

DELIBERATION No. 62 OF THE STATISTICAL COUNCIL
WORK PROGRAM FOR THE NATIONAL STATISTICAL SYSTEM 2022

Considering the scope of action of the Statistical Council (hereinafter referred to as the Council) within the scope and strategic guidance of the National Statistical System (NSS).

Considering the General Guidelines of the Official Statistical Activity (LGAE0) for the period 2018-2022, approved by the Council, which define the main objectives and challenges of the NSS for that period and the actions considered as a priority by the Council, resulting from reflections, analyses and other work carried out within the Council, in the context of the Assessment Report of the NSS for 2017-2019.

Whereas it is specifically for the Council to *“examine the plan and budget of the statistical activity of the statistical authorities (...)”*.

Whereas the Council, within the scope of its powers, will continue to aim at ensuring that society at large is provided with quality, current and relevant official statistical information, and will monitor the new developments and challenges facing the Statistical Authorities (SAs) using, inter alia, new sources of information and data integration, and will pay particular attention to the processes of dissemination and communication of official statistics to users and information providers.

Whereas the Statistical Work Programs of the SAs for 2022 reflect the guidelines contained in the LGAE0 for 2018-2022, regarding the high priority given to actions, which:

- I. Set out a set of objectives, which aim to continue to ensure quality statistical production allowing for a timely response, including through the continued availability of indicators to better analyse the social and economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, the innovation and methodological and technological development of the statistical process, the development of information security management systems, improved accessibility, and use of official statistics, continued improvement of dissemination and communication channels and activities on statistical literacy for various target audiences.
- II. Will continue to give priority, to the extent of available resources and in particular the adequacy of human resources, to meeting the growing demand for statistical information, at the national, European, and international level, as an indispensable tool for timely and rigorous analysis of the economic, financial, social, and environmental situation, for informed decision-making by economic actors and the sustained assessment of the various policies.
- III. Will also continue to pay particular attention to strengthening institutional and interinstitutional cooperation, in conducting specific projects relevant to national and European statistical systems, including strengthening the use of administrative sources, the use of alternative data sources, public and private entities, and the integration of new statistical domains.

Whereas the activity of the Council and the Statistical Authorities for 2022 is still defined in an epidemiological context due to COVID-19, which poses organisational and response challenges to the information needs of the various entities, and by the persistent shortage of human resources in number and with the skills appropriate to the new developments and challenges facing official statistics;

Considering that the Work Program of Statistics Portugal and the entities with delegated powers by Statistics Portugal (EDC) for 2022 fits into the strategies defined by the European Statistical System and that almost all the statistical activities envisaged constituting obligations assumed by the Portuguese State in the context of the European Union.

Whereas Banco de Portugal Work Program for 2022 seeks to meet the strategic objectives defined at the level of the European System of Central Banks (ESCB).

Whereas the statistical authorities have complied with their statistical quality benchmarks: Statistics Portugal and EDC, of the Regional Statistical Office of the Azores and of the Regional Directorate of Statistics of Madeira for 2022, as set out in the principles of the European Statistics Code of Practice; and Banco de Portugal by the principles enshrined in the "Public commitment by the ESCB in the field of European statistics".

Considering the "Principle 3 — Adequacy of resources" of the European Statistics Code of Practice which states that "*the resources made available to the statistical authorities are sufficient to meet the requirements of European statistics*".

Under the terms provided in Article 3(2) and Article 13(g) of Law No. 22/2008, of 13 May, and in Article 10(3)(c) of the Rules of Procedure of the Statistical Council, **at the plenary meeting on the 17 December 2021, the Statistical Council**, following a favourable opinion of the Standing Section of Statistical Coordination, **has decided:**

1. **To approve** the Synthesis of Statistical Activity for the National Statistical System 2022, annexed to this deliberation;
2. **To approve** the Council's Work Program for 2022;
3. **To issue a favourable opinion** on the Work Program of the Statistical Authorities for 2022;
4. **To approve** the dissemination of these documents through an information note to the media;
5. **To recommend to the competent authorities** that the Statistical Authorities be provided with the human resources — in number and competencies — and financial resources on time necessary for the implementation of their Work Programs for 2022.

