



April – August 2021

The project “Strong Albanian Local Statistics”, SALSTAT is part of the project “Bashki të Forta” of the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) for a period of four years. “Bashki të Forta” works for the development of local government and decentralization in Albania.

The three key stakeholders of the project are INSTAT, municipalities and some line ministries and governmental agencies, particularly collection official statistical data and/or in charge of administrative data/registers.

INSTAT is the key partner for the SALSTAT project. The line ministries and municipalities are key partners, because they will be data users and data producers of local and regional statistics.

## Content:

- Preparation work for the Regional Statistical Yearbook 2021
- Household Waste Management Statistics training
- Training for new INSTAT staff
- Statistical Building and Dwelling Register
- Improvement of the IT and non-IT infrastructure for INSTAT Regional Offices
- Additional Trainings for Municipalities

## Preparation work for the Regional Statistical Yearbook 2021

The respective departments continued the work on the Statistical Regional Yearbook 2021.

On 29th June 2021 a workshop "Guidelines for the 2021 Yearbook of Regions and Municipalities" with participation of all responsible INSTAT departments and the Swiss expert took place for the planning and preparation of the next steps for the Regional Yearbook 2021.

During the workshop, the main discussions were on the content of the publication as well as the further harmonization of the dissemination guidelines for the specific indicators.

The work on the Regional Yearbook will continue in the next months and the dissemination is currently scheduled for the 15th December 2021.

## Household Waste Management Statistics training

In the frame of the Output "The data collection system is adapted to produce relevant data on the regional and local level", SALSTAT/ INSTAT in synergy with the Bashki te Forta project (Helvetas) completed in May 2021 the training on web-based data collection platform for Household Waste Management Statistics 2020 with municipalities' staff.

As per the agenda the main topics of the training were:

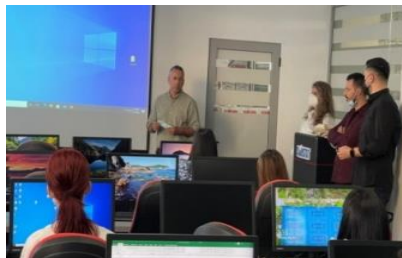
- Legal basis and principle of Statistical confidentiality (INSTAT)
- Urban waste statistics in the municipality (INSTAT)
- Application of the data collection (INSTAT)
- Methodology for production and data collection on additional information (Helvetas)

Due to pandemic situation, the trainings were organized in small groups with representatives from each municipality, at INSTAT premises.

47 municipalities out of 61, or in other words 77 % of total municipalities participated in the training. 64 staff employees have been trained from those were 29 staff employees' women, or in other words 45 % of total participants.

During 28<sup>th</sup> July – 10<sup>th</sup> August, since the municipalities that missed the training were facing difficulties in filling the online questionnaire INSTAT and SALSTAT decided to give individual support with an additional training day to the respective municipalities.

In mid-August all 61 municipalities have completed the Household Waste Management survey. The dissemination date for the national data is scheduled for 21<sup>st</sup> September 2021



## Training for new INSTAT staff

The training program for new employees is part of the Training and Development Program of INSTAT. The aim is to support the new employees and increase the statistical capacity building and comprehension of INSTAT processes and structures.

The training took place at INSTAT premises from 24th – 28th May 2021. The main topics of the training days were:

- Presentation of INSTAT and the National Statistical System
- Technical presentation of the of IT and Geo-information Directorates
- Technical presentation of the Economic Statistics Directorate and European Integration
- Technical presentation of Statistical Production Directories

20 staff employees have been trained. From these new employees, 15 are working at INSTAT main office and 5 at regional statistical offices in Vlorë, Durrës, Mallakastër, Lushnjë and Kukës. 13 staff employees were women, or in other words 65 % of total participants.



## Statistical Building and Dwelling Register

The final draft of the concept document for the Albanian Statistical Register of Buildings and Dwellings (ASRBD) was submitted to INSTAT for discussion and for the development of the next steps towards its implementation.

An expert from the Federal Statistical Office in Switzerland will work together with INSTAT on the next steps towards a detailed implementation plan for the Statistical Building and Dwelling Register.



## Improvement of the IT and non- IT infrastructure for INSTAT Regional Offices

The improvement of the infrastructure of the INSTAT Regional Offices was completed. The new infrastructure will support coordination work between the statistical regional offices and the regions and municipalities and through that to strengthen the Albanian data collection system. Project support consisted in IT and non-IT infrastructure.

The IT infrastructure and equipment for the Statistical Regional Offices included desktop computers with UPS, printers, web cameras, conference phones and a video conference system with respective software.

Also, TEAMS software to enhance communication between INSTAT headquarters and Regional Offices for two years until August 2022.

During April to July 2021 INSTAT and SALSTAT completed the connection of the regional office network to the internal network of INSTAT (intranet).

The work included the installation of secure client software and their configuration in all statistical regional offices, and the connection to the INSTAT network, and also the configuration of existing equipment in the INSTAT premises to enable this connection. The solution offered is more compatible with the equipment available to INSTAT and will be managed by the Network and Server Administration Sector.



The regional offices have now a secure access to the internal documentation systems. The intranet access improves the workflows between all statistical regional offices and INSTAT headquarters in Tirana and is an important step in the digitalization process of INSTAT. Furthermore, some non-IT infrastructure has been replaced.

On 17<sup>th</sup> August a joint site visit by the Swiss Embassy and INSTAT to Korça and Pogradec Regional Offices took place. From the Swiss Embassy participated Ms. Chantal Nicod, Head of Governance and Health Domain and Ms. Elda Bagaviki, National Programme Officer and from INSTAT Ms. Elsa Dhuli, General Director of INSTAT and other directors of INSTAT. The purpose of the visit was to have the chance to get a closer look at the working facilities and the respective Swiss contribution as well as to understand better the impact of the Swiss contribution for the daily work of Statistical Regional Offices.



## Additional trainings for municipalities

Due to the pandemic scheduled trainings for municipalities needed a detailed planning and preparation. SALSTAT / INSTAT were able to organize from 21<sup>st</sup> June – 08<sup>th</sup> July 2021 the trainings on "Analysis of Statistical Data", with municipalities staff who cooperate with INSTAT for the production and collection of statistical information.

The main target groups for the trainings were the staff that attended the previous trainings organized by INSTAT/SALSTAT:

- "Basic Knowledge on Official Statistics" from 21<sup>st</sup> September – 9<sup>th</sup> October 2020, and
- "Advanced Microsoft Excel training" from 16<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021.

In addition, the regional coordinators of the Bashki te Forta (Helvetas) project were invited and participated in the trainings to improve the synergy of the two project components.

The two-day trainings per group were organized at INSTAT premises, in compliance with the COVID-19 measurements set by the Government.

The topics of the "Analysis of Statistical Data" training were:

- Economy Statistics
- Environmental Statistics
- Social Statistics
- Agriculture Statistics
- Macroeconomic Statistics
- Real Sector Statistics

The trainings aimed to give to municipalities' staff the necessary information related to the statistics, in order to improve the quality of the data from municipalities and to deepen the statistical literacy.

90 employees of municipalities took part in the trainings; from those were 62 women, or 69% of total.

51 municipalities out of 61, or 84% of total participated in the trainings.



THANK YOU FROM SALSTAT TEAM

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