29th Meeting of the European Statistical System Committee

Luxembourg

18th and 19th May 2016

Item 2 of the agenda

ESS Vision 2020
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. RECOMMENDATION FOR ACTION
The ESS Committee is invited to take note of the state-of-play regarding the implementation of the ESS Vision 2020.

2. BACKGROUND
The ESSC adopted the ESS Vision 2020 in May 2014. In November 2014 the Committee mandated the Vision Implementation Group (VIG) to "oversee and perform regular strategic monitoring of the ESS Vision 2020 implementation" as well as to advise the ESSC and prepare recommendations for its Vision-related decisions. As part of its monitoring role, the VIG regularly analyses progress reports at portfolio level and delivers key messages to the Committee.

3. POLICY CONTEXT
The ESS Vision 2020 aims at modernising the production of European statistics and, as a result, at further improving the balance between the benefits/quality of European statistics and the respective costs/burden related to their production. In this way the European Statistical System will contribute to adequately responding to information needs of European institutions in their policy-making while paying due attention to the need to reduce administrative burden on citizens and businesses.

4. CONSEQUENCES FOR NATIONAL STATISTICAL INSTITUTES
Member States have been actively involved in the various Vision related activities. Member States are invited and encouraged to continue actively supporting the ESS Vision 2020 implementation by contributing to the work of the VIG and VIN, as well as in the related project steering groups, task forces and ESSnets.

5. OUTSTANDING ISSUES
In addition to this progress report, separate ESSC documents describe more specific developments related to the implementation of the ESS Vision 2020, as follows: description of the proposed ESS IT Security Framework (ESSC 2016/29/2b), roadmap of follow-up actions of the Validation project (ESSC 2016/29/2c), roadmaps for activities in phase 2 of the ESDEN and SERV projects (ESSC 2016/29/2d and 2e) and final report from the RDG TF on Cooperation Models (ESSC 2016/29/2f).

6. RISK ASSESSMENT
N/A

7. NEXT STEPS
The VIG will continue its activities following the established roadmap and guidance received from the ESSC and PG. In November 2016, the VIG will report to the ESSC on the Group's activities performed during 2 years of its work and will propose a way forward on the governance of the ESS Vision 2020 implementation beyond 2016.
ESS VISION 2020: STATE OF PLAY

1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this paper is to present the state of play regarding the implementation of the ESS Vision 2020. While the focus of the document is on the period since the last ESSC meeting held in February 2016, it also provides a snapshot of what has been achieved in the key areas of the Vision 2 years after its adoption by the ESSC in May 2014. The paper outlines also the main milestones planned within the next months.

In the Annex, the usual regular information on the main achievements in the individual ESS.VIPs in the previous calendar quarter (Q1/2016) is provided in a standard table (portfolio dashboard).

The ESS Committee is invited to take note of the report and provide strategic guidance on the next steps.

2. MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE ESS VISION 2020 BY KEY AREA

Efficient statistical production

The projects falling into this key area have been running ahead of the other initiatives in the ESS Vision 2020 portfolio and a number of key results have been delivered in the first quarter of 2016.

Following the demands from users and producers, international trade in goods statistics have been in the spotlight of modernisation activities over the last years. In the first quarter of 2016, the analysis of the results from the successfully conducted pilot exchange of micro-data on intra-EU exports (SIMSTAT project) was completed. The detailed conclusions on the technically feasibility of a secure to exchange micro-data among NSIs and its potential for improving the quality of intra-EU trade data (and thus of other related macroeconomic statistics, are included in the final project report dated 29 March 2016.

The outcomes of the REDESIGN project will complement the SIMSTAT project report. In particular, the REDESIGN report will bring evidence on costs and benefits, as well as the impact on administrative burden of three options for modernising Intrastat based on the exchange of micro-data (SIMSTAT), single flow (transmission only of aggregated exports data, while imports statistics would be created by mirroring exports of the counterpart country) and revised Intrastat (simplification of the current system – less data collected, with minimum quality requirements defined on input or output side).

