



**IMPROVEMENT ACTIONS**  
**GREECE**



HELLENIC REPUBLIC  
HELLENIC STATISTICAL AUTHORITY

**PEER REVIEWERS' RECOMMENDATIONS AND  
IMPROVEMENT ACTIONS  
OF THE HELLENIC STATISTICAL SYSTEM (ELSS)  
IN RESPONSE TO THE RECOMMENDATIONS**

<p><b>1. Recommendation</b></p> <p>ELSTAT should strengthen the Hellenic Statistical System by taking the necessary initiatives to ensure that all the Other National Authorities comply with the ES CoP in a sustainable manner. (Compliance-relevant: ES CoP, Indicators 1bis.1 and 1bis.2)</p>
<p><b>Current situation:</b></p> <p>The Hellenic Statistical Authority (ELSTAT) has a very comprehensive legal basis to coordinate the Hellenic Statistical System (ELSS) and to provide advice and guidance to all other national statistical agencies, including the Other National Authorities (ONAs) developing, producing and disseminating European statistics. In particular, the ONAs are required by law to implement the ES CoP. The Regulation on the Operation and Administration of ELSTAT establishes the framework for the coordination and collaboration. ELSTAT has the competence to certify statistics, which have been produced by the other national statistical agencies, including the ONAs, as 'official'. This is implemented through a specific process featuring several stages on evaluating the compliance of the ONAs with the ES CoP.</p> <p>However, notwithstanding ELSTAT's efforts to repeatedly reach out to the Other National Authorities and the possibility of building on an existing certification system for the statistical products of the Other National Authorities, in practice progress regarding the certification of the statistics they produce remains slow. Accordingly, coordination of the Hellenic Statistical System remains fragmented and approaches across the Other National Authorities differ significantly.</p>
<p><b>Improvement sub-action 1.1:</b></p> <p>Preparation of a workshop on the contribution of the Statistical Heads to the implementation of the CoP by the ONAs — good practices, challenges and the way forward. The workshop will also be used to collect the suggestions of the Statistical Heads for implementing their tasks. In this context, a questionnaire will be drawn up and filled in prior to the workshop, addressing the obstacles encountered by the Statistical Heads of the ONAs in implementing the CoP in their daily work.</p>
<p><b>Deadline:</b> Q1 2024</p>
<p><b>Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 1.1:</b> ELSTAT</p>
<p><b>Improvement sub-action 1.2:</b></p> <p>Organization of the workshop, on ELSTAT's premises, on the contribution of the Statistical Heads to the implementation of the CoP by the ONAs.</p>
<p><b>Deadline:</b> Q2 2024</p>
<p><b>Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 1.2:</b> ELSTAT, ONAs</p>
<p><b>Improvement sub-action 1.3:</b></p> <p>Drafting of a report containing proposals for the development of a flexible process regarding the compliance of the ONAs with the CoP in a sustainable manner, based on the answers to the questionnaires, the results of the workshop, and ELSTAT's experience.</p>
<p><b>Deadline:</b> Q4 2024</p>
<p><b>Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 1.3:</b> ELSTAT</p>
<p><b>Improvement sub-action 1.4:</b></p>

Preparation of a seminar on the ESS CoP and the ESS Quality Assurance Framework for the Statistical Heads and the staff of ONAs involved in statistical production.
<b>Deadline:</b> Q2 2024
<b>Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 1.4:</b> ELSTAT
<b>Improvement sub-action 1.5:</b> Establishment on a continuous basis (once a year) of a seminar on the ESS CoP, the ESS QAF, and on specific issues regarding their implementation.
<b>Deadline:</b> Start Q3 2024, then continuous
<b>Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 1.5:</b> ELSTAT, ONAs
<b>Improvement sub-action 1.6:</b> Compilation of an accounting report of the above actions that will reflect their contribution to improving the compliance of the ONAs with the ES CoP.
<b>Deadline:</b> Q2 2027
<b>Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 1.6:</b> ELSTAT

## 2. Recommendation

ELSTAT and the Other National Authorities reviewed (the Ministry of Rural Development and Food, the Ministry of Environment and Energy, the National Documentation Centre) should further enhance their cooperation, and the Greek government should enable this, by establishing systematic exchanges and training on their respective statistical production, methods and quality standards, and support the development of competences and skills in statistics. (Improvement-related: ES CoP, Indicators 1bis.1 and 7.6)

### Current situation:

The Greek Statistical Law and the Regulation on the Operation and Administration of the Hellenic Statistical Authority give ELSTAT the opportunity to provide guidance and training in institutional and statistical matters to the ONAs. The development of a statistical culture, joint dedicated training courses, and opportunities for staff exchanges within the Hellenic Statistical System could help to preserve and develop further skills and reinforce the cohesion of the system. Although the staff regulations of the Greek public administration do not envisage exchanges between ministries and independent authorities, ELSTAT will take initiatives to overcome such impediments.