Lisbon, 21 December 2021

The Vice-Chairman of the Statistical Council, Francisco Lima

The Executive Secretary of the Statistical Council, Maria da Graça Fernandes Caeiro Bento

2022 WORK PROGRAMME | NATIONAL STATISTICAL SYSTEM

SYNTHESIS

NATIONAL STATISTICAL SYSTEM

Statistical Council (CSE)

Statistical Authorities (SAs) under Law 22/2008 of 13 May 2008

Statistics Portugal (INE)

Banco de Portugal (BdP)

Regional Statistical Office of the Azores (SREA)

Regional Directorate of Statistics of Madeira (DREM)

Entities with delegated powers by Statistics Portugal (pursuant to Law no. 22/2008 of 13 May):

- Directorate-General of Natural Resources, Marine Resources and Safety Services of the Ministry of Sea (DGRM/MM)
- Directorate-General for Energy and Geology of the Ministry of Environment and Climate Action (DGEG/MAAC)
- Directorate-General of Education and Science Statistics of the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Science, Technology and Higher Education (DGEEC/MEd | MCTES)
- Directorate-General for Justice Policy of the Ministry of Justice (DGPJ/MJ)
- Department for Strategic Planning of the Ministry of Labour, Solidarity and Social Security (GEP/MTSSS)

Pursuant to article 22 of the NSS, when producing national official statistics, the participation of SREA and DREM, as entities with powers delegated by Statistics Portugal, must take place.

The Work Programme of the National Statistical System (NSS) for 2022 consists of this synthesis, which highlights the main objectives and activities to be achieved in 2022 and the Activity Plans of the Council and the Statistical Authorities (SAs), which provide further information in their respective spheres of competence.

The plans set out the objectives and actions to be taken by these entities within their national and European frameworks, respectively:

- Exercising the powers set out in Article 13 of Law 22/2008 of 13 May 2008 and under the guidelines issued according to Article 3(2) of that Law through the deliberations and recommendations of the Council
- The General Guidelines of the Official Statistical Activity (LGAEO) for the period 2018-2022.
- Recommendations of the Assessment Report (RAESEN) of the 2017-2019 NSS
- The strategic guidelines of the European Statistical System.
- Statistical activity programmes approved by the European System of Central Banks (ESCB).
- And, in compliance with the Code of Practice for European Statistics and the Public Commitment of the European System of Central Banks in the field of European Statistics.

The Council, within the scope of its action, will continue to aim at ensuring that the society has quality, current and relevant official statistical information, and will monitor new developments and challenges for SAs with the use, inter alia, of new sources of information and integration of data, and will keep particular attention to the processes of dissemination and communication of official statistics to users and information providers.

The Council will promote internal reflection in the preparation of General Guidelines of the Official Statistical Activity (LGAEO) for the period 2023-2027 and their priorities. The preparation of this document will very actively involve the SAs in the first half of 2022.

Adjustments will also be proposed to the draft law establishing the NSS Law, approved in 2017 by the Council, to respond to the changes that have taken place in the meantime in the field of statistics.

The SAs Work Programs for 2022 establish a set of objectives, which aim to continue to ensure quality statistical production that allows for a timely response, including through the continued availability of indicators that contribute to better analysing the social and economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, the innovation and methodological and technological development of the statistical process, the development of information security management systems, improved accessibility and use of official statistics, continued improvement of dissemination and communication channels and activities on statistical literacy for various target audiences.

Priority will be given to the extent of available resources and in particular the adequacy of human resources, to meeting the growing demand for statistical information, at the national, European, and international level, as an indispensable tool for timely and rigorous analysis of the economic, financial, social, and environmental situation, for informed decision-making by economic actors and the sustained assessment of the various policies.

The SAs will also continue to pay particular attention to strengthening institutional and inter-institutional cooperation, notably in the conduct of specific projects relevant to national and European statistical systems, in strengthening the use of administrative sources, the use of alternative data sources, public and private entities, and the integration of new statistical domains.