The two reports of SIMSTAT and REDESIGN will together underpin the discussion on the key elements of modernised intra-EU trade in goods statistics at the ESSC workshop organised back-to-back with the ESSC in May 2016 which will aim at identifying the key elements of a modernised Intrastat and mandate the technical experts to elaborate the proposal further. At its meeting on 8 April 2016, the PG agreed to set up a Task Force to prepare the ESSC workshop by drafting an issues paper to provide a strategic direction to the modernisation of intra-EU trade in goods statistics. The PG considered the workshop as a
forward-looking discussion that would provide insight on how to replace the 1993 census-type survey/input-harmonised legislation with a modern multiple source architecture/output-oriented legislation.

Following a request from ESSC, a review of the already existing arrangements and ongoing initiatives contributing to implementing the "ESS core principles for the exchange of confidential data on businesses for statistical purposes" was carried out in the first quarter of 2016. A summary paper describing the current situation, actors and proposed next steps for each principle was prepared by Eurostat and discussed by the PG in April 2016. The PG agreed that the communication to stakeholders needs to be tailored to the national situations and context, taking into account that the exchange of confidential data is a sensitive issue. A roadmap for coordinating communication actions at national level should be developed by Eurostat for discussion by the PG.

The second highlight of the modernisation efforts in statistical production are the outcomes of the ESBRs project:

- an upgraded platform for the EuroGroups' Register (EGR 2.0) in Eurostat's secure environment for confidential data;
- interactive tools for secure micro-data access and for online collaborative profiling of multinational enterprises;
- an interactive platform for foreign affiliates' statistics (FATS) compilers.

All those tools together make it possible not only to pool from different sources the information on the population and structure of multinational enterprises (EGR) and use it for national statistical production purposes, but also to collectively improve the reliability of those pooled data by enabling the authorised experts from Member States to access, edit and correct them remotely in a secure way. Moreover, the work of an ESSnet on a common methodology for profiling multinational enterprises, which regularly applied can significantly improve the accuracy of FATS, is well advanced and the interactive profiling tool put into production. It is worth noting that the ESBR project is delivering the first concrete realisation of online collaborative statistical production in the ESS, by applying secure data exchange and remote access to confidential micro-data of EuroGroups Register located in Eurostat.

Several ESS.VIPs also strive to contribute to improving the efficiency of statistical production processes. For example, the VALIDATION project which finished in December 2015 provided the following deliverables:

- an ESS methodological handbook which is expected to provide a common business language (i.e. definitions, classifications, metrics) to underpin all future discussions about validation in the ESS;
- the ESS contribution to the creation and piloting of version 1.0 of the VTL (Validation and Transformation Language) validation syntax developed by the SDMX community;
- a proposal for a Business and IT architecture for validation in the ESS outlining a comprehensive roadmap to move towards common validation policy and shared services in the ESS;
• two early prototypes for possible ESS validation services, aiming at collecting know-how on the possible construction of ESS validation services.

As suggested by the VIG and confirmed by the ESSC, the results of the Validation project are not sufficient to ensure the transparency of data validation procedures through a common validation policy or to improve the interoperability of validation services through sharing of tools. In order to achieve these goals, the methodological and architectural frameworks provided by the ESS.VIP Validation project must be implemented into production and, when required, developed further. A proposal for the necessary deployment actions have been submitted to the ESSC for opinion.

IT infrastructure and IT services are crucial enablers of the ESS Vision 2020 objective of an efficient and robust statistical production. The ESS needs a secure IT infrastructure allowing for sending data from Member States to Eurostat, but also for exchanging data among Member States. It should work irrespective of the different IT environments and security policies that exist across the ESS. The successfully completed phase 1 of the ESDEN project established such a secure physical connection and a secure data hub. From April to October 2015 the newly-created ESDEN network was used to pilot a micro-data exchange with 20 Member States within the SIMSTAT project. 10 Member States still continue to use ESDEN to exchange data every month and other three Member States have also asked to be connected to the network. The established IT network has proven to be robust and secure enough to handle data traffic of around 400 Gigabytes over the 6 month period. Therefore, the ESDEN team is confident that this network could be used to exchange large volumes of data also in the future. The second phase of ESDEN will consist of two parts: an extension of the IT network to those Member States that did not participate in the pilot exchange of micro-data; and modernisation of the EDAMIS data transmission tool. It is expected that the new ESDEN network will not only ensure that all data files are transferred quickly and in a secure way, but it will also reduce the burden and time of packaging data for transmission while it will.