### Improvement sub-action 2.1:

Compilation of a draft Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) between ELSTAT and each one of the 3 ONAs, providing for the exchange and training of staff involved in statistical work.

**Deadline:** Q3 2024

**Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 2.1:** ELSTAT

### Improvement sub-action 2.2:

Consultation with the ONAs on the MoC draft and endorsement of it.

<b>Deadline:</b> Q2 2025
<b>Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 2.2:</b> ELSTAT and the reviewed ONAs
<b>Improvement sub-action 2.3:</b> Start of implementation of the MoC
<b>Deadline:</b> Q3 2025
<b>Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 2.3:</b> ELSTAT and the reviewed ONAs
<b>Improvement sub-action 2.4:</b> Compilation of an accounting report on the results from the implementation of the MoC.
<b>Deadline:</b> Q3 2027
<b>Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 2.4:</b> ELSTAT

<b>3. Recommendation</b>
The relevant authorities should strengthen the emphasis on statistical qualifications in the selection process for the statistical heads of the Other National Authorities (Compliance-relevant: ES CoP, Indicators 1.8 and 1.2)
<b>Current situation:</b>  The ONAs have nominated their statistical head according to ELSTAT's recommendations, taking into consideration the relevant provisions of Principle 1 of the ES CoP, however harmonized appointment criteria are needed to put emphasis on general experience and qualifications. Some ONAs have statistical heads with high hierarchical standing but limited knowledge and involvement in statistical processes. In practice, such ONAs show weaker results in implementing the national quality guidelines and with regard to adherence to the ES CoP.
<b>Improvement sub-action 3.1:</b>  Drafting a notification letter addressed to the ONAs recommending the qualifications for appointment or recruitment and the job outline of a Statistical Head, as provided for in the ES CoP, in order for these criteria to be included in future revisions of organizations or relevant laws of ONAs.
<b>Deadline:</b> Q3 2024
<b>Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 3.1:</b> ELSTAT
<b>Improvement sub-action 3.2:</b>  The administratively competent government authorities supervising the ONAs and being responsible for selecting the Statistical Heads of ONAs notify ELSTAT about their planned actions on streamlining selection criteria for the Statistical Head of the ONAs according to the recommendations provided by ELSTAT.
<b>Deadline:</b> Q4 2024
<b>Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 3.2:</b> Authorities supervising ONAs
<b>Improvement sub-action 3.3:</b>

Transmission to ELSTAT by the authorities supervising ONAs of a report on the implementation of their actions on streamlining selection criteria for a Statistical Head.

**Deadline:** Q4 2027

**Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 3.3:** Authorities supervising ONAs

#### **4. Recommendation**

The Other National Authorities reviewed (the Ministry of Environment and Energy, the Ministry of Rural Development and Food) should adhere to the ES CoP, particularly with regard to transparency to users, accessibility of statistics, quality requirements and reporting, the release calendar and user consultations. They should draw support from ELSTAT if necessary. (Compliance-relevant: ES CoP, Indicators 15.1, 11.1, 4.3, 13.1 and 15.2)

#### **Current situation:**

The two reviewed ONAs focus on fulfilling the respective European regulatory requirements, however they need to make more efforts in terms of serving the user perspective. A regular dissemination frequency is lacking, and it is difficult for users to find the statistics on the two ONAs' websites. A thorough revision of both these ONAs' dissemination services on the internet would be necessary to find their data, metadata and the appropriate quality information for users.

#### **Improvement sub-action 4.1:**

Organization of meetings with each one of the two ONAs on the structure and content of their dedicated section on statistics on their website, in order to be informed about relevant good practices in the ESS.

**Deadline:** Q2 2024

**Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 4.1:** ELSTAT and the Ministry of Environment and Energy and the Ministry of Rural Development and Food

#### **Improvement sub-action 4.2:**

Redesign of the dedicated section on statistics on the website of the Ministry of Rural Development and Food (MoA) focusing particularly on improving the accessibility of statistical information and the operation of the redesigned section.

