

Standard Summary Project Fiche

IPA decentralised National programmes

Project number: TR 07 02 25

1. Basic information

1.1 CRIS Number:

1.2 Title: Strengthening the statistical capacity of the MARA (the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs)

1.3 Sector: Statistics

1.4 Location: Turkey

Implementing arrangements:

1.5 Implementing Agency:

The Director of the CFCU will act as Programme Authorising Officer (PAO) of the project. His contact details are:

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1.6 Beneficiary (including details of SPO): MARA

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Beneficiaries of the project is MARA

1.7 Overall cost: € 1,150,150

- 1.8 EU contribution: € 1,100,150
- 1.9 Final date for contracting: 2 years after the signature of the FA
- 1.10 Final date for execution of contracts: 4 years after the signature of the FA
- 1.11 Final date for disbursements: 5 years after the after the signature of the FA

2. Overall Objective and Project Purpose

2.1 Overall Objective:

To contribute to the harmonization with the acquis on statistics, particularly by improving the capacity at selected data providers other than TURKSTAT.

2.2 Project purpose:

Improved quality of the statistical data provided by the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs..

2.3 Link with AP/NPAA / EP/ SAA

Accession Partnership (AP) priority:

Council Decision of 23 January 2006 on the principles, priorities and conditions contained in the Accession Partnership with Turkey (2006/35/EC)

Under the SHORT-TERM PRIORITIES

“Reinforce the strategy for the development of statistics in particular in priority areas, such as: demographic and labour market statistics, regional statistics, business statistics (including Business Register) and agricultural statistics.”

Under the MEDIUM-TERM PRIORITIES

“Intensify the use of administrative sources for data collection.”

NPAA Priority:

NPAA (Official gazette dated 24 July 2003, No 25178 bis)

Priority 12.16 Agricultural Statistics

“Statistics on structure and typology of agricultural holdings, viticulture, fruit growing, crop production, other agricultural statistics, animal production and fisheries will be compiled in compliance with the respective EU legislation.”

In 2005 Regular Report, under Chapter 18: Statistics:

“Substantial efforts are needed to progress towards overall alignment with the acquis in all main areas for statistical development (business statistics, social statistics, agricultural statistics and macro-economic statistics, trade statistics, regional statistics and environment statistics).”

In 2006 Regular Report, under Chapter 18: Statistics:

“Development regarding the business register, and statistics on business, public finance, and agriculture, as was as the national accounts, is at an early stage.”

The accession negotiations on Chapter 18: Statistics has started as of 26 June 2007, with the following closing benchmark:

“Turkey submits a detailed description on progress made in setting up the farm register and on foreseen methodology and organisation set-up used for the collection of statistics, as well as relevant statistics.”

2.4 Link with MIPD

Transition Assistance and Institution building”, section 4. Main Priorities, sub-section “Transposition and implementation of the acquis”

Institution Building support may also be provided to the acquis chapters: Statistics (demographic, labour market, regional, agricultural and business statistics).

2.5 Link with National Development Plan (where applicable)

9th Development Plan:

Problems related to the quality and quantity of agricultural statistical data will be eliminated through the consolidation of different information collecting and processing.

2.6 Link with national/ sectoral investment plans (where applicable)

Not Applicable

1. Description of project

3.1 Background and justification:

In Turkey, agricultural production statistics (crop production, vegetables-fruits, etc.) are collected via the local districts of MARA and shared with TURKSTAT (the Turkish Statistics Institute). Estimation meetings for each production period are being held three times a year with the participation of MARA, TURKSTAT and several organizations and institutions. In addition, animal statistics, agricultural machinery statistics are shared with TURKSTAT with an anonymous method as well and published by TURKSTAT.

MARA plays a key role in all stages of the agricultural statistics process and has an advantage of possessing a broad provincial and regional organization with 81 provincial offices and 822 district offices. The reform of agricultural statistics in Turkey and the process of the EU alignment require MARA to strengthen its institutional management of agricultural statistics.

However, MARA staff’s knowledge about statistical methods and survey management and specific methodologies of the EU agricultural statistics system is still limited. Extensive knowledge of methods applied for statistical and policy oriented analysis of data is crucial for

preparation of policy reforms within the overall economic reform process and EU rapprochement. So, the human resources of the MARA in central and provincial offices need to be improved. This aim will be achieved by both increasing the number of staff working solely on statistical issues and with their training. In addition to the technological developments, human capital should be given more attention to improve the quality of agricultural statistics. Therefore, strengthening the human resources at the Ministry is of vital importance for the success of this project.

