

International Technical Support

Newsletter no. 10, July 2018 - Insee, France

Editorial

Two key events marked the first half of 2018. We go back over them in this 10th issue of the International Technical Support newsletter.

A closing seminar of the twinning with Statistiques Tunisie was held in April 2018 in Tunis. It offers an opportunity to look back on the project in a special report including an article summarising the main results achieved, as well as interviews with eight Tunisian, French and Italian players involved to various degrees in the twinning.

In addition, in an event organised parallel to the UN Statistical Commission in New York, Insee co-hosted a workshop on tools facilitating the implementation of national accounts, in which Eretes featured prominently. The workshop attracted a wide audience, which proved its vitality.

The newsletter ends as usual with a list of the cooperation activities carried out by Insee and the partner French Ministerial Statistical Services in the first half of 2018. Enjoy reading!

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Twinning Project Closing Seminar – Tunis, Tunisia. From left to right: Anis MORAI, a journalist and show host on Tunisian national radio and at Radio Tunis Chaîne Internationale; Giorgio ALLEVA, President of Istat; Hedi SAIDI, Director General of Statistiques Tunisie; Jean-Luc TAVERNIER, Director General of Insee; Vilija LAPENIENE, General Director of Statistics Lithuania

Special report on Tunisian twinning project

The twinning project with Statistiques Tunisie, which ended at the end of April, is the largest international cooperation endeavour in which Insee has participated in the last decade.

It was a complex operation, but also one that helped bring structure to Insee's cooperation activity — complex in the search for experts and partners which it entailed, the efforts to match needs and resources, and the planned

activities to be implemented; structuring because the activities were planned from the start of the project, making it possible for experts to reconcile their usual professional activities with their technical assistance missions.

The twinning project has given our institute the opportunity to work over the long-term and in-depth with the Tunisian NSI, who has been a partner of Insee for many years. It was also an opportunity to

strengthen our relations with other European NSIs — Italian NSI Istat and the Lithuanian NSI — in the field of international cooperation.

It has been an enriching experience for everyone, both professionally and personally. I warmly thank all those who contributed to it, on both sides of the Mediterranean.

► *Dominique FRANCOZ, Head of the Twinning Project, for Insee*

Review of the twinning project with Statistiques Tunisie

The twinning project that brought together the Tunisian NSI, Insee (France) and Istat (Italy) ended in late April with the organisation of a closing seminar in Tunis.

The 27-month twinning project kept a large number of French and Italian, but also Lithuanian, experts busy.

161 missions and 14 visits were carried out, making for a total of nearly 700 days of work — 550 days for missions and 150 days for visits.

In number of days, France contributed to 60% of the activities — missions and visits [Chart 1].

The objective of this twinning was to modernise the Tunisian statistical system, with three issues at stake:

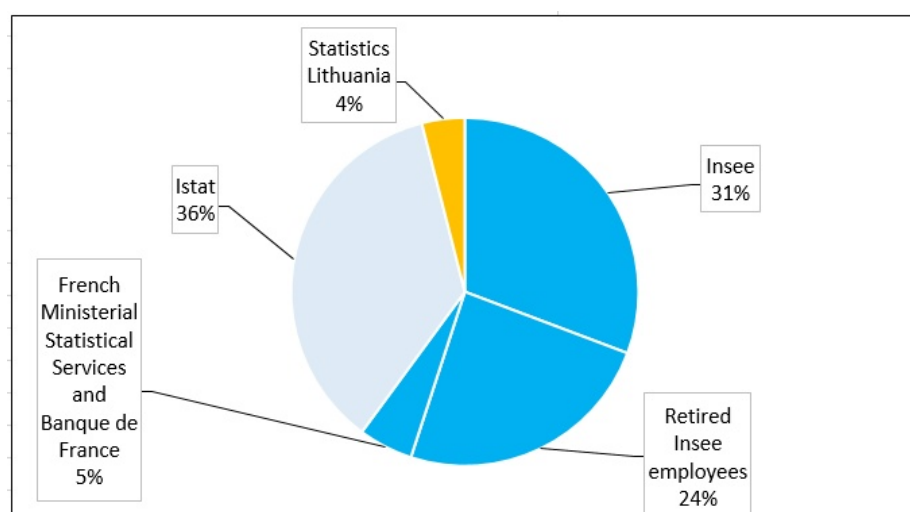
- 1 - To strengthen the governance of the statistical system;
- 2 - To improve statistical production;
- 3 - To ensure better communication and dissemination of data.