As regards IT security, a proposal for a common ESS IT security framework based on the ISO 27000 standard has been worked out by an ESS expert group and submitted for adoption to the ESSC in May 2016. Finally, phase I of the SERV project is approaching finalisation and a proposal for phase II is included in the May ESSC agenda. An ESSnet coordinated by France and aiming at supporting Member States in sharing common functionalities, such as IT statistical services, started its work in January 2016.

**New data sources**

In order to enhance the capabilities of the ESS to harness new data sources for official statistics, two ESS.VIPs have been designed. The ADMIN project focuses on enabling more regular use of administrative data for statistical purposes while BIGD aims at fostering the use of Big Data in the statistical production. Both projects have been launched in 2015 and are progressing as planned towards producing first results.

In the ADMIN project the beginning of the execution phase meant that a number of financial instruments had to be launched. Further to the ESSnet on the quality of multisource statistics described in the previous section the following instruments have also been activated:

• Individual grants on using the IACS (Integrated Administration and Control System) information to produce agricultural statistics. This action targets specifically the
improved use of the IACS register, which is an administrative source based on EU legislation. Individual grants were awarded to 4 applicants.

- Individual grants on improving the use of administrative sources. The action has two main objectives: to assist Member States in making greater/better use of administrative sources and to explore issues that will be of interest for potential development and generalisation throughout the lifetime of ADMIN project. Individual grants were awarded to 13 applicants.

- A service contract on the legal and institutional framework and best practices related to the use of administrative data.

- A service contract on stock-taking regarding frames for social statistics in Member States.

The ESS.VIP Big Data (BIGD), endorsed by the ESSC in May 2015, has successfully completed the phases of 'initiation' and 'planning' and is now in the beginning of its 'execution' phase. As such, its results are mostly intermediate. The main achievement is the establishment of the ESSnet Big Data led by Statistics Netherlands, with the participation of institutions from 21 countries. By broad areas of the ESS Big Data Action Plan and Roadmap 1.0, the following results can be highlighted:

- In the area of skills, four big data specific ESTP courses were designed and are now included in the catalogue; one of them has been delivered in the first quarter of 2016.

- In the area of applications and pilots, several pilot projects were set up in the context of the ESSnet Big Data and will start running soon.

- In the areas of experience sharing and methodology, a competition on big data for official statistics open to statisticians in NSIs and in academia was launched by Eurostat in the beginning of 2016.

- In the area of governance, a new mandate of the ESS TF Big Data was adopted and contact points in all NSIs established.

**Users and Dissemination/Communication**

The DIGICOM project was kicked off in January 2016 following the endorsement of the business case in the 27th ESSC meeting in November 2015. The project includes 4 work packages as follows:

1. User analysis;
2. Innovative and shareable products and tools;
3. Open data dissemination;
4. Communication and promotion.

The rapid elaboration of the project idea and finalisation of the business case by the dedicated ESS task force and Eurostat within just 4 months (including summer) was a meaningful achievement in itself and an example of excellent ESS cooperation. This active involvement of several Member States continued after the project's launch. 16 countries declared their interest in contributing to one or more of the work packages and representatives of 13 countries were nominated to the project steering group. An ESS workshop on data visualisation is being prepared. It will take place on 17-18 May 2016 in Valencia. More than 100 participants have already registered.
Further to the DIGICOM project, discussions on the public promotion of European statistics' value are underway within the ESS. Following a series of brainstorming sessions on this topic by an informal reflection group (Vienna-Amsterdam-Rome), an ESSC workshop on quality took place on 11 February 2016, where strategic orientation on the possible labelling or certification of European statistics was discussed. It was agreed that this work will continue as part of the mandate of a new high-level group on quality which is currently being established.

