

The European Statistical Programme

Short general description (5 lines max)

The European statistical programme (ESP) 2013-2017 is the legal framework for the development, production and dissemination of European statistics and presents an opportunity to harmonise European statistics in order to provide common, comparable and reliable statistical information at Union level. A core element of the ESP is the implementation of the Commission Communication of 2009 on the vision about the modernisation process in statistics for the next 10 years.

Objectives:

The general objective of the programme is for the European Statistical System to continue to be the leading provider of high quality statistics on Europe. Bearing in mind the available resources both at national and Union level as well the response burden four specific objectives are pursued with this programme:

- 1) to provide statistical information, in a timely manner, to support the development, monitoring and evaluation of policies of the Union, serving the needs of a wide range of users of European statistics
- 2) to implement new methods of production of European statistics aiming at efficiency gains and quality improvements
- 3) to strengthen the partnership within the ESS and beyond in order to further enhance its productivity and its leading role in official statistics world wide
- 4) to ensure the delivery of such statistics is kept consistent throughout the whole duration of the programme, provided that it does not interfere with the priority-setting mechanism in the ESS.

Supported activities:

No support to specific activities but ENP countries are welcome to attend Eurostat's working group meetings and to participate in the European statistical training programme, on their own cost and to be decided on a case-by-case basis (criteria for participation are: relevance of the meeting and the training course; maximum number of possible participants in the training courses and available space in the meeting rooms)

Eligibility (in the context of the ENP):

There is no eligibility criteria as such fixed in the programme but possible decisions criteria would be the relevance of the topic, the relevance of following the European model / European legislation in statistics for a given country and the limited number of possible participants in addition to the participants from the EU Member States, EFTA countries and enlargement countries.

Modalities of participation:

The ESP as such is not a programme that can be joined by the ENP countries. It establishes a work programme in statistics for the next 5 years for the ESS and all ENP countries are welcome to follow the European model of producing statistics and to apply the European acquis in statistics but the ESP itself cannot support countries in these efforts. For the purpose of supporting the ENP countries in applying European statistical legislation in their own production of statistics, Eurostat is trying to obtain specific programme funding from external aid budgets such as IPA and ENI.

Contact point:

Claudia Junker, head of unit "Statistical cooperation", claudia.junker@ec.europa.eu

Website:

<http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/eurostat/home>

Examples of activities where ENP countries can be involved:

Potentially ENP countries can participate in the following activities, subject to a case-by-case decision:

Eurostat working groups with the Member States where the European acquis and the modalities of its application, problems and challenges are discussed (250 working group meetings per year, working language is English)) – participation costs to be borne by the ENP countries themselves

European statistical training programme – roughly 25 courses per year but with Member States having priority access to the courses - participation costs to be borne by the ENP countries themselves although no fees are applied

Participation in the application of European acquis with some advice from Eurostat or Member States, funding to be secured through external aid programmes