The need for verifying data by spot checks on the field to get more reliable information on some major crops (wheat, maize, and olive) is evident. However, the absence of appropriate verification methods (crop cutting, whole enumeration, remote sensing etc.) impedes data quality.

Agricultural statistics are mentioned as benchmark for the Agriculture chapter Priority 12.16 Agricultural Statistics in NPAA says that statistics on structure and typology of agricultural holdings, viticulture, fruit growing, crop production, other agricultural statistics, animal production and fisheries will be compiled in compliance with the respective EU legislation.

Under this project which aims at improving the agricultural statistical infrastructure of MARA, the coordination between the Ministry, the NGOs, producer associations and other government organizations is essential.

In order to establish good contacts with the farmers and to obtain the relevant data from those farms, the Union of Turkish Chambers of Agriculture (TZOB) will be a vital instrument. Likewise, with an aim to get the precise number of olive trees in the selected provinces by the end of the survey, coordination with Union of Turkish Agricultural Sales Cooperatives such as TARIS will be useful in order to get in touch with the olive producers. Moreover, experts from statistical departments of universities will participate in the training component of the project.

It is technically possible to merge the existing databases at MARA. However, further studies are needed to improve efficiency. In this context, the project will be a path of development of agricultural statistical infrastructure of MARA. Accordingly, MARA will be able to collect more reliable data. Afterwards, the statistical systems such as National Farm Registry System, TURKVET, organic farming database, green house database, fisheries information system, seeds data base, FADN will be further integrated with TURKSTAT and harmonized with EU standards.

3.2 Assessment of project impact, catalytic effect, sustainability and cross border impact (where applicable)

By the end of the project, MARA staff will be competent in the field of agricultural statistics system and survey design. Hence, this will be used for the future surveys and data collection in line with the EU standards and more accurate data will be able to be collected. On the other hand, the impact of the project is not confined with the staff of the Ministry. Statistical data is vital for every sector to achieve progress. This aim can be managed through qualified survey designs and statistical knowledge. In order to improve the agricultural sector by using efficient agricultural policies, agricultural statistics need to be accessible and reliable.

Afterwards, such data can be used while forming a credible frame of reference for the sector.

In addition, academic world requires reliable data. Academic reports can be used to draw a map prior to the establishment of new policies for the agricultural sector. Hence, every segment of the agricultural community will benefit from this project.

Within the project, a number of MARA personnel will be dedicated to work solely on statistics and these staff members will be trained about the statistical methods and agricultural statistics. The capability to be achieved will be permanent. The knowledge gained will be further improved by conducting future surveys in coordination with TURKSTAT. Besides, spillover effects will emerge as a result of the activities on the training of trainers in the project.

MARA staff will extend their knowledge and experience during the implementation of the project.

3.3 Results and measurable indicators:

Result 1: Coordination between MARA and TURKSTAT has been improved within the project: In order to establish a powerful coordination, educated staff has been dedicated to the statistical issues within the Ministry.

The achievement of this result is indicated by

- An Action Plan (on the integration/consolidation of existing data collection systems (FADN, IACS, etc) the rationalization of internal organizational structures including assigning a department as in charge of statistics at the MARA, activities to improve the coordination with TURKSTAT, the identification of training areas, setting the responsibilities of MARA and other relevant institutions providing agricultural data) has been prepared in collaboration with MARA and TURKSTAT
- Monitoring and maintaining of the Agricultural Statistics System in compliance with the EU requirements.
- TURKSTAT approval of the produced agricultural data

Result 2: Knowledge of MARA staff has been improved on survey design and collection of more reliable data in line with the EU methods

The achievement of this result is indicated by

- 37 persons (centre and local offices of MARA) have been trained
- A census for whole enumeration of olive trees in İzmir and Manisa has been designed by the MARA staff at the fourth quarter of 2009.
- The approval of this survey design and its outputs by TURKSTAT

Result 3: New methodologies have been introduced.

At least 100 persons worked on the early estimation of yield, in particular for maize and wheat in Konya and Adana during the project. This group may include the persons who are working on agriculture (agricultural input distributors, agricultural irrigation unions etc.), as well as regional staff of MARA.

Early estimation will be mainly conducted by MARA staff and these groups will help early yield estimation by using a small questionnaire. This early estimation of project groups will be used in cross checking of yield data as an alternative information source. The sustainability of future early estimation activities will be ensured by MARA.