The activity of the Council and the Statistical Authorities for 2022 is further defined in an epidemiological context due to COVID-19, which poses organisational and response challenges to the information needs of the various entities, and by the persistent shortage of human resources in number and with the skills appropriate to the new developments and challenges facing official statistics.

A. Main goals and activities of the Statistical Council for 2022

Goals

The activity to be carried out by the Council in 2022 should:

- I. Continue to focus mainly on promoting reflection actions (internal and external) to identify and properly implement measures that enable the implementation of the GGOSA for 2018-2022 and to address the new challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, including in the context of the use of administrative and other

sources for statistical purposes, and on raising society's awareness of collaboration with the Statistical Authorities.

- II. Promote internal reflection in the preparation of the Official Statistical Activity Lines and their priorities for the period 2023-2027.
- III. Continue to monitor the constraints reported by the Statistical Authorities, including in the context of human resources in number and appropriate skills.

The planning of the Council for the coming year is a challenge and it is not possible to dissociate it from the possible constraints that may arise in the implementation of the planned activities, particularly those that have a direct or indirect intervention by the SAs and users of official statistics.

The following actions and priority areas should be highlighted:

Global in scope

- Approval of the GGOSA and their priorities for the five years 2023-2027;
- Approval of the adjustments to the preliminary draft law establishing the law on the NSS, approved in 2017 by the Council, to reflect the national and European changes that have taken place in the meantime in the field of statistics and to adapt it to emerging trends;
- Monitoring the compliance of the Statistical Authorities with the NSS Principles;
- Assessment of the degree of implementation of the GGOSA for 2018-2022;
- Follow-up of the Recommendations contained in the NSS State Assessment Report for the period 2017-2019;
- Updating and operationalising the Council's operating structure;
- Monitoring the developments of the National Data Infrastructure of Statistics Portugal;
- Promoting reflection and awareness-raising activities among public authorities and private entities with a view to the use of administrative data for statistical purposes;
- Revision of the Rules of Procedure, seeking to adapt them to the General Data Protection Regulation and to establish rules that will standardise, inter alia, the holding of videoconference and/or mixed meetings, reckoned as a necessity in the context that emerged with the pandemic reality.

By sectors

- Continuation of the monitoring of the 2021 Census Action Programme conducted by Statistics Portugal — dissemination of definitive results;
- Follow-up of Statistics Portugal's preparation of the Survey on the Conditions, Origins and Trajectories of the population residing in Portugal (ICOT);
- Follow-up of the Report of the Working Group on Indicators of Competitiveness and Productivity of the Portuguese Economy;
- Follow-up of the Report of the Working Group on Social Inequality Indicators;
- Monitoring the modernisation of the "Single Report" that is being carried out by the Strategy and Planning Office of the Ministry of Labour, Solidarity and Social Security, as a unique source of data for the production and analysis of multiple statistical dimensions to monitor the evolution of the labour market in Portugal;

- Monitoring of Simplified Business Information (IES), a source of information essential for the development of official statistics;
- Monitoring the Sustainable Development Goals of the 2030 Agenda.

B. Main goals of the Statistical Authorities for 2022

Statistics Portugal (INE) and Entities with Delegated Powers (EDC)

In 2022 Statistics Portugal will continue its strategy for the development of the National Data Infrastructure, aiming to take advantage of information already available through administrative channels and with potential usefulness to produce official statistics and for research purposes, in close coordination with the entities that hold the data.

The development of projects presented in the context of StatsLab — Statistics in Development will be continued, a space where new statistical products are presented before their final format and using new statistical processing techniques.

As regards Data Protection and Information Security, the Statistics Portugal Information Security Management System will be further developed.

Among the activities to be carried out by Statistics Portugal in 2022, the following developments in statistical production should be highlighted.