**Quality**

As the ESS Vision 2020 states, the quality of the products, processes and statistical institutions as a whole is one of the ESS' "key assets and comparative advantages" in the global information overload and "a pre-condition for maintaining public trust in official statistics". Therefore, quality related aspects are present in all ESS.VIPs and coordinated as part of the QUAL framework. The key quality elements in all the projects were identified and mapped to the existing ESS quality framework using the relevant documents and through discussions with the project managers. Moreover, based on the analysis, strong synergies have emerged between ADMIN, BIGD and ESBRs that have a common requirement for a quality framework for statistical output based on multiple sources.

Concrete progress on quality-relevant aspects was achieved also within some individual ESS.VIPs. In the ADMIN project an ESSnet led by Denmark on the quality of multisource statistics was established. It seeks to develop quality guidelines and indicators for statistical processes based on a combination of sources which include at least one administrative source. The first concrete deliverable of the project was the workshop on the quality of multisource statistics which took place on 21-22 April 2016 in Budapest.

Following the conclusions from the half-day ESSC workshop on quality held on 11 February 2016, a draft ESS Quality declaration and draft mandate of a High Level Group on Quality were prepared for the PG meeting in April 2016. PG members highlighted that the declaration would serve to communicate to users about the quality of European statistics. The PG proposed to redraft the declaration so as it fits that purpose, also taking into account the comments received in the exchange of views. It was agreed that the revised declaration be presented for endorsement to the September ESSC meeting.

Regarding the draft mandate of the HLG, the PG recalled that it should focus on the modernisation of the common quality framework of the ESS and on the analysis of the strengths and weaknesses of the quality dimensions of European statistics and the European Statistics Code of Practice. As regards the future monitoring of the ESS common quality framework, the PG highlighted lessons learnt from the successful second round of peer reviews.

**Supporting frameworks**

Further to the work performed in the ESS.VIPs, several horizontal (enabling) activities have been conducted in the so called "supporting frameworks". The work on an ESS Enterprise Architecture (EA) enabling a systematic and coherent approach to the modernisation of European statistics, i.e. the ESS EA Reference Framework and Roadmap, has been considerably advanced. The drafts were presented to and thoroughly discussed with the VIG and DIME/ITDG groups. Moreover, a communication plan on EA is being designed, including setting up a community of practice. The piloting of the ESS EA RF with the
ESS.VIPs ESBRs and DIGICOM has proved to be satisfactory and beneficial for the projects. Further tests and reviews are planned with other projects.

Moreover, the RDG Task Force “Cooperation Models” finalised its analytical work (existing legal and financial models of cooperation within the ESS, SWOT analysis of ESS cooperation and needs for exploration or elaboration of further models) and prepared the final report to be presented to the ESSC in May 2016.

3. KEY EVENTS

The second VIN workshop on the implementation of the ESS Vision 2020 took place on 15 March 2016 in Bucharest. The VIN was informed about the main achievements and outputs of projects implementing the ESS Vision 2020. Particular emphasis was put on the presentation of the results of some of the projects that are the most advanced in their implementation (ESBRs, ESDEN and Validation). The progress achieved, as well as the possibility to discuss it directly with the responsible project managers, was highly appreciated.

The workshop participants were further informed about the results of the SIMSTAT and REDESIGN projects, aiming at testing the feasibility of micro-data exchange and evaluating options for modernising the Intrastat system. The intensive work performed on both projects over the last year was highly appreciated. It was acknowledged that a lot of information necessary to guide the decisions on the future orientation for Intrastat has already been collected, analysed and made available to the ESS experts.

Moreover, the results of the assessment by the VIN of deployment plans and costs with regard to ESBRs, ESDEN and Validation projects were presented. VIN members acknowledged that the deployment exercise conducted in January and February 2016 was useful, produced interesting results and should be repeated on a regular basis. However, the different maturity of individual deliverables should be taken into account when designing the questionnaire and analysing the feedback. In particular, the accuracy of cost estimates suffers from insufficient certainty and clarity about some project deliverables.

Subsequently, Norway and Finland presented national experience regarding the development of skills and Eurostat made a first proposal on the approach to assessing skill gaps in the ESS in the context of ESS Vision 2020 implementation. An interactive exchange of views was run and it was agreed that its results should be further discussed by the VIG.

