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# Priorities of the National Statistics in 2012

THE SLOVENIAN  
NATIONAL STATISTICS

TRUSTWORTHY  
AND USER ORIENTED

Ljubljana, 2011



REPUBLICA SLOVENIJA



**STATISTIČNI URAD REPUBLIKE SLOVENIJE**  
STATISTICAL OFFICE OF THE REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA



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## The Statistical Council of the Republic of Slovenia

at its 36<sup>th</sup> regular session on 7 June 2011

discussed the Priorities of the National Statistics in 2012

and adopted the following

### DECISION

»The Statistical Council of the Republic of Slovenia at its 36th regular session on 7 June 2011 discussed (under item 3) the content of the Priorities of the National Statistics in 2012 and proposed to the Director General of the Statistical Office of the Republic of Slovenia to take into account the initiatives given by Council members on supplementing the document and also in drawing up the Annual Programme of Statistical Surveys for 2012«.

Prof. Dr. Anuška Ferligoj

President of the Statistical Council of the Republic of Slovenia



# Introduction

Together with the authorised producers of national statistics, in spring each year the Statistical Office of the Republic of Slovenia prepares the document entitled Priorities of the National Statistics for the next year. As the title suggests, the document presents the most important regular and development tasks, while a detailed overview of all statistical surveys is prepared together with authorised producers in autumn and published in the Official Journal. In preparing the document Priorities of the National Statistics in 2012 we followed strategic goals and activities stated in the Medium-Term Programme of Statistical Surveys 2008-2012 and the draft Statistical Programme of the European Commission for 2012. As regards the contents, the document is divided into individual chapters: the first part presents priorities planned within individual fields of statistics, while the last chapter is devoted to statistical infrastructure.

At the end of 2012 the current medium-term programme of statistical surveys will run out, so the Statistical Office of the Republic of Slovenia will prepare together with authorised producers of national statistics a new statistical programme covering the 2013-2017 period. In preparing the document we will take into account the needs of users in Slovenia, Eurostat's Community Statistical Programme and documents with various initiatives such as the European Commission's Europe 2020 strategy on smart, sustainable and inclusive growth<sup>1</sup>.

In 2012 the Statistical Office will continue to intensively monitor the development of administrative records and cooperate by including statistical needs. In this way gradual reduction of reporting burden will continue and national statistics will be able to continue with timely dissemination of high-quality statistical data. Doing that we will also follow the solutions offered by the development of information technology.

I would like to thank all authorised producers of national statistics (the Bank of Slovenia, the Agency of the Republic of Slovenia for Public Legal Records and Related Services, the National Institute of Public Health, the Ministry of Finance, the Pension and Disability Insurance Institute of the Republic of Slovenia and the Employment Service of Slovenia) which cooperated in preparing this document.

Mag. Irena Križman  
Director-General  
of the Statistical Office of the Republic of Slovenia

<sup>1</sup> See: [http://ec.europa.eu/europe2020/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/europe2020/index_en.htm) (3.6.2011).

# Demography and social statistics

## Expanded and new contents in the field of population statistics

In 2012, SORS will continue to prepare and publish data on the **population, households and housing** collected with the register-based census in line with the regulation on population and housing censuses<sup>2</sup>. First results were published at the end of April 2011, while more detailed data will be published gradually according to the release calendar<sup>3</sup>. Most of the results will be available in the SI-STAT data portal. Various thematic publications will be prepared, enriched by the analyses of data on households and families and analyses of new contents such as the generational structure of households, generations of migrants, special forms of families, etc. The derivation of **new contents**, which will be for the first time available for the entire population, was enabled by the completion of data in the Central Population Register (e.g. biological ties between children and parents) and the development of other administrative sources. Our experience with users shows that they require these new data.

In the field of **housing statistics**, in 2012 data on dwellings and living conditions of the population will also be published in line with the regulation on population and housing censuses.

In 2011, SORS **rationalised the collection** of data on divorces and introduced a shortened questionnaire (reporting units are district courts), while in 2012 it plans the transition to electronic data collection.

## 2012 will be marked by new and expanded publication of data on wages, working time and persons in employment

In 2012, SORS plans to publish results of the **Survey on the Structure of Working Time for 2010**. Data from this survey will be used as the basis for improving the quality in calculating the quarterly indicator of hours worked.

In early 2012 first results of the **Structure of Earnings Survey for 2010**<sup>4</sup> will be published.

In cooperation with the Agency of the Republic of Slovenia for Public Legal Records and Related Services (AJPES), in 2013 SORS will conduct the **Labour Costs Survey for 2012**<sup>5</sup>, so methodological and technical preparations for the implementation will take place in 2012.

Within the **Labour Force Survey** SORS will conduct the ad-hoc module on transition from work to retirement<sup>6</sup>, and users will be able to access data from the ad-hoc module on employment of disabled people<sup>7</sup>, which SORS is conducting in 2011. In 2012, the European Commission will adopt the content of the ad-hoc module that will be conducted in 2013 and refers to accidents at work and other work-related health problems<sup>8</sup>.

Within the annual survey on **Structural Data on Persons in Employment**, the set of published data will be expanded. Because users frequently ask for data on full-time and part-time employment, SORS will prepare

<sup>2</sup> Regulation (EC) No 763/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 July 2008 on population and housing censuses Text with EEA relevance (32008R0763).

Commission Regulation (EC) No 1201/2009 of 30 November 2009 implementing Regulation (EC) No 763/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council on population and housing censuses as regards the technical specifications of the topics and of their breakdowns (32009R1201).

Commission Regulation (EU) No 519/2010 of 16 June 2010 adopting the programme of the statistical data and of the metadata for population and housing censuses provided for by Regulation (EC) No 763/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council (32010R0519).