- Disclosure of the definitive data of the 2021 Census (XVI General Population Census and VI General Housing Census).
- Further development of the Resident Population Base (BPR).
- Review of the Intercensal Estimates of the Resident Population.
- Completion of the Pilot Survey on Conditions, Origins and Trajectories of the population residing in Portugal and the start of the main statistical operation.
- Release of the 2021 annual and biennial estimates of new variables of the Employment Survey.
- Dissemination of the results of the regular module of the 2021 Employment Survey on "Situation of Migrants and their descendants in the labour market".
- Implementation of the modules of the 2022 Employment Survey on "Occupational Skills" (ad hoc module) and 2022 on "Employment in Digital Platforms" (exceptional module).
- Collection of data from the Household Expenditure Survey 2022.
- Dissemination of the results of the 2021 Living Conditions and Income Survey modules on 'Children's health and material deprivation' and on 'Living conditions and situation of children living in separated or reconstituted families'.
- Carrying out the modules of the 2022 Living Conditions and Income Survey on "Health" and "Quality of Life".
- Dissemination of the results of the Survey on the Financial Situation of Families 2020 and planning of the next edition (in conjunction with Banco de Portugal).

Conselho Superior de Estatística

- Carrying out the Adult Education and Training Survey 2022, which will be collected between 2022 and 2023.
- Further improvement of the Gender dossier through the incorporation of relevant statistical information for the observation of gender inequalities.
- Dissemination of the results of the Survey of Show Venues (biennial).
- Development of health statistics, namely Hospital Statistics and Primary Health Care Statistics based on administrative data, integrated into the National Data Infrastructure.
- Dissemination of the results of the exercises of the European System of Integrated Social Protection Statistics: EESPROS 2020 (financial data and pension beneficiaries) and EESPROS 2019 (on net benefits).
- Carrying out the 2022 Public and Private Space Security Survey.
- Continuation of the implementation of the project "Territorial Cohesion and Services of General Interest" in support of the programming cycle of the 2021-2027 cohesion policy.
- Dissemination of the results of the National and Regional Accounts: definitive results for 2020 and the provisional version for 2021.
- Compilation of the Input Matrix/Output for 2020.
- Disclosure of the General Government accounts under the Excessive Deficit Procedure.
- Dissemination of the results of the regular Satellite Accounts, particularly in the areas of Tourism, Health, Environment and Agriculture.
- Dissemination of results of the Culture Satellite Account.
- Continuation of the release of flash estimates of GDP at 30 days after the reference quarter, detailed data by branch at 60 days, and data by institutional sector at 85-day period.
- Inclusion of new economic activities concerning the collection of information for the compilation of the Index of Prices in the Production of Services.
- A new edition of the Context Cost Survey is held in 2022, including in this edition additional issues related to the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on context costs affecting enterprises.
- Continuation of the release of the flash estimate of International Trade (30 days after the reference period), in response to the release of the quarterly flash estimate of GDP.
- Continuity of production and dissemination of the Survey on the Perspectives on the export of goods.
- Preparation of the Farm Structure Survey 2023.
- Dissemination of the first national statistical study aiming to quantify food waste.
- Release of a new edition of the study on "The housing stock and its renovation: analysis and evolution", as part of the 2021 Housing Census result analysis.
- Start of collection of the Survey on Road Transport of Passengers following work on the recasting of the survey.
- Carrying out and dissemination of the 2022 Survey on the Use of Information and Communication Technologies in Enterprises, with new modules: Human Resources and Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) skills; ICT security; Use of robotics; and ICT and the Environment.