Finally, the VIN discussed the needs and prerequisites of successful communication of ESS Vision 2020 objectives and implementation results within the statistical offices and to external stakeholders. It was agreed that the VIG will prepare a 'check-list' of possible communication measures at national level. Further exchange of good practices in Member States will be promoted within the VIN.

Another event, ESS Modernisation Workshop was organised by Eurostat in Bucharest on 16-17 March 2016. It gathered more than 100 experts from 34 countries dealing with various modernisation initiatives across Europe. The aim of the workshop was to promote further dialogue and exchange of good practices among the experts. The meeting was also a good opportunity to strengthen the links between the national and European modernisation projects.

During the first day of the workshop, the focus was on sustainability, Big Data and validation. The sessions held during the second day covered "National Modernisation Programmes".
"Integration" and "Dissemination and users". In a plenary session "Management challenges in Modernisation Processes" were discussed. The successful two-days meeting was concluded by a session devoted to statistical "modernisation toolkits" and a review of international innovation initiatives organised by UNECE, such as the High-Level Group for the Modernisation of Official Statistics.

4. NEXT STEPS

The VIG will continue its activities following the established roadmap and guidance received from the ESSC and PG. In November 2016, the VIG will report to the ESSC on the Group's activities performed during 2 years of its work and will propose a way forward on the governance of the ESS Vision 2020 implementation beyond 2016.
Execution

At Portfolio level, work has continued to progress in line with the planning and the overall indicator related to the portfolio status stays green.

- The results of the survey on deployment of ESS Vision 2020 deliverables for the projects ESBRs, ESDEN and VALIDATION have been discussed by the VIN in March 2016.
- To address one of the key risks identified for the ESS Vision 2020 portfolio, the VIN in March 2016 brainstormed on the set of skills needed in the ESS for the implementation of the Vision and on actions to bridge possible skills gaps.
- The ESS Modernisation Workshop took place in March 2016 allowing about 100 ESS members to exchange practices on a wide range of modernisation activities and position national approaches within the ESS Vision 2020.
- The VALIDATION project has ended and the ESS-wide deployment of its deliverables will be discussed by the ESSC in May 2016.
- ESBRs and SERV have prepared their reports on the first phase. The roadmap for the second phase will be discussed by the ESSC in May 2016.
- SIMSTAT-REDESIGN presented the work so far at the VIN workshop in March 2016. Consultations of the BSDG and the DIME took place. The final report will be discussed by the ESSC in May 2016.

As regards other project activities:

- The ADMIN ESSnet on quality of multisource statistics has started its work;
- A contract for BIGD supporting services has been launched;
- The DIGICOM Steering Group approved the composition of the various work packages teams and provided recommendations for the detailed 2016 work programme.
- ESBRs produced the EGR 2.0 final frame. A draft Business Architecture document is available and has been presented to Member States.
- Additional countries have been connected to the ESDEN infrastructure.
- SERV is testing the Structural Validation Service (STRUVAL) in the area of national accounts. The ESSnet “Sharing Common Functionalities in the ESS” has started its work in February 2016.

Regarding the supporting frameworks:

- In line with the ESS EA roadmap support to DIGICOM and ESBRs is provided. The DIME/ITDG has approved the creation of the ESS EA board.
- The work of the TF Cooperation Models concludes with the submission of its report to the May 2016 ESSC meeting.

Delivery confidence

Compared to the previous quarter the situation has not changed. The delivery confidence is green for most of the projects. The risks and the corresponding mitigation actions at portfolio level have been identified and now need to be implemented through concrete actions.
**2016 Q1 - ESS Vision 2020 Portfolio Status Report**