The activities were divided into five subjects:

- A – Statistical Law,
- B – Modernisation of the NSI,
- C – National Accounting,
- D – Regional Statistics,
- E – Dissemination-Communication.

It enabled outcomes in many areas, the following being of particularly importance:

Chart 1 – Number of days of work, according to the origin of experts



- The new bill on statistics was passed by an Inter-Ministerial Committee in December 2017 and is currently following the legislative process.
- A new NSI organisation chart has been suggested. It includes a Quality Unit and a Training Centre.
- A new organisation was tested for the Regional Directorates in some of the 24 governorates.
- Where national accounts are concerned, the NSI is well on the road to switching to the system of national accounts (SNA) 2008 concurrent to the change of the benchmark year 2015-2016.
- Regional GDPs were calculated for the 7 major regions for 2013.

- The statistical survey system has been adapted to better take into account the activity of the informal sector in national accounts.
- A system for producing regional statistics was validated and has begun to be implemented.
- The NSI is now trained to use the SDMX standard for disseminating data and metadata.
- User relations have been improved and a communication plan has been adopted.
- Lastly, significant resources have been deployed in the field of training.

Some activities – which could not be finalised during the twinning project – will be the focus of additional developments within the framework of Insee and Istat's bilateral cooperation programmes, and will benefit from a new European funding that is being put together for statistics. The two institutes will coordinate their activities.

► *Dominique FRANCOZ*

*Attendees at the closing seminar.
At the microphone: Pierre MULLER,
Insee, Head of the National
Accounting and Regional Statistics*



Interview with Mouna Zgoulli, Central Director of IT, Dissemination and Coordination at Statistiques Tunisie and counterpart to the resident twinning advisor

What were the objectives of this twinning and do you feel they have been achieved?

The European twinning project, “Modernisation of the Tunisian Statistical System” began in February 2016 and ended in April 2018. Its main aim was to set up a more consistent and efficient public statistical system.

In particular, the project allowed to strengthen the governance of the Tunisian National Statistical System (SNS) and consolidate the role of the NSI as a main player in the SNS. Statistical production was also modernised so that, at the end of the chain, public and private users have easier and more regular access to statistical information. Lastly, the compliance of this production with quality standards is now better guaranteed.

The result of the project is satisfying and all the initially planned activities have been completed. The large volume of technical assistance provided also attests to the scale of the work carried out — 161 missions, amounting to 550 man-days of expertise.



Mouna ZGOUILLI, Statistiques Tunisie

Could you give one or two examples of major changes within Statistiques Tunisie thanks to this twinning?

One experiment in particular comes to mind, in which a new standardised organisation allowed seven regional directorates to work together in a new way in three hubs — data collection management, resource management and administration, and dissemination-communication.

The creation of the new dissemination-communication hub expresses the desire to extend the

scope of the missions entrusted to regional directorate, and include activities aimed at external partners and audiences.

A training plan to strengthen the skills of the staff in these regional directorates was also drawn up.

The training courses carried out mainly dealt with the institutional framework and descriptive statistics — 750 people trained in both cases. Other training courses focused on the main indicators disseminated by the NSI and the associated production processes, communication between surveyors and households and companies, adult education training, different types of management, and the rights and duties of statisticians.

The twinning project has created a dynamic within the NSI. The work was carried out by project groups consisting of managers from different departments with varied backgrounds, creating a new experience for all and improving cooperation between the departments.

► *Interview conducted by Serge DARRINÉ*

Interview with Carla Saglietti, Resident Twinning Advisor (RTA) in Tunisia

In your opinion, why was working simultaneously with two NSIs, Insee and Istat, rewarding for Statistiques Tunisie?

The collaboration between Istat and Insee was both complementary and harmonious. The activities were divided up at the time the contract was drawn up, in accordance with the areas in which each institute had a priori a comparative advantage — statistical law and quality, national accounting, development of regional statistics and training engineering for Insee; integrated information system and international data exchange standards for Istat.

However, during the twinning project, this breakdown was adjusted flexibly, in accordance with expert availability. For instance, where national accounting was concerned, Insee was unable to send an expert on quarterly accounts. Instead, two Istat experts worked in collaboration and under the supervision of Pierre Muller, responsible for the subject.

The fact that the two project managers, Dominique Francoz on the Insee side and Tiziana Pelliciotti on the Istat side, know each other well, fostered very smooth communication and cooperation between the two institutes.