<sup>3</sup> See: <http://www.stat.si/popis2011/eng/Default.aspx?lang=eng> (3.6.2011).

<sup>4</sup> Commission Regulation (EC) No 1738/2005 of 21 October 2005 amending Regulation (EC) No 1916/2000 as regards the definition and transmission of information on the structure of earnings (32005R1738).

<sup>5</sup> Commission Regulation (EC) No 1737/2005 of 21 October 2005 amending Regulation (EC) No 1726/1999 as regards the definition and transmission of information on labour costs (32005R1737).

<sup>6</sup> Commission Regulation (EU) No 249/2011 of 14 March 2011 adopting the specifications of the 2012 ad-hoc module on transition from work to retirement provided for by Council Regulation (EC) No 577/98 (32011R0249).

<sup>7</sup> Commission Regulation (EU) No 317/2010 of 16 April 2010 adopting the specifications of the 2011 ad-hoc module on employment of disabled people for the labour force sample survey provided for by Council Regulation (EC) No 577/98 (32010R0317).

<sup>8</sup> Commission Regulation (EU) No 220/2010 of 16 March 2010 adopting the programme of ad-hoc modules, covering the years 2013 to 2015, for the labour force sample survey provided for by Council Regulation (EC) No 577/98 (32010R0220).

procedures that will enable extraction of data from the **Statistical Register of Employment** for those people who work more than one job at the same time.

In 2012, SORS will continue to actively seek new administrative sources for checking the data or replacing the existing data from the fields of wages, working hours and activity in order to rationalise the collection of statistical data, improve their quality and reduce the reporting burden.

### In addition to regular releases from the field of education, the results of two comprehensive five-year surveys will be published

In the first part of 2012, SORS will edit the data collected with two extensive statistical surveys<sup>9</sup> conducted in the second half of 2011, namely the **Adult Education Survey** and the **Continuing Vocational Training Survey**. Both surveys are harmonised at the EU level. With the Adult Education Survey SORS will collect data on people participating in various forms of formal and non-formal education and training and informal learning, while with the Continuing Vocational Training Survey SORS will collect from enterprises the data on participation of their employees in various programmes of vocational education and training and other aspects related to employee education and training. Results will be published in the second half of 2012.

### SORS and cooperation with competent ministries for education and culture

**Education:** SORS will continue to cooperate with the Ministry of Education and Sport in simplifying the records and setting up a central record of people participating in education and training from preschool education to higher vocational education and in regulating the legal basis related with it. As regards establishing the higher education information system, SORS will continue to cooperate with the Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Technology.

**Culture:** At the EU level the project for *culture statistics*, which SORS and the Ministry of Culture were

involved in, will be finished. Project results will be the basis for future methodological and content-related harmonisation of monitoring and reporting the data on culture at the EU level.

On the basis content-related harmonisation of statistical parts of reports of public institutions from the field of culture that report to the Ministry of Culture, SORS will take over the data on these public institutions directly from the ministry, which is rationalisation in monitoring data and a reduction of reporting burden.

### Development and wider use of social classifications provide data comparability

In cooperation with competent and interested ministries and institutions, in the last few years SORS has been developing and introducing new and updated versions of social classifications, of which the key ones are the **Classification System of Education and Training (KLASIUS)** and the **Standard Classification of Occupations 2008 (SKP-08)**, which are used for statistical and non-statistical purposes. The contents of these classifications are rapidly changing in various directions, which demands from SORS to approach the preparation and upgrading in a way that enables simpler and routine maintenance, while for easier and more uniform use of these classifications it is developing additional devices such as the e-search engines for KLASIUS and SKP-08.

### International developments: ISCED 2011

At the end of 2011 the UNESCO General Assembly will formally adopt the revised version of the International Standard Classification of Education – ISCED 2011<sup>10</sup>. Further activities in 2012 will mostly focus on the adoption of decisions regarding the classification of national education programmes and outcomes or achieved education in accordance with the new ISCED and on preparing a conversion table between the national classification of education and ISCED. Activities will take place in cooperation with the Ministry of Education and Sport, the Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Technology and other key partners in the field of education in Slovenia and will be the basis for future international reporting of data on education.

<sup>9</sup> Regulation (EC) No 452/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 April 2008 concerning the production and development of statistics on education and lifelong learning (32008R0452)

<sup>10</sup> See: [http://www.uis.unesco.org/ev.php?ID=7433\\_201&ID2=DO\\_TOPIC](http://www.uis.unesco.org/ev.php?ID=7433_201&ID2=DO_TOPIC) (22.4.2011).

## The National Institute of Public Health will conduct a new survey on use of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs and continue to develop the methodologies for health indicators

In early 2012 the National Institute of Public Health of the Republic of Slovenia (NIPH) will conduct for the first time the **Survey on Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drugs** among the general population. The methodology for the survey was prepared by the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA)<sup>11</sup>, so the data on the prevalence of drugs among the general population will be internationally comparable. The survey will be conducted every four years.

In cooperation with SORS, the NIPH will develop and calculate various health indicators such as the European Community Health Indicators (ECHI)<sup>12</sup>, Structural Indicators<sup>13</sup> (e.g. *Healthy Life Years*), sustainable development indicators and other indicators.

In 2012, the NIPH will introduce some new *classifications in the field of health and health care* (updated version of the International Classification of Diseases and the Classification of Health Care Activities), which will enable better comparability both at the national and the international level.