### ADMIN

**Administrative data sources**

**Enhance and develop the use of administrative data sources in the ESS**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Project</th>
<th>2015 Q4</th>
<th>2016 Q1</th>
<th>Assessment</th>
<th>Planned actions</th>
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<td><strong>Status</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>✅</td>
<td>✅</td>
<td>Kick-off meeting of the ESSnet on quality of multisource statistics (WP3 Quality and WP5 Frames for social statistics).</td>
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<td>Kick-off meeting for the contract on stock-taking regarding frames for social statistics in Member States (Task 5.1 Report on the availability, kind and development of base registers on persons and buildings (dwellings) and derived frames used in the Member States).</td>
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<td>Final reports of the 2013 grants and interim reports of the 2014 grants on the use of administrative sources in agricultural statistics in Member States were received (WP4 Eurostat as an (in)direct user of administrative data sources held or designed by the Commission).</td>
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<td>Part of the interim reports of the grants on the improvement of the use of administrative sources in Member States were received (WP6 Pilot studies and applications).</td>
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<td>Presentation of the project and discussion of synergies in the Big Data Task Force (19 February, Luxembourg), Geospatial and Statistical Information Working Group (10 March, Luxembourg), ESS Modernisation Workshop (16-17 March, Bucharest).</td>
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<td><strong>Delivery confidence</strong></td>
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<td>There are small deviations from the approved schedule. It is likely that the schedule, cost, scope, quality and/or overall project delivery are insignificantly affected.</td>
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### BIGD

**Big Data**

**Assess, promote and develop the use of big data in official statistics**

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<th>Project</th>
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<th>2016 Q1</th>
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<td>Big Data Task Force Meeting in Luxemburg, 18-19 February.</td>
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<td>Kick-off meeting of contract for BIGD supporting services (ethical review and guidelines, legal review, communication strategy, strategy for bridging skills gap, workshop in week 41, 2016).</td>
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<td>Reception of first submissions of competition on big data for official statistics. <a href="http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/cros/content/bdcomp_en">http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/cros/content/bdcomp_en</a></td>
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<td>Evaluation of proposal for the 1st Specific Grant Agreement of the Big Data ESSNET.</td>
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<td>Eurostat lunchtime seminar &quot;Big Data and Official Statistics: Where are we now?&quot; took place on 26 January 2016 in Luxembourg. Turnout was quite high and there was positive oral feedback from participants.</td>
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<td><strong>Delivery confidence</strong></td>
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<td>Risks to be monitored: Access to data sources D</td>
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<td>Lack of experts / skills for big data usage</td>
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<td>Signature of the first SGA of the ESSNet BigData in April 2016.</td>
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<td>ESTP Big Data courses.</td>
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<td>ESSNET activities: Pilots on big data and official statistics. Investigation on combination of various data sources for specific domain statistics, e.g. tourism. Elaboration of conditions of access and use of mobile phone data / Analysis of portfolio of statistical outputs from mobile phone data. Cross-sectional work on methodology, quality, IT infrastructure and dissemination.</td>
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<td>There is one contract launched currently. The aim of the contract is to support the implementation of the Big Data Action Plan and Roadmap at national and European level.</td>
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<td>Workshop on Big Data on 11-12 Oct 2016 in the framework of the call for tender.</td>
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<td>Project</td>
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| DIGICOM Digital communication/ User analytics / Innovative products Getting the pulse of users’ needs and provide them with the right products and services | Status | Delivery confidence | - Two meetings of the DIGICOM Steering Group, with 13 Member States (AT, CH, DE, ES, NL, FI, FR, IE, IT, PL, PT, SE, UK) in February and March 2016)  
- The Work Package teams (foreseen in the Business Case to advance the implementation of the four different WPs of DIGICOM) have been identified and approved.  
- The first ESS-wide inventory/stocktaking exercise (DIGICOM action 1.1) was carried out in March (21 replies). | - Analysis of the ESS-wide inventories  
- Requirements and specifications for the social networking platform  
- Visualisation workshop in Valencia (17-18 May 2016)  
- Support to ESS communication on the quality declaration  
- Virtual meetings of all Work Package teams, physical meeting of Work Package Team 2 and third meeting of the Steering Group (19 May 2016) |
| ESBRs European system of interoperable statistical business registers Business register for EU enterprises | Status | Delivery confidence | Risks and issues:  
- The Business Architecture document might not be endorsed in June 2016 as planned.  
- Limited progress has been achieved by the ESSnet for Statistical Services under WP1.  
- Work on WP2 (Interoperability Framework) has started, but with limited efforts as it depends on the results of WP1 (mainly Business Architecture).  
- There is a delay by the ESSnet in the finalisation of the business model for integration of Profiling/IPT into EGR 2.0.  
- Lack of sufficient involvement of Member States in Profiling/IPT. The involvement of certain key countries in the collaborative effort is critical, e.g. those with a high number of Global Decision Centres (UCI/GDC). | - Opening of IPT (Interactive Profiling Tool) to MS  
- New Profiling cycle with the IPT prototype from April 2016 in combination with signed individual grants  
- preparation by the ESSnet of the Statistical Services deliverable  
- preparation by the ESSnet of the Interoperability Framework deliverable  
- Launching of Centre of Excellence on Profiling in 2016 by Eurostat |
| ESDEN European statistical data exchange network The data highways of the ESS | Status | Delivery confidence | Connection of additional countries (CY, BE) to the ESDEN infrastructure – apart from the 20 countries that participated already in the micro-data exchange pilot of the SIMSTAT project.  
- Project status presented to the VIG and VIN at their meetings in March 2016.  
- Preparation of a report of the first phase of the project and the roadmap for the second phase. It was reviewed by the DM on 29/03/2016, and will be presented to the ESSC in May 2016. | - Kick-off of 2nd phase following endorsement of the ESSC.  
- Preparation of a presentation of the status of the project to the IT Working Group in May 2016. |
## SERV
**Shared services**