This collaboration allowed the Tunisian NSI to see different



Carla SAGLIETTI, Insee

approaches, enabling it to make an informed choice between several methods.

In contrast, in a French-speaking country such as Tunisia, the use of English as a working language in the activities carried out by Istat sometimes added difficulty in understanding certain complex points.

What did you like most about this RTA work and how different was it from your previous positions?

I particularly appreciated the very warm welcome of my Tunisian colleagues and I was very pleased to see at the end of the twinning process that almost all the goals

had been reached, thanks to the combined involvement of European experts and all the staff of the NSI.

Being an RTA is very different from all the positions I have held during my working life at Insee: even though the culture of the NSI is very close to that of Insee, in this position, one is administratively isolated on a day-to-day basis.

Another feature specific to the RTA is the fact that the content of the missions and training has to be constantly adjusted to the needs of the beneficiary country, which implies having a good understanding of how the NSI works. After a few months, I felt fully part of the Tunisian working collective, and was able to act as interface.

In particular, it was up to me to make it clear to European experts that it is sometimes difficult to keep work moving forward between two missions, because the resources of the NSI are limited from the European point of view, while our Tunisian colleagues had, in addition to the burden generated by twinning, to go on with their day-to-day work.

► Interview conducted by Serge DARRINÉ

Interview with Tiziana Pelliciotti, Tunisian twinning project manager in Istat

Could you give an example of technical support, provided by Istat to Statistiques Tunisie, which you see as a particular success?

I believe that the twinning for the benefit of the Tunisian NSI, which was carried out in partnership with Insee, has had many useful outcomes, thanks to the strong commitment of the staff at all three

institutions. In that sense, it is difficult to single out one specific outcome.

As to the activities for which Istat was directly responsible, the introduction of statistical data and metadata exchange (SDMX) definitely is worth mentioning, though (see the interview with Carlo Vaccari on p. 7).



Tiziana PELLICIOTTI, Istat

In addition to Statistiques Tunisie, the Tunisian Ministry of Education, Culture, Transport and Industry as well as the Bank of Tunisia were involved in this data exchange project.

The medium-term objective is to launch pilot macrodata collection projects. In particular, the NSI plans to work jointly with the Bank of Tunisia to implement the International Monetary Fund's SDDS+ data dissemination standard.

This considerable work was achieved thanks to the commitment of our Tunisian colleagues and the solid experience of Istat in this field.

The exercise was interesting because it touched on various aspects of the organisation of Statistiques Tunisie. For example, it allowed to improve the skills of its agents, thanks to theoretical training sessions and on-the-job training, for both statisticians and IT specialists.

It was also an opportunity to step up dialogue and cooperation with other producers of statistics.

Lastly, it was the first pilot experiment to our knowledge on the African continent, so Tunisia is now very advanced in terms of statistical data exchange and can be considered a reference.

► Interview conducted by Serge DARRINÉ

Interview with Constance Torelli, expert in informal sector measuring

You carried out several missions in the context of the Tunisian twinning project. What were they about and what was their aim?

The aim of my missions was to help Statistiques Tunisie improve the measuring of the informal sector, an ambition that encompasses several aspects, of a statistical, methodological and conceptual nature.

Within the NSI, measuring the informal sector is useful to national accountants, particularly with the change of the benchmark year coming up. It is also of interest to statisticians conducting household surveys — such as the Employment survey — and business surveys — such as the micro-enterprises survey.

The diagnosis that was made highlighted the fact that the NSI measured the weight of the informal sector in the Tunisian economy only partially.

First of all, some production units, because they are unknown to the tax authorities, are not listed in the national business register and are therefore left out of the five-year survey which Statistiques Tunisie carries out on micro-enterprises. This survey thus identifies only part of the informal sector, ie. companies that, while part of this sector, are nevertheless registered with the tax authorities.



Constance TORELLI, Insee

The activity of such production units is then measured in detail using a distinct survey.

The methodology suggested and adopted by the INS was structured as follows:

- (1) adopting a definition of the informal sector according to the characteristics specific to Tunisia (see box);
- (2) modifying the Employment Survey questionnaire to identify informal production units;

Secondly, while we would have liked the Employment Survey to measure the informal sector concerning households. The questions asked in the survey only allowed to distinguish salaried workers from non-salaried workers.

The proposed scheme, which NSI has begun to implement, is based on the 1-2-3 survey methodology designed by the Research Institute for Development (IRD-DIAL) in the early 1990s and which has proved its value on several continents — Africa, Asia, Latin America.