Among the activities to be carried out by the Entities with Delegated Powers, the following should be highlighted:

- Further evaluation of information and procedures to produce statistics covering occupational diseases. [GEP/MTSSS]
- Dissemination of the Community Innovation Survey 2020, anticipating the main results for the 2nd quarter of 2022. [DGEEC/Med | MCTES]
- Development and implementation of the Education and Science Statistics Portal. [DGEEC/Med | MCTES]
- Making available the statistical portraits "75 years of Education Statistics in Portugal" and "25 Years of Science Statistics in Portugal". [DGEEC/Med | MCTES]
- Further strengthening the analysis of administrative data sources concerning Justice and promoting their use for statistical purposes benefiting from the new data collection methods. [DGPJ/MJ]
- Optimisation of usability and graphic design of the new system of online consultation of Justice statistics, an objective integrated into the design of the project to build a new platform for justice statistics, within the framework of the Recovery and Resilience Plan. [DGPJ/MJ]
- Further strengthening the quality of official statistics and increasing the efficiency of the statistical production process of the fisheries and aquaculture sector through methodological, scientific, and technological development. [DGRM/MM]
- Continued identification of indicators and needs for the collection of periodic information for the monitoring of the National Integrated Energy and Climate Plan (PNEC 2021-2030), following EUROSTAT guidelines, to enable the European Commission to verify compliance with the objectives associated with the *European Green Deal*. [DGEG/MAAC]

External cooperation

- Active participation in European structures, namely those belonging to the European Statistical System, in particular its committee. Focus on carrying out the 3rd Peer Review round concerning Statistics Portugal and Entities with Delegation of Competences in the framework of the implementation of the Code of Practice for European Statistics.
- Active participation in the work of Eurostat's ESSnets and Task Forces in various areas.
- Participation in *the European Statistical Forum*, which brings together the European Statistical System and the European System of Central Banks.
- Monitoring of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including monitoring indicators.
- Participation in international fora on statistics representing Portugal, namely in the Statistical Commission of the United Nations, the Conference of European Statistics of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, and the Statistical Committee of the OECD.
- Cooperation in the development of statistical systems of other countries, in particular Portuguese-speaking countries, both bilaterally and within the framework of the CPLP, respecting commitments made.

Banco de Portugal (BdP)

The Statistical Activity Program of Banco de Portugal for 2022 consists of three central objectives contributing to addressing its strategic objectives for 2021-25 in what concerns its statistical function:

1. Produce quality statistics, based on the efficient use of the various sources of information, the application of strong methodologies and compliance with the most demanding international standards;
2. Ensure the quality of the statistics department's databases by exploring and implementing innovative, efficient, homogeneous, and secure IT methodologies and solutions;
3. Provide a service of excellence to information users through the integration and internal sharing of information and the promotion of knowledge about the Portuguese economy to society at large.

To achieve these objectives, **the BdP sets out five main lines of action for 2022:**

- Ensure the quality of the statistics produced by using and rationalising the best sources of information, developing, and implementing more robust methodologies and enhancing the scope of coverage of the various statistical products;
- Comply with the new requirements on a regulatory basis, in the field of monetary and financial statistics, securities statistics and financial accounts;
- Promote the development of projects based on innovative, harmonised, and secure IT methodologies and solutions to achieve productivity and efficiency gains and minimise operational risks;
- Promote integrated information management by integrating new statistical domains into the BdP's *data warehouse* to broaden the scope for sharing and internal use of statistical information produced by the BdP;
- Provide quality service to society by improving the communication model with reporting entities and by modernising the statistical communication strategy aimed at providing a timely and effective response to the needs of the various target audiences.

Regional Statistical Office of the Azores (SREA)

The 2022 SREA Work Programme is based on three assumptions:

- Production of official statistics of exclusive regional interest;
- To act as a delegation of Statistics Portugal, concerning official national statistical production, in which Região Autónoma dos Açores is included;
- Improvement of official statistical production and improvement of its dissemination to the Azorean society and its users.

At the level of the activities carried out, in the qualities described above, the main ones should be:

- The collection and validation of information from regional respondents, including assistance in completing surveys;
- To act as an interlocutor with regional bodies in the context of national projects;
- The estimation of non-financial accounts and regional government debt under the Excessive Deficit Procedure;
- The dissemination of official statistical information;
- The promotion of statistical literacy among the public, and in particular the educational community.

In 2022, the development of studies to produce new regional statistics were considered, including:

- Agricultural product price index (first sale);
- Agricultural input price index;
- Study of the feasibility of a Trade and Services Situation Indicator for the Açores;
- Study on the Azorean population benefiting from social support;
- Study on the aerospace sector in the Açores.