**Industrialisation of official statistics**

**Status**

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<th>2015 Q4</th>
<th>2016 Q1</th>
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**Assessment**

- Testing of the Structural Validation Service (STRUVAL) started in national accounts (NAPS-S project).
- First meeting of the ESSnet “Sharing Common Functionality in the ESS” beginning of February 2016.
- Regular meetings with the ESS.VIP.ESBRs project regarding the development of services.
- Analysis of the CSPA Service Catalogue re-design undergoing.
- Progress Report and Roadmap document was updated after review by the VIG in January and March and ITDG plenary in February 2016. It was reformulated for the ESSC in May 2016.

**Planned actions**

- Prepare documentation for the SOA Infrastructure
- Evaluate alternative hosting solutions that could be made available in the SOA infrastructure
- Evaluate fit/gap of the configured SOA Infrastructure for hosting some of the services that will be developed by the ESSNet "Sharing Common Functionality in the ESS"

**Delivery confidence**

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<th>2015 Q4</th>
<th>2016 Q1</th>
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- The risks are being mitigated and no issues have been registered.
- The execution of phase II (2016-2017) is subject to the approval by the ESSC in May 2016. The execution of phase III (2017-2018) is subject to a further decision point in 2017.

## SIMSTAT
**Single market statistics**

**Building trade statistics in a global trade market**

**Status**

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<th>2015 Q4</th>
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**Assessment**

- Presentation at the VIN workshop in April 2016.
- Consultation with BSDG and DIME.
- Preparation of the final report.

**Planned actions**

- ESSC seminar on future orientation of Intrastat
- Submission of the final report to the ESSC meeting in May 2016

**Delivery confidence**

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- The project will end in May 2016. A decision is expected on the future of Intrastat (linked to the REDESIGN project).

## REDESIGN
**Re-design of Intrastat**

**Building trade statistics in a global trade market**

**Status**

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<th>2015 Q4</th>
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**Assessment**

- A draft cost-benefit analysis (qualitative and quantitative analysis) report was prepared. ITGS SG was consulted.
- A survey to collect information from Intrastat reporters was carried out. More than 23 000 Intrastat reporters in all MSs replied.
- A workshop on the legal aspects of ITGS was organised.
- Draft input to FRIBS IA was prepared.
- The VIN was informed about the results of the project in the meeting of 15 March 2016.