The survey is based on a combined approach, covering both households and companies, in order to identify production units that are outside the statistical apparatus, because they are not included in administrative directories or have no accounts.

Box: definition of the informal sector according to Statistiques Tunisie

The informal sector “consists of economic units, whatever their status — employer, self-employed, etc.) and their type of activity — including agriculture — that produce goods and services for the market and do not have, de facto or legally, complete accounts. These units will be considered in the national accounts as individual enterprises in the household sector.”

This definition follows the international recommendations made regarding the informal sector within the framework of the system of national accounts (SNA) 2008.

(3) moving forward the micro-enterprise survey timeline in order to secure data on 2016;

(4) drafting an employment matrix to estimate the productivity of informal work.

What results did you achieve?

Adding new criteria — registration with the tax authorities and account-keeping — to the Employment Survey questionnaire helped significantly improve the understanding of measuring on the informal sector.

This data will need to be consolidated with the next editions of this survey in order to enable regular monitoring of the issue. In addition, the NSI is preparing to conduct a survey on micro-enterprises in 2018 with the informal production units identified in the Employment Survey.

To consolidate the results taken from across the improved system, the NSI is currently — in line with a proposal I made — integrating this data into a process leading to an employment matrix by institutional

sector. With this tool, national accountants will be able to estimate labour productivity in the informal sector.

► Interview conducted by Serge DARRINÉ

Interview with Véronique Guihard, Training Expert

What was the purpose of your cooperation with Statistiques Tunisie?

Statistiques Tunisie wanted to focus on training, a topic listed in two components of the twinning project — modernising the institute and developing regional statistics.

It soon became clear that the two concerns were closely linked and a step-by-step approach was suggested — first, quickly create a small team dedicated to training; second, make it autonomous in training engineering; and lastly, chart out a road map for the creation of a more ambitious training centre.

According to you, what has mainly been achieved?

Concretely, a 2017 training plan was put together, implemented and evaluated.



Véronique GUIHARD, Insee

A large volume of training was provided by the twinning project's experts, for example on management, adult education and training design. Two modules, highly valued in the provinces, were built with Tunisian staff, on how to conduct interviews during household surveys and business surveys.

Beyond that, our expert group¹ felt it was particularly important to convince our Tunisian colleagues that the training system must rest on a team in tune with the contracting authorities, trainers and trainees.

► Interview conducted by Serge DARRINÉ

1 - In addition to Véronique Guihard — Sylvain Nardon, Marie-France Tajan, Xavier Helfenstein and Guillaume Techer.

Interview with Benoît Hurpeau, Regional Accounts Expert

What was the purpose of your cooperation with Statistiques Tunisie?

Within the sub-project on the revision of the Tunisian national accounting system, I was responsible for developing gross domestic product for the seven major regions in Tunisia.

Comparing differences in development between regions is a major challenge in implementing effective public policies at the local level.

Moreover, this indicator is eagerly awaited by the various Tunisian institutions.



Benoît HURPEAU, Insee

What would you describe as the main achievements?

The main outcome is that, thanks to the two local experts, Karim Salah and Samia Khdhaouria, we have reached our goal, and the results will soon be published! The first challenge was to find information...

It was a challenge, because there is relatively little data at the sub-national level in Tunisia, because the Tunisian statistical system is not as structured as Insee's.

Although developing the theory was quite simple, implementing proved to be a real challenge for the two

NSI people in charge of this project.

I would like to pay tribute to their excellent work once again.

► Interview conducted by Serge DARRINÉ

Interview with Karim Zaari, Quality Expert

What did your mission consist in and what have you gained from this experience?

I was responsible for training Tunisian statisticians in using the GSBPM (for Generic Statistical Business Process Model). This international model makes it possible to describe a statistical production process, in any chosen field.

The management system adopted by the national Tunisian business register was chosen as a case study.

In addition to the process description, work was carried out with the trainees on analysing the risks involved in managing this

register and on the mapping of the NSI's processes.



Karim ZAARI, Insee

Process mapping is defined as modelling all the processes of an organisation, providing an overview and enabling an organisation to be steered according to strategic directions (such as the Insee 2025 guidelines, for our Institute).

From this experience, I will remember, first of all, the excellent quality of the organisation, which enabled me to carry out this mission under good conditions and, secondly, the dedication of the Tunisian colleagues who made it possible to produce quality deliverables.

