are mainly addressed to statistical observation units with legal personality, including by using the facilities provided by the web portal mentioned above;
    - widely using administrative sources for statistical purposes and reducing the number of statistical surveys accordingly;
- ❖ Processing and presenting the provisional results of the GAC; this information is meant to substantiate the national agricultural policies, in accordance with the Community acquis, needs to be comparable at international level and is required for Romania's participation in the Common Agricultural Policy;
- ❖ Continuing the organisation of the Population and Housing Census. The recording of the data will take place in October 2011. The data collected in the census will be used to formulate population-related strategies and policies;
- ❖ The implementation, including at the level of the territorial statistical divisions, of adequate and efficient methods for the continuous improvement of the level of training in the statistical field, focusing on the new undertakings and developments at the European level:
  - *creating an e-learning platform aimed at:*
    - delivering intelligent courses adjusted to the level of the trainee;
    - providing the trainee with the opportunity to learn at his own pace;
    - monitoring the acquiring of knowledge, including through quick and relevant testing systems;
  - *organising courses on official statistics* - courses aimed at broadening data users' knowledge, including that of the key persons within central and local administration;
  - *connecting the National Institute of Statistics to the operational programme for the development of the administrative capacity* with a view to characterising the performance of local public administration;

- ❖ The need to timely provide relevant information that is required for monitoring the effects of the crisis from a statistical quantitative point of view; strengthening co-operation with the institutions that collaborate with the NIS in drawing up the fiscal notification (the Ministry of Public Finance and the National Bank of Romania) with a view to monitoring the evolution of the budget deficit and other economic and financial aspects;
- ❖ Expanding the statistical activities to the local and regional level, including by conducting sectoral analyses and profitably using the techniques and methods of determining small-area statistical indicators;
- ❖ Improving and harmonising statistics with a view to giving a coherent and realistic picture of the factors that influence economic growth; accelerating the release of the information on the effects of the crisis; approaching the content of gross and adjusted series from a methodological perspective; theoretical research and attempts to implement models for the summary evaluation of economic growth on the basis of composite indicators, with the assistance of the academic staff; extending time series;
- ❖ Rethinking the organisation of the National Institute of Statistics by rationalising data flows, improving the methods of collecting, processing, analysing and disseminating data, evaluating the quality of primary data, evaluating other objectives set out in the statistical programmes of the Commission and in the Annual and Multi-Annual National Statistical Programme;
- ❖ Focusing the efforts of the statistical staff on making better use of the statistical information and data; adopting relevant and reliable solutions in sensitive areas, such as the consumer price index and the inflation index, evaluating international migration in accordance with the EU standards, improving the surveys in the labour market field in order to capture phenomena and processes specific to the recession period and the economic crisis, improving the monitoring of the evolution of real estate prices, perfecting the system that monitors the evolution of the standard of living, etc.