**Planned actions**

- Preparation of May 2016 ESSC workshop, in line with the orientation given by the PG
- Preparation of the legal proposal of ITGS package for FRIBS

**Delivery confidence**

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- Final results of Intrastat administrative burden study may not be available for the May 2016 ESSC meeting.
- ESSC could not be able to give clear orientation on the future Intrastat so ITGS package for FRIBS is delayed.
## Supporting frameworks:

Cross-cutting activities that help creating conditions for the ESS Vision 2020 Portfolio implementation.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Supporting framework</th>
<th>2015 Q4</th>
<th>2016 Q1</th>
<th>Assessment</th>
<th>Planned actions</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Cooperation Models</strong></td>
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<td>Status</td>
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| • The VIG and the RDG were consulted on the draft report on cooperation models in the ESS. As a result, the Task Force on Cooperation models revised the report to take into account the comments that fell in the scope of the work of the Task Force.  
• A revised draft was sent to the RDG for final consultation beginning of April (deadline for comments mid-April) 2016. |                |                |
| Delivery confidence  | ●       | ●       | ●          | ●              |
| • The work of the TF concludes with the submission of this report to the May 2016 ESSC meeting. |                |                |
| **EA ESS Enterprise Architecture** |         |         |            |                |
| Status               | ●       | ●       | ●          | ●              |
| • The ESS EA roadmap agreed with the VIG is being implemented.  
• The DIME/ITDG has adopted the ESS EA RF on 24 Feb 2016 pending some follow up adjustments  
• The DIME/ITDG has agreed on the creation of the ESS EA Board in charge of organising ESS EA compliance review of projects and maintaining the relevance of ESS EA Reference Framework  
• Standard perspective is now fully integrated in the ESS EA process  
• DIGICOM review is on-going – report will be discussed at the ESS EA Board in May 2016  
• ESBRs review is continuing. SERV is planned. ESDEN was slightly delayed  
• Link with "Cooperation Models" aiming at better alignment of the proposed cooperation architecture with ESS EA RF | MAY 2016: meeting of the ESS EA board  
• May – June 2016: consolidation of the community of practice and preparation of ESS EA workshop  
• May 2016: Engagement and review with ESSEN, SERV  
• June 2016: Report on ESBRs BA review and DIGICOM review  
• Support for the design of ESBRs interoperability framework. |
| Delivery confidence  | ●       | ●       | ●          | ●              |
| • Risks are monitored – key mitigation actions are:  
  ▪ More effort attracting ESS architects in the Community of Practice  
  ▪ Targeted communication initiatives  
  ▪ Agile approach when reviewing projects reflecting the projects' context |                |                |
| **QUAL Quality**     |         |         |            |                |
| Status               | ●       | ●       | ●          |                |
| • Action 1: the Key Quality Elements of the ESS Vision 2020 Implementation Portfolio have been identified and the governance mechanism has been described – the mechanism will be put in place as soon as possible.  
• Actions 2 and 3: In accordance with the conclusions of the September 2015 VIG meeting, Eurostat has prepared and duly followed up the high-level reflections on the related quality issues of strategic nature. The 1.1 version of the Implementation Paper will be revised and a 2.0 version will be soon prepared and submitted to the VIG – the 2.0 version will duly take into account the conclusions of the February 2016 ESSC strategic ‘Workshop on Quality in the ESS’. |                | Version 2.0 of the Implementation Paper |
| Delivery confidence  | ●       | ●       | ●          |                |
| • No specific risks for the time being. |                |                |
Methodological notes – definition of project/portfolio indicators

Delivery Confidence
The delivery confidence is about whether the portfolio/project, as constituted, and on its current trajectory, is likely to achieve a successful outcome – meaning to deliver within the scope, schedule and budget defined in the business case. The delivery confidence looks at the final chances of portfolio/project success, based on the current status, the declared plans and the assessment of risks and issues.

Status and delivery confidence at project level
The status and delivery confidence in the project dashboard are based on the assessment of the individual projects that are part of the portfolio.

Status and delivery confidence at portfolio level
The status and delivery confidence at the portfolio level include a qualitative assessment of the following: status and delivery confidence of the individual projects, supporting frameworks, risk monitoring and response, issue identification and action, communication, portfolio organisation and user satisfaction.

The status and delivery confidence at the portfolio level are assessed by the ESS Project Management Bureau (contact: ESTAT-ESS-PMB@ec.europa.eu).