► Interview conducted by Serge DARRINÉ

Interview with Carlo Vaccari, New Technology Expert at Istat

What did your mission consist in and what have you gained from this experience?

My mission with the NSI in Tunis involved setting up an IT architecture compliant with international standards, to be used for all statistical surveys.

This new architecture was first tested, together with our Tunisian colleagues, in the field of foreign trade.

We worked on this new architecture with four Italian experts from different Istat departments — IT, methodology and foreign trade.

We then listed the NSI's needs for this new system during a study visit of our Tunisian colleagues to Rome.



Carlo VACCARI,
Istat

This experience with my Tunisian colleagues and friends was an opportunity to get a better knowledge of this field, and to return to Italy with the feeling I had enriched my experience with a reusable case.

► Interview conducted by Serge DARRINÉ

The main problems we faced in carrying out this project were similar to those in most NSIs, i.e. choosing the nomenclatures to be used, selecting and developing appropriate IT tools, and defining aggregated data to be published and protocols to be used for dissemination to stakeholders and end users.

International standards can help NSIs solve these problems.

The Eretes national accounting tool, presented at the United Nations Statistical Commission

A number of Insee representatives participated in the 49th Annual session of the United Nations Statistical Commission in New York, 6-9 March 2018.

Parallel to this session, the Insee International Technical Support Division organised a side-event, in collaboration with Eurostat and Afristat, on national accounting tools and in particular on Eretes².

This event was chaired by Eurostat, with presentations by representatives from Peru, Senegal, Afristat and Insee on the implementation of the tool, its monitoring and its future development.

The session was a success, both in terms of attendance — around fifty people — and of the high quality of the debates that followed the presentations. The questions focused on the characteristics of such national accounting tools and how to implement them — how to get help on how to use them and what type of training is offered? How are these tools monitored as they evolve? How can these tools take new needs — such as quarterly accounts and wealth accounts — into account?

Speakers and participants also mentioned the investment represented by the use of this type of tool — and in particular the training required — as well as the time needed to prepare the accounts for a benchmark year³



Plenary meeting of 49th Session of the United Nations Statistical Commission – New York, USA

and for subsequent years, referred to as current years⁴.

Delegates from fifteen countries participated — Angola, Brazil, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Egypt, Gabon, Guyana, Hungary, Morocco, Uganda, Peru, Portugal and Senegal.

Ten institutions were also represented — Afristat, the African Development Bank (AfDB), the Bank of Japan, the Statistical Training Center for East Africa (EASTC), the Dubai Statistical Centre, the GCC Stat Statistical Center (GCC Stat), the United Nations Economic Commission for

Africa (UNECA), the Central Africa Economic and Monetary Commission (CEMAC), the United Nations Statistical Commission, and the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

From the facilitators' point of view, the interest in Eretes during this event has opened up prospects of extending its use to new users.

► Jean-Samy AZIZ

2 - The other two tools briefly mentioned during this event were SNAPC (System of National Accounts on a Personal Computer) and NADABAS (National Accounts Database System).

3 - The first stage in the preparation of national accounts is the construction of the "benchmark year". For that year, the accounts for each branch and each institutional sector are drawn up. This requires mobilising all available sources and setting up significant means of investigation — census of various types, special investigations, etc. This also requires substantial methodological work in that a decision has to be made, for each accounting concept, as to how it will be delineated and evaluated.

4 - Unlike the financial statements for the base year, which are drawn up on a "level" basis, those for current years are drafted to reflect the change — rate of change compared to the previous year. They are, however, published in level terms.

In brief – Insee Cooperation in 1st Half 2018

Maghreb and Mediterranean Basin

Tunisia

During the first half of 2018, Statistiques Tunisie benefited from twenty cooperation initiatives from Insee — 19 expert missions in Tunis and 1 study visit in France.

These actions were organised as part of a twinning project (see special report in the same issue), which was capped with a closing seminar at the end of April, which Director-General Jean-Luc Tavernier and several Insee agents participated in.



*Twinning Project Closing Seminar – Tunis (Tunisia).
Address by Mr Jean-Luc TAVERNIER,
Director General of Insee*

Morocco

In March, two Insee experts participated in a workshop on regional statistics organised in Tangier by the United Nations Population Fund. The aim of this workshop was to define regional needs and to start discussing how a regional database can be set up.

In June, civil servants of the Moroccan High Commission

participated in the 13th Statistical Methodology Days, organised in Paris by Insee. Their presentations focused on time series and data analysis.



