



The experiences of Turkey in the 2nd Round Peer Reviews

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What is Peer Review?



Part of the European Statistical System (ESS) strategy to implement the **Code of Practice**.

In order to:

- further enhance the credibility of the ESS
- strengthen and guarantee its capacity to produce European statistics
- improve the quality of European statistics

Peer Review - 1st round

- Carried out in 2006 2008.
- Covers all the EU MSs and the EFTA MSs; Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland.
- Addressed the institutional environment and dissemination practices covered by principles 1 to 6 and 15 of the CoP and the coordination function of each statistical authority within its statistical system.
- Results in a report per country published on the Eurostat website.



TurkStat's experiences- Light Peer Review

- **Similar to ESS Peer Reviews**
- **For candidate and developed potential candidate countries**
- **Main objectives:**
 - To assess compliance of the reviewed NSI in particular with the principles 1-6 and 15 of the CoP,
 - To evaluate the coordination role of the NSI within the statistical system,
 - To highlight good practices suitable to foster compliance with the Code,
 - To recommend improvement actions needed in view of fully complying with the Code.

TurkStat's experiences- Light Peer Review

- ✓ Realised on 24-27 May 2011 in TurkStat.
- ✓ The final report regarding the improvement actions was relayed on July 29, 2011 through Eurostat to TurkStat.



Being pilot country for 2nd Round

Strategic Information Meeting, March 18, 2015:

Turkey decided to be the pilot country for the second round of peer reviews on the enlargement countries



Preparation of TurkStat for 2nd Round PR

Questionnaires:

- ✓ TurkStat filled two questionnaires:
 - "Self-assessment questionnaire (SAQ) on the implementation of the European Statistics CoP"
 - "Questionnaire on the Coordination role of the NSIs".

- ✓ **Central Bank of The Republic of Turkey (CBRT)** and **Ministry of Forestry and Water Affairs (MFWA)**, partner institutions for filling "Light SAQ on the implementation of the European Statistics CoP".

Preparation of TurkStat for 2nd Round PR

Questionnaires:

- ✓ The whole units of TurkStat worked in cooperation to complete the process concerning the questionnaires
- ✓ All responses reviewed on the individual basis and merged into a single questionnaire



- ✓ The questionnaire reviewed in several meetings with the top management and integrated into a final questionnaire.

Preparation of TurkStat for 2nd Round PR

Documentation:



- All departments were required to list all the important documents, then an inventory was created.
- References made to several documents in the majority of the questions while filling out the questionnaire

Preparation of TurkStat for 2nd Round PR

Organisational Issues:

- TurkStat PR team established under the International Relations Department and the Vice-President of TurkStat led the Team.
- A gantt chart was designed so as to follow up the Peer Review preparation process
- Activities of information, awareness raising and promotion for the process were carried out within the TurkStat
- Meetings were held with all the actors such as the stakeholders, academics, target groups, NGOs etc.

2nd Round Peer Review- Visit

- Realized on November 3-6, 2015
- Peer Review Team:
 - **Mr. Gerry O'Hanlon**, former DG of CSO Ireland
 - **Ms. Pilar Martin-Guzman**, Former Director of INE, Spain
 - **Mr. Ferenc Galik** (Eurostat)



2nd Round Peer Review- Visit

- [AGENDA REVIEW TURKEY.docx](#)
- All agenda items put in order according to the participants
- Meeting with related persons from TurkStat and representatives from stakeholders, academic communities, media, press and NGOs etc.
- TurkStat represented Presidency/Vice Presidency level in all meetings

Current situation

- Final report and Improvement Actions sent to Eurostat in May 2016
- Eurostat's comments regarding Improvement Actions were delivered to TurkStat in July 2016
- Meetings held with departments and high level meetings realised for finalising improvement actions
- Evaluation of TurkStat on Eurostat's comments were sent in August 2016

“Final report was published in Eurostat web site”

“Improvement actions was completed”

Current situation

According to the Final Report;

*Peer Review team concluded that
TurkStat is highly compliant with the CoP*



- *Compares favourably with other NSIs in this respect*
- *The two ONAs examined as part of the Review also exhibited very good levels of compliance*
- *PR team identified some issues and challenges to improve or enhance the level of compliance with the CoP....*

Conclusions/ Lessons Learned

- **Big opportunity** to see strong aspects of the system and good practices, and areas need to be developed
 - Importance of an external eye
- **Important base** for establishing re-organisation and modernisation projects
- The **support provided by the senior management** an indispensable factor for a successful peer review action

Conclusions/ Lessons Learned

- Experiencing the same methods like the ESS countries:
An important novelty for self-assessment for countries
- Improvement actions included in Official Statistics Programme, Strategic Plan and Yearly Plans of TurkStat

Thank you four your attention!!