**Deadline:** Q1 2025

**Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 4.2:** Ministry of Rural Development and Food

#### **Improvement sub-action 4.3:**

Upgrading of the structure and content of the dedicated section on statistics on the website of the Ministry of Environment and Energy and operation of the upgraded section.

**Deadline:** Q1 2025

**Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 4.3:** Ministry of Environment and Energy

## 5. Recommendation

The relevant authorities should ensure that appropriate mechanisms are in place, supplementary to the respective legal measure, to guarantee that ELSTAT is consulted well before any developments or reviews of administrative data sources, so that the needs of official statistics are taken into account. (Compliance-relevant: ES CoP, Indicator 2.2)

### Current situation:

ELSTAT's involvement in the design and development of administrative records is provided for by the Greek Statistical Law. However, in practice ELSTAT has repeatedly observed cases in which ministries and other public agencies have changed their relevant legislation without consulting ELSTAT. This may make it difficult or even impossible to sustain statistics based on administrative data.

### Improvement sub-action 5.1:

Organization of workshops with the participation of providers of administrative data used in the production of official statistics, with the aim of informing them about the importance of their data for the production of official statistics and their obligation provided for in Article 11(7) of the Greek Statistical Law to inform and consult ELSTAT on any legal provisions regarding the creation of new or the restructuring of administrative data sources and public registers or files, which are maintained in printed form, or by means of electronic, magnetic or other, so as to ensure the capacity to utilize the relevant data for statistical purposes.

**Deadline:** Start Q4 2024, then continuous

**Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 5.1:** ELSTAT and relevant authorities (ministries and other public agencies providing administrative data)

### Improvement sub-action 5.2:

Designing, in collaboration with the data providers, a mechanism/procedure, in order to ensure that ELSTAT is informed and consulted on any legal provisions regarding the creation of new or the restructuring of administrative data sources and public registers or files.

**Deadline:** Q3 2025

**Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 5.2:** ELSTAT and relevant authorities (ministries and other public agencies providing administrative data).

### Improvement sub-action 5.3:

Start of implementation of the mechanism/procedure.

**Deadline:** Q4 2025

**Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 5.3:** ELSTAT and relevant authorities (ministries and other public agencies providing administrative data)

## 6. Recommendation

The relevant authorities should put the interoperability of its administrative data sources into general practice and make them fit for statistical purposes in order to mainstream data linking possibilities across the country and enhance their value for official statistics. (Improvement-related: ES CoP, Indicators 9.5 and 8.7)

### Current situation:

An initiative has been undertaken by the Greek government to link several administrative registers and make the results available throughout the Greek public administration. This initiative could offer many opportunities for official statistics, provided that access is granted for an increasingly wide range of administrative data and that the linked data are fit for statistical purposes.

### Improvement sub-action 6.1:

Establishment of a Working Group with the participation of competent employees from ELSTAT and the Ministry of Digital Governance aiming at drafting a Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) between the two agencies regarding the enhancement/ extension of the interoperability of administrative databases.

**Deadline:** Q4 2024

**Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 6.1:** ELSTAT and Ministry of Digital Governance

**Improvement sub-action 6.2:** Signing of the MoC.

**Deadline:** Q1 2025

**Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 6.2:** ELSTAT and Ministry of Digital Governance

**Improvement sub-action 6.3:** Start of the implementation of the MoC.

**Deadline:** Q2 2025

**Responsible institution for the improvement sub-action 6.3:** ELSTAT and Ministry of Digital Governance

### Improvement sub-action 6.4:

Compilation of an accounting report on the implementation of the MoC.

**Deadline:** Q4 2027

**Responsible institution for the improvement sub-action 6.4:** ELSTAT

## 7. Recommendation

ELSTAT should implement the envisaged modernization of its IT environment as a priority, as this is essential for innovation, efficiency and modernization. (Improvement-related: Indicators 10.2 and 3.1)

### Current situation:

Certain elements of ELSTAT's IT environment are becoming outdated and insufficient to tackle the challenges ahead. ELSTAT has the ambition to modernize its IT environment and make it fit for the future.