Poster of the Insee Statistical Methodology Days

Algeria

In February, a study visit by an Algerian delegation was organised at Insee on Community Surveys on Innovation and the SINE (New Business Information System) system as part of a European twinning programme for the benefit of the Algerian Ministry of Industry.

Israel

Insee occasionally participates in a European twinning project led by the Danish NSI in favour of the

Central Bureau of Statistics of Israel.

The section on which Insee operates concerns sampling, setting up and managing household surveys in the field, managing investigators, and investigator workload. Two actions were carried out — a mission by two Insee experts in Jerusalem and a study visit by an Israeli delegation in Paris and Rouen.

Lebanon

In February, a retired Insee expert conducted a technical support mission in Beirut for the benefit of the Lebanese Ministry of Industry, with a view to establishing a census of companies. This action was carried out using one-off European financing (TAIEX).

Medstat IV

Two actions took place in March as part of the Medstat IV programme.

An Insee expert conducted a technical support mission for the High Commissioner for Planning in Morocco, Rabat, in the field of continuing education.

Another Insee expert participated in a workshop on company directories in Bucharest (Romania) bringing together the specialists in company directories from the Mediterranean countries.



Left to right: Georges BOURDALLÉ, Insee expert in collection tools for household surveys, Pierre-Arnaud PENDOLI, Insee expert in sampling methodology, and colleagues from the Israeli NSI – Jerusalem, Israel

Sub-Saharan Africa

CEMAC countries

A seminar on economic outlook, organised by Afristat and the Economic and Monetary Commission for Central Africa (Cemac), was held in March 2018 in Douala, Cameroon, for the countries in this area.

It dealt with the use of economic indicators and national quarterly accounts in macroeconomic forecasts.

An Insee expert presented the new European economic indicators and their use in economic outlook reports.

BCEAO – Central Bank of the West African States

In May 2018, two Insee experts led a training session on data confidentiality processing at the headquarters of the Central Bank of West African States (BCEAO), in Dakar, Senegal.

It was conducted within the framework of the ongoing cooperation agreement between the BCEAO and Insee.

Afristat

In January 2018, two Insee experts participated in the first meeting of the regional working group set up as part of a project to support the monitoring of Sustainable Development Goals (Sodda) in Dakar, Senegal.

The members of this working group are representatives of Afristat, the national statistical institutes of the Member States, African statistical schools, Expertise France and Insee.

The regional working group meeting was followed by a reflection workshop on setting up a day in African statistics schools to raise awareness about SDGs.

A workshop on data correction techniques — seasonal variations,



Participants in the March 2018 Afristat-Cemac economic seminar in Douala, Cameroon, including Alain GALLAIS (5th from the left), Insee expert in national accounts and economic indicators

effects of working days, etc. —, applied to monthly and quarterly time series was organised in April 2018 in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire.

An Insee expert led the training, alternating theoretical presentations and practical work.

This workshop was organised as part of the skills building of African statistical school teachers and Afristat experts.

Benin

In June, an Insee expert participated in a peer review mission at the National Institute of Statistics and Economic Analysis (INSAE) in Cotonou, Benin.



Peer review team – Cotonou, Benin. From left to right: Gildas NZINGOULA, African Union; Dominique FRANCOZ, Insee; Oumarou SOULE, Afristat; Babacar NDIR, Director General of the Senegalese NSI; Ivan MURENZI, Deputy Director General of the Rwandan NSI

The aim was to evaluate the Beninese statistical system in light of international recommendations on governance, organisation and quality and to propose a roadmap with a view to bringing Benin's national statistical system closer to international standards.

The two peers were Babacar NDIR, Director-General of the National Statistical and Demographic Agency of Senegal, and Ivan MURENZI, Director-General of the NSI of Rwanda.

Representatives from the statistical division of the African Union, the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa and Afristat also participated.

This review was part of the Pan-African Statistical Programme.

South America

Peru

An Insee expert participated in the 4th International Conference on Governance, Crime and Justice Statistics, June 2018 in Lima, Peru.

The indicators mentioned during this event are all part of Sustainable Development Goal #16, entitled "Peace, Justice and Effective Institutions".

The conference was co-organised by the United Nations Office Against Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and the National Statistical Institutes of Peru and Mexico.



International Conference on Governance, Crime and Justice Statistics – Lima, Peru

Discussions focused in particular on the use of big data to analyse new types of data available on the web, for example the precise description of public tenders in the countries of the European Union.