Existing data collection methods have been replaced by objective, new methods

The achievement of this result is indicated by

- 100 persons from two provinces have been trained
- The number of questionnaires filled in
- The number of data has been collected by new sampling survey techniques (crop cutting) ,

3.4 Activities:

Activity 1: For the training of MARA staff on the statistical system of EU, survey design and several special methods (crop-cutting, whole enumeration of olive trees in selected provinces) of EU agricultural statistical system, data collection to get the total number of olive trees in the selected provinces. **Service Contract for TA and Data Collection**

Activity 2: For purchasing basic hardware and software. **Supply Contract**, 75% EU support, 25% co-financing

Activity 3: During the project, groups will be established and early estimation of yield information will be obtained in selected districts (Adana, Konya), in particular for maize and wheat.

3.5 Conditionality and sequencing:

The success of the project largely depends on the coordination between MARA and TURKSTAT.

The Contracting Authority shall request TURKSTAT's written opinion on the Terms of Reference for the service tender before launching the necessary procedures.

Contract Sequence will be as follows:

1. Service Contract for TA and Data Collection
2. Supply Contract, 75% EU support, 25% co-financing

3.6 Linked activities

FWC Request 2006/120479 Technical Support to MARA on Statistics

Final Report of the Project 2005 / 101022 "Assessment of Five Main Data Providers of the Turkish Statistical System"

DELTUR/MEDTQ/008-04 Upgrading the Statistical System of Turkey

TR 05 03 16 Upgrading the Statistical System of Turkey — Phase II (USST-II)

The project aims at supporting the improvement of the business Register System and business, social, demographic, tourism, agricultural, environmental and health statistics. The project has a training grant component, which enables the participants from Turkstat and other data providers, including MARA, to participate in training courses, study visits, working parties, conferences, and local meetings. The total budget of the training grant is € 1,750,000.

Phare 2005 Multi-beneficiary statistical cooperation programme

This project provides a multi-beneficiary facility for the improvement of statistics in Bulgaria, Croatia, Romania and Turkey. Total project budget is € 5,000,000, while € 1,250,000 has been allocated for Turkey. Agricultural statistics is one of the intervention areas, in particular the improvement of quality of crop statistic, implementation of meat statistics, and implementation of statistics on subsistence and semi-subsistence farms. TURKSTAT and other data providers can benefit from the technical assistance activities and project related country work.

IPA 2007 Multi-beneficiary statistical cooperation programme

The project has a total budget of € 3,000,000. The IPA 2007 Multi-beneficiary programme covers Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia including Kosovo, and Turkey. Workshops, study visits, seminars, training, and data collection surveys can be financed in the area of statistics, including agricultural statistics.

TURKSTAT and MARA are expected to benefit from the USST-II, Phare 2005 and IPA 2007 Multi-beneficiary programmes so that their staff can participate in workshops, study visits, seminars, and training in areas related to this project. Moreover, additional data collection surveys can be financed with these facilities, if necessary. Thus, above mentioned three facilities will have a complementary function to this project.

3.7 Lessons learned

The linked activities revealed that MARA staff has some deficiencies in the EU agricultural statistics methodology and there is need for improvement of institutional capacity.

Under the project of “Upgrading the statistical system of Turkey” carried out by TURKSTAT, a framework contract - “Technical Support to MARA on Statistics” was conducted in 2006. The project made a preliminary assessment on the agricultural statistical system in Turkey, the role of MARA in the system, data collection methods, institutional structure, and its organization.. Some recommendations have been made to bring Turkish agricultural statistical system in line with EU requirements on the basis of these recommendations. This project has been built on the experience gained through this preliminary study and the recommendations submitted by the contractor.

The mission report on the EU agricultural statistical system, basic statistical methods and survey management has been attached to this project fiche as an annex.

4. Indicative Budget (amounts in €)

Activities	TOTAL PUBLIC COST	SOURCES OF FUNDING										
		EU CONTRIBUTION				NATIONAL PUBLIC CONTRIBUTION					PRIVATE	
		Total	% *	IB	INV	Total	Type of cofinancing (J / P) **	% *	Central	Regional	IFIs	
Contract 3.1: Service Contract For Technical Assistance and Data Collection	950,150	950,150	100%	950,150								
Contract 3.2: Supply Contract for basic hardware and software and office equipment	200,000	150,000	75%		150,000	50,000	J	25%	50,000			
TOTAL	1,150,150	1,100,150		950,150	150,000	50,000			50,000			

** compulsory for INV (minimum of 25 % of total EU + national public contribution) : Joint cofinancing (**J**) as the rule, parallel co financing (**P**) per exception

* expressed in % of the Total Public Cost

5. Indicative Implementation Schedule (periods broken down per quarter)

Contracts	Start of Tendering	Signature of contract	Contract Completion
Contract 3.1: Service Contract For Technical Assistance and Data Collection	3Q/2008	3Q/2009	Q3 2010
Contract 3.2: Supply Contract for Hardware, software and office equipment	3Q/2008	4Q/2009	Q1 2010

Duration of the project is 17 months.