## XIV. Annexes

Annex 1

### IMPLEMENTATION OF THE BUDGET FOR 2010

-funds allocated from the state budget-

- thousand lei -

NAME OF INDICATORS	Annual estimates		Payments made on 31.XII.2010		% Payments compared to estimates
	Total	% of the total	Total	% of the total	
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>112,790.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>109,146.5</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>96.8</b>
<b>I. STAFF EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>65,488.0</b>	<b>58.1</b>	<b>64,599.6</b>	<b>59.2</b>	<b>98.6</b>
<b>Money salary expenditure</b>	51,373.0	45.6	50,727.4	46.5	98.7
- Basic salaries	42,713.0	37.9	42,350.5	38.8	99.2
- Salaries of merit	36.0	0.03	35.7	0.03	100.0
- Management allowances	134.0	0.1	133.3	0.1	100.0
- Seniority bonus	452.0	0.4	451.3	0.4	100.0
- Other bonuses	635.0	0.6	634.5	0.6	100.0
- Premium fund	2,735.0	2.4	2,733.9	2.5	100.0
- Holiday allowance	3,372.0	3.0	3,199.6	3.0	94.9
- Allowances paid to people outside the unit	998.0	0.9	948.6	0.8	95.1
- Mission allowances	69.0	0.06	36.0	0.06	52.2
- Housing allowances	11.0	0.01	8.3	0.01	75.5
- Other money salary rights	218.0	0.2	195.7	0.2	89.8
<b>Contributions to salaries</b>	14,115.0	12.5	13,872.2	12.7	98.3
<b>II. GOODS AND SERVICES</b>	<b>17,601.0</b>	<b>15.6</b>	<b>16,740.1</b>	<b>15.3</b>	<b>95.1</b>
- Office supplies	138.0	0.12	125.4	0.12	90.9
- Goods and services for the maintenance and functioning of the NIS buildings	5,756.0	5.1	5,444.3	5.0	94.6
- Fuels and lubricants	352.0	0.3	306.5	0.3	87.1
- Functional materials and services, spare parts	1,803.0	1.6	1,670.1	1.5	92.6
- Mail, phone, Internet	2,189.0	2.0	2,131.2	1.9	97.4
- Inventory items	10.0	-	9.1	-	91.0
- Regular repairs	563.0	0.5	560.4	0.5	99.5
- Internal travels	422.0	0.4	405.4	0.4	96.1
- External travels	135.0	0.1	100.5	0.1	74.1
- Books and publications	55.0	0.04	41.1	0.03	74.5
- Vocational training	155.0	0.14	142.4	0.15	93.7
- Labour protection	115.0	0.1	91.0	0.1	79.1
- Other expenditure	5,908.0	5.2	5,712.7	5.2	96.7
<b>III. TRANSFERS (co-financing of programmes financed by the EU)</b>	<b>125.0</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>81.0</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>64.8</b>
<b>IV. PROJECTS FINANCED FROM POST-ACCESION NON-REIMBURSABLE EXTERNAL FUNDS</b>	<b>28,563.0</b>	<b>25.3</b>	<b>26,729.1</b>	<b>24.5</b>	<b>93.6</b>
<b>V. CAPITAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>1,013.0</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>996.6</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>98.4</b>
- Machinery and equipment	938.0	0.85	922.0	0.85	98.3
- Other tangible assets	75.0	0.05	74.6	0.05	99.5



## IMPLEMENTATION OF THE BUDGET FOR 2010

-expenditure from own income-

- thousand lei -

NAME OF INDICATORS	Annual estimates		Payments made on 31.XII.2010		%
	Total	% of the total	Total	% of the total	Payments compared to estimates
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>2,769.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>587.2</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>22.0</b>
<b>I. STAFF EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>1,166.0</b>	<b>42.1</b>	<b>177.2</b>	<b>30.2</b>	<b>15.2</b>
<b>Money salary expenditure</b>	914.0	33.0	135.3	23.0	14.8
- Basic salaries	427.0	15.4	118.8	20.2	27.8
- Salaries of merit	13.0	0.5	-	-	-
- Management allowances	45.0	1.6	0.9	0.2	2.0
- Seniority bonus	108.0	3.9	1.2	0.2	1.3
- Other bonuses	49.0	1.8	2.2	0.4	4.4
- Overtime	20.0	0.7	-	-	-
- Premium fund	50.0	1.8	11.5	1.9	23.0
- Mission allowances	2.0	0.1	-	-	-
- Other money salary rights	200.0	7.2	0.7	0.1	0.3
<b>Contributions to salaries</b>	252.0	9.1	41.9	7.2	16.6
<b>II. GOODS AND SERVICES</b>	<b>1,503.0</b>	<b>54.3</b>	<b>400.7</b>	<b>68.2</b>	<b>26.7</b>
- Office supplies	25.0	0.8	6.8	1.1	27.2
- Goods and services for maintenance and functioning	651.0	23.5	61.7	10.5	9.5
- Functional materials and services	400.0	14.4	187.4	31.9	46.8
- Mail, phone, Internet	70.0	2.5	19.5	3.3	27.8
- Inventory items	60.0	2.2	9.6	1.7	16.0
- Regular repairs	20.0	0.7	7.2	1.2	36.0
- Internal travels	10.0	0.4	9.1	1.6	91.0
- Vocational training	4.0	0.2	2.5	0.4	62.5
- Labour protection	3.0	0.2	0.8	0.1	26.7
- Other expenditure	260.0	9.4	97.9	16.7	37.6
<b>III. CAPITAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>3.6</b>	<b>9.3</b>	<b>1.6</b>	<b>9.3</b>
- Machinery and equipment	100.0	3.6	9.3	1.6	9.3