Regional Directorate of Statistics of Madeira (DREM)

The planning of the Regional Directorate of Statistics of Madeira (DREM) for 2022 is based on the following strategic objectives:

1. Enhancing the quality of official statistics;
2. Meet, with accuracy and opportunity, the statistical information needs of the Society at large;
3. Contribute to the optimisation of the operation of the National Statistical System.

The strategic objectives will be put into **operational objectives**, as follows:

- Consolidate the supply of official statistical information;
- Ensure the implementation of larger sample operations;
- Promote statistical literacy within the school community and society at large;
- Produce official statistical information available on time;
- Achieve high response rates to surveys, ensuring the quality of the information to be disclosed;
- Strengthen the ownership and use of administrative data for statistical purposes;
- Enhancing human resources in matters of remuneration and training;
- Ensure a high degree of user satisfaction by providing quality statistical information;
- Develop new dissemination functionalities that make it easier for users to apprehend the statistics disseminated.

Concerning the 2022 DREM Work Program, the following activities should be highlighted:

Concerning the production and dissemination of statistics

- Expand the supply of official statistical information, which is essential for a well-founded knowledge of the economic, financial, social, and environmental realities of the region and appropriate decision-making, both at public and private level;
- Continue to participate actively in the national projects carried out under the NSS, strengthening the mechanisms for monitoring, and validating the information collected, to ensure high response rates and data quality;
- Ensure the dissemination of official statistics, produced directly or indirectly under their responsibility, following the Dissemination Calendar announced on the DREM portal;

- Improve communication and statistical dissemination channels by investing in the production of short-lived videos and infographics, making the presence on social media even more attractive;
- Continue to hold statistical dissemination sessions with the Schools of the Region to raise awareness among the younger population of the importance of statistics and combat illiteracy in this field.

In terms of cooperation

- Maintain and, where possible, increase regional cooperation with some of the regional public administration bodies with information that can be converted into statistical data;
- In the framework of territorial cooperation, DREM will implement together with its counterparts from the Açores and Canary Islands the MEDECOAZUL-MAC project (on the blue economy) under the MAC Territorial Cooperation Programme 2014-2020, which is expected to end in 2023.

C. Resources

Under the terms of the NSS Law, the financial burden for the functioning of the Council is supported by Statistics Portugal's Budget.

The Statistical Authorities, for the development of the actions included in their Work programmes, will rely on the financial means provided for in their annual budgets and on the human and material resources available for this purpose.

Financial resources

The financial resources foreseen for the functioning of the Council and the SAs' statistical activity in 2022 are the following:

- The estimated running costs of the **Statistical Council** for 2022 are EUR 274,612 (supported by Statistics Portugal budget).
- Concerning **Statistics Portugal**, the implementation of its Work program will involve a total budgeted cost of EUR 34,304 million.
- The **entities with delegated powers by Statistics Portugal** plan to allocate EUR 4,405 million to statistical activities.
- The **Regional Statistical Office of the Azores** foresees a budget of EUR 1.85 million.
- The **Regional Directorate for Statistics of Madeira** foresees a budget of EUR 1.6 million.

Human resources

The following human resources are expected to be allocated activities of the NSS in 2022:

- The **Council Secretariat consists of 6 persons**, to support the activities of the Council, involving a total of about 250 participants (members of the Council, permanent representatives in Sections and representatives and other participants in Working Groups).

- The **Statistical Authorities**, for the development of the statistical activities planned for 2022, plan to involve **984 staff members**, distributed as follows:
 - Statistics Portugal — **687**¹
 - Entities with powers delegated — **107**
 - Banco de Portugal — **87**
 - Regional Statistical Office of the Azores — **53**²
 - Regional Directorate of Statistics of Madeira — **50**³

¹ Senior statistical experts, technical assistants, and operational assistants, according to the 2022 staff map. This includes the resources allocated to the activity of the Council.

² It doesn't include interviewers.

³ It doesn't include interviewers.