This is essential to enable ELSTAT to continue its modernization path and to also integrate innovative data sources.
<b>Improvement sub-action 7.1:</b> Publication of the Public Procurement and selection of contractor for replacing and upgrading the core IT infrastructure, including backbone network infrastructure, main servers, storage devices, network equipment and security software and hardware.
<b>Deadline:</b> Q4 2023
<b>Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 7.1:</b> ELSTAT
<b>Improvement sub-action 7.2:</b> Signing of the contract.
<b>Deadline:</b> Q3 2024
<b>Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 7.2:</b> ELSTAT
<b>Improvement sub-action 7.3:</b> New infrastructure in place.
<b>Deadline:</b> Q1 2025
<b>Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 7.3:</b> ELSTAT

<b>8. Recommendation</b>  ELSTAT and the Other National Authorities reviewed (the Ministry of Rural Development and Food, the Ministry of Environment and Energy, the National Documentation Centre) should systematically increase the exposure of their staff to targeted training and scientific exchanges at national and international level. (Improvement-related: ES CoP, Indicators 7.6 and 7.7)
<b>Current situation:</b>  The staff of ELSTAT participate in ESTP courses as well as in working groups at the ESS level, however the staff workload may be an obstacle to further training and scientific exchanges at the national and international levels. ELSTAT will put more effort into supporting knowledge transfer for staff skills and motivation.
<b>Improvement sub-action 8.1:</b> Development of a dedicated questionnaire for the identification of training needs of the reviewed ONAs and inclusion of dedicated courses for ONAs in the Annual Training Programme of ELSTAT.
<b>Deadline:</b> Q1 2024
<b>Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 8.1:</b> ELSTAT and the reviewed ONAs
<b>Improvement sub-action 8.2:</b> Organization of dedicated training courses for the reviewed ONAs' staff in the premises of ELSTAT and of the reviewed ONAs, where appropriate.

<b>Deadline:</b> Start Q3 of 2024, then continuous
<b>Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 8.2:</b> ELSTAT and the reviewed ONAs
<b>Improvement sub-action 8.3:</b> Creation of a statistical training material repository on ELSTAT's portal.
<b>Deadline:</b> Q4 2024
<b>Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 8.3:</b> ELSTAT

<b>9. Recommendation</b>
ELSTAT should develop a long-term human resources strategy to guarantee that allocated human resources are available and sufficient in terms of qualification and skills, including a contingency plan for possible setbacks. (Improvement-related: ES CoP, Indicator 3.1)
<b>Current situation:</b>  Notwithstanding the recent breakthrough that ELSTAT has experienced in terms of its ability to hire new human resources, it is facing serious challenges in the long term with a large part of its staff approaching retirement age. Since progress in this field can be expected to be rather slow, hampered by the comparatively low salary levels in the public administration and the burdensome hiring procedure involving the Supreme Council for Civil Personnel Selection, a long-term strategy should be envisaged.
<b>Improvement sub-action 9.1:</b> Mapping of the required skills and training needs of the staff to meet ELSTAT's future needs and obligations.
<b>Deadline:</b> Q3 2024
<b>Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 9.1:</b> ELSTAT
<b>Improvement sub-action 9.2:</b> Establishment of a Working Group with the participation of competent employees of ELSTAT, aiming at elaborating a 5-year human resources development strategy based on the above input.
<b>Deadline:</b> Q3 2024
<b>Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 9.2:</b> ELSTAT
<b>Improvement sub-action 9.3:</b> Elaboration and approval of a 5-year human resources development strategy based on the above input.
<b>Deadline:</b> Q4 2025
<b>Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 9.3:</b> ELSTAT

**10. Recommendation**

The relevant authorities should take appropriate measures to ensure that the human resources granted to ELSTAT are made available in time and under more flexible conditions to ensure their availability and adequacy in terms of qualifications and skills. (Improvement-related: ES CoP, Indicator 3.1)

**Current situation:**

ELSTAT's ability to attract new recruits with an adequate skill set can be considered crucial for its ability to invest in modernization and the take-up of innovative practices, notably with regard to new tools and technologies.

Given the vacant posts and the special expertise required, ELSTAT would benefit from a higher degree of flexibility, spurred by a strategic, far-looking approach, including a competitive salary level and modern working conditions.

**Improvement sub-action 10.1:**

Drafting a letter addressed to the relevant authorities (Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Finance) presenting the need and the justification elements for regulating a more timely and flexible hiring and rewarding scheme for the staff of ELSTAT.