Annex 3

## IMPLEMENTATION OF THE BUDGET FOR 2010

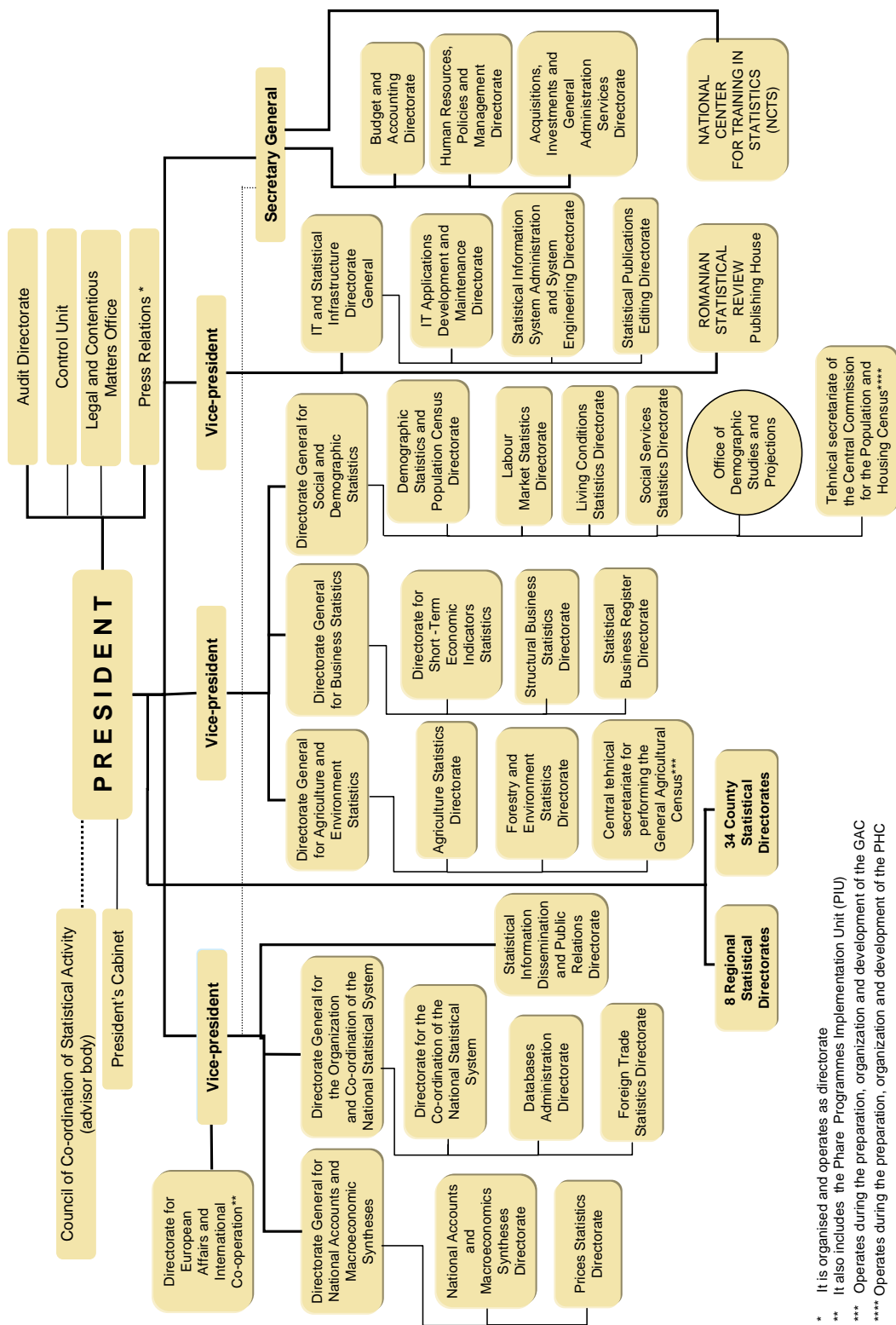
-non-reimbursable external funds-

- thousand lei -

NAME OF INDICATORS	Annual estimates		Payments made on 31.XII.2010		%
	Total	% of the total	Total	% of the total	Payments compared to estimates
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>24,882.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>14,027.8</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>56.4</b>
- PHARE programmes and other programmes financed from non-reimbursable funds (2005 and 2006 National PHARE, Multi-Beneficiary PHARE)	10,269.0	41.3	6,864.1	48.9	66.8
- Programmes financed from the Transition Facility	1,260.0	5.1	818.4	5.8	65.0
- Other post-accession facilities and tools (EU grants for actions)	13,353.0	53.6	6,345.3	45.3	47.5

# Organizational Chart of the NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF STATISTICS

**Annex 4**  
Annex 1 of the Government Decision no.957/2005  
The maximum number of posts is 2155, the high officials excluded



\* It is organised and operates as directorate  
 \*\* It also includes the Phare Programmes Implementation Unit (PIU)  
 \*\*\* Operates during the preparation, organization and development of the GAC  
 \*\*\*\* Operates during the preparation, organization and development of the PHC