The use of this type of data opens up promising prospects for studying sensitive topics that are still poorly covered by traditional statistical mechanisms, such as high-level corruption.

Discussions also focused on the link between household surveys and the use of web surveys among target populations, a field in which France was able to compare its experience with that of several countries on the American continent regarding the measuring of the quantities of illicit drugs consumed.

Europe and Asia

BALKANS

All missions in the Balkans except Bosnia and Herzegovina were part of the 2013 or 2015 IPA assistance programme.

Croatia

In June, a Croatian delegation carried out a study visit to Insee on the theme of the production and dissemination of business economic indices.

Serbia

In April, an Insee expert carried out a mission in Belgrade with a view to providing technical support to the Serbian NSI on national accounting.

The aim was to prepare the Serbian national accounts for 2016, in line with the work carried out for 2014 and 2015 as part of the European financing services contract, which ended in December 2017.



Delegation of the Croatian INS at a study visit to Insee, Montrouge, France.

From left to right: Gordana HOCURCAK, Head of the Software Development and Data Dissemination Department, Ivana ZOROJA, Head of the Industry, Energy and New Technology Statistics Department, and Jasna PUGAR, Head of the Technical Assistance Project on Enterprise Statistics, along with two Insee experts: Joëlle LÉOST, SDMX specialist, and Guillaume JARDILLIER, IT specialist in this standard

Kosovo

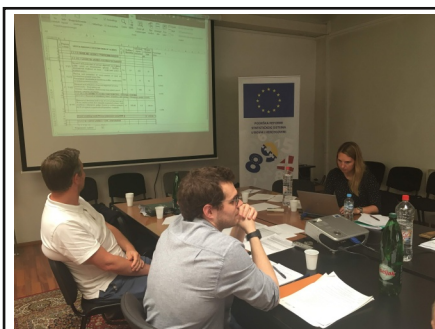
In February, an Insee expert carried out a mission in Pristina in the field of national accounts. The mission's main objective of which was to draw up a table capturing resources versus jobs.

Northern Macedonia

In June, an Insee expert carried out a mission in Skopje in the field of company directories and structural statistics.

Bosnia-Herzegovina

In June, an Insee expert carried out a mission in Sarajevo on the theme of production price indices in construction. This mission is part of the current twinning on European funding in favour of the Bosnian statistical system managed by Statistics Denmark.



Three experts in production price indices in construction. Near the screen, Martin AUSKER and Janni STAVAD, Statistics Denmark, and in the foreground, Julien LOQUET, Insee – Sarajevo, Bosnia-Herzegovina

WESTERN ASIA

Turkey

In March, Insee received a Turkish delegation during a study visit on the theme of managing electoral registry data.

Another visit took place in June, on the theme of company directories and profiling.

In the meantime, two missions of French experts took place in Ankara.

In March, an Insee expert provided technical support to Türkstat on production price indices in services.

In May, a retired expert from the Ministry of National Education helped the Turkish NSI improve its education accounts.

The first of these four actions was on European funding TAIEX, the other three on IPA2015 financing.

Georgia

In March, Insee received a high-level Georgian delegation on the theme of sustainable development objectives during a study visit.



Claire PLATEAU (in the background), Insee expert on SDGs, and the Georgian delegation



Taiwanese delegation to study visit Insee, Montrouge, France. From left to right: LIN Wei-Yi, Franco-Taiwanese interpreter, CHEN Chih-Hao, secretary of the immigration service of the Taipei representative office in France (BRTF), TSAI Fang-Fei, BRTF consular service, HU Zhe-Hsing, secretary of Ms CHANG Wan-I, director of the household registration department at the Ministry of the Interior of Taiwan; along with Valérie ROUX, head of the Demographics Department at Insee, Isabelle ROBERT-BOBEE, head of the Demographic Surveys and Studies Division, and Sylvain PAPON, statistician in the Division

EAST ASIA

China

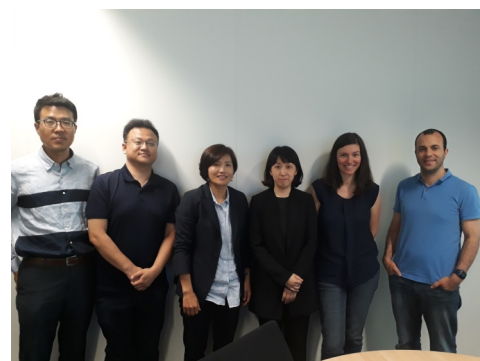
As part of the renewed cooperation between Insee and the Chinese National Statistical Office, a Chinese delegation visited Insee for a study trip in April on the subject of economic analysis, economic conditions and forecasting.