6. Cross cutting issues (where applicable)

6.1 Equal Opportunity
Not Applicable.


6.2 Environment
Not Applicable.

6.3 Minority and vulnerable groups
Not Applicable.

ANNEXES TO PROJECT FICHE

1. Log-frame in standard format
2. Contracting and disbursement schedule, by quarter
3. Institutional framework
4. Reference to laws, regulations and strategic documents
5. Details per EU contracts
6. List of equipment to be supplied
7. Mission Report by Peter PAULI

ANNEX 1: Logical framework matrix in standard format

	<p>Annex 1 Logframe</p>	<p>Title of the action : Strengthening the statistical capacity of the MARA Country: Turkey Institution: Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs (MARA)</p>	<p>Indicative duration: 17 Months Indicative budget: € 1,100,150 Date of preparation:</p>
<p>Contracting period expires : 2 years after the signature of the Financing Agreement</p>		<p>Disbursement period expires: 5 years after the signature of the Financing Agreement</p>	

<i>Logical intervention</i>	<i>Objectively Verifiable Indicators</i>	<i>Source of verification</i>	<i>Assumptions and risks</i>
<p>Overall objective To contribute to the harmonisation with the acquis on statistics, particularly by improving the capacity at selected data providers other than TURKSTAT.</p>	<p>- Improved compliance with the acquis in related fields by the end of 2010 - Progress in the collection of necessary data for the accession process in the selected areas of statistics by the end of 2010</p>	<p>- Periodical review, assessment and reporting including independent monitoring and evaluation - Progress reports</p>	

<i>Project Purpose</i>	<i>Objectively Verifiable Indicators</i>	<i>Source of Verification</i>	<i>Assumptions and Risks</i>
Improved quality of the statistical data provided by the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs..	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The number of data entered in statistical database increased significantly as of 2010 - The accuracy of the data produced by MARA and sent to TURKSTAT and policy makers has improved 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Periodical review, assessment and reporting including independent monitoring and evaluation - Evaluation reports - Progress reports - Financial reports - Technical reports 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Commitment towards Turkish accession to EU continues - EU and government resources are available to support the new capacity in the longer term - Implementation of complementary project/s at national level

<i>Results</i>	<i>Objectively Verifiable Indicators</i>	<i>Source of Verification</i>	<i>Assumptions and Risks</i>
1. Coordination between MARA and TURKSTAT has been improved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Agricultural data is in line with TURKSTAT' requirements - An Action Plan has been prepared in collaboration with MARA and TURKSTAT - MARA identifies one of its departments/sections as in charge of statistics - An analysis made on the integration/consolidation of existing data collection systems at MARA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Working group's reports and minutes - Survey reports, Terms of reference for the whole enumeration - Terms of reference for purchasing technical equipments - Yield reports 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Memorandum of Understanding for the establishment of coordination between MARA and TURKSTAT is signed.

<p>2. MARA staff has improved their knowledge about survey design and collected more reliable data in line with the EU rules</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - At least 100 MARA staff received training at central and local level. - A census for whole enumeration of olive trees in İzmir and Manisa has been designed by the MARA staff at the fourth quarter of 2009. - Reliable data have been collected through the specific methods in selected provinces by end-2010 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Questionnaires applied to olive producers - Training programs 	
<p>3. New methodologies have been introduced at MARA</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - At least 100 persons, involved in group surveys for early estimation of yield especially for maize and wheat in Konya and Adana during the project. 		
<i>Activities</i>	<i>Means</i>	<i>Costs</i>	<i>Assumptions and Risks</i>

<p>1. Establishment of working groups including both MARA and TURKSTAT staff in crop statistics mainly olive, maize and wheat and determination of training areas, program in cooperation with TURKSTAT</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Service contract for TA and Data Collection - Supply Contract - 	<p>950,150 150,000</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Trained staff do not leave the institution - Staff are willing to participate
<p>2. Training of MARA staff on the statistical system of EU, survey design and several special methods (crop-cutting, whole enumeration of olive trees in selected provinces) of EU agricultural statistical system.</p>			
<p>3. Purchasing basic software and hardware</p>			
<p>4. Formation of groups to collect data especially on early estimation of yield in selected districts</p>			