### International cooperation

In cooperation with Member States, Eurostat is preparing implementing regulations from the field determined by the regulation on Community statistics on public health and health and safety at work<sup>14</sup>. Within the European Health Interview Survey<sup>15</sup> the NIPH cooperates in preparing the *Survey on disability and social integration*. The module includes the development of the field of reduced capacity and disability. The NIPH will also cooperate in working groups of the Directorate General Health and Consumers (DG SANCO) for preparing the *European Health Examination Survey* (EHES).

Together with the NIPH, SORS will cooperate in a special Eurostat working group that will check the data sources for calculating the prices of selected health services and determine the final methodology for the needs of purchasing power parities in this and next year.

## The content of the surveys on quality and safety of living is influenced by EU legislation and various international initiatives

In 2012, SORS will conduct the revised **Household Budget Survey**. The survey will have a reduced number of variables and even more administrative sources will be used. First data will be available in the second part of 2013.

In the annual **Statistics on Income and Living Conditions** (EU-SILC) SORS plans to conduct the ad-hoc module on housing conditions, the content of which was adopted by the European Commission at the end of 2010<sup>16</sup>. Data will be published in 2013. In 2012, data from the ad-hoc module on intergenerational transmission of disadvantages<sup>17</sup> will be available to users. SORS will actively cooperate with Eurostat in the planned revision of the legal basis for EU-SILC. In 2012, SORS will continue to seek new sources for checking the data, further improvements in timeliness and quality improvements.

Various **international initiatives** such as the Report by the Commission on the Measurement of Economic Performance and Social Progress<sup>18</sup>, the Communication from the Commission to the Council and the European Parliament – GDP and beyond<sup>19</sup> and the Europe 2020 Strategy will mark the work of Slovene national statistics, particularly in determination and vision of measuring various aspects of the quality of living and well-being.

In 2011, within the framework of the **European System of Integrated Social Protection Statistics**

<sup>11</sup> See: <http://www.emcdda.europa.eu/themes/key-indicators/gps> (22.4.2011).

<sup>12</sup> See: [http://ec.europa.eu/health/indicators/echi/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/health/indicators/echi/index_en.htm) (28.4.2011).

<sup>13</sup> See: [http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/structural\\_indicators/](http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/structural_indicators/) (28.4.2011).

<sup>14</sup> Regulation (EC) No 1338/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 December 2008 on Community statistics on public health and health and safety at work (32008R1338).

<sup>15</sup> EHIS, see: [http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/statistics\\_explained/index.php/Glossary:European\\_health\\_interview\\_survey\\_\(EHIS\)](http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/statistics_explained/index.php/Glossary:European_health_interview_survey_(EHIS)) (19.5.2011).

<sup>16</sup> Commission Regulation (EU) No 1157/2010 of 9 December 2010 implementing Regulation (EC) No 1177/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council concerning Community statistics on income and living conditions (EU-SILC), as regards the 2012 list of target secondary variables on housing conditions (32010R1157).

<sup>17</sup> Commission Regulation (EU) No 481/2010 of 1 June 2010 implementing Regulation (EC) No 1177/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council concerning Community statistics on income and living conditions (EU-SILC) as regards the 2011 list of target secondary variables on intergenerational transmission of disadvantages (32010R0481).

<sup>18</sup> See: [http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/gdp\\_and\\_beyond/documents/Stiglitz\\_Sen\\_Fitoussi\\_report\\_14092009.pdf](http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/gdp_and_beyond/documents/Stiglitz_Sen_Fitoussi_report_14092009.pdf) and <http://www.ofce.sciences-po.fr/pdf/dtravail/WP2009-33.pdf> (15.4.2011).

<sup>19</sup> See: <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=CELEX:52009DC0433:EN:NOT> (15.4.2011).

(ESSPROS) implementing regulations were adopted on net social protection benefits<sup>20</sup>. 2012 will be the first year in which data on net social protection benefits will be available (for 2010).

As part of its statistical activity, the **Pension and Disability Insurance Institute** will continue to focus its attention on improving data quality. To this end it is implementing some projects on the improvement of

administrative records. When these projects (or their individual phases) are finished, a quality test will be implemented.

In 2013, the **European Crime and Safety Survey** is planned to be conducted, so SORS will actively cooperate with Eurostat in preparing the methodology and the questionnaire harmonised at the EU level.

#### Legislation in the field of demography and social statistics in the process of adoption:

- Draft Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on European statistics on demography (expected to be adopted in the first half of 2012).
- Draft Commission Regulation (EC) implementing Regulation (EC) No 763/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council on population and housing censuses as regards the modalities and structure of the quality reports and the technical format for the data transmission.
- Draft Commission Regulation (EU) for the specifications of the 2013 LFS ad hoc module on accidents at work and other work-related health problems provided by Council Regulation (EC) No 577/98.
- Draft Commission Regulation (EC) implementing Regulation (EC) No 1177/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council concerning Community statistics on income and living conditions (EU-SILC) as regards the 2013 list of target secondary variables on well-being.
- Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on European statistics on safety from crime
- The problem of introducing new compulsory pension and disability insurance legislation (ZPIZ-2 proposal) is very topical, but the outcome is not clear. Should the act be adopted in the proposed form, the Pension and Disability Insurance Institute does not expect any difficulty in preparing the statistical data.

<sup>20</sup> Commission Regulation (EU) No 263/2011 of 17 March 2011 implementing Regulation (EC) No 458/2007 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the European system of integrated social protection statistics (ESSPROS) as regards the launch of full data collection for the ESSPROS module on net social protection benefits (32011R0263) and Commission Regulation (EU) No 110/2011 of 8 February 2011 implementing Regulation (EC) No 458/2007 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the European system of integrated social protection statistics (ESSPROS) as regards the appropriate formats for the transmission of data, the results to be transmitted and the criteria for measuring quality for the ESSPROS module on net social protection benefits (32011R0110).

