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## Mission Report

From a short-term mission on

**Improving the Compilation System of National Accounts**

*7-18 February 2005*

**TA for the Scandinavian Support Program to Strengthen the  
Institutional Capacity of the National Statistics, Mozambique**

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## **Summary**

This mission was a follow up on the missions carried out in March-April and July 2005 by Jan Redeby and the consultant, Søren Netterstrøm. The main task of the mission was to enable the staff at INE to implement the system developed during the previous missions that allows the use of a database as a base for the Systems of National Accounts in Mozambique while still using Excel spreadsheets as the basic tool and user interface for system.

During the mission a revised version of the application was presented for the relevant staff of the National Account division and the resident adviser, mr. Jan Redeby was given intensive training in using the application in order for him to be able to train both use the application and to train the relevant staff at INE. It was clearly demonstrated, that there is no need for change in the software or the involvement of IT-specialists in order to adapt it to any set of spreadsheets sharing information and when maintaining such a system of related spreadsheets.

During the mission a number of important features for administration were added to the system and the documentation was updated accordingly.

At the end of the mission INE is ready to start implementing the software into the new version of the SNA that will be prepared in 2005.

During this mission, it became clear, that there is no immediate or short term need for support from IT department as the all usage of the application will be handled with in the National Accounts division. In the case INE at a later stage wants to add features of there own to eh software delivered programming support from the IT department may be needed.

It should be noted that the Statistics South Africa has shown interest in using the same approach and utilizing the same software and has started a pilot into this. If both INE ad Stats SA will be using the same software in actual production it is recommended to set up some cooperation in this area, that need not to be very formal.

## **Appendix 1: Terms of Reference**

**TERMS OF REFERENCE**  
**Within the Scandinavian Support Program**  
**For a short-term mission from 07/02 to 18/02/2005**  
**On**  
**Improving the Compilation System of National Accounts**

### **1. Objectives of the Mission**

There have been two short term missions dealing with the IT-system for national accounts, in March and June this year. Besides, a long term consultant started in Mid August. The mission in June developed and refined procedures for links between Excel spreadsheets and an Access database. Moreover, the mission outlined steps for the further development of the system. This work has progressed, and draft formats have been developed for a central part of the system – products and economic activities. Thus, the objectives of this mission are to

- a) To develop in detail the procedures for the linking the Excel files for products and economic activities to the Access Database developed during the previous mission; the structure of the database will have to be modified.
  
- b) to make the procedures familiar to the National Accounts staff and to the IT Department.

### **Beneficiaries of the Mission**

The mission will primarily benefit the staff at INE and especially the National Accounts Department by providing knowledge and improved software for National Accounts compilation through a new National Accounts System Database. The beneficiaries in the long run will be the users of NA through improved quality of the National Accounts.

### **2. Expected Results**

- § Excel-Access links specifically for the modules for products and economic activities based on the templates developed by the previous mission.
- § National accounts and IT staff at INE familiarized with concepts and proper use of the system.
- § Technical report describing the procedures and providing guidelines on for how to handle them.

### **3. Work to be carried out by the Consultants**

- § Meet with the national accounts director, head of department, the national accounts adviser as well as with the staff and consultant at the IT-department.
- § Further develop the procedures for Excel-Access links in cooperation with INE's staff (National Accounts and IT).
- § Make the staff familiar to the model specially on concepts and proper use of it through a workshop (one day or half day).

As this mission is a continuation of the previous mission, emphasis should be on taking the Report of that mission as a starting point (Improving the Compilation System of National Accounts, 7-18 June, 2004).

#### **4. Agenda for the Mission**

To be prepared, but should include the following:

- § Interviews and meetings to gather information
- § Assessment, evaluation and elaboration of suggestions in cooperation with NA Director, Head of department, Head of IT Department and the consultants
- § Discussions of suggestions with the NA director, the Head of Department, the IT Head of Department and the consultants related to NA.

#### **5. Tasks to be done by INE to facilitate the Mission**

- § Elaborate the Terms of Reference for the mission
- § Prepare and supply the consultant with necessary documents and information
- § Arrange meetings with key persons
- § Supply good working conditions for the consultant

#### **6. Consultants and Counterpart**

Consultants: Søren Netterstrøm

Counterpart: Monica Magaua and Calado P. Fijamo

#### **7. Timing of the mission**

The mission will take place from 7 to 18 February 2005

#### **8. Report**

The consultant will prepare a draft technical report to be discussed with INE before leaving Maputo. He will submit a final draft to INE for final comments within one week of the end of the mission