**Deadline:** Q3 2024

**Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 10.1:** ELSTAT

**Improvement sub-action 10.2:**

Arrangement of regulatory procedures for introducing a more timely and flexible hiring and rewarding scheme for the staff of ELSTAT.

**Deadline:** Q1 2025

**Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 10.2:** Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Finance and ELSTAT

**Improvement sub-action 10.3:**

Implementation of the arrangement.

**Deadline:** Q2 2025

**Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 10.3:** Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Finance and ELSTAT

**11. Recommendation**

ELSTAT should consider shifting its organization away from separate production lines towards a more integrated system, emphasising shared standardised programmes, procedures, solutions and tools. This may include a leaner and more transparent organization. (Improvement-related: ES CoP, Indicator 10.4)

**Current situation:**

<p>ELSTAT's organization, with its 13 Divisions divided into Sections, seems to combine a matrix with a functional approach. Geared towards the process flow in the Generic Statistical Business Process Model, the aim is to improve consistency by bringing together and aligning all processes belonging to a statistical product in one unit. However, such a complex organization, which still bears the mark of a stovepipe legacy system, can be considered sub-optimal for efficiency and effectiveness.</p>
<p><b>Improvement sub-action 11.1:</b></p> <p>Creation of a Working Group, with the mandate to record the weaknesses of the ELSTAT Organization that have been identified since its entry into force and to submit, to ELSTAT's hierarchy, proposals for changes to the Organization in order to address these weaknesses.</p>
<p><b>Deadline:</b> Q1 2024</p>
<p><b>Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 11.1:</b> ELSTAT</p>
<p><b>Improvement sub-action 11.2:</b></p> <p>Submission of the proposals to ELSTAT's hierarchy.</p>
<p><b>Deadline:</b> Q4 2024</p>
<p><b>Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 11.2:</b> ELSTAT</p>
<p><b>Improvement sub-action 11.3:</b></p> <p>Submission of the updated Organization of ELSTAT to the competent governmental agencies for approval.</p>
<p><b>Deadline:</b> Q1 2025</p>
<p><b>Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 11.3:</b> ELSTAT</p>
<p><b>Improvement sub-action 11.4:</b></p> <p>Signing/approval of the updated Organization of ELSTAT by the competent governmental agencies.</p>
<p><b>Deadline:</b> Q3 2025</p>
<p><b>Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 11.4:</b> Ministry of Interior and Ministry of Finance</p>

## 12. Recommendation

ELSTAT should strengthen its quality monitoring procedures by extending the systematic assessment of process and output quality across all statistical operations and systematically engaging middle and senior management in addressing the outcomes. (Improvement-related: ES CoP, Indicators 4.2 and 4.3)

### Current situation:

ELSTAT's approach to quality assurance has matured, with process and output quality being assessed for key, mainly survey-based statistics and reported to Eurostat according to the Single Integrated Metadata Structure. Parameters of survey processes, mainly on punctuality, are being regularly monitored and the assessment of survey accuracy benefits from central methodological guidance. The quality management system is geared towards identifying quality-related problems but does not allow for higher-level monitoring and intervention during the processes or collecting evidence on a systematic basis for managerial decisions. The quality assurance system currently in place allows for a proper overview at

operational level. It should, however, allow for a more systematic involvement of management and be generalized across the whole organization, covering all statistical processes and outputs.
<b>Improvement sub-action 12.1:</b> Setting up of a Working Group for the design of an updated system for monitoring and managing the quality of ELSTAT's statistical work, which will include the role and responsibilities of involved actors at the various levels of hierarchy, as well as the means and tools to be used.
<b>Deadline:</b> Q4 2024
<b>Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 12.1:</b> ELSTAT
<b>Improvement sub-action 12.2:</b> Approval and launching of the new quality system.
<b>Deadline:</b> Q4 2025
<b>Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 12.2:</b> ELSTAT
<b>Improvement sub-action 12.3:</b> Compilation of an evaluation report on the new quality system.
<b>Deadline:</b> Q4 2026
<b>Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 12.3:</b> ELSTAT