# Macroeconomic statistics

## Introduction of the European System of Accounts and other development priorities

One of the most important tasks in the field of national accounts statistics is preparation and implementation of the new **European System of Accounts** (ESA 2010). The legislative proposal of the new regulation was submitted to the European Parliament and the Council in early 2011. Adoption is expected in 2012 and implementation in 2014. Among the numerous changes the main challenges will be: introduction of the new system of capitalisation of R&D expenditure, recording of pension scheme liabilities, capitalisation of weapons systems expenditure, recording of inward and outward processing by net principle and introduction of the new classification of institutional sectors. The basic methodological issues are being solved in Eurostat's working groups and task forces in which SORS is actively participating.

SORS's work will also focus on **other development tasks**, such as development of the methodology for preparing quarterly non-financial accounts for all institutional sectors of the economy, analysis of the possibility of breaking down national accounts aggregates for the household sector by types of households, preparation of data on labour compensation by types of recipients, etc.

## Activities of the Bank of Slovenia in introducing ESA 2010 and in introducing new requirements for reporting data to international institutions

In 2012, in all statistical fields the Bank of Slovenia (BS) will focus on adjusting methodological novelties brought by ESA 2010. In the field of **financial accounts statistics**, which are part of national accounts statistics, the adjustment to the new standard will cover, inter alia, the preparation of implementing regulations, adjustment of institutional sectors and financial instruments, and adjustment of sources and output data. In introducing changes the BS will also cooperate with SORS in the re-sectorisation of financial corporations.

In the field of **statistics of insurance companies and pension funds**, in 2012 the Bank of Slovenia will continue to implement activities together with the Insurance Supervision Agency and the Slovenian Insurance Association on setting up the system of multipurpose reporting. In determining the needs, new standards of reporting Solvency II<sup>21</sup> of the supervisory authority EIOPA and the needs of the European Central Bank (ECB) will be taken into account. Specific activities in 2012 depend on the determination and deadlines for setting up the mentioned requirements.

Bank of Slovenia's development work within the European System of Central Banks (ESCB) depends on the needs for supplementing and expanding available data for the European Systemic Risk Board (ESRB). Within this framework there are two **development projects**: the project of expanding the ESCB centralised securities database with data on securities' holdings and the project of expanding the existing register and database of financial institutions of the European Monetary Union. The latter is linked to Eurostat's European Register of Enterprise Groups (EGR) project.

As regards **statistics of foreign economic relations**, in 2012 the BS will make preparations for setting up new reporting requirements for balance of payments statistics, international investment, direct investment and external debt to Eurostat, the International Monetary Fund and the ECB according to the methodology of the Balance of Payments Manual BPM6<sup>22</sup>.

## Introduction of novelties in the field of consumer price statistics and dwelling price statistics

In the field of price statistics, in 2012 SORS will focus on consumer price statistics and dwelling price statistics and slightly less on producer price indices and purchasing power parities.

Within consumer price statistics and partly also in the field of purchasing power parities, the focus is still on implementing the strategy for **setting up Multi-Purpose Consumer Price Statistics**. The proposal of the COICOP<sup>23</sup>

<sup>21</sup> See: [http://ec.europa.eu/internal\\_market/insurance/solvency/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/internal_market/insurance/solvency/index_en.htm) (20.4.2011).

<sup>22</sup> See: <http://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/bop/2007/bopman6.htm> (20.4.2011).

<sup>23</sup> See: <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/cr/registry/regcst.asp?Cl=5> (20.4.2011).

classification for the five-digit level has been prepared; already in 2012 it will probably have to be introduced into the calculation of consumer price indices and purchasing power parities and at the same time also time series will have to be recalculated. In addition, SORS is preparing new technological procedures for fieldwork collection of data on prices.

Setting up and the start of calculating a special **Owner Occupied Housing Index (OOHI)** for possible inclusion in the Harmonised Index of Consumer Prices (HICP) is still an important task. SORS has already set up some of the required subindices<sup>24</sup>, while some other are still being prepared. The overall index and calculations of HICP by including the mentioned part still need to be prepared.

In all four fields of price statistics SORS will continue to take care of preserving and improving the quality of data and statistical procedures and appropriate documentation. In 2012 the rules will come into force regarding minimum standards for the quality of weighting the harmonised index of consumer prices as determined by the EU regulation<sup>25</sup> adopted in 2010.

### Quality improvement is a constant in the field of external trade data

To provide appropriate quality of very detailed data, in 2012 SORS will analyse the asymmetries among main trading partners, i.e. inconsistencies between import and export data shown by two countries. Results of this work will be the basis for studying the possibility of implementing external trade statistics according to the so-called single flow system, which should enable greater quality of external trade data as well as a large reduction of reporting burden and costs, since data on the arrivals of goods would be obtained from trading partners. In addition, to improve the analytical value of external trade data, in 2012 SORS will start with regular annual dissemination of data on the structure and concentration of external trade by activity and size of trade enterprises.

#### Legislation in the field of macroeconomic statistics in the process of adoption:

- Draft Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the European System of Accounts (ESA) - adoption is expected in 2012.
- Draft Commission Regulation for the field of housing price index within the harmonised index of consumer prices (HICP) determined by regulation 1994/95.

<sup>24</sup> Subindices for additional costs in purchasing real estate, for housing insurance, for major repairs and maintenance, for own account construction and large renovation.

<sup>25</sup> Commission Regulation (EU) No 1114/2010 of 1 December 2010 laying down detailed rules for the implementation of Council Regulation (EC) No 2494/95 as regards minimum standards for the quality of HICP weightings and repealing Commission Regulation (EC) No 2454/97 (32010R1114).

