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NADABAS and its Environment

Report from a mission to the National Statistical
Institute of Mozambique, Maputo Mozambique

8 - 19 November 2010

within the framework of the

***AGREEMENT ON CONSULTING ON
INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY BUILDING,
ECONOMIC STATISTICS AND RELATED AREAS***

between

INE and Scanstat

Søren Netterstrøm



Instituto Nacional de Estatística

Ref: Contract DARH/2008 /004

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Summary

INE is in the process of developing a new National Account System with a new Base Year. During this process, the staff in National Account will need access both to the existing system (CN 2003) and the new system (CN2009).

During the mission in February 2010 NADABAS was prepared in order to run multiple databases. During this mission, the new version of NADABAS was put into production and INE was giving instructions regarding how to set up the user accounts in order to be able to select base year as needed.

In connection to the change to a new base year, the Quarterly Accounts system will be revised. The option is taking to use NADABAS for the quarterly account as well.

Setting up the new base year

Before and during the first week of the mission, INE and Jan Redeby had developed the first spreadsheets for the new Base Year and created the key families necessary to develop the new model.

Based on this, a new database, CN 2009, was established, with the key families defined. The database was established on the same server as CN 2003. Options for the database were copied from CN 2003. Administrators are the same as for CN 2003. The spreadsheets developed so far was included in the system and permissions for users were given in cooperation with INE.

The latest version of NADABAS was installed on all desktops accessible, and the desktops were set up with access to both CN 2003 and CN 2009.

Quarterly National Accounts

The QNA uses data from the last completed year as base for estimations. These data must be taken at the point in time, when a new year is completed or revised. Note that the database CN 2009 is part of the working system of the National Account System, so the figures in the database (and the corresponding spreadsheets) are not consolidated at any given point of time. However, QNA needs data that are consolidated, i.e. the same data as are used for dissemination.

This was the major reason to create a separate database for the QNA rather than including this in the general database of CN 2009. Another benefit is that the administration of this database and permissions etc. can be dealt with separately.

NADABAS does include a feature to exchange data between two databases using a special intermediate database. The feature was originally designed for the purpose of sharing National Account data between the Statistical Office and the Ministry of Finance in Lesotho. However, this feature is here used as the mechanism, where data are exported (extracted) from CN 2009 at the proper time and then subsequently imported into the QNA system when needed.

A separate database for QNA was established and a first version of the spreadsheets related to individual RAMOS was established and connected to the database.

The database for exchange and a specific spreadsheet for importing data to QNA was established, and a model of the spreadsheet used for export from CN 2009 was created as well.

It is the intension in the new QNA to expande the number of Ramos that are estimated separately. As an example, D (Industria Transforma) is divided into 5 subcategories, Da, Db, ...De. The question was raised, if the sheet for D is needed any longer, and if this is the case, how this sheet should be linked to the subcategories and finally if the total sheet then should take data from the subcategory sheets or the D summary. These issues must be addresses.

Back up

The automatic daily backup of the database has been expanded to include CN2003, CN2009 and QNA.

Virus

Before the mission, the server had been subject to a virus, that changed the directory structure, by changing existing folder to become hidden system folders and then inserting dummy links (that would further spread the virus if activated). The antivirus system correctly identified the virus and removed it, however, that changed in the directory structure remained. No data was corrupted.

It turned out, that the source of the virus was a single computer within National Account, where the antivirus system had not been properly installed. The system was in place, but has not been updated with new definitions in several years.

At INE, the staffs are allowed to use Memory Sticks, CD and other portable media. This makes it even more important that antivirus software is fully updated to minimise the risk. It is recommended that the security settings and virus protection on each PC (in National Account) is checked.



INSTITUTO NACIONAL DE ESTATÍSTICA
DIRECÇÃO DE CONTAS NACIONAIS E INDICADORES GLOBAIS

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Within the Common Fund Supporting the Implementation of Strategic Plan of the National Statistical System

For a short-term mission (two weeks) on The production of new software for ANA and QNA

1. Background

The Directorate of National Accounts and Global Indicators (DCNIG) plans to carry out a specific short-term mission to update the current NADABAS and develop a parallel version of it that can be used for the new base year of national accounts.

The mission will benefit the assistance from the NA expert, Mr. Sören, who has worked for INE as short-term advisor on the area with very good knowledge about the Mozambique.

2. Beneficiaries of the mission

The mission will benefit the staff at INE and especially the National Accounts Department by providing a new and updated version of NADABAS that is adjusted to the new developments occurred in National Accounts.

3. Objectives of the mission

Assist the national staff in the production of the new software on national accounts.

4. Expected Results

Specific expected results of the mission are:

- Updated NADABAS for the current annual national accounts estimates;
- Extend the current NADABAS for the new base year so that both database can run in parallel during the process of changing the base year of national accounts

- Extend the actual NADABAS so that it can runs for the quarterly national accounts;

5. Consultants and Counterpart

Consultants: Sören Netterström

Counterpart: Monica Magaua, Cipriano Cláudio, Felicidade Pires and an IT to be identified.

Timing of the mission

Two weeks from 8/11/2010 to 19/11/2010

6. Report

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

These Terms of Reference were prepared by

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Approved by/in the name of the President of INE

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