<b>13. Recommendation</b>  ELSTAT should develop a comprehensive long-term dissemination and communication strategy and a multi-annual action plan for modernizing its dissemination channels, in order to meet user needs and keep up with European practice. This could include a user-friendly interactive database and a wide range of open data. (Improvement-related: ES CoP, Indicators 15.2 and 11.1)
<b>Current situation:</b>  In recent years, ELSTAT has invested in improving its communication channels, upgraded its website, and developed in-house attractive infographics. However, user needs are continually increasing and require accelerated modernization. ELSTAT's website is more user-friendly oriented and is enriched with more open datasets in a systematic way. However, technological progress in this field is increasingly fast and requires a long-term strategy and a quick action response.
<b>Improvement sub-action 13.1:</b> Drafting of a 5-year action plan on the communication and the dissemination priorities of ELSTAT aiming at modernizing the dissemination channels and meeting user needs, by a Working Group that will be set up for this purpose.
<b>Deadline:</b> Q1 2025
<b>Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 13.1:</b> ELSTAT
<b>Improvement sub-action 13.2:</b>

Uploading on ELSTAT's website of standardized Scientific Use Files (SUFs), to which researchers could have access, free of charge, under certain conditions.
<b>Deadline:</b> Q4 2024
<b>Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 13.2:</b> ELSTAT
<b>Improvement sub-action 13.3:</b> Upgrading of ELSTAT's portal by using modern technologies allowing users to have access to granular statistical data in an interactive way, while ensuring the observance of statistical confidentiality, and the creation of a special section that will provide access to an online dissemination database, equipped with tools for ad hoc user queries, as well as with new visualization options.
<b>Deadline:</b> Q1 2025
<b>Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 13.3:</b> ELSTAT
<b>Improvement sub-action 13.4:</b> Compilation of an interim report on the implementation of the 5-year action plan
<b>Deadline:</b> Q2 2027
<b>Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 13.4:</b> ELSTAT

#### **14. Recommendation**

ELSTAT should ensure that the microdata available within the Hellenic Statistical System can be accessed, i.a. via secure environments. (Improvement-related: ES CoP, Indicator 15.4)

##### **Current situation:**

Researchers from academia and private institutes are important users of microdata and often need them in an identifiable form. According to Article 8(5) of the Greek Statistical Law, the members of the Hellenic Statistical System are allowed to provide researchers conducting statistical analysis for scientific purposes with access to data allowing the indirect identification of statistical units. In practice, however, ELSTAT is not yet fully equipped with the IT tools and technical methods needed to give wider access to such data. Solutions are limited to European obligations and require researchers to define very precise query parameters in advance, while good practices concerning safe environments with more interactive and flexible access to microdata are available throughout the European Statistical System.

##### **Improvement sub-action 14.1:**

Preparatory work for the creation of a safe center in ELSTAT's premises (collaboration with experts for the creation of the center, determining the center's human resources and equipment requirements, estimation of the relative costs, recording the required actions, and drawing up a schedule for pilot operation of the center).

**Deadline:** Q4 2025

**Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 14.1:** ELSTAT

##### **Improvement sub-action 14.2:**

Launching of the safe center.

**Deadline:** Q2 2026

**Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 14.2:** ELSTAT

### **15. Recommendation**

ELSTAT and the Other National Authorities reviewed (Ministry of Rural Development and Food, Ministry of Environment and Energy, National Documentation Centre) should enhance their quality reports for users, produced according to the Single Integrated Metadata Structure. These could include a more detailed assessment of product quality. (Improvement-related: ES CoP, Indicator 15.7)

#### **Current situation:**

ELSTAT has compiled quality reports in accordance with the Single Integrated Metadata Structure and uploaded them on its website, however some of them need to be more detailed in order to be user-friendly digests of the reports sent to Eurostat. In addition, ONAs need to make more efforts to compile more detailed user-oriented reports in SIMS format. The National Documentation Centre has already uploaded detailed SIMS-based reports on its website.

#### **Improvement sub-action 15.1:**

Updating, where necessary, the SIMS-based quality reports on ELSTAT's website to ensure that they are as consistent and detailed enough as the ones sent to Eurostat.

**Deadline:** Q2 2024

**Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 15.1:** ELSTAT

#### **Improvement sub-action 15.2:**

Provision of guidelines to the reviewed ONAs on the compilation of the Quality Reports in the SIMS format.

**Deadline:** Q2 2024

**Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 15.2:** ELSTAT

#### **Improvement sub-action 15.3:**

Organization of a training course on ELSTAT's premises on the content of comprehensive quality reports, in SIMS format, addressed to users, with the participation of employees of ELSTAT and the 3 reviewed ONAs.