# Business statistics

## Content-related and technical improvements of quality in the field of short-term business statistics

As regards **short-term business statistics** from the fields of industry, construction, trade and services, in 2012 much attention and work will be focused on providing timely and quality results. To this end, SORS will optimise some technical processes that will provide users with rapid and smooth access to the needed data.

SORS will cooperate in Eurostat's special working group that will analyse the quality and relevance of the **new orders index**, which is calculated with monthly industry statistics. Results of the analysis will be the basis for taking a decision on further collection and use of this indicator.

SORS will analyse the possibility to calculate the **index** of service production and start to develop appropriate methodology, taking into account OECD guidelines and practice in some countries that have already made first steps in this area.

In the field of **business tendencies and consumer opinion**, SORS will continue with activities related to studying various possibilities of disseminating the business sentiment indicator in the form of an index in order to fully harmonise the method of publishing results with the European Commission.

## SORS's active cooperation in interinstitutional working groups will result in the reduction of reporting burden

After analysing the possibility of data publication and introducing the procedures for quality results, in 2012 SORS will publish for the first time the results of quarterly **survey on the operation of business entities**, which in 2011 started to be conducted jointly by SORS, the Bank of Slovenia and the Agency of the Republic of Slovenia for Public and Legal Records and Services.

In the field of **construction**, SORS will continue analysing the possibilities of using data from the Real Estate Register, which is kept by the Surveying and

Mapping Authority of the Republic of Slovenia, for estimating the construction of non-residential buildings. With these data SORS wants to substitute the current method of estimation which is based on data on issued building permits and demolition permits. Cooperation with the Ministry of the Environment and Spatial Planning will continue in the field of *žSpatial Information System'*, which should in the long run reduce the reporting burden of administrative units regarding the statistics of issued building permits.

In the field of **tourism statistics**, SORS will cooperate in the interinstitutional group the task of which is to set up electronic reporting by accommodation facilities for the needs of statistics, tax administration and police. The project is led by the Ministry of Public Administration, and involves, in addition to SORS, also the Ministry of the Interior, the Ministry of the Economy, the Tax Administration of the Republic of Slovenia and the Association of Municipalities and Towns of Slovenia. Within this project the Ministry of the Economy will set up the register of accommodation facilities and provide its maintenance. SORS will help with its knowledge and experience.

## SORS starts to implement the project for setting up a multipurpose statistical business register

Business registers are the basis for conducting many statistical surveys. The relationships and characteristics of register units are changing in times of globalisation. Business registers and statistical registers derived from them are due to the above mentioned facts constantly developing and changing, since they have to follow intensive changes taking place in the business world. Within the multiannual project, in 2012 SORS will work on expanding and upgrading the functionality of the statistical business register, which will serve several purposes, the most important being: preparation of high-quality sampling frames, conducting of statistical surveys related to units in the business register (e.g. naming surveys from the field of business statistics), and

the basis for satellite registers. SORS will also cooperate in preparing a proposal for a new **Business Register of Slovenia Act**, which the Agency of the Republic of Slovenia for Public and Legal Records and Services started preparing, because the Business Register of Slovenia is an important source of data for the statistical business register.

### SORS will modernise the publication of statistics on final household consumption of energy and fuels and is setting up common statistics for the field of renewable energy sources

In line with the Regulation on Energy Statistics<sup>26</sup>, in 2012 the annual statistics on **final consumption of energy and fuels in households by purpose** will be improved. SORS will prepare estimates of final consumption with the help of a model that was prepared and used for the first time in 2011 within the pilot project on energy and fuels consumption in households. From 2012 on results will be published in the SI-STAT data portal at the annual level (so far they have been published for 1997 and 2003). For updating input data into the model, every three years detailed statistical surveys on consumption of energy and fuels in households will be conducted.

In 2012, SORS will continue to analyse and improve the existing methodologies and data sources in the field of **renewable energy sources** and in line with the Directive on the promotion of the use of energy from renewable sources<sup>27</sup> set up common statistics of renewable sources in Slovenia. The project will be implemented together with the Ministry of the Environment and Spatial Planning, the Ministry of the Economy and the Jožef Stefan Institute.

In 2012, SORS plans to publish an issue of Rapid Reports on energy with analytical presentation of the

development and situation regarding the production, transformation and consumption of energy products in Slovenia.

### Development of new indicators in the field of transport statistics and the announced simplification of EU legislation

In early 2011 the European Commission prepared the White Paper Roadmap to a Single European Transport Area – Towards a competitive and resource efficient transport system<sup>28</sup>, which is a vision for a competitive and sustainable transport system that involves emission reduction. In cooperation with Eurostat, SORS will develop indicators necessary for monitoring initiatives and strategies included in the mentioned document, especially safety, sustainable development and the impact of transport on the environment. This is related to **setting up new statistics for measuring of the road traffic volume** based on kilometres travelled. The new EU directive on roadworthiness tests for motor vehicles<sup>29</sup> introduces compulsory monitoring of road motor vehicle odometers. The same commitment is envisaged by the draft rules on roadworthiness tests for motor vehicles and trailers in Slovenia, which is being prepared by the Ministry of Transport.

By cooperating in Eurostat working groups, SORS will be included in the development of statistical monitoring of passenger mobility, intermodality and logistics and the preparation of new statistical indicators from these fields.

As a result of the announced simplification of European statistical legislation from the field of road goods, railway and maritime transport, in 2012 SORS expects a reduced number of compulsory variables and other simplifications.

### Legislation in the field of business statistics in the process of adoption:

- Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council concerning European statistics on tourism.