Taiwan

In June, Insee received a Taiwanese delegation on the theme of demographic and civil registry statistics.

South Korea

In June, Insee received a delegation from the South Korean NSI on the household income and living conditions survey known as SILC.



South Korean delegation to study visit Insee, Montrouge, France. From left to right: JEON Young-Su, Deputy Director of the Korean INS Office of Demographic and Social Statistics, IM Jongho, Associate Professor at Korean University Yonsei, KIM Seo-young, Deputy Director of the Korean NSI Office of Demographic and Social Statistics, and HONG Kyung Hee, Under-Director at the same office; along with Lucie CALVET and Pierre LAMARCHE, Insee experts on statistical surveys on resources and living conditions (SILC)



Chinese INS delegation to study visit at Insee – Montrouge, France. From left to right: LIU Aihua, Deputy General Manager of the General Statistics Department; FU Linghui, Head of the Thematic Analysis Division; HU Pengfei, Programme Officer in the Department of International Cooperation; LIU Tian, Programme Administrator in the Macroeconomic Surveillance Division; Keli ZHANG, Franco-Chinese interpreter

SOUTHEAST ASIA

Vietnam

In January, an Insee expert went on a mission to Hanoi to provide technical support to Vietnamese Customs in the area of seasonal adjustment, as part of the Compass European financing programme.

Eretes Tool

TECHNICAL SUPPORT

Algeria

In April, an Insee expert carried out a technical support mission to the National Statistics Office in Algiers, on the information to be mobilised for the accounts of public administrations in the context of Eretes.

Palestine

In April, an Insee national accounting expert carried out a technical support mission to the Palestinian Central Statistical Office in order to implement the Eretes tool. The mission was aimed at drawing up the accounts for 2013 and preparing a new benchmark year that will be produced entirely using the Eretes tool.

Equatorial Guinea

Last May, an Insee national accounting expert trained the team of national accountants of the Equatorial Guinean NSI in the Eretes tool in Malabo, Equatorial Guinea.

INTERNATIONAL MEETINGS

In February 2018, the Economic Commission for Africa held a national accounting workshop in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on drawing up and using resource and employment (COR) tables in Africa.



Hien PHAM (4th from the left), Insee expert in processing time series, surrounded by Vietnamese colleagues from the Ministry of Finance (Customs Directorate and Forecasting Directorate) and the NSI (GSO - General Statistics Office)

An Insee expert participated and presented the Eretes system, in particular the tool's value in developing supply and use tables (SUTs).

Eretes is currently used in some twenty countries on the African continent.



*Attendees at the National Accounting Workshop - Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.
Second from the left: Jean-Samy AZIZ, Insee expert in the Eretes tool*

Statéco Number 112 released

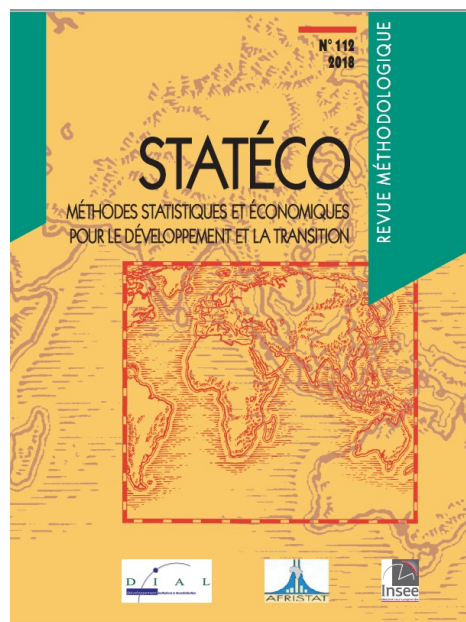
Issue 112 of the Statéco journal has just been published.

The six articles it contains, focusing on Africa, deal mainly with issues of inequality, particularly in Cameroon in the area of health and employment.

There is also a study on the vulnerability of rural households in Madagascar, which describes an original system implemented since 1995.

Finally, the inequality reduction policies promoted by the Agenda 2030 are analysed and their shortcomings debated.

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- Serge DARRINÉ, Europe and Asia
- Constance TORELLI, Sub-Saharan Africa and the Caribbean
- Jean-Samy AZIZ and Sophie BOURREL, expertise in national accounts and the ERETES tool