

ТЕМАТИЧНИЙ НАПРЯМОК 1
НОВІ ВИКЛИКИ ДЛЯ ОФІЦІЙНОЇ СТАТИСТИКИ
В УМОВАХ ВІЙНИ В УКРАЇНІ

**INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT FOR NATIONAL STATISTICAL
OFFICES DURING AND AFTER CONFLICT**

Belkindas Misha,
Dr., IAOS President

Dear colleagues, Ukrainian statisticians, First and foremost, I would like to extend you sincere congratulations with the professional holiday, Day of Statistics Workers, to which this conference is devoted.

I also wish you success in your big task – to adapt the national statistics system for the operation in the conditions of martial law.

I would like to express my special thanks to professor Osaulenko for his kind invitation to take part in the conference.

In my abstract I am going to elaborate on the ways of organizing international support for the national statistics offices of Ukraine that have faced troubles, including ones resulting from the military conflict.

This work needs to start with creating an international coalition:

- Coalition should be led by a lead donor, most likely by the World Bank or a regional development bank;
- Coalition should include international partners, such as IMF, UNSD, OECD, EU, UN regional commissions, UN specialized agencies (ILO, FAO, others);
- Interested countries – providers of funds and technical assistance (TA);
- Private sector – providers of funds and TA;
- International NGOs such as ISI, IAOS and others;
- Such practice exists – a lead donor can consolidate funds and TA under a common umbrella project;
- TA projects to the countries of the former Soviet Union in the 1990th under common leadership of IMF, WB, UNSD, OECD and Eurostat – a broad coalition of donors and TA providers;

- Statistical system of Armenia during the war with Azerbaijan;
- Development of statistical systems in the former Yugoslavia;
- The case of Bosnia and Herzegovina;
- World Bank umbrella multi-country lending facility STATCAP started in 2004 with loans to Burkina Faso and Ukraine followed by loans with grant elements to many countries in all the continents;
- Current World Bank regional lending programs in Africa including such countries like war-torn Somalia;
- World Bank large lending projects in the Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan;
- Inter-American Development Bank projects.

What an international coalition should/can do

- Find a space/building where a NSO can be housed. If not available, initiate construction;
- Design a minimum package of deliverables of statistical products/outputs for an interim period;
- Develop an institutional structure of the NSO at the central and regional levels
- Design a data collection mechanism – surveys with imperfect sampling frames, usage of administrative data, other data, other means of data capture;
- Procurement and installation of means/lines for data transmission, storage, manipulation and publication;
- Assist in data collection, processing and production of statistical outputs;
- Design and start implementing HR policies with an emphasis on training and retraining of NSO staff;
- Initiate the development of young cadre, if needed, develop curriculum for local universities, or in neighboring countries;
- Train data users – policy makers, journalists, civil society;
- Draft, with assistance of international agencies, a new law on statistics which adheres to international standards;
- Create a political environment for adherence to Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics;
- Other actions.

The Case of Ukraine

When the war started IAOS issued a statement in support of Ukraine and the Ukrainian National Statistical System

Since the war started in February 2022 statistical activities have been suspended by the Government:

- ❑ Very limited activities are allowed;
- ❑ On the other hand – the Parliament passed the Law on Statistics (long overdue) and it was signed by the President;
- ❑ Ukraine statistical system is familiar with a large-scale international aid;
- ❑ The first institutional building loan to the Government was approved by the World Bank in the early 1990th with a 9 million USD funding for the NSO;
- ❑ In addition, there was a large-scale international Technical Assistance program TACIS, which Ukraine was one of the recipients;
- ❑ The second loan in the amount of 32 million USD was approved in early 2004 and addressed institutional building, HR, data collection, processing, development of specialized software, etc.

Current Activities

- ❑ IAOS received a request from the Institute of Economic Forecasting of the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences. They were tasked by the Government to develop methods for the calculation of the damage caused by the war;
- ❑ They want to start from the damage done to the agricultural sector, in particular small-scale farming;
- ❑ IAOS has so far approached the ASA Statisticians Without Borders – positive answer;
- ❑ FAO agreed to render assistance by including Ukraine in their AGRIS program;
- ❑ World Bank cannot finance Ukraine from their Trust Fund 50x2030 as the country is not eligible – the IAOS will continue to push;
- ❑ As new requests come our way, the IAOS will try to facilitate aid – funding and Trust Fund in kind;

IAOS wants to reassure SSSU that we stand with you in these difficult times and we will do anything what we can to support.