<sup>26</sup> Regulation (EC) No 1099/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 October 2008 on energy statistics (32008R1099).

<sup>27</sup> Directive 2009/28/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 April 2009 on the promotion of the use of energy from renewable sources and amending and subsequently repealing Directives 2001/77/EC and 2003/30/EC (32009L0028).

<sup>28</sup> See: <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=COM:2011:0144:FIN:EN:HTML> (28.4.2011).

<sup>29</sup> Commission Directive 2010/48/EU of 5 July 2010 adapting to technical progress Directive 2009/40/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on roadworthiness tests for motor vehicles and their trailers (32010L0048).

# Agriculture, forestry and fisheries

## With interinstitutional cooperation, SORS will develop statistics on the use of plant protection products

On the basis of EU regulations on pesticide use and placing pesticides on the market<sup>30</sup>, in 2012 SORS will promote active cooperation of all institutions producing and using the data on the use of plant protection products. The national legislation on the use of plant protection products is being prepared and is expected to be adopted by the end of 2011. SORS expects that the Phytosanitary Administration of the Republic of Slovenia will establish a working group for preparing the **National Action Plan** in this field, which will determine the important bases for organising a statistical survey on the use of plant protection products in agriculture. Statistical data on the use of plant protection products in agriculture in the reference period 2010-2014 will have to be transmitted to Eurostat by the end of 2015.

## Methodological preparations for conducting multi-annual surveys

In 2012, intensive preparations for the sample **farm structure survey 2013**<sup>31</sup> will take place. This is one of the most important surveys from this field (SORS will conduct it twice in the intercensus period), which is very demanding both in terms of content and technical implementation. SORS will actively participate in international discussions about methodological changes of this survey after 2013.

In the first half of 2012, SORS will be intensively preparing for the implementation of the two-year sample

survey on the **consumption of mineral fertilizers** on agricultural holdings by crops, which will be conducted at the end of the year. Data on the consumption of mineral fertilizers are an important source for calculating agri-environmental indicators. SORS participates in international discussions about these indicators.

## SORS is developing and improving economic accounts and various balances

In the field of **economic accounts for agriculture** (EAA) the emphasis will be on improving the quality of estimates of aggregates with the help of additional data sources and analyses. Work will continue in the field of analysing individual, relatively comparable items of economic accounts for agriculture and the Farm Accountancy Data Network (FADN), which are the responsibility of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food.

In 2012, SORS will continue to improve the methodology of **economic accounts for forestry** and develop the forestry module of environmental accounts (forestry balances). SORS will also actively participate in the Task force for integrated environmental and economic accounts for forestry.

Cooperation between SORS and the Agricultural Institute of Slovenia in preparing **food balances** will continue in 2012.

In the field of **agricultural price statistics** the priority will be to calculate a new weighting scheme for the base year 2010. Implementation is expected by mid-2013.

### Legislation in the field of agriculture statistics in the process of adoption:

- Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council concerning European statistics on permanent crops,
- Draft Commission Regulation (EU) implementing Regulation (EC) No. 1185/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council concerning statistics on pesticides, as regards transmission format;
- Draft Commission Regulation (EU) implementing Regulation (EC) No. 1185/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council concerning statistics on pesticides, as regards definitions and list of active substances.

<sup>30</sup> Regulation (EC) No 1185/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 November 2009 concerning statistics on pesticides (32009R1185).

<sup>31</sup> Regulation (EC) No 1166/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 19 November 2008 on farm structure surveys and the survey on agricultural production methods and repealing Council Regulation (EEC) No 571/88 (32008R1166).

# Multi-domain statistics

## SORS, Eurostat and the international community are intensively developing environmental accounts for various fields

In 2012, SORS will continue to improve the methodology for collecting data on environmental protection expenditure, which are the basis for environmental protection expenditure accounts by purpose at the national level. The time series will be completed and the area of research will be expanded to other purposes that have not yet been covered.

On the basis of pilot surveys, SORS will continue setting up and developing the methodology for collecting data on **taxation and environmental goods and services accounts**. Within the pilot project data will be transmitted to Eurostat.

In view of the legislation from the field of environmental and economic accounts and the anticipated further data collection modules, in 2012 SORS will start developing **energy accounts**. The methodology will be harmonised with national and European requirements and data for first pilot reporting to Eurostat will be prepared.

SORS will actively cooperate in several Eurostat task forces for developing new **modules for environmental and economic accounts**, namely task forces for:

- preparing energy and water accounts,
- monitoring of Resource Use Management Expenditure Account,
- environmental related transfers.

## Revision of water statistics will bring better quality of results and reduce the reporting burden

On the basis of analyses conducted within the framework of water statistics revision, in 2012 SORS plans to start taking over data on drinking water supply and on sewage systems from the database of the Ministry of

the Environment and Spatial Planning. Collection of data with statistical surveys on public water supply and public sewage system will no longer be necessary. SORS will thus **reduce costs and burdens** of reporting units and provide **common data** at the national level. But because the database does not contain all data necessary for domestic and international dissemination of water statistics, SORS will continue to analyse data from other administrative sources. Within the revision of water statistics SORS will harmonise the existing surveys with national and international requirements, improve the quality of results and modernise their publication.

### Development of waste statistics continues

In 2012, SORS will continue to develop the most appropriate methodology for implementing statistics on the import and export of non-hazardous waste. Implementation of these statistics is stipulated by the EU regulation on waste statistics<sup>32</sup>. Adoption of the amended regulation is expected in 2012. SORS will prepare the data on waste and the quality report for Eurostat in line with the adopted changes.