**Deadline:** Q4 2023

**Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 15.3:** ELSTAT and the reviewed ONAs

#### **Improvement sub-action 15.4:**

Compilation of Quality Reports of the Ministry of Environment and Energy, in SIMS format, with priority to European statistics and uploading on its website.

**Deadline:** Q4 2024

**Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 15.4:** Ministry of Environment and Energy

#### **Improvement sub-action 15.5:**

Compilation of Quality Reports of the Ministry of Rural Development and Food, in SIMS format, with priority to European statistics and uploading on its website.

<b>Deadline:</b> Q4 2024
<b>Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 15.5:</b> Ministry of Rural Development and Food
<b>Improvement sub-action 15.6:</b> Updating, where necessary, the SIMS-based quality reports in the National Documentation Centre website to ensure that they are consistent and detailed enough as the ones sent to Eurostat.
<b>Deadline:</b> Q2 2024
<b>Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 15.6:</b> National Documentation Centre

<b>16. Recommendation</b>
ELSTAT should continue to invest in the development and dissemination of ‘experimental’ statistics to accelerate the delivery of innovative statistical information. (Improvement-related: ES CoP, Indicator 11.1)
<b>Current situation:</b>
ELSTAT has developed a series of ‘experimental’ statistics, due to a larger availability of administrative data. These were very favourably received by users. There seems to be wide scope for such experiments and some of these could acquire the status and meet the quality requirements of official statistics.
<b>Improvement sub-action 16.1:</b>
Consultation with users, in the context of SYEPELSS meetings and User Conferences, with the aim of drawing up a list of experimental statistics to be developed by ELSTAT
<b>Deadline:</b> Q2 2024
<b>Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 16.1:</b> ELSTAT
<b>Improvement sub-action 16.2:</b>
Internal consultation within ELSTAT on the available administrative and other primary data that could be used in the development of new experimental statistics by ELSTAT, and a compilation of a list of these data.
<b>Deadline:</b> Q3 2024
<b>Responsible institution for the improvement sub-action 16.2:</b> ELSTAT
<b>Improvement sub-action 16.3:</b>
Compilation of a list of priorities regarding potential experimental statistics to be developed by ELSTAT, on the basis of the above input.
<b>Deadline:</b> Q4 2024
<b>Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 16.3:</b> ELSTAT
<b>Improvement sub-action 16.4:</b>
Setting up of a Working Group within ELSTAT, with the main task of the submission of proposals for the development of experimental statistics on an annual basis.
<b>Deadline:</b> Start Q1 of 2025, then continuous
<b>Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 16.4:</b> ELSTAT



<p><b>17. Recommendation</b></p> <p>The Chair of the Advisory Committee of the Hellenic Statistical System, in consultation with ELSTAT, should review the practical functioning of the Committee. (Improvement-related: ES CoP, Indicator 11.1)</p>
<p><b>Current situation:</b></p> <p>The practical functioning of the Advisory Committee of the Hellenic Statistical System representing users is rather narrow; it consists mainly of providing an advisory opinion to ELSTAT for the preparation of the Hellenic Statistical Program and ELSTAT's Annual Statistical Work Program. This committee could also give advice on a more long-term strategy but, to do so, its functioning in practice needs to be revised, e.g., by increasing the frequency of its meetings and/or organizing seminars or conferences on strategic topics.</p>
<p><b>Improvement sub-action 17.1:</b></p> <p>Consultation between ELSTAT and SYEPELSS on possible ways to improve the efficiency of the Committee's functioning.</p>
<p><b>Deadline:</b> Q2 2024</p>
<p><b>Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 17.1:</b> ELSTAT and SYEPELSS</p>
<p><b>Improvement sub-action 17.2:</b></p> <p>Compilation of the Regulation of Internal Organization and Operation of SYEPELSS aiming at improving the efficiency of the Committee's functioning.</p>
<p><b>Deadline:</b> Q3 2024</p>
<p><b>Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 17.2:</b> SYEPELSS</p>
<p><b>Improvement sub-action 17.3:</b></p> <p>Preparation at the end of each year of an annual work programme for SYEPELSS, which will include the topics to be discussed in its meetings for the next year and the planned time of the relevant meetings.</p>
<p><b>Deadline:</b> Start Q4 2023, then annually</p>
<p><b>Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 17.3:</b> SYEPELSS and ELSTAT</p>