## Eurostat and SORS cooperate in improving the quality of data for indicators on research and development intensity

In 2012, both at the EU level and at the national level the emphasis will be on the activities for improving the **quality** of data on research and development, which are the basis for one of the key indicators, i.e. the R&D intensity indicator, and for monitoring progress within the **Europe 2020** strategy<sup>33</sup>. Within these activities SORS will cooperate with the most important data users at the national level.

Work will continue on the pilot monitoring of data on national public financing of **transnational surveys**, which will be the basis for calculating one of the key indicators for monitoring the European Research Area.

<sup>32</sup> Regulation (EC) No 2150/2002 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 November 2002 on waste statistics (32002R2150).

<sup>33</sup> See: [http://ec.europa.eu/europe2020/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/europe2020/index_en.htm) (6.6.2011).

### SORS increasingly presents spatial data with graphical presentation tools

In the field of regional statistics, in 2012 SORS will focus its attention on disseminating statistical data on **hierarchical grids**, especially on expanding the set of available data. Such data are intended for specialised users, since they are appropriate for further use in GIS tools<sup>34</sup>. Users will still be able to access data free of charge at SORS's website. In 2012, SORS will actively cooperate in the European geoforum for statisticians.

In 2011, SORS started to disseminate demographic data in an online cartographic application called **KASPeR** (mapping application of statistical data e-dimensions). The new application enables an overview of various statistical data at various spatial levels as well as exporting data in the form of maps and in GIS format. In 2012, the set of statistical data available to users in this way will be expanded.

SORS will analyse the possibility to disseminate geostatistics for functional areas (e.g. urban areas, non-urban areas, employment areas, etc.).

#### Legislation in the field of multi-domain statistics in the process of adoption:

- Draft Commission regulation for environmental accounts introduces the legal basis for monitoring three modules of environmental economic accounts: NAMEA air emissions, material flow accounts and environmental taxes.

<sup>34</sup> GIS (geographic information system) is a system for managing large databases of geographic data that link location and descriptive data on geographic phenomena. GIS technology covers tools that are needed for successful and effective capture, maintenance, processing, analysing, disseminating and management of geographic data.

# Statistical infrastructure

## Preparation of a new medium-term programme of statistical surveys

At the end of 2012 the current Medium-Term Programme of Statistical Surveys 2008-2012 will be over, so the Statistical Office of the Republic of Slovenia will prepare together with authorised producers of national statistics a new statistical programme covering the 2013-2017 period and will, in line with Article 23.b of the National Statistics Act<sup>35</sup>, submit it to the Government of the Republic of Slovenia not later than by autumn 2012.

In 2012, SORS and authorised producers of official statistics will continue to be active in the **European Statistical System**, especially in creating European legislation in line with the regulation on European statistics<sup>36</sup>. They will participate in international conferences and similar events and in this way transfer new knowledge and good practice into the Slovenian statistical system.

## Managing and improving the quality of national statistics and statistical products and services will continue to be a priority in 2012

With the requests for effective implementation of national statistics, total quality management is becoming ever more important. In 2012, results of the work of the Sponsorship on Quality, which SORS is a part of, will become available. The group is preparing proposals for changing the European Statistics Code of Practice.

SORS will continue to actively cooperate with authorised producers in further improving the compliance with the European Statistics Code of Practice<sup>37</sup>, especially in the field of quality in the direction of better and easier transfer of knowledge in the Slovenian statistical system (education and training, possible study visits at SORS).

## Priorities related to quality improvement:

- Implementation of recommendations from the document Quality Guidelines into the regular statistical process in view of recommendations on good practice and standards;
- Further preparation of planned professional manuals;
- Adjustment of the model of assessing the quality of statistical processes and products for estimating the quality of registers and large administrative data sources;
- Further automation of calculating quality indicators;
- Modernisation of the process of statistical data processing in individual statistical surveys by implementing general software solutions developed in previous projects based on the use of the so-called metadata approach (especially in the fields of statistical editing, imputing missing values, aggregation and calculation of precision in sample surveys).

## SORS is included in the international project on reducing the costs and burdens of reporting units

Within activities for good cooperation with reporting units, SORS's priority is to reduce the burden of reporting units. Therefore, from 2010 on SORS has been actively involved in the BLUE-ETS project – Better data collection for better data quality, greater efficiency and cost-effectiveness<sup>38</sup>, which is expected to be concluded in 2013. The key challenges of this project are reduction of costs and burdens of reporting units, transforming data collection into a less burdensome and more informative process, and transforming and modernising the entire statistical process. SORS will cooperate in empirical testing of methodologies for reducing the burden of business entities and increasing motivation for timely data collection.

<sup>35</sup> National Statistics Act: [http://www.stat.si/eng/drz\\_stat\\_zakonski.asp](http://www.stat.si/eng/drz_stat_zakonski.asp) (13.4.2011).

<sup>36</sup> Regulation (EC) No 223/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2009 on European statistics and repealing Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1101/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the transmission of data subject to statistical confidentiality to the Statistical Office of the European Communities, Council Regulation (EC) No 322/97 on Community Statistics, and Council Decision 89/382/EEC, Euratom establishing a Committee on the Statistical Programmes of the European Communities (32009R0223).

<sup>37</sup> European Statistics Code of Practice: [http://www.stat.si/eng/drz\\_stat\\_kakovost\\_kodeks.asp](http://www.stat.si/eng/drz_stat_kakovost_kodeks.asp) (16.4.2011).

<sup>38</sup> See: <http://www.blue-ets.istat.it/> (29.4.2011).

### Activities in the field of improving communication with data providers

In 2012, SORS will continue to take care of reducing the burden of reporting units in various ways: seeking new administrative sources that would replace direct data collection, introducing new methodological solutions for individual surveys that would enable a smaller set of reporting units, introducing new technical solutions such as e-reporting, and taking care of optimal implementation of data collection processes.

In 2012, SORS will **analyse responses from reporting units** and take into account as much as possible the received remarks and proposals. For easier and better communication, SORS will be updating databases for reporting units, including the database of frequently asked questions.

On the basis of the **analysis of the burden of individual reporting units**, SORS will prepare recommendations for including units into specific statistical surveys. By using appropriate sampling techniques, the burden will be equally distributed and thus reduced primarily for small enterprises.

SORS will focus special attention on more important units, especially large business systems and entities that are included into practically all important statistical surveys on business statistics. The possibilities to improve and upgrade cooperation with these key business entities for the mutual benefit will be analysed.

**Modernisation of the CATI centre:** Data – especially social statistics – are collected by SORS directly from households and individuals, which presents a large financial burden for the office. Within the project of modernising the surveying system a strategy will be designed for more cost-effective data collection. To improve cooperation of surveyed people and households, SORS will modernise the method of training interviewers, giving special attention to communication with selected households. In addition, SORS will analyse and automate procedures implemented by the CATI centre.

### Better process organisation and use of modern information technology

In 2012, SORS will continue to implement the necessary procedures for providing availability and rapid response of the information infrastructure and technology that supports efficient informatisation and quality implementation of the entire statistical process. SORS will implement the necessary procedures for dealing with incidents, develop applications in order to maximally satisfy

internal and external users of the information system and services throughout the life-cycle.

SORS will monitor and implement international statistical guidelines of developing information infrastructure, technology, standards and good practice. It will continue to **introduce software solutions** developed within the previous projects into the regular statistical production process. Introduction is gradual and to the greatest extent in these areas:

- e-reporting: accelerated introduction into various fields of statistics, which will enable reporting units and other users simpler and safer method of data transfer and at the same time even more efficient SORS's operation;
- implementation of the SDMX solution;
- consolidation of the new, safe data centre, which will lead to more effective management of the entire information infrastructure.

### Development of information security

In 2012, SORS will intensify the introduction of the rules of information security policy into all its business processes, with the emphasis on personal data protection and meeting the commitments from the Personal Data Protection Act. Together with the introduction of these rules, SORS will continue to make its employees aware of the careful and responsible management of the wealth of information at SORS. By cooperating in the interdepartmental working group led by the Ministry of Public Administration, SORS will monitor the implementation of information security by government bodies and upgrade the level of information security in line with the requirements.

### After the website upgrade users will be able to access data more easily and rapidly

The central activity in publishing statistical results in a user-friendly way will be upgrading of SORS's website. The new website will be more user-friendly in terms of **simplicity and speed of finding SORS's data** but also visually more attractive. SORS will continue to enlarge the set of data that are spatially presented in an easy-to-understand way. SORS's website will enable access to most important statistical data of authorised producers of national statistics and within the so-called sectoral statistics also of ministries and other institutions. Together with upgrading the website, a **strategy of developing regional statistics** will be prepared. One of

the objectives of this strategy is simpler, easier and more rapid access of users to regional data presented by SORS in its various products and services.

SORS will also modernise the content of some of its publications – the most important being modernisation of the Statistical Yearbook, which will contain an analytical comment of the most important social and economic trends in the past year.

### Operation of the Statistical Office of the Republic of Slovenia

For several years SORS has been striving to solve the problem of its business premises. After the inclusion of the Ministry of Public Administration and the Ministry of Finance, in 2011 the solution was finally adopted: SORS will move to a new location in early 2012. After the move the working conditions will be significantly

improved, particularly as regards the working processes (only one location) and data security.

SORS will continue to implement the adopted **strategies for human and financial resource management**, so in 2012 it will continue to take care of the necessary training of its employees and their assignment regarding their personal desires and needs arising from the tasks. In 2012, the list of typical jobs and necessary competence will be finalised.

SORS will strengthen the **ecological awareness** of its employees and rational handling of material resources and in this way reduce its financial needs. It will monitor and implement financial terms of operation in the country by regularly monitoring the costs of statistical surveys. Implementing regular and development tasks, SORS will take care of rational and optimal use of available financial resources. In 2012, it will try to obtain as many European funds as possible and in this way modernise its operation.

# List of abbreviations

AJPES	–	Agency of the Republic of Slovenia for Public Legal Records and Related Services
BS	–	Bank of Slovenia
BPM	–	Balance of Payments Manual
CATI	–	Computer-assisted telephone interviewing
COICOP	–	Classification of Individual Consumption According to Purpose
GD SANCO	–	Directorate General Health and Consumers
EAA	–	Economic Accounts for Agriculture
ECB	–	European Central Bank
ECHI	–	European Community Health Indicators
EGR	–	European Register of Enterprise Groups
EHES	–	European Health Examination Survey
EIOPA	–	European Insurance and Occupational Pensions Authority
EMCDDA	–	European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction
ESA	–	European System of Accounts
ESCB	–	European System of Central Banks
ESSPROS	–	European System of Integrated Social Protection Statistics
ESRB	–	European Systemic Risk Board
EU	–	European Union
GIS	–	Geographic Information System
ISCED	–	International Standard Classification of Education
KLASIUS	–	Classification System of Education and Training
NIPH	–	National Institute of Public Health
OECD	–	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
OOIH	–	Owner Occupied Housing Index
R&D	–	Research and Development
SDMX	–	Statistical Data and Metadata eXchange
SILC	–	Statistics on income and living conditions
SKP	–	Standard Classification of Occupations
SORS	–	Statistical Office of the Republic of Slovenia